



MAL019 - Wied Qannotta

Description

Wied Qannotta is a tributary of the Wied il-Ghasel system, located in northern Malta, within the limits of Saint Pauls Bay. Throughout the valley there are two separate dams, however only one of them stores water as the other had been damaged during the October 1979 floods. The valley is accessible by an unsurfaced road. The site covers an approximate area of 3,880m². The site is predominantly surrounded by agricultural land with pipelines scattered throughout indicating the site is still being used for irrigation purposes.

Several watercourse species had been noted including *Scirpoides holoschoenus*, *bolboschoenus maritimus*, *Rumex conglomeratus* and *Lythrum junceum*. Further along the watercourse, at higher terrain, the vegetation along the valley sides and within the valley included typical valley and maquis species including *Rubus ulmifolius*, *Prunus dulcis*, *Rhamnus* sp. At the northern-end of the site, a reedbed of *Phragmites australis* was dominating the area.

General information

Basic information

Wetland location:	Inland
Wetland type:	Artificial
Natural / Artificial:	Dam lake
Area (Ha):	0.40
Hydrological interaction with other wetland:	Yes - MAL008
Water salinity:	Fresh (< 0.5 g/l)
Fresh water entry:	Catchment area (precipitation)
Surface water runoff:	Outflow controlled by dam
Open water area (%):	26 - 50
Hydroperiod:	Permanent

Geographic information

Census district:	Northern
Island:	Malta
Local council:	San Pawl Il-Bahar
Coordinates (WGS84):	14.395470 E - 35.933460 N

Biological significance

Biological significance:	Medium
---------------------------------	--------

Ramsar wetland types

Ramsar type	Coverage (%)
6 -- Water storage areas; reservoirs/barrages/dams/impoundments (generally over 8 ha)	

Property status

Private

Protection statuses & other designations

Ecosystem Services, Activities & Impacts

Ecosystem Services

Type of Ecosystem service	Ecosystem service	Scale of Benefit	Importance
Cultural services	Recreation and tourism		
Provisioning services	Fresh water		
Supporting services	Nutrient cycling		
Supporting services	Provision of habitat		

Activities on wetland

Activities	Intensity
020 = Resource conservation	High
852 = modifying structures of inland water courses	High
910 = Silting up	High
952 = eutrophication	Low
954 = invasion by a species	Medium

Activities on drainage basin

Activities	Intensity
101 = modification of cultivation practices	Medium
162 = artificial planting	Medium
230 = Hunting	Low
430 = Agricultural structures	Low
710 = Noise nuisance	Medium
852 = modifying structures of inland water courses	High
910 = Silting up	High
952 = eutrophication	High

Impacts

Impact type	Intensity
ER- = Increase in flow regulation	
ES- = Increase in water supply	
PF- = Fertilizer/Excess nutrient pollution	
PP- = Pesticide pollution	
VCD = Loss of floral diversity	

Habitats & Vegetation

Vegetation types

Vegetation type	Coverage (%)
Emergent	51 - 75
Other	
Shrubby / Arborescent	

Submerged	26 - 50
Submerged	
Wet meadow	

Species

Flora

Species	Dominance	Reference
Arundo donax		
Bolboschoenus maritimus		
Carex divisa		
Chara sp.		
Eleocharis palustris		
Juncus articulatus		
Juncus hybridus		
Lythrum junceum		
Mentha pulegium		
Phragmites australis		
Polypogon monspeliensis		
Prunus dulcis		
Ranunculus trichophyllus		
Rhamnus sp.		
Rubus ulmifolius		
Rumex conglomeratus		
Rumex sanguineus		
Schedonorus arundinaceus		
Scirpus holoschoenus		
Typha domingensis		
Veronica anagallis-aquatica		

Fauna

Birds	Population	Nesting status	References
Hirundapus caudacutus (Latham, 1802)			
Streptopelia decaocto (Frivaldszky, 1838)			
Acrocephalus schoenobaenus (Linnaeus, 1758)			
Cisticola juncidis (Rafinesque, 1810)			
Ficedula hypoleuca (Pallas, 1764)			
Lanius senator (Linnaeus, 1758)			
Luscinia megarhynchos (C.LinnaeusBrehm, 1831)			
Monticola solitarius (Linnaeus, 1758)			
Muscicapa striata (Pallas, 1764)			
Oriolus kundoo			
Phoenicurus phoenicurus (Linnaeus, 1758)			
Saxicola rubetra (Linnaeus, 1758)			
Sylvia borin (Boddaert, 1783)			
Sylvia melanocephala (J.F. Gmelin, 1789)			

References

Haslam, S.M. (2007) Wetland loss in the Maltese Islands

Representative Image & Map



