

RANGER PORTRAIT

Giorgos Christofi

Ranger in the region of Paphos, Cyprus

Main duties:

- fighting wildlife crime
- combating wildfires
- human-wildlife conflicts
- species and habitat protection

Why is your work important to you?

I grew up in this profession. And it's very, very difficult to change. When you love animals and the environment, it's simply part of your character.

What is your greatest motivator even when it's hard working out there?

For me, it's not like going to work. It's more like a service to save lives. I don't just work to earn a living. Because I enjoy this service to nature so much, it's much more than just a job. It's more like a passion that drives me.

Your biggest moment of luck during work?

One of many unforgettable moments was when we released a Bonelli's eagle. We found it when it had fallen into the sea, half dead. We gave it first treatment and then took it to the rehabilitation centre. After a week, it was already getting better. After a month, it was doing so well that we were able to release it back into the wild.



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