L.N. 164 of 2019

ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION ACT (CAP. 549)

Flora, Fauna and Natural Habitats Protection (Amendment) Regulations, 2019

IN EXERCISE of the powers conferred by articles 54 and 55 of the Environment Protection Act, the Minister for the Environment, Sustainable Development and Climate Change, after consultation with the Environment and Resources Authority has made the following regulations:

1. The title of these regulations is the Flora, Fauna and Title. Natural Habitats Protection (Amendment) Regulations, 2019 and these regulations shall be read and construed as one with the Flora, Fauna and Natural Habitats Protection Regulations, hereinafter referred to as "the principal regulations".

S.L.549.44.

2. Regulation 1 of the principal regulations shall be amended Amends as follows:

regulation 1 of the principal regulations.

- (a) for the marginal note thereof the words "Citation and entry into force." shall be substituted by the words "Citation.";
 - sub-regulations (2) and (3) thereof shall be deleted;
- sub-regulation (1) thereof shall be renumbered as (c) regulation 1.
- 3. In sub-regulation 3(b) of regulation 2 of the principal Amends regulations, the words "79/409/EEC of 2 April 1979" shall be regulation 2 of the principal substituted by the words "2009/147/EC of 30 November 2009".

regulations.

In regulation 3 of the principal regulations immediately Amends after the definition "sustainable use" there shall be added the following new definition:

regulation 3 of the principal regulations.

"Tribunal" means the Environment and Planning Review Tribunal as established in article 3 of the Environment and Planning Review Tribunal Act; "

Regulation 9 of the principal regulations shall be amended Amends 5. as follows:

regulation 9 of the principal regulations.

sub-regulation (2) thereof shall be amended as (a) follows:

- (i) paragraphs (c) and (d) shall be re-numbered as paragraphs (d) and (e) respectively; and
- (ii) immediately after paragraph (b) there shall be added the following new paragraph:
 - "(c) for the maintenance or restoration, at a favourable conservation status of species in Schedule III;"; and
- (b) immediately after sub-regulation (3) thereof there shall be added the following new sub-regulation:
- "(4) Without prejudice to sub-regulations (1) and (2), the competent authority may also propose sites of national importance in view of the ecological, geological and natural features of the site in line with the provisions of the Act.".

Amends regulation 11 of the principal regulations.

- **6.** Sub-regulation (1) of regulation 11 of the principal regulations, shall be substituted by the following:
 - "(1) Upon the identification by the competent authority of:
 - (a) a site as a new SAC or SPA; or
 - (b) an extension of an existing SAC or SPA,

in accordance with the provisions of regulations 9 and 10 as applicable, the details of such site or sites shall be published in the Gazette:

Provided that the details of a site which has already been identified in the Gazette through this regulation shall not require republication.".

Amends regulation 12 of the principal regulations.

- 7. Regulation 12 of the principal regulations shall be amended as follows:
 - (a) sub-regulation (1) thereof, shall be substituted by the following:
 - "(1) The competent authority shall also notify any one of the owners of:
 - (a) any site which has been designated as a new SAC or SPA; or
 - (b) any extension of an existing SAC or SPA,

of its inclusion in the list, and shall also affix such a copy of the notice on site. If none of such owners is known, or if it is not reasonably possible to effect service on such owners, the said notice shall only be affixed on site and no service on such owners as aforesaid need be made:

Provided that for extensions of existing SACs or SPAs the notification process shall be limited to those sites within the extension area.";

- (b) sub-regulations (2), (3) and (4) thereof shall be renumbered as sub-regulations (3), (4) and (5) respectively;
- (c) immediately after sub-regulation (1) thereof there shall be added the following new sub-regulation:
 - "(2) The requirement to notify owners of a site as provided under sub-regulation (1) shall not apply for sites for which such a notification process had already been carried out.";
- (d) in sub-regulation (4) thereof as re-numbered, the words "of more than one property" shall be substituted by the words "or more than one property"; and
- (e) in sub-regulation (5) thereof as re-numbered the words "This panel shall be affixed on the site by the 30^{th} November, 2015." shall be deleted.
- **8.** Sub-regulation (9) of regulation 14 of the principal Amends regulations shall be amended as follows:

Amends regulation 14 of the principal regulations.

- (a) the marginal note thereof shall be deleted; and
- (b) sub-regulation (9) shall be substituted with the following:
 - "(9) The competent authority may develop policies in respect of the conservation of the natural beauty and amenity of the land which are of major importance for wild fauna and flora, with a view to improving the ecological coherence of the National Ecological Network, the Natura 2000 Network and the Pan-European Ecological Network."
- 9. Sub-regulation (1) of regulation 15 of the principal Amends regulations shall be substituted by the following:

Amends regulation 15 of the principal regulations.

