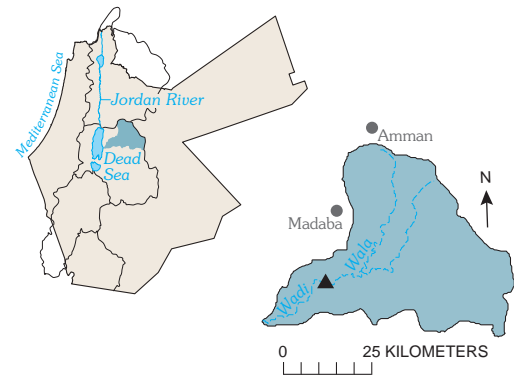


# Wadi Wala

The course of the Wadi Wala runs from its headwaters south of Amman in the Jordan Highland and Plateau at about 700 m above sea level, to its confluence with the Wadi Mujib about 3 km from the Dead Sea and over 300 m below sea level—more than 1 km lower than the headwaters. The central and northern areas of the watershed comprise the fertile plains around Madaba where the average annual rainfall is 300–400 mm, and the average annual potential evaporation is about 2,200 mm. In its lower reaches, the Wadi Wala is known as the Wadi Heidan. The drainage area of the Wadi Wala–Heidan is about 2,000 km<sup>2</sup> at its confluence with Wadi Mujib.



- Wadi Wala Watershed—  
Area at gage is 1,800 km<sup>2</sup>
- Major watersheds
- Karak Road gaging station



*Course of Wadi Wala across Jordan Rift Valley Escarpment*

Flow characteristics of the Wadi Wala are measured at Karak Road, where the drainage area is 1,800 km<sup>2</sup>. The Wadi Wala has fairly stable baseflow that typically provides from 0.1 MCM per month during the summer to more than 1 MCM per month during the winter, as shown in the graph of median monthly volume to the right. The drainage area of the Wadi Wala at Karak Road is less than half that of the Wadi Mujib at Karak Road; however, baseflow of the Wadi Wala is slightly greater than that of the Wadi Mujib. This is mainly because average annual rainfall in the Mujib watershed is about one-half that of the adjacent Wala watershed. Zero flow conditions have been observed at the Karak Bridge gage during summer months in only 3 years—1990, 1995, and 1996. The largest observed floods on the Wadi Wala occurred in April 1971 and February 1992, with discharges of 245 and 248 m<sup>3</sup>/s, respectively.

