

PREDATOR POST

CHEETAH CHAT - FOURTH EDITION



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

Amani

For many months Amani was absent from Mara North Conservancy in which she had made home, shifting her activities to Olare-Motorogi Conservancy and the Look-out Area of the Reserve. Recently, Amani went back to Mara North Conservancy with her three cubs who were born mid-last year (2 females & 1 male). Since going back they have been spending most of their time in the northwestern part of the conservancy, between Serian & Neptune camps. She has recently been losing several of her kills to lions and hyenas and the group has been preying a lot on hares.

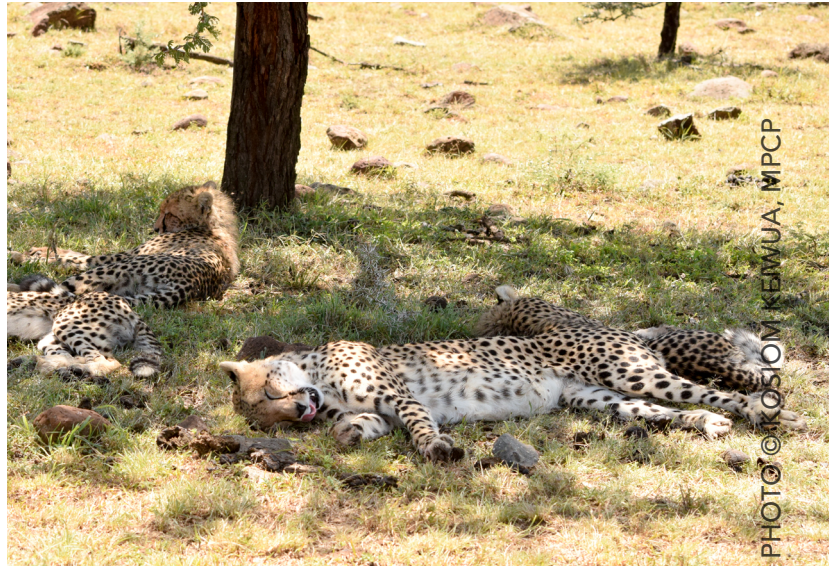


Kiraposhe's sons

Kiraposhe's sons have grown quite big and are frequently seen bringing down large zebras. They have settled well within Mara North Conservancy, occasionally popping into Lemek Conservancy. They are mostly sighted near Elephant Pepper Camp.

Entito

Entito gave birth to her first litter of four cubs when she was only 23 months old. Only one cub was lost within the first month of bringing them out of the lair which is quite impressive, but even more impressive is the fact that she did not lose more cubs after that. Her cubs, two males & one female, are almost nine months old now and growing fast and are seen traversing between Naboisho and Ol Kinyei conservancies.



Neebati

After separating with her two sons when they were 15 months old in mid-December, Neebati has given birth to her second litter. Cheetah mothers will shortly after mating separate with their sub-adults to start preparing for the next litter. She has been sighted in the same denning spot as the previous time, inside the compound of Encounter Mara in Naboisho Conservancy, with five tiny cubs. The denning area should be avoided by guides and guests at this time to avoid disturbance and reduce the risk of exposure. We hope she manages to bring all five cubs out when the time comes.

Neebati's sons

Born in October 2017, Neebati's male cubs, who believed to have been sired by Forester, dispersed in mid-December. They are getting bigger and continue to be sighted in southern part of Naboisho Conservancy. Wildebeest injured one of the males, with a big white tail tip, in February while the brothers were hunting. His front left leg was swollen around the shoulder and he was not able to hunt but thanks to his brother, who made sure he was well fed. The injured male is still in the process of recovering and will be fine.



Nolari

Nolari, the daughter of Narasha, born in May 2012, raised one male cub to independence since 2016. Since then she has been observed several times either looking heavily pregnant or lactating but no other cubs have been recorded from her until recently where she was sighted with one cub. Sadly, she lost it recently when a hyena killed it. We hope she will have better luck in the future with raising cubs.



Rosetta

Rosetta, who is Roza's daughter, is turning six years old but has not been successful in rearing cubs until recently. She currently has three cubs left from her litter of at least five, born in late September 2018. Two cubs died of unknown causes. She is using southern part of the Reserve, sometimes crossing over to the Serengeti and lately she has been sighted in the northeastern part of the reserve around the Simba area as well. With the cubs almost five months now they can outrun most predators and chances are high that she will raise them to independence.



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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