

PREDATOR POST

CHEETAH CHAT - TWELFTH EDITION

MARCH - 2021



Updates by the Mara Predator Conservation Programme on cheetahs in Maasai Mara

SELENKEI

We spotted Selenkei in early February in Olare-Motorogi Conservancy. She was lactating and had a limp. A few days later she was spotted crossing the road to Naboisho Conservancy with 4 small cubs, but she was still limping. Selenkei disappeared for a few weeks before showing up again towards the end of February near the border of Ol kinyei Conservancy without her cubs. She must have lost them as her hunting capabilities were reduced due to her injury and hence had to prioritise her own survival. She is recovering well from her limp and will hopefully produce another set of offspring in the near future.



MARIDADI

Our last sighting of Maridadi was in April 2018 where she had a single cub in the southernmost part of the National Reserve. Shortly after this, she disappeared, most likely into the Serengeti. Much to our amusement, she reappeared in the Mara with a one-year-old cub. Maridadi is one of the few cheetahs who we know utilises both the Maasai Mara and Serengeti protected areas.

NASHULA

Another interesting sighting we had early this year was of a female who showed up in the Sand River area of the National Reserve with 3 cubs in tow. We could not match her with any females in our database. She is quite shy, and she must have come from the Serengeti. She has been named Nashula by guides and is getting more and more used to the presence of vehicles. Besides the Reserve, Nashula has also been spending time in Siana Conservancy.



NABAYA

In Olarro Conservancy we got another exciting sighting where a female showed up with 3 cubs who were approximately a year old. We couldn't easily identify her at first but after investigating we found that she is actually Natasha's daughter from a litter that she had in 2017, and she has now been named Nabay. Sadly though, she lost one cub a few weeks ago.

NASHIPAE

Nashipae has done a tremendous job so far in raising her 2 cubs who are almost 11 months old now. Nashipae is one of the females who has quite a large home range. Although she spends most of her time the National Reserve, she also spends time in Nabosisho Conservancy, where she has been staying over the last few weeks.



NEEMA

Five-year-old Neema recently showed herself with 3 small cubs in Olare Motorogi Conservancy and this was really great as it's the first time we have documented her bringing out cubs from the lair. Usually after bringing cubs out of the lair, mothers will begin taking the cubs around their home range to familiarise them with the different areas. Neema is currently in the Reserve with her new little family.



For more information, please visit our website or follow us on social media. If you have photos and a cheetah story that you would like to share in the next update, please email us at info@marapredatorconservation.org



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