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# **Human Wildlife Solutions**

## **Overstrand**

### **Monthly Report**

**May 2022**

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## **INTRODUCTION**

This monthly report covers the period from 1 May to 31 May 2022.

As with last month, the Voëlklip Troop made two incursions into the urban area at the beginning of the month, with individuals gaining access to town on two further occasions. Despite this, the time spent in town was less than in April. Significantly, the Vogelgat Troop was observed in the urban area on the 31 May. This was the first incursion by this troop (as opposed to individuals) into the urban area in 20 months. The troop was able to gain access because HWS has not been able to anticipate the movements of the troop since the radio collared VGM2 was killed on the R43 on 23 August 2021. Since 18 February 2022 the municipality has imposed a moratorium on radio collaring any more baboons. Over the past two months this troop has increasingly been making excursions towards the west with more and more individual attempts to enter the urban area. On 31 May this was the first time the whole troop managed to enter the urban area since August 2020.

During May there was a very positive development in Pringle Bay after management efforts were intensified in order to move the troop out of town. By 21 May 2022, the Pringle Bay Troop had been in town effectively for seven weeks. There had been one or two days where the majority of the troop had been out of town, but even on those days the troop was still very close to town and some members had remained in the urban area. Over this whole period it had been noticed that there had been a very high rate of intra-male conflict. This conflict often related to access to females, and in one case during April had led to the infanticide of a new born baby. Because of this conflict it was never possible to keep the whole troop together for long enough in order to steer the troop out of town and keep them there.

After over six weeks of unsuccessful attempts to move the troop out of town, it was decided that in order to move the troop from the urban area it would be necessary to capture and hold two of the most disruptive males (HKM1 and PBM2) for a few days. This management intervention allowed the field team to successfully move the remainder of the Pringle Bay Troop back to Buffelstahl Nature Reserve. This happened over two days on 23 and 24 May. The troop remained in the reserve for the rest of the month. As a result there was a significant drop in the number of incursions recorded by the Pringle Bay Troop. It should be noted that, as in previous months, PBM2 and HKM1 were responsible for the majority of assertive incursions recorded in Pringle Bay. There was however a worrying increase in the number of threatening interactions between HKM1 and members of the public, with several reports and direct observations of HKM1 relieving shoppers of their bags.

Both the Hangklip and Silversands Troops remained out of the urban area during May. The Hangklip Troop utilised the southern portion of its home range, the Maasbaai Peninsula, quite intensively during the month. One individual, HKM3, did enter the urban area for a brief period during May. The Silversands Troop showed a slight improvement during May, with individuals spending marginally less time in the urban area than during the previous month.

In Betty's Bay there was an overall improvement in behaviour when compared to the previous month. Time in town for both the troop and individuals decreased, and the number of incursions also saw a significant decrease. Additionally, there were three days during May in which there were no baboons at all in the urban area. This is significant given that winter tends to be a period of nutrient stress because of shorter days and lower temperatures inducing higher metabolism rates. When compared to the same period in the previous year, we see a significant increase in the amount of time spent out of town (86.7% to 93%) and a highly significant decrease in the total number of incursions (174 to 127) and particularly for assertive incursions (90 to 26).

Since the implementation of a moratorium on the full use paintball markers there had a significant increase in the prevalence of non-assertive incursions by the Betty's Bay Troop. It is expected that the rescission of the moratorium on the use of Paintball Markers during May 2022 will allow field staff to mitigate baboon incursions more effectively. This is already evident from data collected during May.

## OVERSTRAND EAST TROOPS

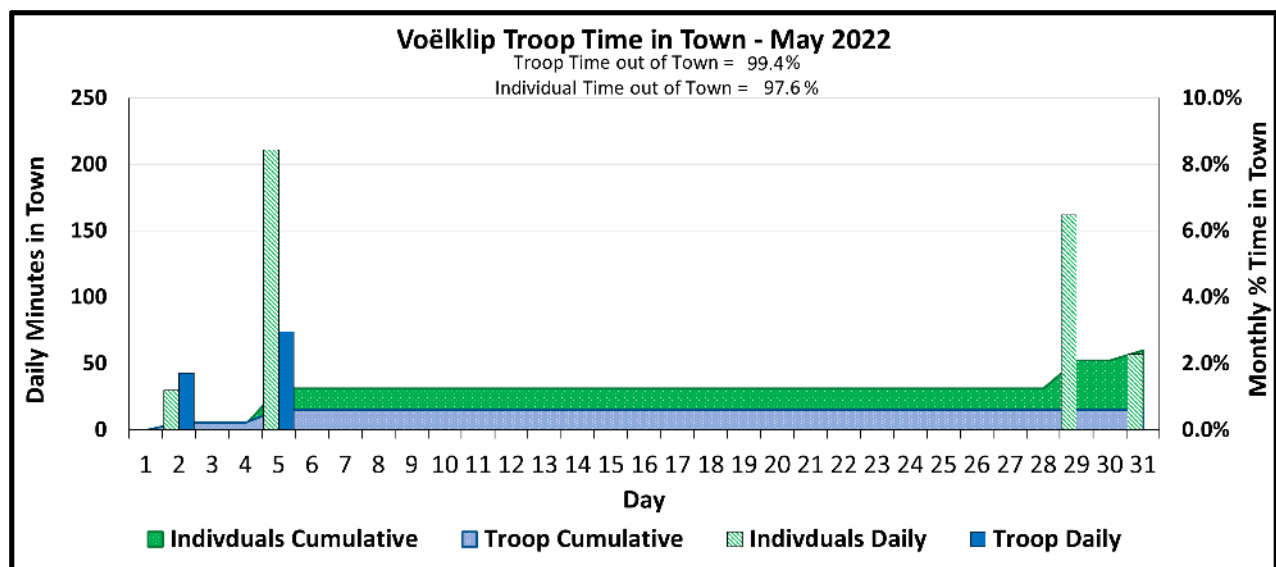
### 1.1 VOËLKLIP TROOP

#### 1.1.1 IN TOWN STATISTICS

- Troop time out of town increased from 99% to 99.4% during May.
- Time out of town for individuals increased from 97.3% in April to 97.6% during May.

	% Out of Town	% Up or Down from Previous Month	Days Entered	Total Time in Town	Avg Time in Town per day	Max Daily Time in Town	Min Daily Time in Town
<b>Troop</b>	99.4	+ 0.4	2	1:57	0:58	01:14	00:43
<b>Individuals</b>	97.6	+ 0.3	4	7:40	1:55	03:31	00:30

**Table 1.1:** In Town Statistics for the Voëklip Troop for May 2022. Time is expressed in hours and minutes. Average daylength in May was 10 hours and 19 minutes.



**Figure 1.1** Troop and individual daily time (minutes) in town (bars), and monthly (area) percentage Time in Town by the Voëklip Troop during May 2022.

#### 1.1.2 NOTEWORTHY INCIDENTS

##### 1.1.2.1 HERMANUS HEIGHTS & GOLF COURSE

- Both Voëklip Troop incursions occurred in the Hermanus Heights suburb.
- The troop utilised the sleepsites above Hermanus Heights intensively during May.



HWS: TROOP MONTHLY REPORT																																				
SECTOR										CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																										
OVERSTRAND										1	In urban area	4	Attacking pets	7	Threatening behaviour/ attacking/ stealing food																					
BABOON TROOP: Voëlklip					VOËLKLIP					2	Raid bins	5	Raid unoccupied house or vehicle	8	Breaking & Entering/Damaging property																					
MONTH: May					YEAR: 2022					3	Non malicious damage	6	Raid occupied house or vehicle	9	Nocturnal Raiding																					
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	31	TOTAL			
Troop			1			1																												2		
VGM1 BLUE TAG	M																																			
UNKM1	M		1																												1		1	3		
VKF4 YELLOW TAG	F																																			
VKF5 RED TAG	F					1																														
VKF1 GREEN TAG	F																														1,2			3		
VKF6 ORANGE TAG	F																																			
UnID Male	M																																			
UnID Males	M																																			
UnID Females	F		1			1																													1	3
UnID Female	F																																			
UnID Individuals			1																																1	
UnID Juveniles																															1		1	2		
		%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																								HRS									
Troop		0.6	43			74																													1.95	
Individuals		2.4	30			211																												162	57	7.67
Roost:	AM	?	8	10	11	14	9	2	18	2	18	21	18	2	2	4	3	2	2	2	18	5	6	2	2	3	18	3	5	18	8	3	3			
Roost:	PM	6	10	?	14	?	2	18	2	18	21	18	2	2	4	4	2	2	2	2	18	5	6	2	2	3	18	2	5	18	3	3	18			
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					?	Unknown										
ID Features of Baboons																																				
General remarks																																				

Figure 1.2: The Voëlklip Troop incident sheet for May 2022.

### 1.1.2.2 VOËLKLIP & FERNKLOOF

- No incursions were recorded in Voëlklip during May, despite the troop utilising the Three Dam Sleep Sites to the north of the suburb on several occasions.

### 1.1.2.3 GENERAL

- The Voëlklip Troop made two incursions into the urban area on 2 and 5 May. These incursions were of relatively short duration, with only one bin raid being recorded.
- The Voëlklip Troop utilised the portion of their range near the Hamilton-Russel Vineyards more extensively, with 14 hotline calls regarding their activities received from Vineyard staff and residents of the Hamilton-Russel Vineyards.
- There was an overall reduction in incursions during May when compared with April, with no assertive incursions recorded by HWS Field staff.

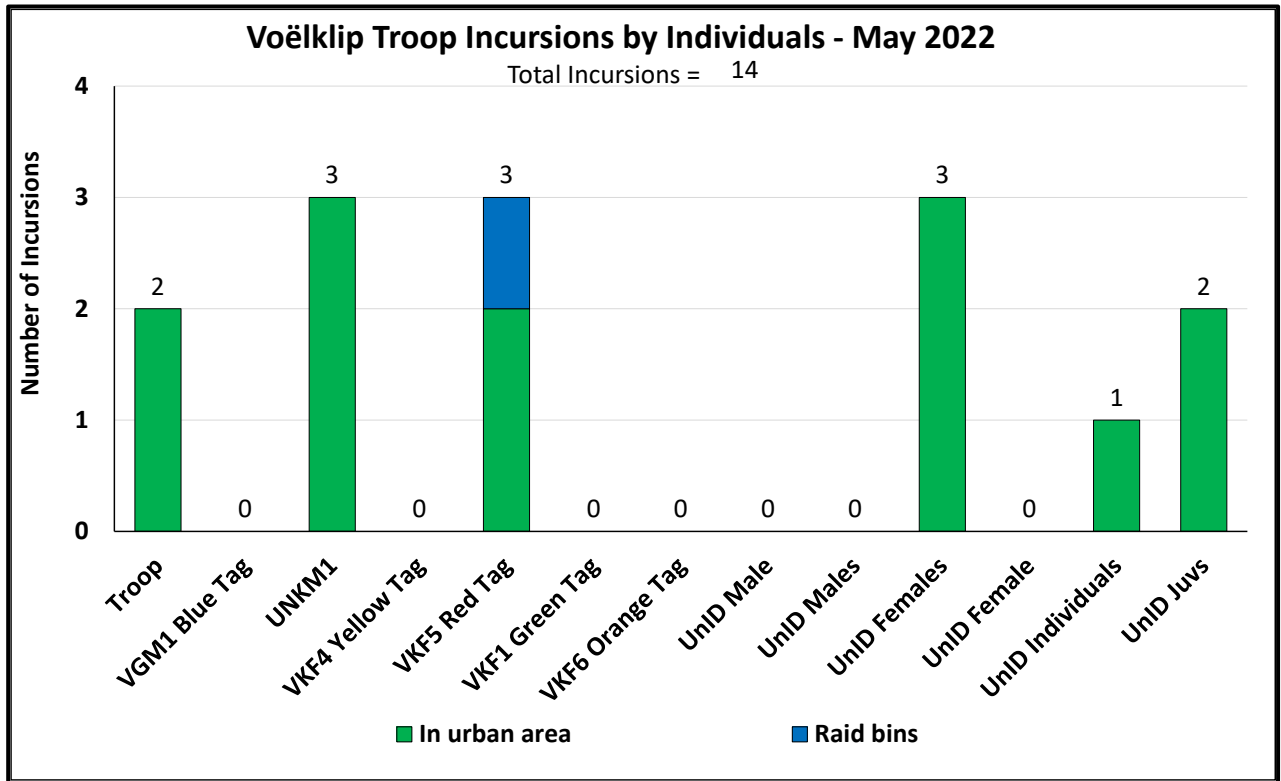


Figure 1.3 Number of incursions for the Voëlklip Troop and individuals during May 2022.

