

Setting Management Measures for MPAs in Malta



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Introduction

1. Maltese MPAs
2. Management measures: why and how



The MPAs

- Birds Directive
 - SPAs (Bird MPAs) (8 inshore/offshore)
- Habitats Directive (MPAs)
 - pSCIs (3 offshore)
 - SCIs (5 inshore)
 - SACs (none)



The Designation Process

Collection and analysis of data

Identification of borders

Preparation of documentation

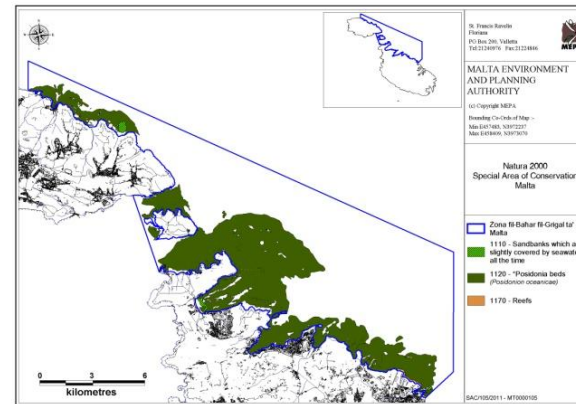
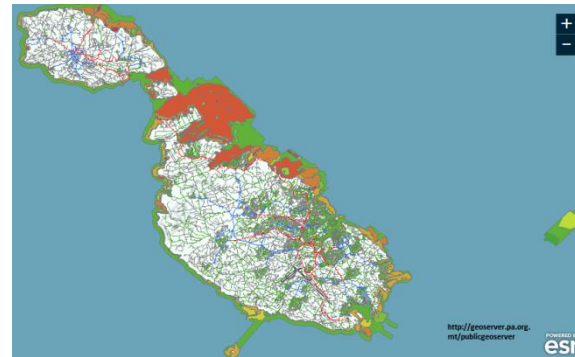
Submission to MESDC

