



Environmental Permit

Environment Protection Act (CAP. 549)

Permit number:
NP 0035/20

Approved documents
NP 0035/20/4B

The Environment and Resources Authority (hereinafter the Authority; the Competent Authority or ERA) in exercise of its powers under the Environment Protection Act (CAP. 549), hereby authorises:

Mr Simone Cappellone obo TSAM Ltd. (hereinafter "the Permit Holder"),
Of / Whose Registered Office (or principal place of business) is at

**Congreve Memorial Hall,
Island Headquarter,
Emmanuel S. Tonna Square,
Floriana**

to carry out pruning of trees at

**Għajn Tuffieħa Campsite,
Mellieħa.**

The validity of this permit is **one (1) year** from the granted date below. An application for renewal of this permit is to be submitted at least **one (1) month** prior to expiry of this permit.

Signed	Date
<p style="text-align: center;">Anthony Aquilina Unit Manager (Permitting) F/ Director Environment and Resources</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Permit Granted: 16/04/ 2020</p>

Authorised to sign on behalf of the Competent Authority

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Conditions

Introductory Note

The Permit is granted in accordance with the provisions of the Environment Protection Act and regulation 20 of the Trees and Woodlands Protection Regulations, 2018 (S.L.549.123), hereinafter referred to as the Regulations, for the purpose of the interventions that shall be carried out on the protected trees.

The Permit is also granted in accordance with the provisions of the Environment Protection Act and Regulation 18(2) of the Flora, Fauna and Natural Habitats Protection Regulations, 2006 (S.L. 549.44), for the purpose of the activities that shall be carried out within the Special Area of Conservation (SAC) and Special Protection Area of 'Rdumijiet ta' Malta: Ir-Ramla ta- Ċirkewwa sal-Ponta ta' Bengħisa' (MT0000024).

The works shall, subject to the conditions of this Permit, be managed, controlled and carried out as described in the NP Application, approved documents, and/or as otherwise previously agreed in writing by the Authority.

Status Log

Detail	Date
<i>Application NP 0035/20</i>	14 th January 2020
<i>Permit Issued</i>	16 th April 2020

Permitted Activities

1. The Permit Holder is authorised to carry out the works and the associated works specified in Table 1.

Table 1.

Works	Description of specified works	Limits of specified works
Interventions on protected trees	Pruning	(i) Light pruning of twenty six (26) Aleppo pine trees - <i>Pinus halepensis</i> specimens, forty one (1) mastic trees – <i>Pistacia lentiscus</i> specimens, eight (8) <i>Medicago arborea</i> specimens and one (1) Judas tree – <i>Cercis siliquastrum</i> specimen

Site

2. The works authorised under condition 1 shall be affected on the trees as marked on the approved site plan NP 0035/20/4B.

Conditions of Activity/Work

3. All interventions shall be carried out in line with the Guidelines on Works Involving Trees available on <https://era.org.mt/en/Pages/Guidelines-on-.aspx>.

4. Excessive/hard pruning is to be avoided and measures shall be taken to prevent accidental/unnecessary damage. The cutting of primary, secondary branches and/or trunk of the trees thicker than 5cm is strictly prohibited.
5. Pruning shall be limited to the outer most branches that are obstructing the carriageway (i.e. from the kerb or the rubble wall outwards), at a height of not more than 6 metres as measured from the carriageway level.
6. Works shall be limited to the trees for which a permit has been issued. Damage to or interventions on other existing protected trees and natural features on site is prohibited.
7. Works shall be carried out strictly between sunrise and sunset.
8. While the permitted works are being carried out, the Permit Holder shall ensure that disturbance of any specimen of any protected species shall be kept to a minimum. It is the responsibility of the permit holder to ensure that no harm is caused to the environment either intentionally or accidentally. Attention must also be afforded to the whole environment of the SAC in view of the protection status of the area, and to other important natural areas.

