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Human Wildlife Solutions

Overstrand

Monthly Report

November 2021

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1 INTRODUCTION

This monthly report covers the period from 1 to 30 November 2021. During November the Voëlklip Troop spent 98.6% of its time out of town. Only three bin raids and one occupied house incursion was recorded.

The Vogelgat Troop has not entered the urban space for the 15th consecutive month. For the first time since the death of VGM2 in August 2021, individuals from the Vogelgat Troop approached the urban space, but were deterred from entering by the activation of the Virtual Fence.

The Pringle Bay Troop was not recorded in town this month and spent most of its time in the Buffelstal Nature Reserve. However, individual baboons, mainly PBM2, PBF4 and PBF5 were recorded spending long periods of time in the Pringle Bay urban area. This month PBM2 engaged in 16 occupied house incursions and was reported pulling on windows and doors. This is more occupied house incursions, than all the other baboons in the Overstrand put together (including the Betty's Bay Troop).

HKM1, the dispersing male from the Hangklip Troop, continued to spend long periods of time in town alone or with individual baboons from the Pringle Bay Troop. HKM1 associated closely with two adult females and was observed copulating with PBF5. When PBF4 and PBF5 tried to move back to the Pringle Bay Troop, HKM1 continuously chased these adult females back towards Pringle Bay. When HKM1 was in, or near, the Buffelstal Nature Reserve he was chased away from the Pringle Bay Troop by BRM1 and BRM2. As a result, he moved back to Pringle Bay to wait for the individual females to return. Since he was first seen in Pringle Bay HKM1 has not been seen returning to the Hangklip Troop once.

Without urgent management intervention, such as a facilitated dispersal, HKM1 is expected to continue to spend long periods of time in Pringle Bay and become more adept at raiding for human derived foods (HDF's). After almost two months of regularly walking around Pringle Bay, on 26 November 2021 HKM1 recorded his first occupied house incursion.

Apart from HKM1, the Hangklip Troop and individuals did not enter town during November. The Silversands Troop entered the urban area three times this month. Like last month, most of the incursions were recorded for individual males.

Time out of town recorded for the Betty's Bay Troop increased from 88.1% in October to 97.7% this month. However, time out of town recorded for individual baboons decreased from 89.1% in October to 82.3% in November. As a result, incursions recorded for the Betty's Bay Troop as a whole showed an increase from 83 to 115. This result may seem counter-intuitive since the removal of BBM1 in mid-September. However, although there has been a marked decrease in assertive raids by this troop, there are still a wide variety of human derived foods (HDF's) that are available to this troop in Betty's Bay.

During November most incursions (58%) were attributed to BBM2, BBM3 and BBM4 which collectively recorded 67 incursions. Although BBM2 recorded 20 incursions this month, only two were assertive raids. The rest simply indicated that BBM2 was in town. Nine of these incursions can be attributed directly to a resident that feeds birds with bird seed on a daily basis. This practice attracts baboons to the urban area, just like a fruiting tree or an open refuse bag.

2 OVERSTRAND EAST TROOPS

2.1 VOËLKLIP TROOP

2.1.1 IN TOWN STATISTICS

- Time out of town for the troop decreased from 98.8% in October to 98.6% in November.
- Time out of town for individuals increased from 90.9% in October to 94.1% in November.

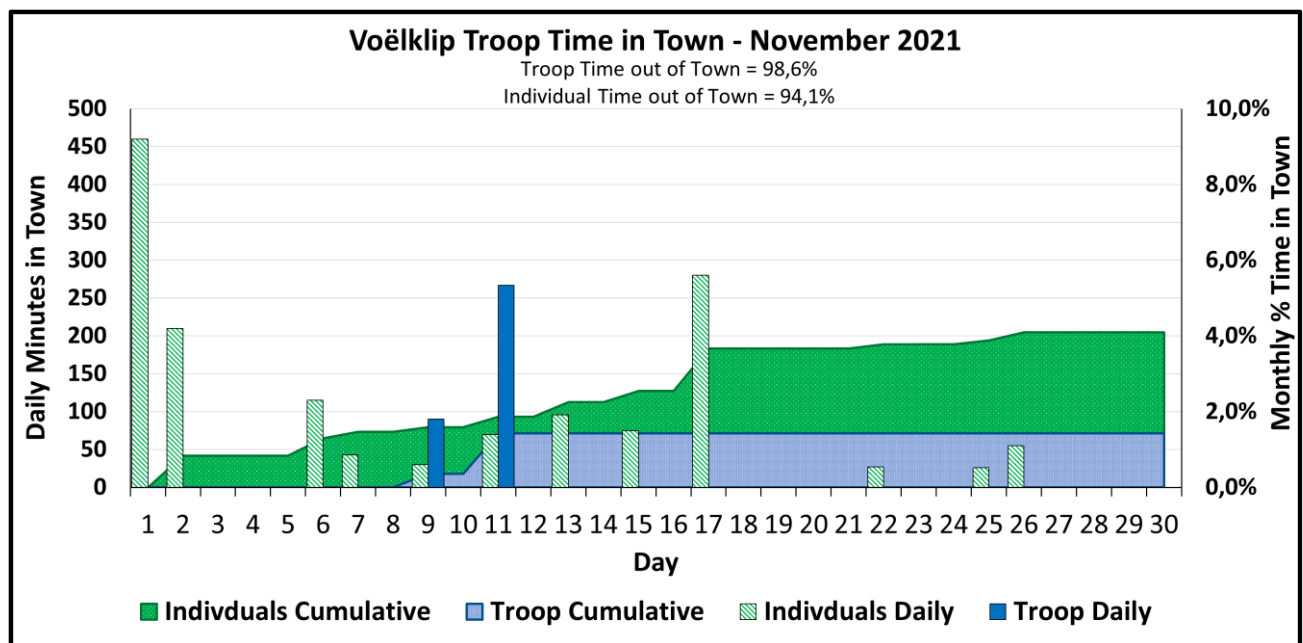


Figure 2.1: Troop and individual daily (bars) and monthly (area) Time in Town by the Voëlklip Troop during November 2021. Note: Average daylight hours for November was 13 hours and 55 minutes.

2.1.2 NOTEWORTHY INCIDENTS

2.1.2.1 HERMANUS HEIGHTS & GOLF COURSE

- No bin raids or house incursions were reported.

2.1.2.2 VOËLKLIP & FERNKLOOF

- A single occupied house incursion was reported on 3rd Street.
- A single bin raid was raided by VGM1, UNKM1 and VKF6 on 3rd Street.

2.1.2.3 GENERAL

- On 02 November, two baboons were seen eating bird seed that was spread on the road in front of a house on 7th Avenue. Residents must please remember that baboons are attracted by bird seed and by feeding birds, residents can inadvertently feed baboons as well.
- On 03 November four individuals got separated from the troop and slept separate from the troop. They re-joined the troop the following morning by the Three Dams in Fernkloof Nature Reserve.
- On 10 November the Voëlklip Troop moved east of Voëlklip suburb and continued east until they almost reached the edge of Vogelgat Nature Reserve. The troop then turned around and moved back west to sleep above the Voëlklip suburb.
- On many occasions in November, the Voëlklip Troop moved to the top of the mountain and disappeared for multiple hours. The area in which this happened most frequently was above Kanonkop and Adder Ladder in Fernkloof Nature Reserve.
- On many occasions in November, individuals from the Voëlklip Troop that had entered town spent multiple hours on the roofs of houses. HWS may not enter a private property without the owner's consent, so often baboons may remain in the urban area for many hours if owners are not present or do not allow access to their property.

HWS: TROOP MONTHLY REPORT																																
SECTOR		CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																														
OVERSTRAND		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	TOTAL
BABOON TROOP:	VOËLKLIIP	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
MONTH: November	YEAR: 2021	In urban area	Raid bins	Non malicious damage	Attacking pets	Raid unoccupied house or vehicle	Raid occupied house or vehicle	Threatening behaviour/ attacking/ stealing food	Breaking & Entering/Damaging property	Nocturnal Raiding																						
Troop																																2
VGM1 BLUE TAG	M	2					1					1					1										1					7
UNKM1	M	2	1									1						1														4
VKF4 YELLOW TAG	F	1	1									1																				5
VKF5 RED TAG	F	1	1				1	1			1			1										1								11
VKF1 GREEN TAG	F						1																1									4
VKF6 ORANGE TAG	F	2	1				1																1									5
UnID Male	M																															0
UnID Males	M																															0
UnID Females	F	1	1				1				1					1		1						1								7
UnID Female	F											1																				2
UnID Individuals		1	1				1				6																					5
UnID Juvs							1					1											1									4
		TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																												HRS		
Troop	%	1,4								90		267																				5,95
Individuals		5,9	460	210			115	43		30		70		96		75		280						27			26	55				24,78
Roost:	AM	17	17	14	6,14	5	7	4	21	7	17	7	15	15	6	7	6	14	6	5	6	6	6,21	5	3	5	6	6	4	4	18	?
Roost:	PM	17	14	6,14	5	7	4	5	26	17	29	15	15	6	7	6	14	6	5	6	6	5	18	5	5	6	9	4	4	2	?	2
Roost Sites	1	Golf Course											2	Heights Dam					3	Green Kloof			4	Platte Klip		5	Adder Ladder					
	6	Lower Dam					7	Middle Dam					8	Upper Dam			9	Dragon's Back		10	Droë Kloof											
	11	Blaaie Kloof					12	Big Titanic/Cave					13	Small Titanic			14	10th Ave Kloof		15	11th Ave Kloof											
	16	A-Shape					17	Bos Klip					18	Hermanus Heights			19	Steyn's Kloof		20	In Town											
	21	Tallie's Kloof					22	Kanonkop					23	BHB Waterfall			24	Rooiklip		25	ZigZag											
	26	9th Avenue Kloof					27	Shade Rock					28	BOSKO			29	Groot Uitkyk														
ID Features of Baboons																																
General remarks																																

Figure 2.2: The Voëlkliip Troop incident sheet for November 2021.