"(1) For the purposes of the management of protected sites, the competent authority may enter into a management agreement with every owner, lessee or occupier of land forming part of such areas for the management, conservation, restoration or protection of the site, or any part of it.".

Adds a new regulation to the principal regulations.

10. Immediately after regulation 15 of the principal regulations there shall be added the following new regulation:

"Additional powers.

- 15A. Without prejudice to any other regulation, the competent authority shall:
 - (a) ensure a streamline approach to management agreements, management plans and conservation orders;
 - (b) regulate the implementation of management agreements, management plans and conservation orders in line with the priorities of the concerned site, as established by the competent authority; and
 - (c) regularly review the implementation of management agreements, management plans and conservation orders, audit their progress, and adapt and renew them, as necessary.".

Amends regulation 17 of the principal regulations.

- **11.** Regulation 17 of the principal regulations shall be amended as follows:
 - (a) sub-regulations (3), (4) and (5) thereof shall be renumbered as sub-regulations (5), (6) and (7) respectively;
 - (b) sub-regulation (2) thereof shall be substituted by the following:
 - "(2) The competent authority shall publish such details of such a conservation order in the Gazette and on the competent authority's website. The competent authority shall also notify any one of the owners of any site subject of a conservation order, and shall also affix such a notice on site. If none of such owners is known, or if it is not reasonably possible to effect service on such owners, the said notice shall only be affixed on site and no service on such owners as aforesaid need be made. Notice of such conservation order shall be registered in an index held for that purpose. The said index shall be held in an electronic form in such a way that researches to determine whether a site is subject to an order may be carried out.";

- immediately after sub-regulation (2) thereof, there shall be added the following new sub-regulations:
 - "(3) The competent authority shall provide the details of the relevant protected sites under these regulations to the Lands Authority.
 - Upon request, the competent authority shall issue a certificate which indicates the status of a particular site on the payment of such fee as may be prescribed.";
- in sub-regulation (6) as renumbered thereof, the words "In respect of any site within a special conservation area," shall be substituted by the words "In respect of any site within a special area of conservation or a special protection area"; and
- in sub-regulation (7) thereof the words "of more than one property" shall be substituted by the words "or more than one property.".
- 12. Immediately after regulation 17 of the principal regulations Introduces a there shall be added the following new regulation 17A:

new regulation

"Protection Notice.

- The competent authority may issue a 17A. (1) protection notice in the Gazette to notify the public about the protection of a site for the conservation or protection of the environment through the protection of particular habitats, species or categories thereof, as well as other natural features within the site concerned.
- (2) The protection notice shall be published in the Gazette and on the competent authority's website and shall be valid for a definite or indefinite period, as stipulated in the protection notice itself.
- The protection notice may contain any condition or provision, as the competent authority may deem necessary, to ensure the conservation of the habitat, species, category or feature for which the notice was issued or to ensure that no further deterioration of such habitats, species or features occurs. Such conditions may include the control and eradication of invasive species, prohibitions on the carrying out of any activity and, or works in the concerned site.
- Any land owner who feels aggrieved by the issuance of a protection notice by the Authority, may appeal to the Tribunal for a revocation or modification of the concerned protection notice in accordance to the provisions of the Act.".

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Amends regulation 18 of the principal regulations.

- **13.** Regulation 18 of the principal regulations shall be amended as follows:
 - (a) sub-regulation (1) thereof shall be substituted by the following:

S.L. 549.42.

- "(1) Without prejudice to the provisions of the Conservation of Wild Birds Regulations, no person shall carry out in any site within a SAC or SPA, any operation or activity, unless the operation or activity is carried out, or caused or permitted to be carried out, by the owner or occupier of the site and one of them has given the competent authority written notice of a proposal to carry out the operation or activity, specifying its nature and the site on which it is proposed to carry it out and such proposal has been approved by the competent authority."; and
- (b) in sub-regulation (3) thereof the words "SAC" shall be substituted by the words "SAC or SPA".

Amends regulation 24 of the principal regulations.

- **14.** Sub-regulation (1) of regulation 24 of the principal regulations shall be substituted by the following:
 - "(1) No person shall deliberately pick, collect, cut, uproot, destroy or damage in any way any specimen of species of flora listed in Schedules V(b) and VI(b), or in any way create adverse conditions which could affect such specimens."

Amends regulation 25 of the principal regulations.

- **15.** Paragraph (a) of sub-regulation (1) of regulation 25 of the principal regulations shall be substituted by the following:
 - "(a) no person shall pursue, take or attempt to take, deliberately capture, kill or attempt to kill, deliberately destroy, keep, transport, by any method sell, buy, exchange, offer for sale or for exchange, import or export any specimens of species listed in the Schedules V(a) and VI(a), expect for those taken legally before their inclusion in the Schedules, and unless he is in possession of a prior official permit from the competent authority."