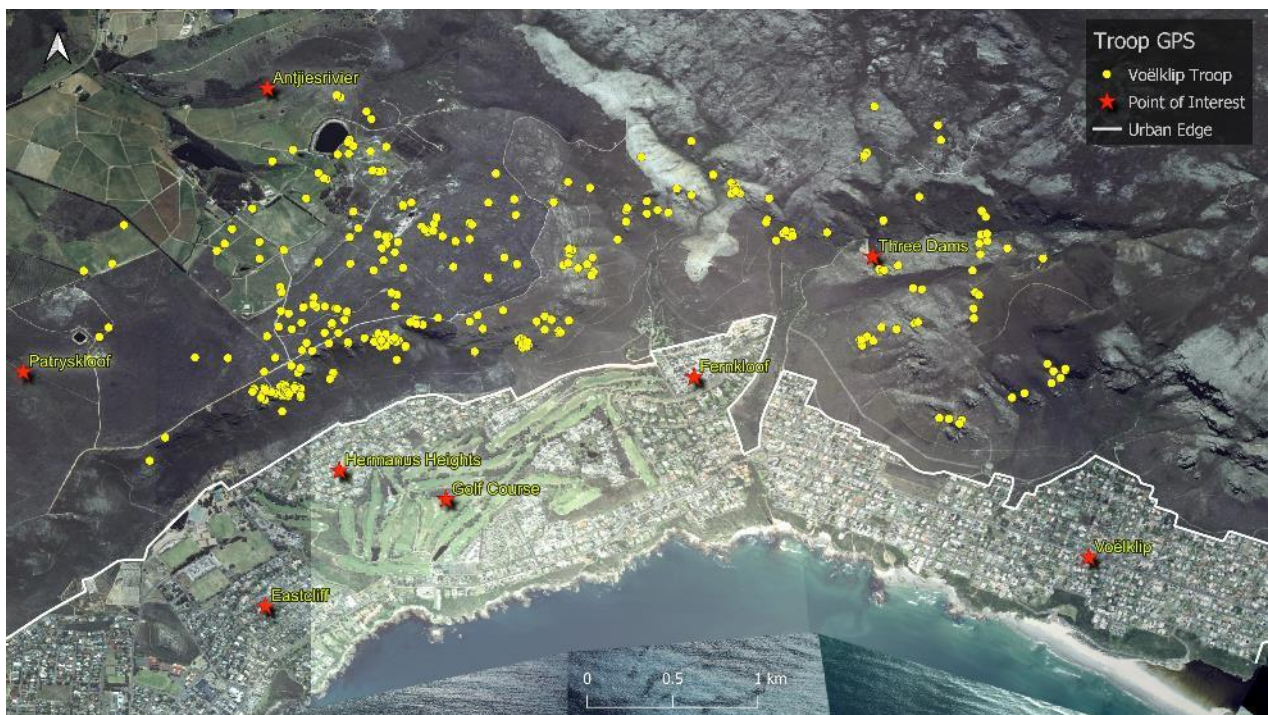


Figure 1.4 Map showing the GPS locations of VKF7 in the Voëlklip Troop during May 2022.

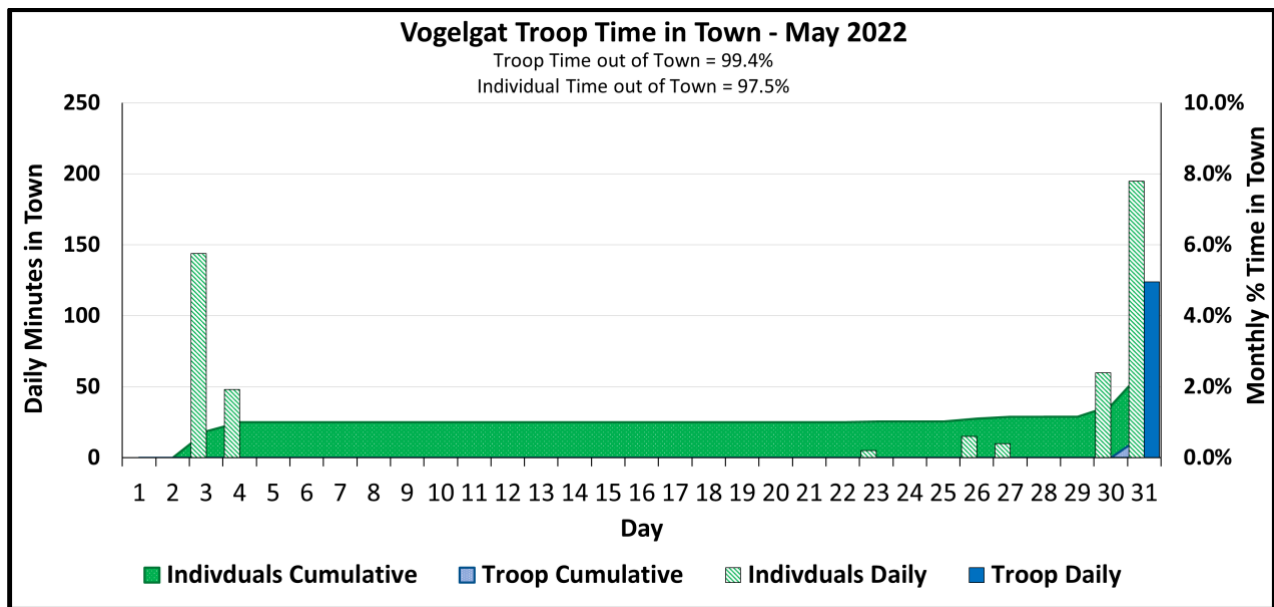
## 1.2 VOGELGAT TROOP

### 1.2.1 IN TOWN STATISTICS

- The troop made its first incursion in 20 months into the urban area during May.
- Time out of town for individuals decreased further during May, from 99.4% during April to 97.5%.

	% Out of Town	% Up or Down from Previous Month	Days Entered	Total Time in Town	Avg Time in Town per day	Max Daily Time in Town	Min Daily Time in Town
<b>Troop</b>	99.4	- 0.6	1	2:04	2:04	2:04	2:04
<b>Individuals</b>	97.5	+ 3.1	7	7:57	1:08	3:15	0:05

**Table 2.1** In Town Statistics for the Vogelgat Troop for May 2022. Time is expressed in hours and minutes. Average daylength in May was 10 hours and 19 minutes-



**Figure 2.1** Troop and individual daily time (minutes) in town (bars), and monthly (area) percentage Time in Town by the Vogelgat Troop during May 2022.

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	31	TOTAL			
BABOON TROOP:		VOGELGAT																																		
MONTH: May		YEAR: 2022																																		
1 In urban area		4 Attacking pets		7 Threatening behaviour/ attacking/ stealing food																																
2 Raid bins		5 Raid unoccupied house or vehicle		8 Breaking & Entering/Damaging property																																
3 Non malicious damage		6 Raid occupied house or vehicle		9 Nocturnal Raiding																																
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	31	TOTAL			
Troop																																	1	1		
VGf1	F																																			
VGM2	M																																			
UnID Male	M																															1	1	2		
UnID Males	M			1	1																		1				1							4		
UnID Females	F																																			
UnID Female	F																																			
UnID Individuals				1																												1		2		
UnID Juvs																																				
	%	TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																														HRS				
Troop	0.0																																124*	2.07		
Individuals	0.1			144*	48*																											60*	195*	7.95		
Roost:	AM		?	?	3	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?		
Roost:	PM		?	?	?																															
Roost Sites		1 Baboon Castle					2 18th Ave Kloof					3 11th Ave Kloof					4 10th Ave Kloof					5 Uitkyk Punt														
		6 Vogelgat Nature Reserve					7 Halfway Ridge					8 Bosklip					9 Groot Uitkyk					10 1st Kloof														
		11 2nd Kloof					12 3rd Kloof					13 4th Kloof					14 17th Avenue Kloof					15 Waterfall														
		16 A Shape					17 Bitterbiesie					18 Maanskynkop					19 Stillwaters					20 Maanskynbaai SS														
		? Unknown																																		
	ID Features of Baboons																																			
General remarks	Please note that the numbers in red indicate non-urban raids or incursions.																																			

Figure 2.2 The Vogelgat Troop incident sheet for May 2022.

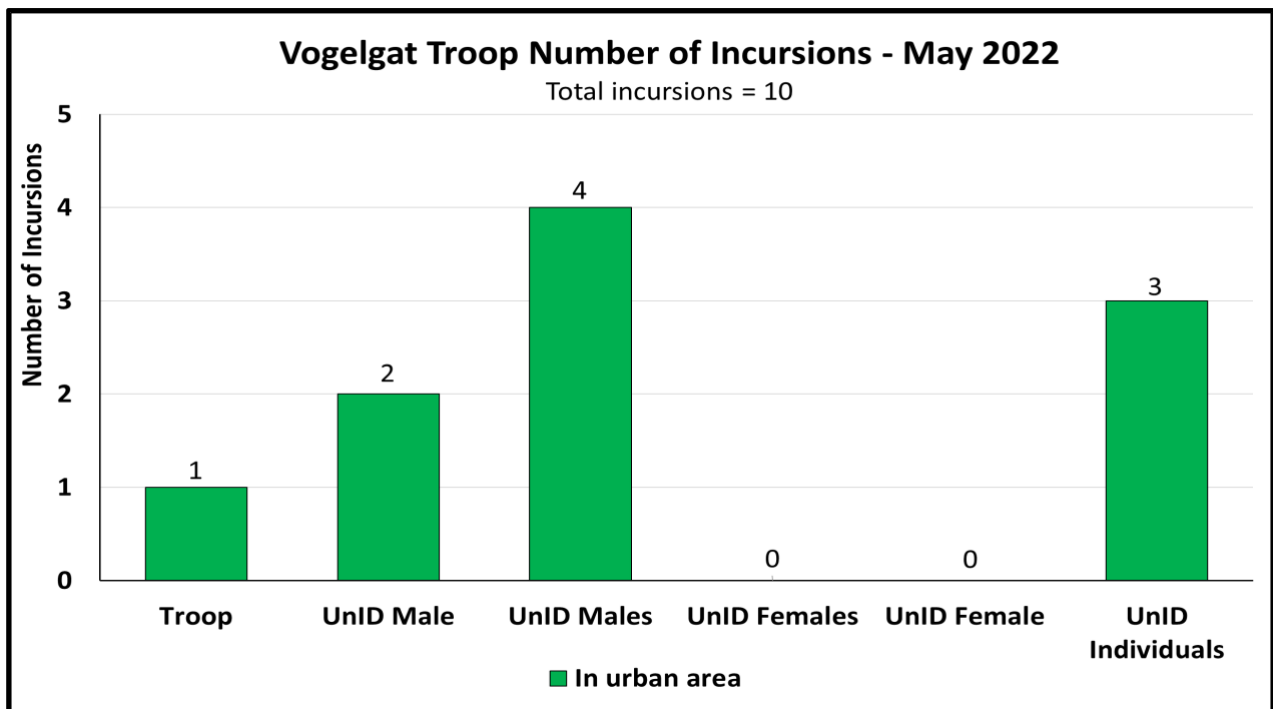


Figure 2.3 Number of incursions for the Vogelgat Troop and individuals during May 2022.



