



MAL037 - Il-Wilga tal-Hemsija

Description

Il-Wilga tal-Hemsija is an artificially constructed pond, intended for flood prevention and water storage, located within western Malta between Mdina and Attard. Cement culverts had been constructed in order to divert water from Wied ta' Hemsija and nearby surfaced roads into the pond. The pond is not accessible by the public as there are no pathways and it covers an approximate area of 1,230m². The pond is predominantly surrounded by agricultural land, however, there were no pipelines present indicating it is being used for irrigation. The pond's basin was dominated by *Arundo donax*, *Ricinus communis* and *Rumex conglomeratus* with a few *Ceratonia siliqua* specimens around the basin. The site is located in the Mdina Area of High Landscape Chadwick Lakes and part of the Mdina Area of High Landscape Value.

General information

Basic information

Wetland location:	Inland
Wetland type:	Artificial
Natural / Artificial:	Reservoir
Area (Ha):	0.10
Hydrological interaction with other wetland:	Yes - MAL038/MAL039
Water salinity:	Fresh (< 0.5 g/l)
Fresh water entry:	Torrent / Stream - Unconfined aquifer
Surface water runoff:	There is no obvious water outflow
Open water area (%):	76 - 95
Hydroperiod:	Permanent

Geographic information

Census district:	Western
Island:	Malta
Local council:	L-Imdina
Coordinates (WGS84):	14.409190 E - 35.888260 N

Biological significance

Biological significance:	Low
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Ramsar wetland types

Ramsar type	Coverage (%)
2 -- Ponds; includes farm ponds, stock ponds, small tanks; (generally below 8 ha)	

Property status

Public

Protection statuses & other designations

Protection status

Protection status category	Protection status subcategory	Site name	Code	Coverage (%)	Legislation
National	Area of High Landscape Value	Mdina	555546305	100	Development Planning Act (Act VII of 2016)

CDDA protection status

CDDA code	Category
MT15	Area of High Landscape Value

Ecosystem Services, Activities & Impacts

Ecosystem Services

Type of Ecosystem service	Ecosystem service	Scale of Benefit	Importance
Cultural services	Recreation and tourism		
Provisioning services	Food		
Provisioning services	Fresh water		
Regulatory services	Flood hazard regulation		
Regulatory services	Water purification		

Activities on wetland

Activities	Intensity
020 = Resource conservation	High
130 = Irrigation	High
701 = water pollution	High
910 = Silting up	Medium

Activities on drainage basin

Activities	Intensity
100 = Cultivation	High
110 = Use of pesticides	High
120 = Fertilisation	High
130 = Irrigation	High
230 = Hunting	Low
502 = roads motorways	High
701 = water pollution	High
830 = Canalisation	High
910 = Silting up	Medium
954 = invasion by a species	Medium

Impacts

Impact type	Intensity
EB- = Increase in aesthetic qualities	
ED- = Increase in sediment removal/retention	
ER- = Increase in flow regulation	
ES- = Increase in water supply	
PF- = Fertilizer/Excess nutrient pollution	
PP- = Pesticide pollution	

Habitats & Vegetation

Vegetation types

Vegetation type	Coverage (%)
Emergent	5 - 25
Other	5 - 25
Shrubby / Arborescent	< 5

Species

Flora

Species	Dominance	Reference
Arundo donax		
Ceratonia siliqua		
Ricinus communis		
Rumex conglomeratus		

References

Representative Image & Map

