

## Nru. 1374

## No. 1374

## ORDNI TA' KONSERVAZZJONI

## CONSERVATION ORDER

**Regolament 17 tar-Regolamenti dwar il-Protezzjoni tal-Fawna, il-Flora u l-Ambjenti Naturali, 2006 (L.S.549.44)**

**Regulation 17 of the Flora, Fauna and Natural Habitats Protection Regulations, 2006 (S.L.549.44)**

**Att dwar il-Protezzjoni tal-Ambjent, 2016**

**Environment Protection Act, 2016**

L-Awtorità ta' Malta dwar l-Ambjent u r-Rizorsi hija tal-fehma li l-proprjetà li ġejja, jiġifieri:

The Environment & Resources Authority is of the opinion that the following property, namely:

**Ix-Xaghra tal-Kortin****Ix-Xaghra tal-Kortin**

(kif indikat f'**Tabella 1**) hija ta' importanza Ekoloġika u Xjentifika tant li s-sit ġie identifikat bħala Żona Speċjali ta' Konservazzjoni ("SAC") ta' Importanza Internazzjonali (MT0000010) fl-2007 (Notifikazzjoni tal-Gvern 112/07) u huwa sit Natura 2000.

(as indicated on **Figure 1**) is of Ecological and Scientific importance such that the site has been designated a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) of International Importance (MT0000010) in 2007 (Government Notice 112/07) and included in the EU's Natura 2000 network.

L-Awtorità hija tal-opinjoni li s-sit ser jibbenefika minn aktar miżuri ta' konservazzjoni u, bis-saħħa tas-setgħa mogħtija lilha bir-Regolament 17 tar-Regolamenti tal-2006 dwar il-Protezzjoni tal-Fawna, il-Flora u l-Ambjenti Naturali (L.S.549.44) (Att dwar il-Protezzjoni tal-Ambjent, 2016), li permezz tiegħu tagħmel, fir-rigward ta' kwalunkwe sit fi hdan sit protett, Ordni ta' Konservazzjoni biex tikkontribwixxi għall-iżgurar tal-protezzjoni tal-bijodiversità permezz tal-konservazzjoni ta' ambjenti naturali u ta' flora jew fawna selvaġġi u biex jinżammu jew jiġu restawrati ambjenti naturali u speċi ta' flora u fawna selvaġġi jew karatteristiċi ġeoloġiċi, ġeomorfoloġiċi jew fiżjografiċi, l-Awtorità b'dan qiegħda toħroġ Ordni ta' Konservazzjoni fir-rigward tas-sit msemmi hawn fuq.

The Authority is of the opinion that the site will benefit from further conservation measures and, by virtue of its powers under Regulation 17 of the Flora, Fauna and Natural Habitats Protection Regulations, 2006 (S.L.549.44) (Environment Protection Act, 2016), through which it may make, in respect of any site, within a protected site, a Conservation Order to contribute towards ensuring the protection of biodiversity through the conservation of natural habitats and of wild flora or fauna and to maintain and restore natural habitats and species of wild flora and fauna or geological, geomorphological or physiographic features, the Authority is hereby issuing a Conservation Order in respect of the above site.

**Importanza tas-Sit****Importance of the Site**

Fix-Xaghra tal-Kortin jeżistu l-ambjenti naturali t'Anness I (Direttiva 92/43/KEE) li ġejjin:

Ix-Xaghra tal-Kortin supports the following Annex I Habitats (Directive 92/43/EEC):

- **1240 – Vegetated sea cliffs of the Mediterranean coasts with endemic *Limonium* spp.**
- **5330 – Thermo-Mediterranean and pre-desert scrub**
- **5410 – West Mediterranean clifftop phrygnas (*Astragalo-Plantaginetum subulatae*)**
- **8210 – Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation**
- **9320 – *Olea* and *Ceratonia* forests**
- **9540 – Mediterranean pine forests with endemic Mesogean pines**

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- **9540 – Mediterranean pine forests with endemic Mesogean pines**

Fix-Xaghra tal-Kortin jeżistu l-ispeċi li jinsabu mnizzla f'Anness II (Direttiva 92/43/KEE):

The following Annex II species (Directive 92/43/EEC) is present at this site:

- *Anacamptis urvilleana*

- *Anacamptis urvilleana* (orchid)

Speċi importanti oħra rrapportati fis-sit jinkludu:

- Speċi ta' pjanti f'Anness IV (Direttiva 92/43/KEE) u/jew fir-"Red Data Book":  
*Atractylis cancellata*  
*Catabrosa aquatica*  
*Lotus preslii*  
*Matthiola incana subsp. melitensis*  
*Tamus communis*
- Speċi ta' animali f'Anness IV (Direttiva 92/43/KEE) u/jew fir-"Red Data Book":  
*Nemesia arboricola*  
*Pterolanche vallettae*  
*Tarentola mauritanica*  
*Podarcis filfolensis maltensis*  
*Chalcides ocellatus tiligugu*

L-importanza tal-wirt ta' dan is-sit hija aktar emfasizzata bl-inkluzjoni tiegħu fil-lista tal-Propjetajiet Skedati fir-rigward tat-Taqsima 81 tal-Att tal-2010 dwar l-Ambjent u l-Ippjanar tal-Iżvilupp bħala Livell 2 u Livell 3 Zona b'Importanza Ekoloġika (AEI) u Zona ta' Valur Għoli tal-Pajsaġġ (AHLV) (NG 400 ta' 1996); parti mis-sit hija wkoll Sit ta' Importanza Xjentifika (SSI) (NG 288 ta' 1995) u Korpi ta' Ilma Tranzizzjonali (Avviz Legali 194 tal- 2004).

Il-Konservazzjoni tax-Xagħra tal-Kortin għandha tintlaħaq l-aktar billi l-aċċess għall-ambjenti fragli ikun ikkontrollat sabiex jiġi limitat l-irfis, jitneħħew speċi aljeni invażivi u jiġu riabilitati l-ambjenti naturali, titjib fil-kuxjenza dwar l-importanza tas-sit, monitoraġġ tas-sit u infurzar effettiv tal-liġi, u billi tiżdied il-kuxjenza pubblika dwar l-ambjent b'mod ġenerali.

### Vizjoni għas-sit

Il-vizjoni għax-Xagħra tal-Kortin hija sommarju tar-riżultat mixtieq għas-sit wara perjodu ta' tmexxija ta' din iż-żona protetta. Il-vizjoni għas-sit hija:

*Ix-Xagħra tal-Kortin jinkludi varjetà ta' tipi ambjenti kostali Mediterranji f'sit relattivament żgħir. Huwa qiegħed fil-konfini ma' zona protetta fil-baħar u fil-viċin hemm Zona Speċjali ta' Konservazzjoni oħra kbira fuq l-art li magħha taqsam numru ta' ambjenti. Is-sit ser jithares permezz ta' miżuri ta' tmexxija bl-iskop li jinżammu l-ambjenti naturali u fawna u flora tal-post li huma peżenti f'dan is-sit. L-irwol tas-sit għar-rikreazzjoni passiva ser jinżamm u jsaħħaħ permezz ta' proviżjoni ta' sinjali xierqa, mogħdijiet u installazzjonijiet oħra simili li jiggwidaw il-fluss tal-viżitaturi għos-sit filwaqt li jipprovdu opportunitajiet edukattivi ambjentali; mada nakollu, attivitajiet li joħolqu impatt bla bżonn fuq l-ambjenti naturali ser jiġu ristretti jew projbiti, speċjalment l-aċċess tal-vetturi għas-sit. Speċi aljeni invażivi u speċi ekoloġikament mhux xierqa ser*

Other important species known from the site include:

- Annex IV (Directive 92/43/EEC) and/or Red Data Book plant species:  
*Atractylis cancellata*  
*Catabrosa aquatica*  
*Lotus preslii*  
*Matthiola incana subsp. melitensis*  
*Tamus communis*
- Annex IV (Directive 92/43/EEC) and/or Red Data Book animal species:  
*Nemesia arboricola* (spider)  
*Pterolanche vallettae* (moth)  
*Tarentola mauritanica* (gecko)  
*Podarcis filfolensis maltensis* (lizard)  
*Chalcides ocellatus tiligugu* (skink)

The site's heritage importance is further emphasised by its inclusion in the list of Scheduled Properties in terms of Section 81 of Environment Protection, Act 2016 the as a Level 2 and Level 3 Area of Ecological Importance (AEI) and an Area of High Landscape Value (AHLV) (GN 400 of 1996); part of the site is also designated a Site of Scientific Importance (SSI) (GN 288 of 1995) and a Transitional Water Body (Legal Notice 194 of 2004).

