

MARA PREDATOR CONSERVATION PROGRAMME



QUARTER
2 REPORT | 2024



OVERARCHING GOALS

SCIENCE-DRIVEN CONSERVATION OF PREDATORS IN THE GREATER MARA ECOSYSTEM



FOSTERING HARMONY

To help community members and landowners understand and appreciate the role of predators in the ecosystem

SCIENCE-DRIVEN SOLUTIONS

To ensure that key stakeholders in the Greater Mara Ecosystem consistently utilise sound scientific information to inform conservation strategies



THRIVING PREDATORS, THRIVING ECOSYSTEM

To support stable, healthy predator populations in the Greater Mara Ecosystem by providing scientific evidence for conservation action



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Mara Predator Conservation Program (MPCP) works to conserve predators in the Mara Ecosystem. It does this through research and community engagements aimed at creating tolerance and coexistence.

During this period, the research team drove **2,900 km** in search of predators. We recollared a female lion whose collar failed, and another female collar dropped off as programmed. The remaining collared lions were monitored closely through our **Earth Ranger** platform. All MPCP collars are linked to our **Lion ambassadors** who monitor the collared lion's movements when they approach the community areas to prevent conflicts. A new male cheetah was recorded and added to our database. We continued to engage with Conservancy and Maasai Mara National Reserve rangers through meetings. This quarter, the MPCP community team implemented various initiatives targeting human-predator conflict mitigation, conservation education, and livelihood support programs. Key activities included two herders' training sessions, one art camp, patron's training, and nine pasture management training sessions, as detailed in the report.



“ **IN ORDER TO LOOK AT CONSERVATION THROUGH ART WITH A LONG-TERM IMPACT, WE MUST TEACH CHILDREN TO OBSERVE AND APPRECIATE NATURE’S UNIQUE FEATURES AND TO REUSE AVAILABLE MATERIALS TO CREATE ART.**

**APRIL HOLIDAY ART CAMP
FACILITATOR: NAITEMU NYANJOM**

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RESEARCH UPDATE



Monitoring Updates

During this reporting quarter, the programme continued to monitor predators across the study area to stay updated on population dynamics. The team covered **2,900 km** with **60 sightings of lions** and **12 sightings of cheetahs**. The ongoing monitoring provides valuable insights into predator behavior and population changes and contributes to determining population trends over time. Such data is crucial for informing conservation strategies and ensuring the effective protection of these species.

Lion Updates Collar Updates

Through our **Collars for Conservation** initiative, MPCP has successfully collared peripheral pride females to collect spatiotemporal data using GPS collars. This data is transmitted to the EarthRanger platform, a comprehensive online system designed to collect, consolidate, and visualise data related to collared predators and other valuable information required. In the second quarter, there were eight collared lions across the study area, but one collar dropped off after a full collaring term.

Plans are underway to deploy the remaining collars on the remaining prides during the next quarter.

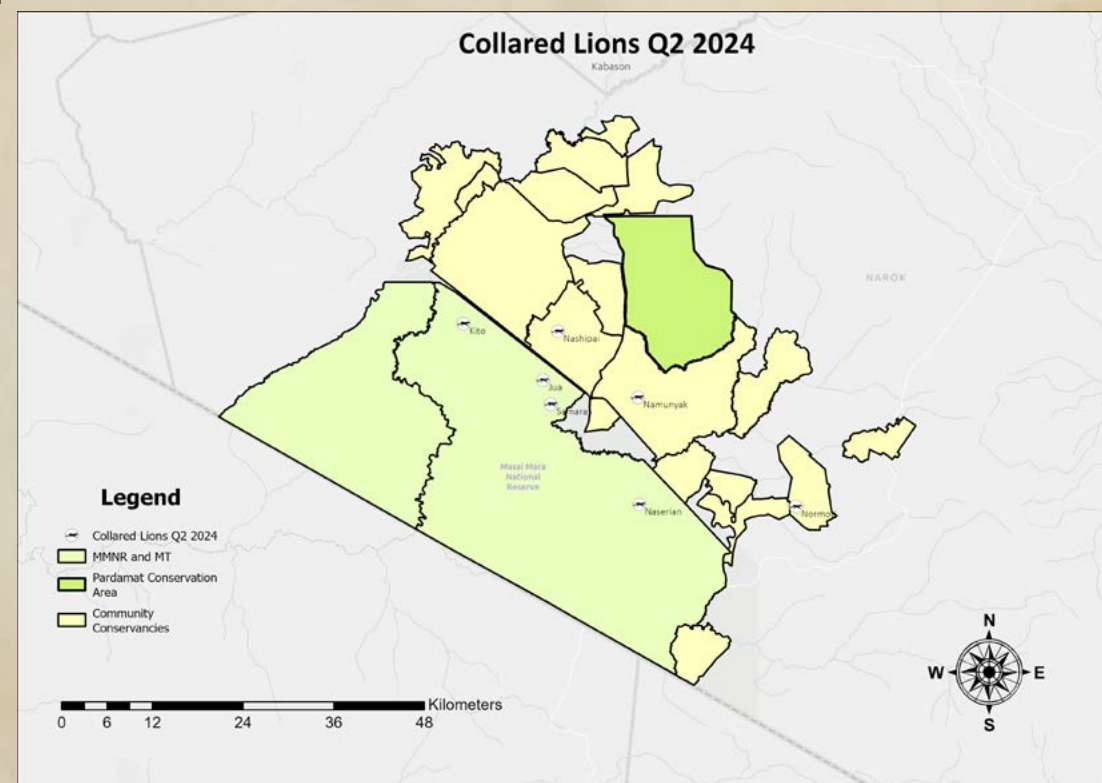


Figure 1: The seven active MPCP collars in Q2.

Kito

Kito, one of the oldest females of the Marsh Pride, was collared due to continued predator-livestock conflicts in the Musiara area and the adjacent community settlement, especially during illegal night grazing in the National Reserve. The real-time monitoring initiative has provided important insights into the pride's territory, which extends into the nearby community area, Figure 2.

Thanks to proactive monitoring by the section warden, no conflicts involving these lions have been reported. We will continue to monitor this pride to prevent conflicts, particularly when the lions venture onto communal areas.

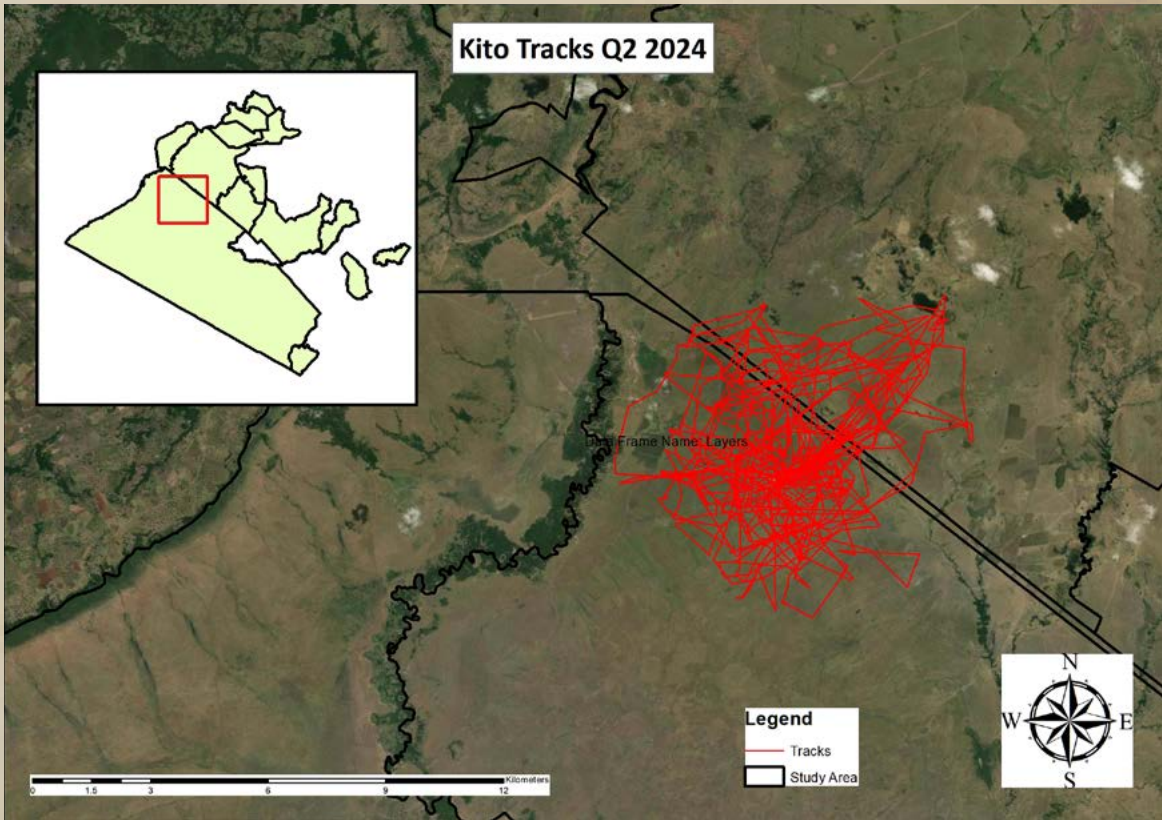


Figure 2. Kito’s tracks

Namunyak

Namunyak from the Molibany pride in Naboisho Conservancy remains with her sister Namelok and the sub-adults. In the last quarter, data from her collar indicated that the lion’s range had expanded to Olerai Conservancy and the communal area around Leopard Hill.