General Conditions

9. Any material removed other than the pruned branch, shall be immediately carted away in waste carriers registered in accordance with the requirements of the Waste Management (Activity Registration) Regulations 2007 (S.L. 549.45) for appropriate disposal in facilities permitted in accordance with the Waste Regulations 2011 (S.L. 549.63).
10. The 'Permit Holder', is responsible to ensure that all reasonable precautions are taken so that the activity conforms to the conditions in this Permit and the procedures outlined within the Permit application.
11. The activities covered by this Permit are restricted to the permit holder, employees and/or volunteers and contracted parties commissioned for such activities/works under his supervision and direction, who shall all be made aware of this permit and the contents within.
12. This permit is granted saving third party rights. The Permit holder is not exempt from any other legislation or regulations, codes of practice, conditions or requirements imposed by any other competent authorities, including the obtaining of permits, licenses, or clearances including from site owners.
13. The following activities are strictly prohibited:
 - a. the deliberate picking, collection, taking, cutting, uprooting, harming, destroying or damaging deliberately destroying, keeping, transporting, selling, buying exchanging, offering for sale or for exchange, importing or exporting in any way of any specimen of wild flora, other than those being permitted;
 - b. the deliberate hunting, killing, capturing, taking, harming, disturbance particularly during periods of breeding, rearing, hibernation and migration, destruction and deterioration of breeding sites or resting places, pursuing, taking or attempting to take, deliberately killing or attempting to kill, deliberately destroying, keeping, transporting, selling, buying exchanging,

- offering for sale or for exchange, importing or exporting any specimen of any specimen of wild fauna;
- c. cutting or damaging of reeds, tree branches etc other than those being permitted;
 - d. planting of vegetation, shrubs and/or trees or the introduction of any flora or fauna into the site or its environs;
 - e. introduction, removal, significant movement and re-engineering, and/or collection of sand, shingle, stone, soil and/or sediment;
 - f. excavation works and any physical modification of the vegetation cover, the ground and landform of the site and its surroundings;
 - g. generation of excessive noise, including extremely loud music or the use of noisy generators, or light pollution through the use of floodlights;
 - h. disposal, discharge or spillage of oil, fuel, paint or other pollutants, or of solid waste, ash or combustibles;
 - i. lighting of fires.
14. ERA may request updates and/or further information on the activity in question as deemed necessary.
15. The conditions imposed shall be adhered to throughout all the activities. Failure to do so may result in enforcement action and cessation of any related works or activities.
16. ERA may impose other additional rules or conditions, or may amend one or more of the listed rules or conditions, as it deems necessary for the proper conservation of a protected site or area, biodiversity and the environment in general, and to ensure public safety.
17. The Permit Holder may apply for a variation of the permit and shall seek the Authority's written agreement prior to any operational changes, by sending to the Authority:
- a. Written notice of the details of the proposed change, including an assessment of its possible effects or risks to the environment from the approved activity;
 - b. Any relevant supporting information;
 - c. Any relevant supporting assessments and drawings, and;
 - d. The proposed implementation date.
- Any such change shall only be implemented following the issue of a variation of the permit by the Authority.
18. In accordance with Regulation 46(4) of S.L. 549.44, a brief report with photos of the activities held, including any publications as a result of the activity, is to be provided to ERA by the Permit Holder within one month of the expiry of the permit, and is to be submitted to nature.permitting@era.org.mt. Information that should be treated as confidential as outlined in Regulation 48(4) of S.L. 549.44 shall be specified.
- A template for the report is available at <http://era.org.mt/en/Documents/Activity%20Report%20template.doc>.
19. The Authority may suspend or revoke this environmental permit in line with the provisions of CAP 549.
20. The Permit Holder shall notify the following matters to the Authority in writing at least 10 working days prior to their occurrence:

