



# Ramsar Information Sheet

## Jordan

### Fifa Nature Reserve



Designation date	4 December 2016
Site number	2294
Coordinates	30°57'38"N 35°26'15"E
Area	6 100,00 ha

## Color codes

Fields back-shaded in light blue relate to data and information required only for RIS updates.

Note that some fields concerning aspects of Part 3, the Ecological Character Description of the RIS (tinted in purple), are not expected to be completed as part of a standard RIS, but are included for completeness so as to provide the requested consistency between the RIS and the format of a 'full' Ecological Character Description, as adopted in Resolution X.15 (2008). If a Contracting Party does have information available that is relevant to these fields (for example from a national format Ecological Character Description) it may, if it wishes to, include information in these additional fields.

## 1 - Summary

### Summary

Fifa Nature Reserve is an inland wetland located in the southwest of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, with its lowest point being 420 m below sea level. It is fed by various sources of water including natural permanent water springs at the southern part, and artificial irrigation drainage canal at the eastern part (permanent), and a bulk of seasonal water that is drained from four wadis (drainage basins). When drained, the drained water form large sized swamps and marshes, that is last to the end of winter season. The Site lies along the Rift valley migration pathway where hundreds to thousands waterfowls winter annually. The Site is home to the endangered and endemic sub-species of cyprinodont, the Dead Sea tooth carp (*Aphanius dispar richardsoni*). The Site also supports two globally threatened species; Macqueen's Bustard (*Chlamydotis macqueenii*) and Dabb (*Uromastyx aegyptia*). Fifa Nature Reserve also serves as a habitat to many species which creates biodiversity. The site plays a major role in flood control by receiving a huge amount of rain water that flood to the Dead Sea. It is also important in aquifer recharge.

## 2 - Data & location

### 2.1 - Formal data

#### 2.1.1 - Name and address of the compiler of this RIS

##### Compiler 1

Name	Nashat A. Hamidan
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Postal address	The Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature Amman - Jordan Al-Jubaiha P.O. Box 1215 ZipCode: 11941
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##### Compiler 2

Name	Raed Bani Hani
Institution/agency	Ministry of Environment
Postal address	Amman - Jordan Ministry of Environment Directorate of Biodiversity 11941
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Phone	00962795502887
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#### 2.1.2 - Period of collection of data and information used to compile the RIS

From year	2009
To year	2016

#### 2.1.3 - Name of the Ramsar Site

Official name (in English, French or Spanish)	Fifa Nature Reserve
Unofficial name (optional)	Fifa

## 2.2 - Site location

### 2.2.1 - Defining the Site boundaries

b) Digital map/image  
<2 file(s) uploaded>

Former maps	0
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#### Boundaries description

The boundaries provided in the Map were selected based on the ecological integrity and connectivity including the drainage basin of Wadi Fifa, Wadi Khnaizerah, Wadi Umruq, and Wadi Tlah [all wadis flood in winter and the water drains drain to the Dead Sea forming a seasonal marshes] while taking the private land ownerships and the "No man's-land " of the western national border into consideration. From the northern border follow the track of Potash company pipeline, the western border is following the international border, while the southern border is located on the common geological feature "Khnaizerah escarpment" , and the eastern border is located on the edge of the farm lands owned by local communities.

### 2.2.2 - General location

a) In which large administrative region does the site lie?	Karak Governorate
b) What is the nearest town or population centre?	Fifa Village, then Ghor al-Safi

2.2.3 - For wetlands on national boundaries only

- a) Does the wetland extend onto the territory of one or more other countries? Yes  No
- b) Is the site adjacent to another designated Ramsar Site on the territory of another Contracting Party? Yes  No

2.2.4 - Area of the Site

Official area, in hectares (ha):

Area, in hectares (ha) as calculated from GIS boundaries

2.2.5 - Biogeography

Biogeographic regions

Regionalisation scheme(s)	Biogeographic region
WWF Terrestrial Ecoregions	Temperate grasslands, savannas, and shrublands

Other biogeographic regionalisation scheme

Due to its location in the Sudanian Penetration Biogeographical Zone, the area is considered one of the hottest sites in Jordan. Temperature ranged from 15 – 45 during the year and may reach much higher in summer. Rainfall average is 50-100 ml annually.