Naboisho rangers have observed this pride encountering the Fig Tree Pride, which includes a collared female named Samara. These lions briefly interacted within Naboisho Conservancy, figure 9.

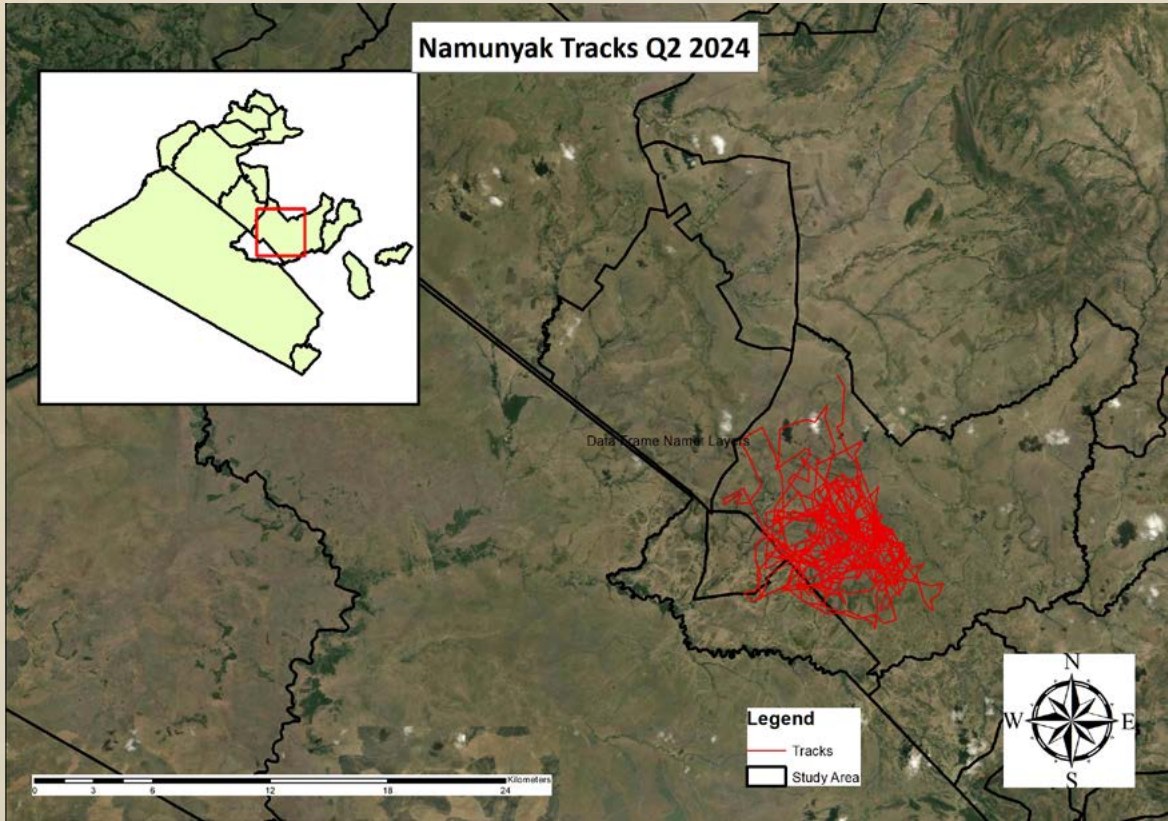


Figure 3. Namunyak’s tracks

Komeyian

This is one of the females from the Pusinkariak pride in Oloisukut Conservancy. She was collared due to high livestock predation within the conservancy and the adjacent communal settlement area. Her collar recently detached automatically after completing its full term. The collar was set to transmit data more frequently, allowing Oloisukut rangers to monitor her movements more closely to prevent potential lion conflicts.

We are pleased to report that during her entire collaring period, no major conflicts involving this collared lion were recorded.

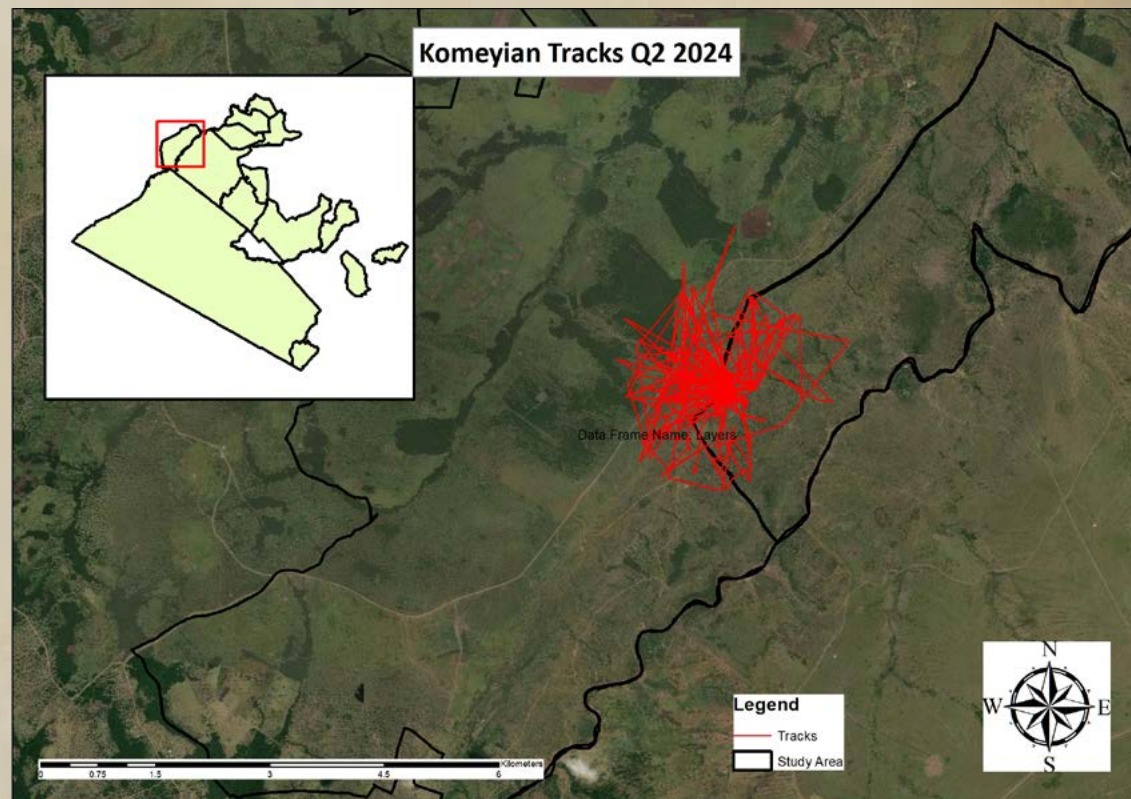


Figure 4. Komeyian's tracks

Nashipai

Nashipai, one of the oldest females from the Engoyanai Pride, continues to provide valuable data through her collar. Along with several sub-adult males and females, she has been roaming extensively within the conservancy. Their journey spans from Moniko Hill near Kicheche Bush Camp to Mara Toto and extends eastwards to Mahali Mzuri, where they have been sighted with the Iseketa Pride. This extensive range highlights the dynamic movement patterns of the pride and their adaptability to different areas within the conservancy (Figure 5).

In addition to their movements within the protected areas, Nashipai and her pride have also ventured into the communal areas between OMC and MNC. These movements beyond the conservancy boundaries underline the importance of monitoring and managing human-wildlife interactions. The data collected from Nashipai's collar not only aids in understanding the pride's spatial ecology but also plays a crucial role in mitigating potential conflicts with local communities.

