

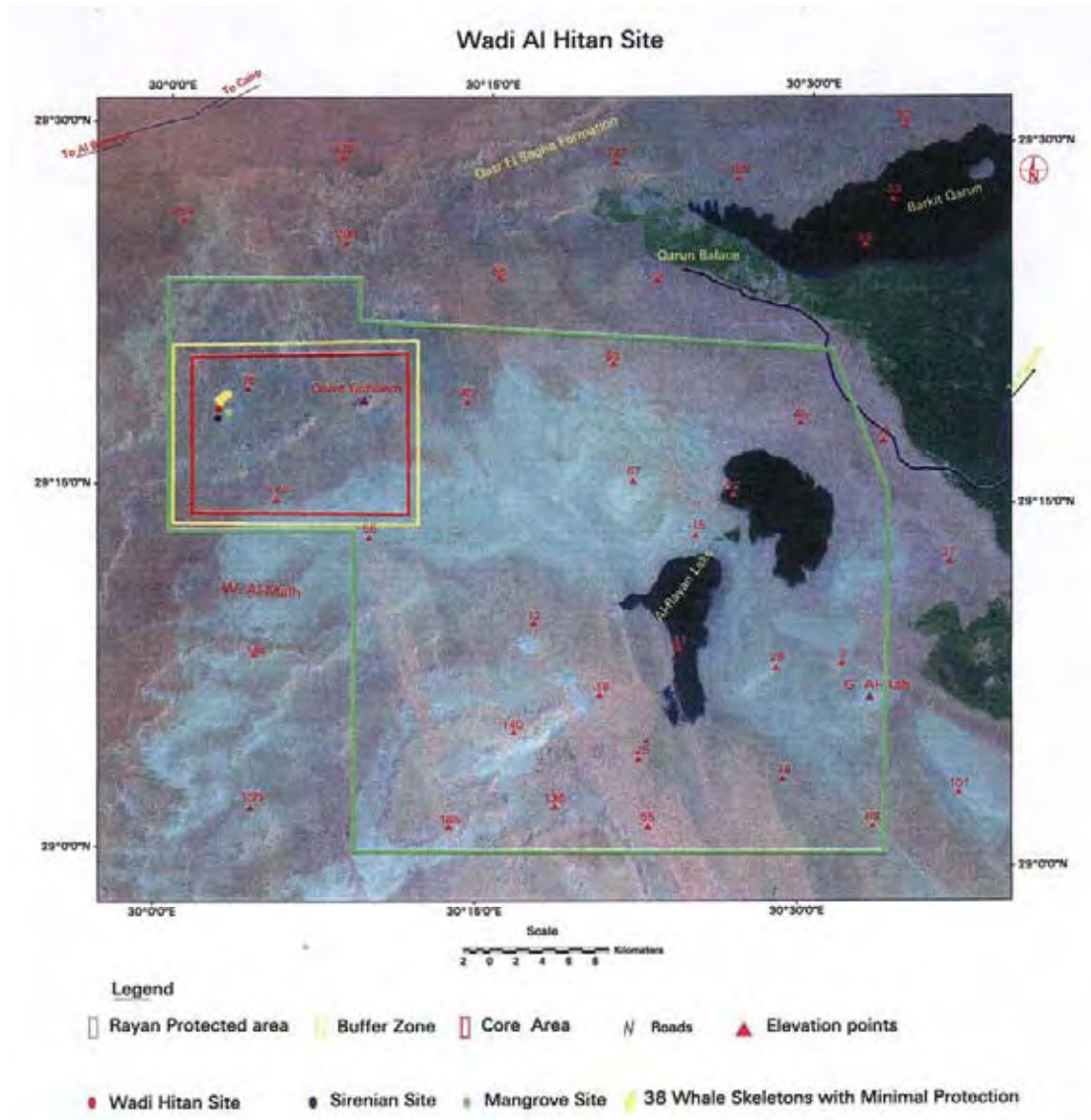


Fig. 1 – Map produced of satellite image of Wadi Al-Hitan (Whale Valley), Wadi El-Rayan Protected Area, Faiyum Governorate, proposed World Heritage Site showing approved boundaries of core area (red rectangle) and buffer zone (yellow rectangle). The boundaries of the Wadi Al-Rayan Protected Area (WRPA) are shown by a green line. Scale of A4 reduction: ~ 1:579,000. Map prepared by EGSM (Egyptian Geological Survey and Minerals Authority).

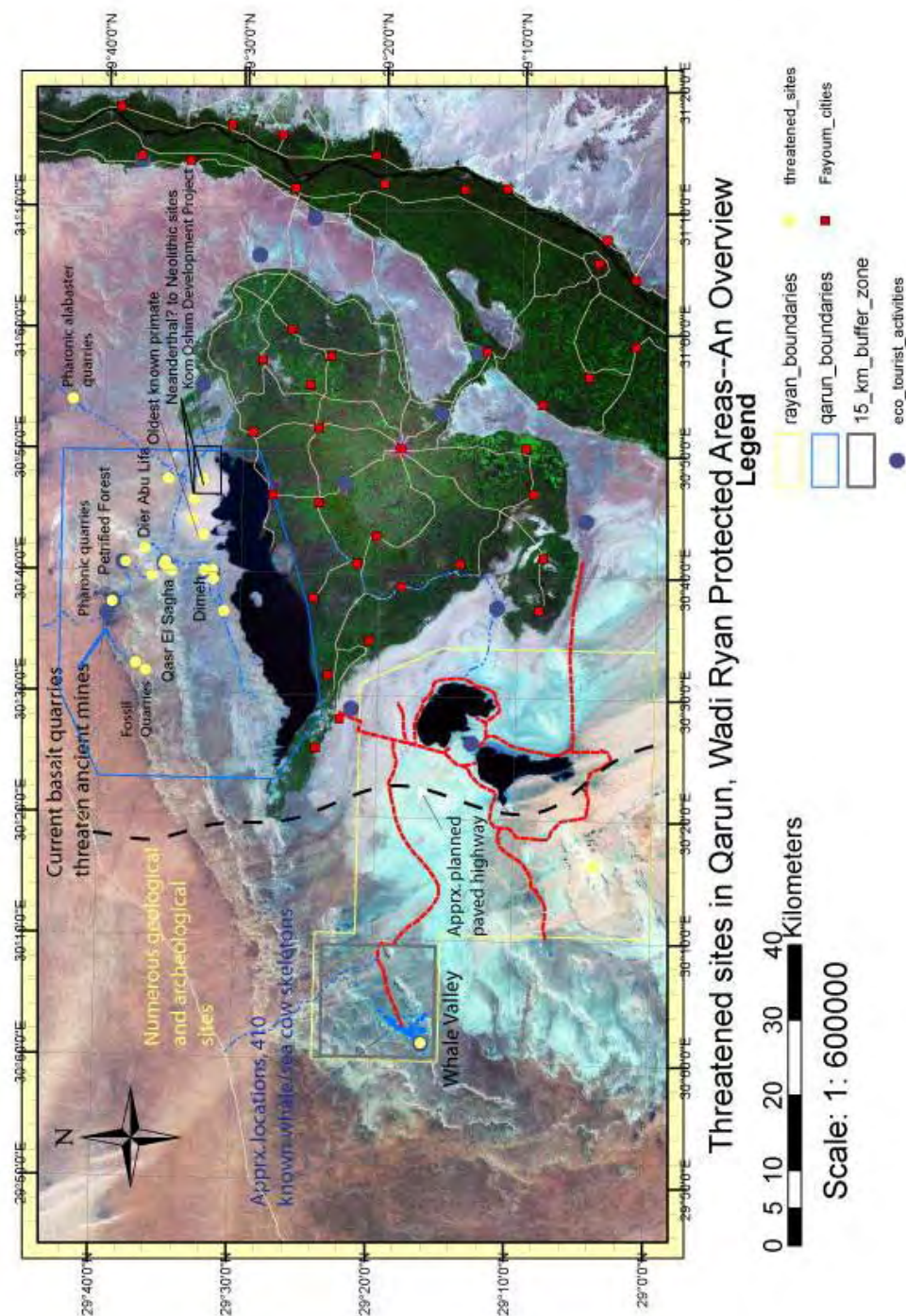


Fig. 3a –Satellite image of Wadi Al-Hitan (Whale Valley) within a 15x15 km area in WRPA. Scale: 1:600,000, showing some of the threatened sites and a 15x15 km area where whale fossils are concentrated (courtesy of Mr. J. Dolson). This area *is not* the proposed area for the World Heritage Site.

