

# **NEWS**

Issue 3 - 4th June 2022

## **BABOON MANAGEMENT - THE SRA ANCHOR PROJECT**

Since the 1st of February 2022, troop activity has gradually increased as we move into the winter months with the troop frequently sighted on the R102 (east and west passes). The Majority of baboon sightings within the village have been along the eastern half of Forest Drive and 2 invasions have been reported in the last 4 months. The baboon monitors have been very successful in pushing baboons back towards the R102 after receiving alerts from property owners. In order to provide an earlier

	R102 sightings	village sightings	Invasions
Feb	4	4	
March	5	1	
April	11	9	1
May	17	9	1

warning of the troops presence near Natures Valley properties, the SRA business plan includes a provision for a monitoring system using GPS tracking collars. The monitoring system is intended to be

## SRA APPLICATION PROGRESS



In our first issue of Natures Valley SRA News we described the 6 steps towards the approval and implementation of an SRA for Natures Valley. We are happy to report the following progress made to date;

- Step 1 The urban perception survey is complete refer to Issue 2 of the 4th April 2022
- **Step 2** The draft business plan has been completed and key aspects of the plan such as geographical area, scope of services and indicative costs, have been discussed with the Municipality (see Step 3 below)

We are are pleased to report that the <u>Bitou Municipal Council has approved the issuing of the SRA By-Law and SRA Policy for submission for public participation</u>. It is expected that the municipal 30 day public participation process will be announced shortly in this month.



## SRA APPLICATION PROGRESS (CONTD)

- **Steps 3 and 4** The NV SRA business plan is scheduled to be presented for public participation and voting by all NV property owners in August 2022
- **Step 5** subject to acceptance of the business plan by fifty percent (50%) plus 1 of property owners, the SRA application will be submitted for Natures Valley, hopefully, in September.
- Step 6 Based on current progress, we estimate that NV-SRA should be operational before the start of the December holiday season.

## UPDATE ON INTERIM FUNDING FOR THE BABOON MONITORS

In August 2021 we issued a request for funding a pilot project for baboon monitoring. In February 2022 we sent out a further request for additional funding to extend the baboon monitoring project while applying for Natures Valley to be declared a Special Ratings Area (SRA). We currently expect that an SRA for Natures Valley may be activated before the start of the December holiday season.

#### Income

Total funds received since August 2021 to date, including interest, is **R452,055** 

### **Expenses**

In total we have spent **R309,550** made up of R 167,158 of monitors wages, R 56 400 on transport, R 71 571 on equipment, R8 457 on radio rental, R 5 383 on training and R 580 on bank charges.

#### We have R 142 505 cash on hand at 30 April 2022.

We have forecast expenses of R 14,253 for uniforms/winter jackets and bike maintenance together with a monthly spend for monitors and communication equipment rentals of R24,172 per month.

The current level of funds will cover this rate of expenditure for approximately 5 months i.e until end September 2022. Based upon current progress and the completion of Step 6 of the SRA process on or about the December holiday season, we would be very grateful for further contributions to ensure continuity of monitoring services for the last 3 months of this year

We extend our thanks to the property owners who have contributed so generously to date and hope that you have already reaped the benefits of a calmer environment in Natures Valley.

#### Banking details for contributions are;

Account: Standard Bank Market Linked Business Savings Account

Account No 10154030161

Branch no 0510001

Account name - Natures Valley Ratepayers Association

Please put your ERF No, Name and "B" on the transfer details so we can identify payment for the baboon management plan. Please send a confirmation email to <a href="mailto:office@nvra.co.za">office@nvra.co.za</a>