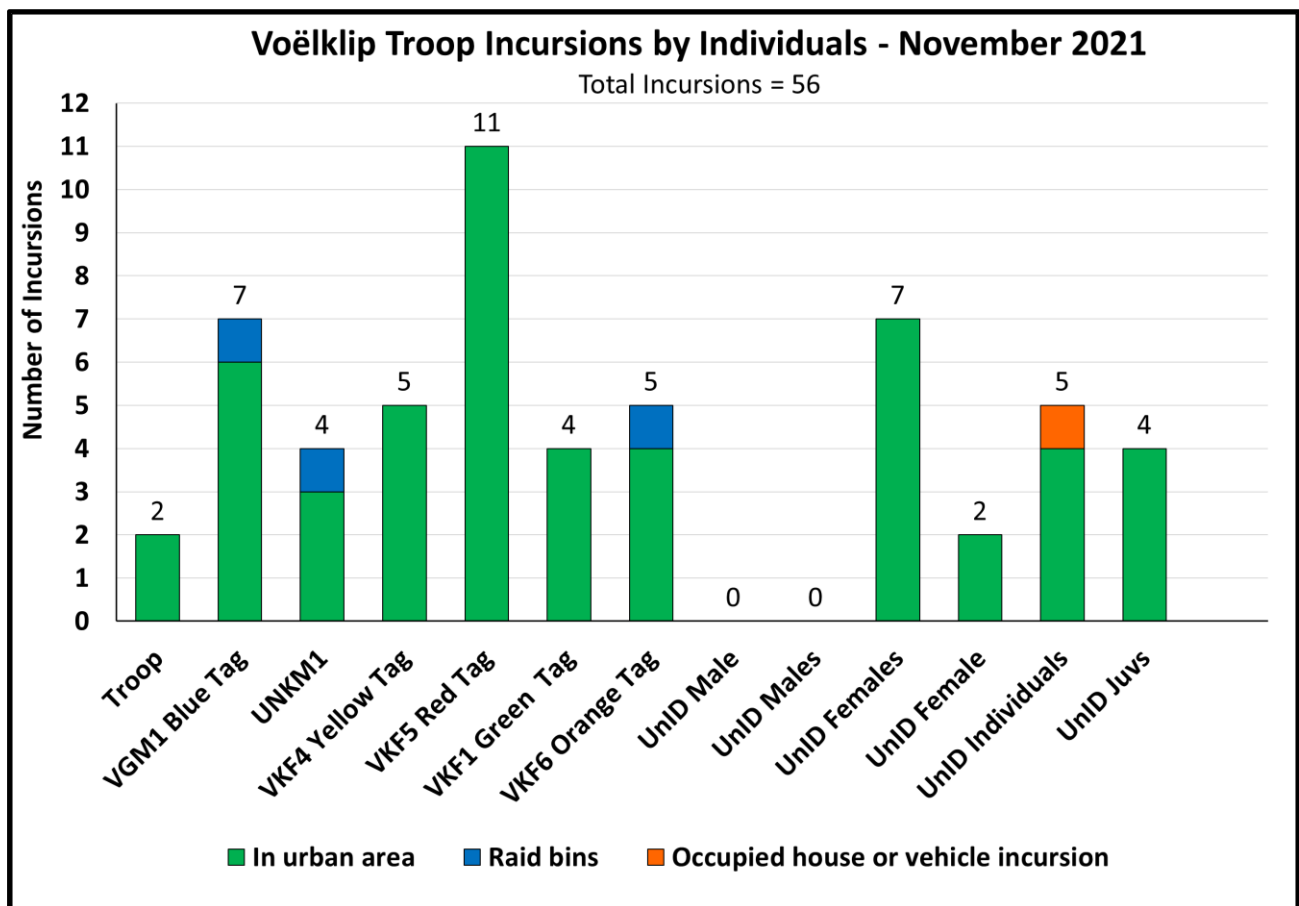


Figure 2.3: Number of incursions by the Voëlkliip Troop and individuals during November 2021.

2.2 VOGELGAT TROOP

2.2.1 IN TOWN STATISTICS

- Time out of town for the troop remained at 100% for the 15th consecutive month.
- Time out of town for individuals remained at 100% for the third consecutive month.

2.2.2 NOTEWORTHY INCIDENTS

- On a single occasion in November individuals approached the urban space. The troop was not visible at this stage. The virtual fence was activated and successfully deterred these individuals from approaching further.
- Baboons from the Vogelgat Troop continued to enter properties along the R43.
- An unknown troop was observed on a single occasion in November. The Vogelgat Troop was seen approximately 100m west of the unknown troop. No interaction was observed between the two troops.

2.2.3 VIRTUAL FENCE

- The Virtual Fence was activated on a single occasion in Vogelgat this month when two individuals approached Voëlklip suburb. The Virtual Fence successfully deterred these individuals from further approaching the urban space.

2.3 ONRUS TROOP

- The Onrus Troop was not observed on a single occasion during November. There was therefore no need to activate the Virtual Fence.

2.4 HAMILTON RUSSEL TROOP

- The Hamilton Russell Troop was not observed on a single occasion in November.

2.5 BIRTHS, DEATHS & MIGRATIONS

- On 13 November a hotline call reported that a dead baboon had been found in the Hemel-and-Aarde Valley. HWS staff responded to the call and found a deceased adult female baboon. A virtual post-mortem was performed by HWS (photographs were sent to a veterinary surgeon on standby). This revealed dead tissue on and near the tip of the tongue. Tongue tip necrosis is often associated with plant toxicosis. The suspected cause of death was attributed to naturally occurring toxicosis.

3 OVERSTRAND WEST TROOPS

3.1 PRINGLE BAY TROOP

3.1.1 IN TOWN STATISTICS

- The Pringle Bay Troop spent 100% of its time out of town in November.
- Individual baboons spent 56.1% of their time out of town this month.

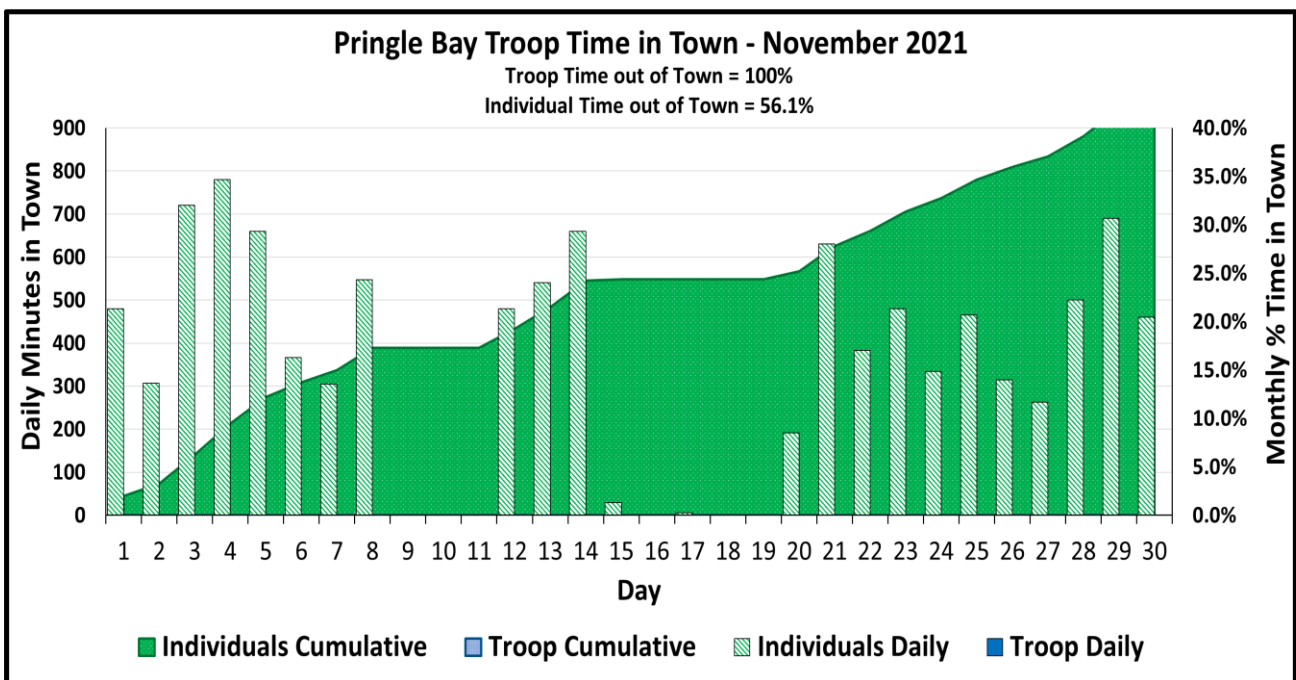


Figure 3.1: Troop and individual daily (bars) and monthly (area) Time in Town by the Pringle Bay Troop during November 2021.

3.1.2 NOTEWORTHY INCIDENTS

- Sub-groups or individual baboons were recorded in town on 27 days this month in comparison to 25 days last month. PBM2, PBF4, PBF5 and HKM1 were the most prominent baboons in town during this period. PBF4 and PBF5 were observed associating and copulating with HKM1.
- Ninety-six incursions were recorded for sub-groups or individual baboons during October.
- Twenty-six incursions were attributed to the young sub-adult male, PBM2. Sixteen of these incursions were occupied house raids. Other incursions included one unsecured bin raid, non-malicious damage to Wi-Fi cables and two unoccupied house raids. PBM2 also attempted to open some doors and windows of houses. This behaviour has been previously observed and reported.
- PBF4 and PBF5 recorded 22 and 19 incursions respectively. PBF4 raided one unsecured bin and entered one occupied house while PBF5 entered one unoccupied house.
- HKM1 recorded 27 incursions with one unsecured bin raid and one occupied house entry. On 26 November HKM1 was recorded entering a house for the first time.
- HKM1 has been observed sleeping in the vicinity of the Pringle Bay Village since 2 October 2021. This baboon continued to frequent the area during November 2021. HKM1 did not sleep with the Pringle Bay Troop in the Buffelstal Nature Reserve this month. BRM1 and BRM2 chased HKM1 away whenever he approached the troop.
- On 8 November BRM1 was located in the Pringle Bay Village. PBM2 and PBF4 followed BRM1 out of town to the Rooiels Conservancy. PBF5 and HKM1 followed later.
- On 9 November BRM1 led PBM2, PBF4, PBF5 and HKM1 towards the Buffelstal Nature Reserve. As the individuals approached the Buffelstal area HKM1 started to chase PBF4 and PBF5. BRM1 and BRM2 were later observed chasing HKM1 when he approached the troop. HKM1 did not roost with troop and was reported in the Pringle Bay central business district (CBD) on 10 November.
- On 12 November PBM2 and PBF4 moved back to the Pringle Bay Village and joined HKM1. On 14 November PBF4 encountered BRM1 at the Rooiels Conservancy and moved to the Buffelstal Nature Reserve on 15 November. PBM2 and HKM1 remained in the vicinity of Pringle Bay. PBM2 moved back to the troop on 17 November.
- On 20 November PBF4 and PBF5 moved back into the Pringle Bay Village and joined up with HKM1.
- On 23 November PBM2 left the troop and moved alone to the Pringle Bay Village. PBM2, PBF4, PBF5 and HKM1 met up in Pringle Bay and roosted together.
- This month HKM1 was observed entering an occupied house for the first time. It is most likely that HKM1 learnt this behaviour from observing PBM2 since 14 October 2021.
- At the time of writing this report HKM1 has still not integrated with any troop. Since HKM1 dispersed he has been observed spending long periods in the Pringle Bay Village. His incursion data have therefore been included in the Pringle Bay Troop's incursion sheet.
- BRM1 and BRM2 have regularly been observed engaging in conflict. This behaviour could indicate that they are fighting for alpha status, or access to a particular female.

