Main theme	Sub - Theme	Code Number
Natural Resources	Biodiversity	10

Study Name	**Mammal Biodiversity Studies Conducted**
Author	Dawn Scott
Date of Study	1997
Objectives	The aim of this study is to investigate mammalian community structure in a range of geomorphologically different ecosystems within the Badia region by investigating diversity, distribution, relative abundance and ecological status of the terrestrial non-volant vertebrate species.
Output and Recommendation	The first objective was to survey the 24 primary Darwin sites to undertake a preliminary biodiversity assessment. This assessment was then used to select five representative sites form the range habitants for intensive mammal studies. Baseline surveys involved fine replicates of ONE kilometer walks scanning a 2 m strip along line transects within a study site. The aim of the survey was to provide evidence of nocturnal species present, to give an index of species abundance with different sites and information on seasonal activity for future studies in behavioral ecology. Live trapping of small mammals was conducted using 23 m × 9 cm × 7.5cm Sherman traps. To investigate invertebrate productivity, "potential" resource availability and to sample the nocturnal ground dwelling invertebrate community. In conclusion, the potential threats to bat population in the Eastern Badia are the same as those facing insectivorous bats elsewhere- loss of roost sites and reduced insect availability. However, it is not felt that Hazeem Police station. The protection of an area which includes the limestone escarpment at Dehahik would be useful to ensure the long-term safety of the bat community there and to maintain or even increase the abundance and diversity of insects associated with the local vegetation.
Development Aspects	Using the GIS, eh data collected on the representative geomorphologically habitat will be extrapolated to the whole of the Badia Progamme area to generate plant species and plant community maps for the whole of the 11,500 km² study area for management purposes. Outputs from these vegetation surveys, especially the species diversity maps, will be used to support RSCN's assessment of the sites in the Badia. Progamme area for priority protection and also for identifying habitants that is suitable for RSCN's reintroduction programme.
Remarks	Future studies: before the end of the project a further two field visits are proposed. The RSCN has expressed interest in developing a proposal for a carnivore trapping program in addition to the carnivore surveys already undertaken. https://doi.org/10.1098/rstb.2011.0090