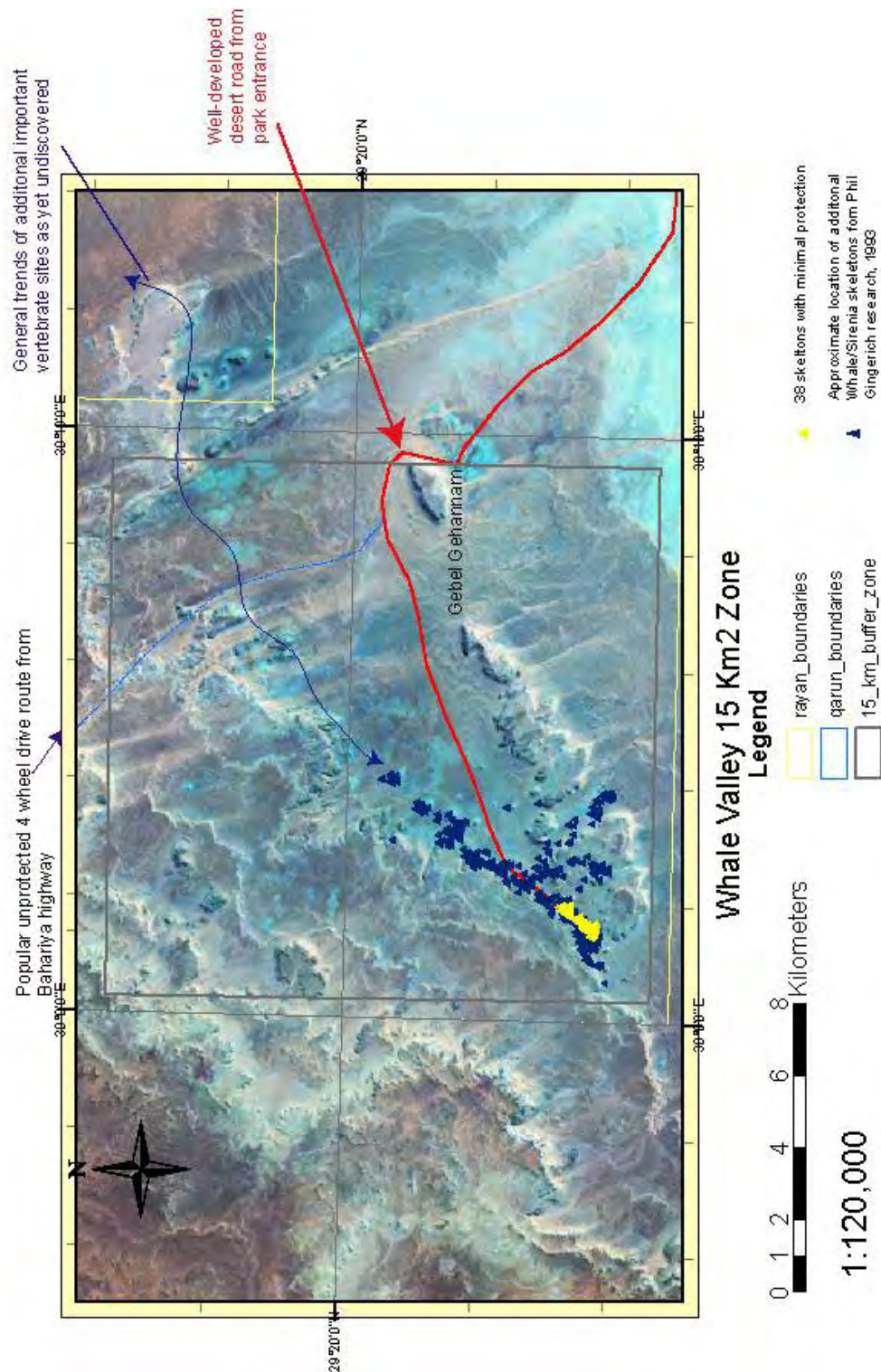


Fig. 3b – Enlarged part of previous map, scale 1:120,000, showing the well developed desert road from park entrance past Gebel Gahannam, position of some whale skeletons, and approximate location of whale and sirenian (sea cows) skeletons (courtesy Mr. J. Dolson).

Location: 1-3 hours from Cairo

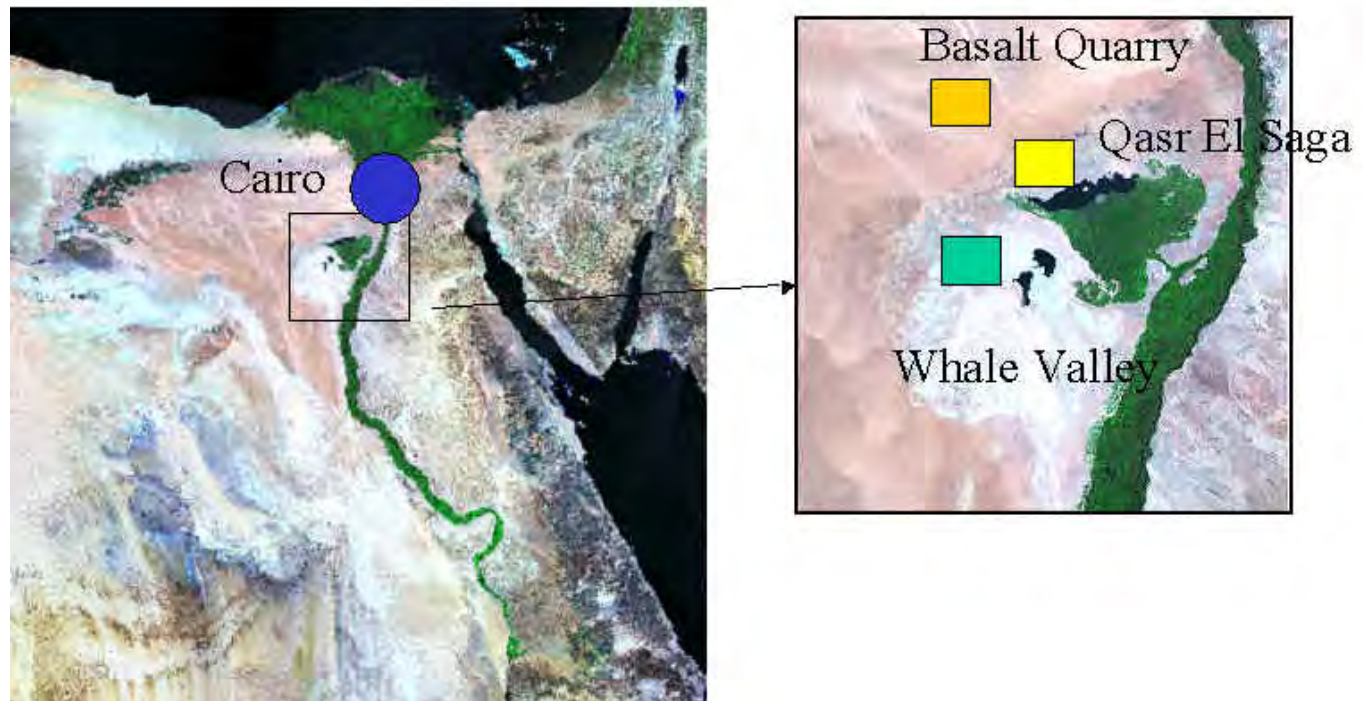
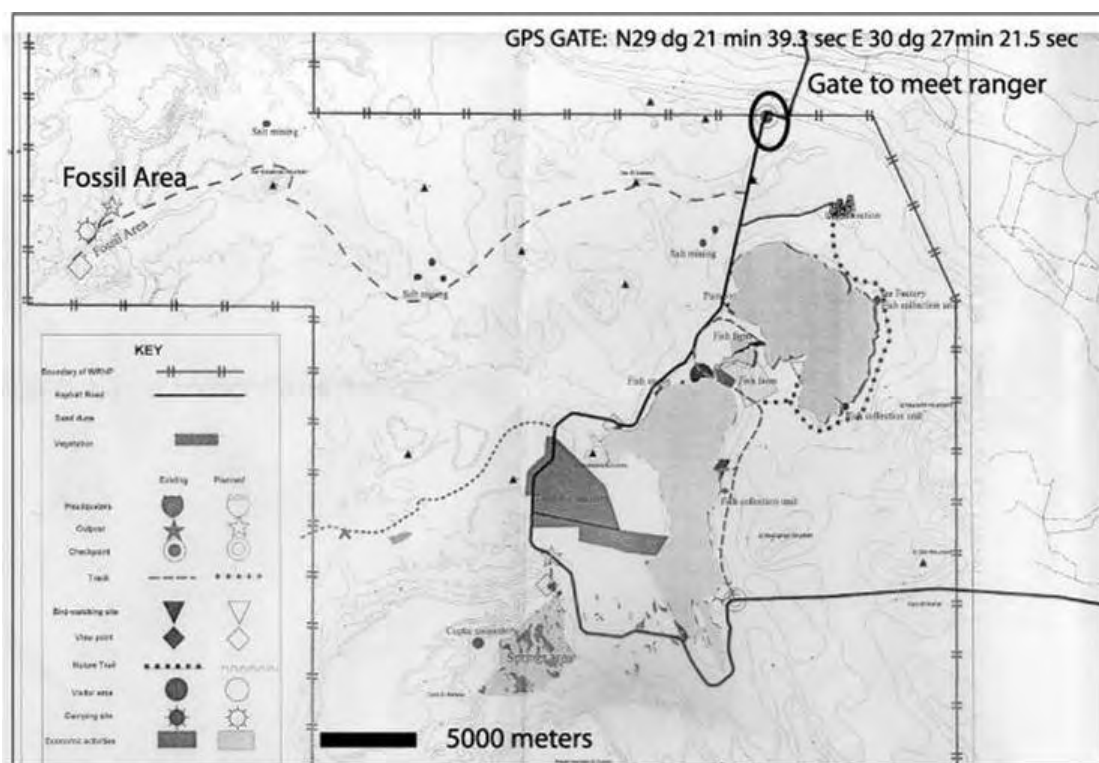


