

Baboons on the Cape Peninsula

A guide for residents and visitors

By Ruth Kansky



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A joint production from
Baboon Management Team
International Fund for Animal Welfare

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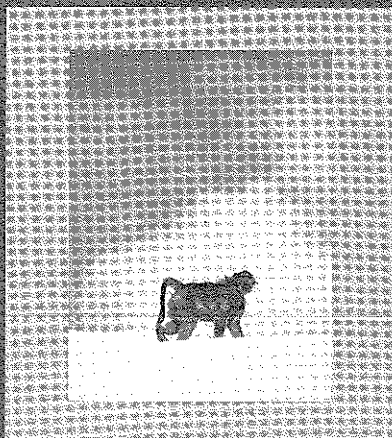
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The International Fund for Animal Welfare works to improve the welfare of wild and domestic animals throughout the world by reducing commercial exploitation of animals, protecting wildlife habitats, and assisting animals in distress.

IFAW seeks to motivate the public to prevent cruelty to animals and to promote animal welfare and conservation policies that advance the well-being of both animals and people.



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Introduction

There is no question that human beings are dramatically changing the nature of planet Earth. Never before has one species been responsible for the extinction of so many others. Every 10 days a new species is facing a significantly elevated risk of extinction due to human related activities. Our closest relatives, the other primates, are not spared from this impending catastrophe. Presently, a quarter of the 230 primate species are threatened.

Baboons as a species are not currently threatened, but it is clear that their numbers are declining. At a local level, however, we do know that baboons on the Cape Peninsula are critically endangered as there are less than 250 mature individuals remaining (according to Red Data list criteria). They are threatened primarily due to conflict with humans, and represent a microcosm of what is happening to species all over the world who are under threat from human related activity. If other species are to have a chance to continue to survive we will have to learn to live in close proximity. We in Cape Town have the opportunity to show the world how humans and wildlife can coexist successfully. We should not become blasé about baboons in the way that has happened with many species that were once common, and are now threatened because they were considered pests to humans, such as African wild dogs, bears, wolves, prairie dogs and Macaque monkeys.

It is clear that in order for wildlife to coexist with humans some sacrifices need to be made. It is particularly important that we allow male baboons to disperse and join new troops in order to ensure genetic mixing and increase the number of males in the peninsula troops. This requires tolerance because lone males are difficult to manage. We hope that this booklet will help you decide which and how many sacrifices you are prepared to make to ensure the future of baboons on the Cape Peninsula for the benefit of the peninsula's biodiversity and enjoyment of future generations.

This booklet is a joint project between the Baboon Management Team (BMT) and the International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW).

Ruth Kansky
Scarborough 2002

1. Natural History

How do baboons make a living?

Baboons are extremely adaptable and are capable of living in places as varied as the Namib desert, with temperatures below zero on winter nights and above 40 in summer, and in the winter snow of the Drakensburg mountains. In the Cape, baboons can deal with the short, cold and windy winter days, as well as the long, hot and dry summer. But they live most comfortably in the savanna where there are no big seasonal differences and lots of fruits to eat. Baboons are able to live in such diverse areas because they eat a large variety of



food plants and they can change their behavior to suit different conditions. Baboon troops are large in the savannas because there are many predators and the larger the troop, the less chance there is of getting eaten. If food is in short supply however, it is better to

be in a smaller group because a large troop has to travel further to find enough food for everyone. A large troop also means more competition for food, so high-ranking baboons will eat better than the low-ranking ones. Because baboons have to keep up

good relations within the troop, the troop needs to find time for socializing. A troop which has to spend too much time moving and looking for food may find it difficult to stay together and may split. For these reasons, troops adjust their size according to the conditions of an area.

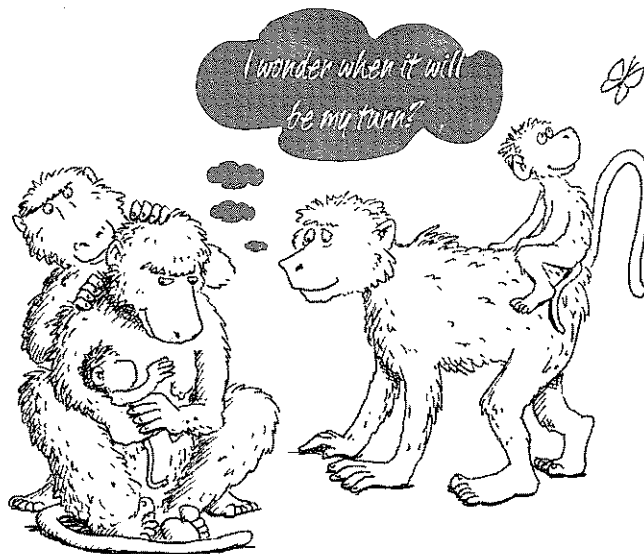
How do baboons in a troop manage to get along with each other?

Living in a group means sharing, and resources, no matter how plentiful, are rarely divided up equally. Most social animals like baboons have a group pecking order or dominance hierarchy. If you were a baboon, however, you really wouldn't want to be at the bottom of the pecking order. As a low-ranking baboon, you could dig for a bulb and have just cleaned it off, ready to eat, when a higher-ranking baboon takes it from you. You could have had the good luck to get another baboon to groom you, and someone higher ranking could break up your grooming session just for the sheer pleasure of hassling you. A high-ranking baboon who is having a bad day could even chase you

just for sitting and minding your own business! In baboon society, adult males always rank above adult females and juveniles of both sexes. When fights do break out in a troop, things can become quite chaotic because in the midst of the chaos everyone takes out their frustrations down the hierarchy. So if a middle-ranking male gets beaten up in a fight, he may turn and chase a subadult male, who may lunge at an adult female, who then bites a juvenile, who slaps an infant, who screams and whose mother then goes for the juvenile, who also screams, and its mother or aunt then goes for the first female. And so it goes on.

One sees baboons sitting in the road grooming each other all the time. Do they really have so many fleas?

Besides keeping fleas, lice and ticks under control, grooming has an important social function too. For this reason, baboons may spend between 9%-17% of their day participating in social grooming. There are a number of ideas about the social function that grooming has. One idea is that baboons use grooming as a currency to trade with. It may be that they trade grooming for grooming itself, or that they trade grooming for other things such as

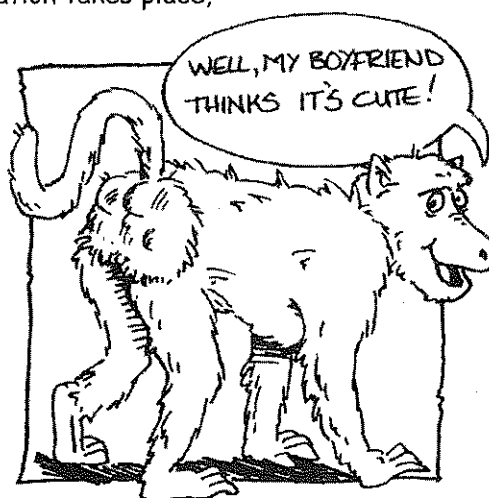


support during aggression, tolerance at feeding sites or access to good food spots. Since there is a choice of partners to trade with in a

baboon troop, "trading" is determined by the standing of each in the "marketplace" and the "goods" that they can offer. So a dominant female will "pay" less, while lower-ranking females have to "pay" more. If, for example, a female has an infant which others want to get close to, females who rank lower than the mother will have to groom her for longer than if a higher-ranking female wants to get a look at the baby.

What is the pink growth that some baboons have on their behind?

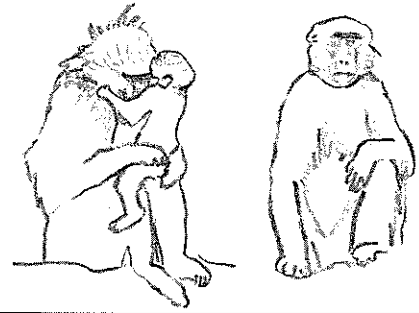
All adult females go through stages of pink swelling as part of their reproductive cycle. Over 10 days the sexual skin inflates. When it is biggest and brightest, ovulation takes place, and the skin then starts deflating over another 7 days. Males can tell the different stages of the female cycle and compete most intensively for females when their swelling is biggest and brightest. When females start swelling, consort pairs may form where a male follows a female around and guards her from other males. Often high ranking males are only interested in a female when she is at peak swelling and will guard her intensively during this time. At other stages of the swelling females are happy to mate with other



males, even with the one-year-olds. Several reasons for this bright advertisement have been suggested. One idea is that a female might benefit from competition between the males around the time of ovulation because this will ensure that the "best" male in the troop will pass his genes to her offspring. Indeed, often it is the highest-ranking males that father the most offspring. Another suggestion is that since this would lead to mating with many males, the result would be that no one knows who the father is so all the males will protect her children. Others suggest that females compete with each other for males, so the largest and brightest swelling would attract the male with the best genes.

What is it like to be a baboon living in a baboon troop?

If you were to be born as a baby baboon, you would find that you and your mom are very popular at first. Even if your mother was generally a low-ranking female, her popularity would rise when she had an infant, because everyone wants to inspect the baby. This can be quite stressful for a baboon mother, because her daily routine is disrupted and, since she needs to eat quite a lot to keep her baby in supply of milk, her valuable time for feeding may be lost and she might lose weight.



A mother waits anxiously for her infant as another female inspects it.



When you are born your face is bright pink and your fur pitch black. Some scientists think this helps to identify you quickly in case you get into trouble and need help. As you grow you start to change colour. Your bright pink face, hands and feet get patches of gray and the black fur gets patches of brown/gray so that by five months your face and coat are completely grayish-brown, similar to an adult's markings.

A young baboon with gray-brown coat

In your second month you start exploring and venture off for short distances on your wobbly legs to play with other infants or to examine new objects. At around three months you start trying "weaning" foods such as grass or flowers and if conditions are not too harsh, you will be fully weaned at around one year. Just like a human infant, you might have tantrums while being weaned. Although this could be due to the fact that you don't want to stop drinking milk, some suggest that tantrums allow infants to tell their mothers when they are not finding enough food on their own and need additional milk.



From 2 months a young baboon starts to explore its surroundings.

As you get older you learn about the social intricacies in the troop - who your allies are and who your enemies. As a female baboon, these things are valuable to know, since you are likely to remain with the same females all your life. This is because females do not leave the group they are born into. For this reason most of the females in a troop are relatives; mother, grandmother, sisters, half sisters, cousins, aunts and great aunts. These are called matriline and each troop has a few matriline.

Mother with young infant stays close to a male friend for protection.



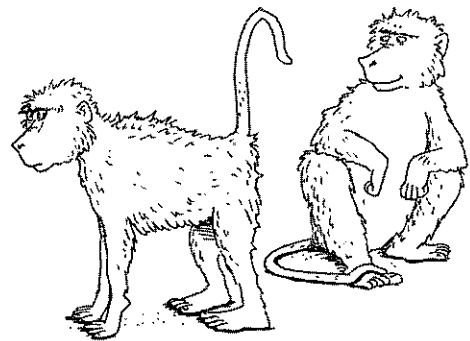
If you are a female, at the age of four, you are approaching adulthood. Your cycles begin but the adult males are not very interested in you, as the chances of you conceiving are small. A year later you are fully adult and ready to have your first baby. After 6 months of pregnancy, you give birth to a tiny infant. You are nervous because your infant is barely able to hold on to the fur on your tummy and you have to hold it with one hand, and hop along on your other three limbs. You are also wary of potentially infanticidal males. For this reason you choose to stay close to your male friends who will protect you and your baby.

If you are a male baboon, at five years of age, you start to become an adolescent. You undergo a rapid growth spurt, resulting in long dangly legs, a longer snout and your set of pointy canines would start to show. Over the next year or two you start to look like a full-grown adult male, with a filled-out chest, a thick, chunky neck with lots of hair, and nice sharp canines. You notice that some males in the troop start to see you as a competitor, and you feel that it is time to think of leaving your troop. You start wandering away from your troop, and checking out the neighboring troops, but you find that they also don't seem to want you around. You spend some months moving between the troops. It is not very pleasant because alone you are exposed to many enemies and predators. You do not have the support of your family to help you fight other males or leopards. And indeed this is when most of your peers get killed resulting in there being more adult females than adult males in baboon troops.



A fully grown male has long canines and has a thick chunky neck and chest. Males YAWN to intimidate other males with the size of their teeth.

If you managed to survive like this for a while, you might eventually find a troop to join. Your chances are better of joining a troop with only a few males and many females. As you hang out on the edge of this troop, the other males give you the "YAWN". They are trying to intimidate you by saying "Check out my canines". But you notice that these males canines are a bit broken and blunt. Some of the females on the other hand seem quite interested in you -the ones without the babies. One comes up and offers to groom you as a sign of a new friendship. But the resident male sees this and chases the female away from you and you end up in a WAHOO chase running around barking at each other. This can go on for a few days or weeks until there is a clear outcome. Either the resident males manage to beat you up and you figure it is not worth hanging around any more or you manage to injure them and they decide it is not worth trying to stop you from joining the troop.



Baboons greet each other by "presenting" which precedes grooming.

The mothers in the new troop will keep close to the resident males for protection, because they are worried that you may try to kill their babies. As you are new in the troop, you "know" that these babies are not yours, and instead of waiting for the mothers to wean their babies before they are receptive again it would be a good strategy for you to get rid of these babies so you can start having your own. You must be quick as you never know when the next male will come along and oust you.



After you have spent a while in the troop your interest in protecting the troop increases as many of the young baboons could be your children. It is in your interest to be vigilant and watch over them while their mothers are feeding. Besides protecting your kids, if you stay in mothers good books and do some childcare you may be seen as a good mate next time around. Who knows?

Adult males tolerate youngsters of 1-2 years while their mothers feed.

