

► Photo of the Month



The Little Owl (*Athene noctua*) is common in the desert habitat near the Dead Sea.

► Did You Know?



The Feynan Eco Lodge in the Dana Biosphere Reserve was listed as one of the top 50 eco lodges in the world by National Geographic Adventure Magazine.

[Find out more](#) ►

► BioBit



Despite its vast desert acreage, Jordan boasts more than 2000 plant species, many of which depend on the winter rains to flourish.

Go Greener!

Invest in reusable shopping bags – they cut down on waste and are larger, sturdier, and more convenient than plastic bags.




WELCOME

Yehya Khaled
Director General

On behalf of The Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature (RSCN), I would like to extend a warm greeting to all RSCN members and new Friends. Each and every one of you is joining in on our effort to protect and promote Jordan's special landscapes and wildlife. We are excited to share with you our new monthly electronic newsletter containing the latest RSCN news, local and regional environmental issues, as well as upcoming activities and projects. We hope you enjoy reading this first issue and we look forward to partnering with you to conserve Jordan's natural heritage and wild places.

OUR MISSION

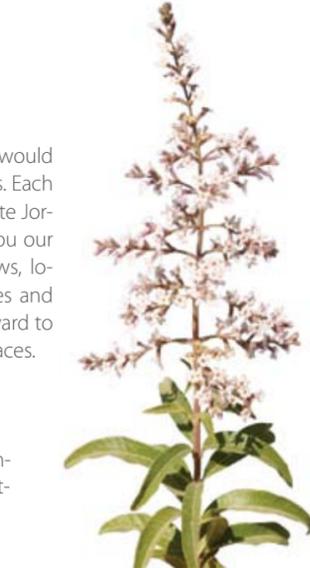
RSCN aims to conserve the biodiversity of Jordan and integrate its conservation programs with socio-economic development, while promoting wider public support and action for the protection of the natural environment within Jordan and neighboring countries.

RSCN Info

Wild Jordan: Helping Nature... Helping People.

Promoting tourism, conserving nature, stimulating local economies... all at the same time? Watch the story behind our mission of helping nature and helping people.

[Watch the video](#) ►



Stargazing at Mujib Reserve

Last week, we organized a trip to the Mujib Reserve, where Members and other participants spent the evening enjoying a dazzling meteor shower and learning about the different constellation and planets, followed by a relaxing night in the Mujib Chalets and a morning hike on the exciting Siq Trail.

[See other upcoming events](#) ►



Friends of RSCN

A special thank you to all the sponsors and supporters of the Friends of RSCN campaign. With your support, we were able to reach thousands of people to join in on our new initiative that aims to protect Jordan's special landscapes and wildlife- thank you!

[Find out more](#) ►



Billboard sponsored by Energy Outdoor Advertising and Sama Jordan

Local Conservation News

Global Climate Change Threatening Aqaba Sea Life

Rising water temperatures caused by global climate change and growing levels of pollution pose a serious threat to the rich biodiversity of marine wildlife found off the coast of Aqaba.

[Find out more](#) ►



Middle East Environmental News

UAE Developing First-Ever "Wildlife Park and Resort"

Want to wake up to a giraffe peering into your bedroom window? Developers in UAE are working to make that a possibility at Al Ain Wildlife Park, an ambitious project that combines luxury, conservation, and up-close wildlife encounters that is expected to be completed within five years.

[Find out more](#) ►



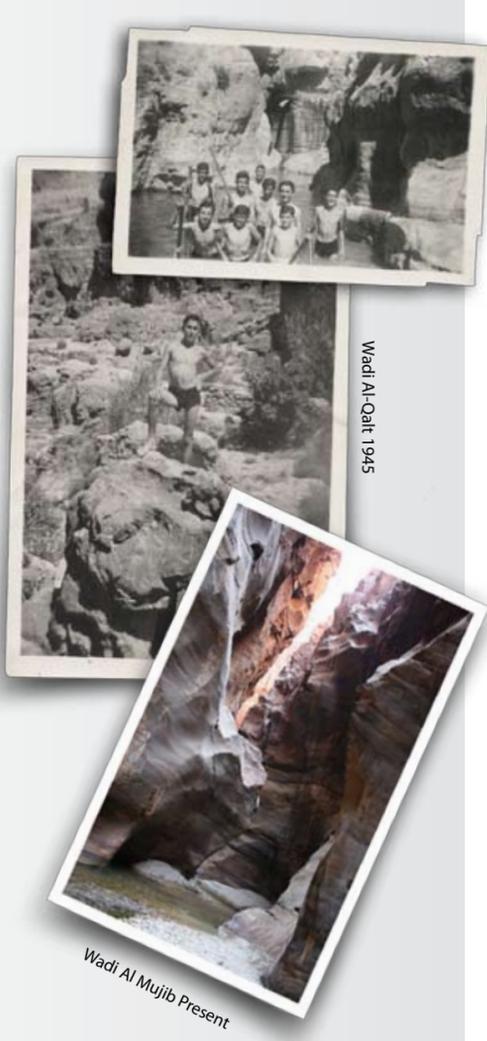
RSCN MEMBER PROFILE

ENG. WAEL SADJI

When Wael Sadji was a boy, he played in the streets of Jerusalem, his hometown. As he grew into his teenage years, he explored the countryside surrounding Jerusalem with his friends, hiking through the deep, boulder-filled valleys and splashing in the ephemeral streams of Wadi Al-Qalt, situated just east of the Jordan River. It was the year 1945, and, Wael, an energetic and bright 14-year-old, had already developed a love for the beauty of nature.

Several years ago, Wael, who now heads an engineering firm in Amman, became a member of RSCN to connect with people who shared a love for the outdoors. One day last spring, he received an email from RSCN regarding an organized trip to the Mujib Reserve. Although he had ignored many similar emails in the past, this time an urgent thought flashed through his mind: "If I don't make this trip now, I may never do it." So, at the age of 78, he signed up for the adventure.

Upon reaching Mujib, Wael's mind flooded with memories from Wadi Al-Qalt. "The beautiful views, the massive boulders, and the roaring river immediately brought back those days from 1945," he observed. He recalled a principle that had impacted him in his youth, the command, "Know your country." "When you know your country, you love it more, you would do anything for it," he stated with emotion. And although Wadi Al-Qalt and Mujib may be on opposite sides of the Jordan River, to Wael they represent a continuous landscape, still as beautiful – and memorable – as it was 64 years ago.



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