PREDATOR POST

LION TAILS NABOISHO- TENTH EDITION

JUNE - 2022

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

Enesikiria core pride

The Enesikiria pride are doing well despite the struggles they have been through. After the Rongai males, who are still the pride males, killed one of their rivals from the Keekerok Nomad coalition, the Eneskiria pride are more at ease and the remaining Keekerok Nomad is mostly absent from the scene, only seldomly making an appearance.

The sub-adults are really growing and are now almost two years old. We are hoping that the remaining daughter will choose to stay with her mothers and continue with her pride. The four brothers will form a bachelor group and live a nomadic life and if they stay out of trouble and survive to adulthood, they will become a powerful force.





Enesikiria pride Breakaway group

One of the four daughters of Akilah, Jasmina & Isina, who have their own Enesikira Breakaway pride, has been missing and we assume that she has died. The remaining three females are doing well, and their seven cubs are still surviving despite being without pride males. An interesting event transpired with this pride and their natal pride. Both prides were on a kill, feasting peacefully together. The daughters in the Breakaway pride split from their natal pride a long time ago and they had not been interacting since. We had hoped that they would have been recruited to the main pride instead of separating to increase the pride size but because of intruding males, this did not happen. We were delighted to see them all together again. It usually takes a few generations apart before they will become hostile towards one another.

Sampu Enkare Breakaway pride

This pride has been through many tough times, especially with the constant change in pride males. Lokoman lost all her cubs after they lost their father. Esiriwua's daughter's cubs were forced to spend much of their time by themselves which put them at the risk of being killed by other predators, the new Maji ya Fisi pride males or dying of hunger since they cannot hunt by themselves.

Their mother plays tricks on the new males and often sneaks off to spend some time with the cubs and supply them with food. This seems to be working for the time being. The cubs are growing big and we recently found them by themselves, still within the pride territory. Lokoman has a new set of cubs sired by the Maji ya Fisi males and we found her moving her babies to a safe location after a short interruption by a lone buffalo.

We hope that someday this pride will have many more females added to it.



Ilkisiusiu pride

This pride continues to prefer ranging around the Enoolera stream and up towards the small croton hill facing Naboisho Camp from the eastern side. This place has been great for them because there has been no grazing of livestock there and so they find it safe.

The pride has several sub-adults of different age sets, both males and females whom we still see all together with the main pride or in sub-groups by themselves.





Some of the young males and females have minor injuries giving a clear indication that the Rongai males are becoming more and more intolerant. It is ideally time for the Rongai males to be replaced by a new coalition so the daughters will be able to be recruited to the pride and not forced to disperse or mate with their fathers.
Noolamala has two large cubs and Nasha has three small cubs who she has introduced to the pride.

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