



# Cheetah Chat

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

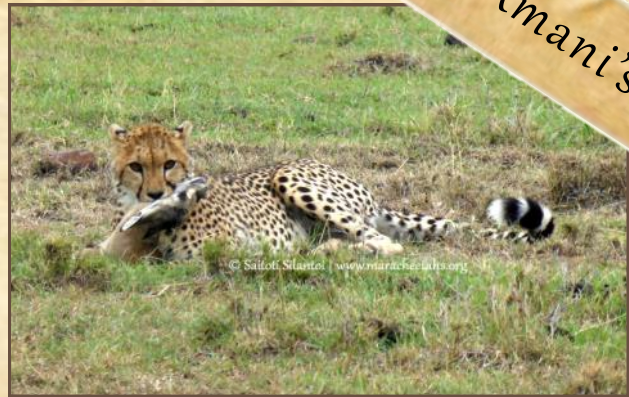
January 2015 - February 2015

## Kisiri's boys



Sadly both Kisiri's boys died recently. They were first seen with strange swellings on their necks and a few days later both of them were found dead. Results from a post-mortem carried out by the KWS veterinary unit suggest that the cause of death was most likely a viral infection. Naturally the worry is that this could spread to other cheetahs and other felids. If you see any cats with strange symptoms or behaving oddly then please let us know as soon as possible ([sightings@maracheetahs.org](mailto:sightings@maracheetahs.org)).

Earlier this year we found Amani by herself, which was rather surprising as at the time her cub was 14 months, so still pretty young. Initially we thought something bad had happened to the cub but a couple of days later we found the cub by herself and doing well. Since then we have sighted the cub on a regular basis and she is doing a fantastic job looking after herself. Fingers crossed Amani will have another litter soon.



## Amani's cub

## Noosura



It is wonderful to see that Noosura still has all five cubs despite the fact that we think she spends a significant amount of time outside the wildlife areas and on community land. Cheetah cubs' chance of survival increases once they are about 1 year old, so it looks like these five have a good chance making it to independence.

Some call him 'Warren' and some 'Nanyuki' - this young male has come from the Mara Triangle and is now frequently seen in the Northern part of the Maasai Mara National Reserve. More recently he has been sighted in the Ol Kiombo/Smelly crossing area - an area that used to be occupied by Hodari (one of Amani's sons). However, Hodari has moved away from that area and into Naboisho Conservancy so it looks like M017 might be filling this vacant space.



M017

Miyale



Late last year Miyale was seen with five little cubs near Ol Keju Rongai in the Maasai Mara National Reserve. Since then she has lost two cubs, but the remaining three are doing well. Unlike Malaika and her cubs, Miyale is always on the move with the little ones. Soon after the cubs started following Miyale around they moved towards the Talek/Fig Tree area but recently they have been sighted back along the Ol Keju Rongai.

Malaika still has all four cubs and all seem to be doing well. While the cubs might look like an orderly bunch in this photo, their playfulness often disrupts Malaika's attempts to hunt. In order to keep the little ones fed she is seen hunting on a daily basis, often making one, if not two, kills a day. The cubs are slowly starting to participate in the hunts but they still have a lot to learn!



Malaika



KENYA WILDLIFE TRUST

**For more information, or to report a sighting, visit our website ([www.maracheetahs.org](http://www.maracheetahs.org)) or follow us on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/MaraCheetahProject](https://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](mailto:info@maracheetahs.org)**