



CITY OF CAPE TOWN
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Submission number	Para / section / page & Comment	Motivation for amendment / Proposed amendment	Response (accepted / rejected + reason / outcome)
1	<p>Point 10 Clause 20 Paragraph 2.1 Paragraph 2.2 Paragraph 2.3 Paragraph 2.4 Paragraph 2.5 Paragraph 2.6 Paragraph 2.7 Paragraph 2.8 Paragraph 2.9 Paragraph 2.10 Paragraph 2.11 Paragraph 2.12 Paragraph 2.13 Paragraph 2.14 Paragraph 2.15 Paragraph 2.16 Paragraph 2.17 Paragraph 2.18 Paragraph 2.19 Paragraph 2.20 Paragraph 2.21 Paragraph 2.22 Paragraph 2.23 Paragraph 2.24 Paragraph 2.25 Paragraph 2.26 Paragraph 2.27 Paragraph 2.28 Paragraph 2.29 Paragraph 2.30 Paragraph 2.31 Paragraph 2.32 Paragraph 2.33 Paragraph 2.34 Paragraph 2.35 Paragraph 2.36 Paragraph 2.37 Paragraph 2.38 Paragraph 2.39 Paragraph 2.40 Paragraph 2.41 Paragraph 2.42 Paragraph 2.43 Paragraph 2.44 Paragraph 2.45 Paragraph 2.46 Paragraph 2.47 Paragraph 2.48 Paragraph 2.49 Paragraph 2.50 Paragraph 2.51 Paragraph 2.52 Paragraph 2.53 Paragraph 2.54 Paragraph 2.55 Paragraph 2.56 Paragraph 2.57 Paragraph 2.58 Paragraph 2.59 Paragraph 2.60 Paragraph 2.61 Paragraph 2.62 Paragraph 2.63 Paragraph 2.64 Paragraph 2.65 Paragraph 2.66 Paragraph 2.67 Paragraph 2.68 Paragraph 2.69 Paragraph 2.70 Paragraph 2.71 Paragraph 2.72 Paragraph 2.73 Paragraph 2.74 Paragraph 2.75 Paragraph 2.76 Paragraph 2.77 Paragraph 2.78 Paragraph 2.79 Paragraph 2.80 Paragraph 2.81 Paragraph 2.82 Paragraph 2.83 Paragraph 2.84 Paragraph 2.85 Paragraph 2.86 Paragraph 2.87 Paragraph 2.88 Paragraph 2.89 Paragraph 2.90 Paragraph 2.91 Paragraph 2.92 Paragraph 2.93 Paragraph 2.94 Paragraph 2.95 Paragraph 2.96 Paragraph 2.97 Paragraph 2.98 Paragraph 2.99 Paragraph 3.00</p> <p>GENERAL NOTE: SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT OF A RESCUE SITUATION OF WILD ANIMALS WITHIN AN URBAN SUBURBAN AREA SHOULD BE TOLERATED AND IT CONSIDERED AS A RELEVANT ECOSYSTEMIC SERVICE AND CITY BY-LAW. RESCUES SHOULD BE CONSIDERED THROUGH THE LENS OF SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT, INTO RESCUES OF WILD ANIMALS. ALL RISK IS AND SHOULD BE MITIGATED BY A SITUATION BEST WITH THE METRO AND NATIONAL AUTHORITIES, NOT WITH THE RESIDENTS.</p>	<p>The CPBMJTT supports the filming of baboons if the following are in place:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - film crew consists of a maximum of one person per troop. - Only in troops that are already habituated to humans eg. Smitswinkel/ Waterval troops - In specific Troops that are monitored by Baboon monitors. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Only during Baboon monitor hours. - If the 20 meter rule from baboons is adhered to. - If there is a film permit in place from CoCT/ Cape Nature/ San Parks. 	<p>Thank you for your comments.</p> <p>CPBSMP amended.</p> <p>The CPBMJTT will meet bi-annually with the BAG and ad hoc as and when required.</p> <p>The terms of reference for the BAG are attached to the CPBSMP as an annexure.</p> <p>Your comments will be considered for the operational implementation by the CPBMJTT.</p> <p>Your comment has been noted.</p>
2	<p>Page 10: CLAUSE 20: CREATIVE SOLUTIONS 'The CPBMJTT does not support the filming of and/or close interactions with baboons. The CPBMJTT would require clarification on what baboon installations, or a baboon bus is and these is a section in the Strategic Management Plan for these discussions.'</p> <p>Netflix Series</p> <p>We urge you to reconsider this no filming policy.</p>	<p>The CPBMJTT supports the filming of baboons if the following are in place:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - film crew consists of a maximum of one person per troop. - Only in troops that are already habituated to humans eg. Smitswinkel/ Waterval troops - In specific Troops that are monitored by Baboon monitors. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Only during Baboon monitor hours. - If the 20 meter rule from baboons is adhered to. - If there is a film permit in place from CoCT/ Cape Nature/ San Parks. 	<p>Thank you for your comments.</p> <p>The CPBMJTT will consider management interventions that align with the objectives of maintaining a wild sustainable baboon population and are feasible in an urban environment through approved protocols and methods.</p> <p>Also note that the CPBMJTT does not support close interactions or the habituation of baboons due</p>



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	<p>To make a Netflix documentary would involve one camera operator moving with the troop carrying a small camera. They would be involved in the same way with the baboons as volunteers holding flags or the baboon monitors.</p> <p>Being in closer than this proximity will not be required. The camera will have a long lens so being far away will be fine. Another option to film them could be to only film from a vehicle or have strategically placed cameras with no people manning them.</p> <p>Documenting/filming the baboon situation at present has several benefits:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. protect baboons from people's bad behavior towards them as seeing a camera will make people more respectful and nervous to throw stones or shoot at baboons or feed them. 2. provide footage for research into how baboons are breaking into homes, what they are eating in the towns, as well as in the mountains, their social structures in the troop 3. attract more tourists to Cape Town to see the baboons 4. educate people how to behave around Baboons 5. potential to change people's perceptions and behavior towards baboons and climate change 		<p>to the negative consequences this has for baboon behaviour and human baboon interactions.</p>



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	<p>6. They should be on the top list of why people visit Cape Town. Like the penguins, a documentary should be seen as marketing for tourism.</p>		
	<p>Baboon Bus</p> <p>The Virtual Reality Baboon Bus is an installation that moves around the Cape Peninsula in order for the local and international population to fully engage with the human wildlife conflict around the peninsula.</p> <p>The VR Baboon Bus experience will educate people on how to behave if a baboon comes into close contact with you and to give people an opportunity to see themselves from a baboon's point of view. And to feel what it feels like to be part of a cohesive troop and to show us what impact the baboons have on the biodiversity of the Cape.</p> <p>The bus can be used in the Sanparks que to educate guests at high season, at schools, the beach, the Waterfront and other places of interest.</p> <p>It would be a travelling interactive information center.</p>		<p>CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>The CPBMJTT does not support the filming of and/or close interactions with baboons. The CPBMJTT would require clarification on what baboon installations, or a baboon bus is and there is a section in the CPBSMP for these discussions.</p> <p>Your proposal will be considered in the implementation of the CPBSMP.</p>
	<p>Baboon Installations</p> <p>This is an annual 2 weeklong pop-up festival to extend Cape Town's tourist season. This could happen in the month of May after the summer tourist season.</p>		<p>CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>As mentioned earlier, note that the CPBMJTT does not support the filming of and/or close interactions with baboons. The CPBMJTT would require clarification on what baboon installations, or a baboon bus is and there is</p>



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	<p>The inaugural festival/exhibition occurred in May 2022 in Smitswinkelbay</p> <p>(Baboon art exhibitions, comedy shows about baboons as well as music that help to elevate the status of baboons)</p>		<p>a section in the CPBSMP for these discussions.</p>
3	<p>Thank you to all involved for the huge effort.</p> <p>I think the draft is very comprehensive and I can see that much thought, and lots of hard work and time has gone into putting it together.</p> <p>There are many wide ranging activities, and it is clear that the intention is to collaborate with residents and several interested and affected parties.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The SPCA should be involved as they could be very helpful. 2. The front page says 'to be reviewed in 2028/29' which I feel is way too long a time to correct any issues discovered. A strategic plan should be reviewed much more regularly than that. 3. There do not appear to be any immediate or short term actions to assist the baboons with additional or alternate food sources or longer term actions that will improve their food supply, within their current habitat, such as perhaps planting more things that will provide food for them in the future. 		<p>Thank you for your comment.</p> <p>1.8.1 of the CPBSMP includes the investigation of a Grant-in-Aid to support the wellbeing of sick and injured baboons.</p> <p>The CPBMJTT recognises the CoGH SPCA as a key governance stakeholder that will oversee all welfare aspects and have engaged with the COGH SPCA to formalise this relationship.</p> <p>The CPBSMP reflects that the City is investigating a Grant-in-Aid for Wildlife.</p> <p>Additional/artificial feeding will result in an increase in population growth.</p> <p>Artificial feeding results in increased internal troop aggression and has negative impacts on troop behaviour.</p> <p>Artificial feeding increases close interactions and/or the habituation of baboons that</p>



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			<p>has long term negative impacts on baboon troops.</p> <p>Artificial feeding has knock on effects for other wildlife and can promote disease spread.</p> <p>Thus, the CPBMJTT does not support the feeding of baboons as this is not an ecologically sustainable solution for the reasons mentioned above.</p>
4	<p>Outcome 2.2 page 14</p> <p>Definition of "hunting" is not relevant</p>	<p>Property/ business owners must be allowed within clear bounds, to deter baboons</p>	<p>Thank you for your comment.</p> <p>The CPBMJTT encourages residents and business owners to protect their private property from baboons in a sustainable and ethical manner.</p> <p>"Hunting" in the context of this section of the CPBSMP and permits extended by CapeNature has a much wider meaning. It can relate to any wilful interference of a wild animal and would include the use of paintball markers for example.</p>
5	<p>2.</p> <p>Transition period</p>	<p>Extend the current ranger programme with a new 3 year contract that enables the service provider to recruit trained personnel and retain experienced rangers.</p>	<p>Thank you for your comments.</p> <p>The current Urban Baboon Programme funded by the City of Cape Town has been extended for a period of 18 months until the end of</p>



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South African
NATIONAL PARKS



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			December 2024 to allow for a transition period while the new CPBSMP is implemented. Future ranger/monitoring options have been included in the CPBSMP as a possible management intervention.
	3. Monitor/ranger programme	(Short term): As above. (Medium term): continue the ranger programme, to include baboon splinter groups forming new troops and the additional rangers to manage those troops.	CPBSMP not amended. As previously mentioned, the current Urban Baboon Programme funded by the City of Cape Town has been extended for a period of 18 months until the end of December 2024 to allow for a transition period while the new CPBSMP is implemented. Future ranger/monitoring options have been included in the CPBSMP as a possible management intervention.
	4. Population management	1. Contraception. 2. Sterilisation. Never death.	CPBSMP not amended. CPBMJTT will consider management interventions that are scientifically validated and align with the objectives of maintaining a wild sustainable baboon population and which are feasible in an urban environment. The proposal for contraception and sterilisation has been included in the CPBSMP for further investigation.



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	<p>5. Reserve for the baboons</p>	<p>(Long term): Fence off the south peninsula TMNP and create a sanctuary. Monetise it by constructing restaurants, conference facilities, lodges, day passes, hiking, etc.</p>	<p>CPBSMP not amended. The Cape Peninsula already has a national park and TMNP is a declared world heritage site. While strategic fences are possible in certain areas, it will not enclose the whole park due to fragmented nature of the landscape and the Park being an open access public park.</p>
	<p>7. Removal of baboons</p>	<p>No baboons should be removed unless they face euthanasia, in which case they should be relocated as a last resort. The last resort should never be willful death to a baboon. Enact a moratorium on the killing of baboons and classify them as a protected species. Outlaw the use of all low-calibre weapons.</p>	<p>CPBSMP not amended. The CPBMJTT will consider management interventions that are scientifically validated and align with the objectives of maintaining a wild sustainable baboon population and which are feasible in an urban environment. Baboons are a protected species (along with most indigenous fauna) and require a permit from CapeNature to be hunted.</p>
	<p>8. Early warning system</p>	<p>Provide the rangers with whistles to alert residents when baboons are in their area. Create community WhatsApp groups</p>	<p>CPBSMP not amended. This has been included in the CPBSMP. Please refer to: <i>3.2 Resident communities, businesses and landowners form citizen partnerships such as Watches, Community Volunteer Groups /</i></p>



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			<i>neighbourhood watches, support groups, and WhatsApp groups (could assist as early warning)</i>
	<p>9. Education and awareness</p>	Educate all school students and contiguous communities.	<p>CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>Education and awareness programmes are the focus of Outcome 5 of the CPBSMP.</p>
	<p>10. CCT line functions</p>	1. Increase the signage. 2. Reduce the speed limit. 3. Implement traffic calming speed bumps.	<p>This has been included in the CPBSMP.</p> <p>Please refer to:</p> <p><i>“6.2 Appropriate road markings and signage are installed on CCT roads.”</i></p> <p>And,</p> <p><i>“6.3 The CPBMJTT to engage with the SANavy, WCG and private road owners with regard to road signage and traffic calming.”</i></p>
	<p>13. Corridors and feeding stations</p>	Create strategic corridors for specific troops. Provide feeding stations to keep baboons out of urban edges and supply them with water, especially during the late summer months.	<p>CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>Additional/artificial feeding will result in an increase in population growth.</p> <p>Artificial feeding results in increased internal troop aggression and has negative impacts on troop behaviour.</p> <p>Artificial feeding increases close interactions and/or the habituation of baboons that has long term negative impacts on baboon troops.</p>