HWS: TROOP MONTHLY REPORT																																																							
SECTOR		CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																																																					
OVERSTRAND		1	In urban area	4	Attacking pets	7	Threatening behaviour/ attacking/ stealing food																																																
BABOON TROOP: PRINGLE BAY		2	Raid bins	5	Unoccupied house or vehicle incursion	8	Breaking & Entering/Damaging property																																																
MONTH: November YEAR: 2021		3	Non malicious damage	6	Occupied house or vehicle incursion	9	Nocturnal incursion																																																
BABOON ID	Sex	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	TOTAL																							
Troop																																																							
BRM1	M								1																						1	2																							
PBM2	M	1	6,6	1	1	5	6,5,6	3	6				6	6	6	1								1	6,6	2	6,6	6	6,6	6	1	26																							
BRM2	M																																																						
HKM1	M	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	6	1	1	1	1	27																							
PBF1	F																																																						
PBF4	F	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1			1	1	1							1	1	2	1	1	1	6	1	1	1	22																							
PBF5	F	1	1	1	1	1	5	1	1													1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	19																							
UnID Females																																																							
UnID Female																																																							
UnID Individuals																																																							
UnID Juveniles																																																							
		TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																													HRS																								
Troop	0,0																															0,00																							
Individuals	43,9	480	307	720	780	660	366	305	547	*	*	480	540	660	29		6			*	191	630	383	480	334	465	315	263	500	690	460	176,52																							
Roost:	AM	14,27	14,27	17,1	14,1	27,1	14,1	27,27	27,27	20,10	20	19,27	25,27	14,1	12,1	13,10,1	14,27	20,27	27,27	12,1	18,27	27,27	23,1	24,1	13,1	14,1	18,1	18,1	14,27	17,27	25,1	14,1																							
Roost:	PM	14,27	17,1	14,1	27,1	14,1	14,27	27,1	20,10	20	19,27	14,27	14,1	12,1	13,10,1	14,27	20,27	27,27	12,27	18,27	18,1	23,1	25,1	13,1	14,1	18,1	18,8	17,27	25,1	14,1	14,2,1																								
Roost Sites	1	Professor										2	Hangklip										3	Axel Kop										4	Pringle Peak										5	Lemoenkop									
	6	Panel Beaters										7	Valley										8	Stink Kop										9	Waldos Farm SS1										10	Waldos Farm SS2									
	11	Pieter's										12	Boulders										13	Buffels Dam 1										14	Buffels Dam 2										15	Buffels Dam 3									
	16	Panel Beaters										17	Concrete House										18	Gullies										19	Rooiels 1										20	River Ridge									
	21	Mountain Top										22	Rooiels 2										23	Quarry SS										24	Groot Sloop SS										25	Waterworks									
	26	Pringle Bay Urban Area										27	Unknown										28	Rooiels Estuary										29	Upper Rooiels River										30	Rooielsberg									
	ID Features of Baboons																																																						
General remarks																																																							
Please note that the numbers in red indicate non-urban raids or incursions.																																																							

Figure 3.2: The Pringle Bay Troop incident sheet for November 2021. Note: HKM1's data was included here with the Pringle Bay Troop because he no longer associated at all with his original Hangklip Troop. The asterisk allocated to individual time in town indicates that those individuals were seen entering town but were not seen leaving. These data were therefore estimated.

Date	Days since First Arrival	HKM1 Behaviour and Noteworthy Incidents
02 Oct 21		First entered the urban area of Pringle Bay
04 Oct 21	2	Followed Pringle Bay Troop individuals into Buffelstal Nature Reserve
05 Oct 21	3	Copulated with an adult female from the Pringle Bay Troop
05 Oct 21	3	Chased away from the Pringle Bay Troop by BRM1 and BRM2
06 Oct 21	4	HKM1 observed back in Pringle Bay Village
09 Oct 21	7	First and second bin raids
14 Oct 21	12	Displaced PBM2 from HDF's taken from occupied houses
21 Oct 21	19	Five bin raids in one day
08 Nov 21	37	HKM1 observed herding adult females back towards Pringle Bay
12 Nov 21	41	PBF4 Returned to Pringle Bay Village to find HKM1
26 Nov 21	55	First occupied house raid by HKM1

Table 3.1: Behaviour and noteworthy first occasion incidents of HKM1 since entering the urban area of Pringle Bay on 02 October 2021. Note: over a period of less than two months, HKM1 regressed from being a shy non-urban raiding baboon to an occupied house raider. His continued presence in Pringle Bay in combination with an abundance of HDF's in town, is creating a high probability of the Pringle Bay Troop splitting and one half becoming resident in Pringle Bay itself.

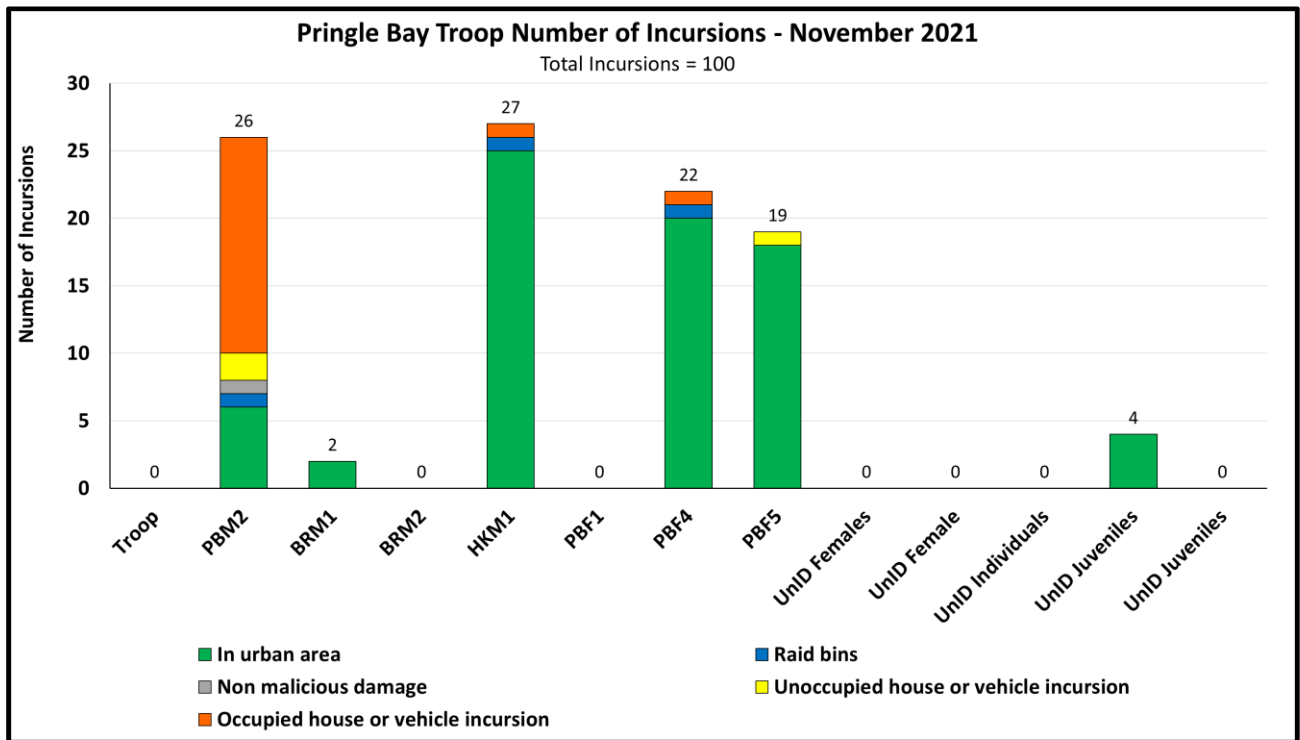


Figure 3.3: Number of incursions for the Pringle Bay Troop and individuals during November 2021.

3.2 HANGKLIP TROOP

3.2.1 IN TOWN STATISTICS

- No time in town was recorded for the Hangklip Troop or individuals in November.

3.2.2 NOTEWORTHY INCIDENTS

- HKM1 from the Hangklip Troop remained in the Pringle Bay area in November. His data are therefore recorded under the Pringle Bay Troop.
- On 20 November, HWS was informed by a Cape Hangklip resident of a deceased juvenile baboon under an electricity pylon near Sea Farm. The Hangklip Troop Field Manager responded to the incident. He assessed the body and collected evidence regarding the cause of death. An incident report was filed. The cause of death was electrocution.
- The Hangklip Troop continued utilising the natural area at Cape Hangklip from Skilpadsvlei in the west to Silversands Beach in the east.