Amends regulation 26 of the principal regulations. **16.** In sub-regulation (1) of regulation 26 of the principal regulations, in the Maltese version only, the words "fl-Iskeda Xi" shall be substituted by the words "fl-Iskeda X".

Adds a new regulation to the principal regulations.

17. Immediately after regulation 26 of the principal regulations

there shall be added the following new regulation:

"Species protection notice.

- When the competent authority is of the 26A. (1) opinion that a species has an unfavourable conservation status or has a conservation status trend which is in decline, the competent authority may issue a species protection notice and may take further steps for the protection of such species as it deems necessary. The notice shall be valid for a definite or indefinite period, as stipulated in the species protection notice itself.
- Species protection notice made under this regulation may contain such conditions or other provisions as the competent authority may deem necessary or expedient for the protection of the species, which may include prohibitions on the carrying out activities and, or works which may potentially cause harm. The competent authority shall publish the details of such species protection notice in the Gazette and on the competent authority's website.".
- Regulation 27 of the principal regulations shall be amended regulation 27 of as follows:

the principal regulations.

- in sub-regulation (2) thereof, paragraphs (a) to (h) shall be renumbered as paragraphs (b) to (i) respectively;
- immediately before paragraph (b) thereof as (b) renumbered, there shall be added the following new paragraph:
 - issuance of the protection notice referred to in regulation 17A and species protection notice in regulation 26A;".
- Regulation 28 of the principal regulations shall be amended Amends as follows:

regulation 28 of the principal regulations

- in sub-regulation (3) thereof the words "publish a list of those species that are invasive or deemed to be invasive to Malta." shall be substituted by the words "publish a list of those species that are invasive or deemed to be invasive to Malta, known as the list of species which are detrimental to the environment.";
- sub-regulation (4) thereof shall be substituted by the following:
 - **(4)** Without prejudice to the Trade in Species of S.L. 549.38.

Fauna and Flora Regulations, no person shall import, transport, keep, breed, propagate, sow, plant, sell or exchange by any method, any of the species in the list mentioned in sub-regulation (3).";

- (c) sub-regulations (6) and (7) thereof shall be renumbered as sub-regulations (10) and (11) respectively;
- (d) immediately after sub-regulation (5) thereof there shall be added the following new sub-regulations:
 - "(6) The competent authority may, within such time as it determines, order any owner or occupier of a site in which invasive species are sited to remove, uproot, eradicate, kill or destroy any such specimen, where such removal would, in the authority's opinion, constitute an environmental improvement.
 - (7) The competent authority may request or issue a works method statement to ensure that an order issued under sub-regulation (6) is executed with minimal damage to biodiversity or to the surrounding environment.
 - (8) The competent authority may implement the required intervention, in part or in full, as it deems most appropriate, at the expense of the person who fails to comply with an order issued under sub-regulation (6).
 - (9) If the owner or occupier of the site where invasive species are located is unknown, the competent authority may publish the order in the Gazette and may implement the required intervention at its own expense after ninety (90) days from the publication of the order, without prejudice to its right to reclaim any expenses due in terms of sub-regulation (8) once such person is identified:

Provided that, in instances which require immediate action, the competent authority may implement the required intervention, in part or in full, as it deems most appropriate, without prejudice to its right to reclaim any expenses incurred once such person is identified.".

Amends regulation 31 of the principal regulations.

- **20.** Regulation 31 of the principal regulations shall be amended as follows:
 - (a) sub-regulation (1) thereof shall be substituted by the following:

- "(1) It shall be prohibited to use any indiscriminate means and forms of capture capable of causing the local disappearance of, or serious disturbance to:
 - (i) populations of species listed in Schedule VII(a); or
 - (ii) populations of mammals listed under Schedule VI(a); or
 - (iii) populations of species listed in Schedule V(a), in cases where derogations are issued for the taking, capture or killing of such species.".
- in sub-regulation (2) thereof the words "Schedule XII (a)" shall be substituted by the words "Schedule XI(a)"; and
- in sub-regulation (3) thereof the words "Schedule XII (b)" shall be substituted by the words "Schedule XI(b)".
- In sub-regulation (e) of regulation 44 of the principal Amends regulations thereof the words "Schedules IV(a) and V(a)" shall be regulation 44 of the principal substituted by the words "Schedules V and VI."

regulations.

22. Regulation 49 of the principal regulations shall be amended Amends as follows:

regulation 49 of the principal regulations.