### **1.2.2 NOTEWORTHY INCIDENTS**

- On 31 May the Vogelgat Troop entered the urban area for the first time in 20 months. A hotline call was received at 14h12 informing HWS of the presence of seven baboons in the street. When field staff arrived they found the troop in town on 8<sup>th</sup> Street and 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue.
- On 16 May HWS received a hotline call of a possible collision between a baboon and a car on the R43. When field staff responded to the call, they found an individual baboon sunbathing on the road surface; the baboon was uninjured and moved off when staff arrived. Later in the day, during a patrol along the R43, the Field Manager detected the smell of a decomposing animal in the area approximately 4.8 km east of Hermanus. After searching, the Field Manager found a deceased baboon inside a hessian sack on the side of the road. Due to the extreme level of decomposition, neither the sex nor the age of the baboon could be determined.

### **1.2.3 VIRTUAL FENCE**

- In the Eastern Overstrand, the Virtual Fence was activated on five days during May in order to manage the Vogelgat Troop.

### **1.3 ONRUS TROOP**

- No observations of the Onrus Troop were made during May.

### **1.4 HAMILTON RUSSEL TROOP**

- No observations of the Hamilton-Russel Troop were recorded during May.

### **1.5 BIRTHS, DEATHS & MIGRATIONS**

One birth was recorded in the Overstrand East. A new born infant was observed with the Vogelgat Troop on 31 May. One death was recorded in Vogelgat Troop. The sex and age class of the individual were not identifiable. Given the location of the carcass, approximately 4.8 km east of Hermanus, it was assumed the baboon belonged to the Vogelgat Troop.

## OVERSTRAND WEST TROOPS

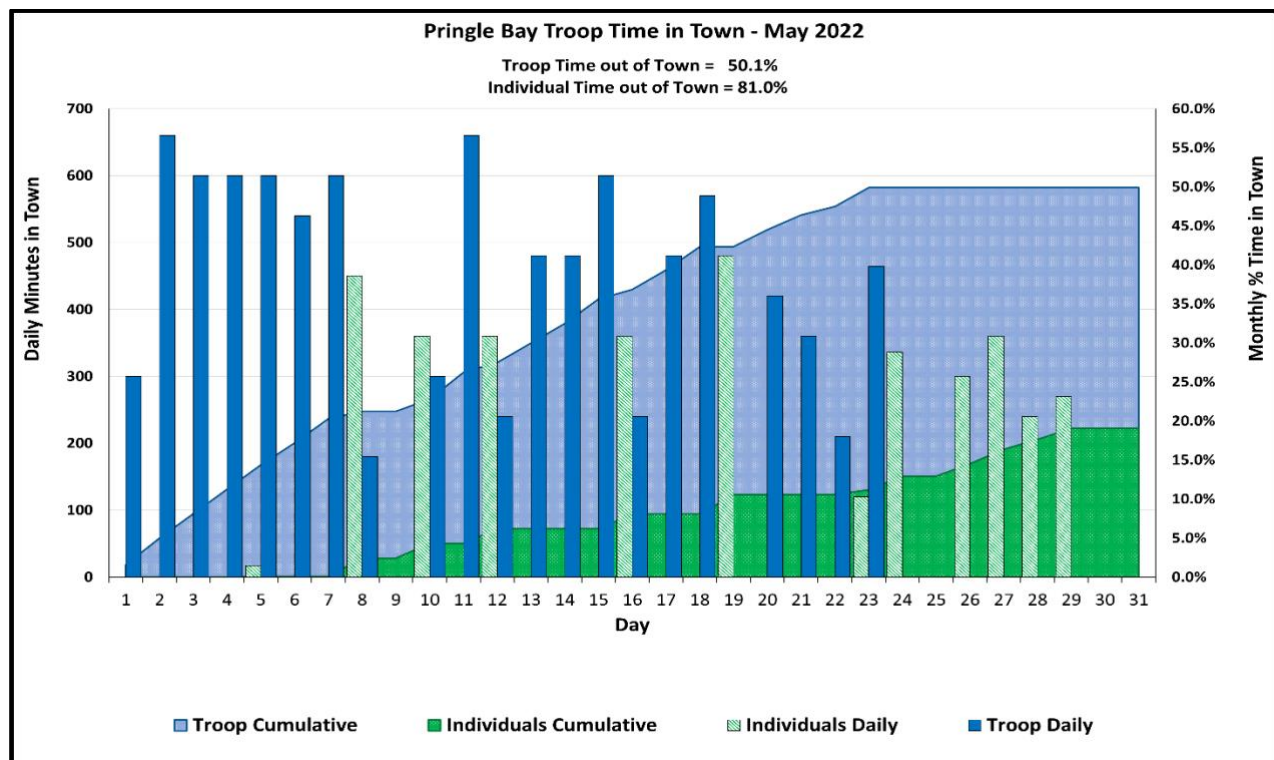
### 1.6 PRINGLE BAY TROOP

#### 1.6.1 IN TOWN STATISTICS

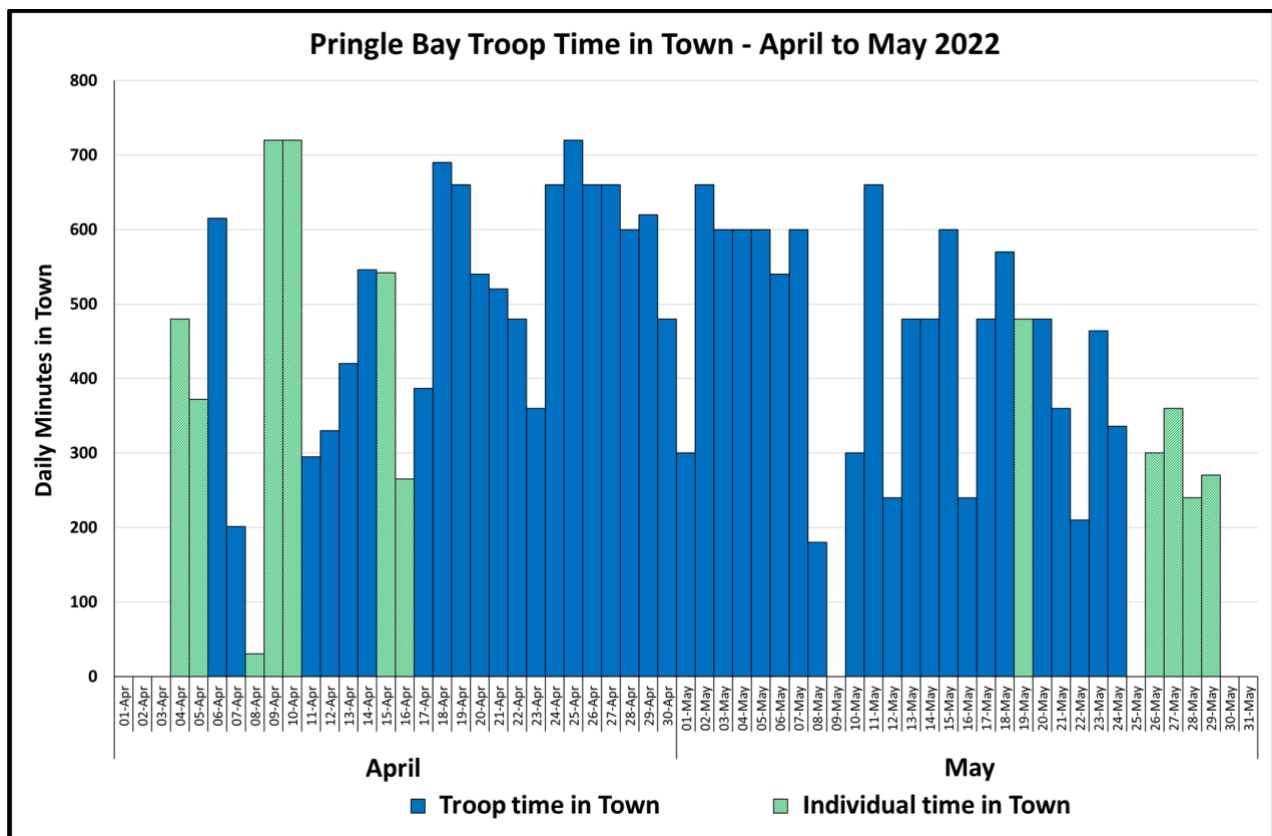
- The time spent out of town by the Pringle Bay Troop increased marginally from 48.3% during April to 50.1% during May.
- Time out of town by Pringle Bay Troop individuals increased from 78.7% to 81% during May. The majority of the time spent in town by individuals was accrued by HKM1 and an unknown male which were left behind when the Pringle Bay Troop was steered out of the urban area towards the end of the month.

	% Out of Town	% Up or Down from Previous Month	Days Entered	Total Time in Town	Avg Time in Town per day	Max Daily Time in Town	Min Daily Time in Town
<b>Troop</b>	50.1	+ 1.8	21	159:44	7:36	11:00	3:00
<b>Individuals</b>	81.0	+ 6.1	12	60:53	5:04	8:00	0:17

**Table 3.1** In Town Statistics for the Pringle Bay Troop for May 2022. Time is expressed in hours and minutes. Average daylength in May was 10 hours and 19 minutes.



**Figure 3.1** Troop and individual daily time (minutes) in town (bars), and monthly (area) percentage Time in Town by the Pringle Bay Troop during May 2022.



**Figure 3.2** Pringle Bay Troop daily time in town (minutes) during April & May 2022. Individual time in town is illustrated for days the troop was not in town. On 9 and 25 May some individuals may have been in town, but were not observed by HWS Rangers.