### 3 - Why is the Site important?

#### 3.1 - Ramsar Criteria and their justification

- Criterion 1: Representative, rare or unique natural or near-natural wetland types

Hydrological services provided

1- The site is an outstanding example of natural dynamic wetland southern to the Dead Sea, it receives flowing water from rivers and streams (N)forming seasonal ponds and swamps larger than 8 ha (P), Marshes on inorganic soils including areas of shrub dominant (W) approx. 10 ha and Tree dominant (Xf) 6 ha. The site is playing a major role of flood control that receive a huge amount of rain water that flood to the Dead Sea (See attached photographs), and it is the connection of flooding rivers to the Dead Sea, where the received water:

- a- forms a seasonal long staying swamps and marshes,
- b- recharge the aquifer,
- c- recharge the Dead Sea
- d- forming a large natural flooding plain.
- e- wash the soil and reduce its salinity.

Other ecosystem services provided

Provision services  
Water for agriculture  
Drinking water for both people and livestock




- Criterion 2 : Rare species and threatened ecological communities

- Criterion 3 : Biological diversity

Justification

Four populations are considered under this criterion including: (1) the Nubian Nightjar *Caprimulgus nubicus* where Fifa is supporting the largest resident breeding population in the Middle East (Qaneer, 2016). The site is providing the suitable breeding habitats for this large range but declining population nightjar. (2) the Dead Sea Sparrow *Passer moabiticus* used to be common at both the northern and southern parts of the Dead Sea utilising the Tamarisk vegetation for nesting. Major changes took place at the northern Tamarisks vegetation [cutting, and invasion by *Prosopis*] that is led to sharp decline in the northern population and rough increase of the southern population with great focus in Fifa. The estimated number of breeding population in Fifa can be reach to 800 pair which is the largest known population in Jordan. (3) Tamarisk Tree vegetation type *Tamarix tetragyna* that is one of the significant population/ feature of the area. It is dominating the site due to the high salinity of soil affected by the close location of the Dead Sea. This Tamarisk supports the nesting of the Dead Sea Sparrow and the Nubian Nightjar, and is representing the saline vegetation type southern Jordan. (4) Teeth Brush Tree *Salvadora persica* that is found at areas with less salinities than Tamarisks. Fifa population was proved to be the largest population in Jordan. This vegetation is act as a flagship species for the site due to its cultural value being recommended by Islamic teaching as a teeth brush, in addition to its aromatic and medical uses. On the other hand, the tree are usually of large size, that is providing a safe shelter for large mammals.

#### 3.2 - Plant species whose presence relates to the international importance of the site

Scientific name	Common name	Criterion 2	Criterion 3	Criterion 4	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	Other status	Justification
<i>Calligonum comosum</i> 		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	Endangered at the local level	Jordan Plant Red List,
<i>Monsonia nivea</i> 		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	Endangered at the local level	Jordan Plant Red List,
<i>Vachellia tortilis</i> 		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	Vulnerable at the local level due to over use	Jordan Plant Red List,

### 3.3 - Animal species whose presence relates to the international importance of the site

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	Species qualifies under criterion				Species contributes under criterion				Pop. Size	Period of pop. Est.	% occurrence <sup>1)</sup>	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	CMS Appendix I	Other Status	Justification	
			2	4	6	9	3	5	7	8									
<b>Birds</b>																			
CHORDATA/ AVES	<i>Chlamydotis macqueenii</i>	Macqueen's Bustard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	100	2016		VJ 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		cultural importance
<b>Fish, Mollusc and Crustacea</b>																			
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	<i>Aphanius dispar richardsoni</i>	Dead Sea tooth carp	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				EN 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			endemic
<b>Others</b>																			
CHORDATA/ REPTILIA	<i>Uromastix aegyptia</i>	Dabb	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	180	2014		VJ 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		vulnerable

1) Percentage of the total biogeographic population at the site

The site is hosting a globally endangered and endemic cyprinodont fish sub species *Aphanius dispar richardsoni*. This species was common and wide distributed in both northern and southern parts of the Dead Sea at both western and eastern sides. In the past two decades, the species range of distribution shrank severely, and became limited to Fifa and its surrounding, with scarce population at the northern edge of the Dead Sea. Fifa are still providing an appropriate habitats of the species that enable the site to hold major portion of the species.

