Nru. 1377

ORDNI TA’ KONSERVAZZJONI

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

Att dwar il-Protezzjoni tal-Ambjent, 2016

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

Filfla u l-Gżejjer ta’ Madwarha

(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 (MT0000016) fl-2007 (Notifikazzjoni tal-Gvern 112/07) u huwa sit ta’ Natura 2000.

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 ħdan 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.

L-Importanza tas-Sit

F’Filfla u l-Gżejjer ta’ Madwarha jeżistu l-ambjenti naturali ta’ Anness I (Direttiva 92/43/KEE):

- **8210 Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation**

L-għasafar t’Anness I (Direttiva 2009/147/KE) li ġejjin huma rrappurtati li jbejtu f’dan is-sit:

- ***Calonectris diomedea***
- ***Hydrobates pelagicus***

L-ispeċi t’Anness II (Direttiva 92/43/KEE) li ġejja hija preżenti f’dan is-sit:

- ***Lampedusa imitatrix gattoi***

Speċi importanti oħra rrappurtati minn dan is-sit jinkudu:

- Speċi ta’ pjanti ta’ Anness IV (Direttiva 92/43/KEE) u/jew tar-“Red Data Book”:

No. 1377

CONSERVATION ORDER

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

Environment Protection Act, 2016

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

Filfla u l-Gżejjer ta’ Madwarha

(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 (MT0000016) and a Special Protection Area (SPA) in 2007 (Government Notice 112/07) and included in the EU’s Natura 2000 network.

The Authority is of the opinion that the site will benefit from further conservation measures and, by virtue of its powers under Regulation 17 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.

Importance of the Site

Filfla u l-Gżejjer ta’ Madwarha support the following Annex I Habitats (Directive 92/43/EEC):

- **8210 Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation**

The following Annex I breeding birds (Directive 2009/147/EC) are known from this site:

- ***Calonectris diomedea***
- ***Hydrobates pelagicus***

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

- ***Lampedusa imitatrix gattoi***

Other important species known from the site include:

- Annex IV (Directive 92/43/EEC) and/or Red Data Book plant species:

Allium* sp. Nov. aff. *commutatum
Orobanche cernua
Senecio leucanthemifolius
Senecio pygmaeus
Tulostoma sp.

- Speċi ta' annimali t'Anness IV (Direttiva 92/43/KEE) u/jew tar-"Red Data Book":
  Cyclodinus debilis
  Mogoplistes squamiger
  Trochoidea spratti despotti
  Hemidactylus turcicus turcicus
  Podarcis filfolensis filfolensis

L-importanza tal-wirt tas-sit hija aktar enfasizzata permezz ta' ħafna deżinjazzjonijiet protettivi, inkluż il-protezzjoni tiegħu bħala Riserva Naturali skont l-Att tar-Riserva Naturali ta' Filfla (Att XV tal-1988), Santwarju tal-Għasafar skont l-Avviż Legali 41 tal-2003, l-inklużjoni tiegħu fil-lista ta' Propjetajiet Skedati skont it-Taqsima 81 tal-Att dwar l-Ambjent u l-Ippjanar tal-Iżvilupp 2010 bħala Żona ta' Importanza Ekoloġika Livell 2, Sit ta' Importanza Xjentifika Livell 1 - Ornitoloġija, Sit ta' Importanza Xjentifika Livell 1 - Ġeomorfoloġija, Sit ta' Importanza Xjentifika Livell 1 – Ekoloġija (NG 827 tal-2002),u l-protezzjoni tal-baħar madwar il-gżira bħala Żona Speċjali ta' Konservazzjoni fil-Baħar ta' Importanza Internazzjonali (MT0000102 – Żona fil-Baħar fl-Inħawi ta' Għar Lapsi u ta' Filfla). Iż-żona fil-baħar madwar il-gżira hija wkoll sit Natura 2000.

Il-Konservazzjoni f'Filfla u l-gżejjer tagħha ser tintlaħaq billi tinżamm ir-restrizzjoni preżenti għall-aċċess, monitorġġ tas-sit u infurzar effettiv tal-liġi. Għat-tneħħija tad-dubju, ir-referenza għal 'Filfla' f'kull parti f'din l-Ordni tal-Konservazzjoni għandha tittieħed li tirreferi għal u tinkludi lil Filfla u l-gżejjer u blat ta' madwarha, kemm jekk hija ddikjarata b'mod espliċitu u kemm jekk le.

Viżjoni għas-Sit

Il-viżjoni għal Filfla u l-gżejjer ta' madwarha hija sommarju tar-riżultat mixtieq għas-sit wara perjodu ta' tmexxija ta' din iż-żona protetta. Il-viżjoni għas-sit hija:

Filfla hija l-aktar gżira iżolata ta' Malta u sit importanti fejn ibejtu numru ta' speċi ta' għasafar. Is-sit ser ikompli jżomm l-ikbar popolazzjoni ta' Kanġu ta' Filfla fil-Mediterran u l-importanza tagħha bħala sit fejn ibejtu l-għasafar ser tinżamm'. Il-popolazzjonijiet ta' għasafar t'Anness I (Direttiva tal-għasafar) li jbejtu u speċi oħra protetti ta' annimali u pjanti ser jiġu sostnuti u l-ambjenti naturali t'Anness I (Direttiva tal-Ambjent) ser ikun mantenut jew mtejjeb. Is-sit ser jibqa' jirċievi l-protezzjoni legali kollha implimentata skont l-leġislazzjoni nazzjonali u politiki lokali filwaqt li jservi bħala post importanti ta' riċerka xjentifika.

Objettivi ta' Tmexxija

L-objettivi ta' tmexxija għas-sit huma:

Allium* sp. Nov. aff. *commutatum
Orobanche cernua
Senecio leucanthemifolius
Senecio pygmaeus
Tulostoma sp.