- sub-regulations (3) to (9) thereof shall be renumbered as (5) to (11) respectively;
- (b) immediately after sub-regulation (2) thereof there shall be added the following new sub-regulations:
 - "(3) Any person who commits, or attempts to commit an offence against regulations 17A, 18 or 26A, or fails to observe the provisions laid down in a conservation order shall, on conviction, be liable:
 - in the case of a first offence, a fine (multa) of not less than five hundred euro (€500), but not exceeding five thousand euro (€5,000);
 - in the case of a second or subsequent offence, a fine (multa) of not less than one thousand euro (€1,000), but not exceeding twenty thousand euro (€20,000), or imprisonment for a period not exceeding two years, or both such fine and imprisonment.

- (4) Any person who commits, or attempts to commit an offence against regulation 31 shall, on conviction, be liable:
 - (a) in the case of a first offence, a fine (*multa*) of not less than five hundred euro (\in 500), but not exceeding five thousand euro (\in 2,500);
 - (b) in the case of a second or subsequent offence, a fine (multa) of not less than one thousand euro ($\in 1,000$), but not exceeding five thousand euro ($\in 5,000$), or imprisonment for a period not exceeding two years, or both such fine and imprisonment."; and
- (c) sub-regulation (6) thereof as renumbered, shall be substituted by the following:
 - "(6) Any person who commits or attempts to commit an offence against any provision in a management plan shall on conviction be liable to a fine (multa) of not less than two thousand five hundred euro (£2,500) and not exceeding sixty thousand euro (£60,000), and if the offender persists in the offence for more than three (3) months, also to imprisonment for a term of not less than three (3) months and not exceeding two (2) years."

Amends Schedule III of the principal regulations. **23.** The species listed under the title 'MAGNOLIOPHYTA' of Schedule III of the principal regulations shall be substituted by the following:

"

Alliaceae		
Allium lojaconoi Brullo, Lanfranco et Pavone [= Allium parciflorum auct. fl. Melit non Viviani]	Tewm Irqiq ta' Malta	Maltese Dwarf Garlic
Anacardiaceae		
Pistacia terebinthus L	Botna; Skornabekk; Siġra tat- Turpentina; Trementina; Siġra tal-Fosdoq; it-Terebintu	Terebinth; Turpentine Tree
Rhus coriaria L.	Xumakk tal-Konz	Common Sumach
Apiaceae		

Apium nodiflorum (L.) Lagasca	Karfus tal-Ilma; Xaħmet il- Ġwieri	Fool's Water Cress; Procumbent Marshwort
Oenanthe globulosa L. s.l.	Karfus il-wied	Mediterranean Water Dropwort; Round-headed Water Dropwort
Asteraceae (= Compositae)		
Otanthus maritimus (L.)		
Hoffmannsegg et Link [= Diotis candidissima Desfontaines	Santolina tar-Ramel; Bajda tar-Ramel	Cottonweed; Sea Cudweed
Matricaria aurea (Loefling) Schultz Bipontinus [= Chamomilla aurea (Loefling) Gay ex Coss. et Kralik]	Kamumilla Nana	Rayless Mayweed

Brassicaceae (= Cruciferae)		
Nasturtium officinale W.T. Aiton	Krexxuni; Sija	Water cress
Matthiola incana (L.) R. Brown subsp. melitensis Brullo, Lanfranco, Pavone et Ronsisvalle	Ġiżi ta' Malta	Maltese Stocks
Cistaceae		
Cistus spp.	Borgħom; Ċisti	Rock-Roses
Convolvulaceae		
Convolvulus oleifolius Desrousseaux s.l.	Leblieb tal-Irdum	Olive-Leaved Bindweed
Cymodoceaceae		
Cymodocea nodosa (Ucria) Ascherson [= Zostera nodosa Ucria]	Alka Rqiqa; Čimodoċja	Lesser Neptune- Grass
Cyperaceae		
Bolboschoenus maritimus (L.) Palla [= Scirpus maritimus L.]	Simar tal-Boqgħa	Sea Club Rush, Alkali Bulrush