### 3.4 - Ecological communities whose presence relates to the international importance of the site

Name of ecological community	Community qualifies under Criterion 2?	Description	Justification
Tamarix tetragyna vegetation community	<input type="checkbox"/>	is the characteristic species of these stand accompanied with <i>Phragmites australis</i> , it is the largest community in Fifa located mainly in the northern west part	typical habitats of saline vegetation caused by saline water of fifa site
Egyptian Dabb Community	<input type="checkbox"/>	Healthy population of this large lizard at the south-western site of the reserve	the Largest known population in Jordan

## 4 - What is the Site like? (Ecological character description)

### 4.1 - Ecological character

Fifa Nature Reserve is a wetland fed by various sources of water. The inland wetland consists mostly of marshes and pools on organic soils, freshwater from flowing water and permanent springs and also water from the southern part of the saline Dead Sea. Located on the Sudanian Penetration Biogeographical Zone, the area is considered to be situated in one of the hottest parts of Jordan, being 420 metres below sea level. Part of this wetland has a high salinity because it is fed from the southern part of the Dead Sea. Fifa Nature Reserve provides a wide range of ecosystem services including supporting globally threatened species, providing freshwater irrigation for agriculture as provisioning services, maintaining of hydrological regimes as part of regulating services and also cultural and supporting services. The ecosystem of the Site is being threatened by the invasive alien species of *Prosopis juliflora*, Blue Tilapia (*Oreochromis aureus*), and *Gambusia* (*Gambusia holbrooki*). Furthermore, there is a lot of human exploitation surrounding the site which may adversely affect the Site.

### 4.2 - What wetland type(s) are in the site?

#### Inland wetlands

Wetland types (code and name)	Local name	Ranking of extent (1: greatest - 4: least)	Area (ha) of wetland type	Justification of Criterion 1
Saline, brackish or alkaline water > Marshes & pools >> Ss: Seasonal/ intermittent saline/ brackish/ alkaline marshes/ pools	Fifa	2	500	Unique
Fresh water > Marshes on inorganic soils >> Xf: Freshwater, tree-dominated wetlands	Fifa	2	400	Unique
Fresh water > Flowing water >> Y: Permanent Freshwater springs; oases	Fifa	3	1600	Unique

### 4.3 - Biological components

#### 4.3.1 - Plant species

##### Other noteworthy plant species

Scientific name	Common name	Position in range / endemism / other
<i>Atriplex halimus</i>	Atriplex	Threatened
<i>Calotropis procera</i>	Milkweed	Threatened
<i>Phoenix dactylifera</i>	Palm	Threatened
<i>Salvadora persica</i>	Toothbrush Tree	Threatened
<i>Suaeda monoica</i>	Seabite	Threatened
<i>Ziziphus spina-christi</i>	Ziziphus	Threatened

##### Invasive alien plant species

Scientific name	Common name	Impacts
<i>Prosopis juliflora</i>	Prosopis	Actually (major impacts)

#### 4.3.2 - Animal species

##### Other noteworthy animal species

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	Pop. size	Period of pop. est.	%occurrence	Position in range /endemism/other
CHORDATA/MAMMALIA	Acomys dimidiatus	Eastern Spiny Mouse				
CHORDATA/MAMMALIA	Canis aureus	Golden Jackal				
CHORDATA/MAMMALIA	Canis lupus	Wolf				CITES II
CHORDATA/AVES	Caprimulgus nubicus	Nubian Nightjar	100	2015		rare
CHORDATA/MAMMALIA	Dipodillus dasyurus	Wagner's Dipodil;Wagner's Gerbil				
CHORDATA/MAMMALIA	Gerbillus nanus	Baluchistan Gerbil				
CHORDATA/MAMMALIA	Hyaena hyaena	Striped Hyena				
CHORDATA/MAMMALIA	Lepus capensis	Cape Hare				
CHORDATA/AVES	Passer moabiticus	Dead Sea Sparrow	1560	2015		declining
CHORDATA/AMPHIBIA	Pelophylax bedriagae	Levant Water Frog				
CHORDATA/AMPHIBIA	Pseudepidalea viridis	Green Toad				
CHORDATA/MAMMALIA	Sus scrofa	wild boar				

