

# Israeli Society of Conservation Biology



## WELCOMING THE NEW BOARD!

### What is the SCB?

The Society for Conservation Biology (SCB) is an international professional organization dedicated to promoting the scientific study of the phenomena that affect the maintenance, loss, and restoration of species diversity. The Society's membership comprises a wide range of people interested in the conservation and study of biological diversity: resource managers, educators, government and private conservation workers, and students make up the more than 5,000 members world-wide. [Link to website here.](#)

### What is the ISCB?

The Israeli Chapter of the Society for Conservation Biology is a professional non-profit organization that aims to promote the science of conservation biology. It is affiliated to the SCB and is managed in accordance with its goals and guidelines. Members of the ISCB are practitioners, academics, and all other individuals interested in the multi-disciplinary field of conservation.

**We are very grateful to the members of the outgoing board of the ISCB, who served since its inception - Dr. Simon Nemtzov, Noam Ben-Moshe, Dr. Linda Olsvig-Whittaker & Ya'arit Levitt-Barmats - the incoming board will ensure its continued success!**



President

Dr. Uri Roll



Uri is a conservation biologist based at the Ben-Gurion University. He is interested in the intricate interactions we as humans have with nature, and how understanding these can facilitate better protection of the natural environment at various scales.

Vice President

Dr. Oded Berger-Tal



Oded is a senior lecturer at the Jacob Blaustein Institutes for Desert Research, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev. He studies the various ways in which behavioral ecology can be applied to improve the conservation and management of species and habitats.

Treasurer

Yafit Brenner



Yafit received her MSc from Tel Aviv University, where she focused on decision-making processes using house sparrows as a model. She currently studies towards a Natural Resources and Environmental Management degree at Haifa University while working as an operation manager at the Dolphin Sea Centre of IMMRAC.

Communications Director

Tania Bird



Tania Bird is a PhD Student at Ben Gurion University, looking at multivariate analyses for conservation and restoration of biodiversity in Nizzanim coastal dune reserve. She has several years' experience working on wildlife and biodiversity conservation management in Africa, South America and Europe, and she has a Masters in African Mammal Conservation from the University of Pretoria.

Secretary

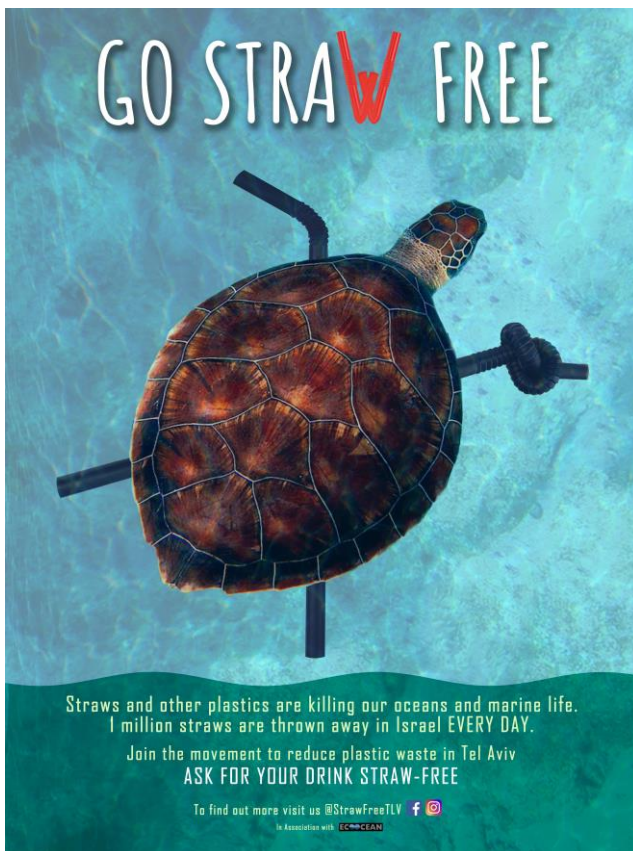
Leigh Kroeger



Leigh is in her 3rd year of her doctorate in Marine Ecosystem Management at the University of Haifa. She also works as the Morris Kahn Marine Research Station's Scientific Coordinator.