Carex divulsa Stokes [= Vignea divulsa (Stokes) Rchb.]	Sogħda Mifruda	Grey Sedge; Prickly Sedge; Grassland Sedge
Carex extensa Goodenough	Sogħda tal-Baħar	Long-bracted Sedge
Carex cuprina (Heuff.) A. Kern [= Carex otrubae Podp.]	Sogħda Kompatta	False Fox Sedge
Carex halleriana Asso	Sogħda tal-Makkja	Southern Sedge
Carex hispida Willdenow	Sogħda Kbira; Sogħda tat- Tafal	Hispid Sedge
Cyperus fuscus L. s.l.	Bordi Żgħir	Brown Galingale
Cyperus longus L. s.l. [=Chlorocyperus longus (L.) Palla s.l.; Pucreus longus (L.) Hayek s.l.]	Bordi tal-Wied	Sweet Cyperus; Compact Galingale
Eleocharis ovata (Roth.) Roemer & Schultz	Simar tal-Wardija	Southern Spike Rush
Eleocharis palustris (L.) Roemer & Schultz	Simar tat-Toppu	Common Spike Rush, Pale Spike Rush
Isolepis cernua (Vahl) Roemer & Schultz	Simar Irqiq	Slender Club Rush
Juncellus distachyos (Allioni) Turrill [= Cyperus distachyos Allioni]	Bordi Iswed	Rush Galingale; Mediterranean Galingale
Schoenus nigricans L.	Simar Iswed	Black Bog Rush
Ericaceae		
Erica multiflora L.	Erika; Issopu; Savina; Saghtar Ahmar; Lehjet ix-Xih	Mediterranean Heath
Euphorbiaceae		
Euphorbia dendroides L.	Tengħud tas-Siġra	Tree Spurge
	Tongnua tas-sigia	Tree Spurge
Euphorbia melitensis Parlatore [= Euphorbia spinosa auct. fl. Melit. non L.; = Euphorbia bivonae auct. fl. Melit. non Steudel]	Tenghud tax-Xaghri	Maltese Spurge
Euphorbia paralias L	Tengħud tar-Ramel	Sea Spurge
Euphorbia terracina L.	Tengħud tax-Xatt	Coast Spurge
Fabaceae (= Leguminosae)		
Anagyris foetida L.	Fula tal-Klieb	Bean Trefoil Tree

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Anthyllis hermanniae L. s.l.	Hatba s-Sewda	Shrubby Kidney- Vetch
Lotus halophilus Boissier et Spruner	Għantux tar-Ramel	Sand Restharrow
Iridaceae		
Iris pseudopumila Tineo	Bellus	Southern Dwarf Iris
Iris sicula Todaro	Fjurdulis Sqalli	Sicilian Iris
Juncaceae		
Juncus acutus L	Simar il-Lixx	Sharp-Pointed Rush
Juncus articulatus L.	Simar	Jointed Rush, Joint-Leaf Rush
Juncus maritimus Lamarck	Simar tal-Baħar	Sea Rush
Lamiaceae (= Labiatae)		
Origanum dictamnus L.	Riegnu ta' Ġnien il-Kbir	Cretan Dittany
Teucrium scordioides Schreber [= T. scordium L. subsp. scordioides (Schreb.) Arcangeli]	Borgħom tal-Ilma	Water Germander
Thymus capitatus L. [= Thymbra capitata (L.) Cavanilles; Coridothymus capitatus (L.)Reichenbach fil.]	Sagħtar	Mediterranean Thyme
T 111		
Tulipa australis Link [= Tulipa sylvestris auct. Melit. non L.]	Tulipan Selvaģģ	Wild Tulip
Ovahidaaaaa		
Orchidaceae Ophrys fuciflora (F.W. Schmidt) Moench s.l. [=Ophrys holosericea auct. fl. Melit. non (Burm.) Greuter]	Brimba	Late Spider Orchid
Ophrys lacaitae Lojacono [= O.oxyrrhynchos subsp. lacaitae (Lojacono) Del Prete]	Brimba Safra	Yellow Spider Orchid; Lacaita's Spider Orchid

Ophrys tenthredinifera Willdenow s.l. [= Ophrys tenoreana Lindley s.l.]	Naħla Kbira	Sawfly Orchid
Ophrys oxyrrhynchos Todaro [= Ophrys fuciflora subsp. oxyrrhynchos (Todaro) Soó]	Brimba ta' Sqallija	Beaked Spider Orchid
Plumbaginaceae		
Limonium melitense Brullo [= Statice cosyrensis auct. fl. Melit. non Gussone]	Leħjet ix-Xiħ; Limonju ta'Malta	Maltese Sea- Lavender
Limonium narbonense Miller s.l. [= Limonium serotinum (Reichenbach) Pignatti s.l.]	Selq tal-Blat; Limonju l-Kbir	Narbonne's Sea- Lavender
Limonium zeraphae Brullo [= Statice reticulata auct. fl. Melit. non L.]	Leħjet ix-Xiħ; Limonju ta' Żerafa	Zerafa's Sea- Lavender
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Poaceae		

