



MAL092 - Malta Freeport

Description

Malta Freeport is an old artificially constructed reservoir, intended for water storage and flood prevention, located in southern Malta within Birżebbuġa. The reservoir was mechanically excavated and has had its border extended via the use of limestone blocks. The site covers an approximate area of 1,370m². The reservoir is accessible to the public by surfaced roads. A car park lies to the north and south of the site, a boatyard lies to the west whilst offices are located on the east. The reservoir is currently being used to store water from the nearby road surfaces, as a flood mitigation measure, and there is no indication if it is being used for irrigation. A small number of *Ficus carica* and *Salix alba* are growing within the basin.

General information

Basic information

Wetland location:	Inland
Wetland type:	Artificial
Natural / Artificial:	Reservoir
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:	Other
Open water area (%):	> 95
Hydroperiod:	Permanent

Geographic information

Census district:	South Eastern
Island:	Malta
Local council:	Birżebbuġa
Coordinates (WGS84):	14.530470 E - 35.817210 N

Biological significance

Biological significance:	Low
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Ramsar wetland types

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

Property status

Public

Protection statuses & other designations

Ecosystem Services, Activities & Impacts

Ecosystem Services

Type of Ecosystem service	Ecosystem service	Scale of Benefit	Importance
Regulatory services	Flood hazard regulation		

Activities on wetland

Activities	Intensity
020 = Resource conservation	High
701 = water pollution	High
790 = Other pollution/human impacts/activities	Medium
952 = eutrophication	Low

Activities on drainage basin

Activities	Intensity
504 = port areas	High
710 = Noise nuisance	Low

Impacts

Impact type	Intensity
EE- = Increase of economic potential	
ES- = Increase in water supply	
PF- = Fertilizer/Excess nutrient pollution	
PP- = Pesticide pollution	

Habitats & Vegetation

Vegetation types

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

Species

Flora

Species	Dominance	Reference
Capparis spinosa		
Ficus carica		
Salix alba		

References

Representative Image & Map



