

PREDATOR POST

CHEETAH CHAT - FIFTH EDITION



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

Nebaati

Nebaati brought her four cubs out of the lair in April, after losing one. She has mostly been using areas with bushes to reduce the risk of detection of her cubs by other predators. She has been sighted recently in Ol Kinyei Conservancy with all four cubs and is doing great. This is her second litter of cubs so far.



Nebaati Sons

Nebaati's two sons, who are potentially sired by Forester, dispersed late last year. They hung around Naboisho Conservancy for around four months before venturing into the National Reserve where they are currently being sighted. They seem to be moving further south each day and are a few kilometers from the Kenyan-Tanzanian border. They may as well cross into the Serengeti.

Selenkei and the Olkinyei Males

In May, Selenkei was sighted in Naboisho Conservancy together with her brothers, the two Olkinyei Males (right photo). The brothers were interested in mating with Selenkei, and even though no mating event was documented, it is worrying that they were still together four days after the first sighting. After any potential mating, Selenkei crossed over to Olare-Motorogi Conservancy with only three cubs and a day later, the remaining cub joined them,



who we suspect to be the female cub. We are not certain but it seems either the two Olkinyei males held the female cub for a while before letting her go or she fled from the males earlier. A few weeks later Selenkei was sighted for the first time with her cubs in Olkeju-Rongai area, and there were signs that she was pregnant and wanted to break away from her large cubs, who are now becoming independent. The four youngsters were sighted recently in OMC without their mother, but have teamed up with a young male who is unknown to us, mostly likely a disperser from the Serengeti (left photo, cheetah furthest to the right).

Kiraposhes' cub

Kiraposhe has been doing well with her two ten-months-old cubs in Olarro conservancies. Unfortunately, Kiraposhe's female cub was found dead in May on the public road that runs through Olarro North Conservancy, by Olarro Conservancy rangers. Evidence suggests that she was run over by a speeding vehicle.





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EM

This male, who was first captured by a camera trap in Naboisho Conservancy, continues to be sighted. He is seen mostly in the western part of Naboisho Conservancy and in the eastern part of Olare-Motorogi Conservancy. Though still shy, at least one can now get a few minutes of his company, before he vanishes into the vast whistling thorns.

Raisi

The daughter of Roza and younger sister of Rosetta, emerged with a litter of five cubs, but quickly lost two of them to unknown causes. Although her activity center is mostly in the Northern Serengeti hence not having her full story, we believe that this is her second litter after raising three male cubs since 2016.



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