PREDATOR POST

CHEETAH CHAT - 21ST EDITION

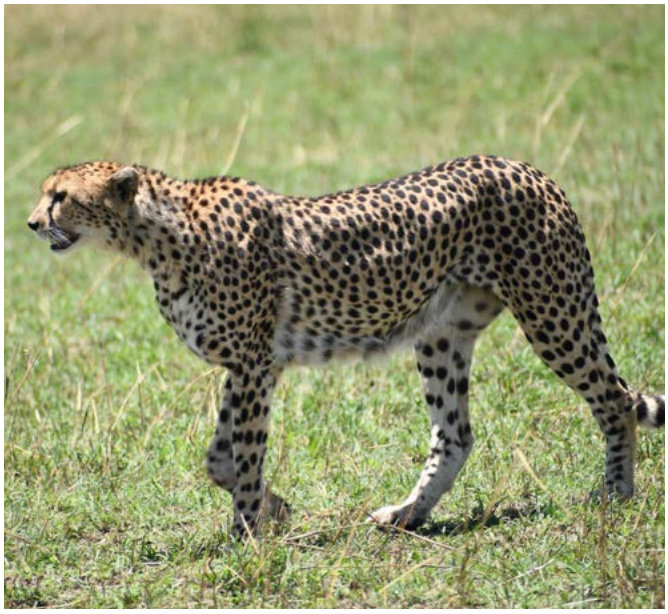
MARCH - 2024

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

Imani

At 12 years old, Imani is one of the oldest female cheetahs in the Masai Mara. She raised one successful litter to independence in 2016, consisting of two males, Lemara and Leteipa, and one female, Selenkei. Unfortunately, she has not been successful in raising subsequent litters since then. We have documented her with several other litters, but she keeps on losing them.

We are, however, happy that Leteipa is still around and was last sighted in Naboisho and Ol Kinyei during our last intensive predator monitoring.





Two Musketeers

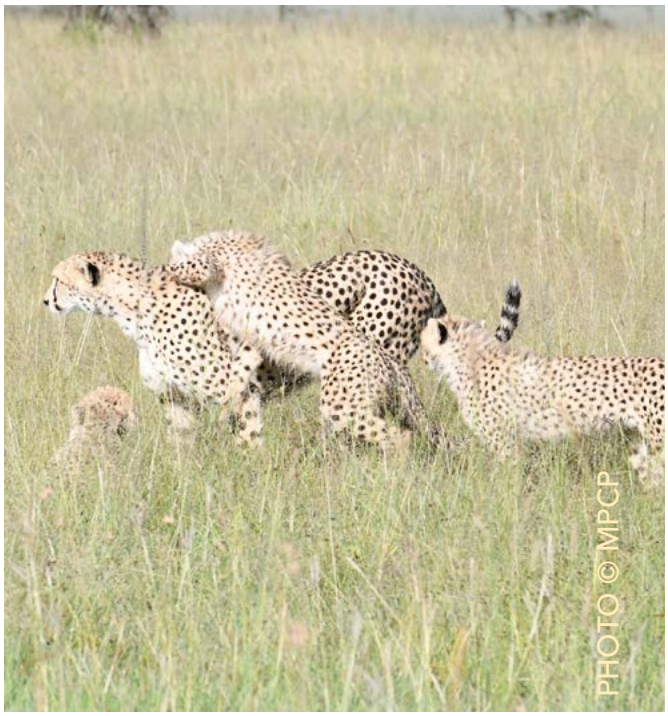
Winda and Olonyok, the last surviving members of the once formidable Tano Bora coalition, are among the oldest males in Masai Mara, approximately ten years old. Although they continue to roam their territory in the National Reserve, they were recently sighted within Olare Motorogi Conservancy when they ventured out briefly before returning to the Reserve.

Recently, Winda was sighted in solitude, calling out for his coalition companion, Olonyok. Thankfully, two days later, the two males were reunited and had a successful hunt.

Nashipae

Musiara's daughter Nashipae had her first successful litter in May 2020 and managed to raise the two cubs to independence. In August last year, she brought four cubs out of the lair in the National Reserve, and amazingly, all four cubs are thriving. She spent some time in the National Reserve before crossing over to Olare Motorogi Conservancy and finally ending up in Naboisho Conservancy, where she has been spending a significant amount of time.

She recently crossed back into Olare Motorogi, and we are happy to see her six-month-old cubs still doing well. The older the cubs get, the higher their chance of surviving to independence.





Namunyak

Nebaati's daughter Namunyak had her first documented litter in September last year when she gave birth to six cubs in Naboisho Conservancy. She, however, lost one cub to a buffalo attack while they were still in the den, and in an unfortunate turn of events, she subsequently lost a further three cubs while going back and forth between Olare Motorogi Conservancy and the National Reserve.

She is now down to two cubs who are doing well, and this is still a great achievement for a first-time mother. They are currently all back in Naboisho Conservancy.



Kisaru

In an unfortunate turn of events, we lost the iconic female cheetah Kisaru towards the end of February this year. Kisaru was born in 2016 by the famous female cheetah Amani, who was part of a litter of two with her sister Busara/Anashe.

She was an excellent mother and will be remembered by many after raising six cubs to independence in 2020, which was an impressive achievement.

It was a sad day when she was found dead on the morning of February 21, 2024, in a suspected lion attack incident. She was in the company of her six-month-old cub, who was rescued by county officials and taken to an animal enclosure in the Mara Triangle.

RIP, Kisaru, you will be missed.

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

MaraPredatorConservation @marapredatorconservation @MaraPredator

www.marapredatorconservation.org