Invasive alien animal species

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	Impacts
CHORDATA/ACTINOPTERYGII	Gambusia holbrooki	Gambusia	Potentially
CHORDATA/ACTINOPTERYGII	Oreochromis aureus	Blue Tilapia	Actually (major impacts)

## 4.4 - Physical components

### 4.4.1 - Climate

Climatic region	Subregion
B: Dry climate	BWk: Mid-latitude desert (Mid-latitude desert)

Due to its location in the Sudanian Penetration Biogeographical Zone, the area is considered one of the hottest sites in Jordan. Temperature ranged from 15 – 45 during the year and may reach much higher in summer. Rainfall average is 50-100 ml annually.

### 4.4.2 - Geomorphic setting

a) Minimum elevation above sea level (in metres)

a) Maximum elevation above sea level (in metres)

- Entire river basin
- Upper part of river basin
- Middle part of river basin
- Lower part of river basin
- More than one river basin
- Not in river basin
- Coastal

Please name the river basin or basins. If the site lies in a sub-basin, please also name the larger river basin. For a coastal/marine site, please name the sea or ocean.

Fifa is located in Wadi Araba drainage basin that has an area of 2,938 Km<sup>2</sup> and expanded from the southern edges of Dead Sea up to 100 km further south, maximum width of the basing is 25-35 km. The average annual rainfall in the eastern mountains of the basin reached 300 ml, while the area of Wadi Araba is 100 ml. Evaporation rates reached 2,800 ml at the southern shores of the Dead Sea in comparison to 3,500 ml at the south eastern parts of the basin.

### 4.4.3 - Soil

- Mneral
- Organic
- No available information

Are soil types subject to change as a result of changing hydrological conditions (e.g., increased salinity or acidification)? Yes  No

Please provide further information on the soil (optional)



Fifa Reserve is comprised of several different areas. Each of these areas has its own soil characteristics. The first area is flat and salty. Salts are soluble and with carbonates which could be detected with fizzing when 1M HCl is added. The carbonate content of the salts is variable spatially. There is no vegetation growing in this area at all, indicating the very high salinity. The soil has a small amount of clay, which could be detected by feel after wetting the soil. The color of soil is variable from yellowish brown to dark yellowish brown.

The second area, which is to the south of the first area, is also salty with carbonate. Area is flat with lots of white areas due to the accumulation of salts on the surface. In this area there is more plant cover. Some of the plants are healthy green shrubs, while most of the plants are dead. This indicates that the soil salinity is less than that of the first area, but it is still too high to allow normal plant growth. The color of the soil

4.4.4 - Water regime

Water permanence

Presence?
Usually permanent water present
Usually seasonal, ephemeral or intermittent water present

Source of water that maintains character of the site

Presence?	Predominant water source
Water inputs from rainfall	<input type="checkbox"/>
Water inputs from surface water	<input type="checkbox"/>
Water inputs from groundwater	<input type="checkbox"/>

Water destination

Presence?
To downstream catchment
Feeds groundwater

Stability of water regime

Presence?
Water levels fluctuating (including tidal)

Please add any comments on the water regime and its determinants (if relevant). Use this box to explain sites with complex hydrology.

As for the aquifer water and its sustainable use, Abed (2000) explained that water extraction from Wadi Araba reached 3,5 million cubic meter annually based on the annual report of water authority between 1995-1996, Salameh et al. (1992), Abo Ajameyeh & Bender (1998) both agreed that the safe extraction yield is 8 million cubic meter a year, according to them, the feeding rate of the northern Wadi Araba aquifer reached 35 mcm, and the external drainage reached 23,2 mcm annually, and the permanent water running is 14,7 mcm annually.