Poaceae		
Ampelodesma mauritanica (Poiret) Durand et Schinz [= Ampelodesma tenax Link]	Dis	Diss
Crypsis schoenoides (L.) Lamarck [= Phleum schoenoides L.]	Kripsi tal-Ilma; Kripsi ta' Għawdex	Swamp Picklegrass
Phalaris coerulescens Desfontaines	Skalora tal-Ilma	Purple Canary Grass; Blue Canary Grass
Posidoniaceae		
Posidonia oceanica (L.) Delile	Alka; Posidonja	Neptune-Grass
Ranunculaceae		
Ranunculus bulbosus L. s.l.	Ċfolloq tal-Werqa	Bulbous Buttercup
Rhamnaceae		
Paliurus spina-christi Miller	Xewk tal-Kuruna; Xewk ta' Kristu	Christ's Thorn
Rosaceae		
Rosa sempervirens L.	Girlanda tal-Wied	Evergreen Rose

Sarcopoterium spinosum (L.) Spach [= Poterium spinosum L.]	Tursin il-Għul Xewwiek	Thorny Burnet
Salicaceae		
Salix alba L.	Żafżafa; Żafżafa Kbira	White Willow
Salix pedicellata Desfontaines	Żafżafa ż-żgħira	Mediterranean Willow
Scrophulariaceae		
Scrophularia auriculata L.	Fiswet il-Kelb tal-Ilma; Werqet il-Madonna	Water Figwort; Water Betony; Bishop's Leaves
Solanaceae		
Lycium spp.	Għawseġ	Boxthorns; Tea- Trees

Ulmaceae		
Ulmus canescens Melville [= Ulmus minor Miller subsp. Canescens (Melville) K. Browicz & J. Zielinski]	Nemmiesa; Siġra tan-Nemus; Ulmu	Hoary Elm; Grey- Leaved Elm
Zannichelliaceae		
Zannichellia melitensis Brullo, Giusso et Lanfranco [= Zannichellia palustris auct. fl. Melit. non L.; = Z. pedunculata auct. fl. Melit. non Rehb. in Mössler]	Ħarira tal-Ilma	Maltese Horned- Pondweed
Zosteraceae		
Zostera marina L.	Alka tas-Salini; Żostera	Eel-Grass; Grass- Wrack
Zostera noltii Hornemann [= Zostera nana Roth]	Alka tal-Pwales; Żostera Nana	Slender Eel-Grass

Substitution of Schedule IV of the principal regulations. **24.** Schedule IV of the principal regulations shall be substituted by the following:

"SCHEDULE IV

CRITERIA FOR SELECTING SITES ELIGIBLE FOR IDENTIFICATION AS SITES OF NATIONAL IMPORTANCE AND OF INTERNATIONAL IMPORTANCE AND DESIGNATION AS SPECIAL AREAS OF CONSERVATION

- STAGE 1: Assessment at national level of the relative importance of sites for each natural habitat type in Schedule I and each species in Schedule II or III (including priority natural habitat types and priority species).
 - A. site assessment criteria for a given natural habitat type in Schedule I
 - (a) Degree of representativity of the natural habitat type on the site.
 - (b) Area of the site covered by the natural habitat type in relation to the total area covered by that natural habitat type within Malta.
 - (c) Degree of conservation of the structure and functions of the natural habitat type concerned and restoration possibilities.
 - (d) Global assessment of the value of the site for conservation of the natural habitat type concerned.
 - B. Site assessment criteria for a given species in Schedule II
 - (a) Size and density of the population of the species present on the site in relation to the populations present within Malta.
 - (b) Degree of conservation of the features of the habitat, which are important for the species concerned, and restoration possibilities.
 - (c) Degree of isolation of the population present on the site in relation to the natural range of the species.
 - (d) Global assessment of the value of the site for conservation of the species concerned.
 - C. Site assessment criteria for a given species in Schedule III

- shall be the internationally recognised threat status of such species.
- D. On the basis of these criteria, the competent authority will classify the sites, which it proposed on the national list as sites eligible for identification as sites of National Importance and of International Importance according to their relative value for the conservation of each natural habitat type in Schedule I or each species in Schedule II or III.
- E. That list will show the sites containing the priority natural habitat types and priority species selected by the competent authority on the basis of the criteria in A and B above.
- STAGE 2: Assessment of the national and international importance of the sites included on the national lists.
 - 1. All the sites identified by the competent authority in Stage 1, which contain priority natural habitat types, and/or species will be considered as sites of National Importance and of International Importance.
 - 2. The assessment of the national and international importance of other sites, i.e. their contribution to maintaining or reestablishing, at a favourable conservation status, a natural habitat in Schedule I or a species in Schedule II or III and/or to the coherence of the National Ecological Network and the Pan-European Ecological Network will take account of the following criteria:
 - (a) relative value of the site at national level;
 - (b) geographical situation of the site in relation to migration routes of species in Schedule II and III;
 - (c) total area of the site;
 - (d) number of natural habitat types in Schedule I and species in Schedule II or III present on the site;
 - (e) global ecological value of the site for the biogeographical regions concerned, as regards both the characteristic of unique aspect of its features and the way they are combined.".