2. BABOONS ON THE CAPE PENINSULA

There are 360 baboons in 10 troops on the Cape Peninsula

TOKAI TROOP

Consists of 100 baboons of which there are a few adult males. They live mostly in the plantations in Tokai forest but also forage on Constantiaberg mountain and Silvermine reserve. They raid residential areas on the edge of the plantations, mainly during June-August. Baboon monitors were employed during 2001.

DE GAMA PARK TROOP

Consists of 25 baboons. Originally known as the girls troop as all adult males were shot. Dispersing males were later relocated and now there are 2 adult males. They raid De Gama. Baboon monitors are present when funding is available.

GROOT OLIFANTSBOS TROOP

Consists of 26 baboons with 2 adult males. They live in the Olifantsbos area of Cape of Good Hope but also come to the edge of Scarborough. There is a baboon monitor for this troop whose males raid in Scarborough.

KLEIN OLIFANTSBOS TROOP

Consists of 13 baboons. Previously had only a small natal male until a dispersing male was relocated into the troop. Range from Olifantsbos to Gifkommetjie at Cape of Good Hope. The only troop on the peninsula which does not raid.

CAPE POINT TROOP

Consists of 48 baboons varying with between one or no males. They live at Cape Point between the lighthouse and Platboom but spend most of their time in the vicinity of Rooikrans and the restaurant where raiding takes place. Individuals are often shot, mostly males by park officials. No baboon monitors are present.

SLANGKOP TROOP

Consists of 35 baboons with only 2 adult males-Eric and George. They live in the area between Kommetjie and Scarborough and sometimes go to De Gama Park. They regularly raid these residential areas but baboon monitors alleviate this problem when funding is available.

PLATEAUX ROAD TROOP

Consists of 33 baboons with 2 adult males. They live between the Klaas Jagersberg mountains above Plateaux rd and Kleinkoppie and the entrance gate to Cape of Good Hope. They raid the farms along Plateaux rd. and get injured on the road. There are no baboon monitors.

SMITSWINKEL TROOP

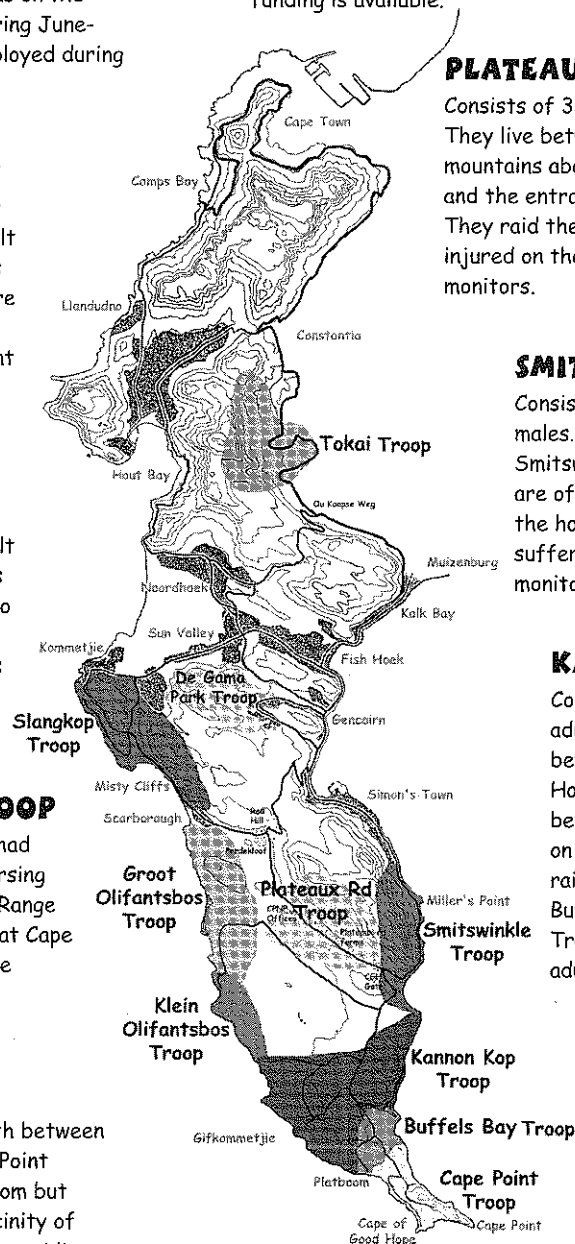
Consists of 40 baboons with a few adult males. They live in the area between Smitswinkel Bay and Simonstown and are often seen on the road. They raid the houses between these areas and suffer many road injuries. There are no monitors.

KANNON KOP TROOP

Consists of 40 baboons with a few adult males. They live in the area between Smitswinkel Bay and the Homestead on False Bay and between Brightwater and Platboom on the Indian Ocean. They sometimes raid at Bordtjiesdrif and Buffelsbay. They supply Buffels Bay Troop and Cape Point Troop with adult males when these get shot.

BUFFELS BAY TROOP

Consists of 13 baboons with 1 adult male. They live in the small area between Buffels Bay and the Homestead and sometimes go across to Platboom. They raid the picnic area and there is a high turnover of adult males as they are often shot by the authorities.



How long have baboons been on the Cape Peninsula and when did the conflict start with humans?

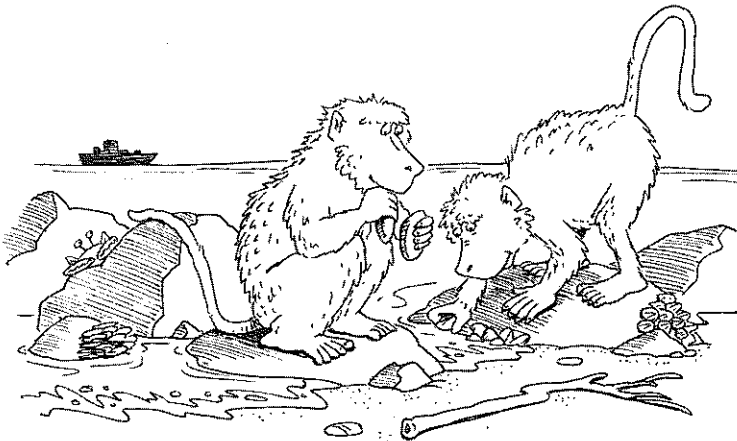
Chacma baboons evolved from an ancestral baboon prototype 1.5 million years ago. Recent evidence suggests that the chacma baboon is the oldest of the other five subspecies of baboons in Africa. Baboons have probably been on the Cape Peninsula for at least 1 million years. The earliest written records of baboons in the Cape were by European visitors. An Englishman in August 1591 wrote: "...Here also are a great store of overgrown monkeys...". Between 1605 and 1620 a number of visitors who called at the Cape listed sightings of "babious", "babions", "baboones", "babowns", and "apes and baboons of extraordinary size and colour". In July 1652 Van Riebeeck recorded in his diary: "...we saw many large baboons in various troops on the lower slopes of Table Mountain ... and later in the year: " Again saw many baboons feeding at the foot of the Lion Mountain, very big and horrible to look at". In 1654 Johan Nieuhof wrote: " At the head of the Lion Hill

there dwell very large baboons which are so bold that they often chase away those inquisitive who climb this hill..." In 1697 Johan Schreyer wrote: "There are also baboons here... They are strong-bodied like a pretty large dog. They feed on roots and wild almonds which the Hottentots also eat. When these wild almonds are ripe the Hottentots are accustomed to collect them and bury them in the ground but the baboons well know how to seek these out and dig them up and steal them". By the late 18th century reports start to appear of raiding by baboons. One such report by Carl Peter Thunberg notes that he found baboons so numerous on Table Mountain that they were plundering the gardens from their mountain homes. This shows that conflict with humans on the Cape Peninsula started when people started permanent farming and has been going on for 200 years.

(From C.J. Skead: Historical mammal incidence in the Cape Province, Cape Nature Conservation 1980)

Are baboons on the Cape Peninsula different from other baboons?

The Cape Peninsula is quite a tough place to live because the days in summer are long, hot and dry and in the winter they are short, cold and wet. The soils are also leached and therefore nutrient-poor. The result is that fynbos plants, the most common vegetation type on the peninsula, contain few nutrients, little protein and many secondary plant chemicals which make them indigestible. This is why one does not find



abundant game in the fynbos. Baboons have managed to overcome these problems by eating food from a variety of sources. They dig clay from the soil to get minerals, they forage on the rocky shores for

protein-rich sea food such as limpets, mussels and shark egg embryos and they eat very specific parts of over 100 different plant types, in order to get the most nutritious part of the plant. Because of these adaptations baboons have always been widespread on the Cape Peninsula.

But apart from the difficult natural conditions, there are other reasons why baboons have a hard time on the Cape Peninsula. They come into conflict with humans.

Why should we conserve baboons on the Cape Peninsula since there are many baboons still in the rest of South Africa?

Baboons are popular with both tourists and residents of the southern areas of the Cape Peninsula. In a survey most people interviewed wanted baboons to remain on the peninsula despite the problems they cause and many are prepared to donate money towards this. Beside their popularity there are two other arguments why the Peninsula baboon population should be conserved:

Firstly, it is expensive and careless to consider only rare or endangered species worth conserving. It is expensive to save endangered species and lots of money does not necessarily ensure their survival. It also leads to the belief that it is not possible for common species to go extinct. African wild dogs, once common throughout Africa and considered agricultural pests, are now on the brink of extinction. It also promotes the notion that individual animals don't matter as

long as the species continues, which leads to disrespect for the life of individuals.

Secondly, many people in affluent societies like to go off to the 'bush' to see wild animals. They expect rural folk to tolerate crop-raiding monkeys, marauding elephants and man-eating lions, but they consider wildlife on their own doorstep to be a nuisance and would prefer it to be removed somewhere else. The problem is that there are not many wild places left and the few areas which still have wildlife inevitably come into closer contact with humans as we encroach on the remaining natural areas. If there are not more wild places to take all the 'problem' wildlife to, should they then just be shot or will people start trying to live with them? If they are going to be shot then it might as well be done now. If people are going to try to live with them then they might as well do that now too.

Some interesting facts:

93% of residents
83% of South African tourists
62% of foreign tourists would like baboons to remain on the peninsula despite the problems they may cause.

Tourists rated baboons fourth out of nine attractions at Cape of Good Hope. Baboons were rated above birds, antelope, hiking/fishing/surfing, the restaurant and picnic sites and below the scenery, vegetation and beaches.

70% of South African and 60% of foreign tourists felt that baboons were an asset to the area. They attributed R2.50 of the R10 entrance fees (40%) to the presence of baboons, which translates to R1.5 million a year.

50% of residents and tourists like baboons a lot
30% don't mind them

25% of visitors are prepared to donate money towards this cause.

82% of residents think baboons are beneficial to the Cape Peninsula. Their benefits to the peninsula are Ecological (44%) - they play an important role in the ecology of the Peninsula, they enhance the natural surroundings, they contribute to the biodiversity of the Peninsula and they are one of the few wildlife left. Tourism (43%), Enjoyment (9%), Educational (4%).



What problems do baboons on the Cape Peninsula encounter?

Injury and death

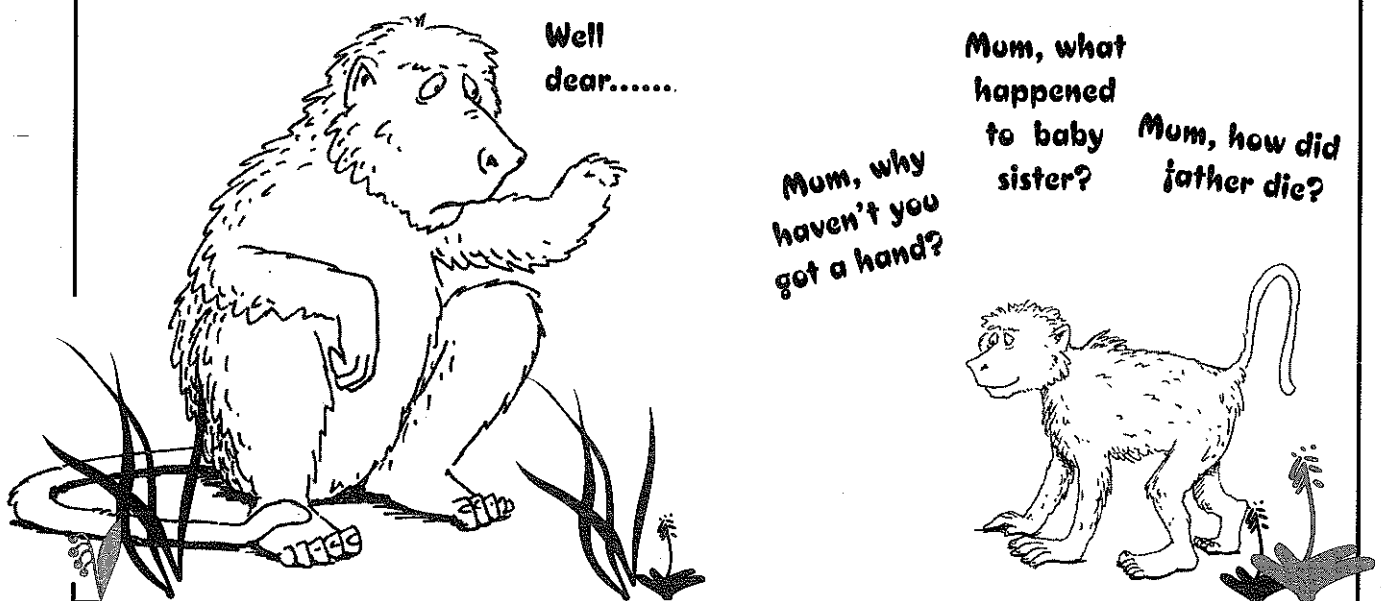
When baboons spend time near humans and human-made structures, they tend to suffer many injuries and deaths. They are knocked down by speeding cars, electrocuted on electricity pylons, are injured or killed by pellet guns, stones, gun shots, axes and poison, are attacked by dogs and sometimes lose limbs from gin traps. Most injuries are caused by residents whose houses are raided by baboons. In the two troops which frequent residential areas, one baboon is killed every month. At this rate of death these troops will eventually die out completely because the females are not able to replace the numbers lost, even if they reproduce at their maximum rate.