Fig. 4 – Location of Wadi Al-Hitan in relation to Cairo (courtesy Mr. J. Dolson).



Map 1999. Egyptian-Italian Environmental Programme: Support to Wadi El Rayan Natural Protectorate

Fig. 5 – Map of WRPA. The fossil whale area shown is apprixametely 35 km west of the entrance to the park, but the road winds for about 45 km (courtesy Egyptian-Italian Environmental Programme, EIEP).

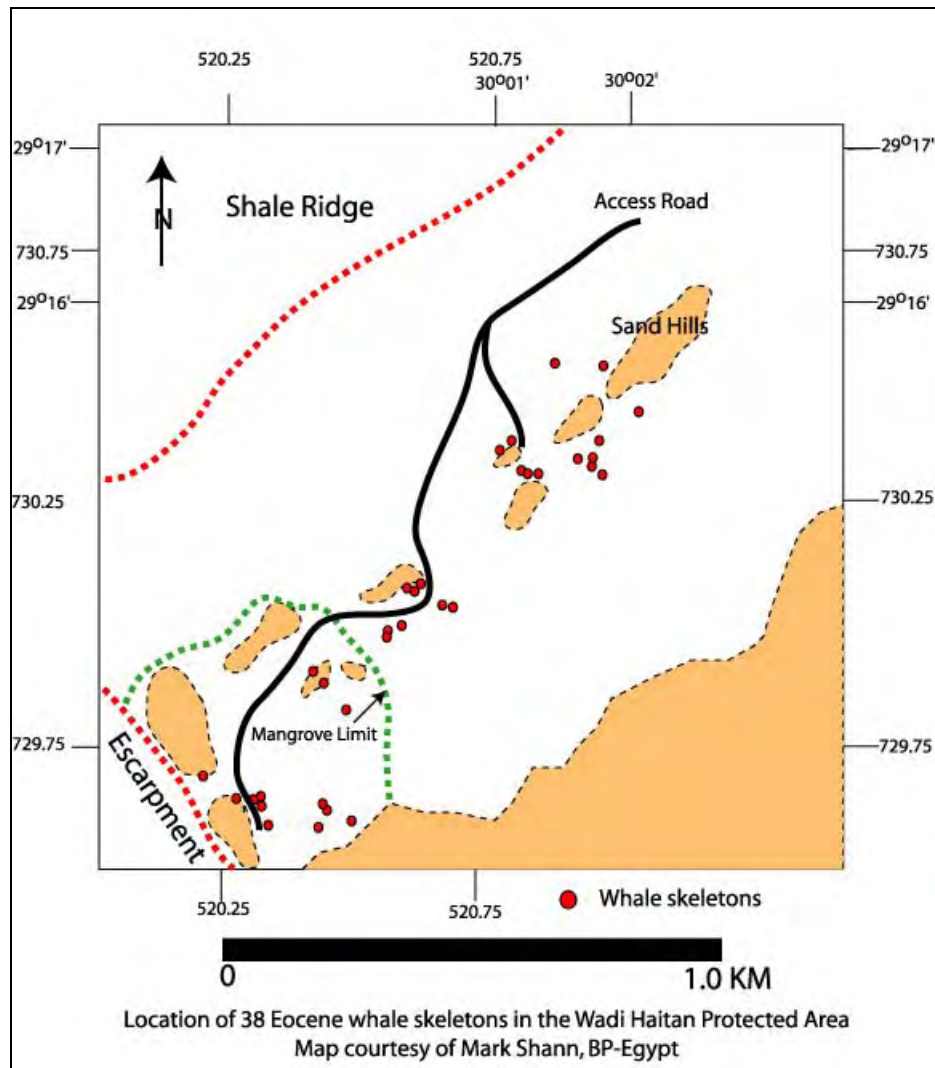


Fig. 6 – Map of 38 whale skeletons and location of heavily mangrove rooted ancient shoreline within the core area. Numbers for location are eastings and northings in meters (after Dolson *et al.* 2002).

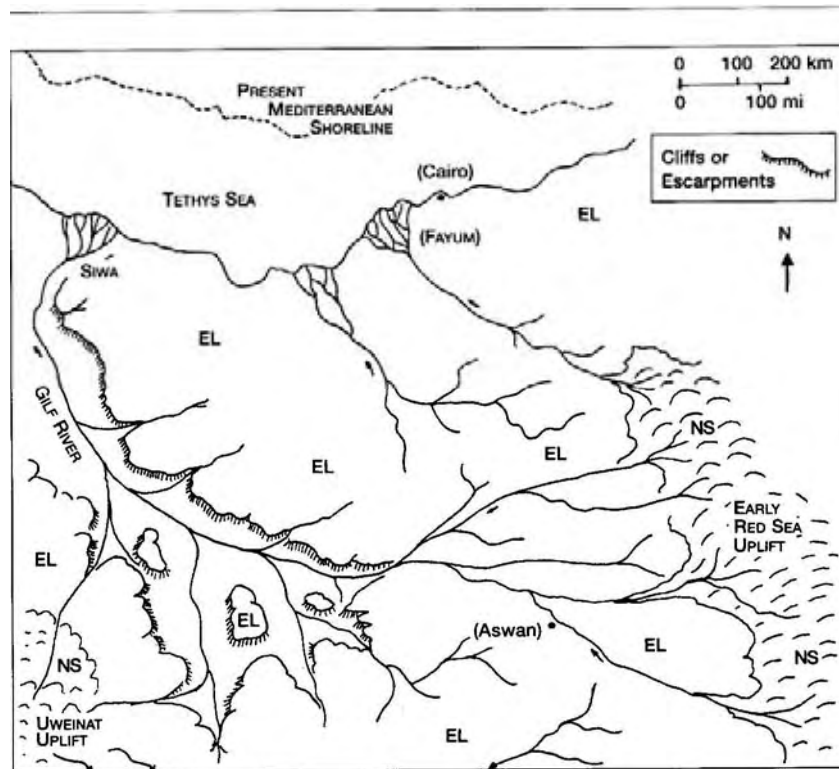


Fig. 7 – The proposed Gifl [Radar] River system of the Oligocene Epoch. Arrows indicate direction of flow in the channels. Rock layers at the surface: EL = Eocene limestone, NS = Nubia sandstone. Note the deltaic systems at present day Fayoum, Bahariya and Siwa (after Sampsell 2003, with kind permission of B. Issawi).