- Annex IV (Directive 92/43/EEC) and/or Red Data Book animal species:
  Cyclodinus debilis
  Mogoplistes squamiger
  Trochoidea spratti despotti
  Hemidactylus turcicus turcicus
  Podarcis filfolensis filfolensis

The site's heritage importance is further emphasised by its multiple protective designations, including its protection as a Nature Reserve under the Filfla Nature Reserve Act (Act XV of 1988), a Bird Sanctuary under Legal Notice 41 of 2003, its inclusion in the list of Scheduled Properties in terms of Section 81 of the Environment Protection, Act 2016 as a Level 2 Area of Ecological Importance, a Level 1 Site of Scientific Importance - Ornithology, Level 1 Site of Scientific Importance - Geomorphology, and a Level 1 Site of Scientific Importance - Ecology (GN 827 of 2002), and the protection of the sea around the islet as a Marine Special Area of Conservation of International Importance (MT0000102 - Żona fil-Baħar fl-Inħawi ta' Għar Lapsi u ta' Filfla). The marine area around the islet is also a Natura 2000 site.

Conservation at Filfla and its islets will be mainly achieved through maintaining the current restriction on access, site monitoring and effective enforcement of legislation. For the avoidance of doubt, the reference to "Filfla" anywhere in this Conservation Order is to be taken to refer to and include Filfla and its surrounding islets and rocks, whether this is explicitly stated or not.

Vision for the Site

The vision for Filfla and its surrounding islets summarises the desired outcome for the site after a period of management of this protected area. The vision for the site is:

Filfla is Malta's most isolated island and an important breeding site for a number of bird species. The site will continue to support the largest population of Storm Petrel in the Mediterranean and its importance as a seabird breeding site will be maintained. The populations of the Annex I (Birds Directive) breeding birds and the other protected animal and plant species will be sustained and the Annex I (Habitats Directive) habitat will be maintained or improved. The site will continue to receive full legal protection implemented in accordance with national legislation and local policies while serving as an important scientific research location.

Management Objectives

The Management Objectives for the site are:

1. Li jiġi żgurat li l-medda tal-ambjent naturali 8210 tkun miżmuma b'mod naturali;
2. Li jiġi żgurat li l-istruttura u l-funzjoni tal-ambjent naturali 8210 ikunu miżmuma;
3. Li jitjiebu il-firxa u d-daqs tal-popolazzjoni ta' *Lampedusa imitatrix gattoi* fuq Filfla;
4. Li jiġi żgurat li l-medda, l-istruttura u l-funzjoni tal-ambjent naturali ta' *Lampedusa imitatrix gattoi* (ġebel u l-bċejjeċ ta' blat) ikunu miżmuma;
5. Li jiġi żgurat li il-firxa u d-daqs tal-popolazzjoni ta' *Calonectris diomedea* fuq Filfla jkunu miżmuma;
6. Li jiġi żgurat li l-firxa u d-daqs tal-popolazzjoni ta' *Hydrobates pelagicus* jkunu miżmuma;
7. Li jiġi żgurat li attivitajiet fil-viċinanza jew fis-sit li jaffettwaw il-valuri naturali tas-sit ma jitħallewx isiru;
8. Li jiġi żgurat li l-ebda attivitajiet illegali ma jseħħu ġo jew madwar is-sit;
9. Li jiġi żgurat li l-aċċess għas-sit huwa kontrollat u ristrett esklussivament għal riċerka xjentifika u attivitajiet ta' monitoraġġ.

Filwaqt li Filfla u l-gżejjer tagħha huma kkunsidrati li huma ta' valur konsiderovoli minn perspettiva xjentifika, ornitoloġika, ġeomorfoloġika u ekoloġika, u filwaqt li jibbenifikaw minn iżolament relattiv u reġim ta' aċċess ristrett skont il-leġislazzjoni eżistenti, huma xorta jsofru minn impatti mhux imtaffija minn kaċċa illegali, aċċess mhux awtorizzat (inkluż fil-baħar madwarha), apparti mill-effetti naturali kkawżati mit-temp (inkluż it-tekil tal-blat) u interazzjonijiet tal-bijodiversità. It-theddid prinċipali għas-sit jdur madwar it-tfixkil għall-popolazzjoni tal-għasafar t'Anness I li jbejtu fil-post mill-kaċċa illegali, tniġġis tad-dawl minn bastimenti, żbarki mhux awtorizzati u predazzjoni interspeċifika.

Għall-konservazzjoni tas-sit l-atteġġjament li ġej ser jittieħed:

1. Iż-żona trid tiġi kkonservata billi jiġi estiż l-istatus tagħha bħala riserva naturali stretta.
2. L-aċċess għas-sit irid jibqa' regolat u ristrett esklussivament għall-attivitajiet permessi ta' riċerka xjentifika u attivitajiet ta' monitoraġġ.
3. Il-Gżejjer u l-baħar madwarha ser ikun mgħasses u monitorjat mill-awtoritajiet għall-infurzar tal-liġi.
4. Leġislazzjoni li tirregola attivitajiet fil-baħar madwar il-gżira ser tipprovdi aktar gwida dwar il-konservazzjoni u tmexxija.
5. It-tmexxija ta' Filfla u l-Gżejjer ta' Madwarha ser jibqgħu r-responsabbiltà tal-Gvern Malti permezz tal-awtorità responsabbli għall-ambjent (minn issa 'il quddiem msejħa 'il-maniġer tas-sit').