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Amends Schedule VI of the principal regulations.

- **25.** Schedule VI of the principal regulations shall be amended as follows:
- (a) under the title 'RAJIFORMES' immediately after the species *Dipturus batis*, there shall be added the following new species:

Leucoraja circularis Raja Sandy Ray; Sandy Skate (= Raja circularis)

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(b) under the title 'CNIDARIA' the species thereunder shall be substituted by the following:

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Antipathella subpinnata	Qroll	Black Coral
Antipathes spp.	Qroll l-iswed	Black Coral
Astroides calycularis	Qroll tad-Dell	Star Coral
Callogorgia verticillata	Sawt il-Baħar	Soft Coral
Cladocora caespitosa	Qroll Abjad	Stone Coral; White Coral
Cladocora debilis	Qroll Abjad	Thin Tube Coral
Corallium rubrum	Qroll Aħmar	Precious Coral, Sardinian Coral; Red Coral
Dendrophyllia cornigera	Qroll Isfar tal-Fond	Yellow Tree Coral
Dendrophyllia ramea	Qroll Oranģjo tal-Fond	Yellow Coral
Desmophyllum dianthus	Trumbetta tal-Fond	Cockscomb Cup Coral
Ellisella paraplexauroides	Eliżella; Gorgonja Kbira	Candelabrum Coral
Errina aspera	Errina	Hydrocoral; Errina; Stylasterid Coral
Hornera lichenoides	Qroll Falz	False Coral
Isidella elongata	Imrewħa tal-Fond	Bamboo Coral
Leiopathes glaberrima	Qroll il-Glabru	Smooth Black Coral
Lophelia pertusa	Lofelja; Qroll tal-Fond	Deep Water Coral
Madrepora oculata	Madripora tal-Għajn; Qroll tal-Fond	Zigzag Coral
Parantipathes larix	Abit tal-Baħar; Qroll l-Iswed	Black Coral

Savalia savaglia	Qroll Iswed il-Falz	False Black Coral"
[=Gerardia savaglia]		

"

(c) under the title 'LEPIDOPTERA' the species thereunder shall be substituted by the following:

"

Lasiocampidae		
Gastropacha quercifolia	Werqa Niexfa	Lappet Moth
Lasiocampa quercus	Baħrija tal-Ballut	Oak Eggar
Noctuidae		
Catocala conjuncta	Katokala Rari, Baħrija tal- Luq	Red Underwing
Catocala elocata	Elokata	Red Underwing
Catocala nymphaea	Katokala Safra Kbira, Baħrija tal-Luq	Oak Yellow Underwing
Catocala nymphagoga	Katokala Safra Żgħira, Baħrija tal-Luq	Oak Yellow Underwing
Sphingidae		
All species		
Hesperiidae		
Gegenes pumilio	Il-Baħri	Pygmy Skipper
Lycaenidae		
Aricia agestis	Kannelli tal-Anġlu	Brown Argus
Azanus ubaldus		Bright Babul Blue
Celastrina argiolus	Ikħal Fiddieni	Holly Blue
Lampides boeticus	Ikħal tad-Denb Twil	Long-tailed Blue
Leptotes pirithous (= Papilio plinius, Syntarucus pirithous)	Ikħal tad-Denb Qasir	Lang's Short-tailed blue
Lycaena phlaeas	Farfett tas-Selq	Small Copper
Plebejus argus		Silver-studded Blue
Polyommatus celina	Farfett tal-Anġlu	Southern Common Blue
Polyommatus icarus	Farfett tal-Anġlu	Common Blue
Polyommatus thersites	Farfett tal-Anġlu	Chapman Blue
Zizeeria karsandra	Ikħal tal-Afrika	Dark Grass Blue
Nymphalidae		

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Morophaga choragella	Baħrija tal-Faqqiegħ	Large Cloths Moth
Tineidae		
Gonepteryx cleopatra	Farfett taż-Żiju	Cleopatra
Colias croceus	Farett tas-Silla	Clouded Yellow
Pieridae		
Papilio saharae	Farfett	Sahara Swallowtail
Iphiclides podalirius	Farfett	Scarce Swallowtail; Sail Swallotail; Pear Tree Swallowtail
Papilionidae		
Polygonia egea		Southern Comma
Parage aegeria	Kannella tad-Dell	Speckled Wood
Nymphalis polychloros		Large Tortoiseshell; Blackleg Tortoiseshell
Maniola jurtina	Kannella Kbir	Meadow Brown
Lasiommata megera	Kannella tax-Xemx	Wall Brown
Hipparchia blachieri (= H. algirica vallettai, H. aristeus blachieri)		Sicilian Grayling
Coenonympha pamphilus	Kannella Żgħir	Small Heath
Coenonympha lyllus (= C. pamphilus lyllus)	Kannella Żgħir	Esper's Heath