Low number of adult males relative to adult females

In most baboon troops there is one adult male for every three or four adult females. This natural skew is because males move between troops and may get killed by predators when on their own away from the safety of the troop. They may also die from fights with other males. On the Cape Peninsula, however, there is one adult male for every seven or eight adult females. This means that a great number of males are dying. As the only baboon predators on the peninsula are humans, it is clear that humans kill many more male baboons than their natural predators do.

Low number of adult males leads to higher rates of infanticide

In a study monitoring all the births and deaths in the baboon troops on the peninsula we found that 53% of all infants born die within their first year. This is an unusually high rate for baboons. Although some infants do get knocked over on the road, we suspect that most of these deaths are due to infanticide. This is when a new male in a troop kills the infants which are not likely to be his own. The death of the infant means that the female begins cycling again, and so he will be able to mate with her and have his own children sooner. When there are many males in a troop they protect the mothers and their babies from the new male. By the time the new male's own infants are born he is quite likely to be shot because he has had a year to be perceived as aggressive by locals. Once he is shot and a new male comes into the troop, this cycle of infanticide begins over again.



Isolation on the Peninsula results in little genetic mixing

Males are the outbreeding system of baboons. They ensure genetic mixing in the population because they generally leave their natal troop as young adults so that they do not mate with their female relatives. On the Peninsula, dispersing males almost invariably get shot before they manage to join a new troop, and this means that there is little genetic mixing within the Peninsula population. There is not much chance of a male from beyond the Peninsula getting past the Cape Flats to Peninsula troops, and so the chances for new genes getting to the Peninsula population reduce even more.

Development means loss of habitat

On the one hand development is needed to cater for the demand for houses and recreation facilities by all the people who want to live among the natural beauty of the Cape Peninsula. On the other hand, if development goes on unabated, the natural beauty of the Peninsula will be destroyed. Baboons are caught in the middle, having to compete with developers for their home environment. As more development takes place on the edge of their home ranges they are forced into closer contact with their primate relatives, the humans. Having fewer resources and human supporters than the developers, they are the ones who lose out. If this continues, it will end 1 million years of baboons living on the Cape Peninsula.

Alien vegetation creates food and artificial sleeping sites

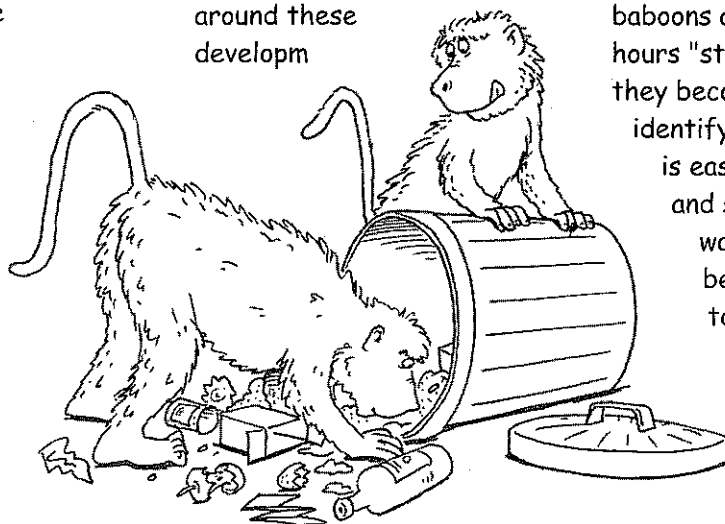
Naturally baboons live only where there are cliffs or tall trees for them to sleep in at night. In the past on the Cape Peninsula they would have slept mostly on cliffs, and also in the forests around Hout Bay and the south-east side of Table Mountain. Over the years plantation pines and eucalypts were planted all over the Peninsula creating additional sleeping sites closer to human settlements. To stabilize the sands on the Cape Flats, rooikraans was also introduced from Australia, spreading rapidly and providing another food species for baboons. Where thick stands of these trees and bushes occur near residential areas they seem to provide ideal refuges from

Conflict with humans because of inappropriate developments

Developments may be inappropriate when they contribute to baboon/human conflict if they attract both humans and baboons to the same area. These developments usually involve places where humans eat, such as restaurants, takeaways and picnic sites. If these occur within the home ranges of baboons they soon learn to incorporate

these sites into their daily foraging route. If the pickings are profitable, baboons may even spend most of their day around these developm

ents. Profitable sites have a high turnover of innocent visitors who are unaware they are potential targets for baboon foraging. Since the baboons are able to spend many hours "studying" their victims, they become very good at identifying situations where it is easy for them to run up and steal the food they want. These baboons become bold and learn to intimidate people until they are deemed to be too aggressive and are shot by authorities.

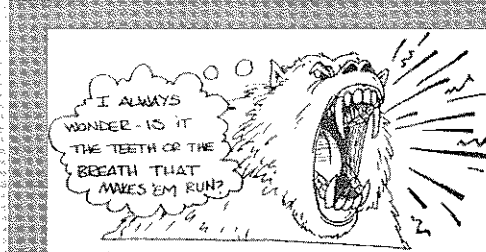


How dangerous are baboons?

Baboons are generally not dangerous to humans because they are not predators, and do not need to catch animals for a living. But on the Cape Peninsula baboons have learnt that humans often have food and some troops are notorious for their aggressive behavior

towards tourists. They may grab your food, a plastic bag or a handbag if they think

there is food inside. They may run up to you while you are having a picnic and steal your

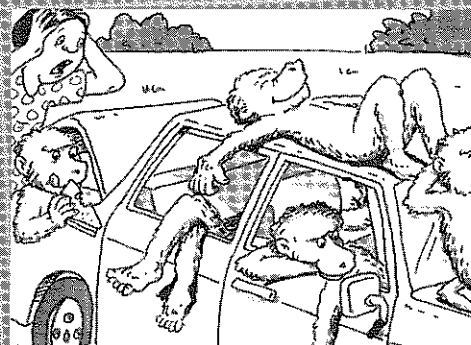


food or they may jump inside your car to search for food. If they see a bag in your car they

may run off with it if they think it has food. The situation can become dangerous depending on how you deal with it. The general rule is to remain calm and **NEVER TRY TO GRAB BACK SOMETHING THAT A BABOON HAS TAKEN FROM YOU**. Once a baboon has food or thinks it has food it will fight to keep it. If it is not food it will probably drop it later and you can retrieve it.

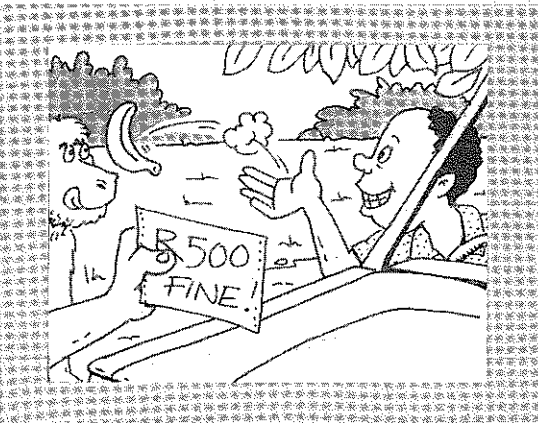
Can I get out of my car to watch baboons on the roadside?

It is not a good idea to get out of your car to watch baboons as they may jump inside and run off with your stuff. Even if you do not have food they may take any bag thinking that it may have food inside. You should also keep the windows closed when you see baboons. Although not all baboons behave in this way there is no way of telling which ones will do this so it's best not to take any chances. Many tourists have lost large amounts of money and expensive cameras and other goods.



Can we feed baboons on the roadside? Some of them look very hungry.

It is very tempting to feed baboons on the roadside especially when they look at you so engagingly. But actually, baboons do not need our food as there is plenty of natural food for them. They just need to work quite hard to get it! Baboons need to spend 70% of their day foraging in the fynbos to get all the nutrients they need. Because human food is much more nutritious, it is much easier for them to sit by the roadside and "beg". Although feeding baboons is fun for people it is actually very



bad for baboons. If baboons do not forage naturally the balance of relationships between baboons and the fynbos is disturbed. It also disrupts their social relationships because they fight over human food. Feeding baboons also makes them become aggressive towards people because they learn that humans are a source of food and so they start demanding it by jumping inside cars and onto people. This results in the authorities shooting the aggressive baboons. The scraggly baboons you see are not malnourished. They are often low-ranking baboons who get beaten up by their peers and lose some hair in the process.

Why does one sometimes see the males on their own. Are these the rogue males?



A male who leaves his troop is called a transient or dispersing male. Males may leave a troop and join another many times during their lives. Unlike females who remain in the same troop for most of their life, males disperse in order to ensure genetic mixing. When a new male arrives, the troop's hierarchy is upset and new rivalries and relationships arise. Some other males may decide to leave and can spend long periods alone

before joining another troop. It is not easy to join a new troop because resident males don't want to have more competition for females. It is particularly difficult for a male to find a new troop on the Cape Peninsula because of the way the city and the wild areas interweave with each other. The city provides many distractions such as lovely suburban fruit trees and open windows to hop into to get yummy human food.

I see lots of babies in the local troops. Doesn't this mean that the baboons are breeding a lot?



About a half or more of most baboon troops are made up of juveniles, so it is natural to see many young in a troop. Juveniles of similar ages tend to hang out together, and so

one may get the impression that there are many more than there actually are. The reason for there being so many juveniles is that most primates take a long time to grow because of their relatively big brains. The large head means that primates need to be born when they are quite undeveloped

because if they grew bigger in the womb their heads would not be able to get through the birth canal. Big brains need lots of energy to grow and since the amount of food available

may be limited, once a primate is born it grows slowly. However, there may be another reason for the large numbers of young infants in a troop. This can indicate that large numbers of infants are dying. If many infants die a few

months after they are born, their mothers will get pregnant together, and one will see many infants of a similar age in the troop.



What should I do if I see an injured baboon?

Baboons get injured on the road, from aggressive people or from fighting with one another. Fighting injuries are often between males and you might see large canine slashes. Natural injuries need not be treated, but human-induced injuries should be. If you see an injured baboon you should report it to:

South Peninsula Administration 021- 7158081

Cape Peninsula National Park - 021-7809100

Kommetjie Environmental Awareness Group - 021 7833433

Is it true that baboons are more scared of men than women?

As baboons read human body-language well, they can easily assess how serious or scared a person is. Women in general are less threatening, less bold and more scared of baboons than men, so they tend to look less threatening. But there are many women who can successfully chase baboons. You must make it obvious that you are confident and serious.



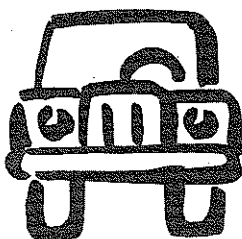
Why do baboons sleep on the road? Surely they must realize that it is dangerous?

Each type of animal has adapted to living in its environment with its own particular conditions. When an animal is taken out of their own environment, or the environment changes too quickly for the animal to adapt, it may seem to humans that the animal is behaving stupidly.

Despite the number of injuries and deaths on the road baboons are attracted to it for its warmth, open spaces and squashed insects.

Most cars slow down for baboons, and some

also provide food. From a baboon's perspective, therefore, the road and its cars are generally seen as a good thing. Humans are taught as children how to behave on the road. Baboons, however cannot teach their young about this as they just don't have such a behavior in their repertoire. Next time you see baboons on the road, remember that they have not been taught that cars are dangerous. They also do not know what hooters mean. **SO PLEASE SLOW DOWN.**



**PLEASE REMEMBER
TO SLOW DOWN
WHEN YOU SEE
BABOONS ON THE
ROAD!**



3. BABOONS IN RESIDENTIAL AREAS

How often do baboons visit residential areas?

Research showed that baboons enter residential areas in the southern areas of the South Peninsula on 80% of days (between 60%-100%). The number of times each household is visited varies. About a third of households are visited between one and seven days a week, a third are visited a few times a month and a third rarely or never have baboon visits.

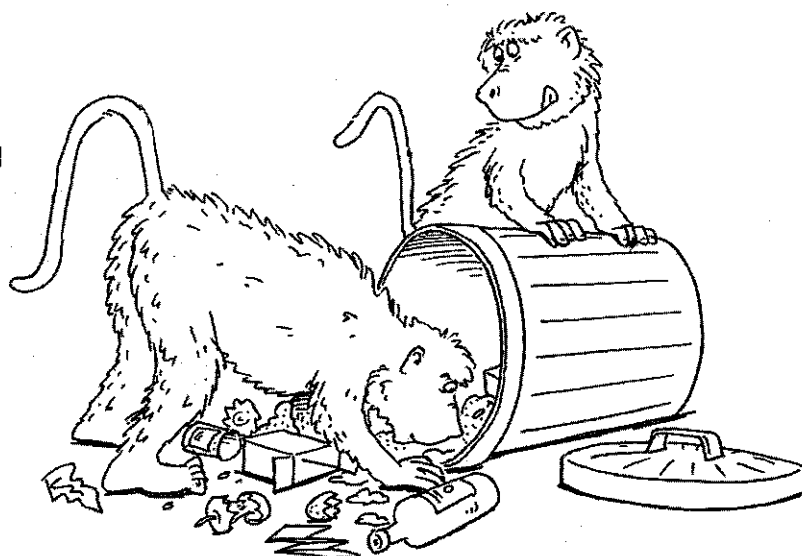
Do baboons raid more at certain times of the year?



