



Lion Tails

Updates by the **Mara Lion Project** on lions in Mara Naboisho Conservancy

June 2016 - July 2016

Ol Kiombo Nomads



Four new males, called the Ol Kiombo Nomads, who are all part of the same group from the Maasai Mara National Reserve, are currently residing in Naboisho Conservancy. They were originally born into the Rekeru pride before they became independent and are now close to being six years old. These males were first sighted in Naboisho with female members of Olare Motorogi Conservancy's Moniko Pride and later with Enesikiria lions. We hope that these males will settle with the Enesikiria pride and start a new generation of Enesikiria lions avoiding a situation where males come in temporarily, kill all cubs, sire offspring and leave again, not defending their cubs and territory, as we sometimes witness.

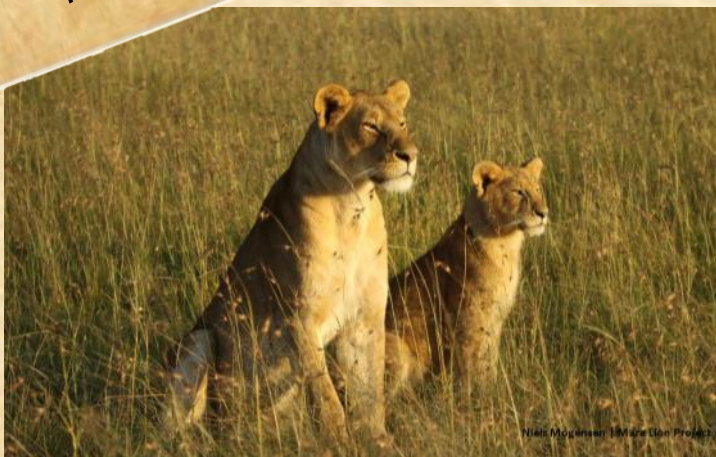
Two groups of Olare Motorogi Conservancy's (OMC) Moniko Pride, totalling 11 lions, are also currently residing in Naboisho Conservancy. Four adult females make up the first group while the second group constitutes one adult female called Zurura and six sub-adult females. They have all been seen with one or more of the Ol Kiombo Nomad males and some of the females have been mating. It seems that the males first ventured into OMC and fought with the Monko Pride and or the Double Cross males. This could have caused the Moniko females to leave OMC and the Ol Kiombo Nomads to follow.



Moniko Pride



Isina



Isina, Simaloi's daughter, had three cubs in September 2015. This was her first batch of cubs. One cub died towards the end of last year. Everything was looking positive for the remaining two cubs; right up until the Ol Kiombo males entered the scene. On an early morning Isina had just brought down a zebra. Moments later, one of the Ol Kiombo males rushed to the scene, wanting to steal the kill. Before he did so, he viciously attacked one of the two cubs. The injuries were fatal and the cub died during the night. The question remains why did the stranger male not kill both cubs before taking the kill.

Dada had four cubs in February this year but lost one around mid-May which we do not know the cause. The three remaining cubs were last seen a few weeks ago and we do not yet know if the new males have tried to harm them. While writing this update, we were informed that Dada was mating again, so we shall have to wait and see the fate of the cubs. Dada has also been reunited with her son Rusei and daughter Nolari, both 2.5 years old, after they had parted ways so that Dada could peacefully give birth. Sub-adult Malaso, who used to be with her cousins under Sero's care, is currently also with Dada.



Jasmina



Jasmina, Naimina's daughter, currently has three cubs close to Encounter Mara. She was seen by Encounter Mara guides relocating them. They look like they were born in early June. The question is whether the Ol Kiombo males will leave them alone.

Lokoman

The Sampu Enkare Pride is doing well with all 10 members accounted for. They are now mostly seen on Naboisho's east side bordering Ol Kinyei Conservancy. The Elomai males, from OMC, also seem to have moved east in Naboisho and we have not yet witnessed any confrontation between these males and the Ol Kiombo males. One of the Elomai males has recently been mating with Lokoman, the 2 year 9 months old sub-adult from the Sampu Enkare Pride.



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