### 1.6.2 **NOTEWORTHY INCIDENTS**

- On 4 May a report was received regarding an occupied house incursion by HKM1. After encouraging HKM1 to vacate the property, the owner gave field staff an opened box of Rattex (Rodenticide) and informed staff that he suspected that HKM1 may have consumed some of the rodenticide. The baboon was monitored closely for the following days, however no ill effects were observed. Rattex contains Brodifacoum, a potent anticoagulant agent and widespread rodenticide (Brodifacoum, HSG 93). Due to the long duration of action and high potency of this poison, HKM1 will be continued to be monitored for potential after effects.
- A dramatic increase in assertive and threatening behaviour was observed in HKM1 during May. Five incidents of threatening or taking food from humans by HKM1 were observed during the month, with two further incidents reported to the Baboon Hotline. It is worth noting that all incidences of aggressive or threatening behaviour exhibited by HKM1 happened after the ingestion of Rattex rodenticide. This behaviour may have been the result of injuries such as internal haemorrhaging, leading to abnormal behaviour, but no record of such a side effect on larger mammals could be found.
- The Pringle Bay Troop occupied the urban area almost continuously since 11 April to 23 May, a period of 43 days (**Figure 3.2**). It is worth noting that there were four days during this period in which the troop as a whole, was prevented entering the urban area. On 15-16 April, the Pringle Bay Troop slept at Professor Sleep Site and were moved through Brodie Link Reserve and over the R44. They returned soon after however due to several individuals remaining in the urban area, namely PBM2 and HKM1. On 9 May, the troop moved back to the Buffelstal Dam after being pushed over the

estuary the previous day. Lastly, on 19 May the Field team was able to move the Pringle Bay Troop south over Lemoenkop into Skilpadsvlei. However the troop returned to town during the night. During this period of occupation the troop spent a total of 320 daylight hours in the urban area, averaging seven and a half hours in town per day.

- For the first three weeks of May, HWS attempted every day to try and get the troop back to the Buffelstal Dam catchment area. However, having four males (BRM1, HKM1, PBM2 and Unknown male) often fighting amongst each other and often trying to prevent the females from leaving the urban area (particularly HKM1 and PBM2), it was recognised that this objective was not likely to be achieved.
- HWS therefore obtained permission to capture HKM1 and PBM2 and keep them in a holding facility while the troop was steered out of town. Over a two day period from 23 to 24 May, the Pringle Bay Troop was successfully removed from the urban area back to the Buffelstal Nature Reserve. After the troop had been moved, both males were released back into their natal home ranges in accordance with the CapeNature Guidelines. PBM2 rejoined his troop near the Buffelstal Dam within an hour of his release. HKM1 disappeared for two days before being seen back in Pringle Bay Town again.
- It was unfortunate to note that BRM1, the male that originally had been primarily responsible for keeping his new troop (January 2021 takeover) out of town and in the Buffelstahl Nature Reserve, clearly lost his fear for humans during this extended period in town and made two occupied house raids in Pringle Bay (Figure 3.4). This represented a fundamental change in the behaviour of this baboon and also a fundamental change in terms of his management in future.
- It was also extremely disturbing to note that every category of baboon with the exception of the troop as a whole was involved in occupied house raids (Figure 3.4). This even included unidentified juveniles making an occupied house raid.

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	31	TOTAL		
BABOON TROOP:			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	31	TOTAL		
MONTH: May			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	31	TOTAL		
PRINGLE BAY			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	31	TOTAL		
YEAR: 2022			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	31	TOTAL		
Troop			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	1	1	21	
BRM1	M						5								1				6			6		1	1	1								4		
PBM2	M	1			6,6		6,6	6					1	1,6,6	1	6		6,6,6																	17	
BRM2	M																																			
HKM1	M					6	2						1	1,7,7	1,7		1,7,6			6									1,7	1	1			16		
PBF1	F		6	6	6		6						6											6										6		
PBF4	F																																			
PBF5	F																																			
PBF6	F																																			
UnID Male		1											1					1			1	6			1	1		1,6	1,6	1	1			13		
UnID Females		1											1,6																						4	
UnID Female			1							6				5		1,5		6		1	6		1	6										9		
UnID Individuals		6								6		6,6				6		3,3,6,6		6														10		
UnID Juveniles			1,6													1																		3		
			TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																												HRS					
Troop	%	49.9	300	660	600	600	540	600	180		300	660	240	480	480	600	240	480	570		420	360	210	464									159.73			
Individuals	%	19.0							17										360					120	336				300	360	240	270		60.88		
Roost:			AM	5	5	1	1	1	3	1	1	9	13	1	1	14	1	1	1	1	1	3	?	1	1	1	14	14	20	20	20	28	24	20		
Roost:			PM	4	1	1	1	1	3	1	1	9	13	1	1	14	1	1	1	1	1	3	?	1	1	1	14	14	20	20	20	28	24	20		
Roost Sites			1	Professor	2	Hangklip	3	Asel 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				
Roost Sites			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	Rooiels Estuary	28	Upper Rooiels River	29	Rooielsberg	30	Rooiels Spire				
ID Features of Baboons																																				
General remarks			Please note that the numbers in red indicate non-urban raids or incursions. * indicates individuals were seen in town but were not seen entering and/or leaving. These data were therefore estimated.																																	

Figure 3.3 The Pringle Bay Troop incident sheet for May 2022. \* Individual was not observed either entering or leaving town. Time in town was therefore estimated.

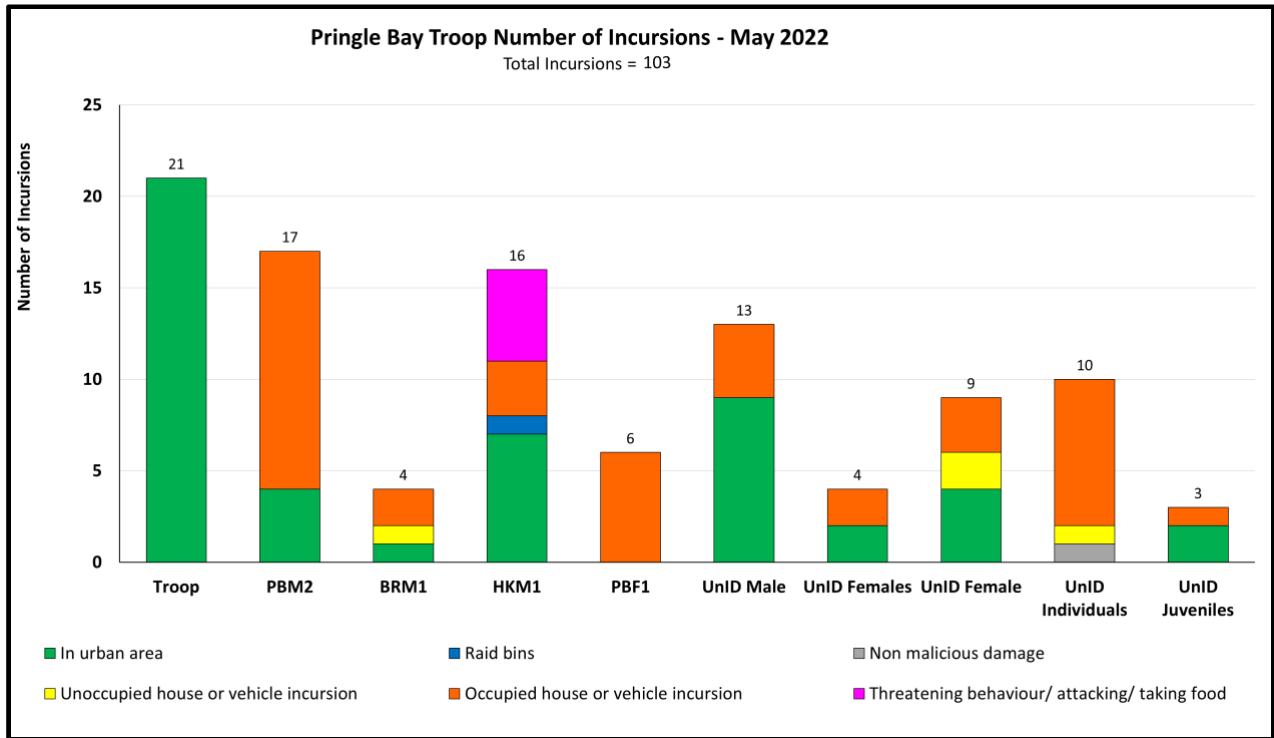


Figure 3.4 Number of incursions for the Pringle Bay Troop and individuals during May 2022.

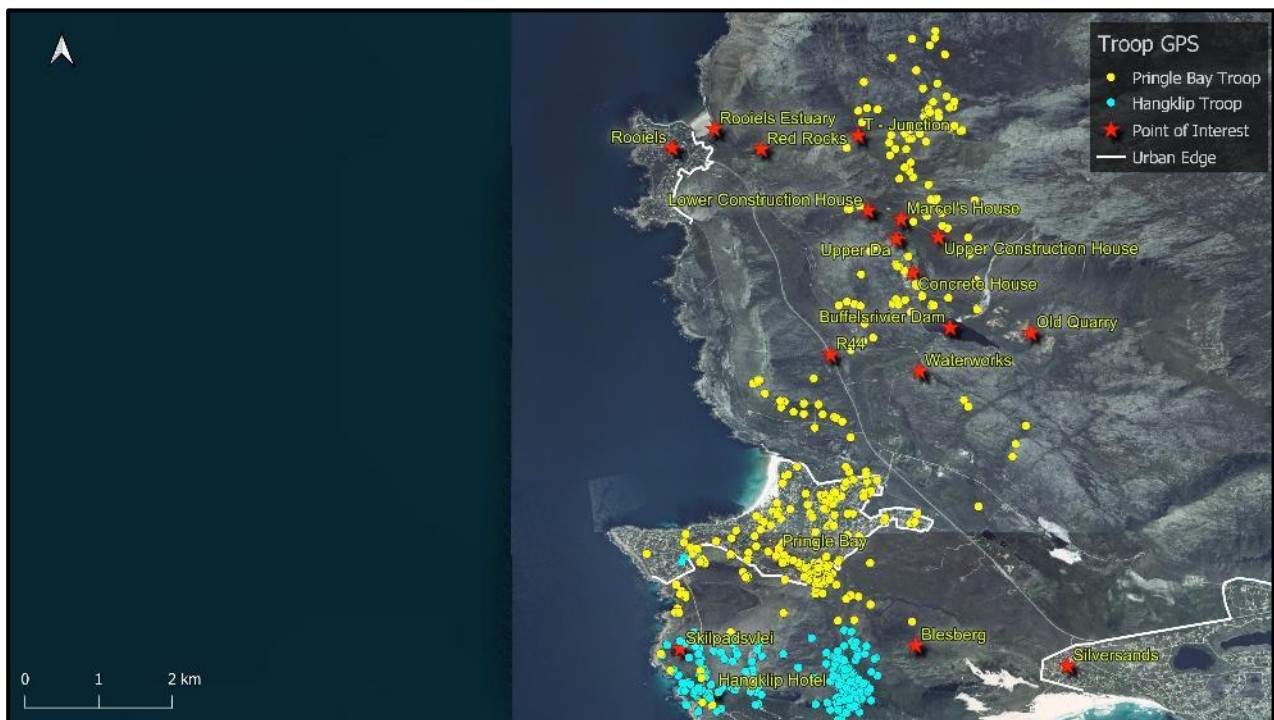


Figure 3.5 Map showing the GPS locations of PBF1 in the Pringle Bay Troop (yellow) and HKM3 in the Hangklip troop (cyan) during May 2022.



