

Environmental Permit

Environment Protection Act (CAP. 549)

Permit number:
NP 0090/20

Approved documents
NP 0090/20/7A/8A

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 Jorge Spiteri obo Breeds of Origin Conservancy (hereinafter "the Permit Holder"),
Of / Whose Registered Office (or principal place of business) is at

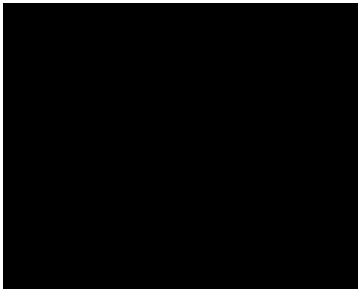
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For the setting up and maintenance of a mating station of *Apis mellifera ruttneri* specimens at

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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>Anthony Aquilina Unit Manager (Permitting) F/ Director Environment and Resources</p>	<p>Permit Granted: 18/03/ 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 18(2) of the Flora, Fauna and Natural Habitats Protection Regulations, 2006 (S.L. 549.44), hereinafter referred to as the Regulations, for the purpose of the activities that shall be carried out within the Special Area of Conservation (SAC) and Special Protection Area (SPA) of 'Kemmuna u l-Gzejjer ta' Madwarha' (MT0000017).

The permit is granted in accordance with the provisions of the Environment Protection Act and Regulation 43(a) and (d) of the Flora, Fauna and Natural Habitats Protection Regulations, 2006 (S.L. 549.44), hereinafter referred to as the Regulations, for the purpose of exempting the Permit Holder from the prohibitions on operations or activities referred to in Regulation 24(2) and 26(2) of the same Regulations to artificially breed and re-introduce specimens of *Apis mellifera ruttneri*, for the purpose of re-populating in line with Regulation 44(d) of the said Regulations.

The activities 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
Application NP 0090/20	17 th February 2020
Permit Issued	18 th March 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
Setting up and maintenance of a bee mating station	Setting up and maintenance as per approved document NP 0090/20/8A	(i) setting up and maintenance of a mating station of <i>Apis mellifera ruttneri</i> specimens

Site

2. The activities authorised under condition 1 shall be carried out in site as marked on the approved site plan NP 0090/20/7A.

Conditions of Activity/Work

3. Activities are to be held according to the approved Project Description Statement NP 0090/20/8A.
4. Installation of the apiaries shall be limited to the area marked on site plan NP 0090/20/7A and shall be carried out in accordance with the approved document NP 0090/20/8A.
5. All works shall be carried out between sunrise and sunset. No lighting shall be installed on site.
6. All vehicles used shall be driven exclusively on existing roads, and in doing so shall not trample upon any indigenous vegetation at the border of or within the road. Access to the aviaries shall be strictly on foot.
7. All activities shall take place within existing paths and clearings void of vegetation, whether dead or alive. Ruderal grass in the near vicinity may be cut once a year when it is dry.
8. Construction, operation and dismantling of the apiaries shall not result in any damage to and disturbance of the natural habitats, trees and species on site. Interventions on trees shall not be carried out unless permitted accordingly by ERA.
9. Construction and operation activities shall not involve any excavation or laying of material or concrete foundations.
10. Once the project is completed, all structures are to be removed within three months of completion and the land is to be restored to its previous condition by removing all traces of the activity.
11. 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

12. Any waste material 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).
13. 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.
14. 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.

15. 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.
16. 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;
 - 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 other than those being permitted;
 - 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.
17. ERA may request updates and/or further information on the activity in question as deemed necessary.
18. 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.
19. The Authority may add, amend, suspend or revoke this Permit or part of this permit in cases of fraud, where public safety or significant environmental damage or risk is concerned, where there is an error on the face of the record or where there is a breach of one or more permit conditions after a written warning is given by the Authority or in any eventuality that gives the Authority enough reason to suspend or revoke this Permit.
20. 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.

21. 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>.

22. Any accidental handling, capture or collection of specimens or part thereof, whether dead or alive, of species listed within Schedule V and VI, and endemic species not listed in Schedule X of the Flora, Fauna and Natural Habitats Protection Regulations (S.L. 549.44) shall be reported on nature.permitting@era.org.mt within seven (7) days of sampling of the specimen provided that the permit holder may only keep such specimen or part thereof for scientific research purposes. The Authority may request additional information from the permit holder, including but not limited to, an application for authorisation for the keeping of such specimens or samples.

23. The Authority may add, amend, delete or substitute any of the conditions of this Permit after notifying the Permit Holder of its intention and after describing the changes to the Permit Holder. This is without prejudice to any prevailing circumstances that would preclude the Authority from following such a procedure.

24. The Authority may suspend or revoke this environmental permit in line with the provisions of CAP 549.

25. 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.

26. 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.

27. In accordance with Regulation 47 of S.L. 549.44, 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.

28. 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.

29. 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.

30. 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.

31. Whenever there is a conflict between the conditions of this Permit and approved documents, the conditions of the permit shall prevail.
32. 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.
33. 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.
34. 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.
35. 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.

