



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 **MT0000035**
SITENAME **L-Inħawi ta' Ħas-Saptan**

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1. SITE IDENTIFICATION

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1.1 Type B	1.2 Site code MT0000035
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1.3 Site name

L-Inħawi ta' Ħas-Saptan

1.4 First Compilation date	1.5 Update date
2019-09	-

1.6 Respondent:

Name/Organisation:	Environment & Resources Authority
Address:	Hexagon House, Spencer Hill, Marsa MRS 144
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:	2019-09
Date site confirmed as SCI:	No data
Date site designated as SAC:	No data
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

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2.1 Site-centre location [decimal degrees]:

Longitude

14.5162

Latitude

35.8372

2.2 Area [ha]:

2.659002

2.3 Marine area [%]

0.0

2.4 Sitelength [km]:

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

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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
3170 f			0.11		G	A	B	A	A
6220 f			1.94		G	A	C	A	A

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

Species			Population in the site							Site assessment				
G	Code	Scientific Name	S	NP	T	Size		Unit	Cat.	D.qual.	A B C D	A B C		
						Min	Max				Pop.	Con.	Iso.	Glo.
P	4092	Elatine gussonei			p				P	G	B	A	A	A

Group: A = Amphibians, B = Birds, F = Fish, I = Invertebrates, M = Mammals, P = Plants, R = Reptiles
S: in case that the data on species are sensitive and therefore have to be blocked for any public access enter: yes

NP: in case that a species is no longer present in the site enter: x (optional)

Type: p = permanent, r = reproducing, c = concentration, w = wintering (for plant and non-migratory species use permanent)

Unit: i = individuals, p = pairs or other units according to the Standard list of population units and codes in accordance with Article 12 and 17 reporting (see [reference portal](#))

Abundance categories (Cat.): C = common, R = rare, V = very rare, P = present - to fill if data are deficient (DD) or in addition to population size information

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); VP = 'Very poor' (use this category only, if not even a rough estimation of the population size can be made, in this case the fields for population size can remain empty, but the field "Abundance categories" has to be filled in)

3.3 Other important species of flora and fauna (optional)

4. SITE DESCRIPTION

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4.1 General site character

Habitat class	% Cover
N23	23.0
N08	77.0
Total Habitat Cover	100

Other Site Characteristics

L-Inħawi ta' Ħas-Saptan, situated in the limits of Birżebbuġa supports a series of temporary freshwater rockpools which are found dispersed on karstic terrain, along the main path of the natural gorge valley known as 'il-Wied ta' Ħas-Saptan', and its valley-side communities. The site is bordered by three types of vegetation communities, mostly intermixed together, namely; garrigue, steppic communities and olive-carob planted woodland, which has been developed into a maquis-like community. The remainder of the landscape around the site consists of reclaimed agricultural fields, which occur intermittently among the vegetation communities.

4.2 Quality and importance

Habitat 3170 - Mediterranean temporary ponds is qualified as a priority EU habitat type listed in Annex I of the EU Habitats Directive (Directive 92/43/EEC) due to its uniqueness and significance to a diverse and specialised group of species. The freshwater rockpools located at L-Inħawi ta' Ħas Saptan are colonised by vegetation that is generally characteristic of ephemeral lentic habitats. The Pelago Maltese endemic Maltese Waterwort; *Elatine gussonei* is the most commonly encountered aquatic species within these freshwater pools. This floral species is confined to the Maltese Islands and Lampedusa, and is listed in the National Red Data Book as rare with a restricted distribution in the Maltese Islands and the Mediterranean. It is also strictly protected through national legislation (S.L. 549.44) and at a European level through Annex II and IV of the the EU Habitats Directive. Other rare floral species which are characteristic of temporary rockpools present at 'L-Inħawi ta' Ħas-Saptan' area include; the endemic Maltese Horned Pondweed *Zannichellia melitensis* which is also protected by law (S.L. 549.44) and *Callitriche truncata* (listed in the National Red Data Book as rare with a restricted distribution in the Maltese Islands). *Crassula vaillantii*, *Lythrum hyssopifolia*, *Ranunculus peltatus* and *Chara* spp. are also recorded from the freshwater rockpools present within this site. The aquatic fauna recorded at 'L-Inħawi ta' Ħas-Saptan' include; the clam shrimp; *Cyzicus* spp., the rare Tadpole Shrimp; *Triops cancriformis* (listed in the National Red Data Book as rare with a restricted distribution in the Maltese Islands) and the Siculo-Maltese endemic Painted Frog; *Discoglossus pictus* (listed in the National Red Data Book as vulnerable with a restricted distribution in the Maltese Islands and the Mediterranean). The latter is protected by international, regional and national legislation, due to its limited distribution. The priority Habitat type 6220 which is typical of Pseudo-steppe with grasses and annuals of the Thero-Brachypodietea is also present intermittently within the site while Habitat 9320, which is representative of *Olea* and *Ceratonia* forests is found bordering the site.

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	Pollution	inside/outside

Positive Impacts			
Rank	Activities,	Pollution	inside/outside

	and pressures [code]	(optional) [code]	[i o b]
M	A01		b
L	I01		b

management [code]	(optional) [code]	[i o b]
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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:

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5.2 Relation of the described site with other sites:

5.3 Site designation (optional)

6. SITE MANAGEMENT

6.1 Body(ies) responsible for the site management:

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

6.2 Management Plan(s):

An actual management plan does exist:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes
<input type="checkbox"/>	No, but in preparation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No

6.3 Conservation measures (optional)

7. MAP OF THE SITES

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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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