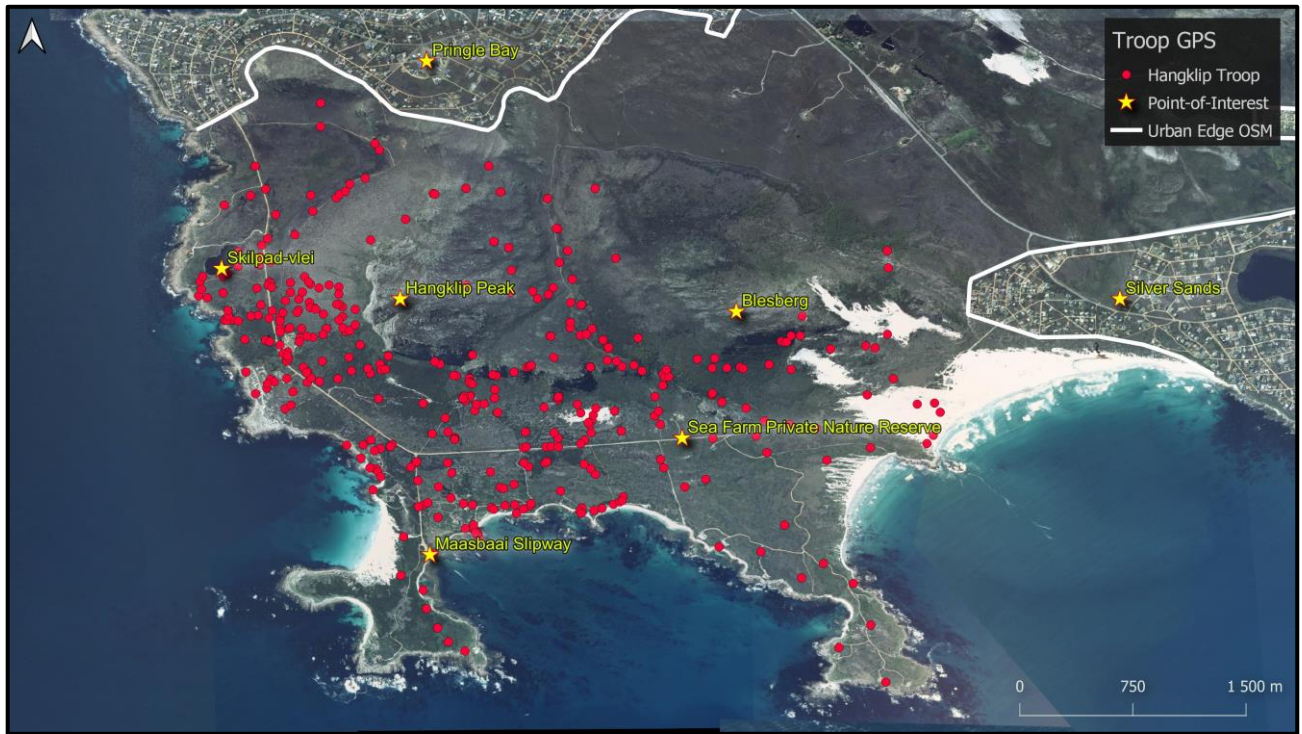


Figure 3.4: GPS locations of HKM3 in the Hangklip Troop as determined by the GPS collar during November 2021.

3.3 SILVERSANDS TROOP

3.3.1 IN TOWN STATISTICS

- The troop spent 99.8% of its time out of town this month.
- Individual baboons spent 91.1% of their time out of town.

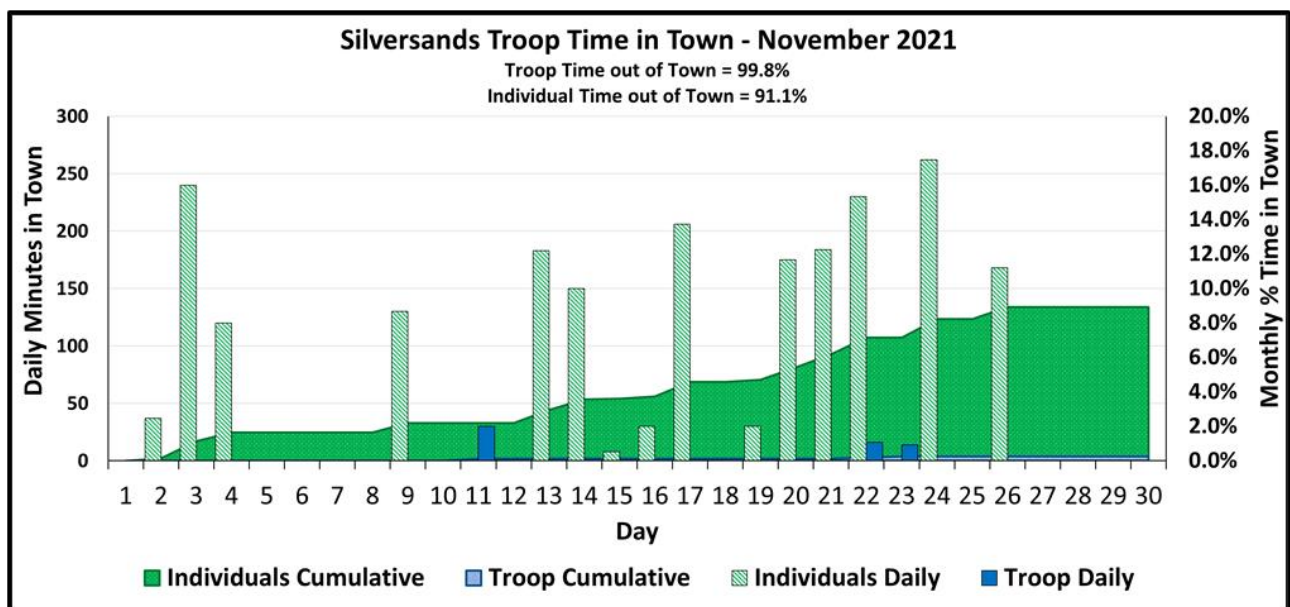


Figure 3.5: Troop and individual daily (bars) and monthly (area) Time in Town by the Silversands Troop during November 2021.

3.3.2 NOTEWORTHY INCIDENTS

- The troop as a whole entered town three times this month.
- Sub-groups of baboons or individual baboons entered town on 18 days this month in comparison to 16 days last month. Adult male baboons were again responsible for most of the incursions this month.
- During November there were several reports from garden services of residents directly feeding baboons in town. Previously other residents have reported that baboons have been fed regularly in Silversands. It is plausible that the male baboons frequent the village simply because of this purposeful feeding (see Figure 3.6). The street addresses of alleged baboon feeders have been provided to the Overstrand Municipality.
- It was noted that several juvenile baboons had missing/shorter tails. The cause is currently unknown.

HWS: TROOP MONTHLY REPORT																																													
SECTOR		CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																																											
OVERSTRAND		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	TOTAL													
BABOON TROOP: Silversands		1 In urban area		4 Attacking pets		7 Threatening behaviour/ attacking/ stealing food																																							
MONTH: November		2 Raid bins		5 Unoccupied house or vehicle incursion		8 Breaking & Entering/Damaging property																																							
YEAR: 2021		3 Non malicious damage		6 Occupied house or vehicle incursion		9 Nocturnal incursion																																							
BABOON ID	Sex	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	TOTAL													
Troop												1											1	1	1							3													
SSM1 (short tail)	M			2	1					1					1	1		1				1		1			1	1			10														
SSM2	M																															2													
UnID Males	M			1													1																												
UnID Male	M	1	1,1							1				1		1					1	1	1	1	1	1		1			13														
UnID Sub-Male	M																								1						1														
UnID Male	M																																												
UnID Females	F																																												
UnID Female	F									1						1																2													
UnID Individuals														1		1							1		1						4														
UnID Juveniles										1						1															2														
		TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																													HRS														
Troop	0.2																						16	14							1.00														
Individuals	8.9	*	37	240	120					130				183	150	8	30	206			30	175	184	230	*	262		168	*		35.88														
Roost:	AM	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1														
Roost:	PM	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1														
Roost Sites	1	Unknown										2											3											4											5
	6											7											8											9											10
	11											12											13											14											15
	16											17											18											19											20
	21											22											23											24											25
	26											27											28																						
	26											27											28																						
ID Features of Baboons																																													
General remarks		Please note that numbers in red indicate non-urban raids or incursions.																																											

Figure 3.6: The Silversands Troop incident sheet for November 2021. The asterisk allocated to individual time in town indicates that those individuals were seen entering town but were not seen leaving. These data were therefore estimated

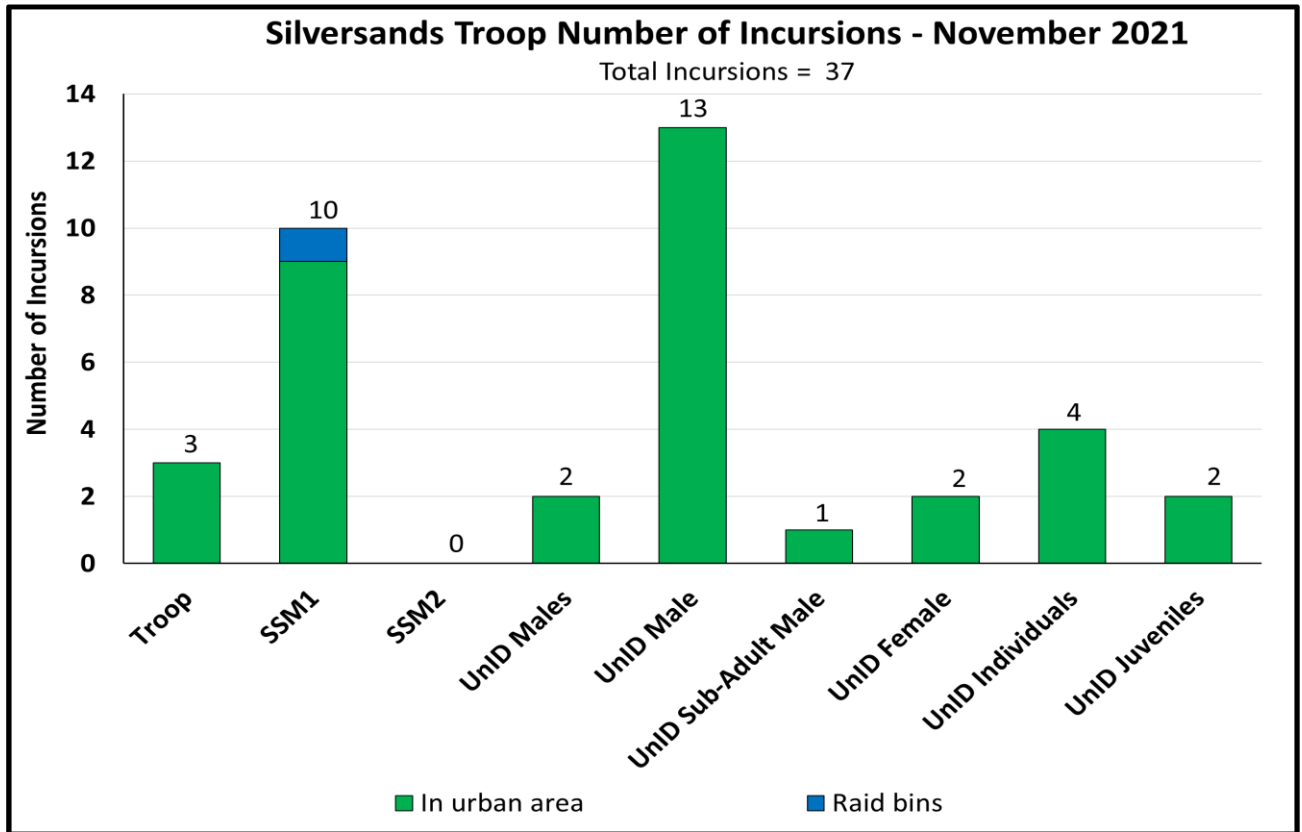


Figure 3.7: Number of incursions by the Silversands Troop and individuals during November 2021.