- a. Any change in the Permit Holder's trading name, registered name or registered office address;
 - b. Any change to particulars of the Permit Holder's corporate identity.
21. Upon the joint application of a Permit Holder and a proposed transferee, the Authority may transfer the environmental permit to the proposed transferee. The transfer of the permit will not relieve any of the Permit Holders from their environmental obligations and liabilities.
22. In accordance with Regulation 26 of S.L. 549.123, details of the Permit Holder together with the details of conditions imposed in this Permit shall be maintained by the Authority in a register available for public inspection or maintained in electronic form.
23. ERA may inspect and monitor the activity at the expense of the Permit holder at rate and arrangement communicated by ERA's Compliance and Enforcement Directorate to ensure the safeguarding of the natural assets. ERA may also appoint other on-site monitors at the expense of the Permit Holder to act as an on-site liaison between the Permit Holder and ERA if the case arises.
24. The Authority's representatives may inspect and photograph any part of the site/activity and ask for any closed or locked areas to be opened and may demand to be provided with any proof, documentation, plans, receipts or any other records.
25. This Permit including any Variation Notices or amendments to it shall be made available for any inspection by ERA officials at all times, or any legally recognised compliance and enforcement officials, when requested.
26. Whenever there is a conflict between the conditions of this Permit and approved documents, the conditions of the permit shall prevail.
27. ERA shall not be held liable for any accidents or injuries which may occur during the activities being permitted through this Permit. It is the responsibility of the Permit Holder to ensure that all safety measures are taken.
28. This Permit is without prejudice to any liability of the Permit Holder under the Act and to any punitive measures the Authority may wish to take with respect to works already carried out without Permit.
29. The validity of this Permit is for **one (1) year** from the granted date of this Permit. The Permit Holder may apply for a renewal to this permit expressing his/her intention at least four (4) weeks prior to the expiry of this Permit. Request for renewals shall only be considered upon confirmation of compliance with permit conditions and fulfilment of documentation as requested by this Permit.
30. Any aggrieved person may appeal from this decision before the Environment and Review Tribunal within 30 days in terms of Article 63 of the Environment Protection Act.

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Environmental Consultation Statement

in connection to the management of the trees along the main
pathway to increase vehicle accessibility

- Attachment 1 -

Prepared by Benjamin Camilleri

for TSAM LTD.

14th January 2020



Disclaimer

This document has been prepared by Benjamin Camilleri for the TSAM LTD. in connection to the management of trees along the main pathway to increase vehicle accessibility.

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Introduction

The Ġhajj Tuffieħa campsite is roughly 51 tumoli in size; the site is composed of several plots used as camping grounds, several buildings serving as offices and utilities and a main route roughly 500m long connecting all the different sections. The main pathway is bordered on either side with a series of tree species; primarily the Lentisk tree (*Pistacia lentiscus* / Deru), Judas tree (*Cercis siliquastrum* / Siġra ta' Ġuda), Aleppo Pine (*Pinus halepensis* / Żnuber) and Tree Medick (*Medicago arborea* / Siġra tan-Nefel).

On a general note the trees present along the road are of a mature nature, as a result in many cases specimens boast a full well represented crown. Given the adjacent road a number of the mature trees present have started to cause accessibility issues to camper vans and trailers visiting the campsite.

Scope

The scope is therefore to intervene the least possible whereby increasing sufficient accessibility whilst allowing for a well represented crown nonetheless and stability in all of the tree species. The type of pruning intervention is determined by the particular tree species and specimen location in relation to road accessibility, as is discussed below.



All pruning interventions should be carried out in Winter (Dec - Feb) to ensure pathogenic activity is low, heat stress conditions on the wounds are reduced enhancing the recovery state and period. All the pruned wood can be used on site for a variety of targeted measures.

Trees; location and intervention

The site contains a total of 41 Lentisk, 26 Aleppo Pine and 1 Judas specimens which are causing accessibility issues on the primary campsite pathway. Generally speaking the majority of specimen require a simple pruning measure of canopy thinning and lifting, this will ensure that the well represented crowns of these specimens is kept intact for the most part and simply lifted higher to allow greater accessibility to larger vehicles.

<u>Flora Species</u>	<u>Targeted Numbers</u>	<u>Legal Protection</u>	<u>Intervention Code</u>
Aleppo Pine (<i>Pinus halepensis</i> / Żnuber)	32	Yes - S.L.549.123 Schedule 1 Table 2	1
Judas tree (<i>Cercis siliquastrum</i> / Siġra ta' Ġuda)	1	Yes - S.L.549.123 Schedule 1 Table 2	1
Lentisk (<i>Pistacia lentiscus</i> / Deru)	44	Yes - S.L.549.123 Schedule 1 Table 2	1