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			<p>Artificial feeding has knock on effects for other wildlife and can promote disease spread.</p> <p>Thus, the CPBMJTT does not support the feeding of baboons as this is not an ecologically sustainable solution for the reasons mentioned above.</p>
6	<p>Please find below my comment regarding the Baboon management draft proposal:</p> <p>Please continue to employ a full contingent of Baboon Monitors, not a skeleton or reduced staff.</p> <p>Residents are in FULL support the NCC contract being rolled over or re-assigned for at least the next 3 years</p> <p>Residents cannot, for safety and security reasons, be expected to protect themselves or their properties from baboons</p> <p>Baboons in urban areas need protection</p> <p>Waste collection: prioritise baboon prone areas on waste collection days</p>		<p>Thank you for your comment.</p> <p>CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>To mitigate human-wildlife conflict successfully and holistically, communities need to be engaged and activated to participate in the solutions for their areas.</p> <p>The CPBMJTT encourages residents to protect their private property from baboons in a sustainable and ethical manner.</p> <p>The current Urban Baboon Programme funded by the City of Cape Town has been extended for a period of 18 months until the end of December 2024 to allow for a transition period while the new CPBSMP is implemented. Future ranger/monitoring options have been included in the</p>



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	<p>Tamper Proof bins: issue ASAP to baboon prone communities (we have requested many times over the 17 years we have lived here and always been denied)</p> <p>The Slangkop troop spend the majority of their time in Sunnydale and not in Kommetjie as is incorrectly believed by authorities</p> <p>Sunnydale is not mentioned in the document – this must be amended with accurate allocations of baboon visitations highlighted</p> <p>The document contains insufficient information on the erection of the fences, the control of the fences and the financing of the fences. Therefore, it is impossible for the public to make informed decisions around fencing. Public meetings will need to be held affording proper engagement.</p> <p>The exact role of the communities is also not clear. Therefore, it is impossible to agree to involvement when one is not sure what that entails</p>		<p>CPBSMP as a possible management intervention.</p> <p>Gravity-lock bins have been rolled out in some baboon-affected areas. The process of rolling out baboon-proof bins in baboon-affected areas is ongoing.</p> <p>The CPBSMP is a strategic level plan between the three relevant authorities: SANParks, CapeNature and the City of Cape Town. Operational plans developed in conjunction with relevant stakeholders and local communities, with actions, budgets and timeframes, will be developed by the CPBMJTT subsequently.</p>



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	<p>Control of wild animals is not the responsibility of residents who are neither trained nor in authority</p> <p>Matters such as seeding and water points are supported if environmentalists and scientific data supports this route</p>		
7	<p>However, the current programme is not sustainable due to the growth of the baboon population, and the reduced effectiveness of baboon aversion techniques.</p> <p>“the reduced effectiveness of baboon aversion techniques” refers.</p> <p>This comment relates to extensive experiences (observation and interaction) of baboon management with the Smitswinkel troop. The ONLY method of effective baboon control is baboon monitors. This despite the recent trend to dismiss this method as ineffective , as the SMP itself does. The critical factor in determining effectiveness is the quality of the service provider (baboon monitor). Having directly experienced the “effectiveness” last 15 years of baboon monitoring of the Smitswinkel troop on a daily basis a clear distinction of time periods has been evident:</p> <p>Pre-Human Wildlife Solutions period: Baboon raiding and interaction was moderate but knowing the risks enabled residents to plan and design homes accordingly to limit adverse incidents.</p>	<p>Fundamental correction in accuracy of information required.</p>	<p>Thank you for your comment.</p> <p>CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>Note that the current Urban Baboon Programme funded by the City of Cape Town has been extended for a period of 18 months until the end of December 2024 to allow for a transition period while the new CPBSMP is implemented. Future ranger/monitoring options have been included in the CPBSMP as a possible management intervention.</p>



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	<p>HWS Period: This was by far the most successful and effective period of baboon control experienced over the last 15 year period. The management and implementation were obviously superior to any other baboon monitoring service provider and baboon incidents experienced were almost zero. This period was so effective as to allow for the planting and harvesting of vegetables and fruit trees. It proved that baboon monitoring implemented by a competent service provider is the most cost-effective method of environmentally-friendly baboon management. Baboons were very seldom even seen near the urban area.</p> <p>NCC Period: The onset of the NCC contract was marked with an immediate and dramatic deterioration in baboon movement control and negative baboon interactions have persisted since the first day of the NCC contract. Many nonsense excuses have been offered by apologist parties including that the baboon troop dynamics changed. This is nonsense. Daily observations of the NCC monitors reveals that they are (generally) uncommitted, ineffective, poorly managed and frankly lazy. Unlike HWC there is zero effort to restrict the troop to the area south of Rocklands and which would require that the monitors climb the side of the mountain and herd the baboons in that direction (as the HWS monitors used to do). Vegetable gardens established during the HWC phase were immediately</p>		



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	<p>destroyed through baboon raiding. It is inaccurate to attribute baboon monitoring as a failed management technique based upon the NCC period of management (as is being done by the ST Civic Association and other authorities who favour the fence proposal). As a ratepayer it is offensive to be burdened with the costs of ineffective baboon monitors – and it would be equally offensive to be burdened with the costs of a fence. (P.S. I have nothing personal against NCC)</p>		
	<p>However, the current programme is not sustainable due to the growth of the baboon population, and the reduced effectiveness of baboon aversion techniques.</p> <p>This statement is significantly inaccurate. See comment above and elsewhere. “Reduced effectiveness” of subject baboon aversion techniques is direct function of the service provider rather than the technique itself.</p>	<p>Fundamental correction in accuracy of information required. Applies to the draft SMP itself.</p>	<p>CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>As mentioned earlier, please be advised that the current Urban Baboon Programme funded by the City of Cape Town has been extended for a period of 18 months until the end of December 2024 to allow for a transition period while the new CPBSMP is implemented. Future ranger/monitoring options have been included in the CPBSMP as a possible management intervention.</p>
	<p>Further comment:</p> <p>I feel privileged to share my local habitat with all of nature, including baboons.</p> <p>The draft Strategic Management Plan (SMP) is a fundamentally biased document and proposed approach which sets out upon a particular course of action seemingly according</p>		<p>CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>The CPBMJTT will consider management interventions that are scientifically validated and align with the objectives of maintaining a wild sustainable baboon population and which are feasible in an urban environment.</p>



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	<p>to the views of certain parties whom seem to be guided by certain agendas and motivations which seek to absolve themselves of proper responsibility for management (and associated costs!) of baboon troops which are part of the overall ecosystem to which the urban areas of Cape Town are tied. It is fundamentally important to acknowledge that the TMNP is an unfenced (except for the tradition Cape Point Reserve section) NP and it was always envisaged to be so since its planning in the 1990s. It is therefore contrary to the principles that were established through mediated negotiation with the residents of Cape Town in the early days of the Park's planning to now propose segregation of urban and natural areas through hard barriers such as strategic fences as well as to propose extreme and unacceptable measures such as removal of troops from any part of the peninsula so as to appease humanities appetite for development and lazy comfort.</p> <p><u>Fencing proposal:</u></p> <p>I have lived on the Mountainside boundary of the NP in Murdoch Valley for 15 years. Our experience with the Smitswinkel Troop is extensive over this period (I work from home and my office window fronts on to the mountain interface). The mountainside and its views are not the "back" of my property and are equal in all regards to the stunning seaside views from my property. The unique, unspoilt mountainside location of my property</p>		<p>Strategically placed fencing has been proposed as a viable solution by experts as an aspect in sustainable management of baboons on the Cape Peninsula. It is one of the most successful measures to mitigate human-wildlife conflict in South Africa and in the world. In the context of Table Mountain National Park and the urban environment, its application will be area and community specific.</p> <p>The CPBMJTT is exploring proposed strategic fencing in appropriate areas as an option and will consider the ease of implementation, funding mechanisms, effect on wildlife, environment, operation requirements, maintenance etc. to ensure feasibility.</p> <p>Furthermore, to mitigate human-wildlife conflict successfully and holistically, communities need to be engaged and activated to participate in the solutions for their areas.</p> <p>The CPBMJTT encourages residents to protect their private property from baboons in a sustainable and ethical manner.</p>



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	<p>is the very reason for having bought this property originally – unrestricted mountain access, biodiversity proximity and aesthetic considerations being key issues. It is therefore greatly concerning to hear of supported and well-advanced proposals for a strategic fence to be installed (presumably on the mountainside <u>in front</u> of our house). There is a prevailing attitude amongst key parties that the mountainside is the “back” of the suburb and it is therefore acceptable to permit degradation through large and no doubt unsightly fencing and other infrastructure (such as cellphone masts). This is wrong! In acknowledgement of this fact I have in fact approved plans for an intended deck to our property which would look out onto the dramatic mountainside. There are many other residents and broad-minded folk who are of a similar favourable predisposition towards the unspoilt visual integrity of the mountainside which would be unquestionably polluted through the implementation of a fence.</p> <p>Furthermore, the significant ecological damages caused by fencing (all kinds!) are well established fact in conservation. They obstruct ecological flows and fragment habitat and landscape. The fencing proposal flies in the face of ecological principles and best practice and is irresponsible. It appears to be a “quick fix” solution that is favoured by certain parties whose interests are not directly attached to the affected local area and it is ill-considered and irresponsible as the</p>		



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	<p>full ecological risks are unknown. We note that certain prominent conservationists have also raised this same point of concern. It is also fundamentally contradictory to the guiding principle of the “<i>Management policy</i>” for the “<i>Cape Peninsula National Park Integrated Environmental Management System</i>” (SANPs; 2000) which states:</p> <p>“Precaution: <i>Where there may be a threat of significant negative impact but inadequate or inconclusive scientific evidence exists to prove this, action shall be taken to avoid , prevent or minimize the potential impact”</i></p> <p>In other words the precautionary principle must be invoked and we suggest that there is little to no proper understanding of what the overall ecological and environmental impacts of such a fence could be. The motivated drive by the Simon’s Town Civic Association (of which the commentor is a member) for the fence is based on their own narrow commercial interests and is frankly uninformed and unrepresentative of all residents and even its own members. The “Bell-Pottinger” type strategy and concerted efforts being adopted certain parties (including the relevant authorities it appears) in terming the fence a “common good” initiative is intentionally misleading, unrepresentative and somewhat arrogant.</p> <p>It is particularly offensive for it to be suggested that , as one of the</p>		



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	<p>residents who stand to be most negatively impacted by the fence proposal (notwithstanding the threat to the environment itself), I must contribute payments towards a strategic fence which will undoubtedly devalue my property and enjoyment thereof, as well as damage the functioning ecosystem, on the basis of the misleading information (that baboon monitoring is not effective etc) being disseminated through organizational and personal agendas (commercial and financial interests and the comfort of some residents).</p> <p>It would appear too that the relevant authorities (SANP, COCT, CN), having finally accepted their responsibility towards management for the peninsula's baboon troops now view the proposed strategic fence as a useful, low budget, passive management option of baboon management, especially given that certain organizations like STCA are promoting it as a suitable option and which would be funded by residents (not the authorities) through additional taxes. The burden of management and associated costs lies correctly with the authorities and it always has (much like they have willingly co-opted management of the penguins but only since they are "money-spinners").</p> <p>In conclusion the SMP requires fundamental revision or better still, discardment. The solution has already been tried and tested successfully (at least with the Smitswinkel troop) when</p>		



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	<p>the HWS baboon monitoring service proved beyond doubt that baboon monitoring can be a cost-effective and successful management technique IF the service provider is committed and dedicated.</p> <p>This comment and objection is submitted in my capacity as a resident living on the urban-Park interface and in my professional capacity as a conservation biologist/ zoologist.</p>		
8	<p>Pg. 11 Outcome 4: “Effective waste management in the natural, rural and urban areas ensures that baboons are unable to access human derived foods”</p> <p>1.1 overall The population should be counted once a year.</p> <p>1.3 overall Does translocation include on and off of the Peninsula?</p>	<p>Waste management does not ensure baboons do not have access to human derived foods, only to waste. The wording of this outcome differs from the wording on page 17, which is accurate.</p> <p>A population census has been conducted annually for over a decade. The frequency of population monitoring should be kept to an annual basis for population trend analysis, particularly in light of changes to management. The size and stability of the population is, and will continue to be, a key indicator of their sustainability.</p> <p>Genetic health is a pivotal component of any sustainable population. The BSMP is a ten-year plan and must take genetic flow in the Peninsula population into account.</p>	<p>Thank you for your comment. CPBSMP appropriately amended.</p> <p>Changed the wording of Outcome 4 on page 11 to match page 17: <i>“Effective waste management in the natural, rural and urban areas ensures that baboons are unable to access waste”</i></p> <p>CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>Your proposal will be considered by the CPBMJTT</p> <p>Translocation for the purpose of population control (as referred to in the CPBSMP) of baboons away from the Peninsula is very problematic and viable receptor sites are extremely limited or non-existent. It can thus not be proposed as a sustainable strategic baboon management option.</p>