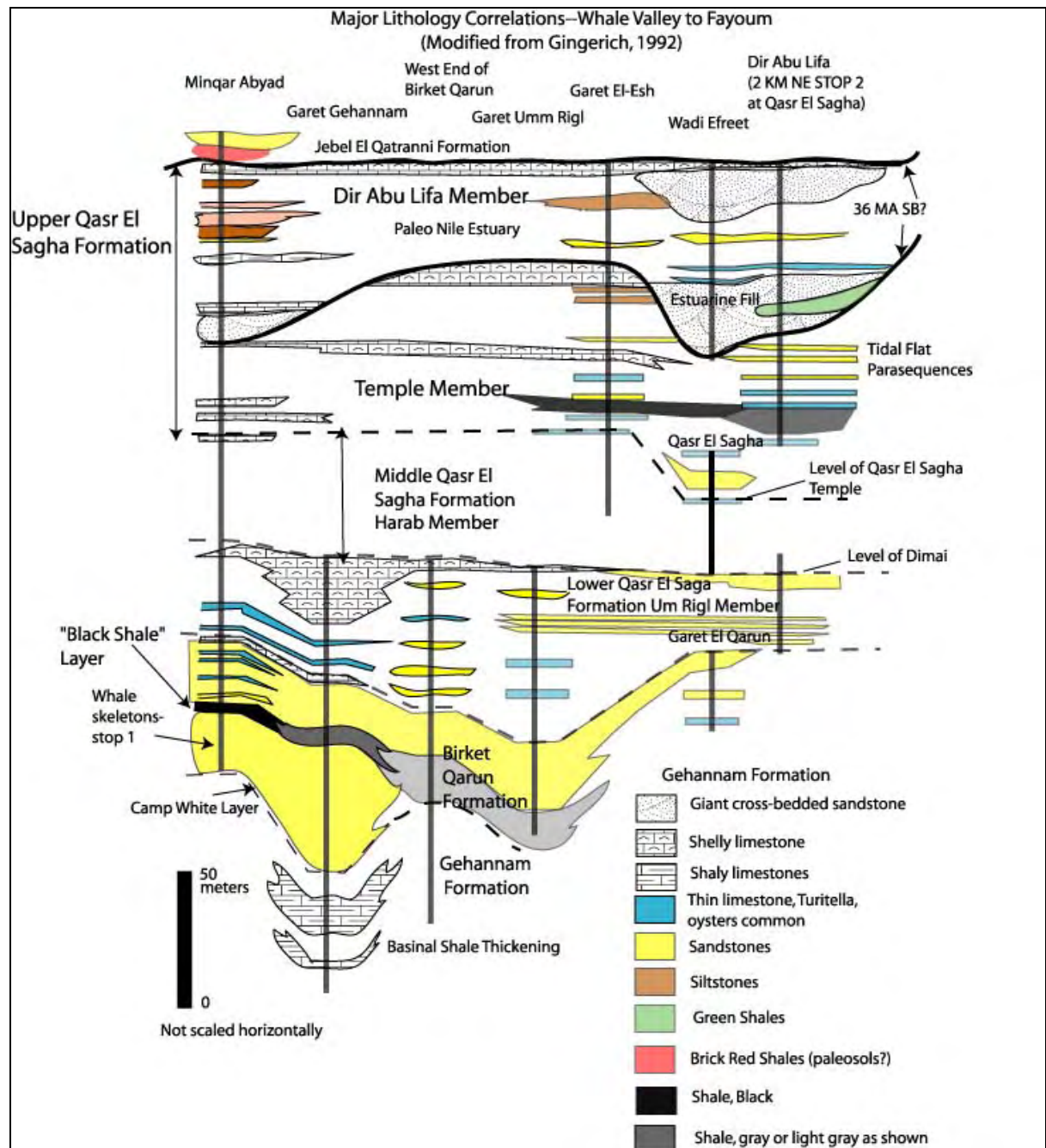
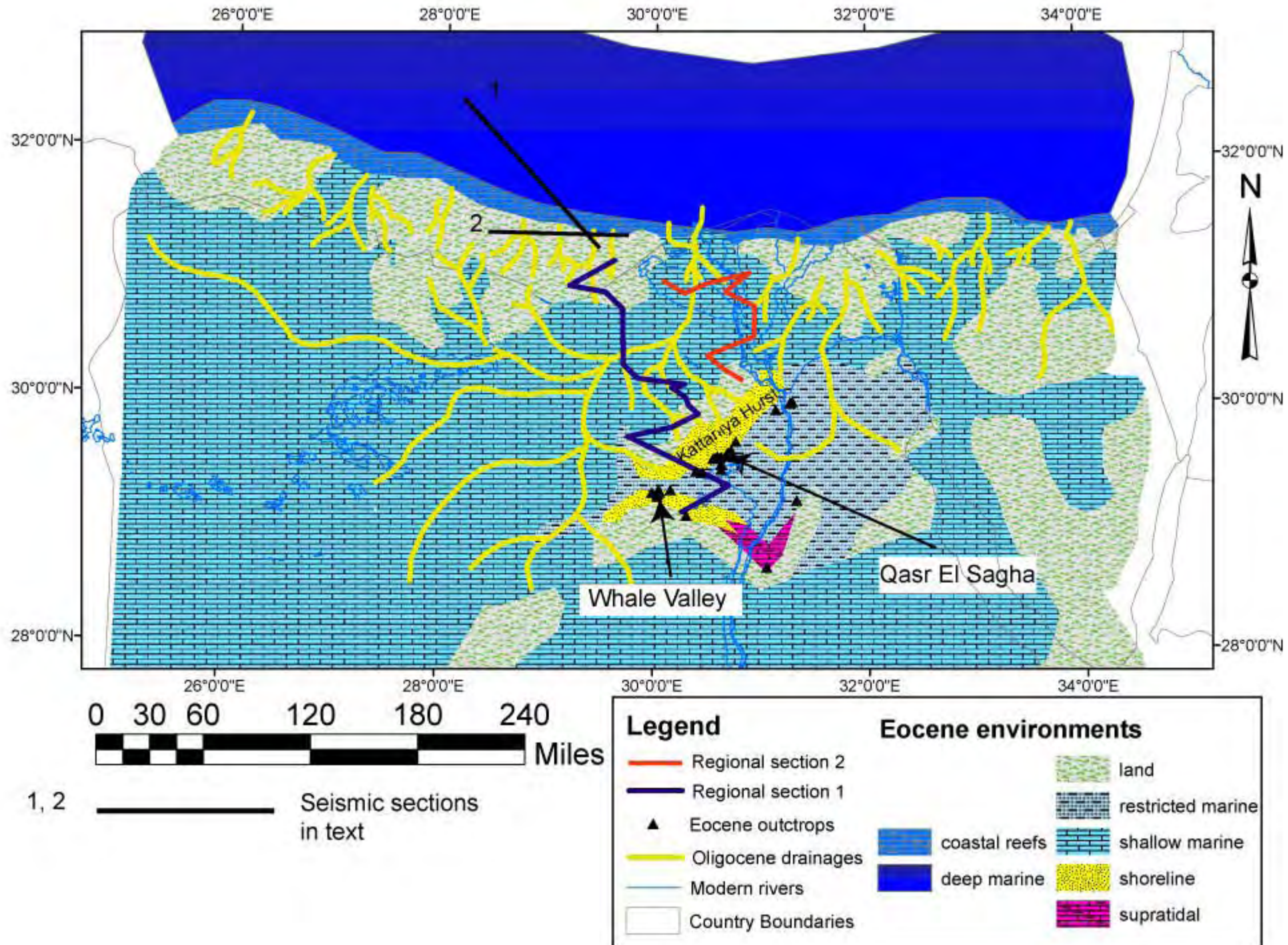


Fig. 8 - Semi-regional outcrop-based correlation of facies and environments, Whale Valley to Qasr El Sagha (after Dolson *et al.* 2002). The black shale layer shown on the left side extends to Wadi Al-Hitan.