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

1. To ensure that the area of habitat 8210 is naturally maintained;
2. To ensure that the structure and function of habitat 8210 are maintained;
3. To improve the range and population size of *Lampedusa imitatrix gattoi* on Filfla;
4. To ensure that the area, structure and function of *Lampedusa imitatrix gattoi's* habitat (stones and rock rubble) are maintained;
5. To ensure that the range and population size of *Calonectris diomedea* on Filfla are maintained;
6. To ensure that the range and population size of *Hydrobates pelagicus* are maintained;
7. To ensure that activities that impact the site's nature values at and in the site's vicinity are not allowed;
8. To ensure that no illegal activities take place within and around the site;
9. To ensure that access to the site is controlled and restricted solely to permitted scientific research and monitoring activities.

Whereas Filfla and its islets are considered to be of considerable value from a scientific, ornithological, geomorphological, and ecological perspective, and whereas they benefit from relative isolation and a restricted access regime under existing legislation, they still suffer from unmitigated impacts from poaching, unauthorised access (including within its waters), apart from natural effects caused by weather (including erosion) and biodiversity interactions. The main threats to the site revolve around disturbance to the populations of Annex I breeding birds from poaching, light pollution from vessels, unauthorised landings, and interspecific predation.

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

1. The area is to be conserved by extending its status as a strict nature reserve.
2. Access to the site is to remain regulated and restricted solely to permitted scientific research and monitoring activities
3. The islet and its waters will be patrolled and monitored by the law enforcement authorities.
4. Legislation regulating activities in the waters surrounding the islet will provide further conservation guidance and management.
5. The management of Filfla u l-Gżejjer ta' Madwarha will remain the responsibility of the Government of Malta through the authority responsible for the environment (hereinafter referred to as the "site manager").

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

A. Żamma tal-ambjenti naturali u l-ispeċi

1. Fir-rigward tal-impatti fuq l-ambjenti naturali u l-ispeċi mill-popolazzjoni tal-Gawwija Prima (*Larus michahellis*) li qed tiżdied fuq il-"plateau" ta' Filfla, fi żmien sena mill-ħruġ ta' din l-Ordni, il-maniġer tas-sit għandu jistabbilixxi programm biex jimmonitorja l-estent tal-impatt ikkawżat bil-popolazzjoni ta' gawwi fuq il-gżejjer fuq bażi annwali, bit-tir li jiġi limitat/jitnaqqas id-daqs tal-popolazzjoni ta' *L. michahellis* fuq Filfla.
2. Il-maniġer tas-sit għandu , fi żmien sena mill-ħruġ ta' din l-Ordni, jispezzjona l-"plateau" biex jiddetermina il-preżenza u d-daqs tal-popolazzjoni ta' *Lampedusa imitatrix gattoi* u l-firxa eżatta tal-ispeċi fuq il-"plateau" bl-għan li jipproteġi l-ambjent naturali tal-ispeċi u jippromwovi żieda fid-daqs tal-popolazzjoni.
3. Jiddependi mis-sejbiet f'A(2) hawn fuq, il-maniġer tas-sit, b'konsultazzjoni mal-ERA u l-Università ta' Malta, għandu jistudja l-fattibilità ta' konservazzjoni ta' *ex situ* ta' *L. imitatrix gattoi*.
4. Fi tliet snin mill-ħruġ ta' din l-Ordni, il-maniġer tas-sit għandu jwettaq stħarriġ dettaljat tal-"plateau" ta' Filfla biex jistabbilixxi inventarju tal-ispeċi dettaljat tal-pjanti u annimali li jeżistu fuq il-"plateau" (inkluż speċi t'Anness II, Annes IV u "RDB") u biex jiddetermina id-daqs tal-popolazzjoni għall-miżuri futuri ta' tmexxija.
5. Il-maniġer tas-sit għandu jispezzjona l-gżira fuq bażi annwali u jwettaq stħarriġ fotografiku tal-wiċċ tal-irdumijiet u tal-massa ta' biċċiet tal-blat biex jimmonitorja l-effetti tat-tikil tal-blat minn sena għall-oħra. Il-possibilità li jsir stħarriġ fotogrammatiku/3D dettaljat, għandha tiġi kkunsidrata.

B. Is-sostenn tal-importanza tas-sit bħala "SPA"

1. L-importanza ta' Filfla bħala Żona Speċjali ta' Protezzjoni ("SPA") u Żona Importanti għall-Għasafar ("IBA") hija rikonoxxuta u hawn rinfurzata u kwalunkwe attività fuq jew madwar il-gżira u l-"approaches" tagħha, li jistgħu jaffettwaw il-popolazzjonijiet ta' *Hydrobates pelagicus* u *Calonectris diomedea* hija strettament projbita. Regolamenti f'dan ir-rigward huma stabbiliti f'Taqsima D hawn taħt.
2. Il-maniġer tas-sit għandu jiżgura li stħarriġ annwali fuq il-popolazzjonijiet ta' għasafar tal-baħar li jbejtu fuq Filfla jitwettaq u r-riżultati jkunu disponibbli għall-ERA. L-istħarriġ għandu jinkludi l-għadd tal-popolazzjoni tal-għasafar tal-baħar, għadd tal-bejtiet u l-livell ta' użu, u l-immappjar tal-bejtiet.
3. Fir-rigward tal-importanza ta' Filfla għall-popolazzjoni globali ta' *H. pelagicus*, huwa imperattiv li pressjonijiet predatorji fuq *H. Pelagicus* mill-popolazzjoni ta' *L. michahellis* li qed tiżdied fuq Filfla jiġu mnaqqsa jew eliminati. Fi żmien sentejn mill-ħruġ ta' din l-Ordni, l-maniġer tas-sit għandu jinvestiga l-effett predatorju minn *L. michahellis*

