



MAL075 - Tal-Isqof 2

Description

Tal-Isqof is an artificial pond inside a quarry, located in south-western Malta within Mqabba. The quarry is still actively being used, and the pond within it has two different water levels; deep areas which were full of water and shallower areas which contain water as a large puddle. The pond covers an approximate area of 1,380m². The site is located on privately-owned land. Two water pipes are present within the pond. It is not clear whether they are used to maintain water levels within the pond or to remove excess water once full capacity is reached. Within the pond decoys were visible, indicating the site was being used to attract other birds for hunting activities. The pond holds a small population of *Phragmites australis* and *Typha domingensis* both within the pond and around its basin. The site is not protected by any legislation.

General information

Basic information

Wetland location:	Inland
Wetland type:	Artificial
Natural / Artificial:	Excavations/gravel/brick/clay pit pool
Area (Ha):	0.10
Hydrological interaction with other wetland:	No -
Water salinity:	Fresh (< 0.5 g/l)
Fresh water entry:	Catchment area (precipitation)
Surface water runoff:	There is no obvious water outflow
Open water area (%):	76 - 95
Hydroperiod:	Permanent

Geographic information

Census district:	South Eastern
Island:	Malta
Local council:	L-Imqabba
Coordinates (WGS84):	14.474510 E - 35.848850 N

Biological significance

Biological significance:	Low
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Ramsar wetland types

Ramsar type	Coverage (%)
7 -- Excavations; gravel/brick/clay pits; borrow pits, mining pools	

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		
Regulatory services	Water regulation		

Activities on wetland

Activities	Intensity
301 = quarries	Medium
920 = Drying out	Medium

Activities on drainage basin

Activities	Intensity
301 = quarries	High
410 = Industrial or commercial areas	Medium
412 = industrial stockage	High
419 = other industrial / commercial areas	Medium
440 = Storage of materials	Medium
501 = paths tracks cycling tracks	Low
800 = Landfill land reclamation and drying out	Medium

Impacts

Impact type	Intensity
ES- = Increase in water supply	

Habitats & Vegetation

Vegetation types

Vegetation type	Coverage (%)
Emergent	

Species

Flora

Species	Dominance	Reference
Phragmites australis		

References

Representative Image & Map