Late Eocene Paleogeography



COMPOSITE STRATIGRAPHIC SECTION IN WADI EL HITAN

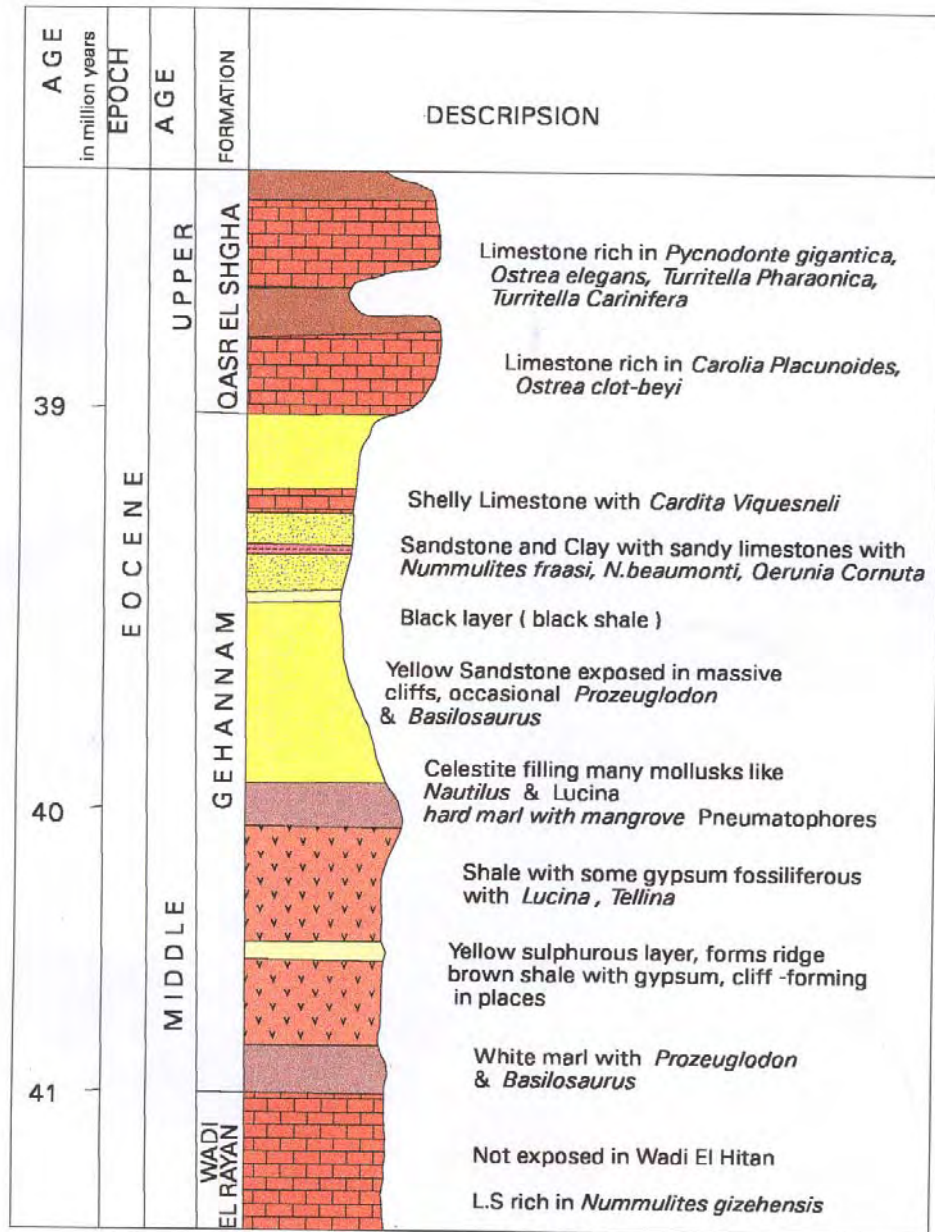


Fig.10 – Composite stratigraphic section in Wadi Al-Hitan (courtesy Prof. M. Abed and Prof. F. El-Bedewy).



Fig. 11 – General view of Whale Valley area.



Fig. 12 – WRPA Fossil Area, called Wadi Al-Battikh (= Water Melon Wadi).

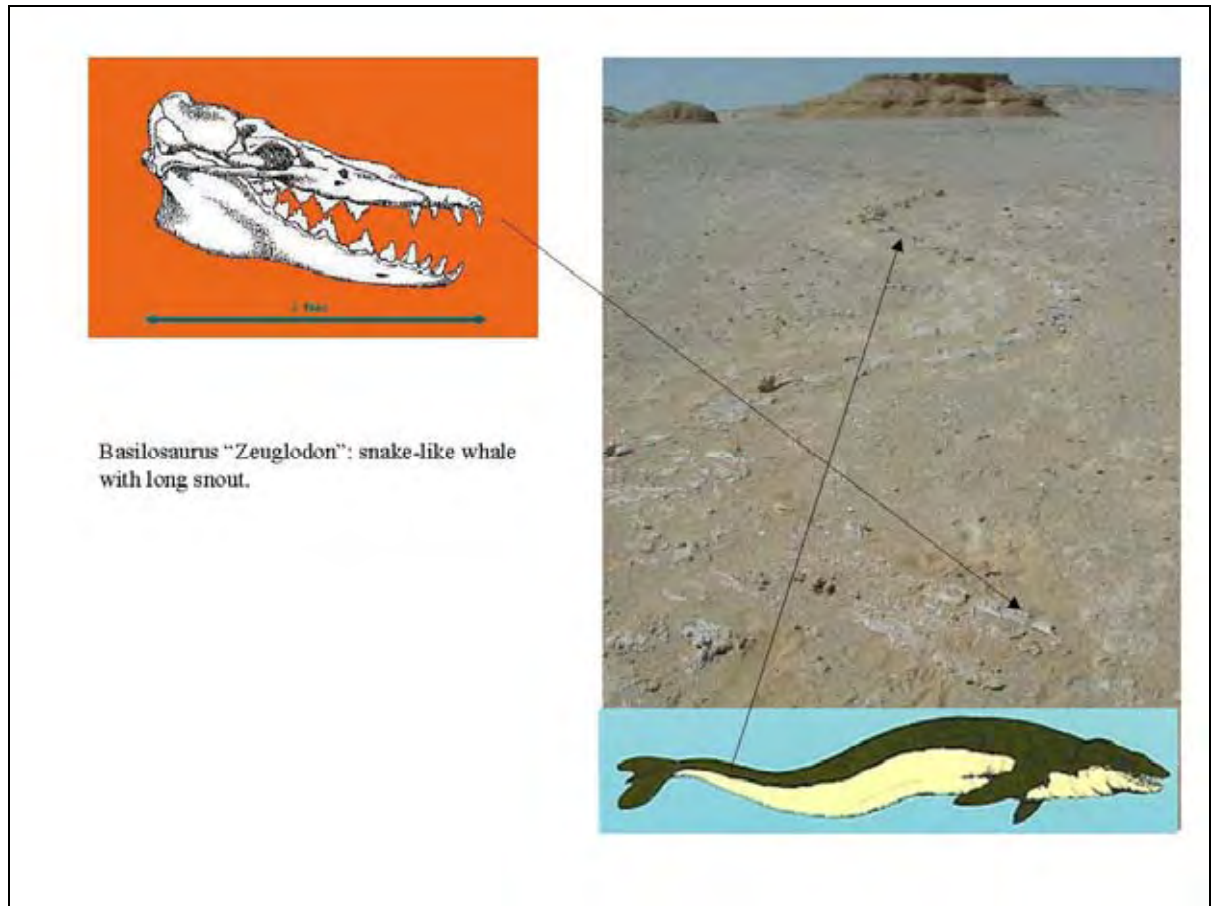


Fig. 13 - A complete whale skeleton (courtesy of Dr. A. El Barkooky). The reconstructed whale diagram is somewhat inaccurate, as the *Basilosaurus* whales were much more serpentine in shape. Note the curved spine typical of most skeletons. This is caused by muscle contraction after death that distorts the spine. The lower left hand figure shows how the whale may have looked like (after Dolson *et al.* 2002).



Fig. 14 – A fossil whale skeleton. Note the curved position at death.

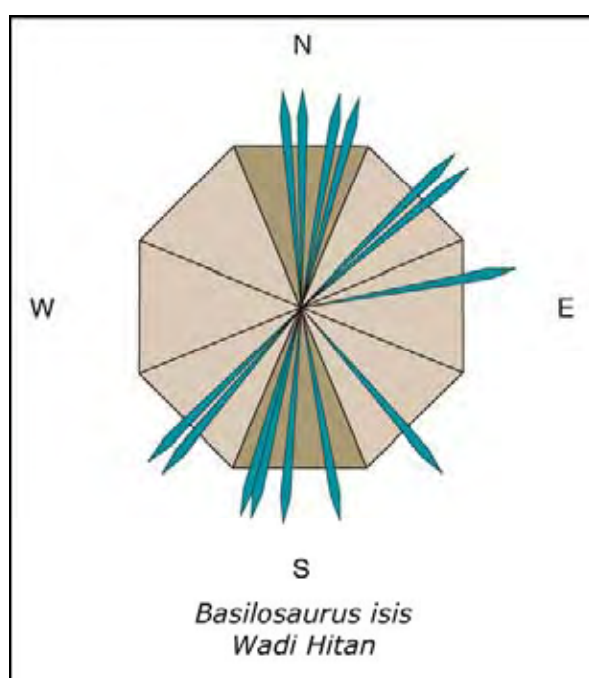


Fig. 15 - Rose diagram showing orientations of 14 *Basilosaurus isis* skeletons in Wadi Hitan. Tails are at the origin, and heads point away from the origin. Bearing of head relative to the trailing skeleton was recorded in the field, to the nearest five degrees, using a brunton compass. Eight of the 14 specimens are oriented pointing north (N) or south (S), which is unlikely to happen by chance alone, and those pointing north and south occur with equal frequency (after Dolson *et al.* 2002).



Fig. 16 - *Prozeuglodon* skull (now called *Dorudon*) at the Cairo Egyptian Geological Museum. Note large triangular teeth of an efficient predator (after Dolson *et al.* 2002).