## 1.7 HANGKLIP TROOP

### 1.7.1 IN TOWN STATISTICS

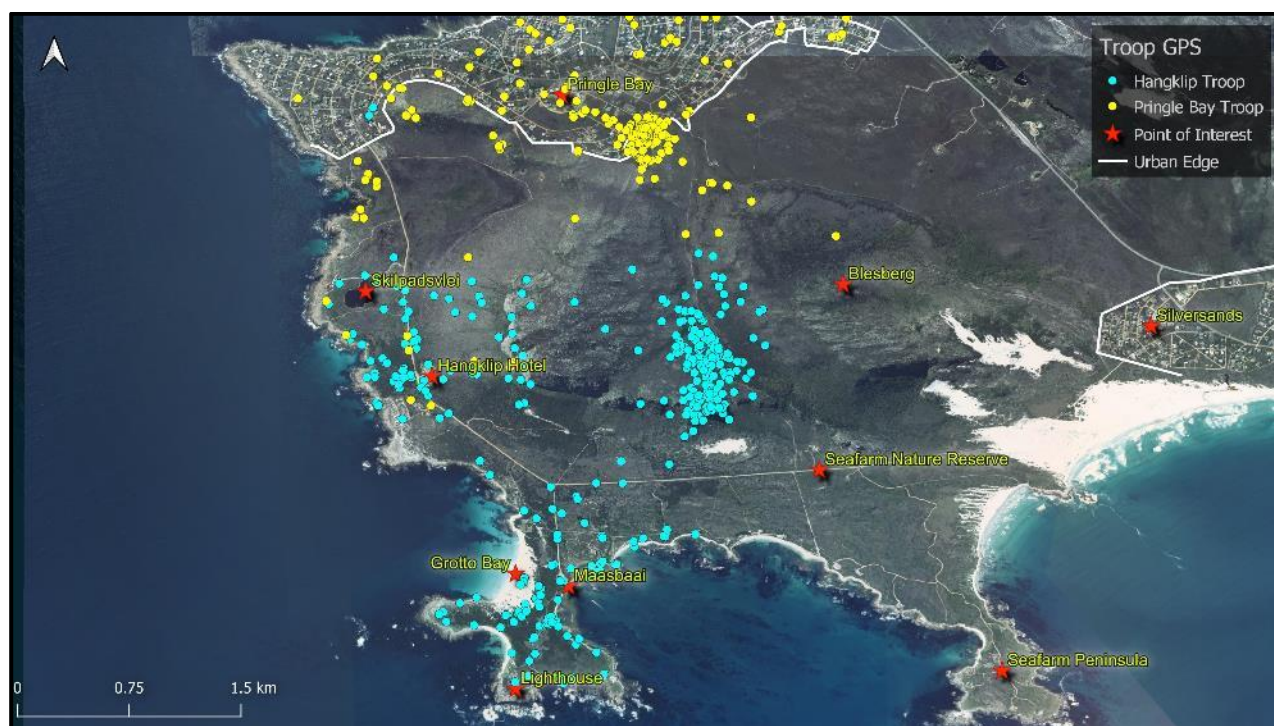
- May was the eighth consecutive month that no time in town was recorded for the Hangklip Troop.
- Individual time out of town decreased from 100% in April to 99.8% in May. This is the first incidence of an individual from the Hangklip Troop accessing the urban area for a period of eight months.

	% Out of Town	% Up or Down from Previous Month	Days Entered	Total Time in Town	Avg Time in Town per day	Max Daily Time in Town	Min Daily Time in Town
<b>Troop</b>	100.0	0.0	0	0:00	00:00	00:00	00:00
<b>Individuals</b>	99.8	- 0.2	1	00:45	0:02	00:45	00:45

**Table 4.1** In Town Statistics for the Hangklip Troop for May 2022. Time is expressed in hours and minutes. Average daylength in May was 10 hours and 19 minutes.

### 1.7.2 NOTEWORTHY INCIDENTS

- On 23 May, the Hangklip Troop attempted to access the urban area through Skilpadsvlei Reserve south of Pringle Bay. The troop was intercepted and turned back towards the Hangklip Hotel using the Virtual Fence. However, HKM3 managed to enter Pringle Bay for 45 minutes as indicated by GPS collar.
- The Hangklip Troop utilised its natural home range between Pringle Bay Village and Sea Farm Private Nature Reserve. The troop appeared to utilise the central and southern portion of their range more extensively through this month, with an increased presence on the Maasbaai Peninsula.



**Figure 4.2** GPS locations of HKM3 in the Hangklip Troop (cyan) and PBF1 in the Pringle Bay Troop (yellow) as determined by their GPS collars during May 2022.

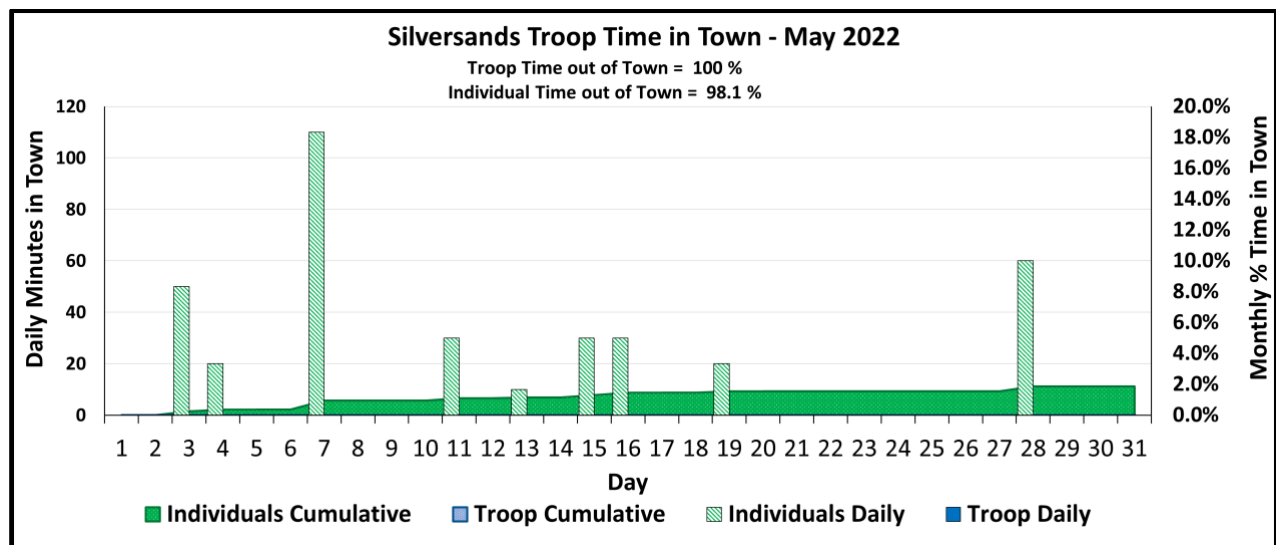
## 1.8 SILVERSANDS TROOP

### 1.8.1 IN TOWN STATISTICS

- The troop spent 100% of its time out of town this month.
- Time out of town by individuals increased marginally by 0.2% from April to May .

	% Out of Town	% Up or Down from Previous Month	Days Entered	Total Time in Town	Avg Time in Town per day	Max Daily Time in Town	Min Daily Time in Town
<b>Troop</b>	100.0	0.0	0	0:00	00:00	00:00	00:00
<b>Individuals</b>	98.1	+ 0.2	9	6:00	0:40	01:50	00:10

**Table 5.1** In Town Statistics for the Silversands Troop for May 2022. Time is expressed in hours and minutes. Average daylength in May was 10 hours and 19 minutes.



**Figure 5.1** Troop and individual daily time (minutes) in town (bars), and monthly (area) percentage Time in Town by the Silversands Troop during May 2022.

### 1.8.2 NOTEWORTHY INCIDENTS

- As with last month, individuals from the Silversands Troop were observed in the urban area on eight days this month, with the majority of incursions made by SSM1.

HWS: TROOP MONTHLY REPORT																																										
SECTOR										CLASSES OF BEHAVIOUR																																
OVERSTRAND										1	In urban area										4	Attacking pets										7	Threatening behaviour/ attacking/ stealing food									
BABOON TROOP: Silversands										2	Raid bins										5	Unoccupied house or vehicle incursion										8	Breaking & Entering/Damaging property									
MONTH: May YEAR: 2022										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	31	TOTAL									
Troop																																										
SSM1 (short tail)				1	1							1				1	1																	8								
SSM2																																		1								
UnID Males																																										
UnID Male																																										
UnID Sub-Male																																										
UnID Females																																										
UnID Female																																										
UnID Individuals																																										
UnID Juveniles																																										
%		TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																													HRS											
Troop	0.0																														0.00											
Individuals	1.9	50	20				110					30		10		30	30														60		6.00									
Roost:	AM	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?									
Roost:	PM	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?									
Roost Sites		7	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									
ID Features of Baboons																																										
General remarks		P=A1:AH35lease note that numbers in red indicate non-urban raids or incursions. * indicates individuals were seen in town but were not seen entering and/or leaving. These data were therefore estimated.																																								

Figure 5.2 The Silversands Troop incident sheet for May 2022.

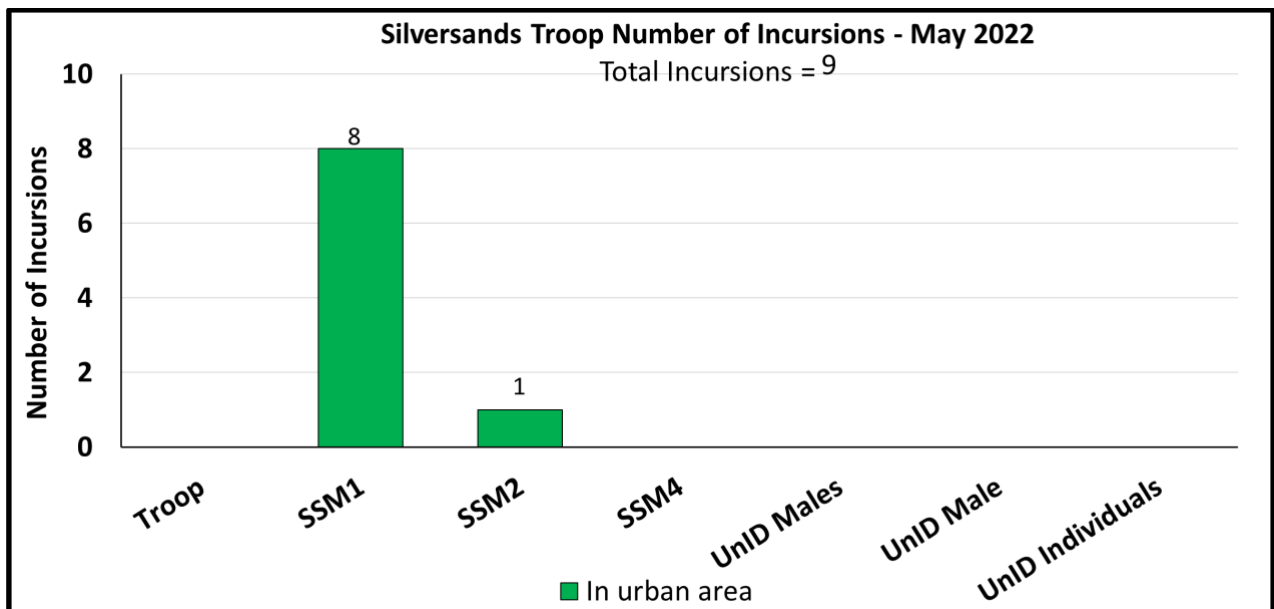


Figure 5.3 Number of incursions by the Silversands Troop and individuals during May 2022.

