

## Environmental Permit

Environment Protection Act (CAP. 549)

Permit number:

**NP 0319/20**

Approved documents

**NP 0319/20/1B**

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:

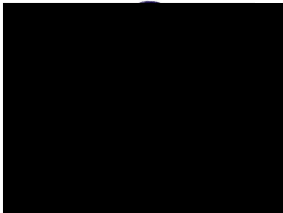
Ms Claudette Gambin obo Ambjent Malta (hereinafter “the Permit Holder”),  
Of / Whose Registered Office (or principal place of business) is at

**Ta’ Qali National Park,  
Ta’ Qali.**

to plant *Tamarix africana* specimens at

**Żonqor Point,  
Inwadar National Park**

The validity of this permit is **for one (1) year**. 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>Dr. Aimee Brincat Deputy Director Environment and Resources Directorate F/ Director Environment and Resources</p>	<p>Permit Granted: 17/09/ 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) and Regulation 3(1) of the Establishment of the Park Nazzjonali tal-Inwadar Regulations, 2019 (S.L. 549.109), hereinafter referred to as the Regulations, for the purpose of the activities and works that shall be carried out within the Natura 2000 site of Park Nazzjonali tal-Inwadar.

The activity 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 0319/20</i>	13/07/2020
<i>Permit Granted</i>	17/09/2020

### Permitted Activities

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

Activity	Description of specified activity	Limits of specified activity
Planting of trees	As described in the approved project description statement NP 0319/20/1B	(i) Planting of fifteen (15) <i>Tamarix africana</i> specimens

### Site

2. The activities authorised under condition 1 shall be affected in the location as marked on the approved site plan NP 0319/20/1B.

### Conditions of Activity/Work

3. Activities are to be held according to the approved Project Description Statement NP 0319/20/1B unless otherwise specified in these permit conditions.
4. No new access points are to be created on site.
5. The permit holder shall ensure that disturbance of any specimen of protected species or to protected habitats is 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.

6. Access and parking of any vehicles used for works shall be kept to existing surfaced roads. Access on natural areas including rocky ground and agricultural land is not allowed. Off-road driving and creation of temporary or permanent access routes, irrespective whether intentional or accidental is prohibited.
7. No heavy machinery shall be made use of and works shall be carried out manually insofar as possible.
8. The use of machinery shall be limited to hand-held tools and bowsers for irrigation as specified in approved method statement NP 0319/20/1B. The access of machinery should be limited to roads and beaten earth tracks which are wide enough to allow access to such machinery present in the target area and such machinery should not be allowed on garigue/ steppe and any other natural habitats.

The machinery shall:

- a. be in a good state of maintenance and in any case do not leak oils or other polluting fluids;
  - b. be stored overnight in such a manner to avoid any accidents;
  - c. be refuelled in such a manner to avoid spillage; and
  - d. not be washed on site.
9. No interventions or disturbance shall be carried out on any native species which are already present at the planting sites.
  10. Planting of trees on site shall take place in accordance with approved method statement NP 0319/20/1B in a random manner. Planted trees shall be appropriately spaced in accordance with good arboricultural practice to allow space for the trees to grow.  
  
The Authority shall be notified immediately should any of specimens identified in the approved method statement in line within this condition, not be planted on site, quoting reasons for deviations from the approved plan.
  11. The specimens to be planted shall all be of local stock.
  12. Following planting of the trees, rotavation of the soil on site is only allowed up to the first autumn following the planting. No rotavation of soil shall be carried out thereafter, except for limited removal of any ruderal plants growing directly around the individual planted trees and shrubs. Such removal shall be carried out without the use of machinery and only using hand held tools.
  13. The permit holder shall ensure that pruning of the planted trees and shrubs shall be carried out, this for the sole purpose of eliminating deceased branches and any other branches so as to ensure enough aeration in the middle of the canopy, thus reducing risk of deceases. Such pruning shall be carried out as necessary, or as directed by ERA.
  14. Planting shall take place in a random fashion.
  15. All works shall be carried out between sunrise and sunset.

## **General Conditions**

16. 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.
17. The permit holder shall keep in his possession a copy of the Nature Permits at any time during each session involving the use of traps or handling of specimens.
18. 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.
19. 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;
  - c. cutting or damaging of reeds, tree branches etc;
  - d. introduction, removal, significant movement and re-engineering, and/or collection of sand, shingle, stone, soil and/or sediment;
  - e. excavation works and any physical modification of the vegetation cover, the ground and landform of the site and its surroundings;
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. 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.
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](mailto: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. 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.
23. 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](mailto: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.
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:
- Any change in the Permit Holder's trading name, registered name or registered office address;
  - 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 Permit Holder may request to transfer an environment permit. The permit shall not be transferred from the Permit Holder without prior approval from the Authority. Upon the Authority's decision to transfer the permit to the transferee, all rights, obligations, liabilities shall subsist onto the transferee.
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. The Authority may carry out regular pre-set or unannounced compliance or monitoring checks that vary in frequency according to the site's compliance with the permit conditions and safeguarding of natural assets. Any checks or audits carried out by the Authority may be made at the Permit Holder's financial expense at rate and arrangement communicated by ERA's Compliance and Enforcement Directorate. 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 granting date. The Permit Holder may apply for a renewal to this Permit expressing his/her intention at least one (1) month 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 party may appeal from this decision to the Environment and Planning Review Tribunal in accordance with Article 63 of the Environment Protection Act and with the provisions of the Environment and Planning Review Tribunal Act.

METHOD STATEMENT  
FOR  
LAND AT ŻONQOR POINT





## 1. PROJECT DESCRIPTION

This project is aimed at the planting of 12 – 15 *Tamarix africana* trees in a specific site at Żonqor Point, located within the Nwadar National and Cultural Heritage Park.

Planting shall take place during autumn 2020.

## 2. SITE DESCRIPTION

The specific site where the trees will be planted is outlined in red in the figure below.



Figure 1: Aerial photo showing location of the site that will be restored (more detail will be found in site plans)

## 3. OWNERSHIP

The site to be restored is government owned land.

## 4. PLANTING

The site consists of coastal rock with pockets of soil. *Tamarix africana*, which is a salt and wind tolerant species, will be planted only in areas where enough soil is present.

The machinery that shall be utilised for planting shall consist of hand tools. On this site, planting shall be carried out mostly by hand because the soil is found in pockets within the coastal rock. No other machinery shall be utilised for planting. Existing paths shall be utilised to reach the areas to be planted.

Irrigation shall be by bowser. No structural works shall be carried out on site and no new permanent infrastructure shall be constructed.

Once the trees are planted, the site will continue to be managed by individuals appointed by the Nwadar National Park Governance Board. Maintenance and monitoring works shall comprise:

1. Regular irrigation of the trees for the first three years from planting in order to ensure that they become well established.
2. Monitoring of the health status of the trees and shrubs.