Conservation of Ix-Xagħra tal-Kortin will be mainly achieved by controlling access to fragile habitats to limit trampling, removing invasive alien species and rehabilitating the natural habitats, improving awareness of the site's importance, monitoring the site and effectively enforcing legislation, and increasing public awareness on the environment in general.

### Vision for the Site

The vision for Ix-Xagħra tal-Kortin summarises the desired outcome for the site after a period of management of this protected area. The vision for the site is:

*Ix-Xagħra tal-Kortin includes a variety of Mediterranean coastal habitat types within a relatively small area. It borders a Marine Protected Area and is within a short distance of another larger terrestrial Special Area of Conservation with which it shares a number of habitats. The site will be maintained through targeted management measures aimed at sustaining the natural habitats and native flora and fauna present within the SAC. The site's role in passive recreation will be retained and enhanced through the provision of appropriate signage, footpaths, and similar low-key installations that guide the flow of visitors through the site while providing environmental education opportunities; however, activities that create unnecessary impacts on the habitats will be restricted or prohibited, especially vehicular access to the site. Invasive alien species and ecologically inappropriate species will*

*jitnehhew permezz ta' programm ippjanat ta' eradikazzjoni u ambjenti naturali degradati restawrati u fejn hu possibbli estiżi. Il-pajsaġġ tas-sit ser jinżamm u kwalunkwe interventi bl-għan li titjieb t-tgawdija tas-sit ser isiru b'rispett sħiħ għall-pajsaġġ u l-integrità tas-sit. Is-sit ser jibqa' jirċievi l-protezzjoni legali kollha implimentata skont il-leġislazzjoni nazzjonali u politiki lokali*

*be removed through a targeted eradication programme and degraded habitats restored and where possible extended. The landscape of the site will be maintained and any interventions aimed at improving site enjoyment will be undertaken in full respect of the site's landscape and integrity. The site will continue to receive full legal protection implemented in accordance with national legislation and local policies.*

### **L-Objettivi ta' Tmexxija**

L-objettivi ta' tmexxija għas-sit huma:

1. Li jiġi żgurat il-ħarsien fit-tul tal-medda, struttura u funzjoni tal-ambjent naturali 1240.
2. Li jiġi żgurat li l-medda tal-ambjent naturali 5330 tiżdied filwaqt li l-istruttura u l-funzjoni tiegħu jkunu miżmuma.
3. Li jiġi żgurat li l-medda tal-ambjent naturali 5410 tiżdied u l-istruttura u l-funzjoni tiegħu jkunu mtejba u sussegwentament miżmuma.
4. Li jiġi żgurat li l-medda tal-ambjent naturali 8210 tinżamm waqt li l-istruttura u l-funzjoni tiegħu jkunu mtejba.
5. Li jiġi żgurat iż-żamma fit-tul tal-medda, struttura u funzjoni tal-ambjent naturali 9320.
6. Li jiġi żgurat li l-medda tal-ambjent naturali 9540 tiżdied u l-istruttura u l-funzjoni tiegħu jkunu mtejba u sussegwentament imħarsa.
7. Li jiġi żgurat iż-żamma fit-tul tal-firxa, daqs tal-popolazzjoni, u l-istruttura u l-funzjoni tal-ambjent naturali ta' *Anacamptis urvilleana*.
8. Li jinżammu popolazzjonijiet f'saħħithom ta' speċi fir-"RDB" u f'Anness IV preżenti fis-sit.
9. Li tiġi appoġġjata t-tmexxija tas-sit u jiżdied il-kuxjenza tal-pubbliku.
10. Li jiġi żgurat li fis-sit ma jsiru ebda attivitajiet illegali.

Filwaqt li x-Xagħra tal-Kortin huwa kkunsidrat li hu ta' valur konsiderevoli minn perspettiva xjentifika u ekoloġika huwa jbati minn impatti mhux imtaffija bħal irfisi (inkluż b>vetturi), rimi ta' żibel u skart, nirien, degradazzjoni tal-ambjenti naturali minħabba tħawwil mhux xieraq ta' speċi aljeni invażivi u attivitajiet ta' rikreazzjoni inkompatibbli, u nuqqas ta' manutenzjoni u nfużar.

Għall-konservazzjoni tas-sit l-atteggjament il ġej ser jittiehed:

1. Iż-żona ser tkun konservata bħala parti minn "Network" Natura 2000 minħabba l-ambjenti naturali li jeżistu fiha u l-pajsaġġ importanti u l-veduti tagħha.
2. Filwaqt li aċċess bil-mixi ser jinżamm, aċċess bil-vetturi ser ikun ristrett sabiex jiġi skoraggit ir-rimi, l-irfisi u t-tekil tal-ħamrija u attivitajiet ohra mhux xierqa li jistgħu jipperikolaw l-protezzjoni tas-sit fit-tul.

### **Management Objectives**

The Management Objectives for the site are:

1. To ensure the long term maintenance of the area, structure and function of habitat 1240.
2. To ensure that the area of habitat 5330 is increased while its structure and function are maintained.
3. To ensure that the area of habitat 5410 is increased and its structure and function are improved and subsequently maintained.
4. To ensure that the area for habitat 8210 is maintained while its structure and function are improved.
5. To ensure the long term maintenance of the area, structure and function of habitat 9320.
6. To ensure that the area of habitat 9540 is increased and its structure and function are improved and subsequently maintained.
7. To ensure the long term maintenance of the range, population size, and the structure and function of the habitat of *Anacamptis urvilleana*.
8. To maintain healthy populations of the RDB and Annex IV species present at the site.
9. To support the site management and raise public awareness.
10. To ensure that no illegal activities take place within the site.

Whereas Ix-Xagħra tal-Kortin is considered to be of considerable value from a scientific and ecological perspective it suffers from unmitigated impacts from trampling (including by vehicles), dumping of waste and littering, fires, degradation of habitats from inappropriate planting of invasive alien species and incompatible recreational pursuits, and lack of maintenance and enforcement.

The following approach to the site's conservation will be taken:

1. The area is to be conserved as part of the Natura 2000 network in view of the habitats it supports and its important landscape and views.
2. While pedestrian access to the site is retained, vehicular access will be restricted to deter dumping, trampling and soil erosion and other inappropriate activities that may jeopardise the site's long-term protection.