Presentation to Parliament

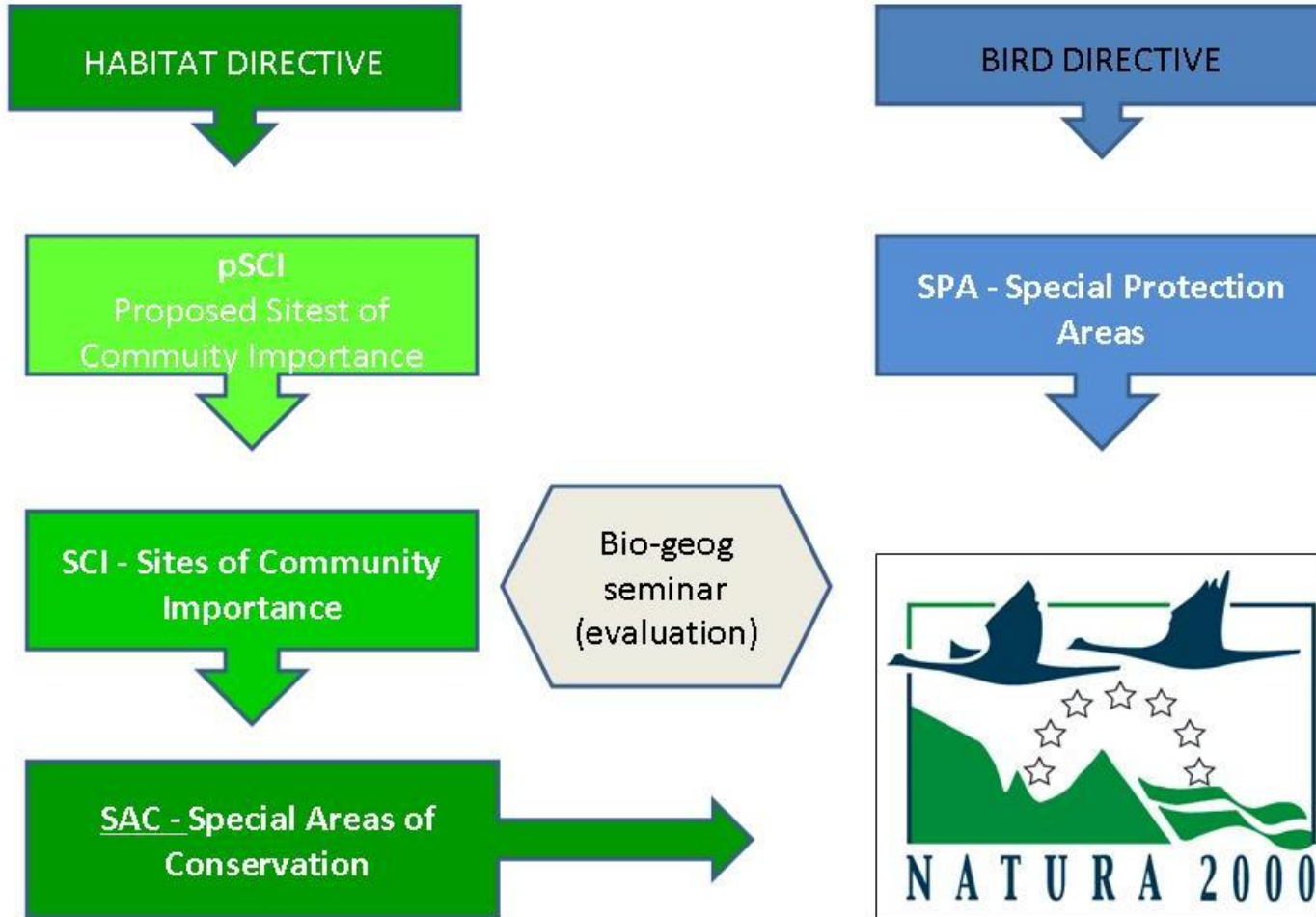
Law

Documentation sent to EU Env.