A. Maintaining habitats and species

1. In view of the impacts on the habitats and species from the increasing population of the Yellow-legged Gull (*Larus michahellis*) on the plateau of Filfla, within one year from the issue of this Order, the site manager shall establish a programme to monitor the extent of impact caused by the population of gulls on the islet on an annual basis with a view to limit/reduce the size of the population of *L. michahellis* on Filfla.
2. The site manager shall, within one year from the issue of this Order, inspect the plateau to determine the presence and population size of *Lampedusa imitatrix gattoi* and the exact range of the species on the plateau with the aim of protecting the habitat of this species and promote an increase in population size.
3. Depending on the findings of A(2) above, the site manager, in consultation with ERA and the University of Malta, shall study the feasibility of *ex situ* conservation of *L. imitatrix gattoi*.
4. Within three years from the issue of this Order, the site manager shall undertake a detailed survey of the plateau on Filfla to establish a detailed species inventory of the plant and animal species inhabiting the plateau (including Annex II, Annex IV and RDB species) and to determine their population size for future management measures.
5. The site manager shall inspect the islet on an annual basis and undertake photographic surveys of the cliff faces and boulder screes to monitor the effects of erosion from one year to the next. The possibility to undertake detailed photogrammatic/3D surveys is to also be considered.

B. Sustaining the site's importance as an SPA

1. The importance of Filfla as a Special Protection Area (SPA) and Important Bird Area (IBA) is recognised and hereby reinforced and any activity on or around the islet and its approaches that may impact the populations of *Hydrobates pelagicus* and *Calonectris diomedea* is strictly prohibited. Regulations to this effect are established in Section D below.
2. The site manager shall ensure that an annual survey of the populations of sea birds nesting on Filfla is carried out and the results made available to ERA. The survey shall include population counts of the seabirds, nest counts and level of use, and mapping of the nests.
3. In view of the importance of Filfla for the world's population of *H. pelagicus*, it is imperative that the predatory pressures on *H. pelagicus* from the increasing population of *L. michahellis* on Filfla are reduced or eliminated. Within two years of the issue of this Order, the site manager shall investigate the effect of predation by *L. michahellis* on the storm

fuq il-kanġu ta' Filfla *Hydrobates pelagicus*sa biex jiżgura li l-livell predatorju huwa miżmum f'livell sostenibbli u, jekk hemm bżonn, ifassal miżuri li jillimitaw in-numru ta' gawwi fuq Filfla.

4. Żona biex tilqa' l-impatti hija b'din stabbilita madwar il-gżira ta' Filfla (kif muri f'**Tabella 2**) ġewwa liema bastimenti ma jistgħux jidħlu bil-lejl bejn April u Settembru ta' kull sena, ħlief għall-sitwazzjonijiet speċifiċi (u limitati) awtorizzati mill-ERA u l-Kap Uffiċjal tad-Direttorat tal-Portijiet u tal-Jottijiet ta' Transport Malta sabiex tkun protetta il-popolazzjoni li tbejjed ta' *H. Pelagicus* u *C. diomedea*.

C. Żieda tal-kuxjenza dwar l-importanza tas-sit

1. Il-maniġer tas-sit għandu, f'sena mill-ħruġ ta' din l-Ordni, jfassal kampanja ta' pubbliċità li tiffoka fuq l-importanza ta' Filfla għall-konservazzjoni tan-natura u tispjega ir-restrizzjonijiet fis-seħħ u r-raġunijiet wara dawn ir-restrizzjonijiet.
2. Il-maniġer tas-sit għandu jinvolvi ruħu ma' sajjieda u l-assoċjazzjonijiet/rapreżentanti tagħhom biex jispjega l-importanza tal-gżira sabiex l-attività tas-sajd madwar il-gżira u b'mod partikulari ġewwa mil nawtiku mill-blata, issir b'konformità totali mal-leġislazzjoni eżistenti, id-dispożizzjonijiet ta' din l-Ordni u b'rispett totali tar-rekwiżiti tal-konservazzjoni tal-għasafar tal-baħar t'anness li jbejtu fuq Filfla.
3. F'ħames snin mill-ħruġ ta' din l-Ordni, il-maniġer tas-sit irid ikun ipproduċa informazzjoni edukattiva fuq l-importanza tal-"SAC"/"SPA" u qassamhom fost partijiet ikkonċernati differenti. Dan għandu jsir skont l-istrateġija tal-interpretazzjoni għal Natura 2000 li ser issir man-Nazzjon kollu.

D. Regolazzjoni tal-attivitajiet

1. Il-gżira ta' Filfla għandha tiġi kkunsidrata bħala riserva naturali stretta u żbarkar fuq il-gżira huwa strettament projbiti ħlief għal żjarat awtorizzati għal riċerka xjentifika essenzjali u monitoraġġ tal-ambjenti naturali u annimali selvaġġi tal-gżira kif imsemmi f'din l-Ordni.
2. L-ebda żvilupp fiżiku jew installazzjoni ta' tagħmir ikun xi jkun ma għandu jitħalla jsir fuq il-gżira.
3. Skont l-Avviż għall-Baħħara 16 tal-1987 u n-Notifikazzjoni tal-Gvern 173 tal-1990, l-irmiġġ jew n-navigazzjoni ta' kwalunkwe inġenji f'raġġ ta' mil nawtiku minn Filfla huwa strettament projbit sakemm mhuwiex espliċitament permess bil-kitba mill-Kap Uffiċjali tal-Portijiet u Jottijiet ta' Transport Malta, li għandu jikkonsulta mal-ERA qabel ma joħroġ tali permess. Tali permessi kollha għandhom ikunu mdaħħla f'reġistru u l-maniġer tas-sit ikun infurmat, f'dan ir-rigward.
4. L-attivitajiet kollha tal-għawm, ta' taħt il-baħar u kwalunkwe attività li hija marbuta mas-sajd/tkarkir, bl-eċċezzjoni għal sajd li jsir minn bastimenti fil-wiċċ f'mil nawtiku mill-gżira huma bl-istess mod projbiti.

petrel *Hydrobates pelagicus* in order to ensure that the level of predation is maintained at a sustainable level and, if required, to devise measures to limit the number of gulls on Filfla.

