



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 **MT0000102**
SITENAME **Żona fil-Baħar fl-Inħawi ta' Għar Lapsi u ta' Filfla**

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 MT0000102
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1.3 Site name

Żona fil-Baħar fl-Inħawi ta' Għar Lapsi u ta' Filfla

1.4 First Compilation date 2010-08	1.5 Update date 2019-09
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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:	2010-08
Date site confirmed as SCI:	2012-11
Date site designated as SAC:	No data
National legal reference of SAC designation:	

2. SITE LOCATION

[Back to top](#)

2.1 Site-centre location [decimal degrees]:

Longitude

14.422

Latitude

35.8007

2.2 Area [ha]:

2628.61

2.3 Marine area [%]

100.0

2.4 Sitelength [km]:

0.0

2.5 Administrative region code and name

NUTS level 2 code

Region Name

MTZZ

Extra-Regio

2.6 Biogeographical Region(s)

Marine (100.0
Mediterranean %)

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
1120			150.91		M	B	B	A	B
1170			223.98		M	A	C	B	B

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

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Habitat class	% Cover
N01	100.0
Total Habitat Cover	100

Other Site Characteristics

The site is a repository of various marine habitats that are also found in other areas around the Maltese islands; amongst these is the priority habitat constituting the sea-grass Posidonia.

4.2 Quality and importance

The islet of Filfla itself is a strict nature reserve and a Natura 2000 site (MT0000016), whereas both the islet and its surrounding marine area are considered as an Important Bird Area (IBA) of EU Importance by BirdLife Malta. The islet of Filfla is also considered a Global Important Bird Area by BirdLife International. Despite the fact that most of the marine species recorded on site are common around the rest of the Maltese Islands, the site's location, the relatively high species richness and the relatively unpolluted waters of the site justify its protection. Indeed, this site hosts a rich and diverse biota, reflecting a heterogenous bottom. Considering the Posidonia beds, from a survey carried out in 2002, it was discovered that in the Għar Lapsi area, the Posidonia meadow's rhizome primary production values are amongst the higher values for the Mediterranean Sea. Furthermore, the general environmental conditions of the site were classified as normal and higher abnormal. The classification used was based on Pergent et. al (1995). Cymodocea and Posidonia are relatively common along the coast of the island of Malta. The reefs that exist to the south of the island of Malta are in a very good status. Associations with Cystoseira, Flabellia and Peyssonnelia are relatively abundant in the area very close to Filfla.

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	F02.03		b
L	H03.03		b
L	M02.01		b
L	I01		b
M	F02.01		b
L	G01		i
L	M01.01		b
L	D03.02		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

6.1 Body(ies) responsible for the site management:

[Back to top](#)

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

6.2 Management Plan(s):

An actual management plan does exist:

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

6.3 Conservation measures (optional)

7. MAP OF THE SITES

INSPIRE ID: [Back to top](#)

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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