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			Your point on genetic integrity is noted for further consideration in the implementation of the CPBSMP.
	<p>1.4 overall</p> <p>Will the JTT have the final say over what management strategies/actions will be implemented in specific communities?</p>	<p>The public are not and should not be considered experts in wildlife management. They cannot be responsible for making decisions that will impact an entire population of baboons or fellow residents of Cape Town.</p>	<p>CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>To mitigate human-wildlife conflict successfully and holistically, communities need to be engaged and activated to participate in the solutions for their areas.</p>
	<p>Overall</p> <p>Many of the estimated timeframes within the BSMP are vague and there is no discussion of a phased approach towards the new plan(s).</p>	<p>Adequate service provision must be in place until a new plan(s) is rolled out to prevent an inevitable crisis involving significant risk to baboons and residents.</p>	<p>The current Urban Baboon Programme funded by the City of Cape Town has been extended for a period of 18 months until the end of December 2024 to allow for a transition period while the new CPBSMP is implemented. Future ranger/monitoring options have been included in the CPBSMP as a possible management intervention.</p> <p>The CPBSMP is a strategic level plan. Operational plans developed in conjunction with relevant stakeholders and local communities, with actions and timeframes, will be developed by the CPBMJTT subsequently.</p>
9	<p>1 Preamble, second paragraph</p> <p>An often repeated statement is that the current programme is “not sustainable”. There is little or no explanation as to why this is or what it means. CoCT has been very silent on this matter.</p>	<p>Provide or reference publicly available information as to why it is unsustainable If population growth is a major factor then surely this should be a fundamental and immediate area of focus. No amount of rangers or fencing is going to solve a population growth issue – it will always be a losing battle.</p>	<p>Thank you for your comments. CPBSMP amended.</p> <p>Please see the outputs of Outcome 1 in Table 1.</p>



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	<p>This paragraph implies that it is purely due to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the growth of the population. • the reduced effectiveness of baboon aversion Techniques <p>“baboon aversion techniques” is a general term that needs specific detail as to what these are and how they are “less successful” (compared to what).</p> <p>Are these metrics reliably monitored and reported.</p> <p>The only visible baboon aversion technique (at least to the public) are the rangers and there is a clear opinion amongst the “engaged public” (ie those that actually experience baboons) that the NCC Ranger programme is highly successful and a significant improvement on the previous rangers, despite facing additional limitations.</p> <p>This means that the only visible “baboon aversion technique” is in fact more successful than previously – not less.</p>	<p>“Baboon aversion techniques” is a very loose term. Please define / elaborate or reference a document that does so comprehensively in the Cape Peninsula context.</p> <p>If there are other factors, please publish immediately or reference publicly available information.</p> <p>This is a problem that affects many people and organisations beyond just the JTT three. By withholding information the CoCT and JTT are limiting the potential for innovative ideas and assistance beyond the JTT three. This could include financial assistance.</p> <p>It seems that there is a need for supporting information to be referenced and publicly available</p>	<p>1.1 <i>The Peninsula baboon population is monitored</i></p> <p>1.2 <i>The carrying capacity for baboons on the Cape Peninsula is established, based on the available foraging ranges and management regime</i></p> <p>1.3 <i>Population control methods are investigated and implemented where appropriate, including removal (euthanasia, culling and translocation), contraception and sterilization</i></p> <p>Carrying capacity in terms of wildlife and ecology is very difficult and complex to determine, and additionally very sensitive to change.</p> <p>The CPBMJTT notes that the baboon population on the Cape Peninsula may have exceeded the <i>carrying capacity for specific troops</i>, but not necessarily for all troops.</p> <p>Each troop needs to be evaluated to give a current and as best possible estimate as possible of what the landscape can potentially carry in terms of baboons.</p>



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			<p>The CPBMJTT will consider management interventions that are scientifically validated and align with the objectives of maintaining a wild sustainable baboon population and which are feasible in an urban environment.</p> <p>The current Urban Baboon Programme funded by the City of Cape Town has been extended for a period of 18 months until the end of December 2024 to allow for a transition period while the new CPBSMP is implemented. Future ranger/monitoring options have been included in the CPBSMP as a possible management intervention.</p>
	<p>1 – Preamble, paragraph2, last sentence.</p> <p>The term "sustainable baboon management" is not defined.</p> <p>This causes concern as there can be multiple meanings. This is especially important as it is the stated goal of the JTT, but nowhere is it defined.</p> <p>This relates to the previous point about there being no defined method of understanding how the current situation is "unsustainable".</p>	<p>The document should lead with a clear unambiguous definition of "sustainable baboon management" as per the intention of the JTT.</p> <p>This should be a simple statement or list of measurable goals based on conservation best practice and scientific principles. In turn this logically references or drives the outcomes section.</p> <p>For example : "sustainable baboon management" means:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - monitoring and maintaining a baboon population that does not exceed the carrying capacity of the area allocated to their habitation – based on best available research - define/sate the carrying capacity and the area covered - working towards ensuring that the baboon population in the peninsula is an exclusively wild baboon population - recognise that baboon human interaction should be kept to a 	<p>Your comment is accepted. CPBSMP appropriately amended.</p>



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	<p>There were repeated calls for clarity on this point at the meeting on 3rd March 2023.</p>	<p>minimum to ensure an exclusively wild baboon population - make every reasonable effort to limit, manage and minimise any baboon human interaction in a humane and respectful manner that facilitates a positive ongoing coexistence - state the metrics required to monitor and achieve this goal and publish and take responsibility for this - recognise the stakeholders in this process and define how they can be represented - maintain an open and transparent process as to finances, activities and decision making</p>	
	<p>1 Preamble – last paragraph</p> <p>The last paragraph does not provide any information as to the active steps that have been followed and achieved thus far.</p> <p>Not least the signing of the Memorandum of Agreement – which should have been done by now – according to the information provided at the meeting on 3 March 2023</p>	<p>Expand the paragraph to include a table of current and future high-level actions and summary of current status. This should be publicly available information.</p> <p>There has been no visible release of information. Please release regular statements of action. This is a serious matter that has the potential to affect the wider citizens of Cape Town if daily management is not maintained.</p> <p>Without a stated roadmap and dates there is no accountability. Please provide information and commit to open access to information and accountability to the citizens of Cape Town</p>	<p>CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>The MoA has been signed by all three authorities. The MoA and the reviewed final CPBSMP will be made publicly available. The MoA and CPBMSP were initiated as simultaneous processes.. The draft CPBSMP was sent for comment during this period in order to have a final version available as soon as the MoA was agreed and signed and ensure that the process remained respectful of timelines.</p>
	<p>2 Glossary</p> <p>The specific definition of “wild baboon population” is misleading by potential implicit omissions of other types of “baboon populations”.</p> <p>While the term “wild baboon population” is only used twice in the document and in the same context – the heading to outcome 1.</p> <p>The term “baboon population” is used 21 times. The context does vary, but</p>	<p>Include definitions of each of the variants of “baboon population” as used in the document to dispel creating confusion</p> <p>State clearly that the outcome is to have only a wild baboon population in the cape peninsula with no instance of an urban baboon population (which is now happening).</p> <p>State clearly that the intent of the JTT is to ensure that the boundaries between baboon inhabited areas are clearly delineated and sustainably and proactively enforced and managed with the intention of achieving an exclusively wild baboon population in the peninsula.</p>	<p>CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>The primary outcome of the CPBSMP is to have a wild baboon population that is sustainably managed and conserved on the Cape Peninsula. This will be achieved by encouraging baboons to remain in natural areas and reducing human–baboon conflict.</p>



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	<p>this highlights why the omission of the other variants is worrying.</p> <p>There appears (from the comments in the 3 March 2023 meeting) that there is a clear public concern that the JTT is attempting to exclude responsibility for baboons which can no longer be considered “wild” within the definition provided.</p>		
	<p>3 – Introduction numbered point 2</p> <p>This alludes to the “constraints” on the “full set of aversion tools and methods”.</p> <p>Little information is provided or references about these constraints and the tools that were available as opposed to the tools now available.</p> <p>Statistics/figures are provided but with insufficient context, this renders them meaningless.</p> <p>For example, “reduction to 14%” - from what? 16%? This is not a statistically relevant difference.</p> <p>Further the increase in the population over the time period and the decrease in available space to the baboons must also be provided for these numbers to be relevant.</p> <p>If the available non-urbanised area for baboons to inhabit has reduced by 20% and the population of baboons has grown by 50% then there is a high probability that there would be an increase in human induced fatalities, irrespective of the tools available – especially given the</p>	<p>Define the “constraints”</p> <p>Contrast the “full set” vs the current set of aversion techniques by comparative list.</p>	<p>CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>The CPBSMP is a strategic level plan. Operational plans developed in conjunction with relevant stakeholders, the current service provider (NCC), and local communities, with actions and timeframes, will be developed by the CPBMJTT subsequently.</p>



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	<p>already stated porous nature of the boundaries of the non-urbanised area available to baboons.</p> <p>3 - Introduction – numbered points or a separate section.</p> <p>No mention is made of the ranger programme – both in its current incarnation as well as the earlier incarnation.</p> <p>This is vitally important as despite the claimed failures include the history of the ranger programme. Contrast the tools and limitations available to the two providers and their approaches and limitations the current rangers programme provides a service to the public and the baboons that is far wider in scope and thus more globally effective than a simple tactical approach through a well-co-ordinated, academically informed and dynamic strategic approach to the situation. This is undoubtedly thanks to the extra efforts of the current provider NCC that go beyond the basic scope of the rangers.</p> <p>There is a clear failure to recognise that the current incarnation of the ranger programme and the organisation that provides it (NCC) has near universal respect within the communities, despite disparate and significantly polarised viewpoints on baboons. This was abundantly clear at the 3rd March 2023 meeting.</p> <p>This is an impressive achievement and it is clear that a vital function is being</p>	<p>Acknowledge that that there is a valuable function being performed by NCC and a knowledge-base and skillset that is unique and specialised and recognise that there is no successful way forward in the short and medium term at the very least without engaging NCC.</p> <p>Incorporate the learning, approach, skills and knowledge that NCC provides to ensure stability and continuity of management while the JTT and its SBMP get started. Logically this has to be something that is reviewed in a similar review cycle to the SBMP itself.</p> <p>Establish performance metrics for any engagement agreement with a third party provider and publish the results regularly.</p>	<p>CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>Your proposal is noted and will be considered in the implementation of the CPBSMP by the CPBMJTT.</p> <p>As mentioned above, the current Urban Baboon Programme funded by the City of Cape Town has been extended for a period of 18 months until the end of December 2024 to allow for a transition period while the new CPBSMP is implemented. Future ranger/monitoring options have been included in the CPBSMP as a possible management intervention.</p> <p>Please note that the performance of the current programme is available online in the form of the service provider's monthly reports. These monthly reports are published on both the City's and NCC's website (please see links below to access these). During the transitional period of 18 months, these monthly reports will continue to be compiled and published online.</p>



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	<p>performed by NCC beyond a simple ranger programme</p> <p>The CoCT and the SBMP seem to wilfully be ignoring the value of NCC's approach. The overwhelming recognition, trust and respect that NCC has achieved within and amongst quite diverse communities is nothing short of incredibly impressive.</p> <p>The lack of will to recognise the value brought by NCC and their role as a key player implies a clear agenda or political will to ignore and sideline this very successful aspect of Baboon-Human Conflict Management.</p> <p>Unless this is recognised – and NCC involved at very least in the initial years of the SBMP - it is unlikely that the JTT will achieve recognition and buy-in from the communities affected - which is fundamental to the ongoing success of any baboon-human strategy.</p>		<p>https://www.capetown.gov.za/local%20and%20communities/nature-and-the-community/our-natural-city/focus-on-baboons</p> <p>https://ncc-group.co.za/urban-baboon-programme/</p>
	<p>4 Mandates and governance – paragraphs 1 and 2</p> <p>The information in this section implies that SANparks and Cape Nature were only formed by recent legislation. To the best of my ability to search the internet, SANparks was formed in 1926 and CapeNature in 1999.</p>	<p>Correct the information</p>	<p>CPBSMP not amended</p> <p>Information relayed in the CPBSMP is correct.</p>
	<p>5 – Approach to the sustainable management / table 1 / point 2 – Transitional Period</p> <p>CPBMJTT Response of “CCT is investigating this proposal”</p>	<p>CoCT and CPBMJTT need to urgently engage on this matter as a separate activity and a priority. Before any other action.</p> <p>CPBMJTT needs to urgently commit to the public a date driven transition plan that secures the immediate requirement of an ongoing ranger program. With no loss of service.</p> <p>This information needs to be published and public and monitored.</p>	<p>CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>The CPBMJTT was initiated after the round table held by Minister Creecy on the 7th of June 2023. The CPBMJTT comprises representatives of South African National</p>



