

Personal presentation

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IPROMO

***Managing mountain resources and diversities:
the role of protected areas***

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Education

- Bachelor and Master of Science in Forestry
- Main Subjects: Forest Management, Wildlife Management, Protected areas management.

Employment and main activities

- Currently working as Research Activities Coordinator:
 - Main role is to plan, implement and monitor research activities in project area.
 - Educate the target groups on ecosystem management including students, govt. Officials and general public (specially local communities surrounding protected area).
- Previously worked as natural Resources Management Specialist:
 - Develop and implement effective NRM programmes with involvement of local communities.
 - Capacity building of local communities on NRM related issues so that they are able to manage their resources in a sustainable manner.

Other interests (volunteer work, hobbies etc.)

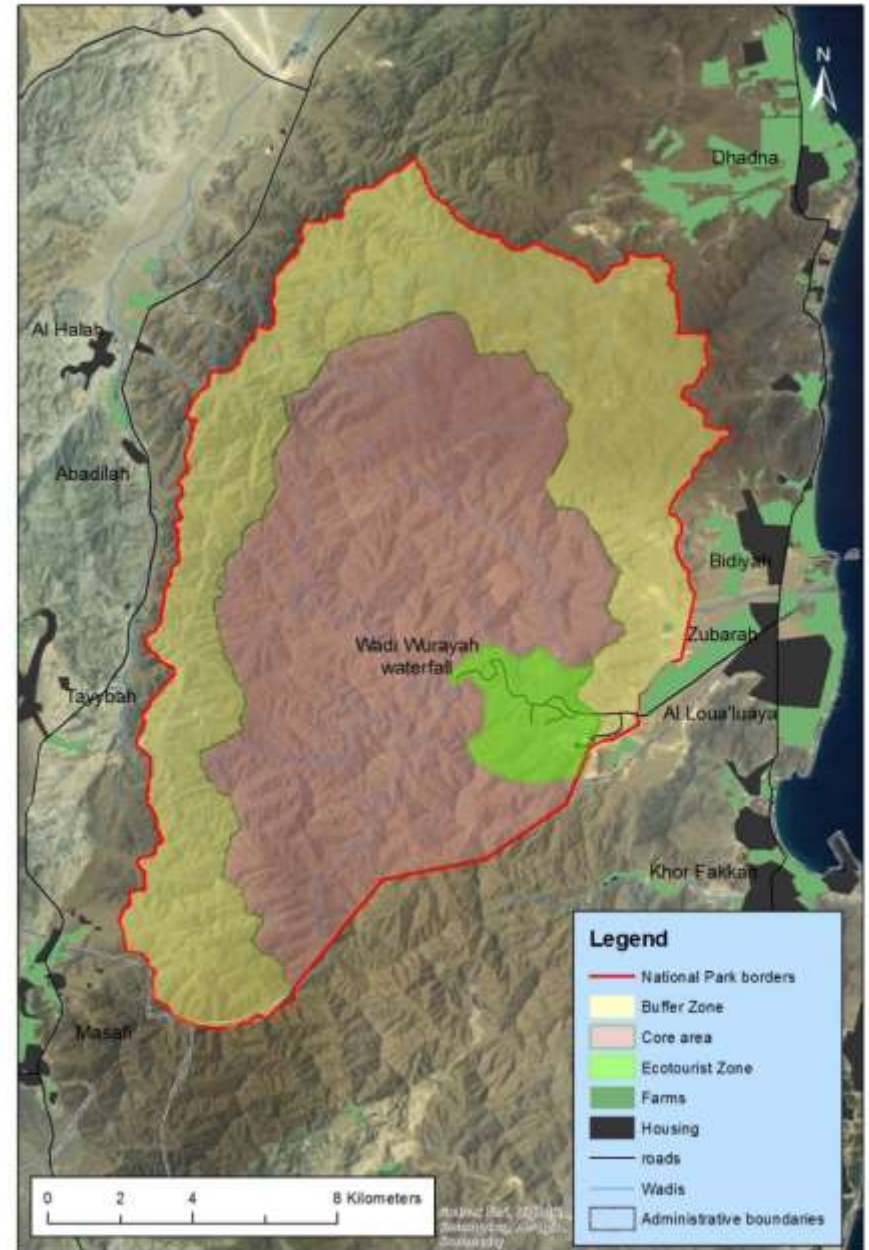
- Working as Environmental Ambassador with Environment Agency Abu Dhabi helping them in different environmental research activities voluntarily.
- Working as volunteer with Abu Dhabi Volunteers, involved in many voluntary activities like Beach cleaning, animal welfare etc.
- Registered member of UNV, been involved in many field activities specially in rehabilitation activities in disaster hit areas.
- Hobbies are hiking, nature photography and studying of different research materials.

Wadi Wurayyah National Park (WWNP)

The Protected Area extends over 220 km², comprising:

- the core zone of 118 km²
- the buffer zone of 92km²
- the ecotourism zone of 10 km²
- Declared as UAE first mountainous Protected area in 2009.
- Declared as RAMSAR site of international importance in 2010.

Local public support - 70% in favor of turning the wadi to a protected area



Wadi Wurayah National Park WWNP

Exceptional Biodiversity



20 species of mammal (important place of Arabian Tahr in UAE)



17 species of reptile and 2 amphibians (photo: *Asaccus gallagheri*)



208 species of plant (photo:) orchid – *Epipactis veratrifolia*



94 species of bird (photo Pallid Scops Owl)



513 species of Arthropoda Photo: *Urothemis thomasi*

Wadi Wurayyah National Park WWNP

Threats and pressures



- Hunting, poaching
- Habitat degradation (littering, fires)
- Invasive species
- Habitat fragmentation and urbanization
- Water resources overexploitation
- Overgrazing
- Quarrying



Wadi Wurayyah National Park WWNP

The research and conservation programme

Goal: Preserve and restore the habitats and biodiversity of the National Park

Priority research themes

- ❖ TERRESTRIAL VEGETATION
- ❖ CARNIVORES POPULATION
- ❖ ENDANGERED UNGULATES
- ❖ OTHER TERRESTRIAL VERTEBRATES
- ❖ FRESHWATER ECOSYSTEM



The Research Activities

FRESH WATER WATCH

MICROBIAL TESTING

TERRESTRIAL INVERTEBRATES STUDY

DRAGONFLY TAGGING

**TOAD POPULATION MONITORING
(Point counts)**

FRESH WATER INVERTEBRATES STUDY

PLANT IDENTIFICATION – HERBARIUM

**ODONATA POPULATION MONITORING
(point counts)**

HYDROLOGICAL SURVEY

Research Methods

Camera Trapping