3. Speċi aljeni inażivi li jaffettwaw l-ambjenti naturali ser jitneħħew u s-sit ser ikun immonitorjat biex jiġi assigurat li ma jerġgħux jinbtu. Siġar u arbuxelli li ekoloġikament mhumiex xierqa ser jinbidlu bi speċi tipiċi tal-ambjent naturali li jinsabu fih.
4. Programmi ta' spezzjonijiet u monitoraġġ ser jiżguraw is-sopravivenza fit-tul ta' żmien tal-ispeċi li jeżistu fiż-żona.
5. It-tmexxija tax-Xagħra tal-Kortin ser tibqa' r-responsabbiltà tas-sidien tal-art flimkien mal-Kunsill Lokali ta' San Pawl il-Baħar u l-ERA. Maniġer tas-sit ser ukoll jiġi ingaġġat.
3. Existing invasive alien species affecting the habitats will be removed and the site monitored to ensure against their re-emergence. Ecologically inappropriate trees and shrubs will be replaced with species typical of the habitat they are in.
4. Inspections and monitoring programmes will ensure the long-term survival of the species inhabiting the area.
5. The management of Ix-Xagħra tal-Kortin will remain the responsibility of the land owners in conjunction with the St Paul's Bay Local Council and the ERA. A site manager will also be engaged.

Il-kundizzjonijiet u d-dispożizzjonijiet li ġejjin marbuta, mal-oġġettivi tat-tmexxija għandhom ikunu applikati fit-tmexxija/fil-konservazzjoni taż-żona:

#### A. Żamma tal-ambjenti naturali u l-ispeċi

Il-maniġer tas-sit għandu jagħmel spezzjonijiet annwali tal-ambjenti naturali fl-"SAC" sabiex jirrekordja il-medda, l-istruttura u l-funzjoni tagħhom u biex jiżgura ż-żamma tagħhom fit-tul. Id-dejta minn dawn l-ispezzjonijiet ser jintużaw sabiex mal-ħames sena wara l-ħruġ ta' din l-Ordni ikun stabbilit il-Valur ta' Referenza Favorevoli għall-ambjenti naturali 5330 u 5410.

Fi tliet snin mill-ħruġ ta' din l-Ordni, il-maniġer tas-sit għandu jimplimenta programm ta' kontroll/tneħħija ta' speċi aljeni inażivi minn ġos-sit (ara **Tabella 2**). Il-programm għall-kontroll/eradikazzjoni għandu jifassal minn ekoloġista u qabel l-implimentazzjoni jiġi sottomess lil ERA għall-approvazzjoni. Wara l-ewwel intervent, il-maniġer tas-sit għandu jispezzjona s-sit fuq bażi annwali għal iżjed interventi li jistgħu jkunu neċessarji biex jitneħħew kwalunkwe nebbieta godda ta' dawn l-ispeċi.

Wara l-implimentazzjoni tal-programm għall-kontroll tal-ispeċi inażivi/eradikazzjoni fir-regolament A(2), il-maniġer tas-sit għandu jimplimenta programm biex jgħin l-estensjoni naturali tal-ambjenti naturali 5330, 5410, and 9540. Il-programm għandu jkun imfassal minn ekoloġista u sottomess lil ERA għall-approvazzjoni qabel l-implimentazzjoni.

Kull sena bejn Frar u April, il-maniġer tas-sit għandu jagħmel sħarriġ kull ħmistax sabiex jidentifika u biex jitraċċa l-pożizzjoni tal-kampjuni tal-orkidej *Anacamptis urvilleana* u biex jiddetermina id-daqs tal-popolazzjoni fl-"SAC". Dejta minn dan l-isħarriġ ser tkun użata biex jiġi stabbilit il-Valur ta' Referenza Favorevoli ta' din l-ispeċi f'dan is-sit għall-miżuri ta' tmexxija fil-futur.

Fi żmien ħames snin mill-ħruġ ta' din l-Ordni, il-maniġer tas-sit għandu jelabora Pjanijiet ta' Azzjoni għall-ispeċi fl-Anness IV u fir-"RDB" irrappurtati minn din l-"SAC" għall-miżuri ta' tmexxija fil-futur li jikkonċernaw dawn l-ispeċi.

The following conditions and provisions linked to the Management Objectives are to be applied when managing/conserving the area:

#### A. Maintaining habitats and species

The site manager shall carry out annual inspections of the habitats within the SAC to record their extent, structure and function and to ensure their long-term maintenance. Data from these inspections will be used to establish the Favourable Reference Value for habitats 5330 and 5410 by the fifth year following the issue of this Order.

Within three years from the issue of this Order, the site manager shall implement a programme to control/remove invasive alien species from within the site (see **Figure 2**). The control/eradication programme shall be devised by an ecologist and submitted to the ERA for approval prior to implementation. Following the initial intervention, the site manager shall inspect the site on an annual basis for any additional interventions that may be necessary to remove any new sproutings of these species.

Following the implementation of the invasive species control/eradication programme mentioned in regulation A(2), the site manager shall implement a programme to aid the natural extension of habitats 5330, 5410, and 9540. The programme shall be devised by an ecologist and will be submitted to the ERA for approval prior to implementation.

Each year between February and April, the site manager shall carry out fortnightly surveys to identify and map the location of specimens of the orchid *Anacamptis urvilleana* and to determine its population size at the SAC. Data from these surveys will be used to establish the Favourable Reference Value of this species at this site for future management measures.

Within five years from the issue of this Order, the site manager shall elaborate Action Plans for the Annex IV and RDB species known from this SAC for future management measures concerning these species.

F'sena mill-ħruġ ta' din l-Ordni, il-manijer tas-sit għandu jorganizza attività ta' tindif sorveljata biex jitnehhew mis-sit skart u oġġetti oħra mormija. L-attività ta' tindif ikollha bżonn awtorizzazzjoni mill-ERA, liema permess għandu jinkludi dettalji ta' tindif, numru ta' nies awtorizzati, u l-apparat li ser jintuża. Il-manijer tas-sit għandu jispezzjoni annwalment l-“SAC” biex jiddetermina il-bżonn ta' aktar attivitajiet ta' tindif matul is-snin sussegwenti.

Fi żmien ħames snin mill-ħruġ ta' din l-Ordni, il-manijer tas-sit għandu jfassal pjan bl-għan li jirrestawra l-parti t'isfel tal-Wied tal-Mistra (li tinsab fil-konfini tal-“SAC”) u b'mod partikolari il-bur salmastru zgħir fil-kosta.

### **B. Iż-żamma tal-kwalità għolja tal-pajsaġġ tas-sit**

1. Il-kwalità għolja tal-pajsaġġ tax-Xagħra tal-Kortin hija rikonoxxuta u hawn rinfurzata. Għal din ir-raġuni, l-ebda żvilupp jew twaħħil ta' apparat ikun x'ikun ma jithalla jsir fl-“SAC” b'eċċezzjoni għal strutturi meħtieġa għat-tmexxija tas-sit hekk kif provdut f'din l-Ordni.
2. Żvilupp li jista' jithalla jsir fuq il-“plateau” barra mill-“SAC” għandu jkun limitat fl-għoli u disinjat b'mod li jirrispetta l-integrità tal-“SAC” u l-kwalità tal-pajsaġġ tagħha.
3. Ir-restorazzjoni tal-parti t'isfel tal-Wied tal-Mistra u tal-bur salmastru msemmi fir-regolament A(8) hawn fuq, għandhom jsiru b'rispett sħiħ għall-kwalitajiet tal-pajsaġġ tas-sit.
4. “Pipelines” li baqa' hemm, kmamar u taraġ li mill-eks-installazzjoni tal-“BP” jagħti għax-xatt u jaqsam l-“SAC” għandhom jitnehhew fit-tliet snin mill-ħruġ ta' din l-Ordni, sakemm m'għandhomx xi wirt kulturali prevalenti li jirrikjedi iż-żamma tagħhom. Għal dan il-għan, il-manijer tas-sit għandu, f'sena mill-ħruġ ta' din l-Ordni, jagħmel l-investigazzjonijiet neċessarji mas-Sovrintendenza tal-Wirt Kulturali sabiex jiddetermina jekk il-fdalijiet ta' dawn l-istrutturi jistgħux jiġu mneħħija.

