



Cheetah Chat

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

May 2017 - June 2017

5 Musketeers



Since the coalition of 5 males were first seen in Naboisho Conservancy late last year, they have traveled across the Mara visiting Ol Kinyei and Olare-Motorogi Conservancies and the Maasai Mara National Reserve. On several occasions we have found them with female cheetahs including Selenkei (Imani's daughter). More recently we had an incredible sighting of 8 cheetahs when they were seen with Naborr and her two cubs. While there was a bit of aggression nobody was harmed.

New cheetahs

We recently expanded our monitoring efforts into Olarro South and North Conservancies. During our last visit there we had some incredible cheetah sightings including of a single female (Harabika), a female with three cubs (Kiraposhe) and a female with four cubs (Nasha). All seven cubs are believed to have been born around July/August 2016.



Musiara



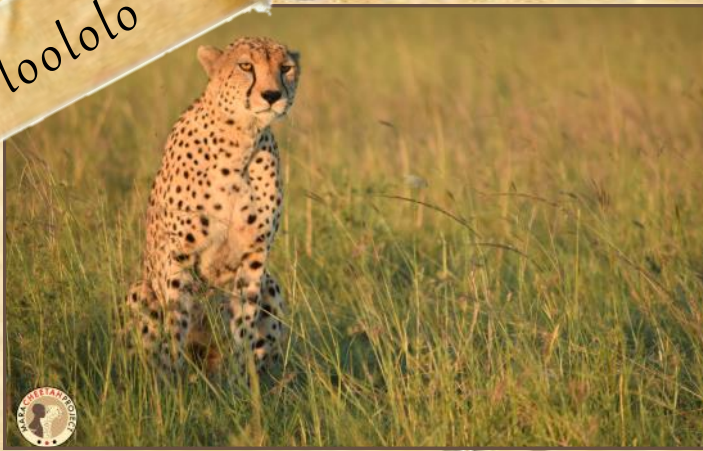
Musiara's litter from June 2015 dispersed in December 2016. Three months later Musiara was seen in the Maasai Mara National Reserve with a new litter of four cubs but in early June she lost three of them. After that, Musiara and her remaining cub moved into Olare-Motorogi Conservancy where sadly she lost her last cub towards the end of June.

Karemba

In the last Cheetah Chat we reported that Karemba was first seen with four cubs on the Sand River in the Maasai Mara National Reserve but that she lost two. Since then she has lost her other two cubs, one in Olare-Motorogi Conservancy and one in Naboisho Conservancy. Most first times mothers are unlikely to raise any of their first litter to independence so, while it is sad, it is not an unusual situation. Let's hope she has more luck with her next litter.



Oloololo



The Oloololo male, who until October 2015 was in a two-male coalition, is often seen around Hammerkop in the Maasai Mara National Reserve. While he does occasionally travel further North into the conservancies, his range has contracted since he lost his coalition mate. Recently he was seen in the Maasai Mara National Reserve flirting with Roza's daughter – hopefully there will be a litter soon.

In August 2016, Imani's three cubs (two males and a female) left their mother as a sibling group. The three stayed together for another 3 months until the female (Selenkei) split from her brothers. Her brothers then formed a three-male coalition with Nolari's son but this coalition was fairly short-lived as the last time we sighted Imani's boys in Ol Kinyei Conservancy Nolari's son wasn't with them. We have no idea what has happened to him but it is possible that he split from the coalition to do his own thing.



Imani's boys



KENYA WILDLIFE TRUST

For more information, or to report a sighting, visit our website (www.maracheetahs.org) or follow us on Facebook (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