When baboon monitors are present they succeed in keeping baboons out of residential areas most of the time. Even with monitors baboons try to raid all year round but they are more successful at raiding towards the end of the summer months, from February to May, where raiding occurs on 30% of the days. This is mostly due to the presence of figs, grapes and guavas on garden trees. From June to August they succeed in raiding on 15% of the days, when loquats are fruiting. The lowest amount of raiding occurs between September and January where they only raid on 5% of days.

What do baboons eat from residential properties?

Of the foods that baboons eat from residential properties, 50% are non-indigenous fruit such as figs, grapes, guavas, loquats, 30% is processed food such as pet food, food from inside the house and leftover food from rubbish bins. Only 20% is from indigenous plants such as bulbs and flowers. In a resident survey we also found that 40% of residential properties have fruit trees, 40% have compost heaps and 15% have vegetable gardens. Overall, baboons found something to eat in 50% of all properties.



Why do some households have lots of baboon problems while others don't have any?

Our research found that baboons were twice as likely to visit properties on a weekly basis if there was something to eat. Properties with fruit trees, vegetable gardens and available human food were visited more often. We also found that once baboons got inside a house, they would come back daily to see if they could get more food. This is why households that offer baboons access to easy food will have more baboon problems than those which do not.

Are baboons raiding because there is not enough food for them in the natural environment?

Research comparing the amount of food eaten by a naturally foraging troop and a raiding troop with baboon monitors (i.e. when not raiding) found that both troops were able to obtain their daily nutritional requirements for carbohydrates, fats and protein in the wild. This leads to the conclusion that baboons are not raiding because of a lack of food in the natural environment. Furthermore, if there was not enough food one would expect baboon numbers to have declined with the presence of baboon monitors who stop baboons from raiding, but this has not been the case over the last three years.

How many baboons can the available natural environment sustain?

The research found that in theory there is enough natural area on the peninsula and enough natural food for 670 baboons. This is 310 more than the present 360. However, since baboons did occur in these areas in the past and were exterminated due to conflict with humans, their return would need to be managed, which costs money. If we were only to allow the present baboons to continue to grow, the available natural areas could accommodate 71 more baboons.

Why do the baboons prefer to raid rather than forage in the natural environment?

Baboons prefer to raid because it means that they can get all the nutrition they need in a very short time and with much less effort. Human food is highly nutritious, which means that we can get all the energy we need by eating only three times a day. Baboons, on the other hand, need to spend 70% of their day searching for natural food. When they come across our highly nutritious food they only need to spend 50% of the day searching for food. This is because in the residential areas 50% of properties (every second house) has something on offer for baboons. This means that there is an extra 20% (about 2 hours) of the day to just park off, play and get up to mischief.

How can we convince the baboons to stay away from people and their food and feed only in the natural areas?

Many people have been trying to solve this problem for a long time without much success. Baboons are highly intelligent and not at all easy to fool. We surveyed all the different methods that people have tried and together with all the other information from our research on the Peninsula we put together a Baboon Management Plan. The plan looks at managing all aspects relating to baboons and looks at raiding from an economic point of view. To convince the baboons that it is not worth feeding in residential areas we need to make it more difficult and less rewarding for them. This can be done by making less food available to them and by physically stopping them from entering residential areas with the help of baboon chasers.

4. BABOON MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE CAPE PENINSULA

After much debate from the authorities on how to deal with human-baboon conflict a research proposal was submitted to the South Peninsula Municipality and WWF-SA by primatologists Ruth Kansky and Dave Gaynor. The aim of the research was to look into the extent of the problem and how it could be managed. Funding was approved by these organizations and later South African National Parks also contributed to this research. The research was carried out from February 1998 until February 2000. During this period implementation of management recommendations was initiated. Below is a summary of what the plan consists of.

Baboon monitors to reduce raiding

See following pages for more details

Dart dispersing males and introduce to troops with few or no males

Signage to warn visitors about baboons

Baboon proof waste management in residential areas

Baboon proof waste management in tourist areas

Dart and treat human inflicted injuries

Re-evaluate land use in human baboon conflict areas

Destroy troublesome individuals

Only after management changes have been tried to rectify the problem.

Education of visitors by distributing pamphlets and posters

Artificial water points in mountains to stop baboons drinking in residential areas during summer.

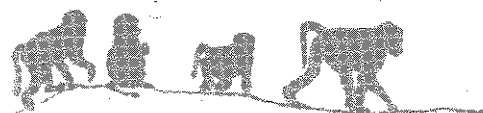
Education of residents about baboons and property management

Research and monitoring of troops

Alien Vegetation Clearing around residential areas

Appropriate Planning of new developments in baboon areas

Policing and law enforcement



Who is responsible for implementing the Baboon Management Plan?

Managing baboons on the peninsula is a complex issue as baboons occur on a number of different landowners' property. In the past these landowners could not decide who should be responsible for managing baboons, how to manage them and who should pay. The general management strategy was to shoot any baboon that was a nuisance or appeared to be a problem.

The result of this "management" is that there are presently only 360 baboons remaining on the peninsula.

Today there is still controversy around baboon

management but some progress has been made.

There are three authorities involved but since none could agree on all the responsibility they agreed on joint responsibility. Thus the Parks and Recreation section of the South Peninsula Administration (SPA) of Cape Town Unicity, South African National Parks (SANP) who manage the Cape Peninsula National Park and Cape Nature Conservation Board (CNCB) who are the provincial conservation authorities are all members of a Baboon Management Team (BMT) who jointly manage baboons on the

peninsula. In addition to these authorities the community is represented by two local environmental NGO's -

Kommetjie Environmental Awareness Group (KEAG) and "Friends of Tokai Forest".

The baboons are represented by primatologists Ruth Kansky and Dave Gaynor and the Baboon Monitors by Tembela Jantjies. The BMT manages baboons according to the Baboon Management Plan (BMP). Residents and members of the public also have a role to play in implementing the BMP. This booklet will help to explain how you can do this.

Contact details for BMT members

CHAIRPERSON

Cape Nature Conservation Board
Aisha Slamang
Tel: 795 4701 email:
aslamang@kingsley.co.za

South African National Parks

Justin Buchmann
Tel: 7809100 email: JustinBu@parks-sa.co.za

SECRETARY

Cape Nature Conservation Board
Robin Jangle
Tel: 795 4701 email: rjangle@kingsley.co.za

Kommetjie Environmental Awareness Group

Wally Petersen
Tel: 7833 433 email: keag@ct.lia.net

MEMBERS

South Peninsula Administration
Dean Ferreira
Tel: 715 8081 cell: 083 629 4303 email:
Deanf@ait.co.za

Cape Peninsula Baboon Project

Ruth Kansky & Dave Gaynor
Tel: 780 1351 email: dgaynor@iafrica.com

Friends of Tokai

John Green
Tel: 712 1341 email: greenhse@mweb.co.za

What are Baboon Monitors and what do they do?

Baboon Monitors are contracted by the BMT to keep baboons out of residential areas. They also slow down traffic and try to prevent people feeding or harming baboons on the roadside. They find baboons at their sleeping site every morning and follow them on foot until they reach their evening sleeping site. When baboons approach residential areas they are stopped by the monitors who form a line in front of the troop and if necessary, run at the baboons shouting clapping or waving sticks. If the baboons manage to get into residential areas the monitors chase them out again. As the monitors follow the baboons wherever they

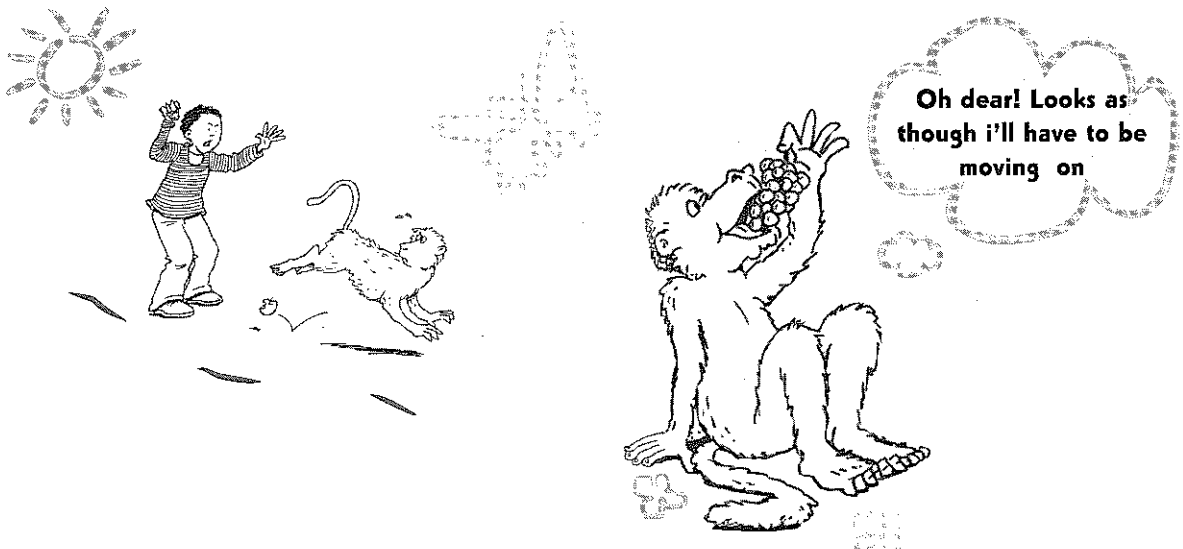
go they are able to stop them raiding new areas if the troop shifts its range. Monitors are present 365 days a year and work in shifts.

Baboon monitors are part of a strategy to increase the costs of foraging in residential areas without significantly altering the baboons' natural behavior. In residential areas baboons find more and better quality food. When monitors stop them from getting access to this food baboons realize that they are using too much energy in trying to raid, and if they do not start to feed on natural food they will not get enough food for the day.

The baboon monitor project employs residents living on the fringe of the Cape Peninsula Protected Natural Environment (CPPNE), in Masipumelele and Red Hill Camp. As the monitors report on their activities to their community this provides opportunities to inform and educate them about baboons and the natural environment. Their presence within the CPPNE 365 days a year, with a cell phone, also provides some deterrent for illegal activities such as plant, sand and rock collection and rubbish dumping. They also provide an early warning system for fires and their presence on the roadside shows a good conservation ethic to foreign tourists.

How successful are baboon monitors?

Baboon monitors can reduce the proportion of raiding days from 90% to 10%. They can reduce human-inflicted mortality of baboons by a factor of 6. There is a 25 times reduction in the number of residents that do not have serious baboon problems.



Who pays for the baboon monitors?

When baboon monitors were being tested as a possible solution to keeping baboons out of residential areas they were funded by South African National Parks and WWF-SA -Table Mountain Fund (World Wide Fund for Nature). But after proving their success there have been problems with finding a sustainable source of funding. The BMT has been exploring various options which include:

- (1) Shared funding by relevant authorities SPM, SANP, CNCB.
- (2) Funding by residents in the effected areas on a voluntary basis.
- (3) Fundraising from corporates
- (4) Ecotourism (where tourists pay to walk with baboons in the wild).
- (5) A tourist levy where a proportion of fees

for a trip to the South Peninsula is paid to the baboon fund.

Funding for the year June 2001- May 2002 has been obtained from options 1, 2 and 3. The three authorities each contributed R50 000, 350 residents pledged R20 per month and R40 000 was received from The Walt Disney Foundation. The BMT has a special Baboon Fund which is managed by KEAG, a member organization of the BMT and audited yearly.

Residents or other members of the public who would like to make monthly or once-off donations can contact members of the BMT. For contact detail see page 17. For contribution forms see page 40.

What do residents think of baboon monitors?

In a survey residents were asked some questions about the monitors. Most thought the baboon monitors were very effective (83%) and most were also prepared to make a contribution to fund them (80%). As a result of the monitors activities there is an increase in the number of residents that do not want baboons removed from the Cape Peninsula and an increase in the number of residents that like baboons.



A new team is in place that is working towards maximising and further developing the baboon monitor programme on the Cape Peninsula. Officially endorsed by the relevant conservation authorities, Baboon Matters has already initiated a number of projects in order to develop the monitor programme into a long-term, sustainable solution to the baboon management problems on the Peninsula.

A study funded by WWF-SA concluded that monitors were the most viable solution to the problem of keeping baboons out of residential areas. Baboon Matters will be implementing an on-going communication programme with all residents living within close proximity to baboons so as to keep everyone informed of the latest news and developments around baboon monitoring and other related conservation initiatives.

For further information, contact Belinda Miek of Baboon Matters on (021) 780 1124 or email envirolink@iafrica.com

What do the baboon monitors think about the baboons and their work?

Sana Nyusani

Ever since I work as a baboon monitor I learn such a lot. The baboons have a confidence about themselves. They are like a human being in many things they do. If they don't like something they show that, and what else I notice is they love their children so much. If the child did something wrong they make something to show that it is wrong. When I'm with them I don't feel bored. I've got a feeling for them because they don't forget. They've got a memory just like everyone. Their life is similar to the human being.



Lizo Sulelo

I love baboons and I take baboons as my friend. If I'm with baboons I feel very happy. If I can't work I can't feel very well because in my time I want to stay with the baboons.

Mzwakhe Vanga

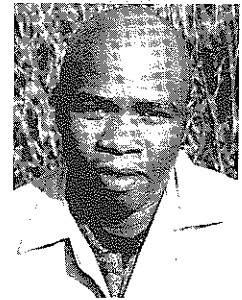
Firstly I love nature and I enjoy to watch it, especially the baboons. I love the baboons under these circumstances:

They are well organised animals.

I enjoy watching baboons because they are very complicated animals in the world.

I love baboons because they take care for their babies especially when they are chased by the enemies. They fetch the babies on the back.

I love so much and I enjoy all of them. Even the sleeping site is very warm because they care about their babies.