4. A buffer zone is hereby established around the islet of Filfla (as shown on **Figure 2**) within which vessels may not enter at night between April and September of each year, except under specific (and limited) situations authorised by ERA and the Chief Officer of the Ports and Yachting Directorate of Transport Malta in order to protect the breeding populations of *H. pelagicus* and *C. diomedea*.

C. Raising awareness on site's importance

1. The site manager shall, within one year from the issue of this Order, devise a publicity campaign focusing on the importance of Filfla for nature conservation and explaining the restrictions in force and the reasons behind these restrictions.
2. The site manager shall also engage with fishers and their associations/representatives to explain the importance of the islet in order that fishing activity around the islet and in particular within 1 nautical mile of the rock, are undertaken in full compliance with existing legislation, the provisions of this Order, and in full respect of the conservation requirements of the Annex I sea birds breeding on Filfla.
3. Within five years of the issue of this Order, the site manager shall have produced educational information on the importance of this SAC/SPA and disseminated these among different stakeholders. This shall be done in accordance with the interpretation strategy for Natura2000 that will be carried out nationwide.

D. Regulation of activities

1. The islet of Filfla is to be considered a strict nature reserve and landings on the islet are strictly prohibited except for authorised visits for essential scientific research and monitoring of the islet's habitats and wildlife as provided for in this Order.
2. No physical development or installation of equipment whatsoever shall be allowed on the islet.
3. In accordance with Notice to Mariners 16 of 1987 and Government Notice 173 of 1990, the berthing or navigation of any craft within one nautical mile radius off Filfla is strictly prohibited unless explicitly permitted in writing by the Chief Officer of Ports and Yachting of Transport Malta, who shall also consult with ERA prior to issuing any such permission. All such permissions shall be logged on a register and the site manager informed accordingly.
4. All swimming, underwater activities and any other activity that is connected with fishing/trawling, with the exception of fishing from surface vessels within one nautical mile off the islet are likewise prohibited.

5. L-ebda attività kummerċjali, rikreazzjonali jew oħrajn ma jitħallew isiru mkien fiż-żona ntiża biex tilqa' l-impatti stabbilita skont ir-regolament B(4) (ara **Tabella 2**), inkluż attivitajiet fuq bastimenti ta' kwalunkwe tip.
6. Kwalunkwe bastiment li jidħol fiż-żona ntiża biex tilqa' l-impatti stabbilita skont ir-regolament B(4) hawn fuq (ara **Tabella 2**) bil-lejl, għandu jitfi id-dwal qawwija kollha ħlief dawk li huma strettament bżonnjużi għal raġunijiet ta' sigurtà tan-navigazzjoni u għandhom jassiguraw li l-ebda dawl ma jkun mitfugħ fuq il-gżira innifisha. Sajd bil-lampara huwa projbit f'mil nawtiku mill-gżira.
7. Il-bastimenti kollha >50m "LOA" huma projbiti li jgħaddu mill-kanal bejn Filfla u Malta.
8. Il-maniġer tas-sit għandu jikkollabora mal-unitajiet relevanti tal-infurzar tal-liġi biex jiżgura li rondi regulari tal-baħar madwar il-gżira jkunu stabbiliti f'sena mill-ħruġ ta' din l-Ordni. L-iskeda tar-ronda trid tiżgura kopertura adegwata matul is-sena, b'żieda fil-monitoraġġ matul l-istaġun meta jbejtu l-għasafar tal-baħar (April sa Settembru)
9. Il-kaċċa fuq il-baħar b'din huwa pprojbit f'mil nawtiku mil-gżira ta' Filfla (ara **Tabella 2**).
10. B'segwitu mir-regolament B(3) hawn fuq, il-maniġer tas-sit għandu jikkunsidra miżuri xierqa biex jikkontrolla jew ineħħi l-popolazzjoni tal-Gawwija Prima.
11. F'sentejn mill-ħruġ ta' din l-Ordni, il-Kap Uffiċjali tal-Portijiet u tal-Jottijiet ta' Transport Malta għandu jistabbilixxi gwida ċara fuq dawk l-attivitajiet jew ċirkostanzi għal liema ħruġ ta' permess għad-dħul f'raġġ ta' mil nawtiku minn Filfla jista' jkun ikkunsidrat mill-Awtorità mingħajr preġudizzju għar-regolament D(12) hawn taħt.
12. Applikazzjonijiet għall-permess għal kwalunkwe attivitajiet jew operazzjonijiet regolati b'dawn id-dispożizzjonijiet għandhom jaslu għand il-ERA mill-inqas 30 ġurnata tax-xogħol qabel l-attività jew operazzjoni inkwistjoni.

Jekk il-propjetà soġġetta ta' din l-Ordni ta' Konservazzjoni b'xi mod tiġrilha ħsara jew tkun mibdula f'kontravenzjoni 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 ksur tad-dispożizzjonijiet ta' din l-Ordni tal-Konservazzjoni, l-Awtorità għandha teżerċita l-poteri ta' infurzar tagħha kif stabbilit fir-Regolament 49 tal-Avviż Legali tal-2006, kif ikun applikabbli.

Id-dispożizzjonijiet u l-kundizzjonijiet stabbiliti f'dawn ir-regolamenti għandhom ikunu mingħajr preġudizzju għall-Avviż Legali 25 tal-1993 sakemm dan tal-aħħar ma jkunx inkonsistenti ma' dawn ir-regolamenti. F'każ ta' inkonsistenza, dawn ir-regolamenti għandhom jipprevalu.