Commission



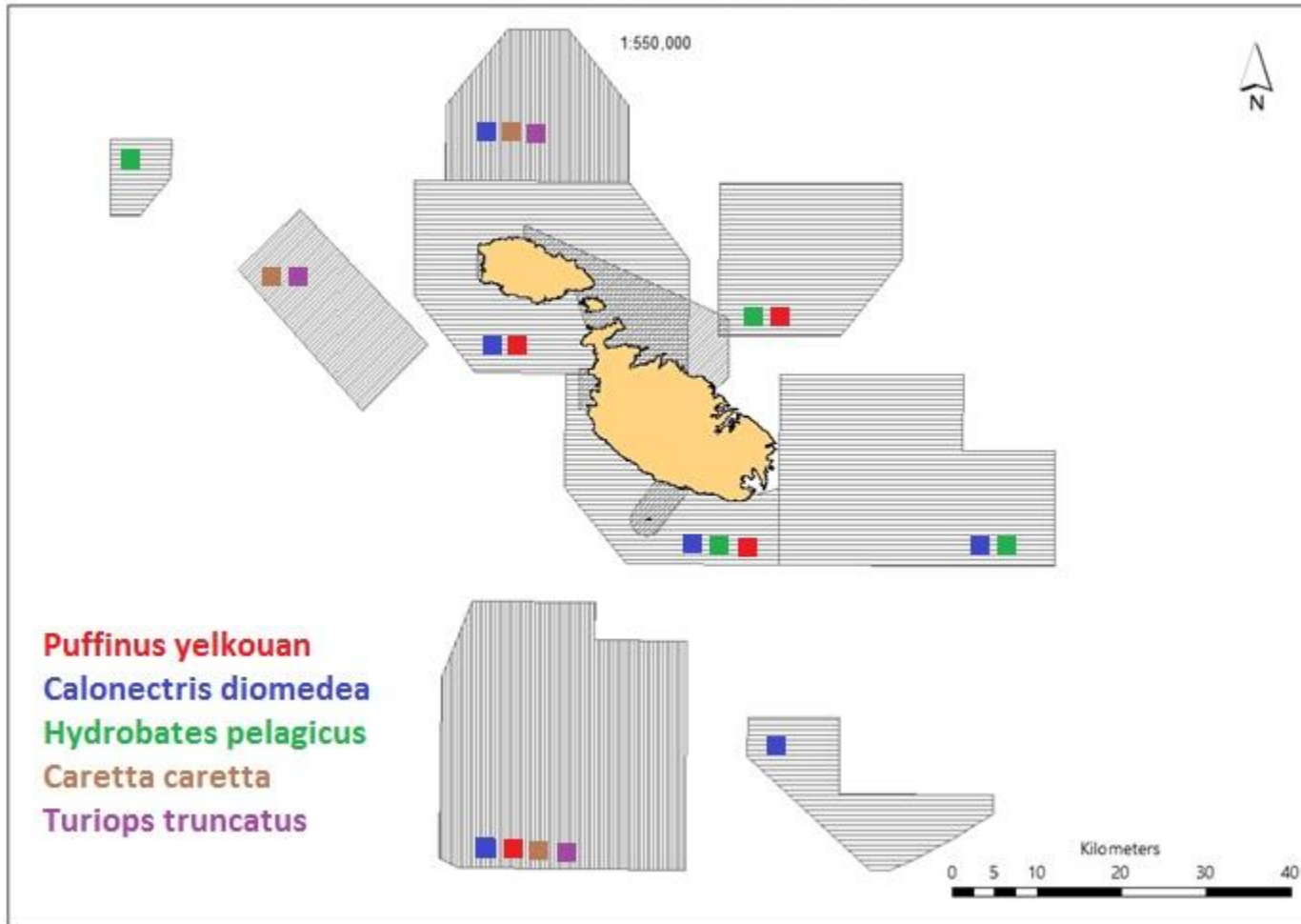
The EU Process



<http://ngonatura2000.blogspot.be/2010/07/natura-2000-protection-of-european.html>

Protected Areas Features

Natura 2000 Marine Protected Areas



Protected Areas - Numbers

Site number	Site name	P	S	R	C	Gn	Py	Cd	Hp	Cc	Tt	Year designated	Area (km ²)
MT0000101	Il-Bahar bejn Rdum Majjiesa u Ras ir-Raheb											2008	848.70
MT0000102	Il-Bahar fl-inhawi ta' Ghar Lapsi u Filfla											2010	2450.50
MT0000103	Il-Bahar fl-inhawi tad-Dwejra											2010	228.60
MT0000104	Il-Bahar fl-inhawi ta' Mgarr ix-Xini											2010	30.60
MT0000105	Il-Bahar fil-Grigal ta' Malta											2010	15519.40
MT0000107	Il-Bahar tal-Grigal											2016	35194.41
MT0000108	Il-Bahar tal-Lvant											2016	62559.14
MT0000109	Il-Bahar tax-Xlokk											2016	21934.06
MT0000111	Il-Bahar tal-Lbic											2016	25629.71
MT0000112	Il-Bahar ta' Madwar Ghawdex											2016	55684.96
MT0000114	Il-Bahar tal-Majjistral											2016	5592.66
MT0000113	Il-Bahar tal-Punent											2016	23105.55
MT0000106	Il-Bahar tat-Tramuntana											2016	31922.12
MT0000110	Il-Bahar ta Nofsinhar											2016	83541.39

Need for Measures

- ERA leading authority
- Legal requirement
- Efficacy of MPA
- Addressing pressures and threats
- Environmental benefits
- Ecosystem services
- Public and stakeholder perception

Setting the measures

- Socio-economic considerations
 - Public and inter-ministerial consultation
- Requirements of the protected features
 - To maintain or improve ecological status
- Dynamic approach
 - Regular monitoring and review

Status of Protected Features

- Historical records
 - Natural limitations
- Potential improvement
 - Area
 - Quality
 - Associated species
 - Variations
- Uses of the area

Setting Objectives

- Guide the management measures
- Involvement of stakeholders
- Short and long term
- Realistic (financial, practical and social)

The Public Consultation Process

Evaluation of available
information

Public
consultation

Set
vision

Site designation
process
completed

Draft
measures

Public
consultation

Approval

Public
consultation

Review measures

Consultees

- Government authorities
- Internal (ERA)
- eNGOs
- Representative stakeholders (users)
- Hunters
- General public

Team Awareness

- Listen Vs hearing
- Considering Vs skimming
- Justifying Vs ignoring
- Continuous Vs cosmetic

General Approach

- Collation of existing regulations
 - Ensuring no duplications
 - Ensuring awareness by enforcement officers and stakeholders
- SWOT
- Identification of simple actions that could lead to significant positive changes
- Identification of long-term effect actions
- Publicity

Management

- Management
 - Implementation of management measures
 - Explore involvement of stakeholders
 - Appropriate protection of the environment
- Indirect benefits
 - Studies to fill in knowledge gaps
 - Education and awareness raising; visitor management
 - Improved visitor experience

Conclusion



- ERA: www.era.org.mt
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