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	<p>The status of "investigating" with only 3 months remaining is unacceptable.</p> <p>Surely once the MoA is signed, this becomes more than just the remit of the CoCT – it passes to the CPBMJTT.</p> <p>Irrespective, it is abundantly clear that the stated timelines are too late to implement a transitional plan. This should have been an already agreed-upon item</p> <p>The CPBMP (when looking at the timelines stated) is months if not years away from full functioning.</p> <p>A Transition Plan cannot start at the termination of the current programme. It must be contracted and be in place before the end of the contract.</p> <p>The CoCT and now the CPBMJTT appears to be conducting a strategy of letting disaster unfold in order to step back into the void</p> <p>The sudden cessation of the ranger programme will result in a massive increase in Baboon-Human conflict incidents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • more incidences of conflict • increased baboon injuries and fatalities • increased baboon habituation to the human environment – more problem animals • baboons will move deeper into the city resulting in significant increase in conflict zones, greater area to bring back under control 	<p>There need to be documented mitigation strategies that can be triggered should there be a drop in performance levels from the current level.</p> <p>Given the timescales involved, it is unimaginable that any provider other than NCC can fulfil the transitional roll in the near future.</p> <p>The performance of the current programme needs to be made public and any future ranger programme needs to be held to the same standard</p>	<p>Parks, CapeNature and the City of Cape Town. The CPBSMP is a strategic level plan between the three relevant authorities: SANParks, CapeNature and the City of Cape Town. Operational plans developed in conjunction with relevant stakeholders and local communities, with actions, budgets and timeframes, will be developed by the CPBMJTT subsequently.</p> <p>As mentioned above, the current Urban Baboon Programme funded by the City of Cape Town has been extended for a period of 18 months until the end of December 2024 to allow for a transition period while the new CPBSMP is implemented. Future ranger/monitoring options have been included in the CPBSMP as a possible management intervention.</p> <p>Your point regarding documented mitigation strategies will be presented and considered by the CPBMJTT for the implementation of the CPBSMP.</p> <p>As mentioned above, please note that the performance of the current Urban Baboon</p>



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	<p>Further the will be a</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • loss of key skills and resources • loss of management momentum • loss of respect and public / community buy in <p>The damage to the city's reputation as a niche issue becomes a mainstream one, not to mention magnified potential financial consequences including legal consequences, loss of revenue (lower property values), and public dissatisfaction to name a few.</p> <p>It is likely that the costs will be significantly greater than the cost of maintaining the program.</p>		<p>Programme is available online in the form of the service provider's monthly reports. These monthly reports are published on both the City's and NCC's website (please see links below to access these). During the transitional period of 18 months, these monthly reports will continue to be compiled and published online.</p> <p>https://www.capetown.gov.za/local%20and%20communities/nature-and-the-community/our-natural-city/focus-on-baboons</p> <p>https://hcc-group.co.za/urban-baboon-programme/</p>
	<p>Section 5 – Approach to the sustainable management / table 1 / point 3</p> <p>The CPBMJTT response of : “Future ranger/monitoring options have been included in the Strategic Management Plan.”</p> <p>This inclusion is not immediately apparent, certainly not as a single coherent subject to be considered.</p> <p>The plan includes items such as (1.1, 1.4, 1.6, 1.7, 3.3.1, 3.4.1, 5.2.1, 5.4.2, 5.4.3) all of these are already covered by either the specific ranger programme of by the actions of NCC</p>	<p>Include the requirement for a ranger programme in the CPBMP and document its functioning.</p> <p>Learn from and engage with the current service provider (NCC) who has been incredibly successful in understanding, recruiting, training and engaging their strategy.</p> <p>The success of NCC is clearly visible in the consensus of their importance by all who have engaged with baboons and NCC. This is repeated community after community.</p>	<p>CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>Please see:</p> <p><i>“3.3 The establishment of Special Rating Areas and other mechanisms is investigated in order to secure and manage community resources for the purposes of baboon monitoring and management as well as strategic fences”</i></p> <p>Your proposal is noted and will be considered in the implementation of the CPBSMP by the CPBMJTT.</p>



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	<p>who provides the programme in a single coherent operation.</p> <p>The implication is that the proposed plan is starting from scratch and losing the operational intelligence, processes and skills that are already in place.</p> <p>It is illogical to completely ignore established practices and start anew.</p>		<p>As mentioned above, the current Urban Baboon Programme funded by the City of Cape Town has been extended for a period of 18 months until the end of December 2024 to allow for a transition period while the new CPBSMP is implemented. Future ranger/monitoring options have been included in the CPBSMP as a possible management intervention.</p> <p>The CPBSMP is a strategic level plan. Operational plans developed in conjunction with relevant stakeholders, the current service provider (NCC), and local communities, with actions and timeframes, will be developed by the CPBMJTT subsequently.</p>
	<p>Section 5 – General comment</p> <p>There are several responses stating "This has been included in the Strategic Management Plan."</p> <p>However the relevant proposal is either missing or difficult to find.</p>	<p>Properly reference the section where each of these proposals that is claimed to be captured has actually been captured.</p>	<p>CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>The responses to the comments received will be published, including those accepted and the amendment made.</p>
	<p>Section 7 Outcome 1 (also section 8 Outcome 1)</p> <p>The statement is ambiguous within the current context. This makes no mention of non-wild (urban) baboon populations which are already appearing. As per #4</p>	<p>Expand the Outcome to something like:</p> <p>Outcome 1 : A wild baboon population that is sustainably managed and conserved on the Cape Peninsula; with no instance of any urban baboon population, and minimised baboon-public interaction</p>	<p>CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>Please see the output of Outcome 1:</p> <p><i>"1.4 Management strategies / actions are identified and formulated in partnership with</i></p>



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	<p>expand your definition to better describe the intended outcome.</p> <p>Section 7 – Outcome 2 (also section 8 Outcome 2)</p> <p>This is ambiguous as to whether it will be joint or several responsibility. The current situation of silo'ed responsibility is not practicable nor sustainable and this clause needs to guide the homogenisation unified enforcement and compliance responsibilities.</p> <p>Enforcement bodies in each scope need to understand the protocols and interactions.</p>	<p>Proposed enhancement :</p> <p>Authorities at national, provincial and local level provide for a SINGLE, HOMOGENISED regulatory requirements and the promotion of CONSISTENT and JOINT compliance and law enforcement BOTH WITHIN AND ACCROSS JURISDICTIONS.</p> <p>The simplest way to do this is an JTT overseen operational centre which can guide on-the ground enforcement representatives. This simplifies the information dissemination and training required. The only requirement is that when faced with baboons – contact the JTT support and co-ordination centre.</p>	<p><i>communities to keep baboons out of urban areas”</i></p> <p>CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>The draft CPBSMP was sent for comment during this period in order to have a final version available as soon as the MoA was agreed and signed and ensure that the process remained respectful of timelines.</p> <p>Please see:</p> <p><i>“2.1 Applicable laws and bylaws and the relevant responsible authorities and contact details are clearly documented and available to stakeholders”</i></p> <p>Your proposal will be considered in the implementation of the CPBSMP.</p>
	<p>Section 7 Outcome 3 and Outcome 5 (also section 8 Outcome 3 and 5)</p> <p>The existing ranger programme and the organisation running it is already doing this very successfully outside of their strict mandated remit.</p> <p>There has been a significant improvement in positive public engagement by NCC than with previous entities tasked with this ranger programme. Certainly CoCT has been</p>	<p>NCC provides an existing invaluable resource that already has a wealth of experience, knowledge and goodwill in this area.</p> <p>To give the JTT lead strategy the maximum benefit from the outset, the JTT needs to urgently engage with NCC both to enable faster achievement of these outcomes (stakeholder engagement and communication) as well as provide continuity and in the longer term handover to the structures the JTT puts in place.</p>	<p>CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>As mentioned above,</p> <p>The CPBSMP is a strategic level plan. Operational plans developed in conjunction with relevant stakeholders, the current service provider (NCC), and local communities, with actions and timeframes, will be developed by the CPBMJTT subsequently.</p>



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	<p>woefully inadequate with communications.</p> <p>In the month since preparing this response I have spoken with a variety of people both who have and have not engaged with baboons. If there is any recognition of the baboon management programme, it has always been NCC that has been recognised.</p> <p>A break in continuity of the ranger programme will jeopardise the Outcome 3 A continuation of the ranger programme establishes outcome 3 from the start.</p> <p>NCC is already trying to provide Outcome 5</p> <p>In summary NCC provides an invaluable resource that is already on the ground and achieving these outcomes. They have a wealth of experience and knowledge and understanding of both strategic and tactical best practices.</p>		<p>As mentioned above, the current Urban Baboon Programme funded by the City of Cape Town has been extended for a period of 18 months until the end of December 2024 to allow for a transition period while the new CPBSMP is implemented. Future ranger/monitoring options have been included in the CPBSMP as a possible management intervention.</p> <p>With regards to communications going forward, please refer to Table 1, section 5.1: A media strategy and approval protocol is to be implemented by the CPBMJTT.</p>
	<p>Section 8 – Implementation – General</p> <p>At no point in the document is/are the word(s) “open”, “transparent” or “transparency” or similar wording used.</p> <p>The JTT needs to acknowledge that they are all public service organisations on top their respective remits.</p> <p>Public engagement, participation and simple good governance practices will engage and earn respect for the JTT and the BSMP.</p>	<p>JTT should include specific wording in the BSMP surrounding transparency and commitment to good governance practice - establishing this as a goal. And an outcome in and of itself.</p>	<p>CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>Stakeholder communication on all aspects of baboon management for residents, business and tourists is included as Outcome 5 of the CPBSMP.</p>



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	<p>Fundamentals of good and successful government require openness and transparency. This builds trust promotes understanding.</p> <p>Note: this does not mean public engagements and mass democratic rule. It just means making the meetings and proceedings available to the public and allowing feedback processes.</p>		
	<p>Section 8 – Implementation – General feedback Feeds into Section 7 Outcomes.</p> <p>The timescales indicated do not provide for sufficient time for the BSMP to become fully operational before the end of he current CoCT sponsored operations.</p> <p>There is already slippage happening in the signing of the MoA, this indicates further risk.</p> <p>The BSMP does address the concept of a “transitional period” but it seems to be unaware of the timescales or urgency. This is generating fear, uncertainty and doubt in the public and is already undermining the legitimacy of the BSMP.</p> <p>While this may appear to be an operational issue, it is still a strategic one.</p> <p>Without an immediate strategic plan which is actioned quickly, all of the outcomes identified will be come significantly harder to achieve.</p>	<p>The JTT and BSMP needs to publicly commit immediately to a transitional period management strategy, including a body to manage the operation.</p> <p>Given the short timescales involved it is not unreasonable to make this a reasonably fluid activity with short review cycles.</p> <p>The management of this needs to be removed from the CoCT and passed to the JTT – most probably managed by a committee of known stakeholders who understand and have experienced the historical and current issues and reporting to the JTT.</p> <p>The setting up of this operational body is an urgent strategic action for the JTT to commit to.</p> <p>The natural logical first step would seem to be an extension of the current ranger program, and regular reviews to guide the creation of a suitable longer term operation that is sustainable within the auspices of SBMP as it develops.</p> <p>This ensures the stability of the current situation, allays public fears and allows the JTT to create a managed transition incorporating existing best practices and knowledge to build a long term sustainable operation.</p> <p>As with earlier suggestions it is vital that this process is open and transparent.</p>	<p>CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>The current Urban Baboon Programme funded by the City of Cape Town has been extended for a period of 18 months until the end of December 2024 to allow for a transition period while the new CPBSMP is implemented. Future ranger/monitoring options have been included in the CPBSMP as a possible management intervention.</p> <p>Please refer to section 9.2, page 21 of the draft CPBSMP:</p> <p><i>"The CPBMJTT will establish the Cape Peninsula Joint Baboon Operational Team (CPJBOT) comprising members of all three parties to the MoA in order to facilitate participation in decision making in terms of applicable laws on operational matters."</i></p>



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			<p>The MoA has been signed by all three authorities. The MoA and the reviewed final CPBSMP will be made publicly available.</p> <p>The most appropriate management interventions for each area will be developed in conjunction with stakeholders, the BAG, and local communities.</p>
	<p>Section 8 – Implementation – Table 1 – point 1.3.1</p> <p>Include in the investigation the reintroduction of natural baboon predators that also belong in the same ecosystem.</p> <p>The Cape Leopard is the only animal that I am aware of that fits this description.</p> <p>Its smaller size and timid nature make it a reasonably safe candidate. And re-establishes the apex predator in the region.</p> <p>There are equivalent cases - such as the mountain lion in Los Angeles - which show that this is not an entirely unfeasible concept.</p> <p>If this works, it will be a significantly more palatable means of managing population control for public consumption.</p>	<p>Investigate / initiate / sponsor the introduction of the Cape Leopard back onto the peninsula.</p> <p>This could start in cape point with an individual that is being rehabilitated and is being monitored / tracked. This would allow for public safety considerations to be somewhat mitigated.</p>	<p>CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>The CPBMJTT does not support the proposal of introducing predators as this can be very problematic in an urban environment and was therefore not included in the CPBSMP.</p>
	<p>Section 8 – 1.2, feeds into 1.3 and 1.5</p>	<p>Identify clear immutable areas that are suitable for baboon habitation and containment. These must be hard-defined boundaries that cannot be exceeded by urban encroachment.</p>	<p>CPBSMP not amended.</p>