Ayanda Ceki

I like the baboons. They must be protected just like I care about myself. They are like sheep to follow and watch them. People like to take photos and they are happy. They are not dangerous.

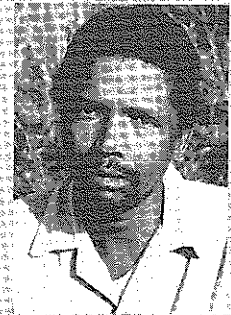


Siphwe Booi

I love baboons as myself because a baboon is like a person. There is no difference between baboons and people.

Mzukisi Nkewu

It is nice to work with the baboons because you learn many things from the baboons. From my experience baboons cry in three different ways and they have three different meanings. Firstly they cry when they see the enemy e.g. dog. We know when they see the enemy. Secondly when they see another baboon get food from a person. Thirdly when a baboon is on top of the rock behind us.





Here is an article written for the Echo by Tembela Jantjies who has been a baboon monitor for four years and currently runs the baboon monitor project.

As baboon monitors we work in shifts so that there are monitors every day of the year. The time we start work depends on the time of the year as the baboons wake up soon after sunrise. I get up at 5:00 am these days. I polish my boots, make my lunch and fill my water bottle and put in my bag. At 6:30 I go to the bus stop to catch my transport at 6:45. We get dropped off where the baboons are sleeping, mostly now at the cliffs near Kommetjie when I work at Eric's Troop. One of the three guy's must walk on the road and the other two climb up the mountain. The guy who walks on the road is the guy who shows us where the baboons are as we can't see from the top if the baboons are on the cliffs. The two on the top must be there in case the baboons are on their way to the houses. When we see them we keep a distance from them about 100m and watch them. When they move we follow them. Wherever they go we must be there because of the dogs, the people and the speeding cars. The dogs often chase them and people feed them or throw stones at them. Most of the people who feed them are driving cars and they stop to watch or feed them. It is bad to feed the baboons because it spoils them. When I see people feeding the baboons I come to talk to them. Some people drive off when they see me coming. Others say sorry and that they did not know it was not allowed. Once we reported feeding to the Ocean View police but they did not do anything. When the baboons are near the road we try to slow the cars down. Most cars slow down but some drivers are very rude and speed past. Many baboons get injured or killed by the cars if we are not there. Most people who throw stones are school boys from Ocean View. When they see the baboons on the mountain near Ocean View they come with their dogs and chase them and throw stones. When we try to talk to them they are rude and don't want to listen. They say "voetsak jy" and "Ons gaan die bobejaan dood maak en ook julle as julle te veel praat". The last time there were about 15 of them and 4 dogs. I went to call the park rangers but when we returned the boys were gone. The two guys remaining said that when they tried to stop them again six of them took out their knives and so they ran away. Other times we have called the Ocean View police but they never came.

When we see that the baboons want to go to the houses we try to stop them. We stand in a line in the places where we know we can stop them. Most of the time we are successful. But other times we cannot stop them. Sometimes we don't find them in the morning as they may move to another sleeping place late the evening before. The days in summer are too long for us to stay so late to see where they are sleeping. Sometimes we see them already on their way to the houses and we are too far away to stop them. Other times they may split into many groups and there are not enough monitors to go after each little group. The baboons can also be very clever. If they see you are late one day they will be earlier the next day. If there are only two monitors instead of three, they notice that and split. When they see a gap they run past and you can't stop them and then the whole troop runs and we can't stop them. So we have to keep making new plans.

At summer time the problem is the fruit trees: figs, grapes, guava, loquats. The baboons smell the fruit from far away and they go straight and run to the houses. That is why they are raiding too much in summer. My idea is that it will be easier for us and the baboons to cut down the trees. If we can all work together it will also be better for the residents as they will have less problems with the baboons.

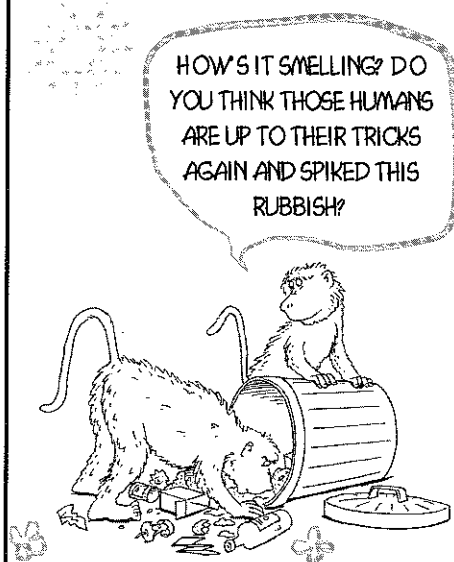
The rubbish bags are also a big problem. When the rubbish bags are on the road they can see them from the mountain. When you chase one from a black bag another one jumps down from the roof and goes to the same bag. Also the rubbish bins at the picnic sites are a problem. Other problems are residents who don't allow us into their yard and residents that fire bullets in the air. It takes us longer to chase the baboons if we can't go into the yard and it is very dangerous for us with the bullets flying around. The people in De Gama Park are most friendly.

As we are baboon monitors there are so many things that we see like black bags which people dump on the side of the road, people collecting flowers and rocks, littering. Once we asked a guy where he was from and he said he was from Gugulethu collecting some herbs. Last week we found a dead man in his car on the road above the Kommetjie lighthouse. We were the first to find him and called the police. We were all very shocked about this.

If there are no baboon monitors the baboons will go to the houses and people will kill them. It won't be easy to build another team because it is a long time that we have learnt to control the baboons and it will not be easy to trick the baboons again. When you leave them for a while you have to work very hard to get back to where you left. The baboons don't have an easy life because there are so many problems but we help them so it is a bit better. But everyone must know that the baboons were here before the people.

Are baboon monitors the best solution? Will we need them forever?

Electric fencing around all residential areas is the only other option for keeping baboons away from houses. Unless another solution is found in the future there will always be a need for baboon monitors if baboons are to remain on the Cape Peninsula. Baboon monitors may not be the ideal solution because they are expensive and need to be managed. Some suggest that the constant presence of monitors makes baboons lose their fear of humans. However, if baboons require monitors it means that they regularly interact with people and are therefore already unafraid of them. Others suggest that if baboons are prevented from foraging in certain areas they may be prevented from fulfilling their natural function in the ecosystem and may cause overexploitation of other areas. It seems, however, that without monitors baboons spend more time around residential areas, thereby increasing the risk of overexploitation around these areas. Furthermore we have found that the presence of monitors actually encourages a more natural use of the vegetation because baboons have to travel further away from the residential areas in order to get enough food. They have even begun to utilize new areas, spending more time foraging on rocky shores, which they did not do much before monitors were present.



If the baboon monitors stop the baboons from getting killed and since they have no more natural predators, won't baboon numbers increase too much?

Contrary to common belief, predators do not control the numbers of large mammals. In general, predation only accounts for 5-10% of the deaths of some primate populations. Our research suggests that without employing more monitors, there is room for expanding the present troops by an additional 71 baboons. If at this point it is decided that there are too many baboons to manage it will be possible to reduce the growth rate by introducing contraceptives to some of the females.



Aren't there other ways to stop baboons from raiding? What about spiking some human food with something that tastes bad, like chilli powder.

This treatment has been tried many times without much success. The reason is that they will learn to avoid the bad taste rather than the human food. So you will need to treat every bit of human food. If the foul-tasting substance has a strong smell then it will be even easier for a baboon to discriminate between the food that is spiked and the one that is not.

What about using pain or other scaring devices, like salt bullets, rubber bullets or using a katty, loud booms or predator smells?

These strategies stop being effective after a short while because baboons become habituated. The following examples illustrate why they are not long lasting.

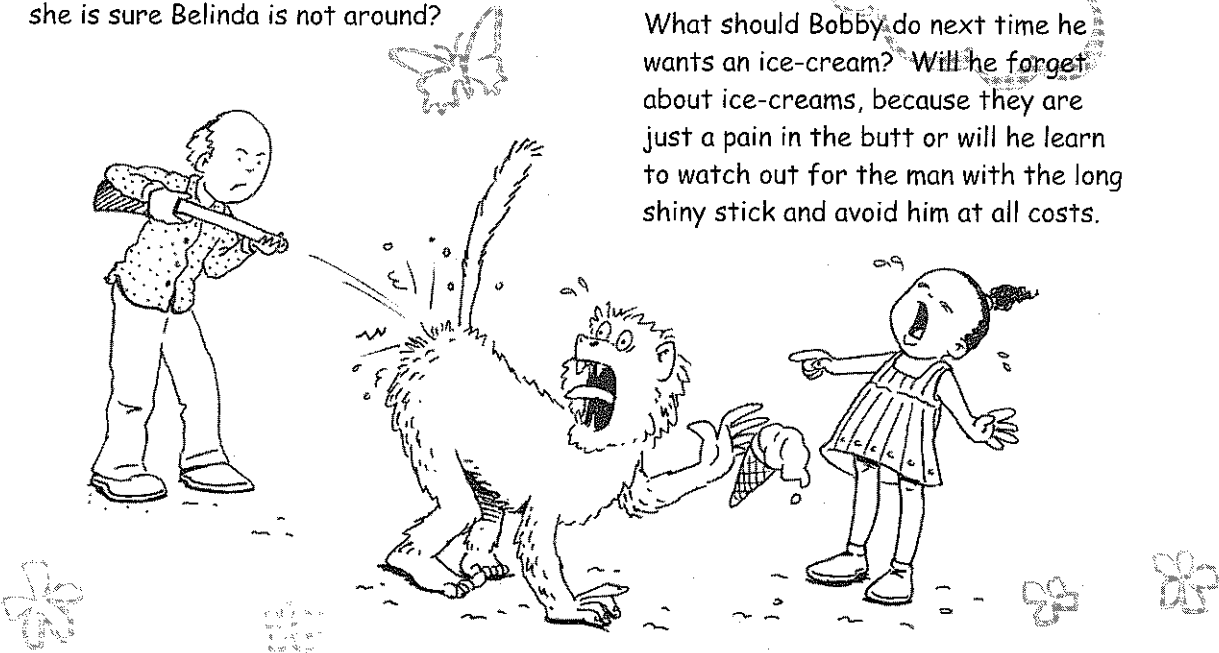
A

Betty the baboon sees one of her favorite food items- a patch of sour figs. As she is about to take a nice juicy bite, Belinda the bully baboon runs up from behind and bites her. Betty runs off screaming and Belinda proceeds to eat in the sour fig patch. What will Betty do in the future. Will she stop eating delicious sour figs forever because Belinda may come up to her anytime and beat her up, or will she learn to watch out for Belinda and only eat sour figs when she is sure Belinda is not around?

B

Bobby the baboon likes going to the restaurant at Cape Point because there are lots of ignorant humans who are such easy targets. You can just walk up to them and take an ice-cream out of their hand, and Bobby has been doing this for the last six months. He saw Rambo doing this and after Rambo got shot, he took over. One day as Bobby was about to grab an ice-cream he felt a stinging pain on his butt. He leapt into the air and ran away. There was a man with a long shiny stick laughing in the distance. A while latter he came back. Again he was about to grab an ice cream and he felt another sting on the butt. Ouch! And there was the man with the long shiny stick laughing again.

What should Bobby do next time he wants an ice-cream? Will he forget about ice-creams, because they are just a pain in the butt or will he learn to watch out for the man with the long shiny stick and avoid him at all costs.



Pain or scaring devices do not have long- term affects on baboons. Although they will scare the baboon initially, after a while it will merely learn to avoid the source of the pain or noise. In order to keep an area baboon free there will need to be a permanent presence of a person. The person, then, might as well chase the baboon away and not bother about using pain. There may be a case for using pain if animals do not run away from the people chasing them.

What about baboon "restaurants" in the mountains to attract them away from the residential areas?

Research has shown that there is sufficient natural food for baboons. Setting up baboon "restaurants" operates on the mistaken assumption that baboons raid because there is not enough natural food for them. Furthermore, studies of primates fed on artificial food sources have shown their growth rate increases at a faster rate than non-fed troops. This means that if we did provide baboons with more food we would just be creating a bigger problem for the future. Although the baboons' natural behavior has



been disturbed already by raiding, our aim should be to rehabilitate them to natural foraging, and this can be achieved with baboon monitors. By providing them with artificial food we will be making them more dependent on human food and create an imbalance with the natural ecosystem. Let us give them the dignity of living naturally on the mountains, without turning them into a circus spectacle of obese, increasingly dependant baboons, waiting around at piles of discarded human food.

What about culling or moving the baboons to another place off the Peninsula or replacing the problem ones with new ones?

Culling does not solve the problem of raiding. A clear example that this does not work can be seen in the present situation on the Cape Peninsula. Culling has been the only management strategy in the past. As each troop came into conflict with humans it was trapped and shot. The result is a baboon population that has dwindled from about 1500, to only 360 baboons today. Culling does not stop baboons from raiding. They remaining baboons may stay away for a short while but will soon be back for the same reasons described on page 23.

Presently there is also not an option to remove from or bring new baboons into the Peninsula because Cape Nature Conservation Board who is responsible for legal aspects of baboon management cannot give permits until a genetic study has been done. This would determine whether the baboons on and outside the Peninsula are significantly genetically different. However, if in the future it becomes possible to move baboons, it would be possible to translocate baboons to another area. This will then mean an end to 1 million years of baboons on the Peninsula.

Replacing problem baboons with new baboons from outside the Peninsula is, in theory, also an option in the future, if permits are obtained. However if the root causes of the conflict with humans are not addressed the new baboons will soon become "problem" ones too. If the adult males are regularly replaced this would cause problems of infanticide and no growth in certain troops. If this is the desired result, the ethical implications should be considered, as this would result in the Peninsula population being managed as a zoo rather than a wild population.