### **C. Tkabbir tal-kuxjenza fuq l-importanza tas-sit**

1. Il-manijer tas-sit għandu, fi żmien sena mill-ħruġ ta' din l-Ordni, jinstalla tabelli u sinjalar ieħor li jipprovdi informazzjoni lil viżitaturi dwar l-importanza tal-“SAC”, il-karatteristiċi tagħha u l-ispeċi residenti u gwida dwar il-kodiċi ta' imġiba fis-sit li jirrifletti dawn ir-regolamenti, u inkluż twissijiet fuq sigurtà u projbizzjoni ta' aċċess bil-vettura fl-“SAC”. Dan għandu jsir skont l-istrateġija ta' interpretazzjoni għal Natura 2000 li ser issir madwar il-pajjiż kollu.
2. F'ħames snin mill-ħruġ ta' din l-Ordni, il-manijer tas-sit għandu jkun iproduċa fuljetti ta' informazzjoni u materjal ieħor edukattiv immirat għat-tfal tal-

Within one year from the issue of this Order, the site manager shall organise a supervised clean-up activity to remove litter and other discarded items from the site. The clean-up will require written authorisation from the ERA, which permission shall include details of cleaning, number of personnel authorised, and equipment to be used. The site manager shall annually inspect the SAC to determine the need for additional clean-ups throughout the subsequent years.

Within five years of the issue of this Order, the site manager shall devise a plan aimed at restoring the lower part of Mistra Valley (located within the SAC boundary) and in particular the small saline marshland on the coast.

### **B. Maintaining the site's high landscape quality**

1. The high landscape quality of Ix-Xagħra tal-Kortin is recognised and hereby reinforced. For this reason, no development or installation of equipment whatsoever shall be allowed within the SAC except for structures required for the management of the site and as provided for in this Order.
2. Development that may be allowed on the plateau outside of the SAC shall be limited in height and designed in a way that respects the integrity of the SAC and its landscape qualities.
3. The restoration of the lower part of Mistra valley and the saline marshland referred to in regulation A(8) above, shall be undertaken in full respect of the site's landscape qualities.
4. The remaining pipelines, rooms and staircase leading from the ex-BP Installation to the foreshore and traversing the SAC shall be removed within 3 years of the issue of this Order, unless they have any over-riding cultural heritage value that requires their retention. To this end, the site manager shall, within one year of the issue of this Order, undertake the necessary investigations with the Superintendence of Cultural Heritage to determine whether these remnant structures can be removed.

### **C. Raising awareness on the importance of the site**

1. The site manager shall, within one year from the issue of this Order, install information boards and other signage providing information to visitors on the importance of the SAC, its characteristics and resident species and guidance on codes of conduct while on site reflecting these regulations, and including warnings on safety and prohibiting vehicular access to the SAC. This shall be done in accordance with the interpretation strategy for Natura 2000 that will be carried out nationwide.
2. Within five years from the issue of this Order, the site manager shall have produced information leaflets and other educational material to target school children

iskola u l-partijiet ikkonċernati lokali bl-għan li tiżdied il-kuxjenza dwar is-sit, l-ambjenti naturali u l-ispeċi tiegħu u karrateristiċi tal-wirt kulturali, u jkun stabbilixxa programm ta' żjarat gwidati li jsiru bejn Novembru u Mejju. Dan għandu jsir skont l-istrateġija ta' interpretazzjoni għal Natura 2000 li ser issir madwar il-pajjiż kollu.

3. F'sitt xhur mill-ħruġ ta' din l-Ordni, il-manijer tas-sit għandu jikkomunika mas-sidien kollha tal-art fl-“SAC”, il-Kunsill Lokali ta' San Pawl il-Baħar, u l-Assoċjazzjoni tar-Residenti biex jstabilixxi grupp ta' tmexxija u biex iżommhom infurmati dwar miżuri ta' konservazzjoni proposti.
4. Fi tliet snin mill-ħruġ ta' din l-Ordni, il-manijer tas-sit għandu jivvaluta l-possibilità li jgħaqqad mgħodija għall-mixi mis-sit għal oħrajn diġà preżenti fix-Xemxija, biex jippromovi il-wirt kulturali u naturali taż-żona.

#### D. Regolazzjoni tal-attivitajiet

1. Aċċess bil-vetturi fi kwalunkwe parti tal-“SAC” huwa strettament projbit flief għal servizzi essenzjali u ta' emerġenza u aċċess tal-bdiewa għall-art agrikola fil-Wied tal-Mistra. Aċċess għas-sidien tal-art mhux ser ikun affetwat, iżda l-attivitajiet tagħhom għandhom strettament jikkonformaw mad-dispożizzjonijiet ta' din l-Ordni.
2. Il-Manijer tas-sit għandu jiżgura li kwalunkwe mogħdijiet li preżentament jippermettu l-aċċess tal-vetturi jkunu ngumbrati permezz ta' rixtelli, “bollards” jew simili u jitqiegħed sinjalar li jipprojbixxi id-dhul ta' vetturi bil-mutur. Aċċess għal persuni bil-mixi ser jibqa.
3. F'sentejn mill-ħruġ ta' din l-Ordni il-manijer tas-sit jiddemarka mogħdija pedonali matul il-“plateau” permezz ta' habel baxx (ara **Tabella 3**). Il-mogħdijiet u passaġġi l-oħra kollha ser jingħalqu u tithalla tikber il-veġitazzjoni. F'intervalli matul il-habel għandu jkun hemm sinjalar li jwissi lill-viżitaturi biex ma jirfsux wara l-habel.
4. It-tixbit mal-blat fl-“SAC” huwa permess iżda dan għandu jkun limitat għal rotot ta' tixbit stabbiliti (ara **Tabella 4**) u għandu jkun konformi u suġġett għar-rekwiziti tal-konservazzjoni tal-ambjenti naturali. Il-manijer tas-sit għandu jkollu l-awtorità li jagħlaq rotot ta' tixbit jekk jidhirlu li l-impatt minn din l-attività hu ta' detriment għall-ambjenti naturali u l-ispeċi.
5. Tkebbis ta' nirien, barbikjuws jew ħruq ta' logħob tan-nar minn ġol-“SAC” huma strettament projbiti.
6. Tfiiegh jew rimi ta' skart ta' kwalunkwe materjal fi kwalunkwe parti fl-“SAC” huwa strettament projbit.
7. Użu ta' kampijiet u karavanns huwa strettament projbiti fi kwalunkwe parti fl-“SAC”.
8. Il-provizjoni ta' dawl fuq barra ġewwa l-“SAC” huwa projbit u kwalunkwe dawl estern minn kwalunkwe

and local stakeholders with the aim of increasing awareness on the site, its habitats and species and cultural heritage features, and would have established a programme of guided school visits to be held between November and May. This shall be done in accordance with the interpretation strategy for Natura 2000 that will be carried out nationwide.

3. Within six months of the issue of this Order, the site manager shall communicate with all owners of land within the SAC, the St Paul's Bay Local Council, and the Residents' Association to establish a management group and to keep them informed of proposed conservation measures.
4. Within three years of the issue of this Order, the site manager shall assess the possibility of linking a walking trail from the site to others already in existence at Xemxija, promoting the natural and cultural heritage of the area.