L-14 ta' Diċembru, 2016

5. No recreational, commercial, or other activities are allowed to take place anywhere within the buffer zone established under regulation B(4) (see **Figure 2**), including activities on vessels of any type.
6. Any vessels entering the buffer zone established under regulation B(4) above (see **Figure 2**) at night, shall switch off all bright lights except those strictly required for safe navigation purposes and shall ensure that no lights are shone on the islet itself. Lampara fishing is prohibited within 1nm of the islet.
7. All vessels >50m LOA are prohibited passage through the channel between Filfla and Malta.
8. The site manager shall liaise with the relevant law enforcement units to ensure that regular patrols of the waters around the islet are established within the first year from the issue of this Order. The patrolling schedule is to ensure adequate coverage throughout the year, with increased monitoring during the seabird's breeding season (April to September).
9. Hunting at sea is hereby prohibited within 1 nautical mile of the islet of Filfla (see **Figure 2**).
10. Following on from the regulation B(3) above, the site manager shall consider appropriate measures to control or remove the population of the Yellow-legged Gull.
11. Within two years of the issue of this Order, the Chief Officer for Ports and Yachting of Transport Malta shall establish clear guidelines on those activities or circumstances for which an entry permit within the 1 nautical mile radius from Filfla could be considered by the Authority and without prejudice to regulation D(12) below.
12. 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.

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/Special Protection Area/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.

The provisions and conditions laid down in these regulations shall be without prejudice to the Legal Notice 25 of 1993 to the extent that the latter are not inconsistent with these regulations. In case of inconsistency, these regulations shall prevail.

