

FACT SHEET

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THE WADI HANIFAH RESTORATION

- Longest and most important valley, or *wadi*, in the middle of the Najd Plateau that runs for a length of 120 kilometres (75 miles) and cuts through the city of Riyadh, the capital of Saudi Arabia
- Watershed of over 4,000 square kilometres and a unique geographical feature in this arid region
- For years segments of the valley had been exploited in an aggressive and environmentally destructive manner
- The Saudi government and the Arriyadh Development Authority appointed Moriyama & Teshima Planners in joint venture with Buro Happold to plan the environmental restoration of the Wadi Hanifah
- Restoring balance between the resources of the *wadi* and the people living around it, the ADA implemented a comprehensive development strategy, a program of works that aims to restore and develop Wadi Hanifah as an environmental, recreational and tourism resource
- The Saudi government invested over \$1 billion (U.S.) into this environmental rehabilitation project
- Master planning started in 2001 and construction is ongoing
- A new green corridor 120 kilometres long, *Wadi Hanifah*, is now a popular destination for recreational activities such as fishing and picnicking and has also become a stop for migratory birds
- Project statistics:
 - Length: 120 kilometres
 - Side Wadis: 10
 - Dumping Removed: 1,000,000 cubic metres
 - Urban Wastewater Bioremediated: 400,000 cubic metres per day
 - Wadi Roads: 53.2 kilometres
 - Major Parks: 6
 - Lakes: 3
 - Recreational Trail: 43 kilometres
 - Planted Shade Trees: 35,500
 - Planted Date Palm Trees: 4,500
- The City of Riyadh recycles the cleaned remediated water back into the city for non-potable use including for greening and agriculture. This method conserves water and reduces the energy and cost for producing potable water in the desert environment.
- Wadi Hanifah is now an integral part of the city used by thousands every weekend as a destination city park