3.4 BETTY'S BAY TROOP

3.4.1 IN TOWN STATISTICS

- The Betty's Bay Troop spent 97.7% time out of town during November compared to 88.1% in October.
- Individual baboons spent 82.3% time out of for November while last month individuals spent 89.1% time out of town.

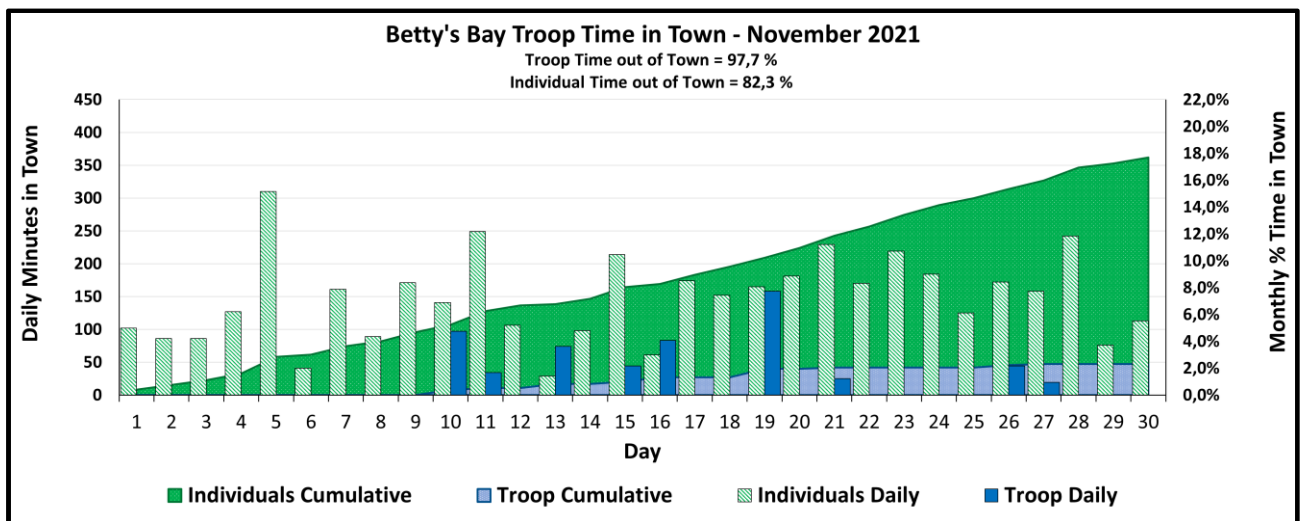


Figure 3.8: Troop and individual daily (bars) and monthly (area) Time in Town by the Betty's Bay Troop during November 2021.

3.4.2 **NOTEWORTHY INCIDENTS**

- The virtual fence has not been implemented in Betty's Bay this month. The reduction of the HWS toolbox has had a negative impact on the management of the troop. This is illustrated by the presence of baboons in town everyday this month (Figure 3.9).
- HWS baboon rangers are still prohibited from managing baboons on the mountain slopes in Disa Kloof and Leopard Kloof inside the Harold Porter Botanical Gardens (HPG). This hinders the ability of the baboon rangers to move the troop into the hinterland. This restriction resulted in the baboons spending more time in the lower gardens where picnickers and the HPG restaurant were targeted. From the lower gardens the baboons also had easy access into Jock's Bay.
- There were four separate noteworthy incidents that happened inside HPG this month. On 8 November 2021 BBF1 ran into the occupied HPG restaurant and took muffins from the front counter. On 9 November 2021 BBF1 moved through the HPG nursery and took a backpack which contained HDFs. On 13 November 2021 BBM2 charged directly at a group of picnickers, as a last resort a HWS ranger discharged a paintball at the ground to deter the baboon. On 14 November 2021 BBM2 took chips directly from picnickers.
- A total of 67 incursions were collectively recorded for BBM2, BBM3 and BBM4.
- BBM3 and BBM4 entered five and two occupied houses, respectively.
- On 28 November 2021 a pyrotechnic was heard in the urban area around Broadwidth Road. A precise location could not be determined.
- One of the main management challenges this month was the reluctance of many Betty's Bay residents to stop the feeding of birds in their gardens. Baboons were often recorded entering town to forage on the provisioned food. BBM2 regularly separated from the troop to forage on birdseed left out for birds in the residential area. BBM2 was recorded going to the same property on nine different occasions this month. The property has been reported to the Overstrand Municipality by HWS.
- Conflict between BBM2 and BBM3 continued to be observed this month. On 6 November 2021 BBM2 was observed attempting to grab the offspring of BBM3 on several occasions. On 8 November 2021 BBM2 was once again seen attempting to grab the offspring of BBM3.

3.5 **BIRTHS, DEATHS & MIGRATIONS**

- On 20 November a juvenile baboon was reported dead in the Cape Hangklip region. The carcass was found under an electrical pylon and showed clear signs of electrocution. The Hangklip and Silversands Troops home ranges overlap where the carcass was located. The death has been assigned to the Hangklip Troop because that is the troop that has been observed most in the area.

HWS: TROOP MONTHLY REPORT																																	
SECTOR		CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																															
OVERSTRAND		1 In urban area										4 Altercation with pets										7 Threatening behaviour/ attacking/ stealing food											
BABOON TROOP: NOVEMBER		2 Raid bins										5 Unoccupied house or vehicle incursion										8 Breaking & Entering/Damaging property											
BETTY'S BAY YEAR: 2021		3 Non malicious damage										6 Occupied house or vehicle incursion										9 Nocturnal incursion											
BABOON ID	Sex	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	TOTAL	
Troop											1	1		1		1	1			1		1										9	
BBM2	M		1			1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	7	7	1	1	1					1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	20	
BBM3	M				5	6	1		6	1	1	6	6			1		1	6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	23		
BBM4 (sub-adult)	M	1			1	1		1	1	1	1	1	1			1				1	7	7	1	6	1	5	1	5	7,6	1	1	24	
BBF1	F								7	7						7						1									4		
BBF2	F																																
Unid Male	M																																
Unid Females	F	1			1	1		1			1							1	6									1	1		9		
Unid Female	F		5	1								7			1		1		6		1		1	1		1	5			1	13		
Unid Individuals							1				1	1		1			2			1	1		1	1						9			
Unid Juveniles		1									1											1					5				4		
		TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																												HRS			
Troop	%	2,3									97	34		74		44	83			158		25					44	19			9,63		
Individuals	%	17,7	102	86	86	127	310	41	161	89	171	141	249	106	29	98	214	61	174	152	165	181	229	170	219	184	125	172	158	242	76	113	73,85
Roost:	AM	2	2	2	1	2	13	6	2	1	2	15	5	15	2	12	2	5	7	7	5	2	2	1	2	2	1	1	1	2	12	6	
Roost:	PM	2	2	1	2	13	6	2	1	2	15	5	15	2	1	2	5	7	7	5	2	2	1	2	2	1	1	1	2	12	6		
Roost Sites		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30		
		Disa Kloof	Sunny Seas West	Jocks Bay	Caltex	Kasteel Kop	Sandown Peak	Leopard Kloof	Sunny Seas East	Zigzag	Waterfall	Pimples	Three Sisters	Leopard Kloof Lower	Bass Lake	Church	Unknown	Isaacs River Kloof	Leopard Kloof Upper	Bass Lake West	Kleinmond Lookout	Harold Porter Gardens	Jean's Hill	Sunny Seas	Bass Lake East	Kopje	Palmeit	Heuningklip					
ID Features of Baboons																																	
General remarks																																	

Figure 3.9: The Betty's Bay Troop incident sheet for November 2021.