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	<p>The issue here is that while suitable areas are identified, there is no provision in the BSMP to ensure that the boundaries are fixed.</p> <p>One of the fundamental problems is that the encroachment of urban areas onto historically open land is bringing the boundaries of the urban environment closer and shrinking the available space for baboons. Combine this with proximity to humans and the resulting population increase from exposure to human food and the issue is clearly not just one of unmanaged baboon populations but also unmanaged urban expansion.</p> <p>Until a defined immutable area is defined as immutable, there will always be a risk of urban encroachment which will add to the pressure on the JTT's task.</p> <p>Once this physical land is identified, can most of the activities outlined to achieve a sustainable population commence. actually commence and be successful. This includes calculating carrying capacity, fencing planning, targetting areas for strategic engagement.</p>		<p>Your proposal would partially be achieved through the erection of strategic fencing.</p> <p>Strategically placed fencing has been proposed as a viable solution by experts as an aspect in sustainable management of baboons on the Cape Peninsula. It is one of the most successful measures to mitigate human-wildlife conflict in South Africa and in the world. In the context of Table Mountain National Park and the urban environment, its application will be area and community specific.</p> <p>The CPBMJTT will further explore proposed strategic fencing in appropriate areas as an option and will consider the effect on wildlife, environment, operational requirements, maintenance etc. to ensure long term viability.</p>
	<p>Section 8 – 3.1 AND section 9.3</p> <p>The plan refers to exclusively engaging with community organisations.</p> <p>Many community organisations are polarised or have specific agendas. They often represent only a small part</p>	<p>Any involvement or invitation for community representatives needs to also allow for non-aligned individuals to be nominated and stand.</p> <p>This means engaging all known individuals who have participated and not just community groups.</p> <p>This is especially true for the BAG.</p>	<p>CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>The CPBMJTT will engage with communities in a transparent formal manner through The BAG. The BAG that in terms of the CPBSMP, "comprises nominated representatives</p>



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	<p>of the community. (This is often true for rate payers associations as an example).</p> <p>Thus to limit engagement in this way is lazy targetting as it excludes engaged individuals who do not align with these groups for good reasons, yet may have valuable input themselves.</p>		<p><i>of recognised community groups, such as Ratepayers Associations, advocacy groups and research institutions".</i></p> <p>The CPBMJTT will meet bi-annually with the BAG and ad hoc as and when required.</p> <p>The terms of reference for the BAG are attached to the CPBSMP as an annexure.</p>
	<p>Section 10 – monitoring, evaluation, reporting and review.</p> <p>This paragraph excludes any information relating to this process using good governance principles, including open sharing of the inputs and outcomes of these meetings.</p> <p>The CoCT has been notoriously opaque in their information sharing and this has only bred suspicion and courted frustration and anger.</p> <p>Baboon-Human Conflict management is not a top secret military operation. It is for the benefit of the baboons and the public. To conduct any activities in secret is unacceptable.</p> <p>While public engagement in these review meetings is probably not feasible, this is not the same as making the content and inputs available to the public, even if through dedicated managed channels. This is vital to encouraging public understanding and buy-in.</p>	<p>Make the content and inputs of these review and reporting sessions available to the public, even if through dedicated managed channels.</p> <p>This must be done timeously (within days of any meeting).</p> <p>At the very least if the information is not directly available, the channels for access should be clearly publicised.</p>	<p>CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>As mentioned above, please refer to Table 1, section 5.1: A media strategy and approval protocol is to be implemented by the CPBMJTT.</p>



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	<p>At the very least any stakeholder representatives must have access to this information.</p> <p>Section 9.3 – the BAG</p> <p>Annual meetings of the BAG are not sufficient or appropriate. These should happen at least as often as the processes identified in Section 10</p> <p>A single BAG is not likely to be sufficient. Each area affected by baboons has their own issues. Each area should have their own BAG (if supported) and the BAG should comprise representatives from the sub BAGs.</p> <p>Section 11 – Stakeholder engagement</p> <p>Despite the existing Stakeholder engagement actions, these opportunities for engagement are still not widely enough known by the general public.</p> <p>Often engaged stakeholders discover these processes by word of mouth.</p>	<p>Have at least quarterly BAG and sub BAG meetings. These should align and receive input from the feedback cycle in section 10.</p> <p>Have a (sub)BAG per area or per troop that has a Human-baboon conflict zone.</p> <p>Better public communication is needed. Starting with engaging all people who have attended these stakeholder sessions.</p>	<p>Comment accepted. CPBSMP appropriately amended.</p> <p>The CPBMJTT will meet bi-annually with the BAG and ad hoc as and when required.</p> <p>The terms of reference for the BAG are attached to the CPBSMP as an annexure.</p> <p>The BAG, in terms of the CPBSMP, “comprises nominated representatives of recognised community groups, such as Ratepayers Associations, advocacy groups and research institutions”.</p> <p>CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>Your point is noted for the operational implementation of the CPBSMP.</p> <p>As mentioned above in response to your earlier comments, please refer to Table 1, section 5.1: A media strategy and approval protocol is to be implemented by the CPBMJTT.</p>
10	<u>The Baboon saga.</u>		Thank you for your comments. CPBSMP not amended.



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	<p>Fundamental queries to address iro the Baboon and Security fence:-</p> <p>Kruger Park 19,485 km2 88 times the size of the TMNP. Funds to construction keep the fence in repair come from the National Treasury, which is in turn funded by the taxpayer. TM National Park 221 km2 is one 88th the size of the KNP yet we in the Western Cape, unlike the KNP around half of this small area, is surrounded by sea.</p> <p>Yet we are assailed by the observation that somehow we cannot "afford fencing" even in the very limited perimeter where residents are severely affected by baboon pressure. It is noted that ca 16 million rand is/has been spent by Council annually in ongoing "baboon management". This sum would go far in achieving long term barriers against baboon encroachment. This is especially true giving the declining prices of new high tech fencing!</p> <p>Fencing aims to:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Keep potentially troublesome and/or threatened animals within and 2. To exclude potentially destructive humanity including poachers and other criminals including those who use such natural area as a springboard for committing house breaking and similar crimes. (Although technically speaking the latter point does not related to baboons per se but fencing would certainly help curry favour with the communities living at the 'the coal face'. 		<p>Strategically placed fencing has been proposed as a viable solution by experts as an aspect in sustainable management of baboons on the Cape Peninsula. It is one of the most successful measures to mitigate human-wildlife conflict in South Africa and in the world. In the context of Table Mountain National Park and the urban environment, its application will be area and community specific.</p> <p>CPBMJTT will further explore proposed strategic fencing in appropriate areas as an option and will consider the effect on wildlife, funding mechanisms, environment, operational requirements, maintenance etc. to ensure long term viability.</p> <p>The CPBMJTT will consider management interventions that are scientifically validated and align with the objectives of maintaining a wild sustainable baboon population and which are feasible in an urban environment.</p>



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	<p>Thus in summary cannot SAN Parks do honour their commitment in the same way as they do in National Parks to the north of us. Apparently we lost a court battle in this respect... a while back. At least it looks that we are belatedly "mending the fences in this regard".</p> <p>Who paid for the quite extensive security fence around Wynberg Park? This would, I believe work pretty well to exclude baboons (with minor modifications). Furthermore I would say that Swaanswyk have set an incorrect precedent in paying higher rates in achieving its mainly successful separation from the local community. I contend that it is the State who should be responsible for protection and fencing etc of National Assets. The best that we as the abutting public should do is provide (repayable) loan capital to said State so as to expedite appropriate barriers.</p> <p>I also question the politics of the matter... We need to take the matter up with Mr Steenhuizen in order to revisit our lack of participation of Treasury in providing adequate fencing where needed around our modest National Park. At an end of year speech our Mayor quite correctly indicated that our Table Mountain National Park notched up far greater revenues than most other equivalents in the Western Cape (plus vicinity, especially within the Karoo and other semi desert zones.). Surely this adds significant traction to overhauling the perimeter infrastructure at the TMNP?</p>		



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	<p>The argument posed against fencing as restricting egress by human visitors and blockage of cross migration by semi sessile being like tortoises and similar can be addressed through inputs by specialists which are available, admittedly by some additional consultation outlays.</p>		
11	<p>The entire document is tenuous and impractical.</p> <p>The Cape Peninsula Draft Baboon Management Document is merely a draft of vague, academic proposals and plans that require long-term investigations before any action can be taken. There are no specific plans and the timelines are unspecified, suggesting ongoing discussion and planning over years. This situation is untenable.</p> <p>Urgent action needs to be taken NOW to protect residents in suburbs such as Murdock Valley, Simon's Town, from regular invasions by ever-increasing numbers of baboons and the destructive intrusions into homes by these wild animals. More than two years ago, it was strongly suggested by Murdock Valley residents that a sterilisation programme be initiated made over two years ago – and if they had been implemented at the time, the population explosion within the baboon population would not have occurred and created the large-scale problem that now exists with ever-growing troops making almost daily forays into residential suburbs and homes.</p> <p>The safety of residents of these</p>		<p>Thank you for your comments. CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>The CPBSMP is a strategic level plan between the three relevant authorities: SANParks, CapeNature and the City of Cape Town. Operational plans developed in conjunction with relevant stakeholders and local communities, with actions, budgets and timeframes, will be developed by the CPBMJTT subsequently. Each authority needs to however devise internal planning on how it will fit in with internal strategic plans and budgeting to fulfil the commitments in this CPBSMP.</p> <p>The CPBMJTT encourages residents to protect their private property from baboons in a sustainable and ethical manner. The onus of protecting private property from damage lies on the owner.</p>



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	<p>baboon targeted suburbs is crucial.</p> <p>But so is the safety of the baboons themselves. They have given up their natural lifestyle of foraging on the mountains above and beyond the coastal suburbs of Simon's Town to find easy, unnatural and therefore unhealthy pickings through invasion of suburban homes. Some residents have become so angry that they are resorting to violent means to protect their homes from the baboons. The baboons natural home is on the mountains that are under the auspices of SANParks. So SANParks must resolve this situation urgently.</p> <p>For the sake of the baboons <u>and</u> the human residents, there is an urgent need NOW for action to be taken for a sterilization programme within the current marauding troops – and their relocation to a natural park far from the now-known temptations of human civilization.</p>		<p>The proposal for contraception and sterilisation has been included in the CPBSMP for further investigation.</p>
12	<p>1.1</p>	<p>The count (census) must include age & sex classes so that demographic changes can be tracked, recruitment monitored and growth rate for troops determined.</p>	<p>Thank you for your comments.</p> <p>CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>The proposal will be considered in the implementation of the CPBSMP.</p>
	<p>1.1</p> <p>Causes of mortality should be recorded where possible.</p>	<p>Mortality & Growth rates should be considered together when assessing population dynamics. Causes of mortality useful for monitoring increase/decrease in urban conflict, success/failure of interventions at a troop level.</p>	<p>CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>The proposal will be considered in the implementation of the CPBSMP.</p>



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	<p style="text-align: center;">1.3</p> <p>1.3.1 The existing Guidelines and in particular the Damage Causing Baboon Guideline, which considers when euthanasia is an appropriate control measure, were developed with input from ALL stakeholders. In the last 2 years the Guidelines have NOT been implemented to the detriment of the welfare and conservation status of the baboon population</p>	<p>Euthanasia is a sensitive but necessary intervention but importantly:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The cause of the development of negative behaviour in the animal must be removed e.g. Closure of picnic sites in CoGH. BUT many causes of bad behaviour have not been removed e.g. bad refuse management at the Naval barracks. This is not fair on baboons. 2. Important with euthanasia that ALL authorities agree on the decision, support each other and do not get swayed by politician / interest groups. Better with sensitive conservation interventions that a collective decision is made by the mandated authority. 	<p>Section 10 of the CPBSMP provides that the CPBMJTT will report on annual basis. CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>Please see the outputs in Table 1:</p> <p><i>“Outcome 6: Infrastructure and services are designed and operated to minimise impacts on baboons”</i></p> <p>And:</p> <p><i>“1.6 Protocols are developed, communicated and implemented for dealing with aggressive and dangerous individual baboons, dispersing, raiding, troop splintering”</i></p> <p>The CPBMJTT will only consider management interventions that align with the objectives of maintaining a wild sustainable baboon population and are feasible in an urban environment through approved protocols and methods.</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">1.3.1</p> <p>Contraception & sterilisation are current and acceptable method for population control but in primates although used mostly in captive populations.</p>	<p>Important that SanParks & CN drive this. Immediate contraception & sterilisation intervention appropriate for specific individuals e.g. sterilisation of old females or vasectomy of old males. The CP population is ideal for a PhD research project on contraception in free ranging primates. Approach an appropriate institute for funding.</p>	<p>CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>The proposal for contraception and sterilisation has been included in the CPBSMP for further investigation.</p>