What about having an electric fence around all the residential areas?

This is, in theory, a good option, however residents at public meetings in the past have rejected this idea. It may however come up again in the future.

Surely there must be some high-tech solutions in this day and age?

It is possible that high-tech solutions could be developed, but to date, none have been invented. Two options investigated in our research were Conditioned Taste Aversion (CTA) and Sound aversion.

CONDITIONED TASTE AVERSION (CTA)

CTA involves spiking a food with something that is tasteless and odorless but which makes baboons ill after an hour. The idea is that since they won't be able to tell when the food is spiked because the chemical that makes them ill has no taste or smell they will have to avoid that food all the time. This method could work because animals instinctively learn to avoid foods that make them sick as this could

lead to them eating poison.

We did some preliminary tests with CTA at Cape Point with the help of Dr. Rusiniak, an expert on CTA from USA. Our results suggested that this technique would not work for the wide range of foods that baboons encounter from humans because they learn to become very choosy. We thought, for example, that if we treated them with brown

bread they might stop eating all breads. However, although they stopped eating brown bread, they still would eat white rolls and French loaf. It seemed that one would need to treat every kind of human food in order for this to become a workable solution, which is clearly not feasible. CTA might however work for baboons who raid just a few specific crops.

SOUND AVERSION

Previous attempts at sound aversion have relied on using sound for its "alarming" abilities, but has not been successful beyond the very short term. Using crackers or loud booming devices have failed because baboons, although initially reacting to them, soon become used to the sound. Playing recordings of predator calls has also been unsuccessful as the baboons' reaction to these sounds was to approach to investigate.

We also investigated the use of sound aversion as a barrier, much like an aural electric fence, with a sound making it unbearable for a baboon to remain in the area. Noise is unbearable for baboons at about 140 decibels - a level regarded as the pain threshold for humans. It was found, however, that equipment to generate sound at the levels needed would be costly and impractical.

In summary, the only effective non-lethal animal damage control solutions are those that have a real cost, an evolutionary basis or are an effective barrier. Methods which do not have these qualities do not work because animals learn to avoid the source of the alarm or pain or they become used to it.

5. WHAT RESIDENTS CAN DO TO HELP MANAGE BABOONS

The best thing you could do is manage your property to make it less attractive to baboons. If your property is not inviting, baboons will go elsewhere.

**BUT IF THEY GET SOMETHING FROM YOUR
PROPERTY THEY WILL BE BACK
AGAIN**

& AGAIN

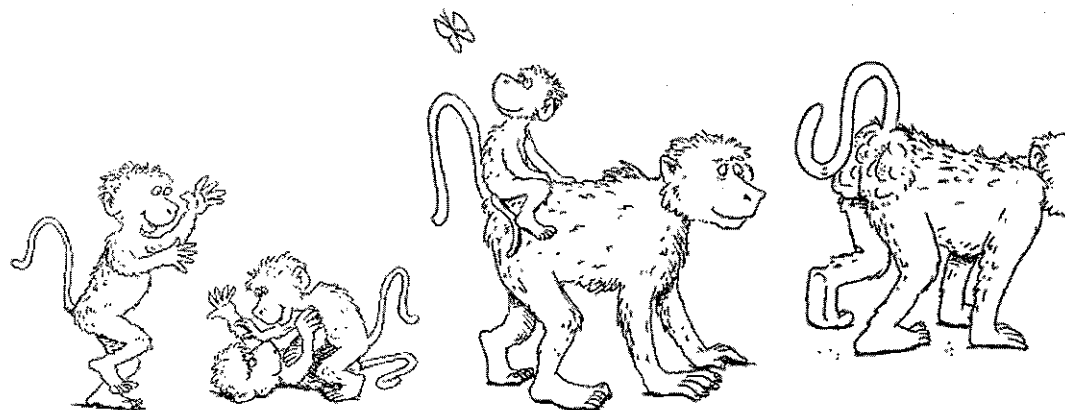
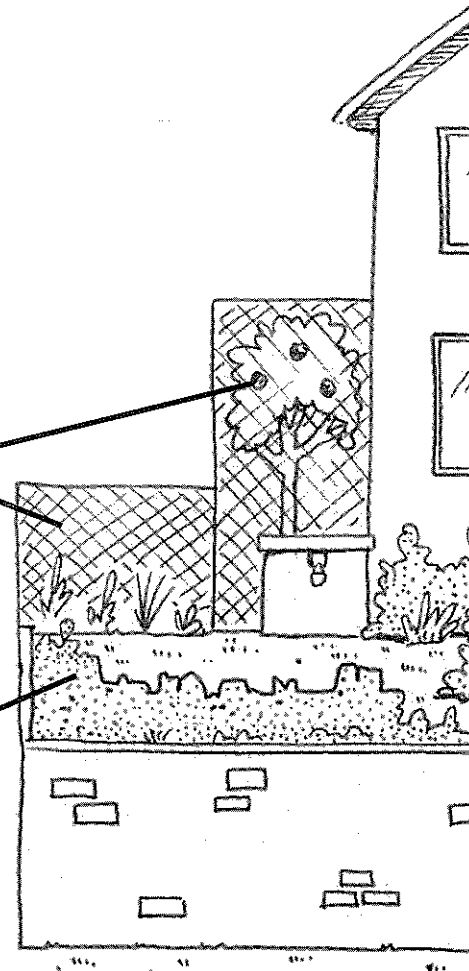
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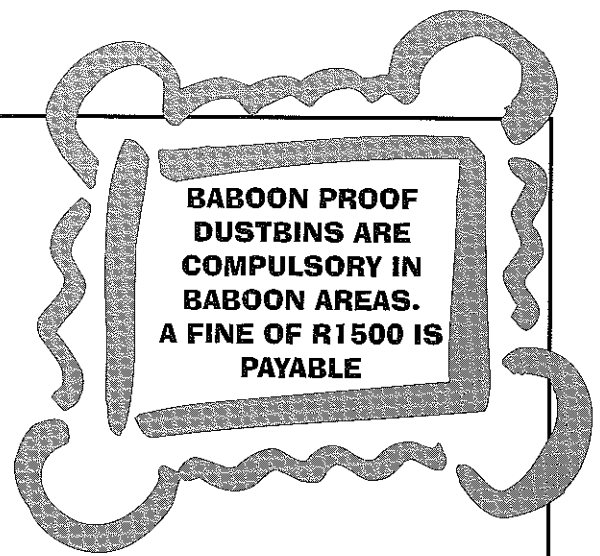
VEGETABLE GARDEN AND FRUIT TREES

Are not advisable in areas where baboons visit regularly. But if one is going to have one it should be in a baboon proof enclosure such as a cage or electric fence. If it is not baboons will destroy it.

INDIGENOUS GARDEN

Is not more attractive to baboons than the natural areas outside of residential areas





**BABOON PROOF
DUSTBINS ARE
COMPULSORY IN
BABOON AREAS.
A FINE OF R1500 IS
PAYABLE**

KEEP WINDOWS OR DOORS
OPEN ONLY IF THEY HAVE
GAPS NOT BIGGER THAN

8cm

CLOSE WINDOWS AND
DOORS WITHOUT BARS
WHEN YOU GO OUT

KEEP RUBBISH SECURE IN A
BABOON PROOF BIN OR STORE
IN GARAGE UNTIL COLLECTION

HEY SISTERS- DON'T
BOTHR ABOUT THIS
PLACE. I'VE ALREADY
CHECKED IT OUT -
N-O-T-H-I-N-G



But if residents pay towards baboon monitors why should they bother with making their property baboon-proof?

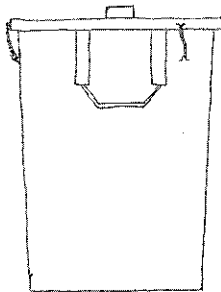
Although baboon monitors help to alleviate the problem of baboons raiding in residential areas, they cannot completely eliminate raiding. They are capable of fatigue and have the difficulty of having to monitor animals who change their behaviour according to a variety of different pressures. If, however, properties become entirely unattractive to baboons, the effectiveness of the monitors will increase because there will be less incentive for the baboons to come down to the houses. Even though realistically not every householder will make the same amount of sacrifices, any percentage of change will make a difference.

How can one make rubbish baboon-proof?

It is important to make sure that rubbish is not accessible to baboons at all stages of the waste storage and collection cycle. Once rubbish has left your kitchen it must be stored in an enclosed structure on your property or in a baboon-proof bin outside until waste collection day. On the day of collection it must be put into a baboon-proof bin and put outside your property. This is a bylaw of the South Peninsula Administration and fines of R1500 are payable for those who do not have a baboon-proof bin. There are a number of options for baboon-proof bins.

1.

You can buy a kit to attach to your black bin from Mica Hardware at Valleyland, Fish Hoek (7821131) for R29.95 or



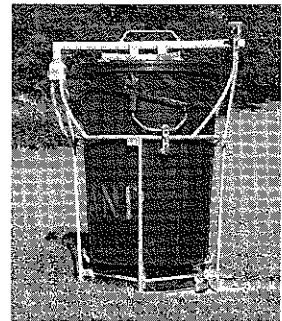
you can buy a new bin including the baboon proof kit for R166.95.

2.

You can buy a Big Jim bin from Pick n' Pay. But you will have to secure the handles with a chain or something that baboons can not bite through. **THE BIN ALONE IS NOT BABOON PROOF**

4.

This bin is attached to the ground. It is available from Paul Bothma at 028-5421123



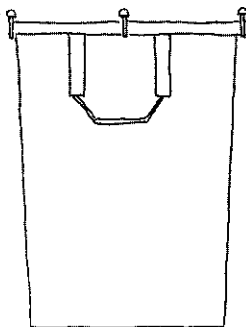
3.

You can build a container at the edge of your property and keep the black bag inside. But make sure it is visible to the waste removal people.

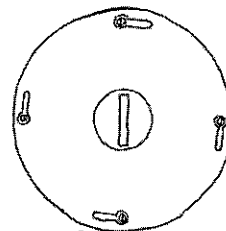
5.

You can make one up yourself. This one was designed by Dave Gaynor (021- 780 1351).

1. Screw into ridge of bin 4 screws at equal distances around the bin. Leave about 1cm of screw protruding.



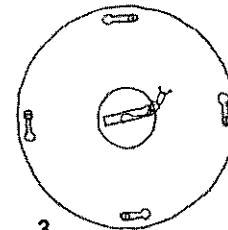
OPEN



2.

Cut into the lid of the bin 4 of the shapes shown in the drawing above. The wide end of the cut must correspond to the position of the 4 screws in the body of the bin.

CLOSED



3.

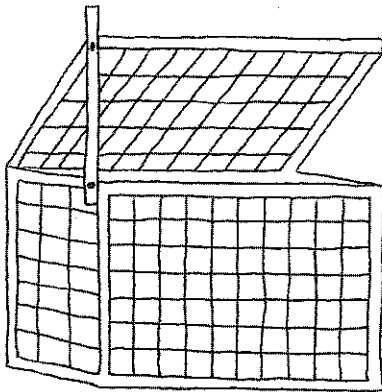
To close the bin turn the lid so that the screws sit in the far end of the cut shape. This is the narrow end of the cut. Baboons should not be able to turn the lid to get the screw in the wide end of the cut shape. But if they do, secure a screw with some wire.

How can one make a baboon-proof compost heap?

There are endless designs for baboon-proofing a compost bin - it just requires some imagination. You could make your bin from scrap pieces of wood, metal or wire, or you could modify commercially made ones. You can also buy ready-made baboon-proof compost bins.

HOME MADE CAGE BIN

Made from a metal frame covered with wire mesh.

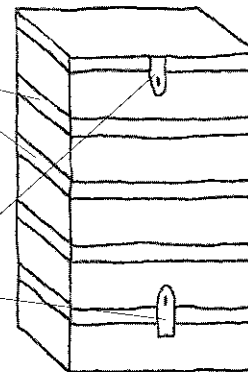


HOME MADE WOODEN BIN

Made from scrap pieces of wooden plank with lid on top to deposit organic waste, and flap at bottom to take out compost.

Gaps between wooden planks for air.

Locks to ensure baboons can't get in.

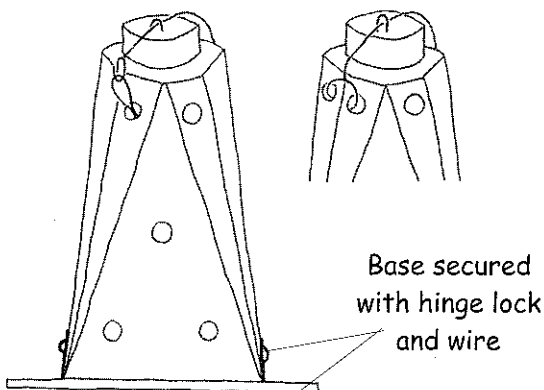


MODIFIED COMMERCIAL BIN

This bin is available from most hardware stores. It is easily modified to become baboon proof by securing the lid with wire. The bottom can be covered with a wood or galvanised sheeting base and secured with various locks.

FRONT

BACK



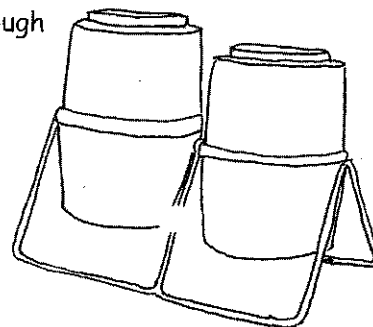
Base secured with hinge lock and wire

THE COMPOST-A LOT

The Compost-A-Lot is a rotating compost heap. Instead of turning compost with a garden fork, one can rotate the Compost-A-Lot barrel to mix and aerate the compost. The regular aeration speeds up the process.

The Compost-A-Lot's has durable PVC barrels secured to a galvanized steel frame and is ideally suited to weather our harsh climate.