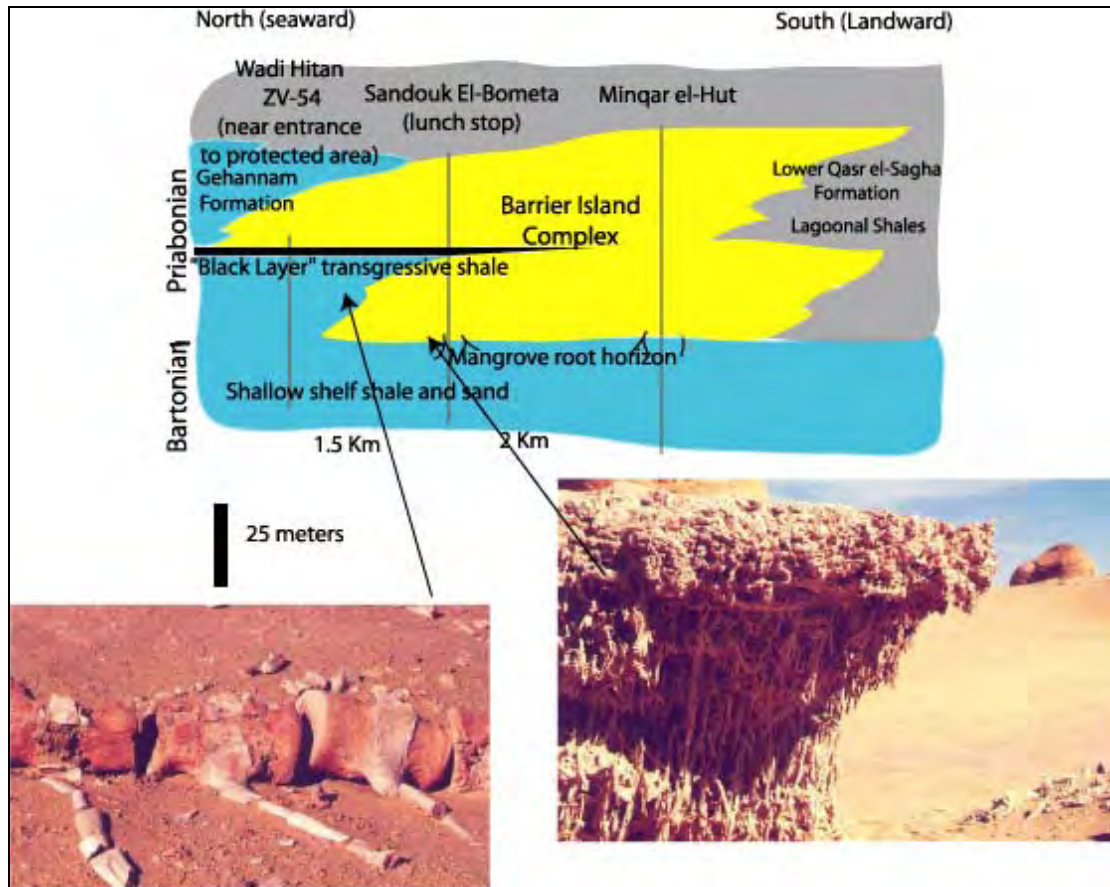


Fig. 17 – Top: summary stratigraphy of the fossil whale area (modified by Dolson *et al.* 2002, from Gingerich 1992). Fossil mangrove is clearly shown at the bottom right hand side. (The picture on the lower left hand side was for a moment's fantasy only.)



Fig. 18 – A block of fossil mangrove at Wadi Al-Hitan.

Worm-bored petrified tree located along a paleoshoreline at Whale Valley



Enlarged view of bored wood

Fig. 19 -. Along the northeast edge of the mangrove horizon (Camp White Layer) is a heavily worm-bored fossil tree. The extensive worm borings would have occurred in shallow water within the Wadi Hitan estuary (after Dolson et al. 2002).



Fig. 20 – Skeleton of *Basilosaurus isis* from Wadi Al-Hitan. Note vestigial hind limb.



Fig. 21 – Marked trail for cars at entrance to the whale fossil area.



Fig. 22 – One of the fenced fossil whale skeleton at Wadi Al-Hitan, to prevent trampling over.

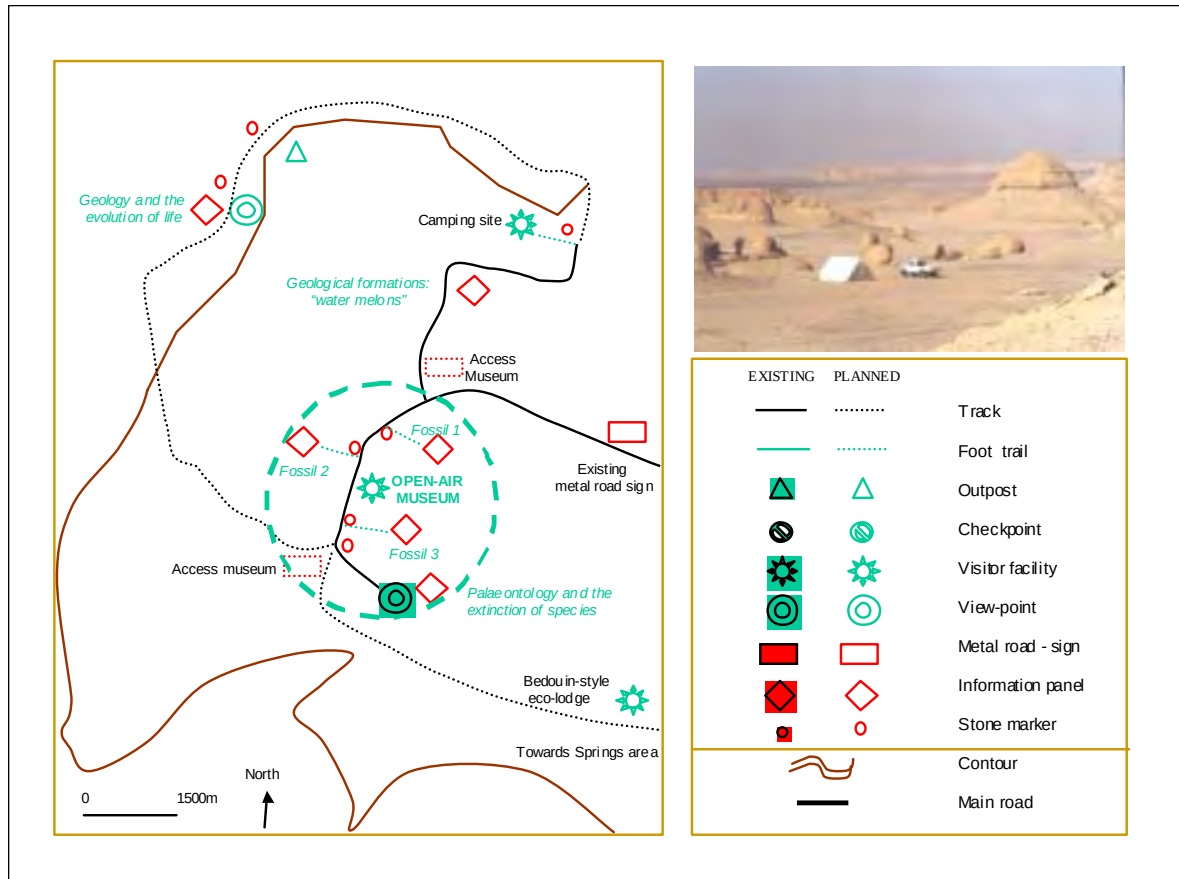


Fig. 24 - Schematic site plan for the Wadi Hitan area (courtesy Dr. M. Marchetti)

