

PREDATOR POST

LION TAILS NABOISHO - EIGHTH EDITION

MAY - 2021



Updates by the Mara Predator Conservation Programme
on lions in Naboisho Conservancy

Enesikiria pride: Main group

The main Enesikiria pride is currently utilizing the area near the Koiyaki Guiding School. The remaining two adult females, Akilah and Jasmina and their 6 cubs (4 males, 2 females), are often seen with the Rongai males, who sired the cubs. The cubs will be one year old in June and we hope that they will all grow to adulthood to ensure the continual existence of the pride in the future.



Enesikiria pride: the 4 Sub-adults

The four daughters of Akilah, Jasmina & Isina are still together and have formed a stable sub-group within the Enesikiria pride territory. It has been a while since we have seen them together with the main pride females. The four daughters, who are now around 3.5 years old, seem pregnant. The question is who the fathers are. The Rongai males, whose territory they belong to, are obvious candidates, but we have also found a Koka dispersing male and a Fig Tree dispersing male around that area. During our last intensive monitoring period we actually found one of the females mating with the Fig Tree dispersing male.



Ilkisiusiu pride

This pride still occupies the larger eastern part of the conservancy along the Enolera lugga, overlapping the Enesikiria pride territory. The entire pride is finally back together. Previously, some of the daughters and one of the adults had split up for a while but have now re-joined forces, bringing all their cubs together. The pride totals 22 lions, including 16 cubs of different age sets and 6 adult females. There is plenty of food available for them as there has been a steady flow of wildebeest to the area from the neighbouring Ol Kinyei Conservancy. The pride cubs were sired by the three Rongai males who have been with them for some time now. We hope that the fathers will provide the necessary protection from the young dispersing males roaming around the pride territory to ensure the survival of the cubs.



Oldikdik dispersing males

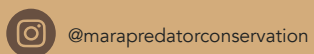
Three Oldikdik pride born males from Olare-Motorogi Conservancy (OMC) have moved to Naboisho Conservancy after being seen in the Reserve last year. It has not been easy to spot the males since they have mostly been spending time in an inaccessible area due to the terrain near the new Nyika Camp, which is part of Ilkisiusiu pride's territory. The intrusion of these males to the territory of the Rongai males is a risk and a fight over the territory and the prides might be on the table in the near future. The Oldikdik boys roam as far as to the community area bordering OMC and Naboisho and can sometimes be heard roaring close to the bomas at night. They have also been in inside OMC.

Fig Tree and Koka dispersing males

One of the two Koka males and the single dispersing Fig Tree male from the 2016 litter have been seen in the southern part of Naboisho since last year. We have occasionally seen these males mating with some females of the younger Enesikiria pride females.



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