For more info and prices contact
Phillip Desmet 021- 7801385 -
Scarborough



What are the best plants to have in a garden so they won't attract baboons?

The best plants are those that occur in the natural surroundings of your area - in this case, fynbos. If your garden is full of plants that are just the same as the ones outside the residential areas, there will be no reason for baboons to come to your garden. Following this line of reasoning, it would be best to have a wide variety of plants and not too many of one type, in case it happens to be a favorite baboon food, like sour figs

(*Carpobrotus edulis*).

For advice on fynbos gardens contact Scarborough Conservation Group:

Philip Desmet - 780 1385 or Nick Helm 780 1420.

For indigenous landscape design there is also:

Good Hope Nursery - Gail & Roger

Indigenous Vegetation Consultancy - Lee

Jones: 780 1327

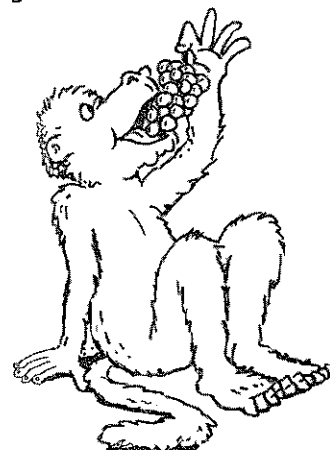


Fruit trees are a massive attraction for baboons. Their natural diet consists largely of fruits, berries, bulbs, roots, shoots and flowers, and humans agricultural experience has resulted in

Do I really have to cut down my fruit trees?

varieties of plants that produce the biggest and sweetest of these. If you were still a hunter-gatherer and you came across a Garden of Eden like this, wouldn't you also stop wandering and settle in Eden? Fig trees are especially attractive because there are many species of wild fig which baboons eat. They are the most common fruit tree in gardens and have a long fruiting season,

but grapes, guavas and loquats are also popular amongst baboons, and are abundant in residential gardens.



What about my vegetable garden?

Many residents have found that it is not worth spending all the effort of a vegetable garden as it just takes one visit by baboons and their veggie patch is destroyed. Although baboon monitors decrease the chances of losing your garden to baboons, they do still manage to get past the monitors sometimes. The other thing to bear in mind is that even if you are lucky and baboons don't come often to your area, your vegetable patch contributes to the overall attraction of baboons to the area.

There is a solution, however. One can build a caged-in vegetable patch or put an electric

fence around it. An electric fence needs to have certain specifications so that the baboons don't get through. There are many stories about baboons and electric fencing such as they don't work because the big baboons push the small ones onto the fence and it shorts the fence so the others can get past. In these cases it is generally because the fence is not constructed specifically for baboons. Electric fencing also works well to protect thatch roofs from baboon damage. For details on electric fencing for baboons contact Dave Gaynor (780 1351). You could also plant fruit trees inside these kinds of structures.

What can I do about having to keep windows and doors closed all the time? It gets stuffy in summer and I feel like a prisoner in my own home.

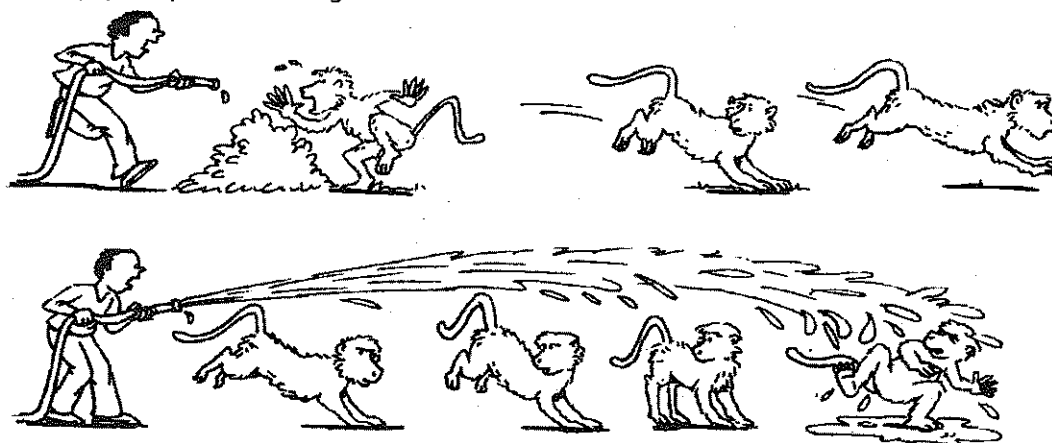


You can keep some windows and doors open if you put bars on them. These can be made up in attractive designs. But be sure to make the spaces between the bars no larger than 8cm to ensure that even small baboons will not be able to squeeze through. If there are other windows which can be secured when they are open these can be fastened at a gap of 8 cm. Sliding doors with handles can also be tied with a chain at a gap of 8cm. Sliding windows with stoppers can be adjusted so that the stopper is at the correct spacing of 8cm.

What is the best way to chase baboons off my property?

The most effective and harmless method is to spray water at baboons with a hosepipe. You can also make loud noises with pots. Some residents have complained that baboons do not run away when they chase them. The less attractive your property is for baboons, the easier it will be to chase them. Baboons are experts at assessing a situation very quickly and deciding how much

effort it is worth to try and get what they want. If you or your neighbor have a yummy fig or loquat tree it will definitely be worth their while to ignore your shouting and screaming for some delicious figs. But if you have little to offer, the baboons are likely to prefer to try the next yard rather than listen to the racket you are making.



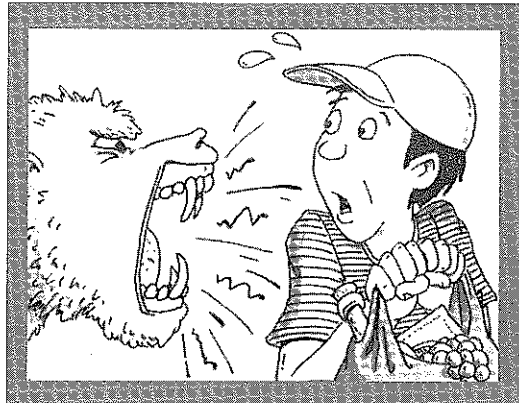
REMEMBER

Baboons are a protected species on the Cape Peninsula and therefore illegal to hunt them. It is considered hunting if you shoot at baboons with a firearm or attempt to harm them. You may also not shoot at them with pellet guns or a catty as these can cause serious injuries and even death. To fire a firearm in a residential area is also illegal.

What should I do if a baboon is in my house?

If you find a baboon inside your house it is important to remain calm. If you panic the baboon may also panic and this could be dangerous. In a panic it will also run around the house causing damage and mess. You should back off slowly identifying the baboon's shortest escape route where it can get away without feeling threatened. Moving slowly, open the door or window for the baboon to escape from. If it is particularly calm and refuses to leave, you can clap your hands or bang on something. If it is eating something, wait until it is finished.

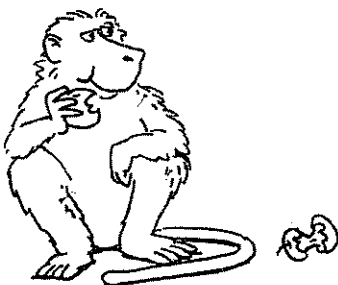
NEVER TRY TO GET FOOD BACK FROM A BABOON



ONCE IT HAS FOOD IT WILL FIGHT TO KEEP IT AND IS DANGEROUS!

Will baboons attack my children and dogs?

In general it is not dangerous for children to play outside but it is important for adults to inform children how to behave when baboons come around. If children are outside when baboons arrive they should quietly get up and calmly walk inside. Adults should not panic and scream and rush the kids inside as this creates unnecessary fear. Children pick up attitudes from parents and if adults panic or are scared, children will become



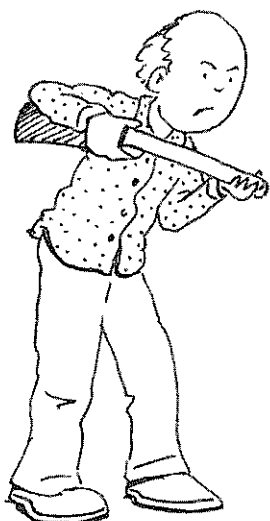
traumatized. If a child has food and a baboon becomes aggressive it is best to leave the food for the baboon. However, if there is no conflict situation, the child should not leave the food for the baboon. It is difficult to make generalizations about baboons and dogs as there have been situations where interactions have been friendly or fatal to both sides. The nature of the interaction basically depends on the nature of the dog. Dog owners should take responsibility for their dog's actions. You should not let your dog chase baboons as it could injure or kill them and if young baboons are threatened the large males

will come to their rescue and may injure or kill your dog. Dog owners who are away during the day should keep the dog in the yard. If they are harmful to baboons the baboons will keep away. If your dog is not aggressive the baboons will not harm it. But be aware that baboons can enter your house through dog and cat flaps.



Am I allowed to shoot baboons if they threaten me?

The chances are you will never have to shoot a baboon in self-defense because you or the baboon would probably not allow yourselves to get into such a situation. Either you or the baboon will back off first. Legally speaking, although baboons are protected on the Peninsula, you would be able to protect yourself in self-defense. The law is similar to those that would apply to an intruder. You are not allowed to shoot at an intruder unless it is in self-defense and you would have to prove this in a court.



Shouldn't one shoot the aggressive baboons?

There is much debate around this issue because there is no simple way to tell when a baboon has become too aggressive. Someone with lots of experience may say a baboon is never so aggressive that it needs to be shot. Others with less experience may say that it needs to be shot if a baboon snarls at them. Baboons are naturally aggressive and males have large canines for use in aggressive interactions in their society because they compete with each other to become the head honcho in the troop. Baboons can get badly or fatally injured when they fight with each other. They have the tools to cause severe damage. But unlike lions baboons are not predators which means they do not kill for a living and do not see humans as prey. Baboons, unlike dogs, have never killed a human. In tourist areas, aggressive baboons who have learnt to steal food from tourists are regularly shot by park authorities because most visitors do not know how to deal with baboons. But other ways need to be found to reduce interactions between baboons and tourists in order to avoid baboons becoming aggressive in the first place.

I always wonder-
is it the teeth or
the breath that
does it?

Why can't we just let baboons come into residential areas? They don't bother me and I like to watch them.

This would be fine if everyone liked baboons and were at home most of the time to make sure they did not cause damage. But not all people are animal-lovers and baboons do cause damage when there is no one to stop them. Although you like baboons, your neighbor might not like baboons and might even shoot at them. By allowing baboons on your property you are exposing them to danger. Research showed that without baboon monitors residents kill baboons at a rate of 1 every month despite baboons being protected on the Cape Peninsula. At this rate the troops would become extinct.

When residents were asked how much they liked baboons we got a wide range of opinions. 20% disliked them,

50% liked them and 30% had neutral feelings to them. But when residents get raided regularly the proportion who dislike them increases to 50%. So the more someone gets raided the less likely they are to be fond of the baboons.

When residents were asked how much of a problem baboons were for their household, 30% had no problem with baboons, 30% had a big problem and 40% had a bit of a problem. The ones that had problems complained about the worry for their children and pets who were often very scared and traumatized by the baboons. Other complaints were that people felt like prisoners in their home as children and pets were unable to go outside when the baboons were around.

Others complained about the damage, mess and nuisance the baboons caused by breaking gutters and household utensils, eating their food and fruit from the trees, scattering rubbish and defecating. They also complained about noise in the neighborhood from barking dogs, people shouting, firing crackers and gunshots at the baboons. When considering the cost of damage caused by baboons, 40% of households had costs which amounted to R60 000 per annum for Kommetjie, Scarborough and De Gama Park together. So even if you like baboons there are many reasons why it is not a good idea for them to come into residential areas - for people and the baboons sake.

Won't baboons cause the extinction of rare plants?

Common plant species form the bulk of baboon foods. There would not be enough food for them if they relied on rare species. If baboons did feed opportunistically on some rare bulbs these would have become extinct long ago, as in the past the numbers of baboons on the Peninsula were far greater than they are presently. No botanist to date can name any plant species under threat from baboons. Some people may think that in areas where baboons get lots of human food there are too many baboons which put pressure on the natural vegetation. Two reasons why this would not be a

problem. Firstly in these areas there will be a lot of conflict with humans which means that there will be a large number of deaths. Secondly, if the baboons are getting lots of human food they will be eating less natural vegetation not more.

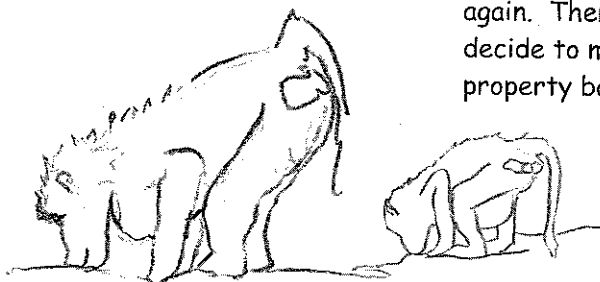


But what use do baboons have anyway. Why do we need them on the peninsula?

All living things have a role to play in the communities which they live in. We do not always know what they are but we must assume that because different components of communities have lived and changed together over millions of years, they have all adapted to each other and are dependent on each other in some way or another. This is the web of life on which all living things depend, including man. We depend on the forests to provide rain and on different plant species to provide food and medicines. We can assume that baboons play an important role for the plants that occur on the peninsula. By feeding on the common plants they may enable the more rare plants to thrive who would otherwise not be able to compete for space. They may act as pruners of plants by harvesting flowers, allowing the remaining ones to produce larger fruit and seeds which will have a better chance of survival. By digging out bulbs and roots they create little holes which accumulate debris. These provide shelter and nutrients for seeds to grow in. They also help seeds disperse by eating fruit and depositing the seeds at another place after they have gone through their gut.

