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- · Reintroducing the Arabian oryx to the wild
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- Establishing Vietnam's first locally managed conservation organisation

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The Endangered Mediterranean monk seal Monachus monachus, with a population of 600-700 individuals in the eastern Mediterranean Sea and eastern Atlantic Ocean, is threatened in particular by degradation of its habitat. A significant factor hindering recovery of the monk seal population of the Turkish coast and the nearby Greek islands is the limited number of marine caves suitable for resting and/or pupping. In searching for potentially suitable caves, one cave was located that had all the essential features for seal usage except a ledge. An artificial ledge was built in this cave and seal usage monitored by camera trap. A juvenile seal used the cave four times for resting, predominantly nocturnally. This is the first construction of a dry ledge in a cave of this kind for monk seals. The camera recordings suggest this approach could provide habitat for this species in areas where there is insufficient dry protected area on land. For further details, see pp. 149-151. (Photograph © Zafer Kızılkaya)