14th December, 2016

Tabella 1: "SAC" u "SPA" ta' Filfla

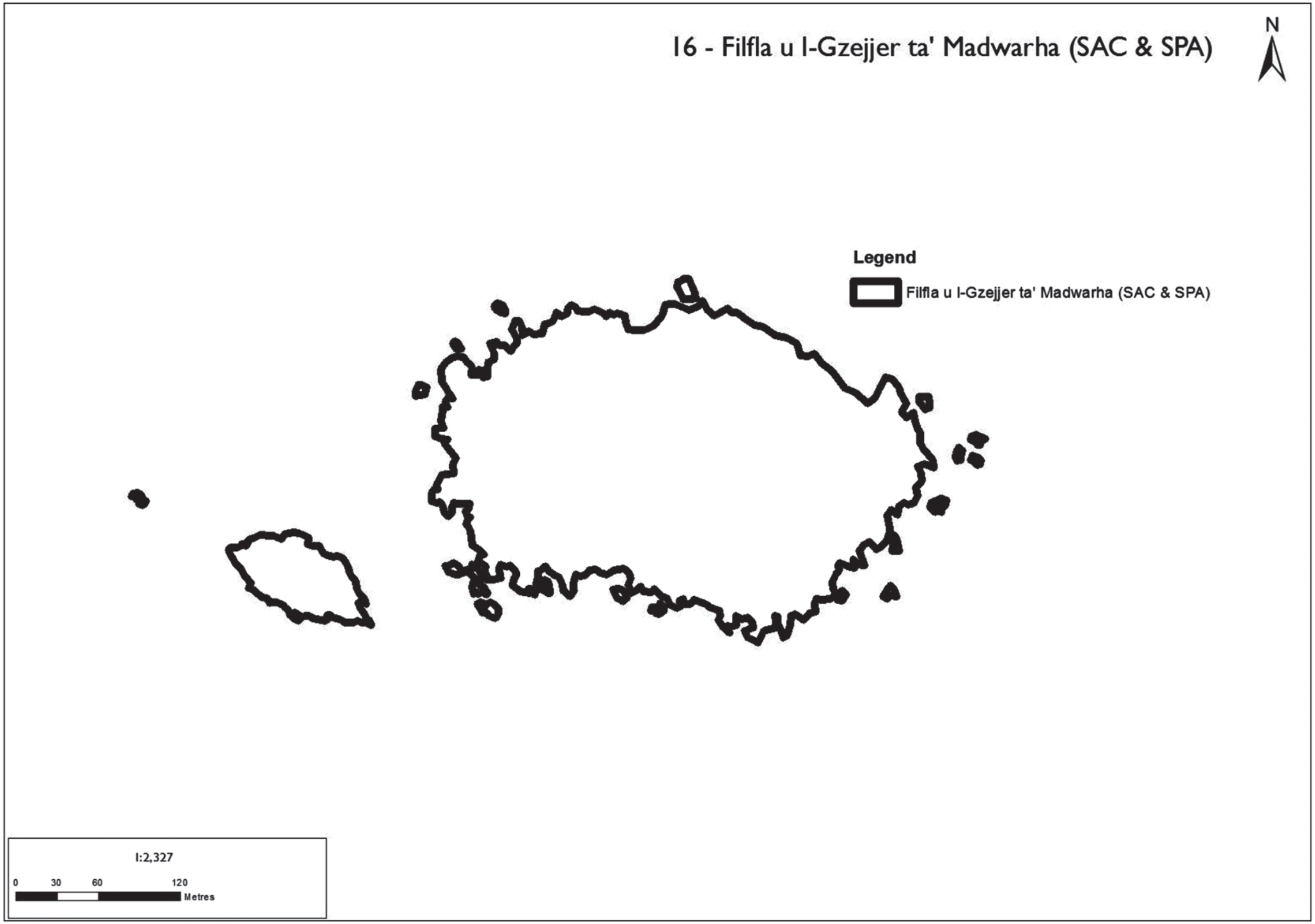


Figure 1: Filfla SAC & SPA

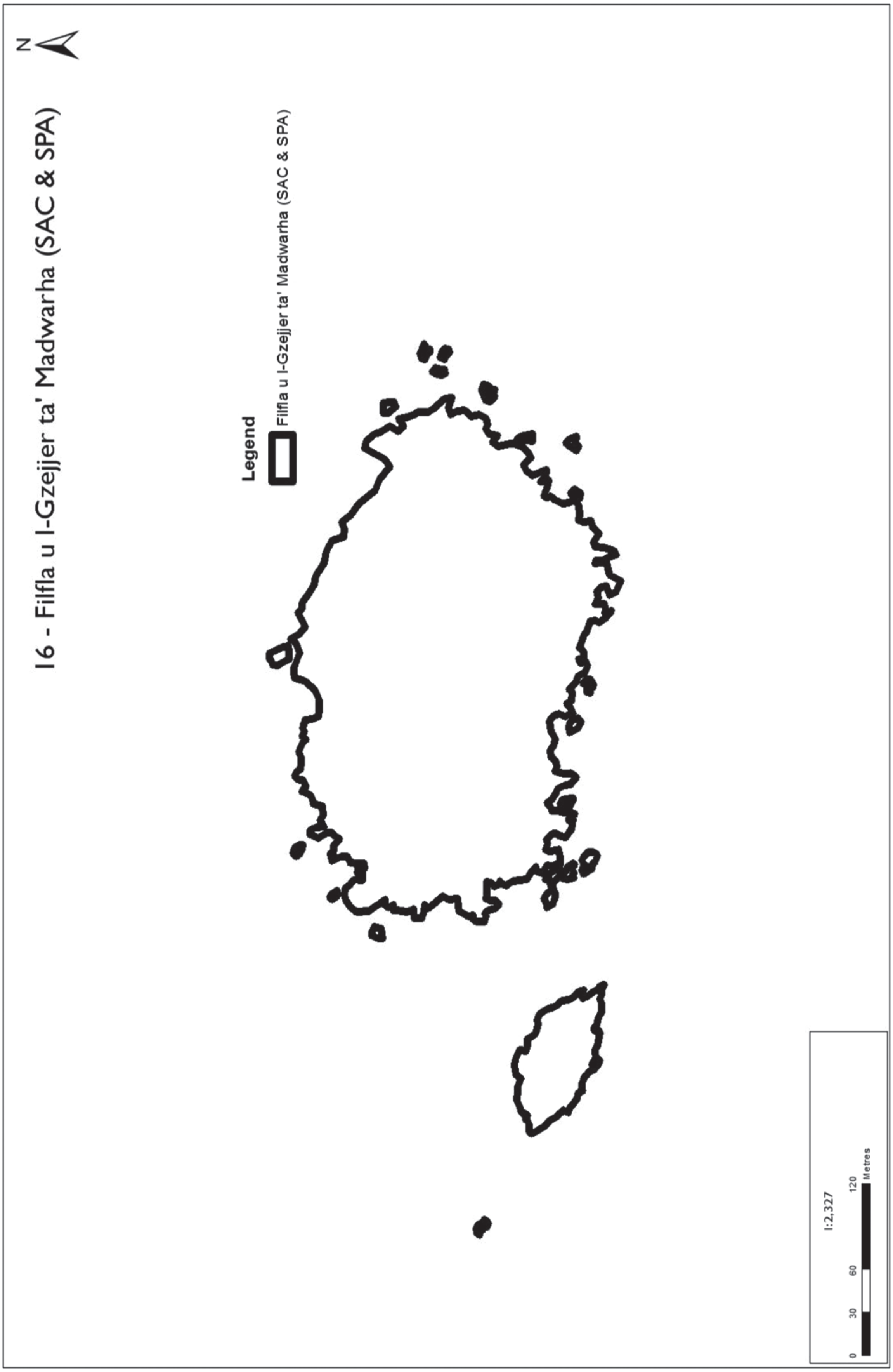
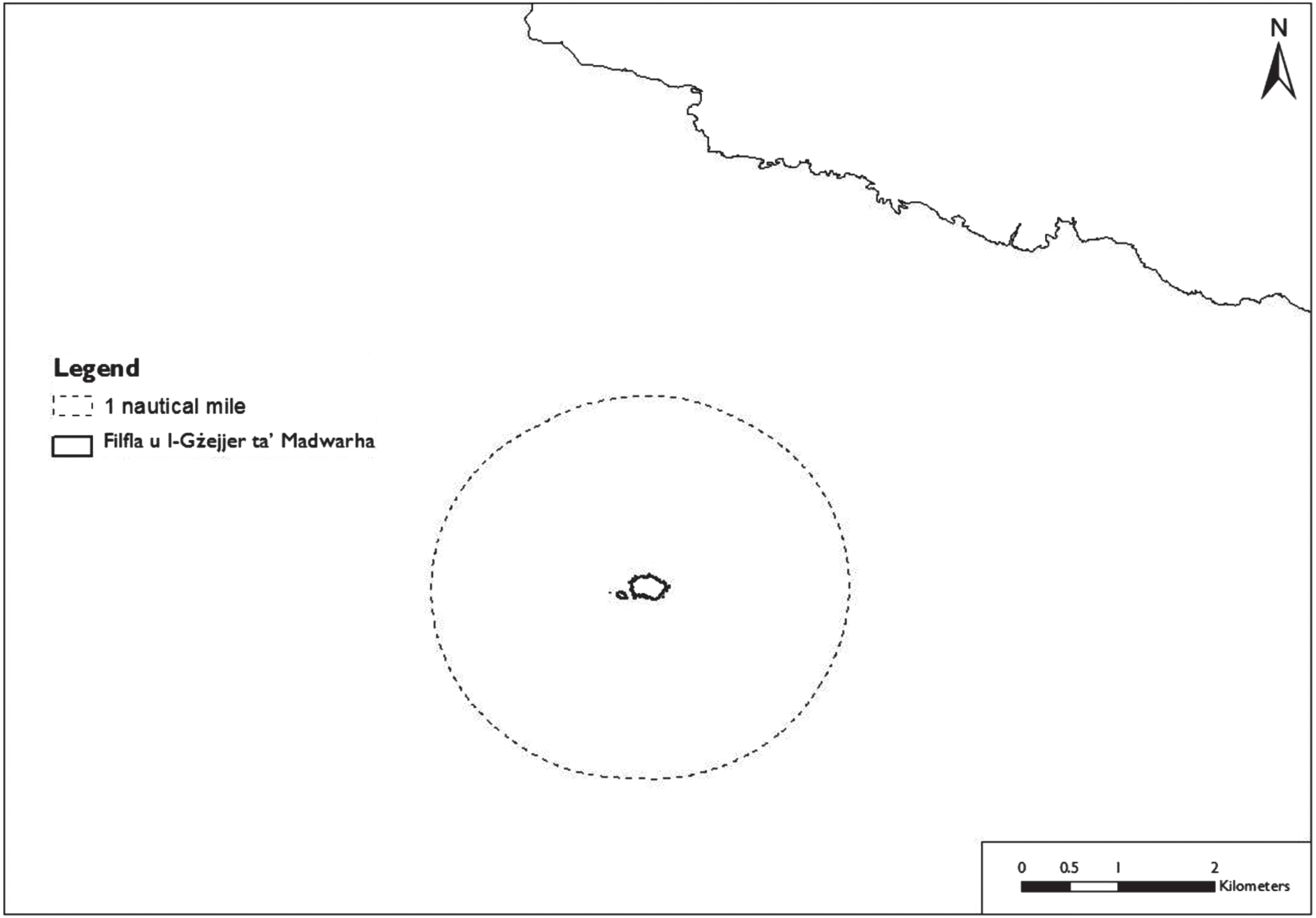