I am a confused resident. I came to live out here to enjoy the peace, quiet and natural beauty. I also came to grow my own food, have fruit trees and recycle my organic waste. But now we are told that we should not do all this or we must keep everything locked up because it attracts baboons. These baboons really are a nuisance!

Let us summarize the situation. There are only 360 baboons on the peninsula and these need to be managed to ensure their survival. Currently, there is too much contact with humans, and this contact inevitably leads to conflict, in which the baboons are the losers. Clearly, managing baboons is no simple task and there are no simple answers to the problems. The management plan needs to be consistent, comprehensive and holistic



and must aim to reduce the amount of food that is easily available to baboons. Each individual's effort in this regard will help a lot. If your garden doesn't provide food for baboons, they will skip your property and go to the next. If there is no food next door they will move on, and eventually out of your suburb, into the next. But because there are so many residential areas on the Peninsula, they will always come back to check again. Therefore, if you decide to make your property baboon-proof it must be permanent. It is up to each one of us to decide to what extent








we are going to go. Baboons are a nuisance but we manage to live with many other nuisances such as rust on our cars, the wind in Cape Town, beggars and invasive film crews. Surely, with baboon monitors to alleviate the problem, we can manage the baboons too. People living in areas where baboons occur need to choose to either manage their property to minimize visits by baboons or to move to an area where baboons do not occur. Ultimately, the willingness to make this choice will determine the future of baboons on the peninsula.

Primates around the world

What are primates and what is happening to them in the rest of the world?

WHAT ARE PRIMATES?

Primates are one of the most ancient mammal lines that have:

-  A shortened snout (therefore less developed sense of smell)
-  Hands and feet with 5 digits
-  An opposable thumb (allowing a precise grip)
-  Nails rather than claws on fingers and toes
-  A large brain relative to their body size
-  A long period of development before and after birth
-  Forward facing eyes that allow binocular vision

WHERE DO MOST PRIMATES LIVE?

The majority of primate types live in tropical rain forests.

Baboons together with vervet monkeys are the exception since they mainly live outside tropical forests in the open savannahs of Africa. It is believed that human ancestors also left the tropical rainforests millions of years ago thus enabling humans to colonize most areas of the planet.

A WEST AFRICAN MONKEY GOES EXTINCT

Miss Waldron's red colobus, is one of about a dozen variations of red colobus monkey, a group with distinctive long limbs and tails and a voracious appetite for the leaves of tropical treetops. For the first time in several centuries, a member of the primate order has become extinct. The last primate extinction documented by science occurred in the early 1700's in Jamaica. The next most recent extinctions occurred in Madagascar in the 1500's, with the loss of several giant lemurs. Biologists say this is just the beginning of what they foresee as a growing stream of extinctions of tropical African primates and other wildlife.

Fragmentation of forests by logging and road building has created isolated islands of animals that are being systematically trapped and shot by hunters supplying the lucrative trade in bush meat, which is flowing to urban restaurants.

What makes the apparent end of this monkey noteworthy, scientists say, is that it was a conspicuous, large mammal weighing up to 20 pounds and also because it was related, though distantly, to the scientists who studied it. With better management of game preserves in Ghana and the Ivory Coast, conservationists believe the monkey could probably have been saved.

GREAT APES STANDING AT ONE MINUTE TO MIDNIGHT

A major international project to save the Great Apes from extinction called the Great Apes Survival Project (GRASP) is being launched by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). The initiative will target key areas in Africa and South East Asia where the clock is standing at one minute to midnight for humankind's closest relative, chimpanzees, Gorillas and Orangutans.

Some experts estimate that in as little as five to ten years they will be extinct across most of their range. There were once more than one million wild chimpanzees in Africa at the beginning of the 1900s but at current rates of decline they could be extinct by 2010. One of the major reasons for their decline in Africa is the rise in commercial trade in bushmeat. Where as in the past they were hunted by local forest inhabitants on a small scale, now wide tracts of virgin forest are being accessed by new roads built by foreign logging companies. Since the animals have never seen humans before they are easy targets and it becomes possible to take out huge amounts of meat which is sold in African and European cities. Many African and Asian governments see logging as an easy way to make money, often to pay back foreign debt.

JAILS FOR NAUGHTY INDIAN MONKEYS

In India primates are considered sacred to Hindus and cannot be killed. Hindu religion associates monkeys with Hanuman, the monkey god, who helped Lord Rama to defeat Ravana, the evil king of what is now Sri Lanka. India is dotted with tens of thousands of Hanuman temples and every Tuesday is reserved for his worship. Food is even left around these temples especially for the monkeys.

But feeding monkeys inevitably leads to problems as we see on the Cape Peninsula. In India aggressive monkeys are locked up in jail. One such place is the Motibagh Bir Zoological Park in Patiala, 350 kilometres north of New Delhi. "All 11 monkeys are hard cases who have been apprehended by game wardens for thieving, terrorizing and biting people," said their jailer, Ram Tirath. "It's unlikely that any of them will ever be paroled." Two monkeys held in Patiala were paroled for "good behaviour" a year ago, Mr. Tirath said, and remain model animals. But the other inmates are too wild and "too bent" ever to make it out of their cramped prison.

From Rahul Bedi The Daily Telegraph New Delhi January 12, 2002

BABOONS IN AFRICAN FOLKLORE

Baboons are the subject of many legends, fairy tales, proverbs and wise sayings in Southern Africa. Some people believe you should never offend a baboon because a baboon never forgets. You should also never throw anything at a baboon because if you miss it will throw the thing back at you. Stories also say that baboons make good cattleherds and will shout and scream if thieves try to steal the cattle. But it was unwise to steal a baby baboon from its mother to keep as a pet as the mother baboon would cast a deadly spell on the thief who's face would erupt in blisters and die a horrible death.

Some tribes have the baboon as their totem animal. If one dreamt about a baboon the dreamer would be protected from all harm and have great success in life. If a girl hears baboons barking in her dreams it means that she is going to be very popular with the men but will marry none. If however she dreams of a baboon swimming across a river it means she will marry soon and have a happy marriage. In many proverbs and sayings baboons are associated with wisdom, cunning, theft, good eyesight, fearlessness and survivors. A common story of the origin of baboons is that they once were a human tribe but due to their laziness they were turned into baboons.

The isiZulu and isiXhosaa word for baboon is imfene and in siSotho it is tshwene. Imfene comes from the verb fana which translates to 'to resemble'. To resemble what? That which resembles a human being.

From Isilwane by Gredo Mutwa, Struik

GELADA BABOONS IN THREAT FROM GLOBAL WARMING

Gelada baboons are one of 5 types of baboons living in Africa. They occur only on the Ethiopian plateau and are unusual because they spend the whole day grazing only on grass. But as farms increasingly eat up grasslands, and the pollutants used by humans raise the earth's temperature, the gelada is increasingly threatened. Their plight can be compared to someone sitting on the roof top and watching the flood waters rise. Primate experts say that temperature shifts may soon destroy the high-altitude "islands of grass" on which the gelada thrive. For each 2 degrees C increase in temperature, the gelada's lower limit for grazing will rise 500 meters. Global temperatures only need to rise a few degrees, and they will be, in effect, lifted off the top of the mountains. *Theropithecus gelada* is the last species remaining of a genus of a terrestrial primate. Experts think they may have lost most of their close relatives to past bouts with global warming. They are the last relic of a great dynasty, barely surviving in the Ethiopian highlands.

LOCAL NEWS UPDATE

FUNDING OF BABOON MONITOR PROJECT

The current funding year is until the end of June. The BMT is currently busy negotiating with the three authorities: Cape Town Unicity, Cape Province and SANP to renew funding for another year. We hope that residents will also continue to support the project with their monthly contributions. See page 40 for details.

BABOON MONITORS ON THE ROADSIDE

Often people complain that the baboon monitors are not doing their job because they see them lying next to the road and the baboons are far away. We understand that this can give the wrong impression. However one does not see when the monitors are hard at work early in the morning when the baboons are near residential areas trying to raid. Also, the monitors have been instructed to be as far away as possible from the baboons when there is no risk of raiding. This is to allow the baboons to carry on with their business as naturally as possible without being disturbed. It also gives the monitors a chance to rest as it can be very tiring following the baboons all day if they are on the move.

When the baboons are near the roadside, the monitors are supposed to slow the cars down or get the baboons off the road. If you see that they are not doing this you can remind them.

BABOONS FEEDING FROM RUBBISH AT SOETWATER PICNIC AREA

Sometimes people complain that they see the baboons eating from the rubbish bins at the picnic site and the monitors aren't trying to stop them. We have instructed the monitors not to bother to try to stop them because it does not achieve anything in the long term. The solution is to have baboon proof rubbish bins. We have tried to get the municipality waste department to do this without much luck. This is something residents can take up and put pressure to remedy the situation.

HAVE YOU BEEN RUDE TO A MONITOR LATELY?

It is not easy being a baboon monitor when baboons do manage to get into residential areas. Not only do you have to deal with baboons all over the place but you have to contend with residents of all types. The monitors report that most residents are nice and helpful but you do get some that are very rude and a hindrance to their work. They either tell you to get off their property or make abusive or racist comments.

PLEASE!

RAINSUITS, RUCKSACKS, CELL PHONES & BINOCULARS

Donations of the above items will be welcome from members of the public. These are needed for the baboon monitors.

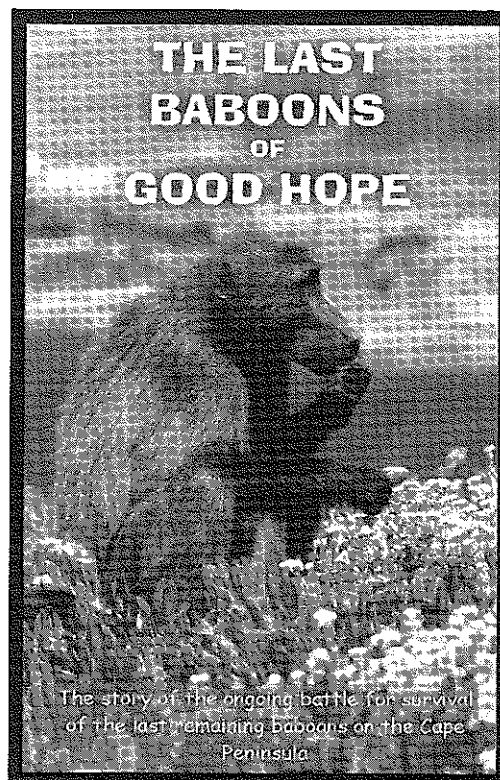
LONE MALES

Lone males are a difficult management issue for the BMT because it is not cost effective to have a baboon monitor for every lone male. These males are very important for the health of the peninsula population because they ensure genetic mixing. We ask residents to be patient and make an effort to tolerate these males. One male in particular is Kalky from the Olifantsbos troop who comes into Scarborough on his own. Sometimes he manages to get past the monitor. It is not easy to keep track of one baboon because its coat color blends in very well with the surrounding vegetation. If a male is visiting your area regularly, please try to make an effort that he does not get any food. If he doesn't get food for a while he will not bother you much. Remember, there are only 15 adult males on the whole peninsula. The baby baboons rely on them for protection.

VIDEO FOR SALE
R100

**All proceeds to
Baboon Management
Team**

Available from
Wally Petersen: 021-7833433
Dean Ferreira: 021-7158081



The baboons of the Cape Peninsula are the original inhabitants of this narrow finger of land at the southern end of the African continent and were here long before the first human settlers arrived. Continued developments on the Cape Flats around Cape Town has effectively isolated them from the rest of their species elsewhere in Africa. As a result frequent clashes between humans and baboons, both primates, are steadily increasing as they compete for the same resources. This film, which took seven years to complete, tells the story of this ongoing battle for survival of the "LAST BABOONS OF GOOD HOPE".

Directed by Paul Morkel sasc

Produced by MADVENTURE FILMS in association with RED PEPPER PICTURES

How you can support the International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW)

Every year, more and more caring people like you are welcomed into the IFAW family. Your support of IFAW expresses your concern for animals and your commitment to ending cruelty to them around the world.

For more than 30 years, IFAW has fought to improve the quality of the lives of animals and their environment. With over 1 million supporters worldwide, IFAW is the largest organisation in the world committed to protecting animals from cruelty, threats and extinction. Our supporters hail from over 70 countries and countless cultures, but they all share an unshakeable commitment to IFAW's mission to further the well-being of

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We are committed to providing our supporters with personalised care and attention and we try to customise your records so that you only receive information that is of interest to you.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns. Your feedback is always welcome and appreciated. Send your comments and questions to:

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Or call us at (021) 424-2086 or e-mail us at info@ifaw.org

Thank you so much for your support and especially for your care and concern for the animals.



IFAW
International Fund
for Animal Welfare

Contribution form Baboon Monitor Project

Name:

Address:

Suburb:

Tel: (H) (W)

Email:

I am able to contribute R per month for years

Please find an amount of R towards this contribution.

Guest Contribution form Baboon Monitor Project

Name:

Address:

Suburb/Town/Country:

Tel: (H) (W)

Email:

I am able to contribute R per month for years

Please find an amount of R towards this contribution.

Payment options

1. You can deposit an envelope into special BMT boxes at the following locations:

Kommetjie:

Post Office Shoppe

Scarborough/Misty Cliffs:

Mickey's Mouse Trap

Sunvalley:

Pick n' Pay - near cigarette counter

De Gama Park/Welcome Glen

Phone 7801124 for details

2. You can post a cheque to:

THE BABOON
MANAGEMENT TEAM

P.O.BOX 308

KOMMETJIE

7976

3. You can deposit directly into the BMT bank account:

KEAG-BABOON FUND

ABSA BANK-FISHOEK

Account No : 907 125 9081

Branch No: 548809

FUNDRAISING NUMBER:088008380005