In general, a total of 21 mcm of water is available annually as water resources in the basin and 8 mcm are available water resources. Most of the extracted water is used in industry 4,5 mcm, then for irrigation 0.57 mcm. It is worth to know that this water is not drinkable due to its high salinity. Two water springs are located around the protected area, which are Tolah spring and Umruq. The flow rate of Tolah spring was estimated to be 18 cubic meter/ hou

(EOD) Connectivity of surface waters and of groundwater	Connected, surface water charges the aquifer
(EOD) Stratification and mixing regime	freshwater and saline water mixed in the events of flush flood

4.4.5 - Sediment regime

Significant erosion of sediments occurs on the site

Significant accretion or deposition of sediments occurs on the site

Significant transportation of sediments occurs on or through the site

Sediment regime is highly variable, either seasonally or inter-annually

Sediment regime unknown

(EOD) Water turbidity and colour	Turbid, and clear freshwater both exist.
(EOD) Light - reaching wetland	yes all is exposed
(EOD) Water temperature	varies from 15 in winter to 40 in summer

4.4.6 - Water pH

Acid (pH<5.5)

Circumneutral (pH: 5.5-7.4)

Alkaline (pH>7.4)

Unknown

4.4.7 - Water salinity

Fresh (<0.5 g/l)

Mxohaline (brackish)/Mxosaline (0.5-30 g/l)

Euhaline/Eusaline (30-40 g/l)

Hyperhaline/Hypersaline (>40 g/l)

Unknown

Please provide further information on salinity (optional):

especially at the northern part because it feeds from the saline water of the Dead Sea

(ECD) Dissolved gases in water	unknown
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4.4.8 - Dissolved or suspended nutrients in water

- Eutrophic
- Mesotrophic
- Oligotrophic
- Dystrophic
- Unknown

(ECD) Dissolved organic carbon	unknown
(ECD) Redox potential of water and sediments	unknown
(ECD) Water conductivity	200 ms

4.4.9 - Features of the surrounding area which may affect the Site

Please describe whether, and if so how, the landscape and ecological characteristics in the area surrounding the Ramsar Site differ from the i) broadly similar  ii) significantly different  site itself.

- Surrounding area has greater urbanisation or development
- Surrounding area has higher human population density
- Surrounding area has more intensive agricultural use
- Surrounding area has significantly different land cover or habitat types

Please describe other ways in which the surrounding area is different:

more artificial farms for crop productions, mass production agriculture of tomato, watermelon, and other water consuming products.  
 there are two villages surrounding the site  
 two large scale factories for Potash production, and Bromine production.

4.5 - Ecosystem services

4.5.1 - Ecosystem services/benefits

Provisioning Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Fresh water	Water for irrigated agriculture	High
Wetland non-food products	Other	High
Biochemical products	Extraction of material from biota	High
Genetic materials	Genes for resistance to plant pathogens	High

Regulating Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Maintenance of hydrological regimes	Storage and delivery of water as part of water supply systems for agriculture and industry	not relevant for site
Maintenance of hydrological regimes	Groundwater recharge and discharge	Medium
Hazard reduction	Flood control, flood storage	Medium

Cultural Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Recreation and tourism	Recreational hunting and fishing	Low
Scientific and educational	Educational activities and opportunities	Medium

Supporting Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Biodiversity	Supports a variety of all life forms including plants, animals and microorganisms, the genes they contain, and the ecosystems of which they form a part	High
Pollination	Support for pollinators	Medium

Within the site:

Outside the site:

Have studies or assessments been made of the economic valuation of ecosystem services provided by this Ramsar Site? Yes  No  Unknown

4.5.2 - Social and cultural values

- i) the site provides a model of wetland wise use, demonstrating the application of traditional knowledge and methods of management and use that maintain the ecological character of the wetland
- ii) the site has exceptional cultural traditions or records of former civilizations that have influenced the ecological character of the wetland
- iii) the ecological character of the wetland depends on its interaction with local communities or indigenous peoples
- iv) relevant non-material values such as sacred sites are present and their existence is strongly linked with the maintenance of the ecological character of the wetland

<no data available>

#### 4.6 - Ecological processes

(ECD) Primary production	unknown
(ECD) Nutrient cycling	unkown
(ECD) Carbon cycling	unknown
(ECD) Animal reproductive productivity	Yes, fish, birds, water birds, breeding areas of migrant birds
(ECD) Vegetational productivity, pollination, regeneration processes, succession, role of fire, etc.	yes,
(ECD) Notable species interactions, including grazing, predation, competition, diseases and pathogens	yes, grazing
(ECD) Notable aspects concerning animal and plant dispersal	yes, palm, tamarisk
(ECD) Notable aspects concerning migration	yes, on the main Rift Valley migration flyway
(ECD) Pressures and trends concerning any of the above, and/or concerning ecosystem integrity	hunting, location near the international border

