



## MAL097 - Il-Blata tal-Melh 2

### Description

Il-Blata tal- Melh are a series of interconnected salt pans, located in the northern of Malta, within the limits of Rabat. It is unclear whether the salt pans are still actively in use. The site is predominantly surrounded by natural habitat with a handful of active agricultural land. Due to the surrounding coastal cliffs, the salt pans are classified as an Area of Ecological Importance under G.N. 400/96 and Area of High Landscape Value under G.N. No. 903/15 – GF 124/08. il-Qlejgħa Cave is also situated in close proximity to the site with a Class B Degree of Protection.

### General information

#### Basic information

<b>Wetland location:</b>	Marine/Coastal
<b>Wetland type:</b>	Artificial
<b>Natural / Artificial:</b>	Saline
<b>Area (Ha):</b>	1.00
<b>Hydrological interaction with other wetland:</b>	No -
<b>Water salinity:</b>	Salty (> 18.0 g/l)
<b>Fresh water entry:</b>	Catchment area (precipitation)
<b>Surface water runoff:</b>	Other
<b>Open water area (%):</b>	76 - 95
<b>Hydroperiod:</b>	Permanent

#### Geographic information

<b>Census district:</b>	Western
<b>Island:</b>	Malta
<b>Local council:</b>	Ir-Rabat
<b>Coordinates (WGS84):</b>	14.329950 E - 35.895770 N

#### Biological significance

<b>Biological significance:</b>	Low
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#### Ramsar wetland types

Ramsar type	Coverage (%)
5 -- Salt exploitation sites; salt pans, salines, etc.	

#### Property status

Public
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## Protection statuses & other designations

### Protection status

Protection status category	Protection status subcategory	Site name	Code	Coverage (%)	Legislation
National	Area of Ecological Importance	Irdumijiet Ta' Madwar il-Kosta mic-Cirkewwa sa Benghisa	174729	100	Development Planning Act (Act VII of 2016)
National	Area of High Landscape Value	Diversi Rdumijiet	555546316	100	Development Planning Act (Act VII of 2016)
International	Special Areas of Conservation - International Importance	Rdumijiet ta' Malta	330728	100	Environment Protection Act (Act I of 2016)
International	Special Protection Areas	Rdumijiet ta' Malta: Ras il-Pellegrin sax-Xaqqa	555552413	100	Environment Protection Act (Act I of 2016)
International	Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas	Il-Kullana to ta' Gifen Cliffs	MT008	100	
Other	Scheduling - Archaeology	Il-Qlejgha AAI		100	

### CDDA protection status

CDDA code	Category
MT01	Area of Ecological Importance
MT15	Area of High Landscape Value
MT11	Special Areas of Conservation - International Importance
MT13	Special Protection Areas

### Important bird areas

IBA Code	Site name	Coverage (%)
MT008	Il-Kullana to ta' Gifen Cliffs	100

## Ecosystem Services, Activities & Impacts

### Ecosystem Services

Type of Ecosystem service	Ecosystem service	Scale of Benefit	Importance
Cultural services	Cultural heritage		
Supporting services	Provision of habitat		

### Activities on wetland

Activities	Intensity
020 = Resource conservation	High
920 = Drying out	High

### Activities on drainage basin

Activities	Intensity
220 = Leisure fishing	Low
220 = Leisure fishing	Medium

### Impacts

Impact type	Intensity
EB- = Increase in aesthetic qualities	
EE- = Increase of economic potential	
EF- = Increase in protection from natural forces	
EO- = Increase potential for natural products	
EU- = Increase of tourist/recreation potential	

## Habitats & Vegetation

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## Species

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## References

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## Representative Image & Map

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