Through continuous monitoring and collaboration with community members, we aim to ensure the safety and well-being of both the lions and the people living in these areas.

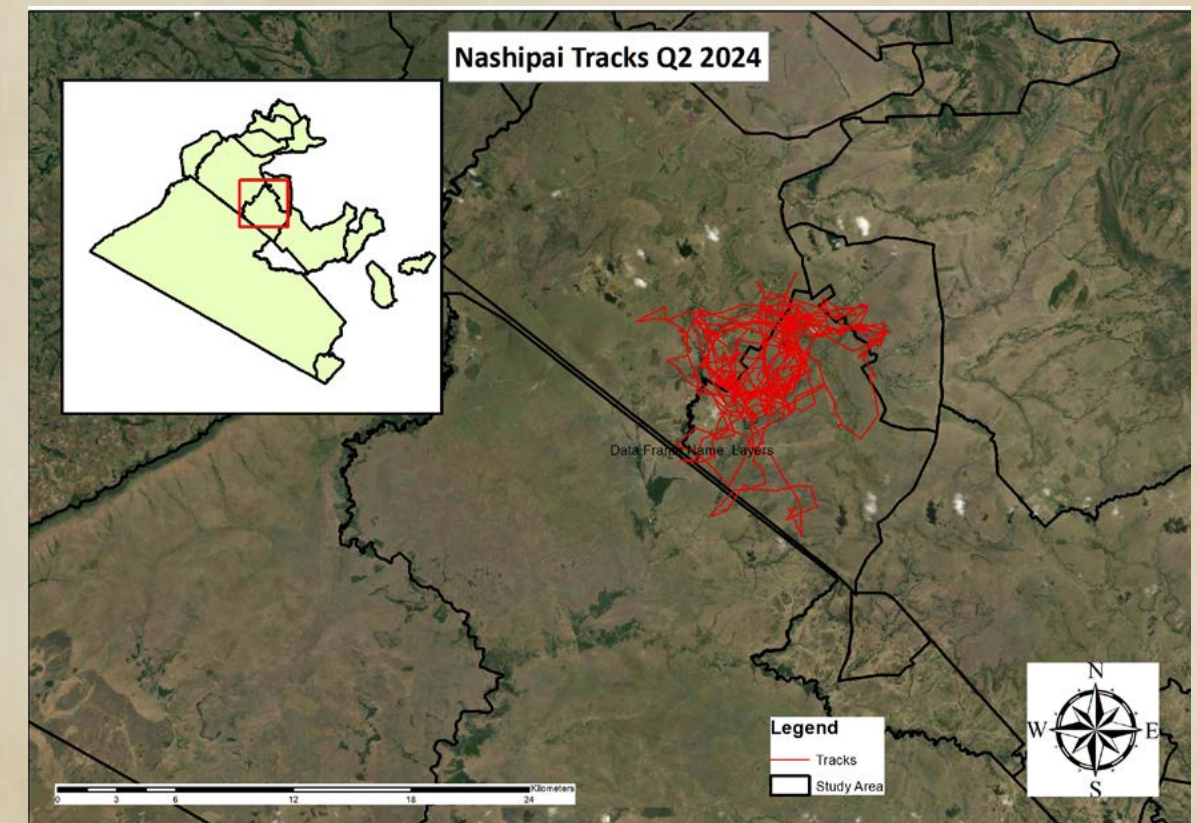


Figure 5. Nashipai's tracks

Jua

Jua, a member of the Topi Pride, was collared at the end of November. While Jua and her pride were previously associated with the Topi plains, they have now shifted to the area between Double Cross and the Talek River, Figure 6. Initially, Jua's collar malfunctioned and failed to transmit data as expected. She was re-collared and we are now able to track her movements again. During this reporting quarter, due to the long grass within the National Reserve, these lions have been observed at the edge of the National Reserve and the community area around Ngila and Olare Orok.

There have been unconfirmed reports of livestock predation during illegal night grazing within the National Reserve. We have also observed the movement of these lions in communal areas at night and have alerted the respective lion ambassadors to be vigilant when communicating with community members when the lions cross from protected areas onto communal areas to prevent potential human-predator conflicts. We hope that the anticipated annual wildebeest migration will provide more food for the predators, reducing the pressure on them to prey on livestock or move into communal areas, where the number of herbivores, especially zebras, is high.

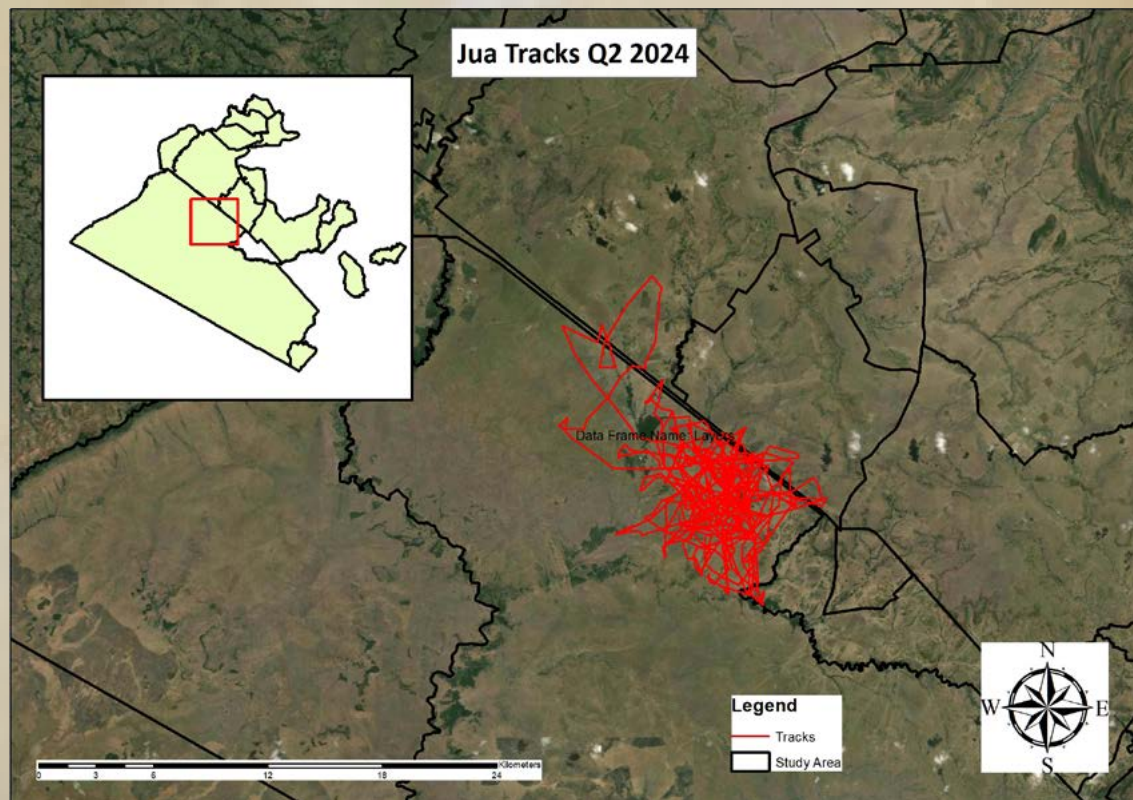


Figure 6. Jua's tracks

Naserian

Naserian is one of the core female lions from the remaining members of the KWS/Sarova/Kisanja pride within the National Reserve. These lions have experienced significant human-predator conflicts both within their territory and when they enter nearby community conservancies. Previously, a collared female from the pride was killed in a retaliatory attack between the National Reserve and Siana Conservancy. Due to these conflict incidents, Naserian was collared to monitor the pride's space use over time.

The collar data shows that these lions frequently venture into the nearby Nashulai and Siana conservancies, which currently have higher prey availability compared to the National Reserve, where prey species are avoiding the area due to long grass. Alerts have been set up for personnel in the respective protected areas to monitor her movements and prevent any human-lion conflicts.

