



# Cheetah Chat

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

September 2017 – October 2017

Kakenya's daughter



In our last Cheetah Chat we reported that one of Kakenya's three daughters had a new litter. Soon after we saw her with her three cubs, the team found one of her sisters with four very small cubs stashed away in the tall grass on the Oloololo escarpment in the Mara Triangle. Like her sister, this is her first litter so it will be interesting to see how they fare over the next few months.

Last year, Musiara raised 3 cubs (2 females and a male) to independence. The two daughters have moved into the conservancies; the one currently in Olare-Motorogi Conservancy has been named Nashipai and the one in Mara North Conservancy has been named Neema by guides. Both females recently lost their first litters. While it is sad, cheetahs rarely raise their first litter to independence. The good news is that Neema was recently seen scent marking meaning that she is in oestrus. Hopefully she will have another litter in the next few months.



Musiara's daughters

Kiraposhe's cubs



Kiraposhe, a female cheetah in Olarro South Conservancy, recently raised three cubs to independence (2 males and a female). Since the trio left their mum they have been touring the Mara and have so far been sighted in Naboisho, Mara North and Olare-Motorogi Conservancies. They left their mother at the age of 14 months, which is fairly young. The reason that they left so young is because Kiraposhe is pregnant and about to give birth to her next litter.

Selenkei

Selenkei, the daughter of Imani and the granddaughter of Amani, left her mum with her two brothers about a year ago. In the last Cheetah Chat we reported that she had given birth to her first litter but sadly she lost them all soon after that. Since then she has been seen in Olare-Motorogi, Naboisho and Ol Kinyei Conservancies, probably in search of a mate.



Oloololo



Two years ago, a coalition of 2 males, also known as the Oloololo boys, caught an unknown disease which resulted in one of them passing away. Since then the territory of the remaining Oloololo male has shrunk considerably and until recently he was mostly seen around the Hammerkop area in the Maasai Mara National Reserve. However, over the last few weeks we have sighted him in Olare-Motorogi and Mara North Conservancies and we suspect that he has been evicted from his territory by the coalition of 5 males who have now set up shop in that area.

Forester

Forester was a male cheetah who used to roam across Naboisho and Ol Kinyei Conservancies. Last year we put a GPS collar on him so that we could track his movements. Early October we could see from his collar data that something was not right. When we went to his last location we found him dead with a big puncture wound in his skull. Based on the data from the collar on the coalition of 5 males we can see that they encountered each other a few days earlier. We suspect that the encounter was aggressive, which likely resulted in Forester's death.



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)**