#### D. Regulation of activities

1. Vehicular access anywhere inside the SAC is strictly prohibited except for essential and emergency services and farmers' access to agricultural land in the Mistra Valley. Access to land owners will not be affected, but their activities shall strictly conform to the provisions of this Order.
2. The site manager shall ensure that any paths that currently allow vehicular access are blocked by means of appropriate gates, bollards, or similar and signage prohibiting entry by motorised vehicles put up. Pedestrian access will be retained.
3. Within two years of the issue of this Order the site manager shall demarcate a walker's footpath along the plateau by means of a low rope barrier (see **Figure 3**). All other paths and tracks will be closed off and re-vegetated. The barrier is to include signage at intervals warning visitors not to trample beyond the rope barrier.
4. Rock climbing within the SAC is allowed but this shall be limited to established climbing routes (see **Figure 4**) and shall conform and be subject to the conservation requirements of the habitats. The site manager shall have the authority to close off climbing routes should impact from this activity be deemed to be detrimental to the habitats and species.
5. Lighting of fires, barbecues or the letting off of fireworks from within the SAC is strictly prohibited.
6. Littering, dumping or discarding of any material anywhere within the SAC is strictly prohibited.
7. Camping and caravanning are strictly prohibited anywhere within the SAC.
8. The provision of external lighting is prohibited within the SAC and any external lighting from any

- żvilupp eżistenti jew potenzjali fil-futur li jaqa' fuq il-konfini tal-"SAC" għandu jinżamm minimu u jkun tat-tip "full cut-out" biex ikun evitat dawl li jaqa' fuq l-ambjenti naturali tal-"SAC" u tniġġis mid-dawl.
9. It-thawwil ta' siġar, arbuxelli jew pjanti huwa projbit f'żoni naturali (b'eskluzjoni għall-art agrikola) b'eċċezzjoni kif previst fi pjan ta' restawr tal-ambjent naturali li jista' jiffassal wara l-ħruġ ta' din l-ordni.
  10. L-insib tal-ġhasafar fl-"SAC" fuq ambjenti f'Anness I huwa strettament projbit u kwalunkwe mnasab li qegħdin fuq dawn l-ambjenti naturali għandhom jitneħħew fi żmien sitt xhur mill-ħruġ ta' din l-Ordni.
  11. Il-manijer tas-sit għandu jispezzjona is-sit fuq bażi regolari u mill-inqas kull staġun. Skeda ta' spezzjonijiet għanda titfassal fl-ewwel sitt xhur mill-ħruġ ta' din l-Ordni.
  12. F'sitt xhur mill-ħruġ ta' din l-Ordni, il-manijer tas-sit għandu jinstalla laned taż-żibel iddisinjati b'mod xieraq u adegwati f'postijiet strateġiċi spiss użati mill-viżitaturi ġewwa l-"SAC". Il-manijer tas-sit għandu wkoll jistabbilixxi programm ta' tindif regolari u tbatil tal-laned taż-żibel biex tiġi żgurata azzjoni kontra ż-żibel ġewwa l-"SAC".
  13. F'sentejn mill-ħruġ ta' din l-Ordni, il-manijer tas-sit għandu jikkoordina mad-Direttorat tas-Saħħa Ambjentali biex ifassal u jimplementa programm ta' kontroll/eradikazzjoni tal-firien fl-"SAC".
  14. Il-manijer tas-sit għandu jinvolvi ruħu mas-sidien tal-art, bdiewa u awtoritajiet governattivi biex jiżgura it-tiswija u t-tqegħid mill-ġdid tal-ħitan tas-sejjeħ u strutturi oħra rurali ġewwa l-"SAC".
  15. Fi tliet snin mill-ħruġ ta' din l-Ordni il-manijer tas-sit għandu jivvaluta l-fattibiltà tal-ftuħ mill-ġdid tal-mogħdija pedonali li tipprovdi aċċess għall-Bajja tal-Fekruna (Ara **tabella 3**). Dan l-ivvalutar irid jinkludi sjieda, sigurtà, kwistjonijiet ġeoloġiċi u ekoloġiċi.
  16. L-ebda persuna ma tista' tagħmel kwalunkwe riċerka xjentifika *in situ* fuq ix-Xagħra tal-Kortin u l-flora u l-fawna sakemm mhux f'pussess ta' permess ambjentali mill-ERA.
  17. L-Aplikazzjonijiet għal permess għal kwalunkwe attivitajiet jew operazzjonijiet regolati b'dawn ir-regolamenti għandhom jaslu għand l-ERA mill-inqas 30 gurnata ta' xogħol qabel l-attività jew l-operazzjoni inkwistjoni.
- existing or potential future development abutting the SAC boundary shall be kept to a minimum and be of the full cut-out type to avoid light trespass onto the SAC habitats and light pollution.
9. Planting of trees, shrubs or plants is hereby prohibited within natural areas (excluding agricultural land) except as provided for in a habitat restoration plan that may be devised following the issue of this Order.
  10. Bird trapping on Annex I habitats within the SAC is strictly prohibited and any existing bird trapping sites located on these habitats shall be removed within six months of the issue of this Order.
  11. The site manager shall inspect the site on a regular basis and at least seasonally. A schedule of inspections shall be devised within the first six months from the issue of this Order.
  12. Within six months of the issue of this Order, the site manager shall install appropriately designed and adequate litter bins at strategic locations within the SAC more commonly used by visitors. The site manager shall also institute a regular cleaning and bin emptying programme to ensure against littering within the SAC.
  13. Within two years of the issue of this Order, the site manager shall liaise with the Environmental Health Directorate to devise and implement a rat control/eradication programme for the SAC.
  14. The site manager shall engage with land owners, farmers and government authorities to ensure the reinstatement and repair of rubble walls and other rural structures within the SAC.
  15. Within three years of the issue of this Order the site manager shall assess the feasibility of re-opening the pedestrian pathway providing access to Il-Fekruna Bay (see **Figure 3**). This assessment to include ownership, safety, geological and ecological issues.
  16. No person shall undertake any *in situ* scientific research on Ix-Xagħra tal-Kortin and its fauna and flora unless in possession of an environmental permit from the ERA.
  17. Permit applications for any activities or operations regulated by these regulations are to be received by the ERA at least 30 working days prior to the activity or operation in question.

Jekk il-propjetà soġġetta ta' din l-Ordni ta' Konservazzjoni b'xi mod tiġrilha ħsara jew tkun mibdula f'kontravvenzjoni ma' din l-Ordni jew l-istat tagħha bħala sit ta' Żona Speċjali ta' Konservazzjoni/sit Natura 2000 huwa bi kwalunkwe mod ipperikolat jew irrevokat, jew jekk kwalunkwe persuna twettaq attivitajiet jew azzjonijiet bi ksar tad-dispożizzjonijiet ta' din l-Ordni tal-Konservazzjoni, l-Awtorità għandha teżerċita l-poteri ta' infurzar tagħha kif stabbilit fir-Regolament 49 tal-Avviz Legali tal-2006, kif ikun applikabbli.

L-14 ta' Diċembru, 2016

If the property subject of this Conservation Order is in any way damaged or altered in contravention of this Order or its status as a Special Area of Conservation / Natura 2000 site is in any way jeopardised or rescinded, or if any person undertakes activities or actions in breach of the provisions of this Conservation Order, the Authority shall exercise its powers of enforcement as set out in Article 49 of Flora, Fauna and Natural Habitats Protection Regulations, 2006 (S.L.549.44), as may be applicable.

