

PREDATOR POST

CHEETAH CHAT - 20TH EDITION

OCTOBER - 2023

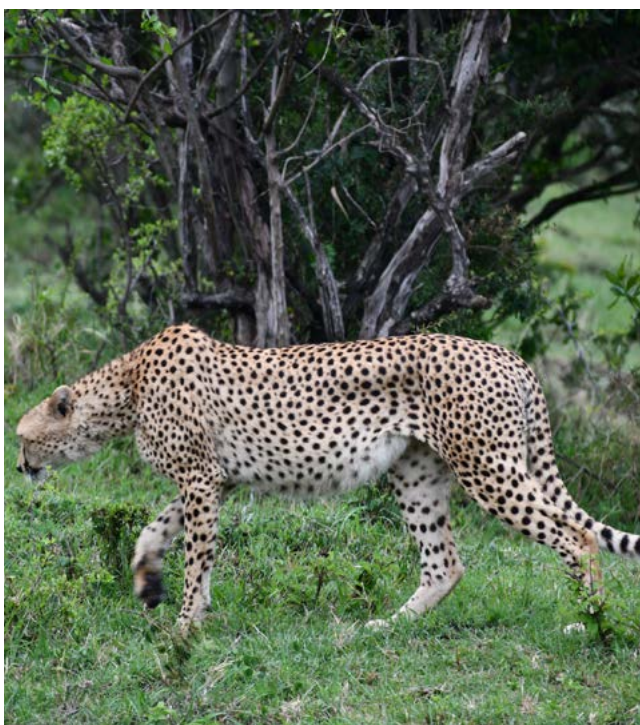


Updates by the Mara Predator Conservation Programme
on cheetahs in Maasai Mara

Naado

Siligi's daughter, Naado, was born in October 2019 as part of the renowned litter of seven, marking the first recorded occurrence of such an event in the Mara. Among her siblings, she was the sole survivor, managing to separate from her mother by the end of 2020.

Just like her mother, who prefers to spend most of her time in Serengeti National Park in Tanzania, Naado also tends to frequent that side more, resulting in fewer sightings on the Mara side. Recently, we sighted her in good body condition within the National Reserve.



Sila

First sighted in the middle of 2019 in the Mara Triangle, the brotheres Mwanga and Mkali crossed the Mara River to the National Reserve side in early 2020 and were frequently sighted around Tipilikwani, Maji ya fisi and crossing the Talek river to Olkiombo area.

By mid-2020 they had moved to the community conservancies with sightings of them within Olare Motorogi and Naboisho conservancies. In September 2021, Mwanga was found alone with an open wound in his hind leg and was treated by veterinary Mara unit. His partner Mkali disappeared after that, and he is assumed dead as he has never been sighted again. Mwanga adopted a solitary lifestyle and went missing for some time, but we were delighted to have sighted him recently.

Kisaru

Kisaru, Amani's daughter, has proven to be an adept mother, successfully nurturing and guiding five cubs to independence from two separate litters. She gave birth to her latest litter in Embokishi Conservancy in June and brought two cubs out with her.

Kisaru has explored Enonkishu, Olchorro, Lemek and Mara North conservancies with her cubs but unfortunately, she lost one of them mid november.



Nashipae

Musiara's daughter Nashipae had her first successful litter in May 2020 and surprisingly raised that litter to independence.

The two cubs were born and raised mostly in the National Reserve but as they grew older, they started to explore neighbouring conservancies with sightings within Olare Motorogi, Mara North and Naboisho conservancies.

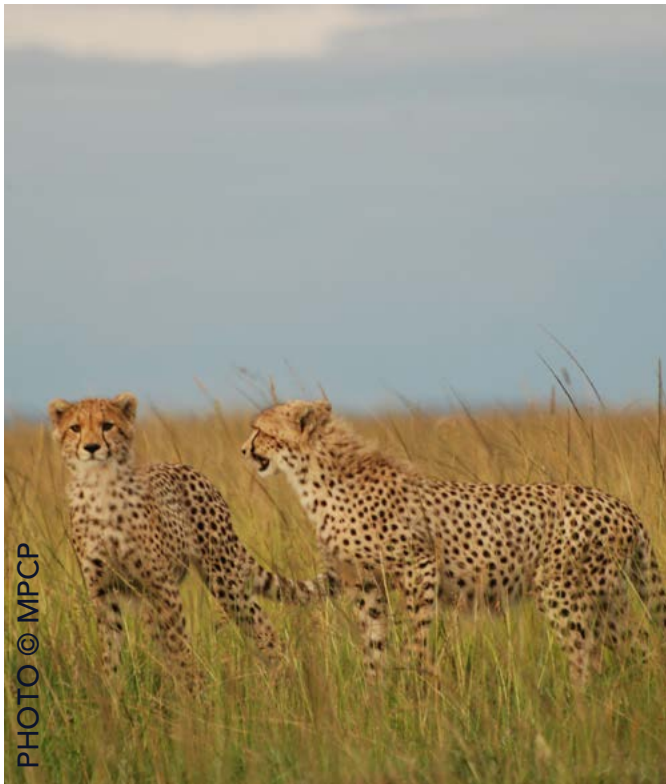
She brought out four small cubs from the lair in the National Reserve, and so far, they seem to be doing well. Recently, she took them to Olare Motorogi Conservancy, where they will be less harassed by mass tourism.



Kulete

Amani's daughter Kulete has been successful in raising her cubs despite being relatively young when she had her first litter. Typically, young females or first-time mothers often lose their initial litters. Kulete gave birth to her first litter in March 2021 and managed to raise two out of the four cubs to adulthood.

She had a second litter of five cubs in December 2022, but unfortunately, none of cubs survived. She recently brought three cubs out in Olare Motorogi Conservancy, but unfortunately, she lost the whole litter.



Risasi's Male

Sadly, one of the two sub-adult males from Risasi's litter that recently dispersed, has died. These boys were part of a litter of four that were born in May 2022. The litter consisted of two males and two females, but she lost one female cub when she was around four and a half months old to unknown causes.

The cubs that were left were doing well until a crocodile killed the remaining female. The two surviving male cubs remained with Risasi until they dispersed mid-September.

Unfortunately, approximately two weeks after their separation from their mother, one of the males suffered severe injuries during a hunting activity gone wrong and died near the Mara Triangle and Serengeti border. The remaining male was sighted alone in the Triangle a while ago and he seems to be doing fine.

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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