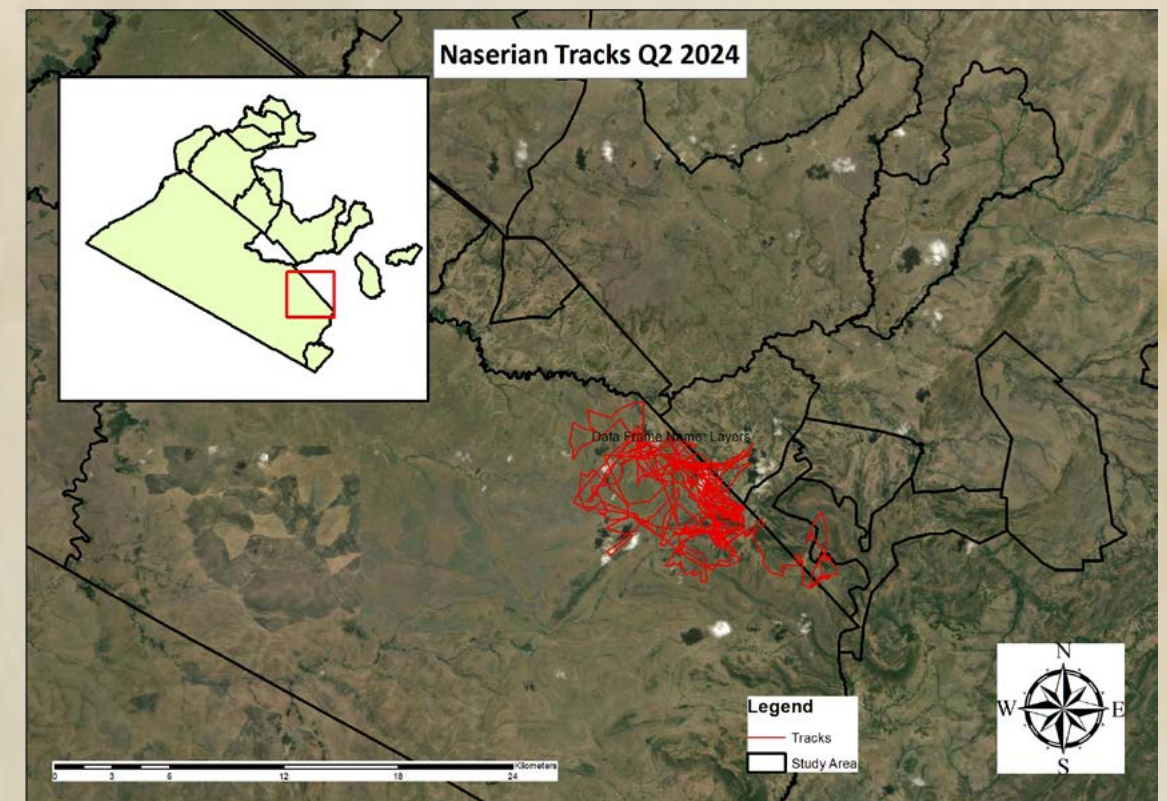


Figure 7. Naserian's tracks

Samara

The collared female from the Fig Tree Pride has been moving between Olerai Conservancy and the National Reserve, traversing the corridor which is a heavily settled communal area, Figure 8. This movement between the two protected areas increases their vulnerability due to the risk of livestock predation and it highlights the need for continuous monitoring to mitigate potential conflicts with local communities and ensure the lions' safety.

Continued monitoring and data collection will be crucial in understanding the dynamics between these prides and ensuring effective conservation strategies that support both lion populations and the surrounding communities.

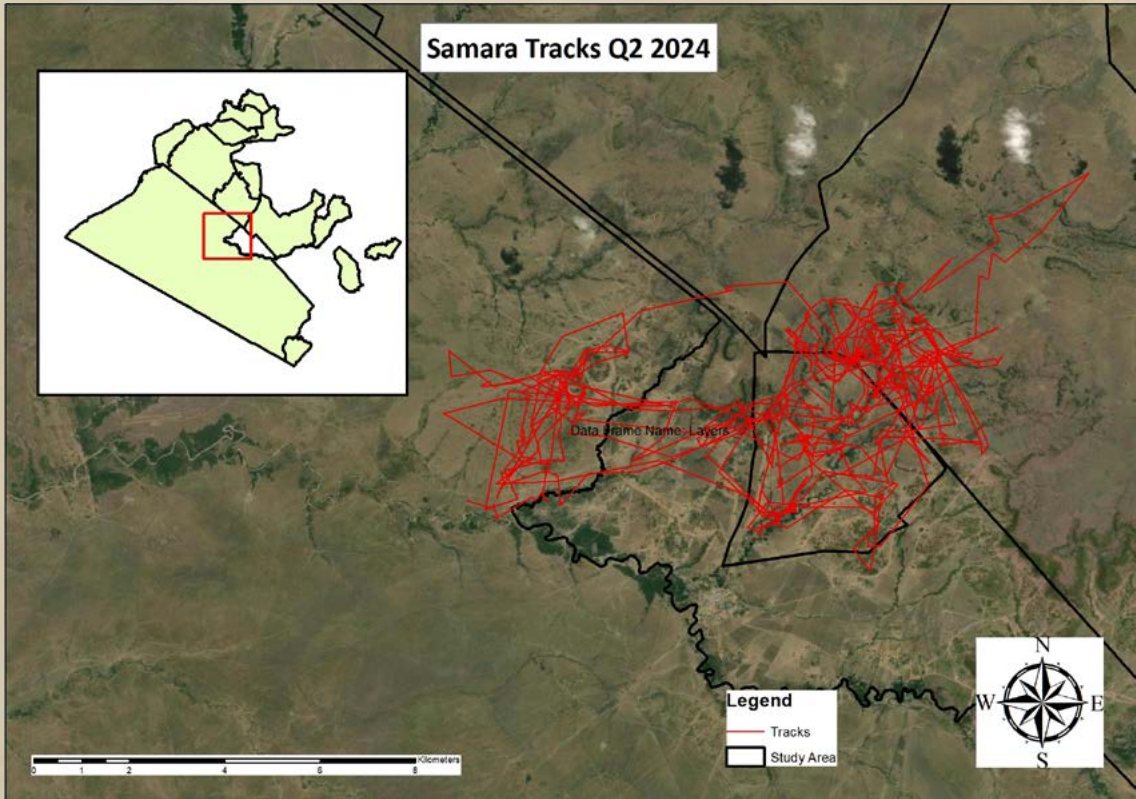


Figure 8. Samara’s tracks

During this reporting quarter, rangers from Naboisho Conservancy observed a physical encounter between two collared lion prides, Fig Tree and Molibany. This interaction was also recorded by the collar data (Figure 9). There was no aggressive behavior between the prides, indicating a potential level of coexistence or tolerance.

This absence of conflict is encouraging, suggesting that the prides can share overlapping territories without immediate aggression.

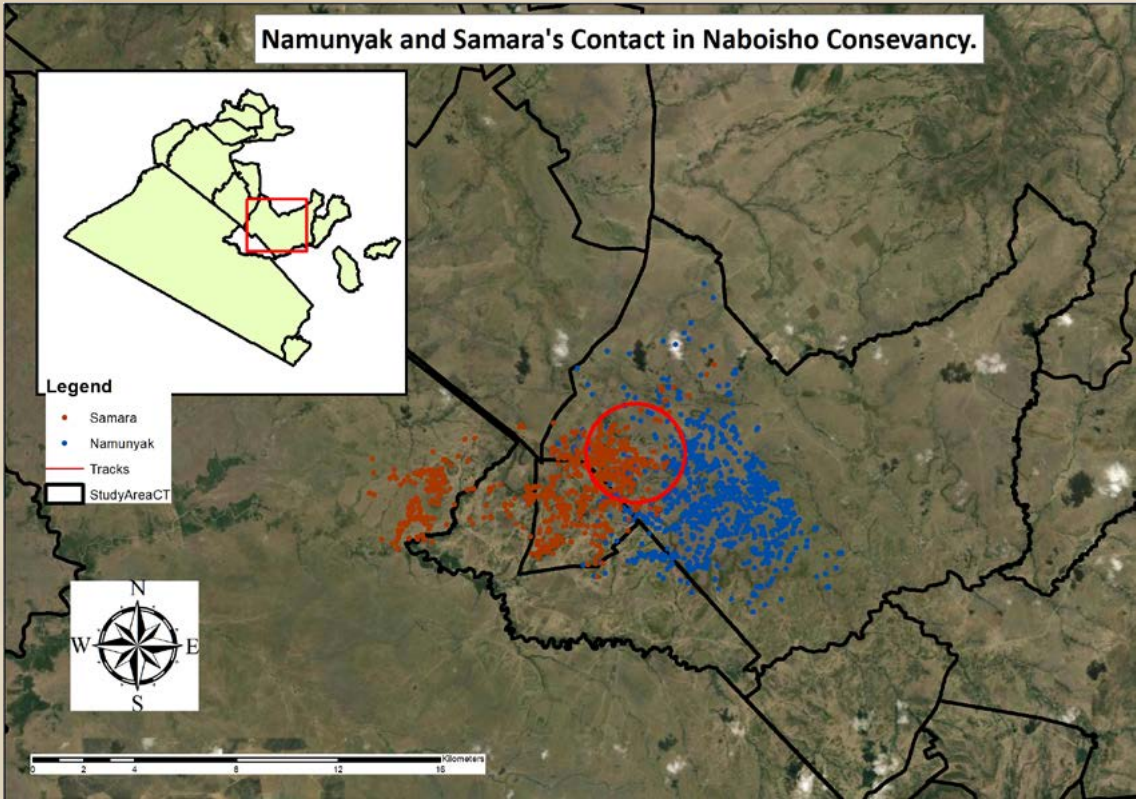


Figure 9. Contact between Samara’s Fig Tree Pride and Namunyak’s Molibany Pride in Naboisho Conservancy.