# CAMPAIGN TO LESSEN MARINE PLASTICS!

Tania Bird, Communications Director



Does Israel suck? Not anymore! We use more than one million plastic straws EVERY DAY in Israel alone! But a new campaign called StrawFreeTLV or לא שמים קשים has kickstarted the anti-plastic movement in Israel, inviting members of the public to #GoStrawFree and encouraging cafes, bars and restaurants to only provide straws on request. Find out more and see what you can do to help reduce plastic pollution of our beaches, and put an end to the plastic-straw addiction in Israel! In particular, we invite conservation practitioners and researchers to share your stories about straws, or plastic in general.

Join us: [www.facebook.com/StrawFreeTLV](http://www.facebook.com/StrawFreeTLV)

Follow us: [www.instagram.com/StrawFreeTLV](http://www.instagram.com/StrawFreeTLV)

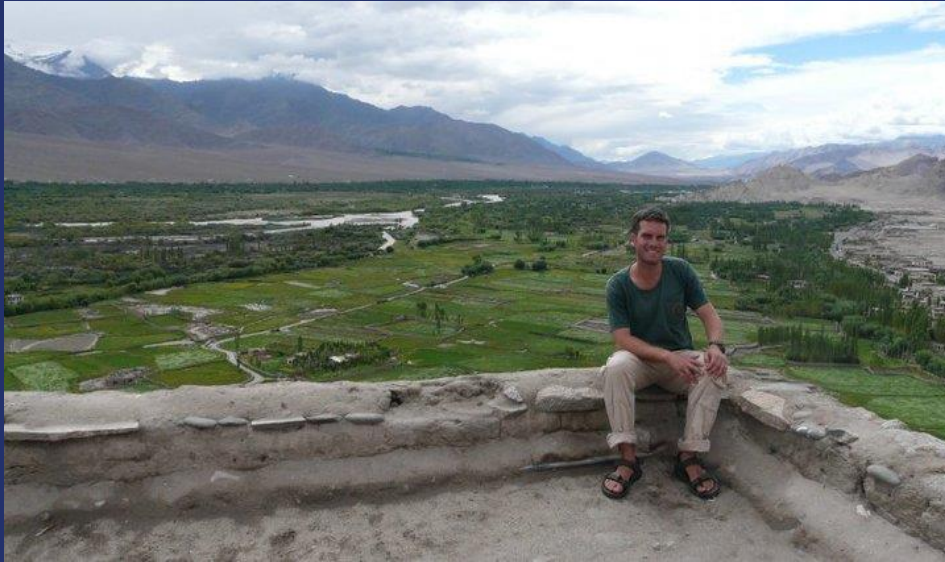
Tag us: #GoStrawFree #לאשמיםקשים

Write us: [StrawFreeTLV@gmail.com](mailto:StrawFreeTLV@gmail.com)



## Spotlight on: [Mr. Noam Ben-Moshe](#)

Ph.D. Candidate, Tel Aviv University



My love for nature and passion for conservation has accompanied me throughout my life. Growing up at the edge of urban Jerusalem, I was exposed to the beauty of the Judean hills and wildlife watching, catching lizards and snakes, and hiking became my main interests as a kid. During childhood I spent school-time working as an animal caretaker at the Jerusalem Zoo, while also participating and guiding tours through the SPNI. I continued on to a BSc and MSc in Ecology and Marine Biology, respectively, through Ben Gurion University and spent a couple of years working at various conservation and eco-tourism projects in Central America and South-East Asia. In the past 10 years I have worked as an environmental consultant at various agencies and organizations on a wide array of topics; restoration of damaged habitats, human-wildlife conflicts, ecological inputs in planning and environmental-educational schemes. During this time, I witnessed (what I see) as a huge gap between decision makers, organizations who deal with conservation and scientists, and the need for people who "speak all languages" to bridge between them and put conservation in the front - without neglecting human needs. Recently, I started my Ph.D. at Tel Aviv University in Dr. [Takuya Iwamura's](#) Spatial Ecology Lab, studying the dispersion patterns of rock hyraxes in Israel and its implications to the spread of Leishmaniasis, a subject that incorporates all of these gaps.

