



Cheetah Chat

Updates by the **Mara Cheetah Project** on Cheetahs in the Mara

July 2014 - August 2014

Oloololo boys



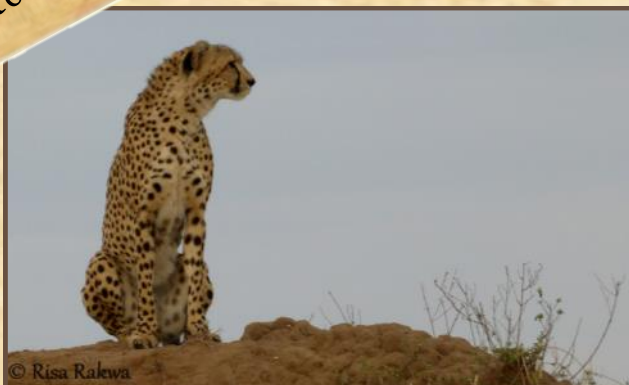
The Oloololo boys always seem to be on a mission and manage to cover large distances in a short space of time. One day they will be sighted in Lemek and then a couple of days later they will be seen roaming around Rhino Ridge. Recently they have been spending a considerable amount of time in Olare-Motorogi Conservancy. Looks like they might be expanding their territory in search of mates.

Nashipai

We recently saw Nashipai on the hunt in the Mara Triangle. Earlier this year she managed to raise a male cub to independence who now roams around the Hippo pools area in the Mara Triangle. As for Nashipai, when we saw her it looked like she was lactating so it's possible that the next litter is already on its way!



Hodari



Amani's two boys split from their sister Imani in March 2014. After they separated the two boys were seen together but recently one of Amani's males has been seen by himself. We have no idea what has happened to his brother. Amani's boy is however doing fine and has been seen taking down full grown topi! As a result the guides have decided to name him 'Hodari' which means 'Champion' in KiSwahili.

Narasha

Narasha was sighted in Mara North Conservancy with a nasty injury on her left side, possibly caused by an unlucky encounter with a warthog tusk or thommy horn. Since then we have been monitoring her closely and several months later the wound has almost healed. Its quite amazing how resilient animals are! This last month Narasha has moved into the Southern section of the reserve and was seen being courted by the Hammerkop male not so long ago. Narasha is about 10 years old, which is pretty old for a cheetah, so not sure if we can expect another litter from her.



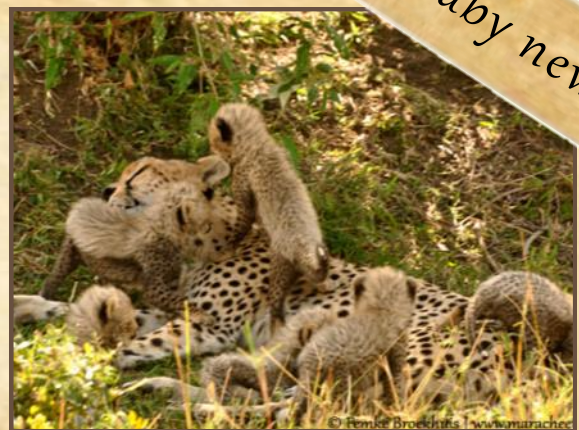
Noosura



Noosura is a female cheetah often seen in Naboisho and Ol Kinyei. Amazingly she has 5 biggish cubs who seem to be thriving! It is rare that cheetahs manage raise this many cubs to this age as often cubs are killed by animals such as birds of prey, baboons, snakes, hyaenas and lions. Even at this age the cubs are still vulnerable to predation. We will keep you posted on their development.

Baby news

In the last cheetah chat we reported that both Miyale and Nkini had given birth, unfortunately both have lost all their cubs. However, there have been a few new additions. Malaika gave birth to a litter of six who are all doing well and starting to follow mum around. Imani (Amani's offspring) has also given birth. She is a first time mum and very sensitive to disturbance. Please play a role in cheetah conservation by keeping a respectful distance and minimising stress on the mothers and cubs.



KENYA WILDLIFE TRUST

For more information, or to report a sighting, visit our website (www.maracheetahs.org) or follow us on Facebook (www.facebook.com/MaraCheetahProject)

If you have photos or a cheetah story that you would like to share in the next update, please email us at info@maracheetahs.org