Normoti

This adult female lion, named Normoti, is from the Normasi Pride in Ripoi Conservancy. Previous communal disputes within Ripoi (formerly Olarro South) hindered our efforts to monitor this pride effectively but the issues have so far been resolved and the conservancy is back in operation. Data from this lion indicates the lion and her pride mates have been spending a significant amount of time within Ripoi Conservancy, occasionally ranging into Siana Conservancy, Figure 10.

Her movement patterns have been shared with the head rangers of both conservancies to monitor her and prevent any potential conflicts between lions and humans.

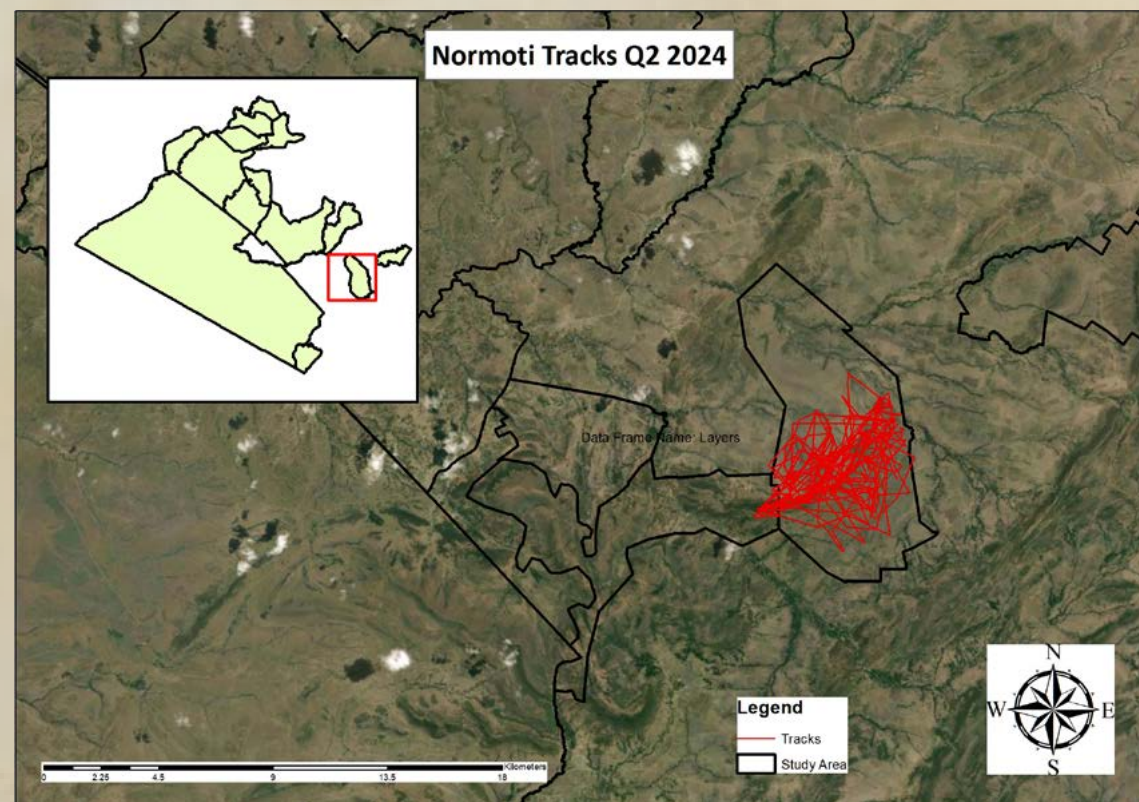


Figure 10. Normoti's tracks

Cheetah updates Births and Mortalities

During the last quarter, no new births were recorded. Two females, Kweli and Kulete showed signs of being lactating, but both must have since lost their litters. Namunyak lost one cub to a suspected lion attack in Ol Kinyei Conservancy.



Namunyak & Cub

Adult Deaths

Rafiki, who was part of a coalition of two, is suspected to have died. He was a littermate to Ruka and Risasi and was born to the female Rosetta. They were born and raised in the National Reserve but dispersed and settled in the Mara Triangle. They were frequently seen crossing back and forth between the Mara Triangle and northern Serengeti.

Unfortunately, after one of their recent visits to the Serengeti, only one male returned and has been sighted alone. He seems to have gotten used to a solitary life.



Rafiki

New Individual



New Male

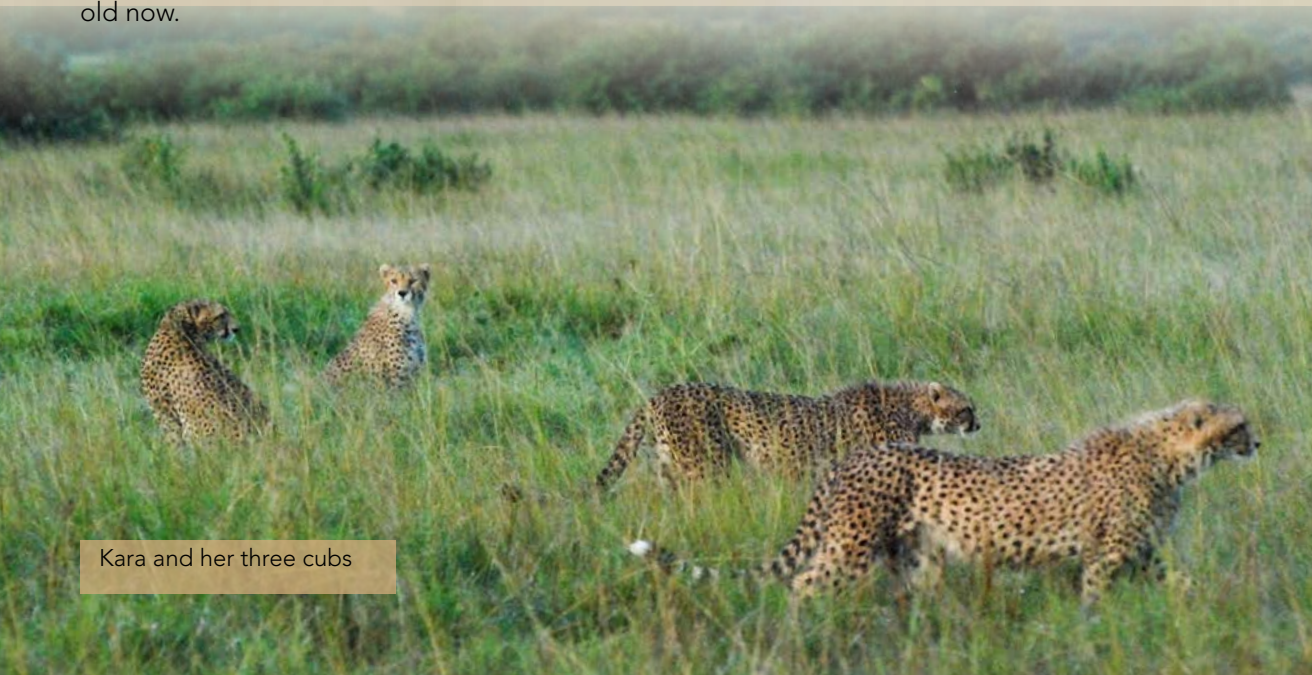
We also recorded one new individual in the last quarter. He is an adult male that we found along the Mara-Serengeti border around Koka Hills. He was shy when approached by our vehicle and we could immediately tell that it was the first time we had seen the male.

We often find new individuals in the southern part of the Reserve as they venture up from the Serengeti. It is vital to acquire new individuals outside the Mara to add to the existing gene pool.

Interesting events

Sila's daughter, who has been named Kara by Mara north Conservancy rangers, who were the first to find her, reappeared after being missing in action with three large cubs, two females, and a male, at the tip of Mara North Conservancy. Kara was born in 2020 and was part of a litter of three cubs. They dispersed in 2021 and spent some time moving between Olare Motorogi, Naboisho Conservancies, and Pardamat Conservation Area.

