



NATURA 2000 - STANDARD DATA FORM

For Special Protection Areas (SPA),
Proposed Sites for Community Importance (pSCI),
Sites of Community Importance (SCI) and
for Special Areas of Conservation (SAC)

SITE **MT0000008**
SITENAME **L-Għadira s-Safra u l-Iskoll tal-Għallis**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- [1. SITE IDENTIFICATION](#)
- [2. SITE LOCATION](#)
- [3. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION](#)
- [4. SITE DESCRIPTION](#)
- [6. SITE MANAGEMENT](#)
- [7. MAP OF THE SITE](#)

1. SITE IDENTIFICATION

[Back to top](#)

1.1 Type B	1.2 Site code MT0000008
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1.3 Site name

L-Għadira s-Safra u l-Iskoll tal-Għallis
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1.4 First Compilation date	1.5 Update date
2004-04	2019-09

1.6 Respondent:

Name/Organisation:	Environment and Resources Authority
Address:	Hexagon House, Spencer Hill, Marsa MRS 1441
Email:	natura.2000@era.org.mt

1.7 Site indication and designation / classification dates

Date site classified as SPA:	0000-00
National legal reference of SPA designation	No data
Date site proposed as SCI:	2004-04
Date site confirmed as SCI:	2008-03
Date site designated as SAC:	2016-12
National legal reference of SAC designation:	Government Notice No. 1379 of 2016, in accordance with the Flora, Fauna and Natural Habitats Protection Regulations, 2016 (S.L. 549.44)

2. SITE LOCATION

[Back to top](#)

2.1 Site-centre location [decimal degrees]:

Longitude

14.45

Latitude

35.95

2.2 Area [ha]:

2.82

2.3 Marine area [%]

0.0

2.4 Sitelength [km]:

0.0

2.5 Administrative region code and name

NUTS level 2 code**Region Name**

MT00	Malta
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2.6 Biogeographical Region(s)

Mediterranean (100.0
%)

3. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

[Back to top](#)

3.1 Habitat types present on the site and assessment for them

Annex I Habitat types						Site assessment			
Code	PF	NP	Cover [ha]	Cave [number]	Data quality	A B C D	A B C		
						Representativity	Relative Surface	Conservation	Global
1420 B			0.49		G	B	A	C	C
3170 B			0.29		M	B	C	C	C

PF: for the habitat types that can have a non-priority as well as a priority form (6210, 7130, 9430) enter "X" in the column PF to indicate the priority form.

NP: in case that a habitat type no longer exists in the site enter: x (optional)

Cover: decimal values can be entered

Caves: for habitat types 8310, 8330 (caves) enter the number of caves if estimated surface is not available.

Data quality: G = 'Good' (e.g. based on surveys); M = 'Moderate' (e.g. based on partial data with some extrapolation); P = 'Poor' (e.g. rough estimation)

3.2 Species referred to in Article 4 of Directive 2009/147/EC and listed in Annex II of Directive 92/43/EEC and site evaluation for them

3.3 Other important species of flora and fauna (optional)

4. SITE DESCRIPTION

[Back to top](#)

4.1 General site character

Habitat class	% Cover
N24	49.35
N03	31.82
N06	18.83
Total Habitat Cover	100

Other Site Characteristics

L-Ghadira s-Safra is a temporary rainwater body situated on the north-eastern coast of Malta, between Għallis and Qalet Marku, in a bed of Lower Coralline Limestone less than a metre above sea level. The temporary pool supports biotic assemblages that are typical of freshwater habitats during the wet period and halophytic species colonise the area around the pool. Although the pool is close to the sea, the characteristic fauna is typical of freshwater despite the fact that the highest salinity recorded from this water body is well below the upper limit for "fresh" waters. L-Iskoll tal-Għallis have characteristics of rocky shoals as the sea inundates them for a significant part of the year and consequently they neither support terrestrial vegetation nor a real supralittoral zone. However, this shoal is a significant resident, resting and foraging site for avifauna and also important for migratory birds.

4.2 Quality and importance

L-Ghadira s-Safra is one of the two localities for the locally endangered Prickle Grass (*Crypsis aculeata*, which is listed in the National Red Data Book as endangered). This wetland also supports the rare Tadpole Shrimp (*Triops cancriformis*, listed in the National Red Data Book), and the Fairy Shrimp *Branchipus schaefferi*, having a restricted distribution in the Maltese Islands. These rare animals are typical of freshwater conditions rather than the prevailing saline environment. The endangered woodlouse *Tylos latreillei sardous* (sometimes considered a species in its own right) is also present. In addition, *Cressa cretica* (listed in the National Red Data Book as a rare species with a restricted distribution in the Maltese Islands being confined to saline marshlands such as L-Ghadira s-Safra) and the *Polygonum maritimum* (listed in the National Red Data Book as endangered with a restricted distribution in the Maltese Islands) have been recorded at L-Ghadira s-Safra. Both are still present although *Polygonum* does not occur consistently. Vegetation in this site is dominated by *Plantago* spp. such as *Plantago crypsoides* and *Plantago macrorrhiza*, *Crithmum maritimum* and *Limbarda crithmoides* (= *Inula crithmoides*). Following the relocation of the coast road the site expanded in size and typical species of *Nerio-Tamaricetea*, *Tamarisk africana*, *Vitex agnus-castus* and *Nerium oleander* (monopetalous) were planted to start rehabilitating the new area.

4.3 Threats, pressures and activities with impacts on the site

The most important impacts and activities with high effect on the site

Negative Impacts			
Rank	Threats and pressures [code]	Pollution (optional) [code]	inside/outside [i o b]
M	D01.02		o
M	J02.01		o

Positive Impacts			
Rank	Activities, management [code]	Pollution (optional) [code]	inside/outside [i o b]

Rank: H = high, M = medium, L = low

Pollution: N = Nitrogen input, P = Phosphor/Phosphate input, A = Acid input/acidification,

T = toxic inorganic chemicals, O = toxic organic chemicals, X = Mixed pollutions

i = inside, o = outside, b = both

4.4 Ownership (optional)

4.5 Documentation

5. SITE PROTECTION STATUS (optional)

5.1 Designation types at national and regional level:

[Back to top](#)

5.2 Relation of the described site with other sites:

5.3 Site designation (optional)

6. SITE MANAGEMENT

[Back to top](#)

6.1 Body(ies) responsible for the site management:

Organisation:	Environment and Resources Authority
Address:	
Email:	natura.2000@era.org.mt

6.2 Management Plan(s):

An actual management plan does exist:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	Name: L-Għadira s-Safra Link: https://era.org.mt/en/Pages/Natura-2000-Management-Planning.aspx
<input type="checkbox"/> No, but in preparation	
<input type="checkbox"/> No	

6.3 Conservation measures (optional)

7. MAP OF THE SITES

[Back to top](#)

INSPIRE ID:

Map delivered as PDF in electronic format (optional)

Yes No

Reference(s) to the original map used for the digitalisation of the electronic boundaries (optional).

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