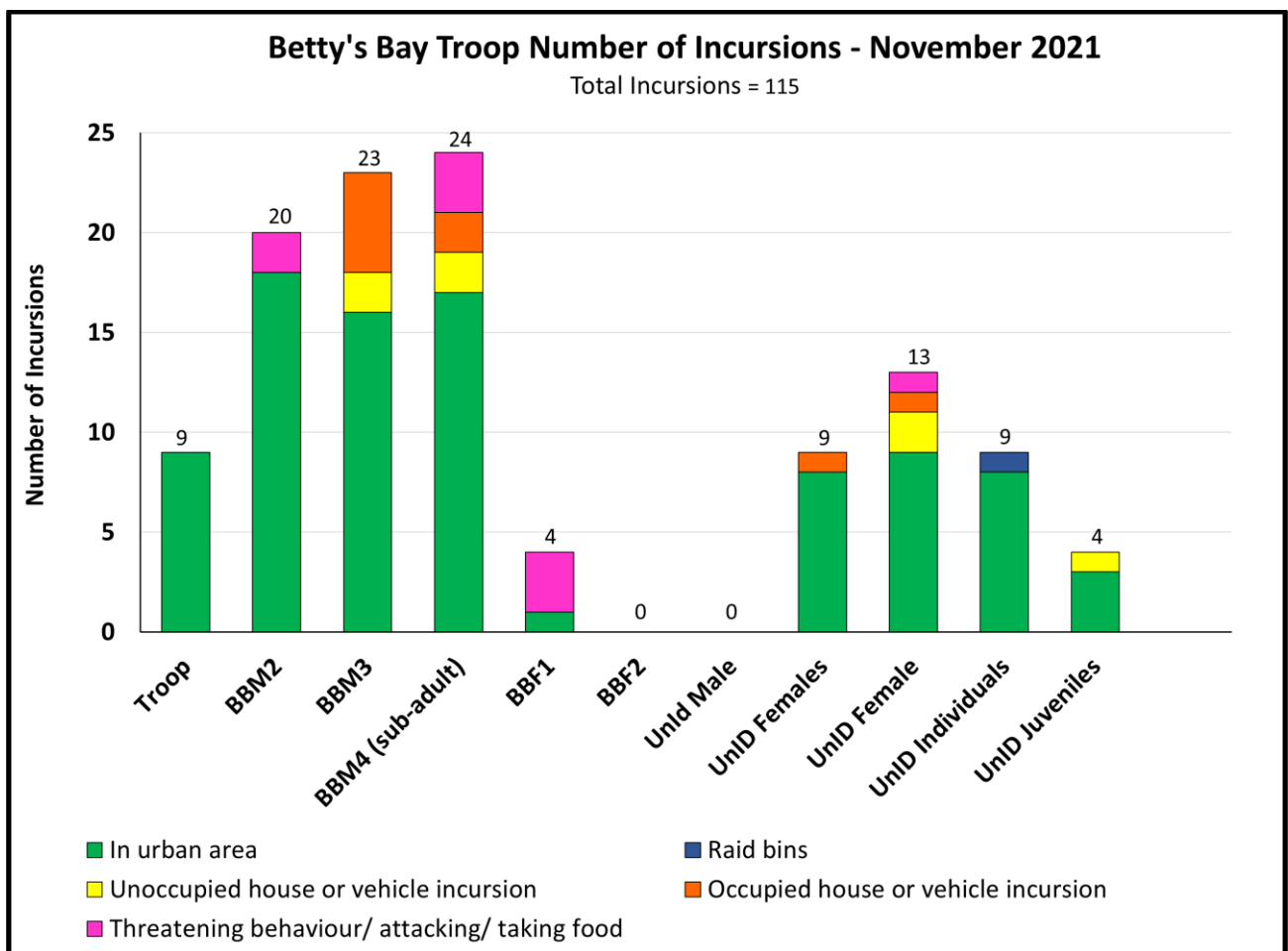


Figure 3.10: Number of incursions by the Betty's Bay Troop and individuals during November 2021.

4 GENERAL COMMENTS – ALL TROOPS

4.1 POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS

Two deaths were recorded within the managed troops this month. An electrocution of a juvenile baboon was recorded in the Hangklip area (this is the first indirect human-induced death recorded in the Overstrand). A dead baboon was also reported to the HWS hotline on 13 November in the Hemel-and-Aarde valley. On inspection a female baboon was found dead in advanced stages of decomposition, the cause of death was determined to be plant toxicosis. A young baby in the Betty's Bay Troop, of similar age to one born in October, was recorded during November. This baby is recorded here, but was most probably born during October. This brings the number of babies born in this troop since April 2021 to a total of six.

Troop	October	June	June	November 2021			Total observed Births (1 July 2021 to 30 November 2021)	Total observed Deaths (1 July 2021 to 30 November 2021)	Total observed Migrations (1 July 2021 to 30 November 2021)
	2019	2020	2021	Births	Deaths	Emigration Immigration			
Voëlklip	29	29	27	0	0	0	1	0	-1
Vogelgat	N/A	22	29	0	0	0	1	2	0
Onrus	N/A	N/A	N/A	0	1	0	0	1	0
Pringle Bay	16	16	17	0	0	0	0	3	+1
Betty's Bay	N/A	19	20	1*	0	0	5	1	0
Hangklip	N/A	N/A	30	0	1	0	0	1	-1
Silversands	N/A	N/A	43	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	45	86	166	1	2	0	7	8	-1

Table 4.1: Population data for the more closely managed troops in the Overstrand in November 2021. Emigration/Immigration figures show animal movements between troops. *A young infant was observed in November. The birth likely occurred in October, but was not observed at the time.

Deaths	2019/20 (October - June)	2020/21 (July - June)	2021/22 (July - October 2021)	November 2021	TOTAL (since October 2019)
Management	3	0	1	0	4
Human Induced (HID)	1	2	2	1	5
<i>Direct *</i>	1	2	1	0	4
<i>Indirect **</i>	0	0	1	1	1
Natural	2	7	4	1	13
Unknown	0	0	1	0	1
TOTAL DEATHS	6	9	8	2	23

Table 4.2: Causes of baboon deaths since October 2019; *Deaths caused directly by humans, such as motor vehicle accidents, shooting, poisoning and dogs. **Deaths caused indirectly by humans such as electrocutions and fire.

4.2 HOTLINE DATA

This month saw an overall decline in the number of hotline calls received. However, calls relating to the Voëlklip Troop from Voëlklip and Hermanus Heights increased significantly from 43 to 69. This is almost double the number of calls relating to the Betty's Bay Troop, which declined from 86 to only 38 this month. The increase in reported incursions into the urban area by the Voëlklip Troop is most likely related to an abundance of ripening fruit in gardens as well as blooming *Leucospermum* inflorescences. In contrast to the overall increase in the number of hotline calls relating to the Voëlklip troop, the number of assertive incursions reported did not increase. This suggests that the baboons were not attracted to human activity, but rather to the food readily available within the urban vegetation.

During November 92% of hotline calls were simply reporting baboons in the urban area. The remaining 8% of calls were made up by two bin raids and seven assertive incursions, four of which were reported from Betty's Bay. It is clear from comparing the numbers of incursions observed by HWS staff (Figure 4.3) with the numbers reported to the hotline (Figure 4.1), that the incursions in the Overstrand West (Betty's Bay and Pringle Bay) are hugely underreported. Here, of a total of 252 incursions recorded by HWS staff, only 51 were reported to the hotline. By contrast, in Hermanus 73 calls were received in relation to 56 incursions recorded by HWS field staff.

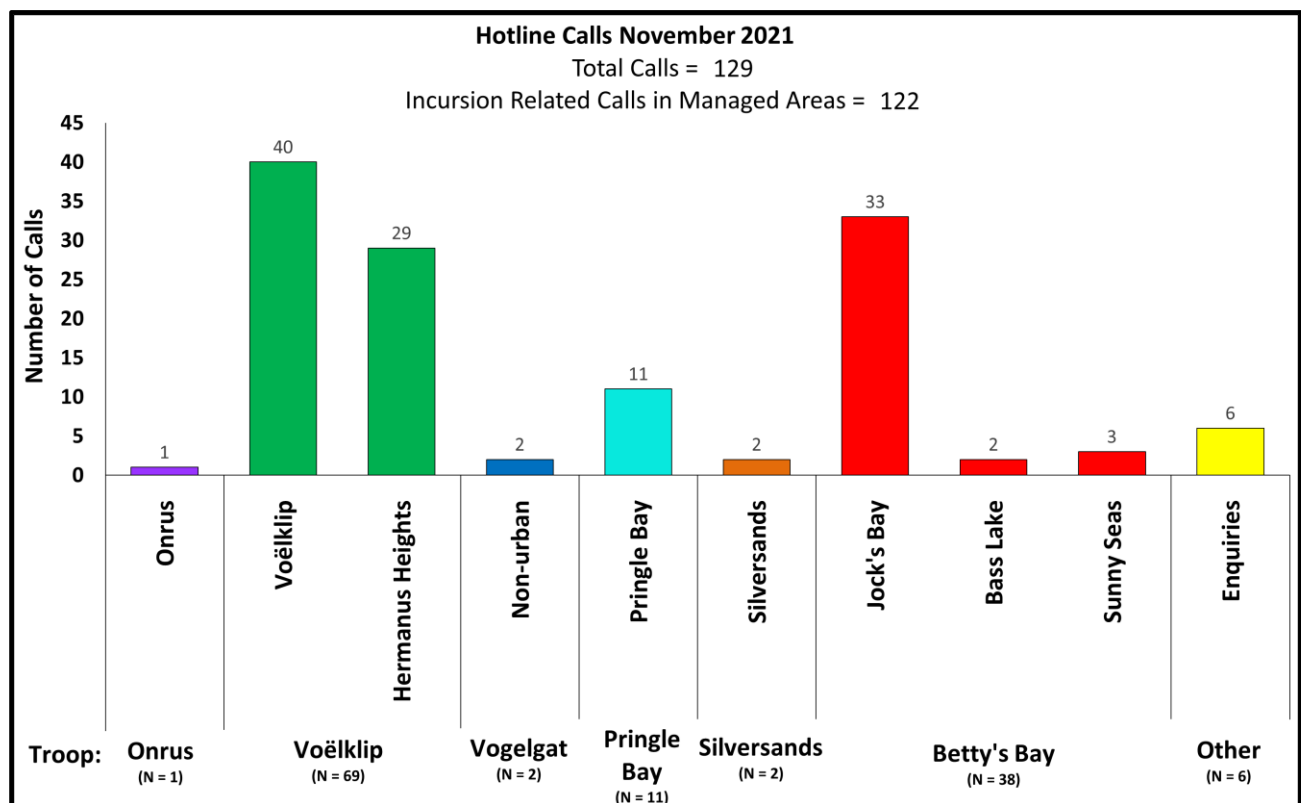


Figure 4.1: Hotline calls in baboon affected areas for November 2021. Incursion related hotline calls are calls reporting managed baboons in urban areas. Managed areas are those areas in which baboon troops are known to occur and are actively managed. 'Other Areas' represent those areas beyond the urban edge or the range of managed baboons.