Kara and her litter mates were later spotted together in the National Reserve before the youngsters went their separate ways. Kara and her three cubs have so far been seen moving between Ol Chorro, Lemek, Mara North, and Enonkishu conservancies. The cubs are about a year old now.



Kara and her three cubs

Conservancy Rangers Meetings Ol Kinyei and Olerai Conservancies

We recently conducted rangers training in both Ol Kinyei Conservancy and Olerai Conservancy. The meeting sessions covered various important topics, including an overview of MCPC's research activities and findings over the years, the collars for conservation initiative, criteria for identifying lions and cheetahs, and a protocol for reporting injured or deceased predators.

We also discussed the proper handling of cubs that become separated from their adults, both within and outside protected areas. These sessions aimed to equip the rangers with the necessary knowledge and skills to enhance their effectiveness in predator monitoring and conservation efforts.

The rangers provided valuable feedback during the training, which we aim to incorporate to improve communication and coordination in our predator monitoring initiatives. They expressed a keen interest in understanding our research and monitoring processes, and we emphasized the importance of regular communication through



Olerai Conservancy Rangers Meeting

phone calls and WhatsApp groups. The rangers' insights and suggestions are critical for refining our approaches and ensuring that our conservation efforts are more collaborative and effective.

By fostering a better understanding and stronger communication channels, we hope to strengthen our collective efforts in protecting and conserving the predator populations in these conservancies.

Earthranger Collars For Conservation

Kenya Wildlife Trust has successfully implemented Earth Ranger, a cutting-edge wildlife monitoring and conservation management tool. The platform provides a comprehensive capability to collect, integrate, and visualize data on collared predators and other project-related information such as human-wildlife conflicts. It allows for effective monitoring of the movements and habitat use of collared animals across the landscape. This facilitates the understanding of their behavioural characteristics over time and for making future predictions.

The data from Earth Ranger during the quarter was analysed to gain insights into the collared lion's movements and a deeper understanding of reported human-wildlife conflicts within communities. Simplified charts are shown below to provide a clear perspective with an understanding of the activities and trends observed over the past quarter. We are now able to generate trends of the number of livestock injured or killed and the conflict predators (species responsible) and provide analytical maps showing detailed information about the collared lions in relation to other variables such as the total injured or killed livestock.

Additionally, the Lion Ambassadors are linked to the collared lions that overlap their zones and can receive alerts about the lions' movements when they cross protected area boundaries into community zones. This approach aims to reduce human-lion conflicts by quickly addressing potential threats, forming the foundation of our real-time conservation collaring objective.

Lion Ambassador's Conflict Reports

Since adopting the Earth Ranger platform, we have seen an increase in the Lion Ambassador activities and reported cases from the communities compared to the previous quarters, as shown in Figure 11. This figure depicts a detailed informative record per Lion Ambassador on the reported cases during the reporting period.

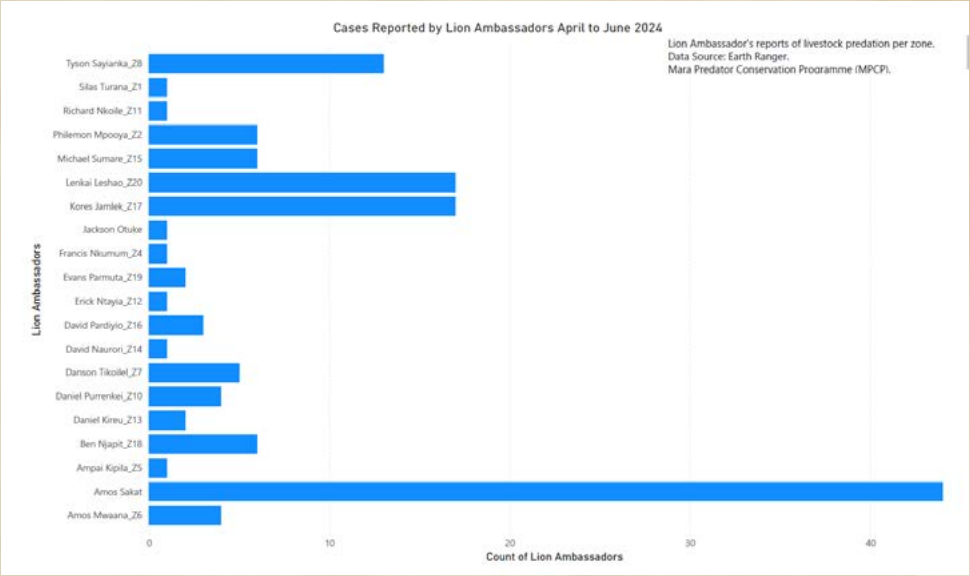
This increase in reported cases is attributed to efforts from the organization such as: Greater communication involvement and awareness that boost the activities of Lion Ambassadors as they engage more with local communities to promote conservation; Technology advancement, which improves tracking of reported cases; and Increased funding and

resources allocated to our Lion Ambassador program that has enhanced their capacity to conduct activities and report them effectively.

Figures 12 and 13 show pie charts resulting from two perspectives: Predator species involved in predation of different livestock from Lion Ambassador zones and Livestock injured or killed by predators. Spotted hyenas caused most livestock-related conflicts with over 48% of the reported cases.

The information we have gathered provides greater insight into what is happening on the ground and illustrates a need to intensify our conservation efforts.

Figure 11. Lion Ambassador's reports of livestock predation per zone for April to June 2024.



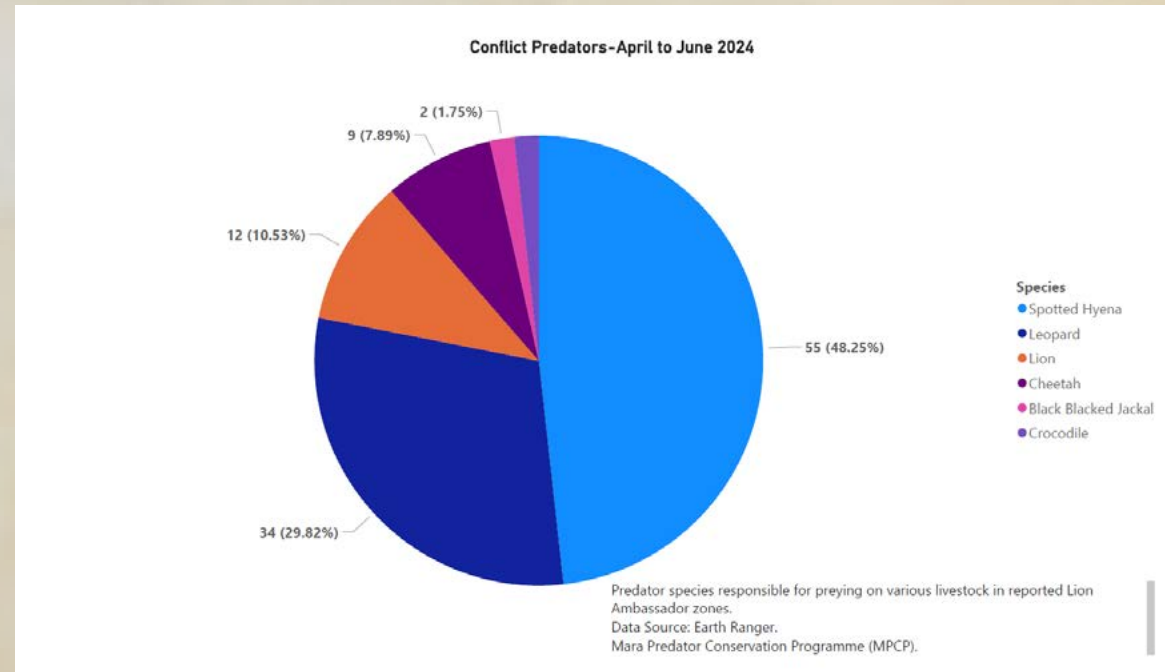


Figure 12. Predators responsible for different livestock reported by lion ambassador from April to June 2024.