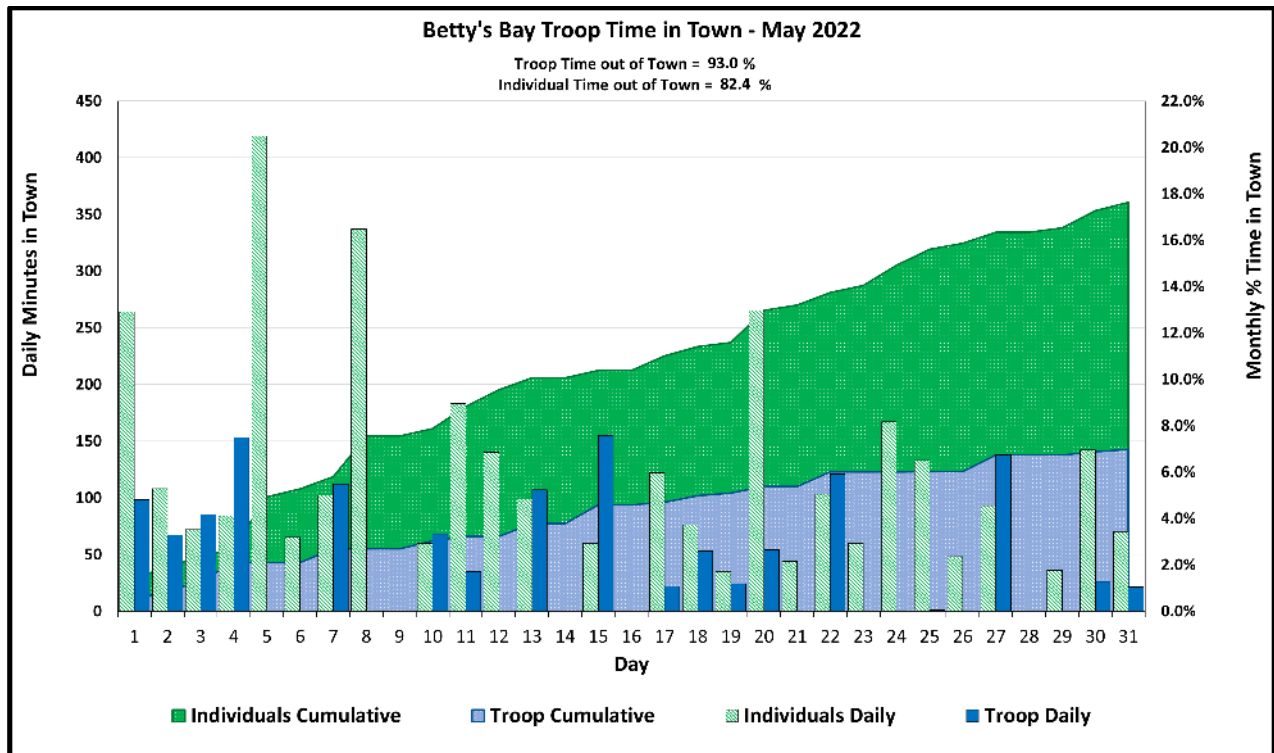
## 1.9 BETTY'S BAY TROOP

### 1.9.1 IN TOWN STATISTICS

- Troop time out of town increased from 91.1% to 93% this month.
- Individual baboons time out of town increased from 79.6% to 82.4 during May.

	% Out of Town	% Up or Down from Previous Month	Days Entered	Total Time in Town	Avg Time in Town per day	Max Daily Time in Town	Min Daily Time in Town
<b>Troop</b>	93.0	+ 1.9	18	22:20	1:14	2:35	0:01
<b>Individuals</b>	82.4	+ 2.8	27	56:27	2:05	6:59	0:35

Table 6.1: In Town Statistics for the Betty's Bay Troop for May 2022. Time is expressed in hours and minutes. Average daylength in May was 10 hours and 19 minutes.



**Figure 6.1** Troop and individual daily time (minutes) in town (bars), and monthly (area) percentage Time in Town by the Betty’s Bay Troop during May 2022.

### 1.9.2 NOTEWORTHY INCIDENTS

- On 28 May, dogs were heard in the Harold Porter Gardens at approximately 15h05 inside Leopard Kloof. The presence of the dogs was reported to HPG Staff who advised that they would not investigate the matter further. The baboons were not observed at all on 28 May. On 29 May, HWS Field Staff saw two dogs on top of Bobbejaanskop in HPG barking at the Betty’s Bay Troop on rock faces above the Disa river. The dogs were above the baboons. Again the HWS Field Manager informed the HPG Staff. HWS Rangers tried shouting at the dogs to displace them but they did not move away. They did not shoot paintballs at the dogs because this may have scared the baboons into moving towards the dogs above them. The baboons slowly moved down the cliffs and crossed the Disa Kloof stream onto the cliffs on the western side of the Kloof. The dogs were unable to follow and were last seen at 16h40.
- There were three days during May in which there were no baboons in the urban area.
- On 30 May HWS field staff observed BBM2 with a potential injury to his front right hand. When running he was not putting pressure on his front right limb however, he was observed using his right hand for other behaviours.
- On 15 May, HWS field staff observed a resident brandishing a paintball marker at the baboons on his property. The resident did not discharge the marker.

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	31	TOTAL																						
BABOON TROOP:		1 In urban area										4 Altercation with pets										7 Threatening behaviour/ attacking/ stealing food																																	
MONTH: May		2 Raid bins										5 Unoccupied house or vehicle incursion										8 Breaking & Entering/Damaging property																																	
YEAR: 2022		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	31	TOTAL																						
Troop		1	1	1	1			1			1	1	1	1		1		1	1	1	1	1	1			1	1	1	1	1	1	1	18																						
BBM2	M	6	6			1		1	1	1	1		1	1,6				1				1				1	1	1	1	1	1	16																							
BBM4 (sub-adult)	M	1	1,6	1,6	1,6	1,6	1	1	1	1		1,6	1	1	1,6		1,6	1,6	1,6	1,6	1,6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	34																							
BBF1	F																																																						
BBF2	F																																																						
Unid Male	M																																																						
Unid Females	F	1		1										1								1	2	1				1	6			8																							
Unid Female	F				1,2,6	1	1,6				1,6	1			6			1		1	1,6	1	1	1	1	1,6	1		1			22																							
Unid Individuals				1					1	1,2	2							6												1			7																						
Unid Juveniles		1,5				1			1		1	1	1		1,2					1	1	1	1	1	1	1	6	1				17																							
		TIME SPENT IN TOWN (Minutes)																													HRS																								
Troop	%	7.0	98	67	85	153			112			68	35	107		155		22	53	24	54		121			1			26	21	21.98																								
Individuals	%	17.6	264	108	72	84	419	65	102	337		60	183	140	99		60		122	76	35	265	44	103	60	167	133	48	93		36	142	70	55.28																					
Roost:	AM	2	2	2	10	2	7	7	1	2	2	2	2	17	17		1	7	7	1	17	?	10	2	1	2	1	1	3	2	?	2	1	1																					
Roost:	PM	2	1	10	2	7	7	1	2	2	2	17	17		1	7	7	1	17	?	10	2	1	2	1	1	3	2	?	1	1	17																							
Roost Sites	1	Disa Kloof										2	Leopard Kloof										3	Leopard Kloof Lower										4	Leopard Kloof Upper										5	Sunny Seas									
	6	Sunny Seas West										7	Sunny Seas East										8	Bass Lake										9	Bass Lake West										10	Bass Lake East									
	11	Jocks Bay										12	Zigzag										13	Church										14	Kleinmond Lookout										15	Kopje									
	16	Caltex										17	Waterfall										18	Unknown										19	Harold Porter Gardens										20	Palmeit									
	21	Kasteel Kop										22	Pimples										23	Isaacs River Kloof										24	Jean's Hill										25	Heuningklip									
	26	Sandown Peak										27	Three Sisters										28																																
ID Features of Baboons																																																							
General remarks		Please note that numbers in red indicate non-urban raids or incursions.																																																					

Figure 6.2 The Betty's Bay Troop incident sheet for May 2022.

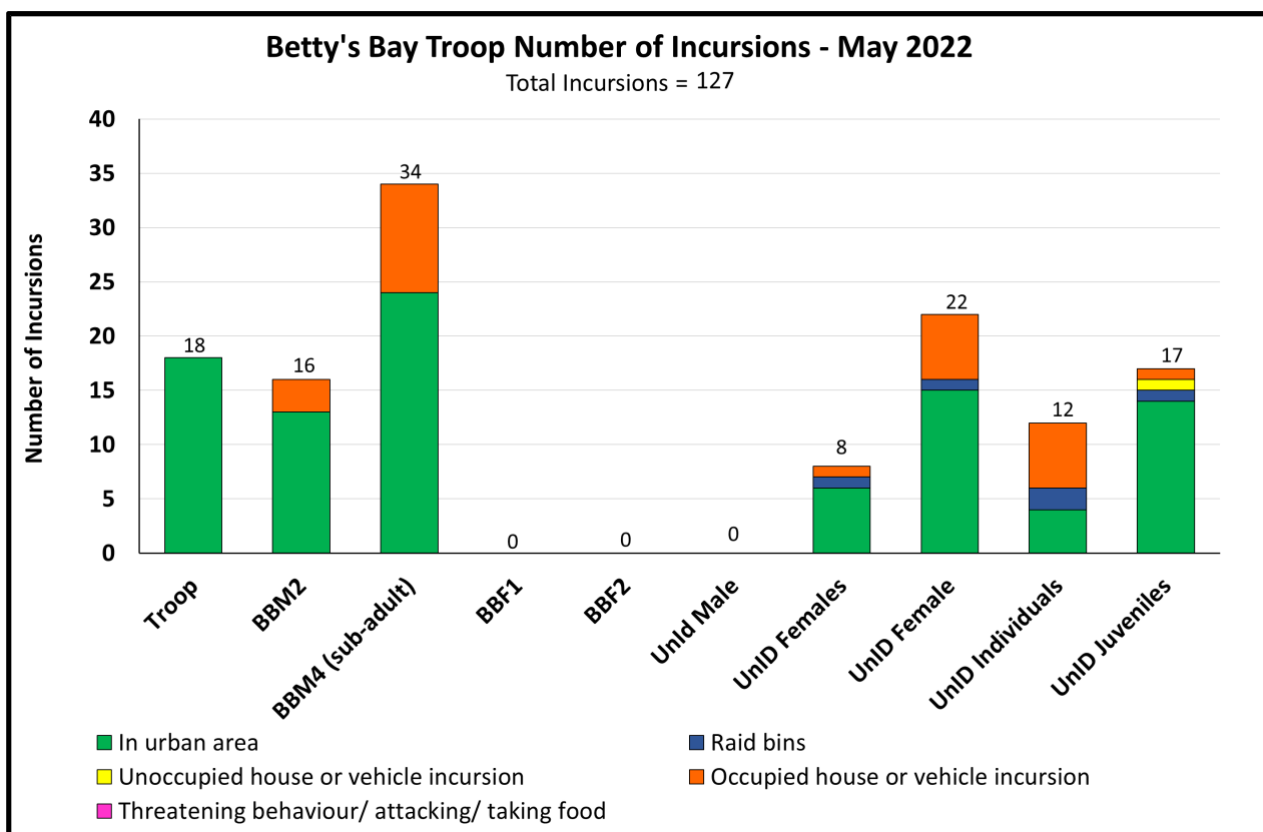


Figure 6.3 Number of incursions by the Betty's Bay Troop and individuals during May 2022.

