



Coexisting with baboons in Rooiels through shared responsibilities

Rooiels Indaba, Pringle Bay Community Hall

20 November 2021, 9 am – 1 pm

Statement of purpose and programme

Background

Rooiels is one of four Conservancies located in the transition zone of the UNESCO designated Kogelberg Biosphere Reserve, an area of pristine environment with unique and globally recognized plant diversity. For many decades, Rooiels citizens and baboons have coexisted in Rooiels and diverse lessons have been learned on how co-existence is possible. At the same time, incidents occur where baboons raid unprotected waste bins, or enter homes of residents to search for food. Given the influx of visitors and many new residents to Rooiels and the construction of many new buildings, a need has emerged for dialogue and identifying further action to support the Rooiels coexistence model.

About the Indaba

By fostering an exchange of views among participants and identifying further action, the Indaba aims to advance a vision of coexistence with Baboons in Rooiels. Specific objectives include:

- Provide an open forum for listening, engaging and learning
- Identify good practices that support coexistence
- Foster a sense of joint responsibility among participants
- Mobilize commitment by residents and stakeholders

The Indaba is open to all community members and stakeholders, subject to space limitations. If more than 80 residents are interested to participate, an listen-in opportunity will be provided.

The Indaba is organized by RERA and REC, with support of a Rooiels Task Team which includes 15 residents. The Task Team prepared a draft Discussion Document to support dialogue at the Indaba. This document was circulated to the Rooiels community for comment in October 2020. A revised version of the document was made available 1 week in advance of the Indaba.

Indaba Programme

The Indaba features a combination of presentations, plenary discussions and working groups. The results of the Indaba will be documented and made available to RERA and REC for review, dissemination and follow-up.



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Final Programme

08:30 Registration

09:00 Welcome and introduction of moderator and Task Team members

Veronica Jacobs, Chairperson, Rooiels Conservancy

09:05 Session 1: Introduction, purpose and expectations (Achim Halpaap, Moderator)

- Purpose and objectives of the Indaba
- Participants introduction and expectations for the Indaba (1 sentence per Pax)
- Exercise: Can we identify common values that we all share?
- Modes and methods of interaction

09:45 Session 2: Draft Discussion Document and interim Survey Results

- Interactive presentation by the Babco Task Team
- Questions from the floor

10:15 Session 3: Pathways to strengthen coexistence: 4 small parallel working groups

1. Minimizing and managing waste
2. Baboon-proofing homes
3. Guidance when encountering baboons in nature, on the property, or at home
4. Supporting businesses that are active in Rooiels (including in CBD during holiday periods)

- 40-45 min working groups, 15-20 min reporting back in plenary

11:15 Break



11:30 Session 4: Pathway to strengthen coexistence: 4 parallel working groups (1 hour)

5. Marketing Rooiels as a Conservancy in the Kogelberg Biosphere Reserve
6. Developing a communication package and strategy
7. Fostering our civic responsibilities as residents of Rooiels
8. Fostering knowledge sharing and providing feedback

- 40-45 min working groups, 15-20 min reporting back in plenary

12:30 Session 5: What action are we taking forward? What are next steps?

- How can we put in place sustainable mechanisms and actions to strengthen the Rooiels Coexistence Model.
- What key message do we take forward to REC/RERA members and other stakeholder organizations (e.g. Overstrand Municipality, CapeNature, KBRC, SANBI)

13:00 Vote of thanks

Fiona Christelis, Vice-Chair, Rooiels Conservancy