

Jaco Pieterse - Cape of Good Hope SPCA

From: Elbe Cloete <ecloete@capenature.co.za>
Sent: Friday, 29 September 2023 12:10
To: Jaco Pieterse - Cape of Good Hope SPCA
Cc: Natalie Hayward; Deon L. Hignett; Coral Birss; Zanne Brink; Helene Van Der Westhuyzen
Subject: CoGH SPCA Orphan Baboon

Dear Mr. Mr Jaco Pieterse

Firstly, my apology for the delay in finalising the matter due to several engagements with the possible placement of the baboon at an accredit facility.

CapeNature appreciate your willingness for housing the orphaned baboon, at the Cape of Good Hope SPCA ("CoGH SPCA") short-term holding facility in Grassy Park. The request from CoGH SPCA on Saturday 16 September 2023 for a possible deviation from the prescriptions of their approved facility management plan and exemption from some of their permit conditions to explore the placement of an orphaned baboon at a rehabilitation facility in another province for rehabilitation and eventual release back to the wild (in the receiving province).

CapeNature, together with the CoGH SPCA and Baboon Matters, have been unable to identify a suitable receiving facility for this specimen that meets all role players' (including other provincial conservation authorities') requirements. Potential receiving provinces' conservation authorities, the National Council of SPCA's ("NSPCA") and/or the CoGH SPCA were opposed to the translocation of the specimen to various potential receiving facilities for the following reasons:

- 1) the genetic risk posed by the specimen to northern Chacma baboon populations; and/or
- 2) receiving facilities already exceeding their capacity to care for the wild animals currently being held at their facilities; and/or
- 3) facilities being unable to release baboons due to a total lack in availability of authorised release sites; and/or
- 4) facilities not being accredited to take in wild animals by the NSPCA; and/or
- 5) facilities whose NSPCA accreditation has been revoked due to welfare concerns.

"Unfortunately, a deviation from your approved facility management plan and permit conditions cannot be supported because a viable receiving facility could not be identified by the CoGH SPCA, Baboon Matters or CapeNature. CapeNature thus recommend that you proceed in accordance with your management plan and permit conditions (i.e. the euthanasia of the specimen). CapeNature thanks the Cape of Good Hope SPCA's Wildlife Unit for its continued invaluable contribution to the conservation of the Western Cape's unique biodiversity.

Regards.

Elbé Cloete

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