## Regional Recent Conservation Publications

1. Assmann, T., Boutaud, E., Buse, J., Gebert, J., Drees, C., Friedman, A.L.L., Khoury, F., Marcus, T., Orbach, E., Renan, I. and Schmidt, C., 2018. The tiger beetles (Coleoptera, Cicindelidae) of the southern Levant and adjacent territories: from cybertaxonomy to conservation biology. *ZooKeys* 734: 43-103.
2. Greenbaum, G., Renan, S., Templeton, A.R., Bouskila, A., Saltz, D., Rubenstein, D.I. and Bar-David, S., 2018. Revealing life- history traits by contrasting genetic estimations with predictions of effective population size. *Conservation Biology* [doi.org/10.1111/cobi.13068](https://doi.org/10.1111/cobi.13068).
3. Lubin, Y. 2017. All about Deserts
4. Roll, U., Iwamura, T. and Berger-Tal, O., 2018. National conservation science conferences as a means of bridging conservation science and practice. *Conservation Biology* [doi.org/10.1111/cobi.13060](https://doi.org/10.1111/cobi.13060).

*“We shall never achieve harmony with land, any more than we shall achieve absolute justice or liberty for people. In these higher aspirations the important thing is not to achieve, but to strive.”*

*— Aldo Leopold, [A Sand County Almanac and Sketches Here and There](#)*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Here is a link to the [Mediterranean Conservation Science Conference](#), if you haven't already booked.

The next [International Congress for Conservation Biology](#) (ICCB) will take place in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia (21-25 July, 2019). Since normally Israeli citizens are not permitted to enter Malaysia, those interested in attending the meeting are encouraged to contact Uri Roll at [uri.roll@gmail.com](mailto:uri.roll@gmail.com). The ISCB, with the assistance of the SCB, will work on obtaining special visa permits for the Israeli attendees.

And the 2<sup>nd</sup> Science-Based Management Conference in Haifa is 19-20 June 2018, and the topic is Anthropogenic Impacts to the Mediterranean Sea... [please register for free here.](#)



## The Annual Conference for Science and the Environment

Weizmann Institute of Science | June 20-21, 2018



### Call for Poster Abstracts

קול קורא  
לתקצירים לפוסטר

The Conference will provide an exciting platform for meetings and interactions among students, scientists, and professionals dealing with all aspects of environmental science, policy, law and education.

You are invited to submit your abstract for poster presentation in the two Poster Events during the conference.

Topics of abstracts can include but are not restricted to the following environmental themes

Global change, adaptation and sustainability ■ Pollution ■ Forestry ■  
Environmental health, law, policy and economics ■ Ecophysiology ■  
Meteorology and climate ■ Marine and aquatic ecology ■ Agroecology ■  
Water resources ■ Food production ■ Microbial ecology ■ Energy

Abstract submission until **May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018**  
through the link provided below  
<https://tinyurl.com/y9d4twwp>

For more information  
[www.weizmann.ac.il/conferences/ACSE2018/](http://www.weizmann.ac.il/conferences/ACSE2018/)

Coordinator & Accessibility Issues  
Irit Veksler | [irit.veksler@weizmann.ac.il](mailto:irit.veksler@weizmann.ac.il)


  
**SAVE THE DATE**
  
 הכנס המשותף של קהילת בריאות ורפואה וקהילת סביבה וחברה
   
 מיסודה של האגודה הסוציולוגית הישראלית
   
**היבטים חברתיים**
  
**של יחסי בריאות**
  
**וסביבה**
  
**יום ה' 26.4.18 | 08:30-15:30**
  

  
 דרישות של אוניברסיטה. חוויה של מכללה.

*If you're interested in health & environment interactions... register now for this conference!*

## SCB Announces Call for Applications for Graduate Student Research Fellowship Awards

SCB recognizes the importance of graduate students whose research advances the science and practice of conserving Earth's biodiversity.

The Society is excited to support these graduate students as we formally announce the call for applications for the [SCB Graduate Student Research Fellowship Awards](#) (GSRF). SCB will grant ten \$1,000 research awards to support travel, materials or equipment for graduate student members to help conduct field research in conservation science.

The deadline for applications is **Monday, 30 April 2018**. Visit the [SCB Student Awards page](#) to learn more about the GSRF and to download the application form. You must be a member to be eligible to win the award.

Questions? E-mail Awards Committee Chair [Carolyn Lundquist](#).

The Society is grateful to Wiley, the publisher of SCB Journals [Conservation Biology](#) and [Conservation Letters](#), for making SCB Awards possible.

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Other links to topical grants with upcoming deadlines can be found here:

[James Borrell Sponsorship](#)

[British Ecological Society](#)

[SCB employment openings](#)

[More conservation careers](#)

*Thanks for reading, and we look forward to more progress for the Israeli chapter!*