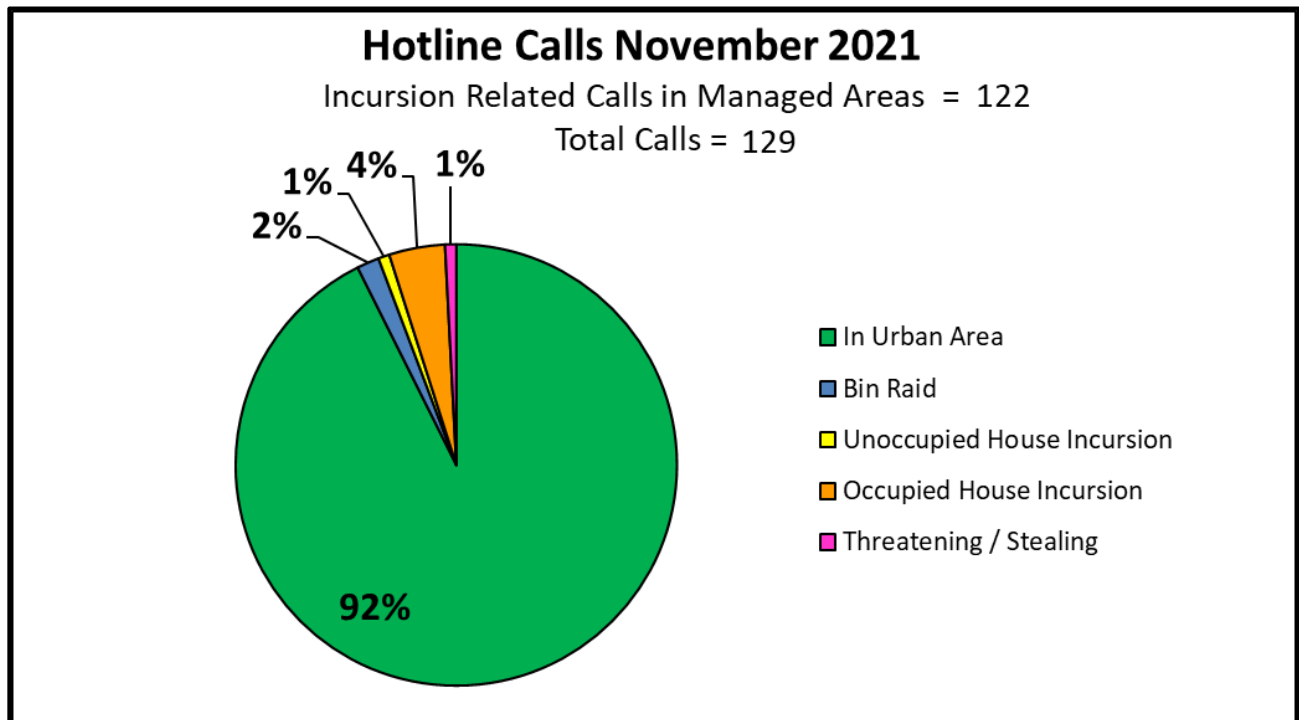


Figure 4.2: Composition of incursion-related hotline calls during November 2021. **Note:** This chart represents the composition of hotline calls, not the composition of known incursions by baboons.

4.3 RECORDED INCURSIONS

During November an increase in the total number of incursions was recorded. In the Voëlklip Troop this can most likely be attributed to abundant fruiting trees in gardens and *Leucospermum* flowering at this time of year. This contention is supported by the majority of observed incursions being entries into the urban area, with only four bin raids and one house raid being recorded.

This month it was notable that PBM2 undertook 16 occupied house raids. This comprised over 60% of all his recorded incursions. This total for one individual was greater than all the occupied house raids undertaken by all the other individual baboons (including Betty's Bay) in the Overstrand. This is furthermore remarkable because he is a young sub-adult male which has yet to grow his canines. He also started pulling at doors and windows in order to gain access into locked houses.

Although the Betty's Bay Troop undertook less occupied house raids than PBM2, it was involved in many more assertive incursions (26), including nine incidents of threatening people and taking food directly from them. This included three incidents by BBF1 and another by an unidentified female. This high level of assertive raids across at least four individuals in the Betty's Bay Troop, suggests that aggressive raids is much more the norm in this troop than it is yet in the Pringle Bay Troop. Nevertheless, it is noteworthy that since the euthanasia of BBM1, there have been no further incidents of breaking and entering houses by this troop.

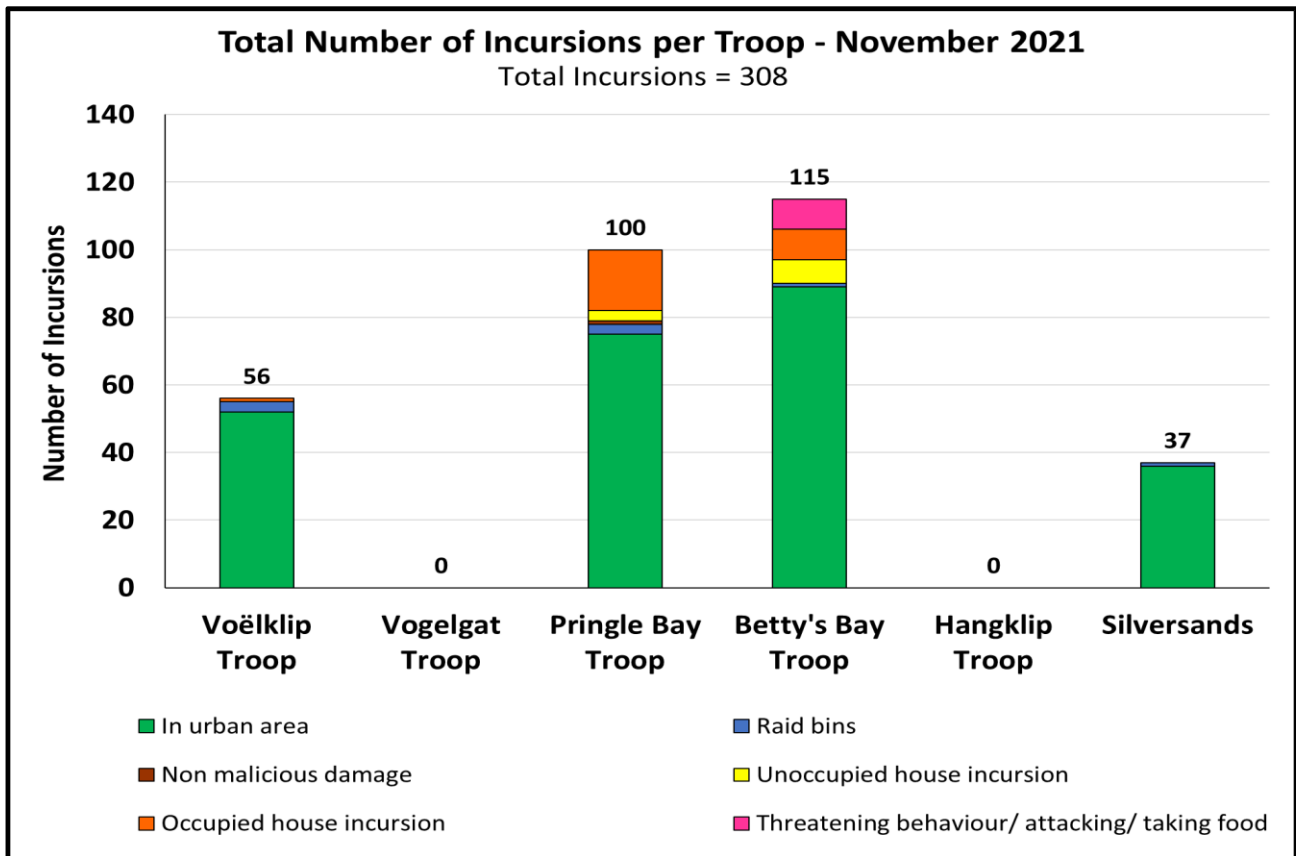


Figure 4:3: Total observed incursions per troop during November 2021. Note: Observed incursions are not hotline related, but are incursions observed by HWS field staff.

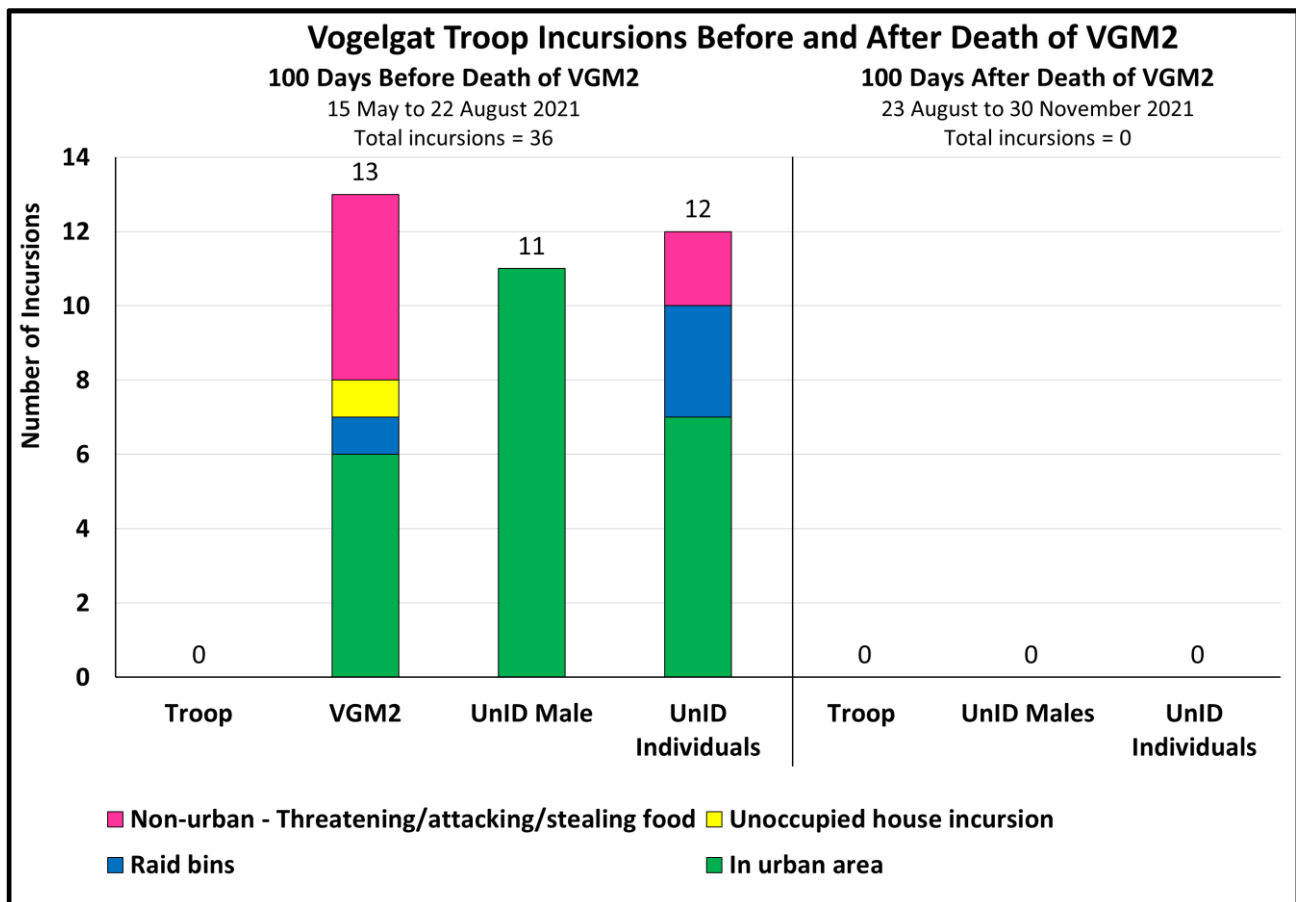


Figure 4:4: Total observed incursions by the Vogelgat Troop from 15 May to 30 November 2021, before and after the death of VGM2.

