



# 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 **MT0000037**  
SITENAME **Wied il-Mielah u l-Inhawi tal-Madwar**

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## 1. SITE IDENTIFICATION

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<b>1.1 Type</b> C	<b>1.2 Site code</b> MT0000037
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### 1.3 Site name

Wied il-Mielah u l-Inhawi tal-Madwar
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<b>1.4 First Compilation date</b>	<b>1.5 Update date</b>
2019-09	-

### 1.6 Respondent:

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

### 1.7 Site indication and designation / classification dates

<b>Date site classified as SPA:</b>	2019-09
<b>National legal reference of SPA designation</b>	No data
<b>Date site proposed as SCI:</b>	2019-09
<b>Date site confirmed as SCI:</b>	No data
<b>Date site designated as SAC:</b>	No data
<b>National legal reference of SAC designation:</b>	Government Notice No. 1397 of 2016, in accordance with the Flora, Fauna and Natural Habitats Protection Regulations, 2016 (S.L. 549.44)



						Min	Max				Pop.	Con.	Iso.	Glo.
B	A010	<a href="#">Calonectris diomedea</a>			r	20	30	p		P	C	B	C	B
P	4083	<a href="#">Helichrysum melitense</a>			p				R	G	B	A	A	B
P	4084	<a href="#">Hyoseris frutescens</a>			p				C	G	A	A	A	A
B	A464	<a href="#">Puffinus yelkouan</a>			r	10	20	p		M	C	B	C	B

**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

### 4.1 General site character

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Habitat class	% Cover
N08	55.0
N23	12.0
N24	33.0
<b>Total Habitat Cover</b>	100

### 4.2 Quality and importance

Wied il-Mielaħ situated in the limits of Għarb on the northwestern coast of Gozo and flanked by two other valleys, Wied il-Għasri to the East and Wied ir-Raħeb to the West (both included in the SAC). This valley system extends more than two kilometres inland and represents a fairly steep-sided formation. The natural arch formed in the limestone cliffs at Wied il-Mielaħ with an elevation of around 20 m is one of the 25 natural arches in the Maltese Islands. The area hosts rich coastal and rupestral ecological communities with important geological, geomorphological and landscaping features. The area is also important for seabirds. The site is characterised with vegetated sea cliffs, valley systems and garrigue with chasmophytes, halophytes and other typical species of harsh abiotic conditions such as a high level of salt, wind and physiological drought. The habitats found along the area include Halo-Chasmophytic Sea-Lavender communities characterised by species of the Crithmo-Limonietea that are usually growing on cliff plateau and rocky slopes. Species included are annuals and hardy, often succulent shrubs such as the sub-endemic shrub *Jacobaea maritima* subsp. *sicula*, *Crucianella rupestris*, *Limbarda crithmoides*, the endemic annual *Anthemis urvilleana* and also the frequent *Mesembryanthemum nodiflorum*. Halophilous and Thermo-Mediterranean Scrub communities are also present. Vegetation typified by *Arthrocnemum macrostachyum*, *Limonium virgatum*, the sub-endemic *Halimione portulacoides* and *Euphorbia dendroides* also occur. The site consists of Calcareous rocky slopes with chasmophytic vegetation typified by a specialised vegetation assemblage, which is characterised by many Maltese endemic species such as *Helichrysum melitense*, *Salsola melitensis*, *Hyoseris frutescens*, *Matthiola incana* subsp. *melitensis* and *Daucus rupestris*. Other species include: *Hypericum aegypticum* and *Senecio leucanthemifolius*. The stretch between Wied il-Għasri to il-Ponta ta' San Dimitri hosts around 10 to 20 breeding pairs of *Puffinus yelkouan*. These birds are migratory but nest mainly in caves, crevices and burrows in coastal cliffs and rocky islets. The cliff faces along this stretch of land provide a favourable habitat for the nesting for this species and was first identified as a shearwater colony in 2017. Additionally, it is also estimated that around 20 to 30 pairs of *Calonectris diomedea* nest in the 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	G01		i
M	G05.01		b

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:

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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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