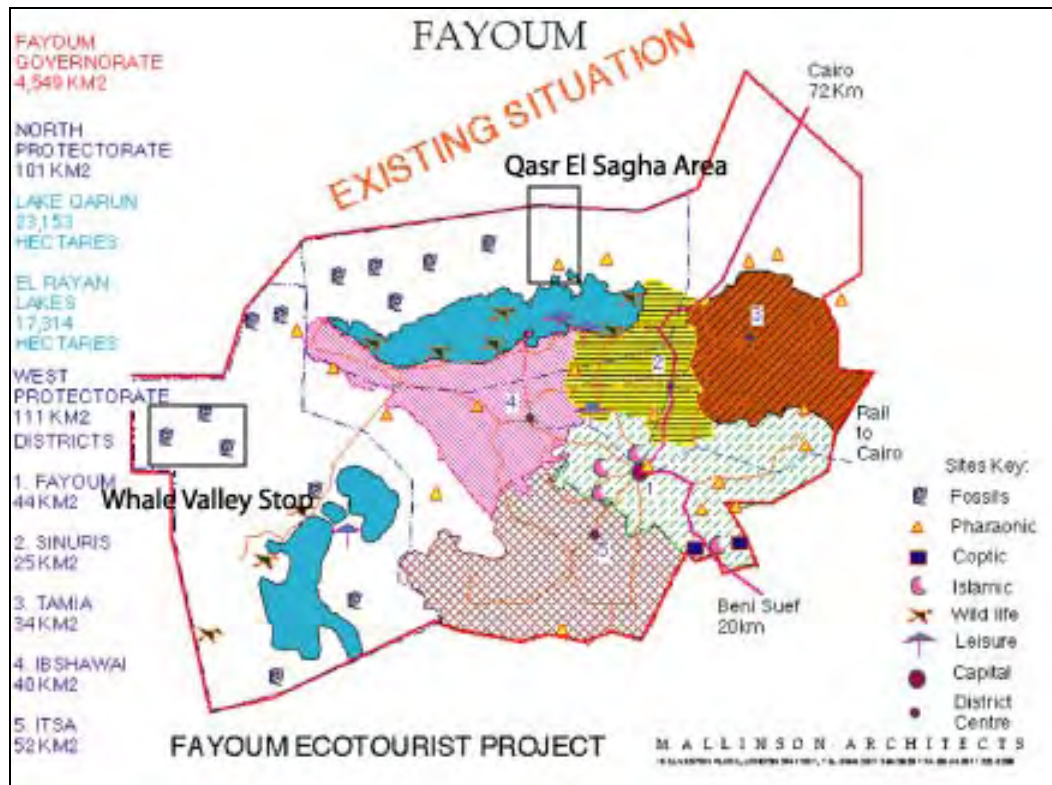


Fig. 25 - Current eco-tourism initiatives and major geological, cultural and archeological sites (courtesy Dr. M. Marchetti).



Fig. 26 – Visitor Center at WRPA, on the western shore of the Lake.

Fig. 27 – Signage operation at Wadi Al-Hitan (after Dolson *et al.* 2002).

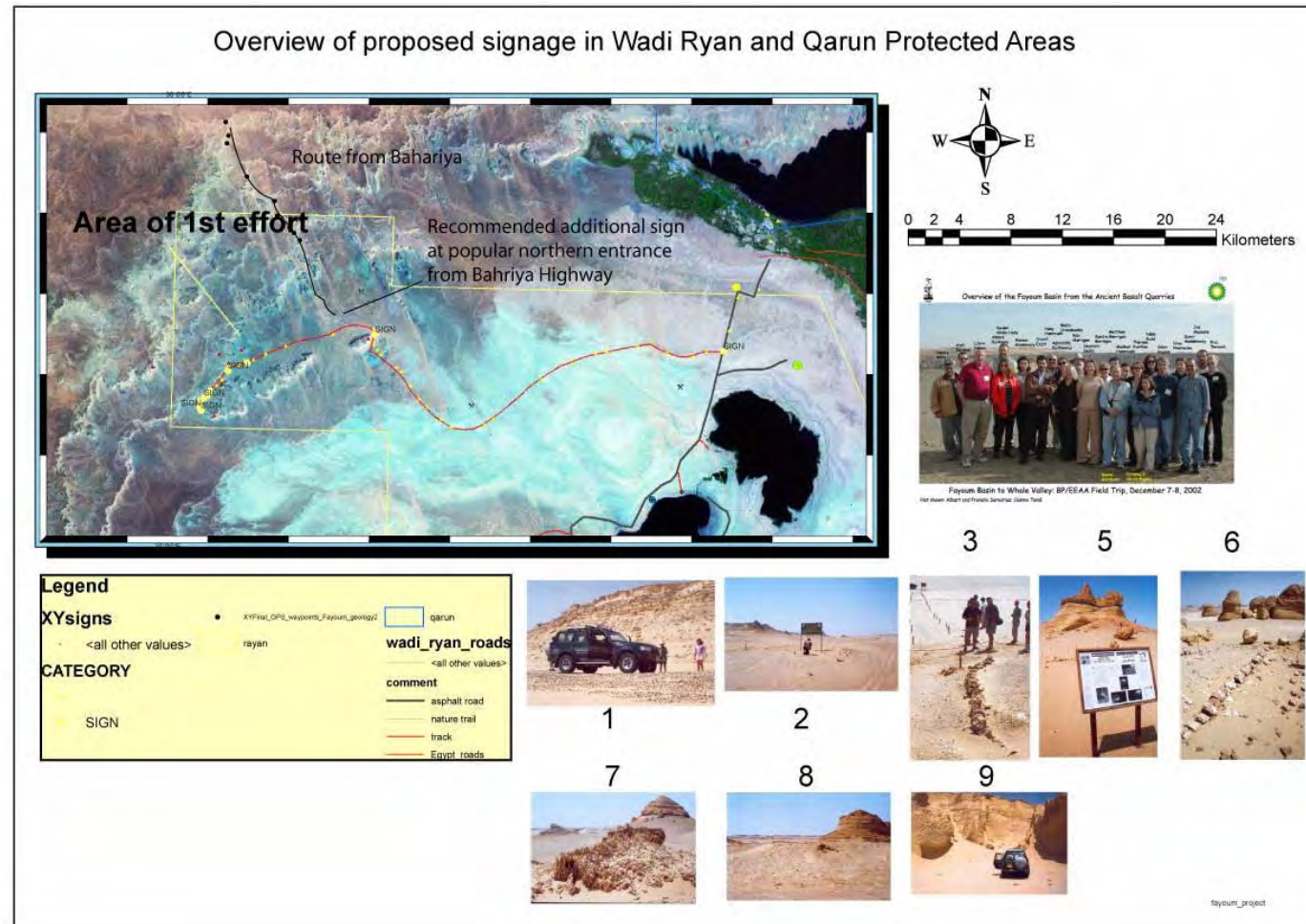




Fig. 28 - HQ of Wadi El-Rayan Protected Area.



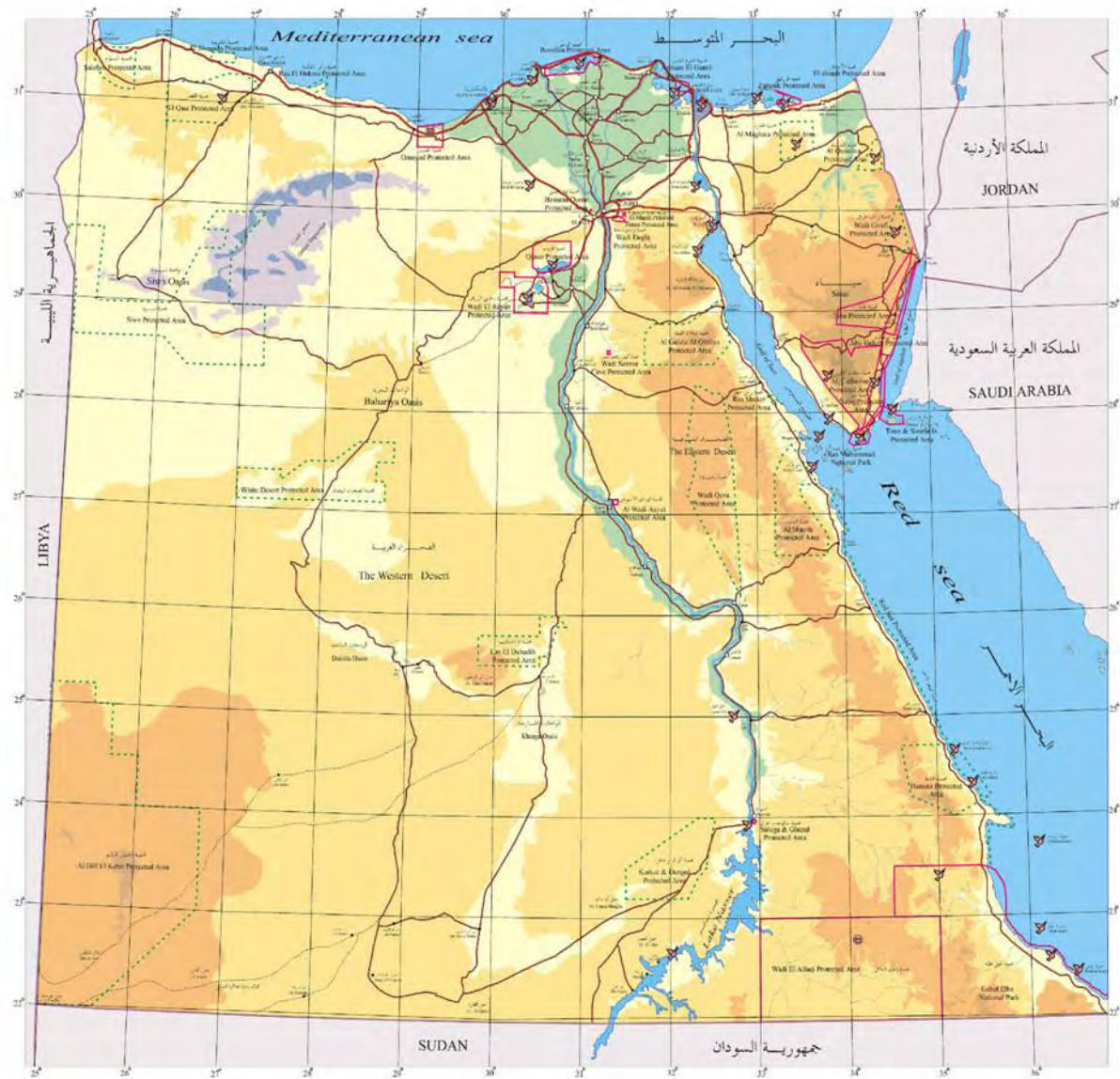
Fig. 29 - WRPA activities (monitoring).