## 5 - How is the Site managed? (Conservation and management)

### 5.1 - Land tenure and responsibilities (Managers)

#### 5.1.1 - Land tenure/ownership

##### Public ownership

Category	Within the Ramsar Site	In the surrounding area
Local authority, municipality, (sub)district, etc.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

##### Private ownership

Category	Within the Ramsar Site	In the surrounding area
Cooperative/collective (e.g., farmers cooperative)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Provide further information on the land tenure / ownership regime (optional):

All the site is treasury land allocated for Fifa Nature Reserve

#### 5.1.2 - Management authority

Please list the local office / offices of any agency or organization responsible for managing the site:

The Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature Fifa Nature Reserve (On site head office) site is managed by a local management under the Reserves Programme at the Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature (RSCN) the RSCN is delegated by the government to establish and manage protected areas in Jordan, since 1966.

Provide the name and title of the person or people with responsibility for the wetland:

Ibrahim Mahasneh, Maen Smadi, Nashat Hamidan

Postal address:

The Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature  
Amman - Jordan  
Al-Jubaiha  
P.O. Box 1215  
zip code 11941

E-mail address:

ibrahim.mahasneh@rscn.org.jo

## 5.2 - Ecological character threats and responses (Management)

### 5.2.1 - Factors (actual or likely) adversely affecting the Site's ecological character

#### Human settlements (non agricultural)

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	In the surrounding area
Commercial and industrial areas	High impact	High impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Housing and urban areas	Medium impact	Medium impact	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

#### Water regulation

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	In the surrounding area
Water abstraction	Medium impact	High impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

#### Agriculture and aquaculture

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	In the surrounding area
Annual and perennial non-timber crops	High impact	High impact	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

#### Energy production and mining

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	In the surrounding area
Mining and quarrying	High impact	High impact	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

#### Transportation and service corridors

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	In the surrounding area
Utility and service lines (e.g., pipelines)	Medium impact	High impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

#### Biological resource use

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	In the surrounding area
Hunting and collecting terrestrial animals	Low impact	Low impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Logging and wood harvesting	Low impact	Low impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

## Human intrusions and disturbance

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	In the surrounding area
(Para)military activities	High impact	High impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

## Natural system modifications

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	In the surrounding area
Vegetation clearance/ land conversion	High impact	High impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Dams and water management/use	Medium impact	High impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Fire and fire suppression	Medium impact	Medium impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

## Invasive and other problematic species and genes

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	In the surrounding area
Problematic native species	High impact	High impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Invasive non-native/ alien species	Medium impact	High impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

## Pollution

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	In the surrounding area
Industrial and military effluents	Medium impact	High impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

## 5.2.2 - Legal conservation status

## National legal designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
Protected Area	Fifa Nature Reserve	www.rscn.org.jo	whole

## 5.2.3 - IUCN protected areas categories (2008)

- Ia Strict Nature Reserve
- Ib Wilderness Area: protected area managed mainly for wilderness protection
- II National Park: protected area managed mainly for ecosystem protection and recreation
- III Natural Monument: protected area managed mainly for conservation of specific natural features
- IV Habitat/Species Management Area: protected area managed mainly for conservation through management intervention
- V Protected Landscape/Seascape: protected area managed mainly for landscape/seascape conservation and recreation
- VI Managed Resource Protected Area: protected area managed mainly for the sustainable use of natural ecosystems

## 5.2.4 - Key conservation measures

## Legal protection

Measures	Status
Legal protection	Implemented

## Habitat

Measures	Status
Faunal corridors/passage	Implemented
Habitat manipulation/enhancement	Implemented

## Species

Measures	Status
Threatened/rare species management programmes	Implemented
Control of invasive alien plants	Implemented
Control of invasive alien animals	Partially implemented