### 1.10 BIRTHS, DEATHS & MIGRATIONS

- No Births or Deaths were recorded in the Overstrand West during May 2022.



## 1.11 VIRTUAL FENCE USE

- In the Overstrand West region, the Virtual Fence was activated on six occasions during May (five for the Pringle Bay Troop and once for the Hangklip Troop).

## GENERAL COMMENTS – ALL TROOPS

### 1.12 POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS

During May there was little change in the managed populations in the Overstrand. One birth and one death were recorded in the Vogelgat Troop. Please note that there was an error in the two totals columns in the April 2022 report. These errors have now been corrected (**Table 7.2**).

Troop	October	June	June	May 2022			Total observed Births (1 July 2021 to 31 May 2022)	Total observed Deaths (1 July 2021 to 31 May 2022)	Total observed Migrations (1 July 2021 to 31 May 2022)
	2019	2020	2021	Births	Deaths	Emigration / Immigration			
Voëlklip	29	29	27	0	0	0	6	0	-1
Vogelgat	N/A	22*	29	1	1	0	2	4	0
Onrus	N/A	N/A	25**	0	0	0	0	1	0
Hamilton Russel	N/A	N/A	21**	0	0	0	0	1	0
Pringle Bay	16	16	17	0	0	0	2	7	+1
Betty's Bay	N/A	19	20	0	0	0	6	3	0
Hangklip	N/A	N/A	30	0	0	0	0	1	-1
Silversands	N/A	N/A	43	0	0	0	0	1	-1
<b>Total</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>-2</b>

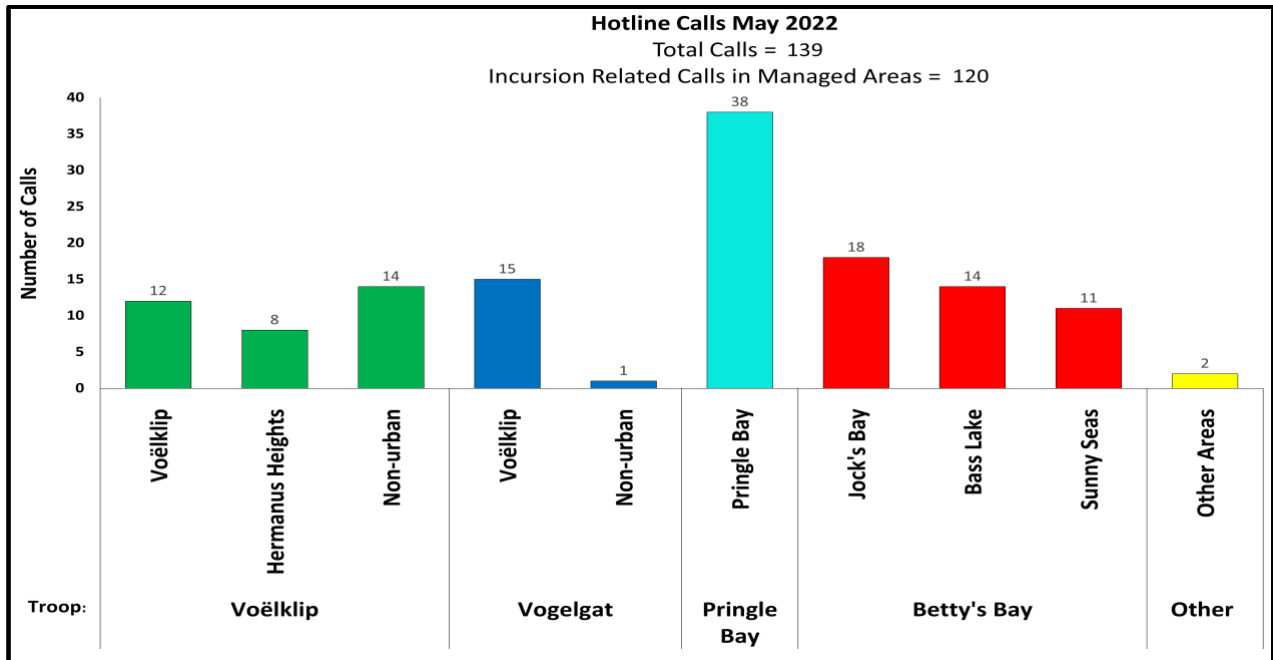
**Table 7.1:** Population data for the managed troops in the Overstrand in May 2022. Emigration /Immigration figures show animal movements between troops. \*Vogelgat Troop was first counted in December 2020. \*\*Hamilton Russel and Onrus troop sizes were estimated, because they were not seen enough to get an accurate count. Note: Troop numbers are counted once a year and not updated by counting births and deaths, because these may occur without being observed by field rangers.

Deaths	2019/20 (October - June)	2020/21 (July - June)	2021/22 (July 2021 - May 2022)	May 2022	TOTAL (since October 2019)
Management	3	0	1	0	4
Human Induced (HID)	1	2	8***	0	11***
Direct *	1	2	7***	0	10***
Indirect **	0	0	1	0	1
Natural	2	7	6***	0	15***
Unknown	0	0	2	1	2
<b>TOTAL DEATHS</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>17***</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>32***</b>

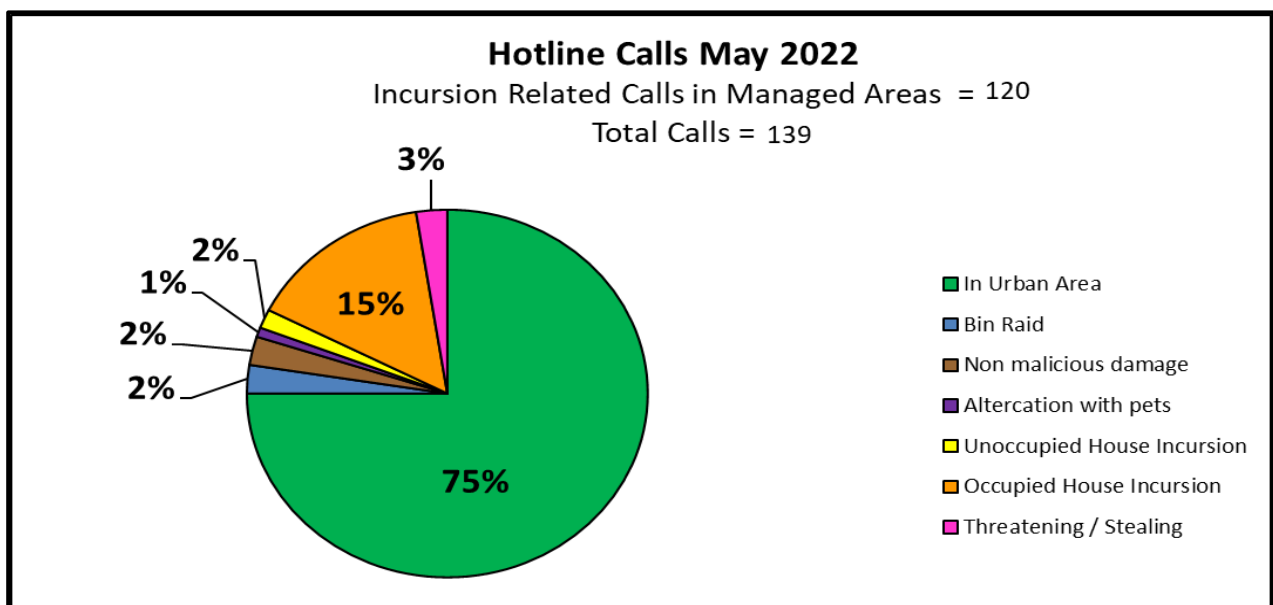
**Table 7.2:** Causes of baboon deaths since October 2019; \*Deaths caused directly by humans, such as motor vehicle accidents, shooting, poisoning and dogs. \*\*Deaths caused indirectly by humans such as electrocutions and fire. \*\*\* Please note: In the April 2022 report, although the deaths were recorded in April 2022 column, they were not added into the two total columns. These figures are now correct.

### 1.13 HOTLINE DATA

Incursion related hotline calls increased from 96 to 120 during May 2022. The majority of calls were recorded in the Betty’s Bay (n = 43) and Pringle Bay areas (n = 38) (**Figure 4.1**). The number of calls received from the western portion of Betty’s Bay increased significantly, with 14 calls coming from the Bass Lake area of Betty’s Bay. In the eastern Overstrand, the greatest proportion of hotline calls regarding the Voëlklip Troop were non-urban (n = 14) as the troop spent a greater period of time near the Hamilton-Russel Vineyards. The number of calls made regarding the Vogelgat Troop also increased this month (n=13 to n= 16). This is attributable to the increased presence of individuals from the Vogelgat Troop prior to the troop incursion on 31 May, with the majority (n=12) occurring between 25-31 May. The composition of hotline calls showed an increase in assertive incursions during May, with occupied house incursions comprising the largest proportion (15%) (**Figure 4.2**). Most of these related to the Pringle Bay Troop.



**Figure 8.1:** Hotline calls in baboon affected areas for May 2022. 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.