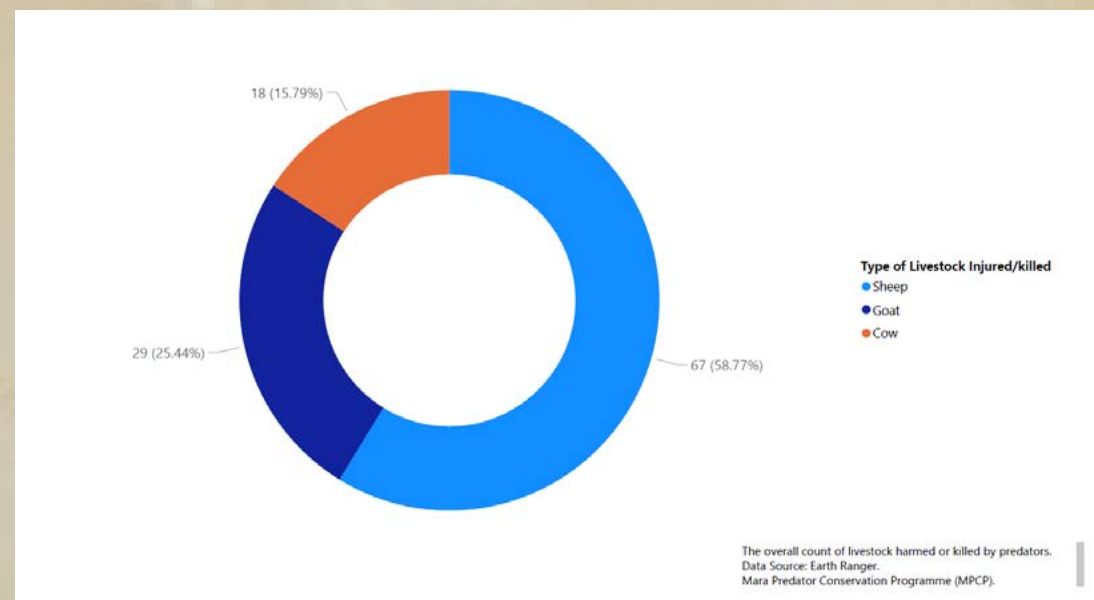


Figure 13. Livestock Injured or killed by predators from April to June 2024.

National Wildlife Census Launch 2024

The Kenya Wildlife Trust was privileged to have participated in the wildlife census 2024 launch that was recently held in Narok in June and occasioned by the Cabinet Secretary in the Ministry of Tourism and Wildlife, Narok County Governor, Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) and Wildlife, Research and Training Institute (WRTI) Directors among other dignitaries.

This wildlife census recedes the previous wildlife census in 2021 and is scheduled to be conducted every three years, which aligns with the ecological cycles of births and mortality. Understanding the status of wildlife is crucial for effective management, as highlighted in Pillar 3 of the National Wildlife Strategy 2030, which focuses on evidence-based decision-making. The data collected from these censuses also helps to manage and enhance tourism over time and space. This wildlife census aligns with



Aerial Census aircraft at the Ewaso Ngiro Airstrip.

a mandate by the **Wildlife Conservation and Management Act of 2013**.

Among the various methodologies employed in this census; Aerial and ground surveys and censuses, MPCP's annual intensive monitoring survey of lions and cheetahs in the third and fourth quarters of this year will involve a WRTI team. The results from our intensive monitoring survey will be incorporated into the national figures compiled after the census period.



KWT's Executive Director During the Wildlife Census Launch

COMMUNITY UPDATE



HUMAN-WILDLIFE CONFLICT MITIGATION Mara Herders Training

The Mara Predator Conservation Programme is actively engaged in community outreach efforts aimed at mitigating Human-Predator Conflicts within the Mara ecosystem.

Addressing practical solutions is crucial, particularly in combating factors such as poor herding practices, which are illustrated in the accompanying image. These practices have been identified as significant contributors to daytime predator attacks, often leading to

retaliatory killings of predators. By promoting improved herding techniques and raising awareness among local communities, the programme strives to foster coexistence between humans and predators while preserving the ecosystem's biodiversity.

During this reporting period, **50 livestock herders** from Igila and Nashulai villages have been trained in good herding practices, predator identification exercises, predator spoor identification, and the ecological importance of predators and wildlife of 2013.



A shepherd sleeping while herding sheep next to Naboisho Conservancy



Herders engaging with MPCP staff during training at Ingil

CONSERVATION EDUCATION

April Holiday Art camp

The April Art Camp represented a collaborative initiative involving the Mara Predator Conservation Programme (MPCP), Kicheche Community Trust, Oloisukut Conservancy, and Elong'o CBO. The camp facilitated by Naitiemu Nyanjom, a material, production and performance artist, aimed to integrate conservation education with artistic expression, providing a transformative learning experience for **55 children**. Among them, **25 boys and 30 girls participated**, averaging around 10 years of age, representing eight primary schools.

The children were organized into groups based on their age sets, resulting in eight groups with approximately 6-7 members each. This grouping strategy was designed to facilitate peer-to-peer interactions and foster connections among



Holiday Art Camp attendees in Oloisukut

participants from diverse school backgrounds. The groups were named after iconic wildlife species, namely Simba (Lion), Giraffe, Rhinoceros, Hyena, Buffalo, Cheetah, Hippo, and Baboon, encouraging thematic exploration through art while promoting camaraderie and collaboration among the young participants



Hippo group displaying their art work(left), Simba group working together (right)

Children start nature walks every day. Each group was assigned a mentor to guide and encourage them, in their groups, to collect objects/nature items that caught their attention as they walked; including dried leaves, stones, sticks, soil, seeds etc.

They also had the opportunity to interact and have more conversations with MPCP interns (Felix, Benjamin, and Jemimah) who were also alumnus wildlife club members. They shared more information about the animals each group represented.



Oloisukut assistant warden giving a conservation talk (left) participants collecting materials (right)

The holiday art camp also offered activities such as ball-making, photography, weaving, dance, singing, drawing, board game creation, and reflections on the children's artwork. Conservation talks were organised where children were educated on the importance of conservation. Oloisukut assistant warden gave a talk to children on the importance of conservancies in the ecosystem.

Outcomes

The participants engaged in workshops covering various artistic techniques, i.e.

- **Nature Collage** - Each group created collage art to tell a story with the objects they collected during the nature walk, wastepaper, and any other materials of interest to them.
- **Leaf prints** - Each group created prints on paper using watercolor paints on the leaves collected.
- **Costumes** - Each group created costumes using collected materials and waste fabric and paper making their nature superheroes.

Community Engagement

Art Exhibition

The camp culminated in an exhibition of the kids' artworks, which was open to the public.

The kids got to present and share their experiences, processes, and thoughts with

the invited community guests. This provided an opportunity for the broader community to engage with the artwork and learn more about conservation in a visually compelling way, through their children's eyes.



Children taking around parents in the exhibition room



Wildlife Clubs' Patrons' Training

MPCP currently provides support to twenty wildlife clubs spread across the Mara ecosystem. To enhance the effectiveness and sustainability of these clubs, MPCP has appointed two patrons for each club to provide dedicated support within their respective schools. To equip these patrons with the necessary skills and knowledge, MPCP organized a one-day training session specifically tailored for seventeen newly recruited patrons from schools within the Oloisukut Conservancy.

The training took place in Talek and was structured around three main topics. Facilitating the sessions were MPCP's Community Outreach



Naomi from Olkurroto presenting a topic on the role of a teacher in ESD implementation in Kenya

Officer and two experienced wildlife club patrons, who had previously undergone training conducted by the Wildlife Club of Kenya. The three topics covered during the training were the integration of conservation education into the school curriculum, school micro projects, ecosystems and Biodiversity. This prior training equipped them with the expertise needed to effectively train the newly appointed patrons.



Rop from Irbaan school demonstrating plants that do well in kitchen gardens in the Mara

To evaluate the effectiveness of the training provided to wildlife club patrons in the Mara ecosystem, MPCP's Community Outreach Officer conducted a post-training questionnaire survey. The survey aimed to assess the knowledge acquisition and perceived impact of the training among the participants. Below are the summarized outcomes:

Result

1. What was your biggest takeaway from the event?

Figure 14 shows that the primary takeaway from the training in various schools was ecosystem conservation, with an average of four schools focusing on it. Additionally, education for sustainable development was equally emphasized, with three schools highlighting it.

The participants included teachers from seven schools: Iltolish, Ilookwaya, Pusanki, Kimintet, Kimelok, Sacred Hart, and Mararianda. By empowering these patrons with the necessary skills and knowledge, MPCP aims to ensure the continued success and impact of the wildlife clubs in promoting conservation education among students in the Mara ecosystem.