Human Activities

Measures	Status
Communication, education, and participation and awareness activities	Implemented

Other:

Potash and Bromine mega project on close to the site

5.2.5 - Management planning

Is there a site-specific management plan for the site? Yes

Has a management effectiveness assessment been undertaken for the site? Yes  No

If the site is a formal transboundary site as indicated in section Data and location > Site location, are there shared management planning processes with another Contracting Party? Yes  No

Please indicate if a Ramsar centre, other educational or visitor facility, or an educational or visitor programme is associated with the site:

yes, an ongoing educational programme targeting the local communities especially school students, in addition to an interpretation room in the management facilities tell the story of conservation.

URL of site-related webpage (if relevant):

5.2.6 - Planning for restoration

Is there a site-specific restoration plan? No, but a plan is being prepared

5.2.7 - Monitoring implemented or proposed

Monitoring	Status
Plant community	Implemented
Animal community	
Animal species (please specify)	Implemented
Birds	Implemented

An annual monitoring plan is been prepared for the Site, and implemented. Results, fed into the reserve management direction, and updating of the existing management plan.

## 6 - Additional material

### 6.1 - Additional reports and documents

#### 6.1.1 - Bibliographical references

- Abu Ajamieh, M. Bender, F. and Eicher, R. (1988). Natural Resources in Jordan. Natural Resources Authority, Amman, 224p.
  - Al Share, T. Eid, E and Abed, O. (2011). Rodents and Reptiles Baseline Survey in Fifa Proposed Protected Area. Research and Survey Section. The Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature (Unpublished Report).
  - Budieri, A. (2005). Hashemite Kingdome of Jordan. In: Directory of Wetlands of the Middle East. [www.wetlands.org/inventory&/middleeastdir/jordan.htm](http://www.wetlands.org/inventory&/middleeastdir/jordan.htm)
  - Clarke, J. E. (1979). A proposal for Wildlife Reserves in Jordan. IUCN/WWF Project Leader for Projects 1591. Development of Wildlife Reserves in Jordan. Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature. Amman, 9 July 1979
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  - Evans, M. I. (ed.) (1994). Important Birds areas in the Middle East. Birdlife Conservation Series No.2. Birdlife International. Cambridge, UK, 410 pp.
  - Khoury, F. Dhesat, M. and Qaneer, T. (2010). Breeding Bird's Baseline Survey. Research and Survey Section. The Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature (Unpublished Report).
  - RSCN (1999). Protected Area Review. Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature
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  - Sakkijha, E and Eid, E. (2009). Rapid Assessment Survey in Fifa Proposed Protected Area. Research and Survey Section. The Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature (Unpublished Report).
  - Salameh, I. (1986). Curative Water in Jordan. Water Research and Study Center, 7, University of Jordan, Amman.
  - Waheeb, M. (2009). Cultural Resources Study. The proposed PAs and SCAs of the Integrated Ecosystem Management in the Jordan Rift Valley Project – IEM JO. The Royal Society for the Conservation of Nature.
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غير معرف (2009). الدراسة الاقتصادية الاجتماعية لمناطق عمل مشروع الإدارة المتكاملة للنظم البيئية في وادي الأردن. قسم الأبحاث والدراسات. الجمعية الملكية لحماية الطبيعة.

#### 6.1.2 - Additional reports and documents

##### i. taxonomic lists of plant and animal species occurring in the site (see section 4.3)

<1 file(s) uploaded>

##### ii. a detailed Ecological Character Description (ECD) (in a national format)

<1 file(s) uploaded>

##### iii. a description of the site in a national or regional wetland inventory

<no file available>

##### iv. relevant Article 3.2 reports

<no file available>

##### v. site management plan

<1 file(s) uploaded>

##### vi. other published literature

<10 file(s) uploaded>

#### 6.1.3 - Photograph(s) of the Site

Please provide at least one photograph of the site:



Overview ( Nashat Hamidan, 06-12-2012 )



drainage ( Nashat Hamidan, 06-12-2012 )



Overview ( Nashat Hamidan, 6-12-2012 )

#### 6.1.4 - Designation letter and related data

##### Designation letter

<1 file(s) uploaded>

Date of Designation 2016-12-04