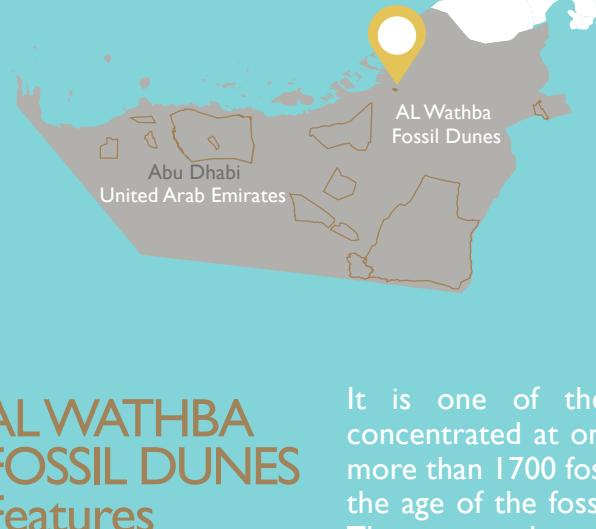


AL WATHBA FOSSIL DUNES

TERRESTRIAL PROTECTED AREA FACTSHEET 2023



NAME
AL WATHBA FOSSIL DUNES PROTECTED AREA
AREA
7 km²

ESTABLISHED
In 2021

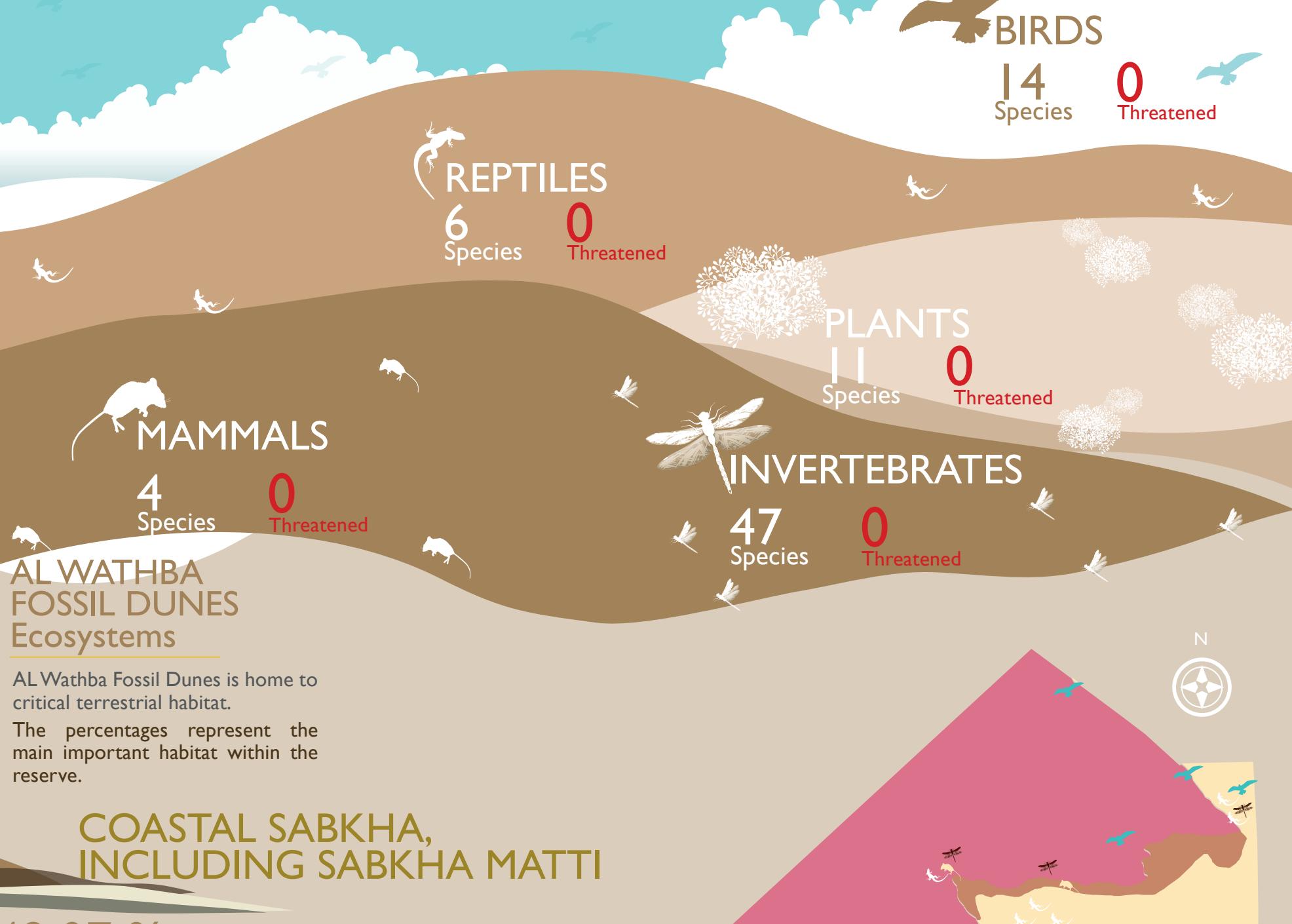
LOCATION
45 KM TO THE SOUTHEAST OF ABU DHABI EMIRATE

AL WATHBA FOSSIL DUNES Features

It is one of the largest number of fossil dunes concentrated at one location in the Emirate, it includes more than 1700 fossil dunes. According to the specialists, the age of the fossil dunes is more than 120 000 years. The reserve has several facilities, including the visitor center, which allows visitor to view the exhibition and

fossil dunes. The reserve also contains an amphitheater that accommodates 200 visitors, and bright corridors for walking extending for 3 km in both directions, surrounded by benches and umbrellas for visitors to rest, relax and enjoy the natural wonders in the reserve.

AL WATHBA FOSSIL DUNES Ecosystems



AL WATHBA FOSSIL DUNES is home to critical terrestrial habitat.

The percentages represent the main important habitat within the reserve.

COASTAL SABKHA, INCLUDING SABKHA MATTI

49.07 %
3.48 km²

SAND SHEETS AND DUNES GROUND

41.25 %
2.92 km²

MOUNTAINS, ROCKY TERRAIN

9.69 %
0.69 km²



0 1.13 2.25 4.5 6.75 9 Kilometres

WILDLIFE IMPORTANCE

1. A significant record of moth species (*Hypena (Ophiochroa) lividalis*) was detected from Protected Area. This species has been identified as a first record in Abu Dhabi Emirate and it is the second unique record for UAE.



2. Recorded three species of native birds were found breeding inside the protected area during the month of May.

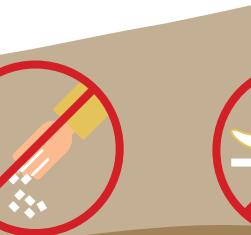
- Kentish plover (*Charadrius alexandrinus*)



- Red-wattled lapwing (*Vanellus indicus*)



- Black-winged stilt (*Himantopus himantopus*)



GENERAL REGULATION



*This activity requires a permission from Environment Agency - Abu Dhabi and the concerned Authorities