



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 MT0000012
SITENAME Wied il-Mizieb

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1. SITE IDENTIFICATION

1.1 Type B	1.2 Site code MT0000012	Back to top
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1.3 Site name

Wied il-Mizieb

1.4 First Compilation date 2004-04	1.5 Update date 2018-05
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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:	2004-04
Date site confirmed as SCI:	2008-03
Date site designated as SAC:	2016-12
National legal reference of SAC designation:	Government Notice No. 1379 of 2016, in accordance with the Flora, Fauna and Natural Habitats Protection Regulations, 2016 (S.L. 549.44)

2. SITE LOCATION

2.1 Site-centre location [decimal degrees]:

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Longitude 14.3629 **Latitude** 35.9526

2.2 Area [ha]:

24.65

2.3 Marine area [%]

0.0

2.4 Sitelength [km]:

0.0

2.5 Administrative region code and name

NUTS level 2 code

Region Name

MT00	Malta
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2.6 Biogeographical Region(s)

Mediterranean (100.0 %)

3. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

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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
3170 B			0.09		M	B	B	B	B
5410 B			9.12		G	B	B	B	B
9320 B			0.5		G	B	C	B	B
9570 B			0.79		G	A	A	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

Species					Population in the site						Site assessment			
G	Code	Scientific Name	S	NP	T	Size		Unit	Cat.	D. qual.	A B C D	A B C		
						Min	Max				Pop.	Con.	Iso.	Glo.
P	4102	Anacamptis urvilleana			p				R	P	C	B	A	B
P	4092	Elatine gussonei			p				P	DD	C	B	A	C
M	5005	Myotis punicus			p				P	DD	C	C	A	C
P	4105	Ophrys melitensis			p				R	P	C	C	A	B
R	6095	Zamenis situla			p				P	P	C	B	A	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

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4.1 General site character

Habitat class	% Cover
N08	58.26
N10	0.61
N23	5.19
N27	29.53
N06	0.37
N09	5.84
N26	0.2
Total Habitat Cover	100

Other Site Characteristics

The most important community at this site is the Maltese National Tree *Tetraclinis articulata* maquis. The highest individuals have a height of approximately 6m and are growing at altitudes of up to 140m. Most are found growing in fissures of rocky slopes in the area. Apart from the *Tetraclinis maquis*, other maquis communities exist in the area, dominated by Carob, with *Pistacia lentiscus*, *Prunus dulcis*, *Rhamnus oleoides*, *Ficus carica* and *Olea europaea*.

4.2 Quality and importance

A part of this site constitutes a *Tetraclinis articulata* community. It is Malta's largest known population of *Tetraclinis articulata*, Malta's National Tree, a locally endangered tree that has a restricted distribution in the Maltese Islands. It is considered to be an important community in the Maltese archipelago, especially as very few such trees still survive in the wild and are only found on mainland Malta; also, its geographical range is very restricted across Europe as it is only found in Malta and in a locality in the area of Cartagena (S.Spain) (but it is also present in N.W. Africa). *Tetraclinis maquis* is often referred to as a dominant vegetational assemblage in the past, possibly suggesting that the Wied il-Mizieb *Tetraclinis maquis* is the last remnant of an assemblage that previously covered much larger areas of the islands and that were then replaced by a different form of maquis dominated by other species, possibly as a result of cultivation of olive (*Olea europaea*). It is significant to note that a considerable number of plant communities can be found growing in the area. The Phrygana habitat present in the area consists mainly of *Anthyllis hermanniae* subsp. *melitensis*, while the Pre-desert Scrub habitat is based on *Periploca angustifolia* and *Euphorbia melitensis*. Various plants occur within these communities, including: *Carlina involucrata*, *Erica multiflora*, *Euphorbia melitensis*, *Rhamnus oleoides*, *Periploca angustifolia*, *Asparagus aphyllus*, *Ceratonia siliqua*, *Chiliadenus bocconei*, *Ficus carica*, *Opuntia ficus-indica* (well-established alien), *Pistacia lentiscus*, *Senecio bicolor*, *Teucrium fruticans* and *Thymbra capitata*, with *Andropogon distachyus*, *Brachypodium retusum*, *Piptatherum caerulescens* (endangered; restricted distribution across the Maltese Islands), and *Hypparhenia hirta* amongst the grasses and *Asphodelus aestivus* and *Drimia maritima* (= *Urginea pancration*) amongst the geophytes. Fauna associated with *Tetraclinis* include insects, crustacea, arachnids, molluscs, gastropods, and vertebrates (although further studies are required). These include the endemic and endangered beetle *Torneuma strictum*, for which this site represents the type locality; it is found in soil at 10-30cm depth under *Tetraclinis articulata*. Another vulnerable endemic with a restricted distribution in the Maltese Islands, namely *Microptinus melitensis*, is known from leaf litter under *Tetraclinis articulata*. Also known from the area is the frequent endemic homopteran *Aleurolobus teucreei*, a species monophagous on *Teucrium fruticans*. *Maniola jurtina hyperhispulla* and *Papilio machaon melitensis*, both reported as endemic lepidoptera, are also known from the area. Other species include the endemic snail *Trochoidea spratti*, and *Hemidactylus turcicus*, *Chamaeleo chamaeleon*, *Elaphe situla* and *Podarcis filfolensis maltensis* amongst the herpetofauna of Wied il-Mizieb. The bat species *Myotis punicus* is reported from the area. It is a vulnerable species in the Maltese Islands, and is nationally and internationally protected. Another bat species that is nationally protected and which has been recorded from this site is *Pipistrellus pygmaeus*, which is also a vulnerable species in the Maltese Islands.

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]

Positive Impacts			
Rank	Activities, management [code]	Pollution (optional) [code]	inside/outside [i o b]

L	D02.01		b
L	E03.01		i
L	K01.01		i
L	A08		i
L	A07		i
L	E01		o
M	I01		i
L	E03.03		i
L	D01.01		i
M	A10		i
L	J01		o
L	F03.01		i
L	E04.01		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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	Name: Wied il-Mizieb Link: https://era.org.mt/en/Pages/Natura-2000-Management-Planning.aspx
<input type="checkbox"/> No, but in preparation	
<input 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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