



Enquiries

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RE: BABOON PROBLEMS WITHIN THE BITOU MUNICIPAL AREA

Dear Resident,

Bitou is currently experiencing pronounced Baboon/human conflict issues within the urban area, which is escalating daily. Baboons are continually testing the boundaries and moving past the wild-urban interface into the residential areas of Plettenberg Bay and Nature's Valley. In Natures Valley in particular there are numerous, daily sightings, an increase in the raiding of bins, and more seriously home invasions which have resulted in damage, children being trapped and traumatised and the potential for serious injury to dogs. This has led to an increasing level of concern from residents about the resulting damage to their property and who feel threatened by the presence of baboons in and in close proximity to their homes.

Baboon Management is not the inherent function of a municipality in an urban area but rather a multi-focal, complex issue that requires working together with numerous spheres of Government. There is no quick fix solution to this issue and due to its complexity, professional and specialized inputs are required. Urgent meetings with the relevant authorities, including Cape Nature and SANParks, are being convened to address this issue as soon as possible. Residents will be informed of proposed plans by the end of August or sooner if in place.

In the interim all residents are urged to consistently implement the recommended baboon-wise management practices as specified in the attached awareness material. Your understanding and continued efforts are greatly appreciated during these difficult times.

Should you require any additional information please do not hesitate to contact this office.

Kindest regards,

Anjé Taljaard
Environmental Management Officer
Bitou Municipality