14th December, 2016

**Tabella 1: Ix-Xaghra tal-Kortin "SAC"**

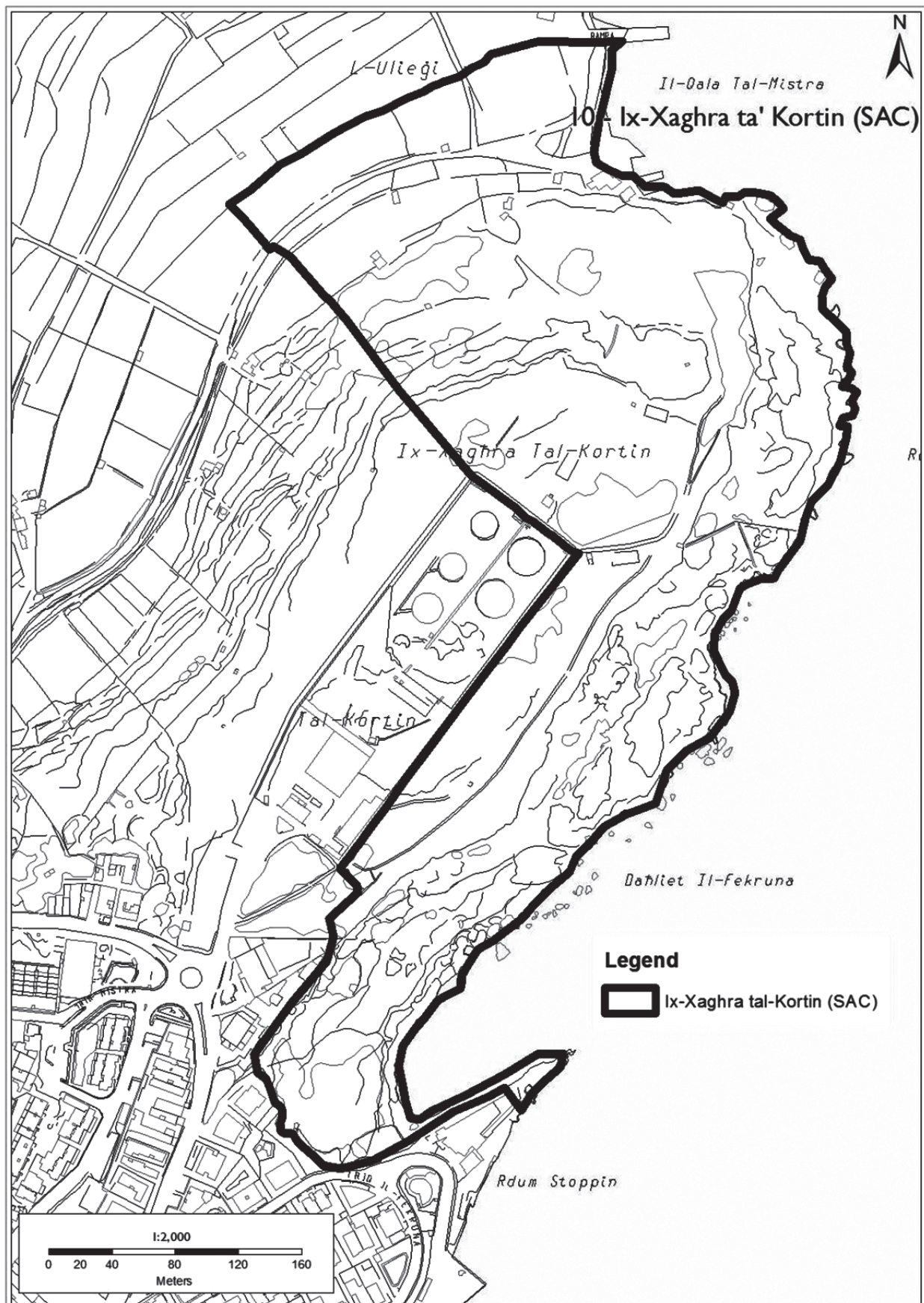
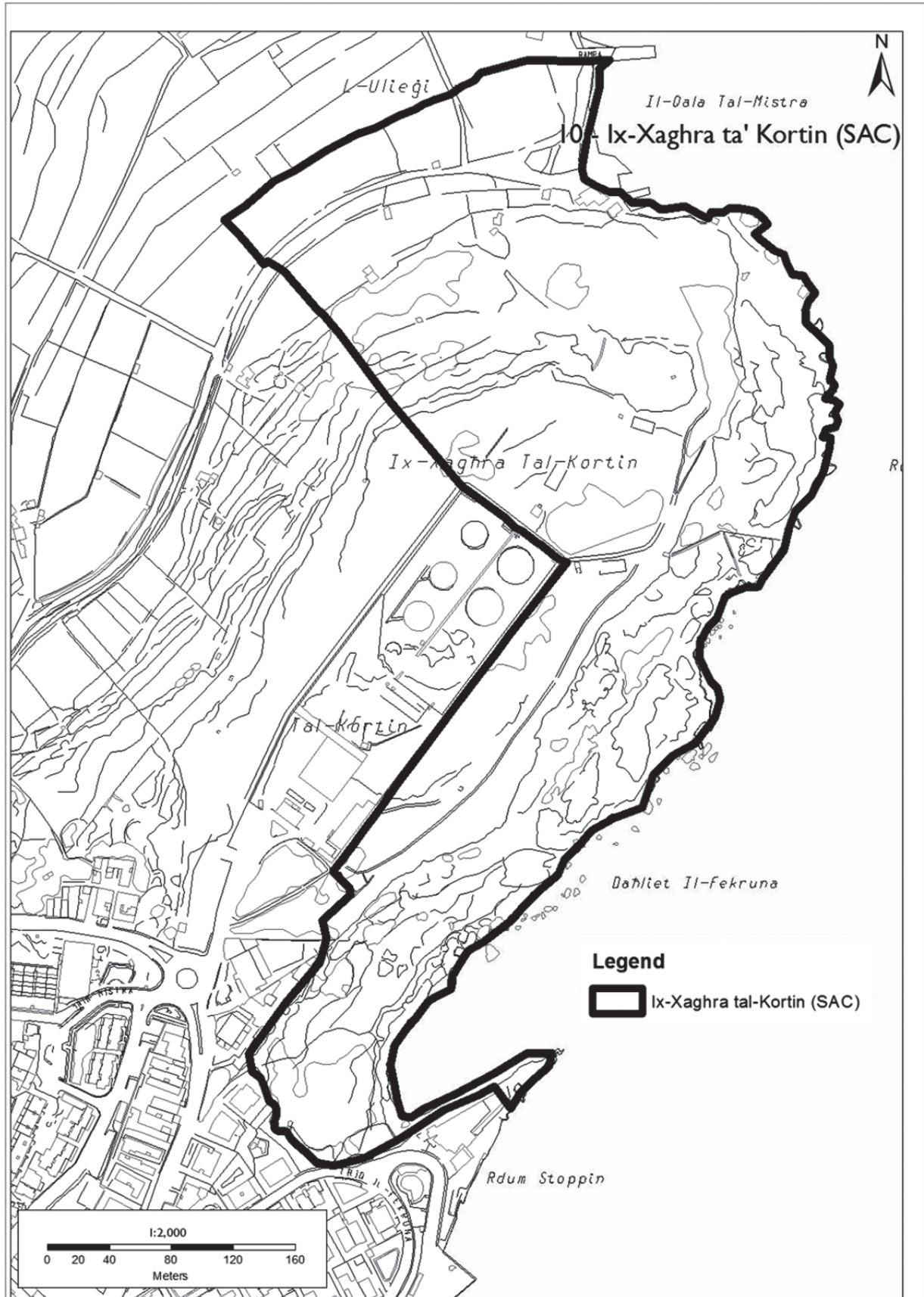