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	<p>1.6 and 1.7 Existing Guidelines developed with input from ALL stakeholders.</p>	<p>But, important for the success of the BSMP to Review and Revise these with stakeholders where necessary.</p>	<p>CPBSMP not amended. Please see the following section in the CPBSMP: "10. Monitoring, evaluation, reporting and review"</p>
	<p>Outcome 4</p>	<p>Engagement with & buy in from communities is crucial .</p>	<p>CPBSMP not amended. To mitigate human-wildlife conflict successfully and holistically, communities need to be engaged and activated to participate in the solutions for their areas.</p>
	<p>Outcome 7</p>	<p>The BSMP should make recommendations at the troop level using historical data on counts, mortality and range use.</p>	<p>CPBSMP not amended. The most appropriate management interventions for each area will be developed in conjunction with stakeholders, the BAG, and local communities. The CPBSMP is a strategic level plan. Operational plans developed in conjunction with relevant stakeholders and local communities, with actions and timeframes, will be developed by the CPBMJTT subsequently.</p>
<p>13</p>	<p>p.3 Glossary Hunt This definition will not stand up in court. As per the current definition, a number of other activities are also defined as hunting, such as bird watching.</p>	<p>Should be redefined.</p>	<p>CPBSMP not amended. "Hunting" in the context of this section of the CPBSMP and permits extended by CapeNature has a much wider meaning. It can relate to any wilful interference of a wild animal and would</p>



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	<p>p.8 Table 1 (3)</p> <p>The monitor program has been ineffective. Monitors are poorly trained and prefer to have the baboons in town so that they can be in town as well. They have been observed chasing the baboons from the mountain into Kommetjie</p>	<p>End the monitoring program and empower local communities with a vested interest to manage their own community through training and licensing.</p>	<p>include the use of paintball markers for example. CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>Please see:</p> <p><i>3.3 The establishment of Special Rating Areas and other mechanisms is investigated in order to secure and manage community resources for the purposes of baboon monitoring and management as well as strategic fences</i></p> <p>And:</p> <p><i>“3.4 Support citizen partnerships by means of permits, advice and oversight”</i></p>
	<p>p.8 Table 1 (7)</p> <p>If current carrying capacity of the Peninsula is exceeded, the removal of one troop will simply lead to the area being taken over by another troop, or splinter troop. The baboo population will decrease as soon as they are kept from human waste by more effective means.</p>	<p>No removal.</p>	<p>CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>Translocation of baboons away from the Peninsula is very problematic and viable receptor sites are extremely limited or non-existent. It can thus not be proposed as a sustainable strategic baboon management option.</p> <p>Your comment is noted for the operational implementation of the CPBSMP.</p>
	<p>p.9 Table 1 (13)</p> <p>Sanparks, Cape Nature, City of Cape Town, Law Enforcement, SAPS, Metro, etc do not currently have the willingness or ability to manage the areas under their purview. This</p>	<p>Let local communities manage corridors.</p>	<p>CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p><i>3.3 The establishment of Special Rating Areas and other mechanisms is investigated in order to secure and manage community resources for the</i></p>



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	<p>includes TMNP and Cape Point. The unfettered poaching, both on land and sea is testament to this inability. How will they manage any additional corridors? Add to that the small game hunting currently carried out by members of Ocean view community with their dogs. This is a major contributing factor for he baboons no longer wanting to stay on the mountain.</p>		<p><i>purposes of baboon monitoring and management as well as strategic fences</i></p> <p>And:</p> <p><i>“3.4 Support citizen partnerships by means of permits, advice and oversight”</i></p>
	<p>p.9 Table 1 (16)</p> <p>See previous comment.</p>		<p>CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>Please see previous response.</p>
	<p>p.10 Table 1 (18)</p> <p>Cape Point's bins are not baboon proof. The baboons are not managed there and any Saturday, Sunday or public holiday is feast time for baboons at Buffels Bay and Bordjiesrif.</p>	<p>Educate Sanparks and Cape Nature first.</p>	<p>CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>Please see the outputs in Table 1:</p> <p>“Outcome 6: Infrastructure and services are designed and operated to minimise impacts on baboons”</p>
	<p>p.11 6. Purpose</p> <p>The fact that the purpose focuses only on sustainable management of baboons, and not the protection of local residents and their property, is what frustrates a lot of people. If more of a attention was paid to the damages, dangers and issues plaguing residents, they may be more amenable to working with authorities.</p>	<p>Should read: Ensuring the safety and security of residents, their properties and businesses of the Cape Peninsula, through the sustainable management of the baboon population.</p>	<p>CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>The primary outcome of the CPBSMP is to have a wild baboon population that is sustainably managed and conserved on the Cape Peninsula. This will be achieved by encouraging baboons to remain in natural areas and reducing human-baboon conflict through education and awareness.</p>
	<p>p.13 - p.20 Table</p> <p>Serious consideration should be given to liaising with neighbourhood watches and residents re the training and licensing of individuals to be able to</p>	<p>Get rid of NCC, better train Sanparks personnel, empower citizens to manage baboons themselves sustainably.</p>	<p>CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>Please see:</p>



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	<p>assist residents when baboons are around. This is especially necessary at Kommetjie Primary. The monitors are ineffective and residents do not trust them. I have watched monitors stand idly while my neighbour's house is being raided by baboons. Residents in our area who have thatch roofs suffer severe damage. Sanparks should also look at their own staff and facilities before pointing fingers at residents.</p>		<p><i>"3.4 Support citizen partnerships by means of permits, advice and oversight"</i></p>
14	<p>Can we please look at the cooperation strategies of the monitors, so that they can deter the baboons from entering the suburban housing from the mountainside. As soon as the baboons gain access to the gardens and rooftops, the monitors have no means to direct the loners/troop. And the dogs get worked up with the thumping sounds on roof, which is hugely stressful when trying to work from home.</p>		<p>Thank you for your comments. CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>The CPBSMP is a strategic level plan. Operational plans developed in conjunction with relevant stakeholders and local communities, with actions and timeframes, will be developed by the CPBMJTT subsequently. The issues mentioned are addressed in the CPBSMP outcomes and will be part of appropriate management interventions.</p>
15	<p>1 Preamble</p> <p>""Over the past 20 years, the City of Cape Town, SANParks and CapeNature have worked together with various communities and in committees and forums towards managing the baboon population and human-baboon interface"</p> <p>This statement is simply not true. There has been little co-operation. I welcome this current move towards better co-operation and shared responsibility.</p>		<p>Thank you for your comments. CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>The MoA and CPBSMP were initiated as simultaneous processes. The MoA has been finalised and signed by all three parties.</p> <p>The CPBSMP is a strategic level plan between the three</p>



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			<p>relevant authorities: SANParks, CapeNature and the City of Cape Town. Operational plans developed in conjunction with relevant stakeholders and local communities, with actions, budgets and timeframes, will be developed by the CPBMJTT subsequently.</p> <p>The most appropriate management interventions for each area will be developed through co-operation between the authorities alongside stakeholders, the BAG, and local communities.</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">3</p> <p>The Chacma baboon population on the Cape Peninsula has reached a status where population numbers have increased significantly, with very limited low-lying wildland space, If this is accurate.</p>	<p>What studies are being done to determine the carrying capacity of the area available to the baboons?</p>	<p>CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>Carrying capacity in terms of wildlife and ecology is very difficult and complex to determine, and additionally very sensitive to change.</p> <p>The CPBMJTT notes that the baboon population on the Cape Peninsula <i>may have exceeded the carrying capacity for specific troops</i>, but not necessarily for all troops.</p> <p>Each area and troop needs to be evaluated to give a current and as best possible estimate as possible of what the landscape can potentially carry in terms of baboons.</p>



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	<p style="text-align: center;">4</p> <p>CoCT has been doing its best to fulfill its obligations. It does not seem to me that SAN parks has stepped up adequately, particularly in the light of the fact that so much of its revenue comes from Cape Point and Boulders.</p>		<p>CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>The MoA and CPBMSP were initiated as simultaneous processes. The MoA has been finalised and signed by all three parties.</p> <p>The CPBSMP is a strategic level plan between the three relevant authorities: SANParks, CapeNature and the City of Cape Town. Operational plans developed in conjunction with relevant stakeholders and local communities, with actions, budgets and timeframes, will be developed by the CPBMJTT subsequently.</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">5</p> <p>1. It is important that detailed information about these proposals are made available. People cannot asses this in the abstract. Hopefully this will be forthcoming.</p> <p>2. This crucial aspect gets minimal attention. It is imperative that tis be adequately managed or human/baboon interactions will become inflamed and public patience will wear thin.</p> <p>5...this may have limitations and should be looked at in conjunction with 7 Relocation. I understand the complexities but even if the current carrying capacity of the mountain is adequate (which is in question), there</p>	<p>Adequate information on fencing. How it will work and how it will be funded</p> <p>Adequate funding for transition period and effective monitoring. Better co-ordination to use local knowledge.</p> <p>We urge the CoCT to get their waste collection contracts sorted and to work closely with local residents who are willing and able to help design good procedures. We have the local knowledge.</p>	<p>CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>The CPBSMP is a strategic level plan. Operational plans developed in conjunction with relevant stakeholders and local communities, with actions and timeframes, will be developed by the CPBMJTT subsequently.</p> <p>Strategically placed fencing has been proposed as a viable solution by experts as an aspect in sustainable management of baboons on the Cape Peninsula. It is one of the most successful measures to mitigate human-wildlife conflict in South Africa and in the</p>



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	<p>will always be dispersing males or population increase to be taken care of.</p> <p>8 This is already in action. We are looking to you to provide what we cannot provide for ourselves.</p> <p>10 CoCT. Waste is top of the list here. As residents</p> <p>we have been working hard on this front and seeking to assist the CoCT to provide a better service. Resident's behavior is much improved and some local initiatives have worked but we simply have NOT had adequate response form the CoCT relevant department or contractors to Ensure that baboons do not easily have access to human waste.</p> <p>17. Yes, This is vital.</p> <p>18. This is vital and if SAN Parks were serious they would allow no food or picnicking in the Cape Point Nature reserve other than within the protected restaurant areas.</p> <p>20. I agree.</p>		<p>world. In the context of Table Mountain National Park and the urban environment, its application will be area and community specific.</p> <p>The current Urban Baboon Programme funded by the City of Cape Town has been extended for a period of 18 months until the end of December 2024 to allow for a transition period while the new CPBSMP is implemented. Future ranger/monitoring options have been included in the CPBSMP as a possible management intervention.</p> <p>Translocation of baboons away from the Peninsula is very problematic and viable receptor sites are extremely limited or non existent. It can thus not be proposed as a sustainable strategic baboon management option.</p>
	<p>6</p> <p>"It is not the purpose of this strategic management plan to deal with detailed day-to-day operational issues"</p> <p>While this may be true, it is simply not possible to ignore the currently urgent situation and talk about long term</p>		<p>The CPBSMP is a strategic level plan. Operational plans developed in conjunction with relevant stakeholders and local communities, with actions and timeframes, will be developed by the CPBMJTT subsequently.</p>



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	<p>solutions without offering something in the present moment or as a transition to the future plans.</p>		
	<p>Outcome 1 (1.3, population control)</p> <p>Population control measures (including removals through euthanasia, culling and translocation) are at the heart of major controversies over baboon management on the South Peninsula, but the pros and cons of these measures are completely ignored. There is nothing substantive to respond to in this document. Why does the document not outline the controversies and their outcomes, which are core to the current crisis, and suggest a way forward which addresses these?</p>	<p>Outline the pros and cons of all the management options mentioned (euthanasia, culling, translocation, contraception and sterilization), and indicate which of these are likely to be the options of choice in future.</p>	<p>CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>Your proposal has been noted for the operational implementation of the CPBSMP.</p>
	<p>Outcome 1 (1.4, management strategies)</p> <p>As elsewhere in the document, the phrase 'in partnership with communities' is used. But it is not at all clear what this would mean in practice i.e. how it could be operationalized.</p> <p>In particular, the thorny issue of which views represent those of the majority of residents (community members), rather than those of noisy minorities, is completely avoided.</p>	<p>Issues of governance, management and accountability (i.e. institutional design) are key to sustainable solutions to the complex problem of human-wildlife coexistence in urban areas. The JTT should engage in a comprehensive review of relevant experience and the institutional options that emerge, and communicate these to the public.</p>	<p>CPBSMP amended.</p> <p>Please see outputs in Table 1:</p> <p><i>“Outcome 7: Adaptive management of the baboon population is informed by continuous monitoring, evaluation, scientific research and stakeholder feedback”</i></p>
	<p>Outcome 1 (1.5, strategic and virtual fences)</p> <p>Residents in baboon-affected communities are unaware of the pros and cons of strategic and virtual fences, and lack information on design, energy sources, costs, fires and impacts on wildlife. Asking for an informed response to this new and</p>	<p>Compile a document setting out what is known about baboon-proof fencing (physical and virtual). Discuss its pros and cons, so that residents are able to formulate their views in an informed manner.</p>	<p>CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>The proposal will be considered in the implementation of the CPBSMP.</p> <p>The CPBMJTT is exploring proposed strategic fencing in appropriate areas as an</p>