Another clear example of the effect of one individual strongly influencing the raiding behaviour of a troop, can be seen with data from the Vogelgat Troop (Figure 4.4). On 22 August 2021, VGM2 was killed in a motor car accident on the R43. In the 100 days prior to this event, the Vogelgat Troop was involved in 36 urban or peri-urban incursions including seven incidents of threatening or taking food from humans. In the 100 days since this event, the Vogelgat Troop has not been recorded to take part in a single similar incursion or raid in these areas.

4.4 PERCENTAGE TIME OUT OF TOWN

In contrasting trends, the time out of time for individuals continued to decrease this month falling to 90.5% (91.8% in October) whilst time out of town by troops increased by over 1% to 99.5% this month. Once again, the Voëlklip, Betty’s Bay and Silversands Troops were the only troops not to be 100% time out of town. However, a very low 56.1% time out of town was recorded for the individuals of the Pringle Bay Troop. This result can almost entirely be attributed to only four individuals, namely PBM2, HKM1, PBF3 and PBF4. PBM2’s prime reason for entering the urban area was clearly to obtain HDF’s. HKM1 was a dispersing male which found several receptive females in and around Pringle Bay. Since following the females and PBM2 around Pringle Bay, he also acquired the taste for HDF’s. PBF3 and PBF4, like PBM2 often visited Pringle Bay to obtain HDF’s. However, since the arrival of HKM1, it is debatable whether HKM1 or HDF’s is the prime attraction. During November the double attraction of HDF’s and HKM1 was a powerful incentive for these two females to leave their troop and visit Pringle Bay.

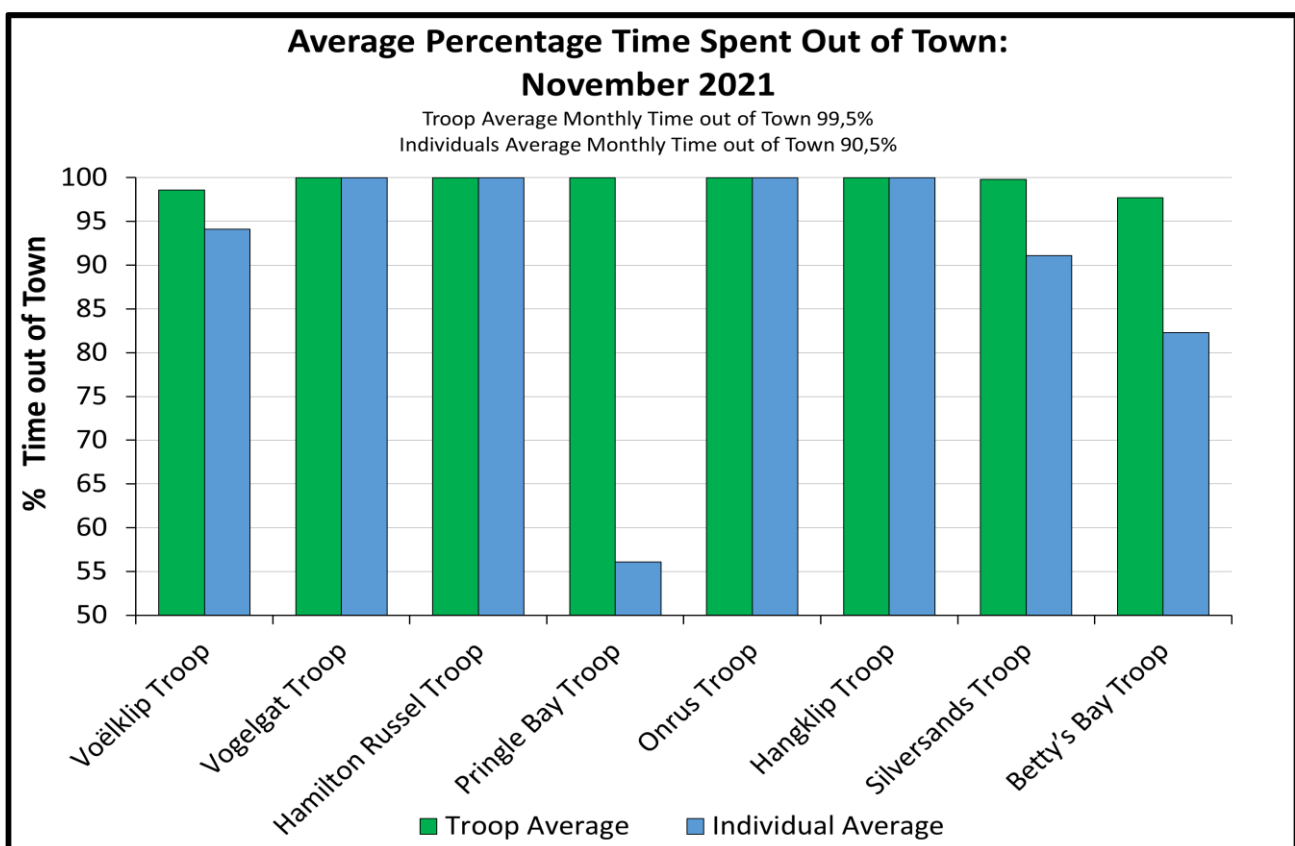


Figure 4.5: Percentage time the managed baboon troops and individuals spent out of town during November 2021.

4.5 RECOMMENDATIONS

- **Waste and recycling collection should be prioritised** to take place in the early mornings.
- All bins used in baboon effected areas should be **baboon-proof and locked**.
- Baboon-proof bins are required throughout the western region of the Overstrand. Betty's Bay should be regarded as a high priority because there are very few baboons proof bins in place. It is stipulated in the Overstrand Waste Management Bylaw that residents must use baboon proof bins in baboon effected areas.
- **Refuse bags** should not be left lying open on the sidewalk, easily available to baboons.
- Ripening **fruit on fruit trees** in baboon-affected areas should be harvested to remove the attractant for baboons.
- **Open vegetable gardens** should be baboon proofed.
- Residents are encouraged not to feed wildlife, including birds.
- Residents are encouraged to record and report the feeding of wildlife to the municipality, CapeNature, or to the baboon hotline (072 028 0008).

5 CONCLUSION

During November a number of very positive and some very negative trends emerged. On the positive side the Vogelgat Troop continued to remain 100% out of town for the 15th consecutive month. This has been well facilitated by the use of the Virtual Fence. Individuals in this troop also remained 100% out of town, now for the 3rd consecutive month. This last point is very strongly associated with the death of VGM2 after a motor car accident. Since his death no individuals from the Vogelgat Troop have either raided the urban area, or any residences between the R43 and the lagoon.

This point illustrates the strongly negative effect a single individual can have on the rest of its troop. This was also true for BBM1, which was renowned for breaking and entering into locked houses. Since his death no individuals from the Betty's Bay Troop have engaged in physical house breakins, despite the fact that BBM3, BBM4 and BBF1 had previously been recorded to do so. These observations are supported in the baboon literature. Sapolsky and Share (2004) found persistent behavioural changes in a troop of olive baboons around a refuse dump in East Africa. After the deaths of some aggressive males, the troop culture changed completely to become much more pacifistic in nature.

Unfortunately, while November witnessed some positive changes in the Vogelgat and Betty's Bay Troops, some very negative features became apparent in some other troops. The Pringle Bay Troop has become a troop of two halves. The majority of the troop spent the month 100% out of town and mainly in the Buffelstal Nature Reserve – as they did for the first half of 2021. However, a few individuals, most notably PBM2, PBF4 and PBF5 spent long periods in Pringle Bay satisfying their needs for HDF's. In the process, these individuals corrupted the dispersing male HKM1, which first arrived in Pringle Bay on 2 October 2021 as not even a bin-raiding male. This month witnessed the near full corruption of HKM1 when he engaged in his first occupied house raid in Pringle Bay. This male is now no longer eligible to be relocated to another troop bordering an urban area.

The rapid transformation of HKM1 is not surprising when one considers what he was observing over the past two months. It has been noted in recent monthly reports how highly habituated the Pringle Bay Troop is and how readily many individuals engage in assertive raids. Furthermore, over the past two months PBM2 has totally surpassed all other baboons in the Overstrand in terms of undertaking occupied house raids. Over the same period HKM1 was observing him, and has now started to copy his behaviour.

Another really worrying trend at present, is the baboon feeding behaviour of many residents in the Overstrand, but particularly in Betty's Bay. The Silversands Troop is a relatively wild troop that is seldom seen as a troop. Nevertheless, individual adult males are regularly seen in Silversands, and they always go to the same locations in town. Residents have regularly seen other residents feeding these baboons. It is a common belief in Betty's Bay that BBM1 (Scarface) dispersed from the Silversands Troop to join the Betty's Bay Troop early in 2020. This is not surprising. Furthermore, if the purposeful feeding of baboons is allowed to continue in Betty's Bay, more baboons like BBM1 and PBM2 will almost certainly evolve.

References:

Sapolsky, R. M., & Share, L. J. (2004). A pacific culture among wild baboons: its emergence and transmission. *PLoS biology*, 2(4), E106. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pbio.0020106>

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