Fig. 30 - WRPA activities (patrolling).



Plate I – Fossil invertebrates in Wadi Al-Hitan. The fossil in the middle bottom is number 12 while the two circular shapes on both sides are number 13 a and b.



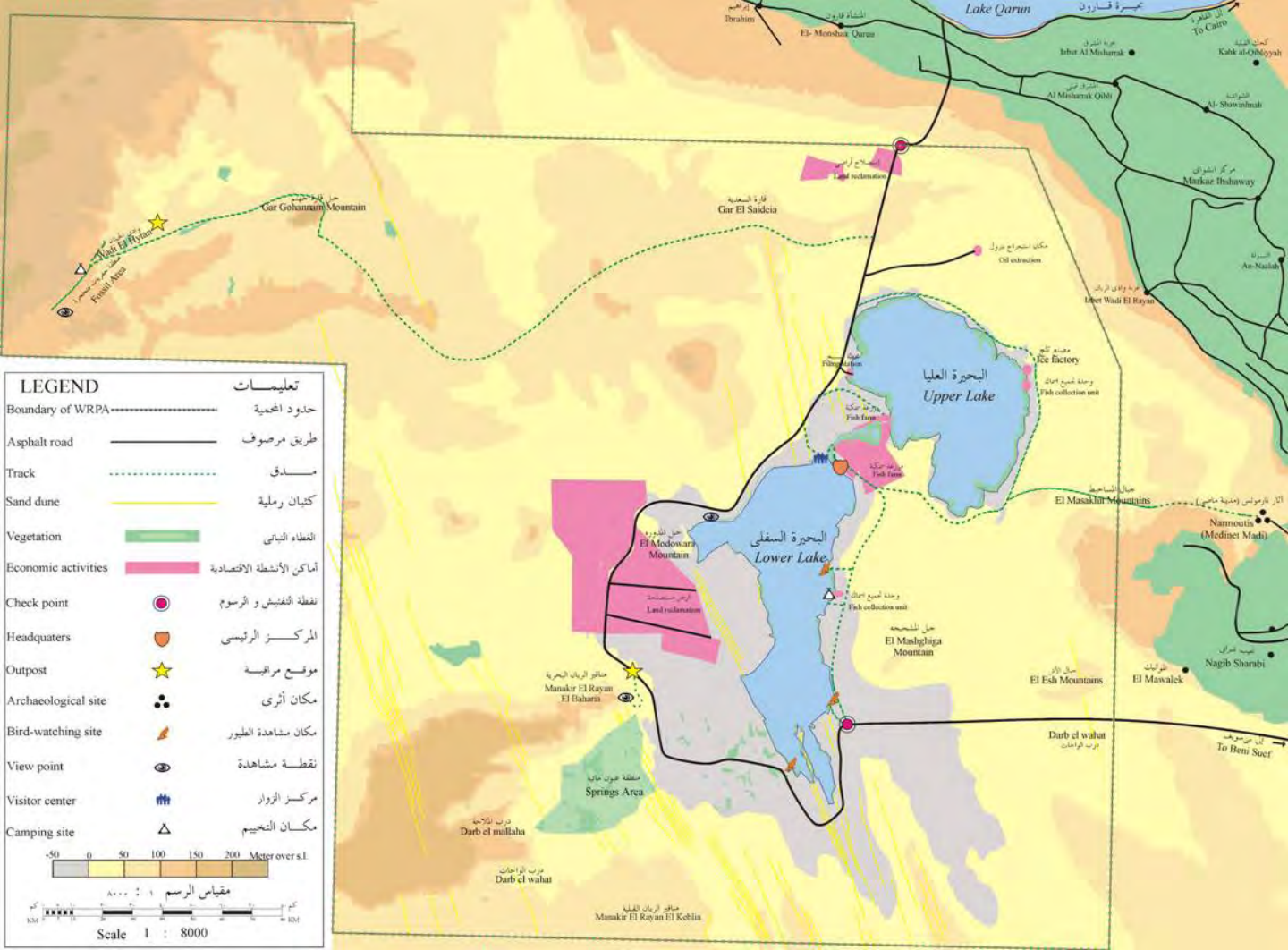




Figure 3. Map showing the 2-category system of WRPA

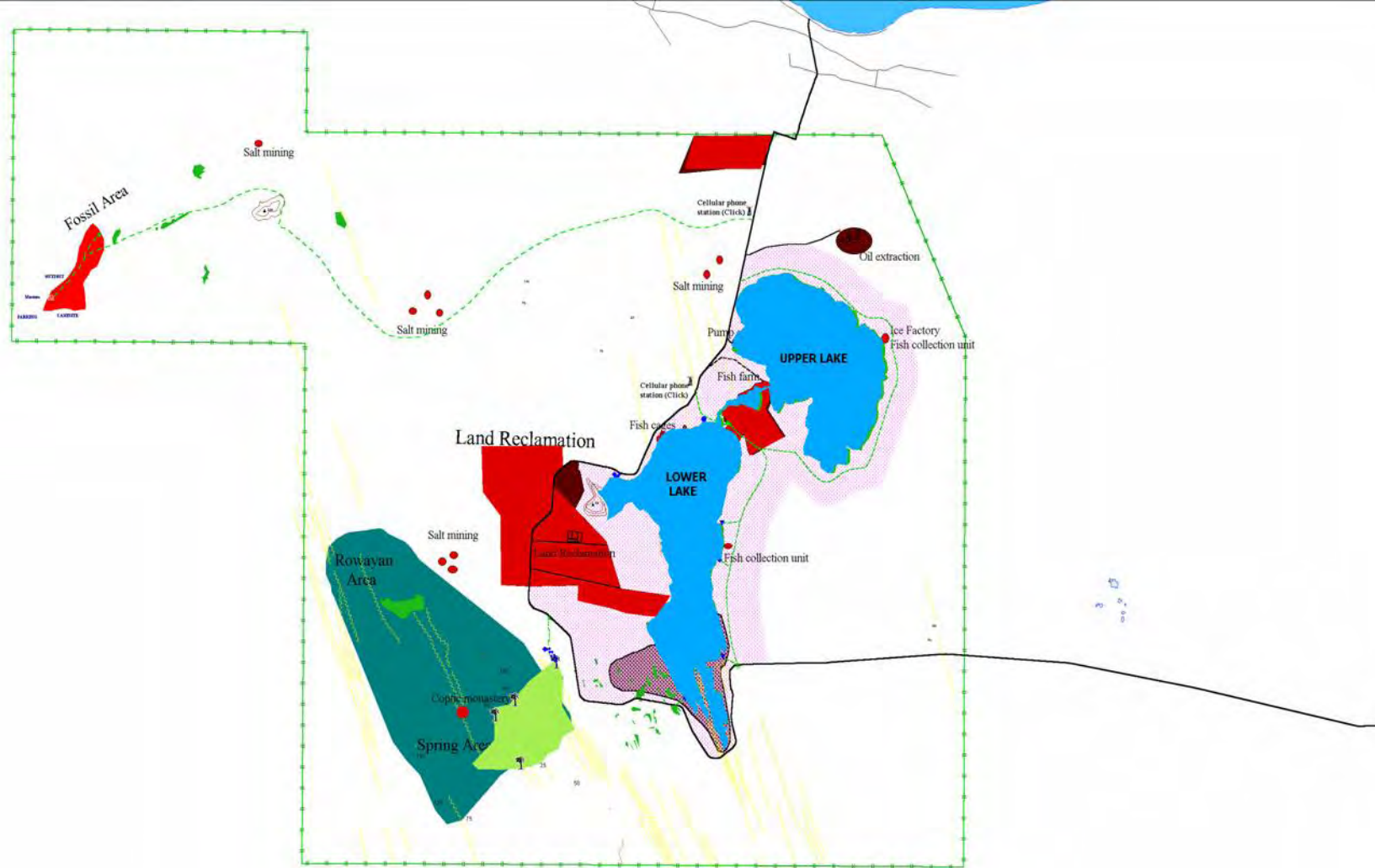


Figure 4. Map showing the Zonation of WRPA