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	<p>potentially game-changing approach in the absence of education on these issues is to ask for the impossible.</p>		<p>option and will consider the ease of implementation, funding mechanisms, effect on wildlife, environment, operation requirements, maintenance etc. to ensure feasibility.</p> <p>Furthermore, to mitigate human-wildlife conflict successfully and holistically, communities need to be engaged and activated to participate in the solutions for their areas.</p>
	<p>Outcome 3 (3.1, Baboon Advisory Group or BAG)</p> <p>It is unclear what exactly the role of the BAG will be, other than to air the views of residents and other groupings, and allow them to let off steam.</p> <p>It is suggested that the BAG advisory group meet annually. This is too seldom to be meaningful. It smacks of tokenism.</p> <p>The reference to 'recognized community organizations' in 3.1 begs the question of the criteria to be used to recognize organizations</p>	<p>Specify what the envisaged role of the BAG will be and the status of the views expressed within it.</p> <p>The BAG should meet quarterly.</p> <p>Clarify the criteria for recognition of 'community organizations'</p>	<p>CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>The CPBMJTT will meet bi-annually with the BAG and ad hoc as and when required.</p> <p>The terms of reference for the BAG are attached to the CPBSMP as an annexure.</p> <p>The BAG, in terms of the SBMP, "comprises nominated representatives of recognised community groups, such as Ratepayers Associations, advocacy groups and research institutions".</p>
	<p>Outcome 3 (3.3, SRAs and other mechanisms)</p> <p>The suggestion that 'community resources' will be secured for 'purposes of baboon monitoring and management as well as strategic fences' gives the impression that the</p>	<p>Clarify the envisaged institutional framework for sharing responsibility for baboon management amongst constituent members of the JTT and offer suggestions for supportive actions for community members.</p>	<p>CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>The MoA has been signed by all three authorities. The MoA and the reviewed final CPBSMP will be made publicly available.</p>



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	<p>CoCT, together with SANParks and CN, wish to offload responsibility for baboon management to residents, rather than meet their statutory obligations.</p>		<p>To mitigate human-wildlife conflict successfully and holistically, communities need to be engaged and activated to participate in the solutions for their areas.</p> <p>The CPBMJTT will meet bi-annually with the BAG and ad hoc as and when required.</p> <p>The terms of reference for the BAG are attached to the CPBSMP as an annexure.</p> <p>The BAG, in terms of the CPBSMP, “comprises nominated representatives of recognised community groups, such as Ratepayers Associations, advocacy groups and research institutions”.</p>
	<p>The draft SMP as a whole</p> <p>This document fails to provide residents in baboon-affected areas with any assurance that the authorities represented on the JTT are serious about finding solutions in both the short term and over the longer term. It is likely to generate anger and frustration rather than positive engagement. This could well lead to negative responses and a political backlash which will not be to the advantage of the CoCT in particular.</p>	<p>Withdraw the first draft of the SMP and commit to producing a second, more convincing version by the end of April 2023.</p> <p>Conversations with well-informed groups of residents would undoubtedly be fruitful on many levels. The 200+ Simon’s Town residents who have been in dialogue under the auspices of the STCA this past year are an example of such a group.</p>	<p>CPBSMP not withdrawn but appropriately amended according to public participation process.</p> <p>The CPBSMP has been amended according to the wealth of responses that were received from a wide variety of groups, civic organisations, academic experts, individuals, community groups, interest groups etc.</p>
16	<p>proposal1/page 7</p> <p>Electric fencing is expensive, hard to maintain, has negative impacts on</p>	No electric fences	<p>Thank you for your comment. CPBSMP not amended.</p>



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	<p>many other species and will be ineffective in containing the baboons.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ° South Africa does not have a reliable electricity and even if the fence is powered by solar panels or a wind generator, these installations will be vulnerable to theft. ° The Cape Peninsula is among the windiest places in the country, as well as being subject to salt-air 		<p>Strategically placed fencing has been proposed as a viable solution by experts as an aspect in sustainable management of baboons on the Cape Peninsula. It is one of the most successful measures to mitigate human-wildlife conflict in South Africa and in the world. In the context of Table Mountain National Park and the urban environment, its application will be area and community specific.</p> <p>The CPBMJTT will further explore proposed strategic fencing in appropriate areas as an option and will consider the effect on wildlife, funding mechanisms, environment, operational requirements, maintenance etc. to ensure long term viability.</p> <p>Your comment regarding reliable electricity has been noted and will be considered in the implementation of electric fencing.</p>
17	<p style="text-align: center;">Page 12 1.1</p> <p>Counts seem to be historically inaccurate with regards to recording the demographics of the troop. There seems to be an agenda to create the impression of troop growth, when adult numbers, especially adult males, are</p>	<p>The population statistics must take into account the demographics of the troops. Ages and genders must be recorded. High infant/juvenile numbers do not necessarily indicate growth of troops as mortality in this age range is high.</p>	<p>Thank you for your comments.</p> <p>CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>Please see:</p>



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	<p>not increasing and in fact adult males are few and far between.</p>		<p><i>"1.1 The Peninsula baboon population is monitored"</i></p> <p>And,</p> <p><i>"1.1.1 Undertake and publish biennial baboon count"</i></p> <p>And,</p> <p><i>"1.2.2. Review the carrying capacity and troop ranges for the baboons on the Cape Peninsula based on the natural foraging habitat available, population dynamics and management regime"</i></p> <p>Baboon population counts are and will be done in a scientific standardised manner to provide the information required for informed management decisions.</p>
	<p>Page 12 1.2</p> <p>Again, numbers of adults need to be taken into account and decisions not made on the numbers of juveniles.</p>	<p>If the baboons were able to forage up to fences on the urban edge, this would increase foraging range.</p>	<p>CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>Your comment will be considered in the implementation of the CPBSMP.</p>
	<p>Page 12 1.3</p> <p>Culling should not be a go-to strategy for population control. Adult males are being drastically decreased through this management strategy and this cannot be sustainable. When an animal is removed from the troop in this way, it</p>	<p>If it is truly deemed that a troop cannot be sustained in an area, that troop in it's entirety should be relocated to a sanctuary or other wild area. These are highly intelligent, sentient beings. Contraception needs to be investigated properly. This has been promised for years, but nothing has been done?</p>	<p>CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>The CPBMJTT will only consider management interventions that align with the objectives of maintaining a wild sustainable baboon population and are feasible in an urban environment</p>



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	<p>is extremely stressful for the troop and upsetting for the troop dynamics.</p>		<p>through approved protocols and methods. Translocation of baboons away from the Peninsula is very problematic and viable receptor sites are extremely limited or non-existent. Although it can be considered, it can thus not be proposed as a sustainable strategic baboon management option. The proposal for contraception and sterilisation has been included in the CPBSMP for further investigation.</p>
	<p>Page 13 1.6</p> <p>It is vital that residents of baboon affected areas are educated with regards to how to manage encounters with baboons to avoid conflict.</p>		<p>CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>Education and awareness programmes are the focus of Outcome 5 of the CPBSMP. To mitigate human-wildlife conflict successfully and holistically, communities need to be engaged and activated to participate in the solutions for their areas.</p>
	<p>Page 13 1.7</p> <p>The SPCA must have oversight with regards to sick or injured animals</p>		<p>CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>The CoGH SPCA as a key governance-stakeholder will oversee welfare aspects in any methodology employed in management interventions.</p>
	<p>Page 14 2.1 & 2.4</p> <p>By-laws must be enforced – currently this does not happen.</p>		<p>CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>The issue raised regarding law enforcement is addressed in the implementation of the</p>



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	<p align="center">Page 14 2.2</p> <p>Permits should not be granted to private land owners under any circumstances. Only the service provider should be given a permit to interfere with baboons in any way, when absolutely necessary. The term "hunting" should never be used in connection with these animals.</p>	<p>The SPCA should also be involved in determining how any interference is carried out to prevent cruelty.</p>	<p>CPBSMP outcomes and will be part of appropriate management interventions. CPBSMP not amended. The CoGH SPCA as a key governance-stakeholder will oversee welfare aspects in any methodology employed in management interventions.</p>
	<p align="center">Page 15 3.1</p> <p>Meeting biannually is insufficient.</p>	<p>There needs to be regular communication with BAG. BAG representatives must be elected by their local communities and not hand-picked by counsellors. There needs to be proper communication and BAG cannot be treated as a box ticked and otherwise ignored and lied to – which is what has happened in the past. I was one of the CARBS reps and the entire things was a complete farce.</p>	<p>CPBSMP amended. The CPBMJTT will meet bi-annually with the BAG and ad hoc as and when required. The terms of reference for the BAG are attached to the CPBSMP as an annexure. The BAG, in terms of the SBMP, "comprises nominated representatives of recognised community groups, such as Ratepayers Associations, advocacy groups and research institutions".</p>
	<p align="center">Page 16 3.3</p> <p>People are struggling financially and rates are already high. Establishing SRA and trying to force communities to pay will stall any process. It will not be successful and funds need to come from elsewhere.</p>		<p>CPBSMP not amended. Your comment will be considered in the operational implementation of the CPBSMP.</p>
	<p align="center">Page 19 6.1</p>		<p>CPBSMP not amended.</p>



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	<p>This is extremely important. SANParks are one of the worst offenders when it comes to baboon proofing in their own reserves.</p> <p>Page 20 7.1</p> <p>There is a need for "fresh" eyes and researchers and not the same two people who have been involved for years. There is no trust or faith in these "experts" anymore. Researchers can have no conflicts of interest i.e. grants, projects or career opportunities dependent on their findings.</p>		<p>Your comment will be considered in the operational implementation of the CPBSMP.</p> <p>CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>Your comment will be considered in the operational implementation of the CPBSMP.</p>
18	<p>1 Preamble, introduction mandates and Approach.</p> <p>Comments on the Baboon strategy document</p> <p>Presented by [REDACTED] representing:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Himself as a person deeply affected and afflicted by constant and persistent baboon raiding events as a neighbour to Table Mountain National Park. 2) Constantia Residents and Ratepayers Association (CRRRA) 3) Local residents in my area who may or may not be members of CRRRA. <p>Introduction:</p> <p>I am significantly disappointed by the document's contents and the very protracted time it has taken to even reach this point of discussion. There seems to be no (ZERO) sense of Urgency in delivering a solution to the</p>	<p>Revise, declutter, consult and LISTEN to those affected by baboon raids, and effect immediate change and actions.</p>	<p>Thank you for your comments.</p> <p>CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>The CPBMJTT encourages residents to protect their private property from baboons in a sustainable and ethical manner.</p> <p>The implementation of the BAG as outlined in the CPBSMP is intended to allow the consultation of concerned community members. The BAG, in terms of the CPBSMP, "comprises nominated representatives of recognised community groups, such as Ratepayers Associations, advocacy groups and research institutions".</p>



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	<p>problem of the baboon raiding of suburban environments. There also seems to be No (Zero) appreciation of the damage and distress that the baboons cause in the suburban environment. The views of persons affected and afflicted by the persistent baboon incursions seem to be absent in the document's contents. It seems to focus on process and procedure (and timewasting meetings) rather than dealing with the issues.</p> <p>Across the Cape Peninsular there are signs erected by competent authorities warning residents and visitors that "Baboons are Dangerous Wild Animals". This is a fact. The competent authority Cape Nature (CN) lists baboons as animals of least concern and as your document already states their numbers have increased. I would add out of all proportion and astronomically and way beyond the carrying capacity of the available range areas.</p> <p>It appears (to me personally) that far too much attention is placed on finding nice comfortable solutions that won't attract negative comments from people who are largely unaffected by the baboon incursions and damage by the baboons into suburban areas across the Cape Peninsular.</p> <p>Every person is entitled to protect themselves, their families, their domestic pets and their property. This is a Given and should be the background against which the strategy</p>		



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	<p>should be focussed. Not the other way around.</p> <p>Your neglect to make mention of and afford adequate attention to the opinion of those persons affected by and afflicted by these traumatizing and dangerous encounters is a serious flaw.</p> <p>It is my strong contention that the opinion of those affected and afflicted by and baboon incursions should be highly sought after and weighted 10 (ten) times higher than the opinion of those who are unaffected by the baboon incursions. Your document is flawed in that basic principle of approach.</p> <p>Legally the 2016 judgement placed the onus on the parties to reach agreement and implement actions, that was some 7 (seven) years ago, the inaction of all the parties is noted with utter dismay.</p>		
	<p>Section 8 Table 1 sect 1.3</p> <p>Change ongoing to IMPLIMENT NOW</p>	<p>DO IT! cut the waffle and babble</p>	<p>CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>The CPBSMP is a strategic level plan. Operational plans developed in conjunction with relevant stakeholders with actions, budgets and timeframes will be developed by the CPBMJTT subsequently.</p>
	<p>1.4</p> <p>Change time frames to Implement immediately</p>	<p>DO IT</p>	<p>CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>The CPBSMP is a strategic level plan. Operational plans developed in conjunction with relevant stakeholders with actions, budgets and</p>



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	<p style="text-align: center;">1.5</p> <p>Fences are ineffectual, baboons learn very quickly where weak points are and in any case require monitors and lots of maintenance, with loadshedding electrification is useless</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Reduce population numbers to allow them to roam in the natural wild unhindered</p>	<p>timeframes will be developed by the CPBMJTT subsequently.</p> <p>CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>Strategically placed fencing has been proposed as a viable solution by experts as an aspect in sustainable management of baboons on the Cape Peninsula. It is one of the most successful measures to mitigate human-wildlife conflict in South Africa and in the world. In the context of Table Mountain National Park and the urban environment, its application will be area and community specific.</p> <p>The CPBMJTT will further explore proposed strategic fencing in appropriate areas as an option and will consider the effect on wildlife, environment, operational requirements, maintenance etc. to ensure long term viability.</p> <p>Translocation of baboons away from the Peninsula is very problematic and viable receptor sites are extremely limited or non existent. It can thus not be proposed as a sustainable strategic baboon management option. The CPBMJTT will only consider management interventions</p>