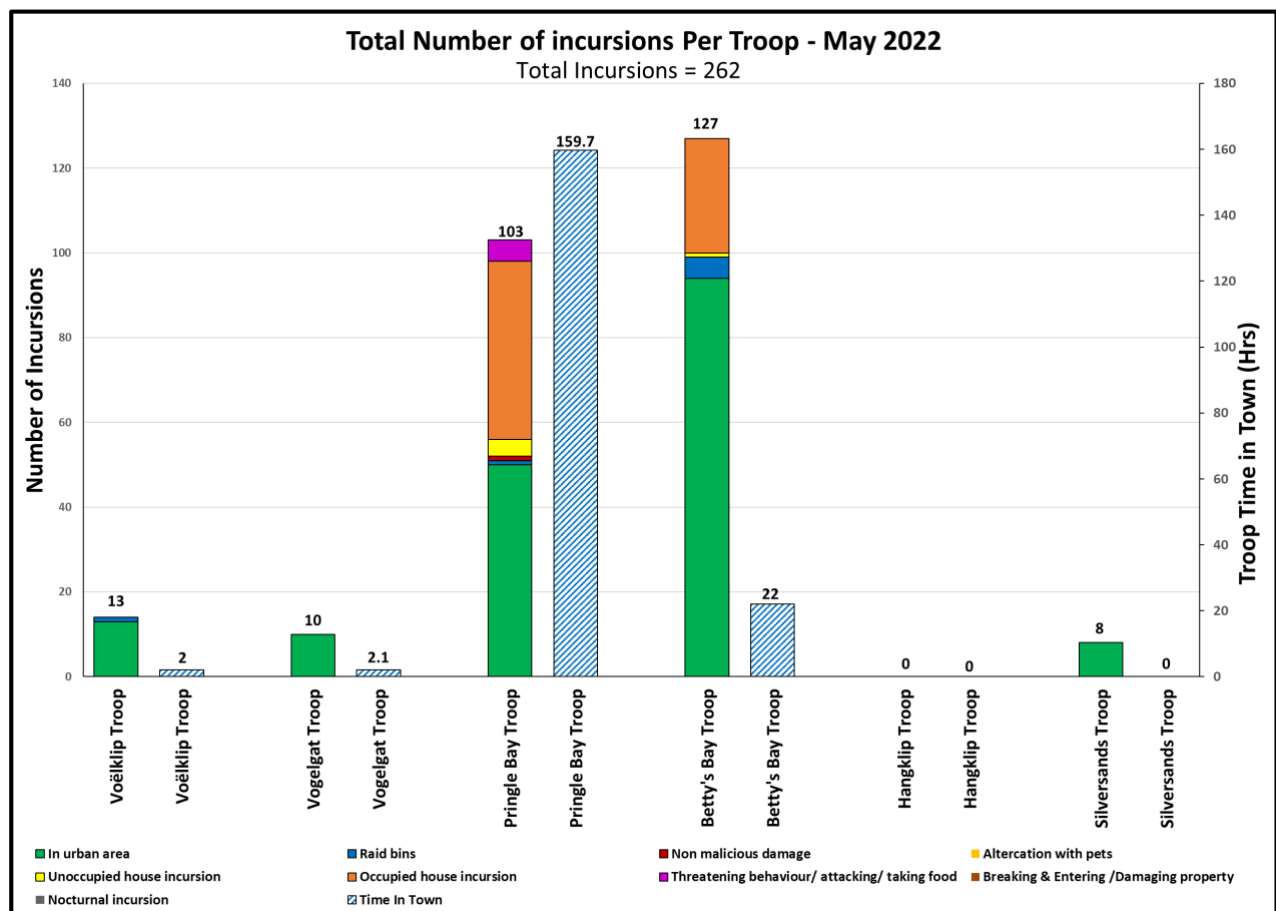


**Figure 8.2:** Composition of incursion-related hotline calls during May 2022. **Note:** This chart represents the composition of hotline calls, not the composition of known incursions by baboons.

### 1.14 RECORDED INCURSIONS

The total number of incursions decreased significantly during May, from 314 in April to 263 (Figure 4.3). This decrease is attributed largely to the decreased presence of the Pringle Bay Troop in the urban area during May. Despite the Pringle Bay Troop spending 50% of their time in the urban area during May, the increase in management efforts yielded desirable results; a 22% reduction in incursions when compared to the previous month. Alarming, there was an increase in the number of threatening incursions in Pringle Bay with all threatening incursions being recorded by one individual, HKM1. Betty's Bay also observed a decrease in incursions, from 145 to 127, during May. This general decrease in incursions in the urban areas, can also be attributed to the renewed full use of paintball markers, thereby allowing field rangers to mitigate against incursions more effectively. This result was most pronounced in relation to non-assertive incursions, i.e. primarily preventing baboons from running into town. Thus rangers were able to hold the line more effectively without baboons running straight past them as they had learned to do during the paintball marker moratorium.

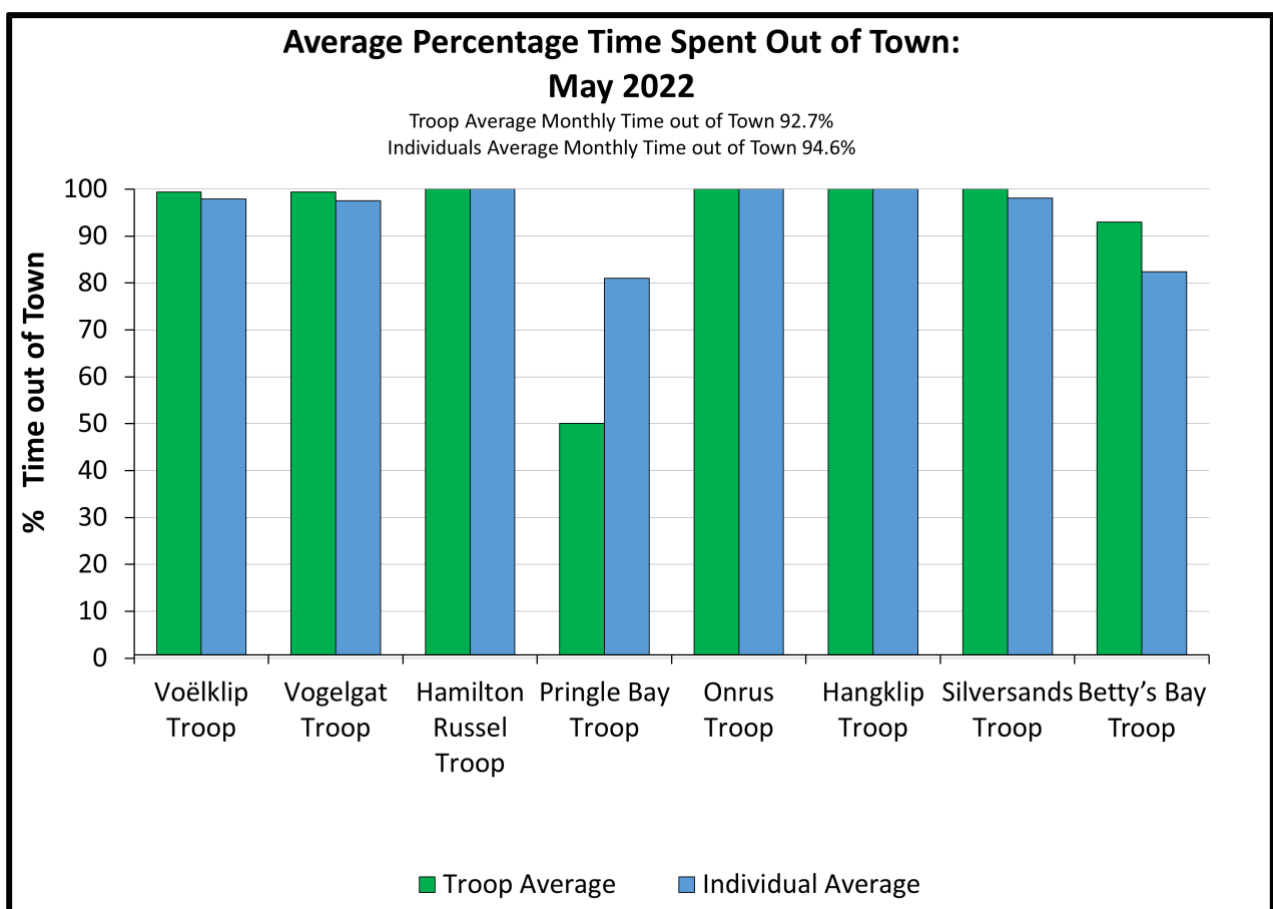
Conversely, a slight increase of incursions were recorded from the Vogelgat Troop. The increase in the number of incursions is directly related to the Vogelgat Troop gaining access to the urban area for the first time in 20 months. Interestingly the Vogelgat Troop always accessed town unseen and would then need to be steered out of town once already in town. Thus these baboons were not running towards rangers and past them into town, but were going around the mountain and coming into town under cover of mostly tall vegetation. These movements could not be anticipated because this troop was not radio collared.



**Figure 9.1** Total observed incursions and time in town per troop during May 2022. **Note:** Observed incursions are not hotline related, but are incursions observed by HWS Field Staff.

During May, the average time out of town by troops increased marginally from 92.3% to 92.7% (**Figure 4.4**). The average troop time out of town is still low due to the prolonged period spent in town by the Pringle Bay Troop. The time out of town for the Betty’s Bay Troop increased again during May, by 1.9 %, with the Betty’s Bay Troop spending only 22 hrs 20 mins in the urban area during May. This is a pleasing result, given that May is early winter, a period in which nutrient stress typically leads to baboons seeking to spend more time in town in an attempt to maximise intake of human derived foodstuffs (HDFs).

The average time out of town by individuals also increased during May, from 93.8% to 94.6%. This increase is likely due two main factors. Firstly, the Pringle Bay Troop spent the last week of May back in the Buffelstahl Dam area. Secondly, the recission of the paintball marker moratorium allowed field rangers to mitigate non-assertive incursions by members of the Betty’s Bay Troop more effectively, leading to a decrease in the amount of time spent in town by the Betty’s Bay Troop. Note, the Pringle Bay Troop was effectively already in town for most of the month, so rangers spent most of their time trying to move the baboons out of town as opposed to holding a well-defined line to prevent them from coming into town.



**Figure 10.1** Percentage time the managed baboon troops and individuals spent out of town during May 2022.

### 1.15 RECOMMENDATIONS

- **Waste and recycling collection should be prioritised** to take place in the early mornings.
- Residents should not put out their waste the night before collection day.
- All bins used in baboon effected areas should be **baboon-proof and locked**.

- Additional **baboon awareness** campaigns focused on tourists during holiday seasons would be beneficial.
- Baboon-proof bins are required throughout the western region of the Overstrand. Betty's Bay should be regarded as a high priority area because there are very few baboon 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 and 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. The volume of bird seed provisioned is often so large that individual baboons are observed leaving feeding locations with full cheek pouches.
- Residents are encouraged to record and report the feeding of wildlife to the municipality, CapeNature, or to the baboon hotline (072 028 0008).

## **CONCLUSION**

During May there were a number of positive outcomes for the Overstrand Baboon Management Program. First of all, the steering of the Pringle Bay Troop from the urban area to the Buffelstahl Nature Reserve led to a significant drop in the number of incursions recorded by the Pringle Bay Troop. This relocation was an important step to re-establishing the pattern of behaviour and occupancy previously seen during the 2020/2021 management year. It will be a challenge to prevent further attempts to acquire HDF's over the following months, as winter and early spring are periods of nutrient stress for Western Cape baboons. Another important takeaway this month was the effectiveness of an appropriate adaptive management intervention. The capture and temporary holding of two highly disruptive males allowed field rangers to move the troop from the urban area and relocate it to suitable natural habitat. Without this intervention it is very likely that the troop would still be residing in the urban area.

Secondly, the reinstatement of the full use of paintball markers as a management tool during May greatly enhanced efforts to mitigate incursions throughout the Overstrand, but particularly non-assertive incursions by the Betty's Bay Troop. This result may at first seem counter intuitive, but in retrospect it makes a lot of sense. The one feature that HWS noticed during the paintball marker moratorium was that the baboons with a very short flight distance from humans (habituated Pringle Bay and Betty's Bay Troops) were happy to run very close past rangers to break the line into the urban area. So whereas these baboons had previously had a flight distance of approximately 30m from rangers while trying to approach town, during the moratorium that distance was sometimes reduced to less than five meters. The rescission of the moratorium returned the baboons flight distance back to approximately 30m, and thereby enabled HWS Rangers to hold an effective line again.

In the eastern Overstrand the reappearance of the Vogelgat Troop in the urban area was a tremendous setback to management goals. The return of this troop to raiding the urban area for the first time in 20 months highlighted the importance of having radio collars on each troop, because they allow one to anticipate the movements of a troop and plan one's strategy in order to prevent it from entering the urban area. This is particularly pertinent for troops which are largely managed by using the Virtual Fence, as is the case with the Vogelgat Troop. As outlined in previous reports, the effectiveness of the Virtual Fence is



dependent on knowing the exact location of the troop in order to set up the system in an appropriate location between the troop and the urban area. It is of vital importance that a member of the Vogelgat Troop is collared as soon as possible in order to continue to manage the troop as successfully as during the previous 20 months.

## **REFERENCES**

<https://inchem.org/documents/hsg/hsg/hsg093.htm> (Accessed 09/06/2022)

**HWS Holdings CC**