Figure 1: Ix-Xaghra tal-Kortin SAC



**Tabella 2: Sit li jirrikjedi l-eradikazzjoni tal-ispeċi aljeni invażivi**

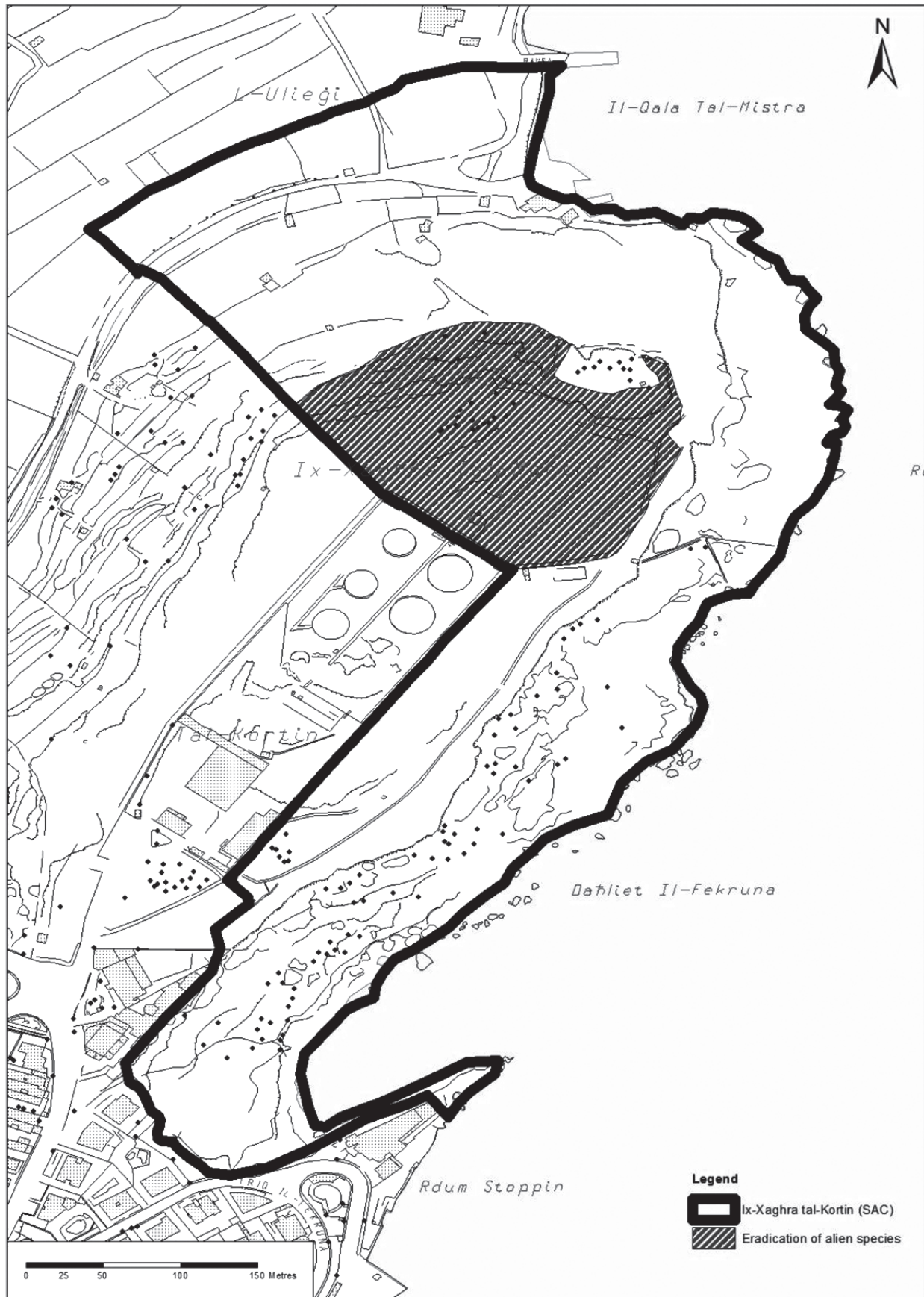


Figure 2: Site requiring eradication of invasive alien species



**Tabella 3: Mogħdija għall-mixi**

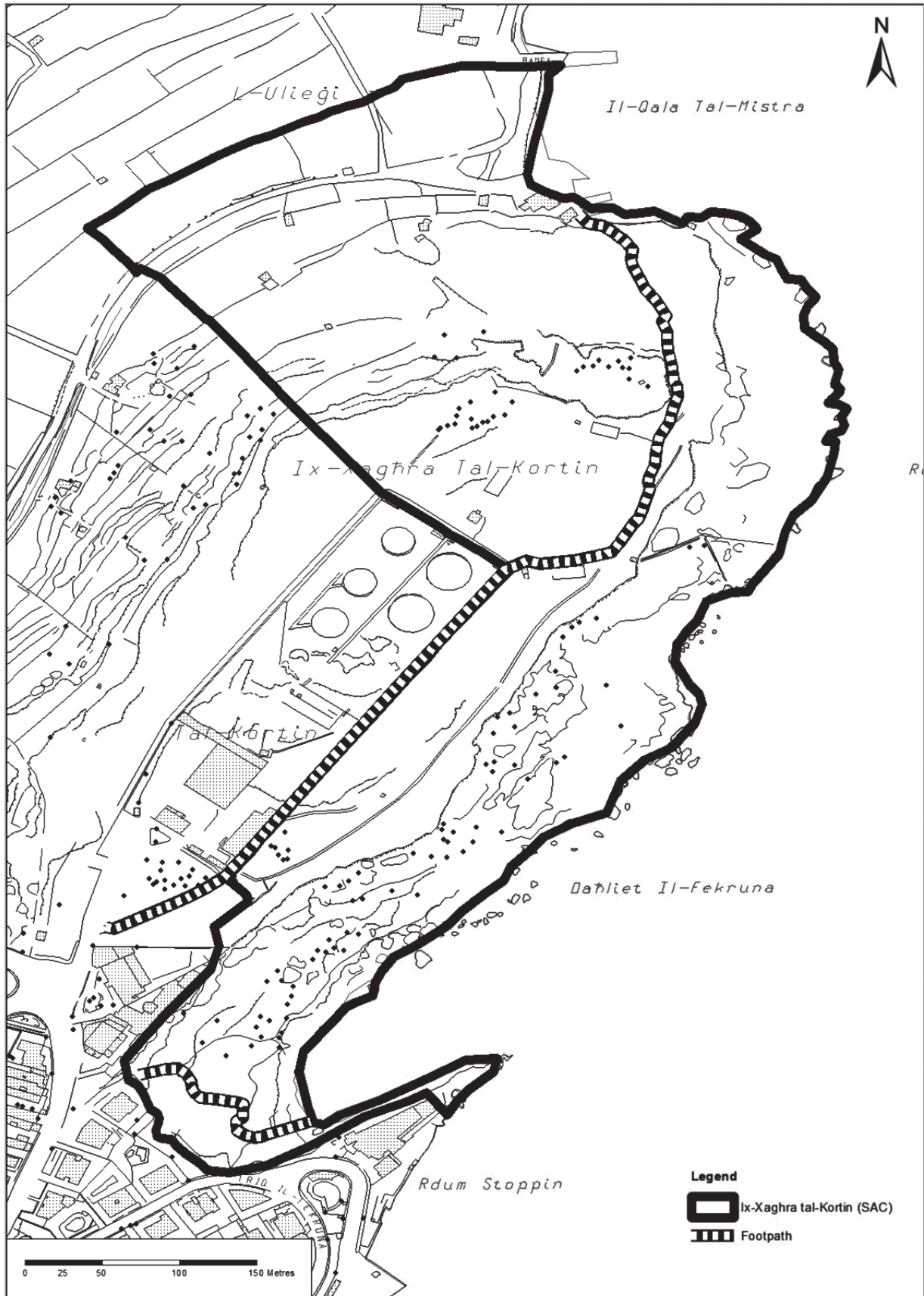
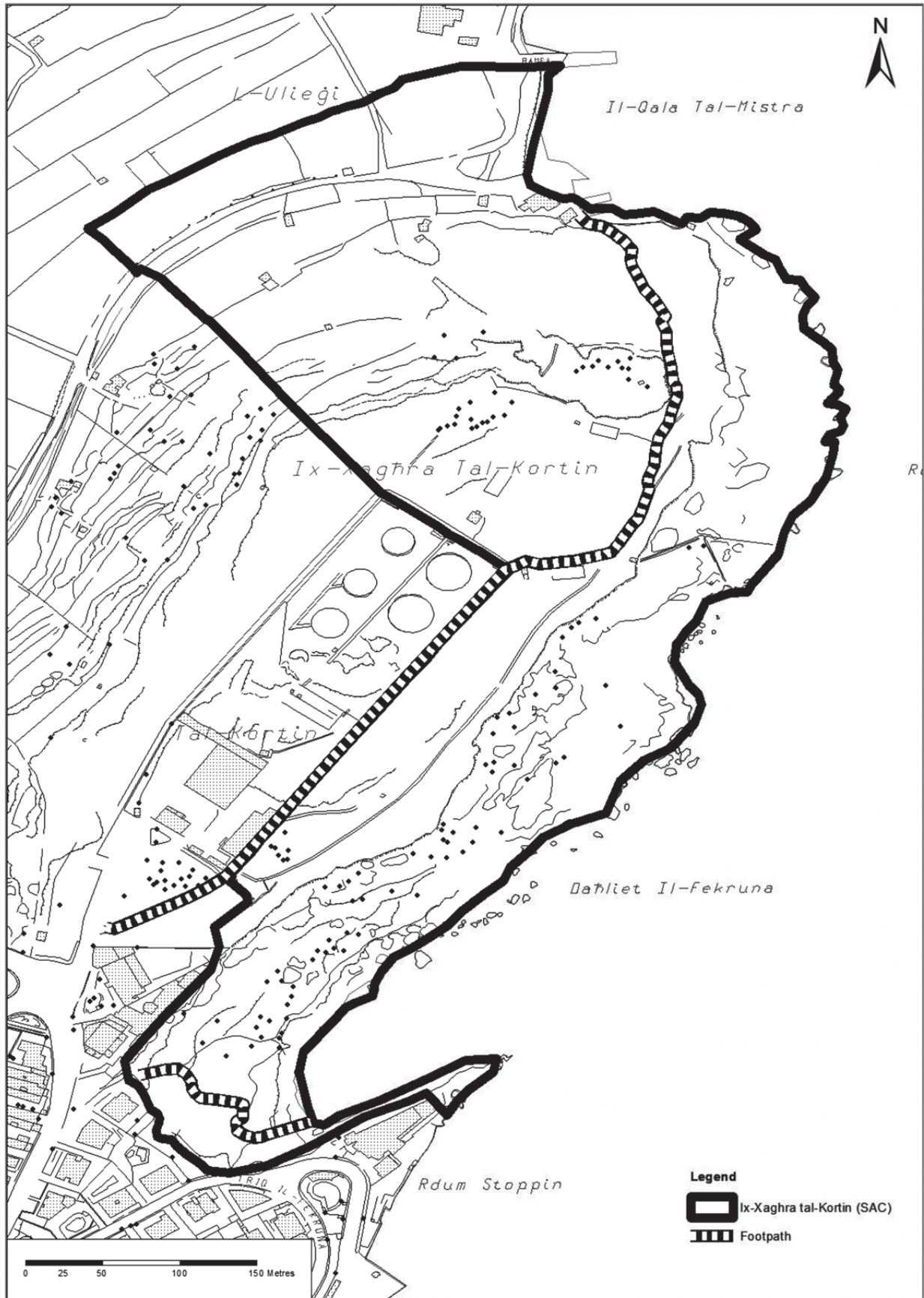