Tabella 2: Żona ntiża biex tilqa' l-impatti madwar Filfla



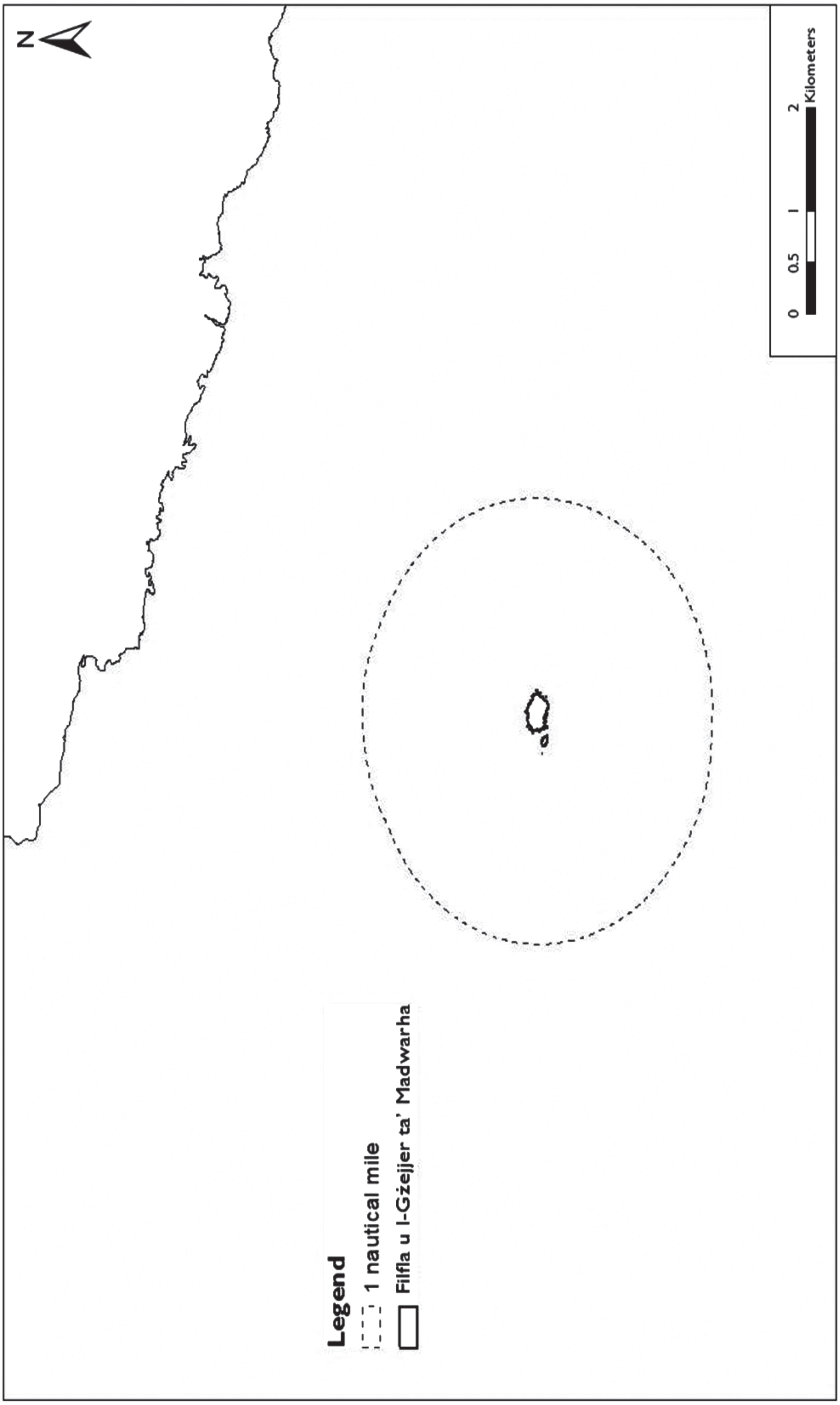


Figure 2: Buffer area around Filfla