

# Cheetah Chat

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

September - October 2013

Amani



Amani's cubs left their mother earlier than most cubs and we suspected this was because she was pregnant. Our suspicions were recently confirmed and we are proud to announce that Amani now has a new litter of cubs, seen for the first time at the end of October.

Her three sub-adults are doing well and are roaming far and wide - they crossed over to the Triangle and upon crossing back have been sighted in Mara North, Olare Motorogi and the Mara National Reserve.

Nalepo

Some sad news about Nalepo - after the last update Nalepo took her cubs to Naboisho where three disappeared. Early October she moved back to Olare Motorogi where, unfortunately, she and one of her cubs got killed. Judging by the puncture wounds and the proximity of the Engoyanai pride we believe that her death was caused by lions.



Malaika



It was reported that Malaika gave birth to 4 cubs in mid September but that lions killed three of them within the first week. Data from the Serengeti suggest that almost 75% of cheetah cub deaths are caused by lions but still little is known about what the reason for this might be. Whilst it is sad to see other predators killing cheetahs, it is natural and probably one of the reasons why cheetahs have evolved to have big litters (6-9 individuals) compared to other carnivores.

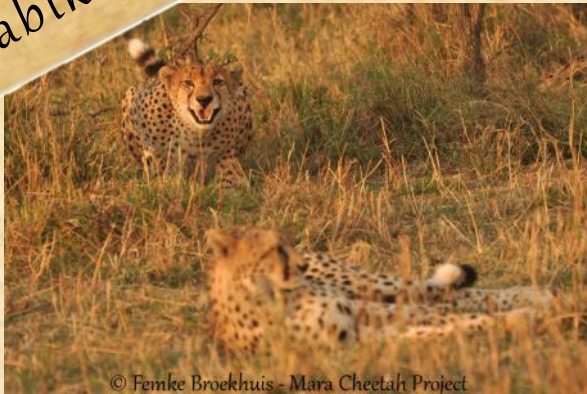
## Narasha

In the last update we reported that Narasha and her male cub were treated for a skin disease called mange. After treatment we monitored them closely but soon realised that they were not fully recovering, possibly because they were re-infected by the female cub who was not treated. In September we called Dr. Limo and together with his veterinary unit they treated all three cheetahs. They are now all doing well.



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## Nabiki



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In mid September Nabiki gave birth to a litter of cubs in Naboisho Conservancy but sadly lost them all quite quickly. We suspect that this was her first litter and that she still needs to master the art of motherhood. Good news is that she was recently seen flirting with a male - fingers crossed that she will have a new litter in 2014.

## Saba

Saba, who is the mother of Amani, has been sighted wandering around in the Mara National Reserve and Olare Motorogi Conservancy. She too was recently seen being followed by an interested suitor. Seems there might be a baby boom early next year!



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**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)**



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