



**Ben-Gurion University of the Negev**  
**Jacob Blaustein Institutes for Desert Research**  
**The Swiss Institute for Dryland Environmental and Energy Research**  
**Mitrani Department of Desert Ecology**

## Seminar

### **Dan Malkinson**

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and Environmental Studies,  
University of Haifa



Tuesday, April 2, 2019, 12:00

Seminar Room, Old Administration Building

Participants are invited to meet the seminar speaker at the MDDE meeting room immediately after the seminar (~ 13:00). Please bring your lunch; snacks will be provided.

## **The Town Boar and the Country Boar - Not So Simple to Ignore**

In some of the urban areas of Israel the wild boar (*Sus scrofa*) epitomizes human-wildlife conflicts and the dual attitudes of humans to wildlife. The list of cities where such conflicts take place increases yearly, and so is the frustration of the residents. A reflection to this could be found in posts in social networks, calls to 'Moked 106' and reports in the general media.

The calls of Haifa residents to 'Moked 106' provides a proxy for wild boars' activity patterns in the city. Analysis of the 2011-2017 calls, reveals that the number of reported sightings exceeded 2000 during 2013. The maximum distances boars penetrate into the residential areas has increased during this time period.

Outside urban areas, evidence suggests that wild boars respond to human presence in various ways. They are attracted to agricultural areas where ample food and water are available. A shift in their activity times is observed however, with higher activity during the night hours in the agricultural areas.

The presence of the wild boars in residential and agricultural areas results in ongoing conflicts with humans. A common presumption is that nature is for nature and urban areas are for people. In natural areas preservation and protection wildlife populations, should have precedence. In urban areas, where human welfare precedes other values, then wildlife management goals should reflect this accordingly. In agricultural areas, where human welfare is not affected by wildlife, but economic damage is high, other considerations may precede. Yet, these spatial domains are not independent, as they spatially intertwine, and nutrients and organisms cross their boundaries among each other. Therefore, the question stemming from this state is whether different management goals are justified for the different areas.