

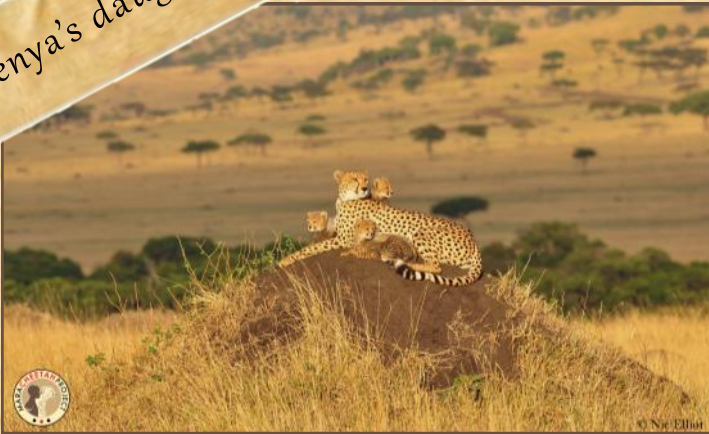


# Cheetah Chat

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

July 2017 - August 2017

Kakenya's daughter



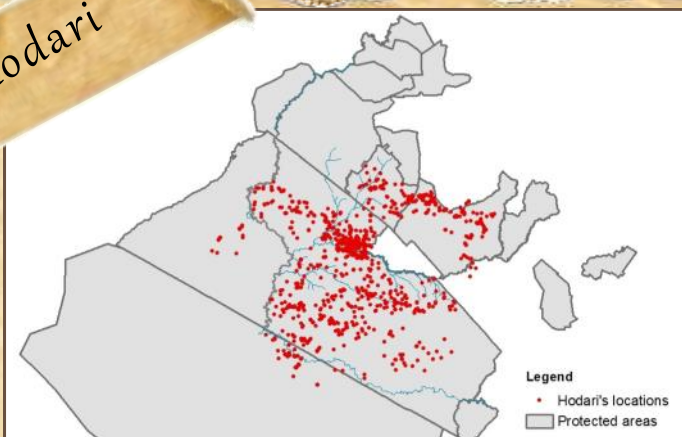
In early 2016, Kakenya (one of the female cheetahs in the Mara Triangle) raised four cubs to independence, 3 females and a male. Her cubs left her when they were about 20 months and since their dispersal we have seen two of her daughters in the Triangle, one of whom was recently seen with three little cubs. This is likely to be her first litter, and while first time mums often lose their cub, she might be able to raise these cubs if she is anything like her mum.

Amani's daughters

After losing six cubs in 2015, Amani was seen in March 2016 in Mara North Conservancy with two female cubs. At the age of 18 months, her two daughters recently left her and they have been seen exploring areas in the Maasai Mara National Reserve that are new to them. These sisters are likely to stay together for a few months before they go their separate ways.



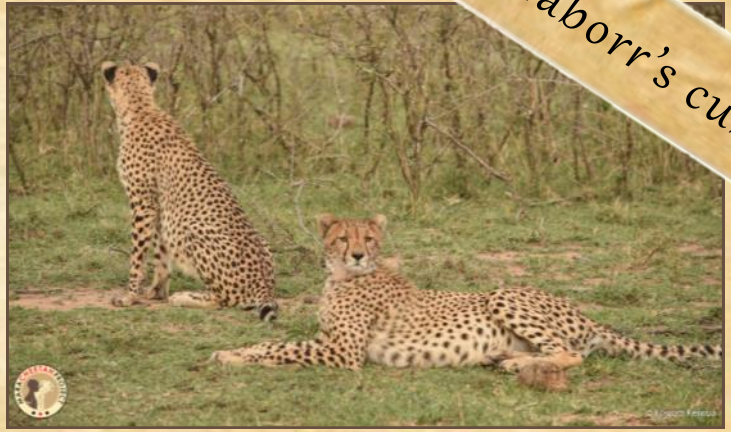
Hodari



While some male cheetahs can hold small territories other males, often called 'floaters', can roam far and wide, as is the case with Hodari, son of Amani and sister to Imani. Hodari was fitted with a GPS collar earlier this year and since then he has traveled across the Mara and into the Serengeti. Most recently he crossed the Mara river into the Mara Triangle. It will be interesting to see where this adventurous cheetah will go next.

## Naborr's cubs

Naborr, who we have known since she was a cub, gave birth to her second litter in June 2016. From this litter she managed to raise two to independence, one male and one female. Both her cubs recently left her at a young age of only 14 months. While it is not unusual for cubs to disperse this young, this usually happens when their mum is pregnant. Like Amani's daughters, the cubs will likely stay together for a few months before splitting up.



## Selenkei



Selenkei, the daughter of Imani and the granddaughter of Amani, left her mum with her two brothers about a year ago. The exciting news is that she was recently seen in Olare-Motorogi Conservancy with three small cubs, so this will be the fourth generation that we will be following as a project. Sadly one of the cubs was seen with a back injury and it was reported that it had been attacked by a tawny eagle. Cubs this age are very vulnerable and it is key that vehicles and noise levels are kept to a minimum at sightings.

## 5 Musketeers

The 5 Musketeers are a rare coalition of five male cheetahs who were first sighted in Naboisho Conservancy at the end of 2016. We believe that the five males are from three different mothers and that these five young males joined forces to improve their hunting skills and increase their hunting success. In the last few months they have definitely turned into skilled hunters and with the influx of wildebeest they are seen taking down wildebeest almost on a daily basis.



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](http://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)**