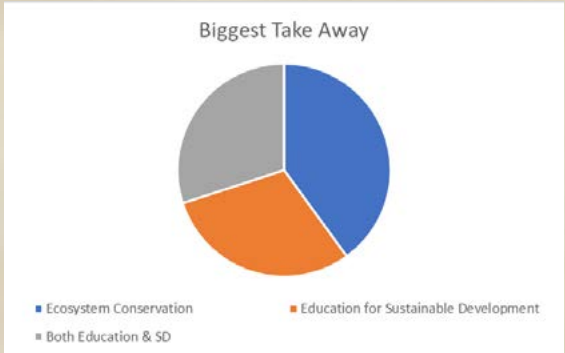
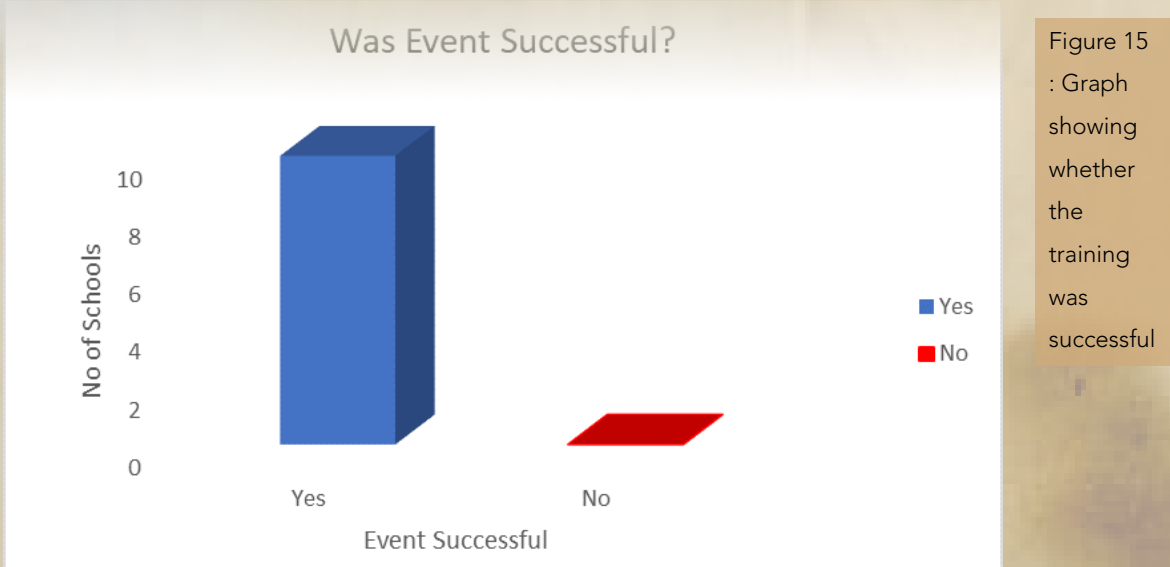


Figure 14: Biggest takeaway from the event.

Some schools regarded both ecosystem conservation and education for sustainable development as equally important opportunities.

2. Would you consider the event successful? Y/N



According to figure 15, participants from all schools considered the event successful. Most attributed its success to the introduction of new ideas and clear objectives.

Field Visits

The Mara Predator Conservation Programme emphasizes the importance of fostering a connection between local children and wildlife through educational visits to conservation areas. Each year, newly enrolled wildlife club members participate in a field trip to the Maasai Mara National Reserve, aimed at nurturing a deep appreciation for conservation among the youth.

During the last quarter, a total of two hundred and sixty wildlife club members from eight schools were privileged to partake in a guided game drive at the Maasai Mara National Reserve. This initiative not only enriches their understanding of biodiversity but also cultivates their potential to become future advocates for wildlife conservation.



Wildlife club members from ADCAM posing for a group photo at Musiara airstrip during the game drives in the MMNR.



I DIDN'T KNOW THAT KIDS CAN MAKE USE OF ANY AVAILABLE RESOURCES TO CREATE SOMETHING ADMIRABLE AND EDUCATIVE

VILLAGE ELDER: GIDEON

Photo ©2024 Felixie Kip

'Ufugaji Hifadhi' Programme

Pasture management training

During this reporting period, nine pasture management trainings were conducted, attended by **189 members** from *Lemek, Mara North, Olare Motorogi, and Nashulai* conservancies. Participants included community leaders, farmers, and grazing committee members, ensuring widespread knowledge dissemination. The training aimed to equip farmers with advanced pasture management techniques to enhance livestock productivity, promote sustainability, adapt to climate change, improve soil health, optimize water use, encourage regenerative grazing, and prevent livestock diseases.

Using PowerPoint presentations, case studies, scenarios, and interactive sessions, the training covered critical aspects of pasture management, including plant-soil-animal interactions, rotational grazing principles, soil fertility improvement, efficient water use, and strategies to combat climate change impacts on pasture productivity and livestock disease epidemiology.



Olare Motorogi manager welcoming the OMC grazing committee to the training

Outcomes

1. There was a substantial increase in participants' understanding by **70% of advanced pasture management techniques**, climate change adaptation, and the principles of soil and water health. This empowerment enables community members to apply sustainable practices that enhance livestock productivity and ecological balance.
2. Participants formed a robust WhatsApp network that fosters ongoing support and knowledge sharing. This network includes farmers, veterinarians, conservation agents, and other stakeholders, facilitating continuous learning and collaboration across different conservancies.

3. **100% of the participants committed** to developing and implementing a personalized pasture management plan tailored to their specific livestock production needs. These plans incorporate the newly acquired knowledge and strategies from the training, aiming to improve pasture health, livestock productivity, and overall sustainability.
4. **100% of the participants appreciated** the importance of grass both for animals and tourism activities.

Animal Health Training

The training aimed to tackle major veterinary medicine issues among livestock owners. Despite the widespread presence of agrovet stores in the Mara, many operators lack proper training to dispense these medicines. Farmers' illiteracy further leads to misuse, particularly of antibiotics like oxytetracyclines and penstrep, due to misunderstanding their use and concentrations. Ivermectins are

also often misapplied, especially concerning withdrawal periods for lactating animals. To address this a series of comprehensive trainings in *Olesere, Sekenani, Oloolaimutia, Aitong, and Mararianda* saw an impressive turnout of **223 local farmers (175 men and 48 women)**, eager to enhance their farming knowledge for better livestock health and sustainable practices.



Dr. Ezra Saitoti engaging farmers on various livestock medicines

To address these issues, the following topics were discussed.

- **Prudent Use of Antibiotics:** Correct dosage, avoiding medicine mixing, and preventing overuse reduce antibiotic resistance and enhance livestock health and productivity significantly.
- **Purchasing from certified Outlets:** Buying medicines from certified agro vets ensures proper

drug administration, leading to more effective treatments and safer farming practices.

- **Seeking Assistance When Needed** Farmers were encouraged to consult with animal health practitioners when uncertain to ensure accurate treatments, reduce improper drug use, and improve overall animal health.
- **Observing Withdrawal Periods:** farmers were asked and encouraged to strictly adhere to drug milk and meat withdrawal periods to prevent consumption of harmful drug residues, safeguarding human health and reducing antimicrobial resistance risks.
- **Avoiding Consumption of Sick Animals:** By desisting from consuming or selling sick or treated animals, farmers will help protect public health and reduce the spread of drug resistance.
- **Proper Cleaning of Equipment:** Cleaning syringes and reusable needles with warm water after use minimizes germ transfer and infections, enhancing overall herd health.
- **Proper Disposal of Drug Containers:** Proper disposal of drug containers in pit latrines or by burning reduces environmental contamination, protects water sources, and promotes ecosystem health.

These efforts aim to safeguard animal health, protect human consumers, and mitigate environmental contamination from veterinary medicines.

Outcomes

1. The discussions revealed that most farmers were using these medicines incorrectly. However, **80% of the farmers** demonstrated an understanding of proper handling, administration, and disposal of animal drugs.
2. All farmers recognized the health risks of consuming meat from dead or recently treated animals, as well as the importance of observing drug withdrawal periods, with **100% agreeing** to follow these guidelines.
3. During the March-April livestock mass vaccination, **179 out of 203 farmers in training** vaccinated their animals. They praised the vaccines for improving animals' weight gain, coat condition, and effectiveness.

Farmer testimonials highlight the tangible benefits of the vaccination program, underscoring the importance of expanding coverage to protect livestock from other prevalent diseases, ensuring **healthier** and **more productive herds**.



OUR CATTLE AND SHEEP HAVE GAINED WEIGHT AND DEVELOPED SMOOTH, SHINY COATS THANKS TO THE VACCINES. THESE VACCINATIONS SHOULD CONTINUE AND ALSO COVER DISEASES LIKE FOOT AND MOUTH.

LIVELIHOODS PROGRAMME BENEFICIARY: IMBITIN FARMER





Mara Predator Conservation Programme

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