Figure 3: Footpaths



**Tabella 4: Rotot ta' tixbit mal-blat**

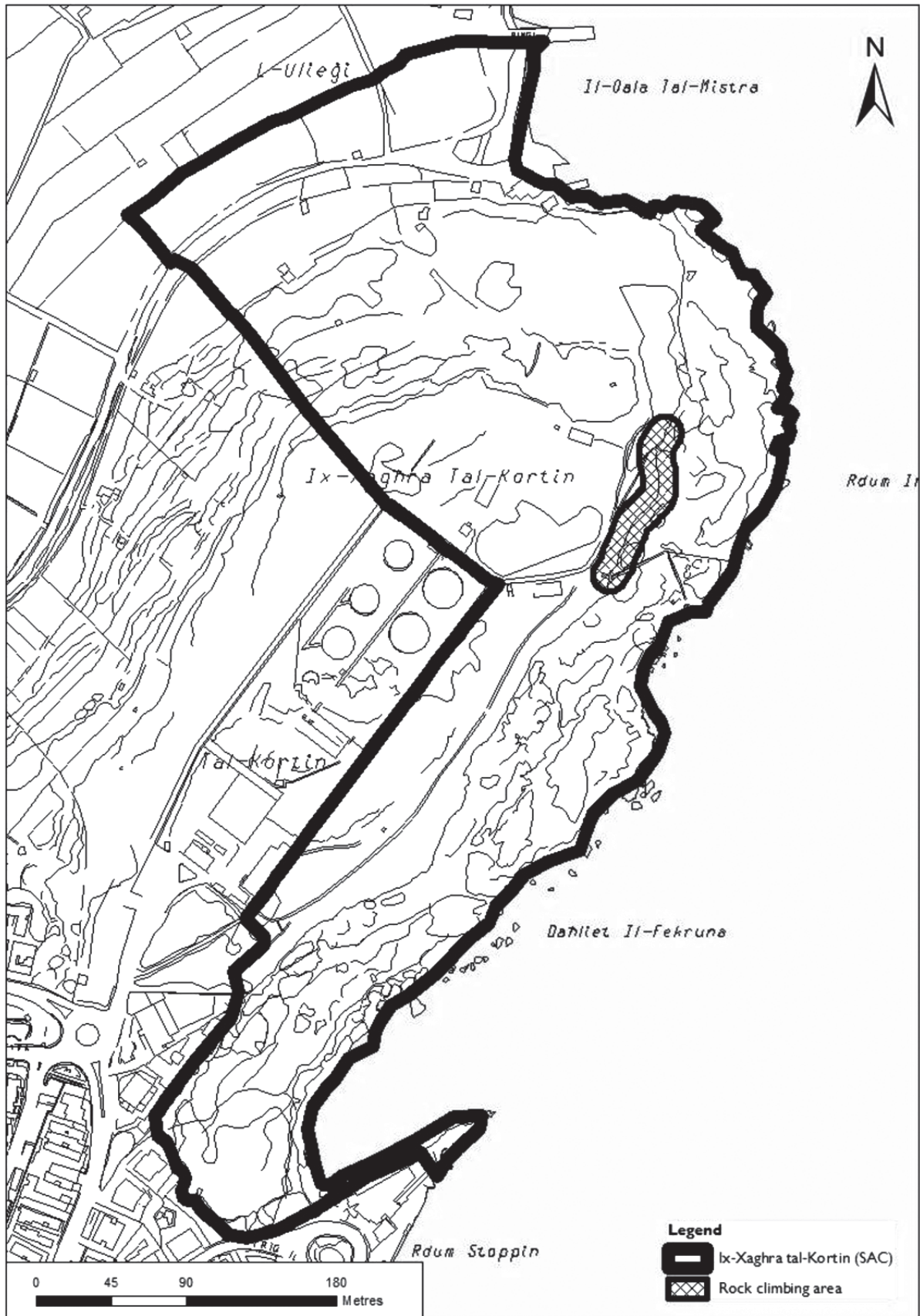


Figure 4: Rock climbing routes