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			that align with the objectives of maintaining a wild sustainable baboon population and are feasible in an urban environment through approved protocols and methods.
	<p>1.6</p> <p>Implement current protocols immediately and over time review their effectiveness, as may be indicated by consultation with affected and afflicted parties</p>	<p>IMMEDIATE implementation</p>	<p>CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>The CPBSMP is a strategic level plan. Operational plans developed in conjunction with relevant stakeholders with actions, budgets and timeframes will be developed by the CPBMJTT subsequently. Oversight and review of the various protocols is provided for in the implementation of the CPBSMP.</p>
	<p>1.7</p> <p>These already exist and need to be implemented</p>	<p>Immediate implementation</p>	<p>CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>The CPBSMP is a strategic level plan. Operational plans developed in conjunction with relevant stakeholders with actions, budgets and timeframes will be developed by the CPBMJTT subsequently.</p>
	<p>Outcome 2 in all subsections</p> <p>Revise and balance the needs and desire to allow for self-defense, the defense of family, pets, and especially property</p>	<p>Scrap the one sided approach, create balance in the approach</p>	<p>CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>The onus of protecting private property from damage lies on the owner. The CPBMJTT encourages residents to protect their private property from baboons in a sustainable and ethical manner.</p>



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	<p style="text-align: center;">Outcome 3</p> <p>Is meaningless and lacks substance or urgency</p>	REVISE with balance of purpose and outcome	<p>CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>To mitigate human-wildlife conflict successfully and holistically, communities need to be engaged and activated to participate in the solutions for their areas. The BAG, in terms of the CPBSMP, “comprises nominated representatives of recognised community groups, such as Ratepayers Associations, advocacy groups and research institutions”.</p> <p>The primary outcome of the CPBSMP is to have a wild baboon population that is sustainably managed and conserved on the Cape Peninsula. This will be achieved by encouraging baboons to remain in natural areas and reducing human–baboon conflict through education and awareness.</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Outcome 4</p> <p>The COCT has had a baboon proof policy, procedure and protocol for years, IMPLIMENT immediately, the time frames you have listed are unreasonably protracted.</p>	Implement immediately	<p>CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>The CPBSMP is a strategic level plan. Operational plans developed in conjunction with relevant stakeholders with actions, budgets and timeframes will be developed by the CPBMJTT subsequently.</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Outcome 5</p> <p>There is a complete misunderstanding that those affected by baboon</p>	Revise as suggested	<p>CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>The CPBMJTT encourages residents to protect their</p>



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	incursions don't want waffle, they want action, protection and consideration, revise to put the accent on assistance, relief and compensation for damage caused		private property from baboons in a sustainable and ethical manner. To mitigate human-wildlife conflict successfully and holistically, communities need to be engaged and activated to participate in the solutions for their areas.
	<p align="center">Outcome 6</p> <p align="center">Good</p>	DO IT	Thank you for your comment. CPBSMP not amended.
	<p align="center">Outcome 7</p> <p align="center">Good, but Why bother?</p>	Scrap	CPBSMP not amended.
19	<p align="center">Section 5 Table 1 Point 2 Page 7</p> <p>As the contract with NCC officially ends in June 2023, there is no longer any time left to investigate the proposal to retain the services of the Baboon Monitors</p>	Action must be agreed and taken immediately, the monitors need to be kept in place under (at least) the same conditions until any replacement strategies are implemented.	<p>Thank you for your comments.</p> <p>CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>The current Urban Baboon Programme funded by the City of Cape Town has been extended for a period of 18 months until the end of December 2024 to allow for a transition period while the new CPBSMP is implemented. Future ranger/monitoring options have been included in the CPBSMP as a possible management intervention.</p>
	<p align="center">Section 5 Table 1 Point 7 Page 8 (also Point 17, Page 9)</p> <p>The option to remove baboons from the area is a sensitive topic and any</p>	As a primary step, it has to be accurately determined and confirmed that the carrying capacity has indeed been exceeded. If it has, then options inevitably become more limited. For example, the option to put up fences falls away – without other interventions, a population already exceeding its carrying capacity cannot be expected to survive when the resources	<p>CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>Carrying capacity in terms of wildlife and ecology is very difficult and complex to determine, and additionally very sensitive to change.</p>



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	<p>discussion regarding culling will carry an emotive backlash. Key here is the CPBMJTT response: "the baboon population..... exceeds the current carrying capacity"</p>	<p>available to it are further limited. Fencing cannot be used as a population management tool, this would be tantamount to outright cruelty.</p>	<p>The CPBMJTT notes that the baboon population on the Cape Peninsula may have exceeded the <i>carrying capacity for specific troops</i>, but not necessarily for all troops.</p> <p>Each troop needs to be evaluated to give a current and as best possible estimate as possible of what the landscape can potentially carry in terms of baboons.</p> <p>The CPBMJTT will consider management interventions that are scientifically validated and align with the objectives of maintaining a wild sustainable baboon population and which are feasible in an urban environment.</p> <p>The CPBSMP includes investigation of population control methods in section 1.3 of Table 2.</p>
	<p>Section 6 Paragraph 3 Page 10</p> <p>For the Strategic Management Plan to provide any information for comment, it has to include details of operational issues and complete information on actions being considered. The "suite of suitable actions towards achieving identified outcomes" seems purposefully vague and allows too</p>	<p>Stakeholders need to be able to comment on real, defined courses of action that address the current concerns set within realistic established timeframes for timeous and suitable outcomes.</p>	<p>The CPBSMP is a strategic level plan between the three relevant authorities: SANParks, CapeNature and the City of Cape Town. Operational plans developed in conjunction with relevant stakeholders and local communities, with actions, budgets and timeframes, will</p>



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	<p>much room for misinterpretation and misunderstanding, giving no real substance for stakeholders to comment on. Any accountability would also be impossible to determine</p>		<p>be developed by the CPBMJTT subsequently.</p> <p>Each authority needs to however devise internal planning on how it will fit in with internal strategic plans and budgeting to fulfil the commitments in this CPBSMP.</p>
	<p>Section 8 Table 1 Point 1.1 Page 12</p> <p>The "estimated timeframe" for these functions is too extended.</p>	<p>These must be the primary objectives completed before any other steps can be taken.</p>	<p>CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>Please note that CPBSMP is a strategic level plan. Operational plans developed in conjunction with relevant stakeholders with actions, budgets and timeframes will be developed by the CPBMJTT subsequently.</p>
	<p>Section 8 Table 1 Point 1.3 Page 12</p> <p>The "estimated timeframe" for these functions is not specified and too vague, leaving no options for accountability and follow up.</p>	<p>Any population control methods will be controversial and will need to be discussed and agreed with stakeholders before implementation. The decision-making process has to involve all stakeholders and will need to be completely transparent to avoid any negative repercussions.</p>	<p>CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>The CPBMJTT will consider management interventions that are scientifically validated and align with the objectives of maintaining a wild sustainable baboon population and which are feasible in an urban environment.</p> <p>The CPBMJTT will meet bi-annually with the BAG and ad hoc as and when required.</p> <p>The terms of reference for the BAG are attached to the CPBSMP as an annexure.</p>



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			As mentioned above, operational plans will be developed in conjunction with relevant stakeholders and communities.
	<p>Section 8 Table 1 Point 1.4 Page 12</p> <p>The “estimated timeframe” for these functions is again too vague, leaving no options for accountability and follow up. Should this Strategic Management Plan not have included already identified management strategies and actions ready for immediate discussion and implementation? The parameters for community involvement need to be clear and established before the community is able to comment on this.</p>	<p>A concrete strategic management strategy needs to be established as a matter of urgency and circulated for comment for implementation as soon as is possible.</p>	<p>CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>Please note that CPBSMP is a strategic level plan. Operational plans developed in conjunction with relevant stakeholders with actions, budgets and timeframes will be developed by the CPBMJTT subsequently.</p>
	<p>Section 8 Table 1 Points 1.5 Page 13</p> <p>If keeping baboons out of the communities is indeed the (even partial) financial responsibility of the communities, then the extent to which the communities would need to be involved financially needs to be established and very clear from the outset, certainly before any comment could be anticipated.</p> <p>With no insight into the impact, aesthetics, placement, viability, accessibility, etc of the fences, it is not possible for stakeholders to comment on the concept.</p>	<p>Any anticipated community funding needs to be made very clear and agreed before further steps can be taken.</p> <p>Far more concrete information regarding the design and implementation of any fencing options needs to be communicated before informed comment can be anticipated.</p>	<p>CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>As mentioned above, the CPBSMP is a strategic level plan between the three relevant authorities: SANParks, CapeNature and the City of Cape Town.</p> <p>Operational plans developed in conjunction with relevant stakeholders and local communities, with actions, budgets and timeframes, will be developed by the CPBMJTT subsequently.</p>
	<p>Section 8 Table 1</p>	<p>With the CoGH SPCA wildlife division already under severe financial pressure and time constraints, their immediate support, or the establishment</p>	<p>CPBSMP not amended.</p>



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	<p>Point 1.8 Page 13</p> <p>It seems clear that the baboon population is already under stress and, the “estimated Timeframe” set for July 2024 is too delayed.</p>	<p>of a separate Grant-in-Aid, needs to be an urgent priority. This needs to be in place before any changes to the existing management system are implemented, as these can be expected to place additional stresses on the baboon population.</p>	<p>Your point is noted for the operational implementation of the CPBSMP.</p> <p>1.8.1 of the CPBSMP includes the investigation of a Grant-in-Aid to support the wellbeing of sick and injured baboons.</p> <p>The CPBMJTT recognises the CoGH SPCA as a key governance stakeholder that will oversee all welfare aspects and have engaged with the CoGH SPCA to formalise this relationship. The CPBSMP reflects that the City is investigating a Grant-in-Aid for Wildlife.</p>
	<p>Section 8 Table 1 Point 2.7 Page 15</p> <p>The enforcement of legislation regarding waste management is critical. The “estimated Timeframe” for this is given as “Ongoing” and yet there seems to be very little actual enforcement or action regarding waste management. If this is indeed “ongoing” it would seem to be moving at a pace that is not particularly helpful in respect to solving existing issues with baboon attractants.</p>	<p>A realistic timeframe needs to be established to tackle the existing waste management challenges, which would also need to be clearly specified. New challenges could then be tackled on an “ongoing” basis.</p>	<p>CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>The issues raised regarding law enforcement and waste management are addressed in the implementation of the CPBSMP outcomes and will be part of appropriate management interventions.</p> <p>These matters are ongoing, hence the timeframe in the CPBSMP.</p> <p>Operational plans developed in conjunction with relevant stakeholders and local communities, with actions, budgets and timeframes, will be developed by the CPBMJTT subsequently.</p>



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	<p>Section 8 Table 1 Point 3.1 Page 15</p> <p>Any BAG would be constructive. However, appropriate representation would be key and, to be properly effective, meetings would need to happen more regularly than stipulated here.</p>	<p>The BAG members, comprised of representatives only from baboon-affected areas, should meet monthly, with quarterly meetings held with the JTT. The responsibilities and role of the BAG would also need to be established.</p>	<p>CPBSMP appropriately amended. CPBSMP to reflect that the CPBMJTT will meet bi-annually with the BAG and ad hoc as and when required.</p> <p>The terms of reference for the BAG are attached to the CPBSMP as an annexure.</p> <p>The BAG, in terms of the SBMP, "<i>comprises nominated representatives of recognised community groups, such as Ratepayers Associations, advocacy groups and research institutions</i>".</p> <p>Public participation and inclusion of various stakeholder groups (including the CoGH SPCA as a key advisor on welfare concerns) are a keystone of the development of the CPBSMP.</p>
	<p>Section 8 Table 1 Point 3.3 Page 16</p> <p>While the establishment of SRAs is certainly an option, these inevitably carry additional costs and restrictions for residents of those areas. All of the implications would need to be discussed and made clear to all residents for feedback prior to any action taken.</p>	<p>Increased revenue from SRAs should not absolve any other stakeholders from their financial obligations, the financial burden for baboon management cannot be placed on solely (or, it could be argued, even partially) on the shoulders of residents, even if SRAs are established.</p>	<p>CPBSMP not amended.</p> <p>The CPBSMP is a strategic level plan between the three relevant authorities: SANParks, CapeNature and the City of Cape Town. Operational plans developed in conjunction with relevant stakeholders and local communities, with actions, budgets and timeframes, will be developed by the CPBMJTT subsequently.</p>



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			<p>Each authority needs is required to devise internal planning on how it will fit in with internal strategic plans and budgeting to fulfil the commitments in this BMSP.</p> <p>The use of an SRA is just an option for the implementation of the CPBSMP, and will be devised by the authorities in conjunction with a community.</p>
	<p>Section 8 Table 1 Point 4.1.2 Page 17</p> <p>Baboon-proof bins for both household waste and recycling for use by private residents and businesses is essential and seems to have been a challenge to date.</p> <p>June 2023 is given here as the estimated timeframe, which implies that the procedure is already well under way.</p>	<p>Hopefully this timeframe is realistic, as having effective bins in place would go some way in reassuring residents that all the stakeholders involved are giving this issue the required attention and will be following through on commitments made.</p>	<p>Gravity-lock bins have been rolled out in some baboon-affected areas. The process of rolling out baboon-proof bins in baboon-affected areas is ongoing</p>