";

(d) under the title RHODOPHYTA, immediately before the species '*Titanoderma trochanter*', there shall be added the following new species:

"

Sphaerococcus	Alga Ħamra	Red Alga
rhizophylloides		
J.J.Rodríguez y Femenías		

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(e) immediately under the title 'AMARYLLIDACEAE' there shall be added the following:

"

Allium commutatum Gussone Kurrat Selvag	gġ Wild Leek; Sea Garlic
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(f) under the title 'ORCHIDACEAE' the species thereunder shall be substituted by the following:

"

Anacamptis longicornu (Poiret) Bateman, Pridgeon et Chase [= Orchis longicornu Poiret]	Orkida tal-Qarn Twil; Orkida tal-Qrun	Horned Orchid; Long-Spurred Orchid
Anacamptis morio (L.) Bateman, Pridgeon et Chase s.str. [=Orchis morio L. s.str.]	Orkida tal-Elmu	Green Winged Orchid
Anacamptis sect. Moriones	Orkidi tal-Elmu	Winged Orchids
Anacamptis papilionacea (L.) Bateman, Pridgeon et Chase s.l. [= Orchis papilionacea L. s.l.]	Farfett	Butterfly Orchid
Himantoglossum robertianum (Loiseleur) Delforge [= Barlia robertiana (Loiseleur) Greuter]	Orkida Kbira	Giant Orchid
Neotinea commutata (Tod.) R.M.Bateman [= Orchis commutata Tod.; Neotinea tridentata subsp. commutata (Tod.) R.M.Bateman, Pridgeon et M.W.Chase]	Orkida tat-Tikek	Sicilian Milky Orchid

Neotinea conica [=Orchis conica Willdenow; O. pusilla Tyteca; Neotinea tridentata subsp. conica (Willdenow) Bateman, Pridgeon et Chase]	Orkida tat-Tikek	Conical Milky Orchid
Neotinea lactea (Poiret) Bateman [=Orchis lactea Poiret; O. acuminata Desfontaines]	Orkida tat-Tikek	Spotted Milky Orchid
Neotinea maculata (Desfontaines) Stearn [= Orchis intacta Link; Neotinea intacta (Link) Rchb. fil.]	Orkida Rqiqa; Orkida tal-Weraq Imtebba'	Dense-Flowered Orchid
Neotinea tridentata (Scopoli) R.M.Bateman, Pridgeon et M.W.Chase s.l. [= Orchis tridentata Scopoli; O. variegata Allioni;]	Orkida tat-Tikek	Milky Orchid
Neottia nidus-avis (L.) L.C.M.Richard [= Ophrys nidus-avis L.]	Bejtet l-Għasfur; Budebbus Falz	Birdsnest Orchid
Ophrys apifera Hudson [= Ophrys arachnites Miller]	Naħla	Bee Orchid
Ophrys Sect. Bertoloniorum	Dubbiena ta' Bertoloni	Bertoloni's Bee Orchid
Ophrys bertolonii Moretti s.str.	Dubbiena ta' Bertoloni	Bertoloni's Bee Orchid
Ophrys caesiella Delforge [= Ophrys fusca subsp. caesiella (Delforge) Kreutz; O. bilunulata subsp. caesiella (Delforge) Paulus	Dubbiena Żgħira taʻ Malta; Dubbiena tat-Tikek	Small Maltese Brown Orchid

Ophrys calliantha Bartolo et Pulvirenti [= Ophrys candida subsp. calliantha (Bartolo et Pulvirenti) Kreutz; Ophrys oxyrrhnchos subsp. calliantha (Bartolo et Pulvirenti) Galesi, Cristaudo et Maugeri]	Brimba Mlewna ta' Sqallija	Sicilian Beaked Spider Orchid
Ophrys explanata (Lojacono) Delforge [= Ophrys bertolonii subsp. explanata (Lojacono) Soca]	Dubbiena ta' Sqallija	Sicilian Bertoloni's Bee Orchid
Ophrys fuciflora s.l. (F.W. Schmidt) Moench [= Ophrys holosericea s.l. auct. fl. Melit. non (Burm.) Greuter	Brimba	Late Spider Orchid
Ophrys fusca Link s.l.	Dubbien	Brown Orchids; Sombre Bee Orchids
Ophrys garganica E. Nelson ex O. Danesch et E. Danesch [= Ophrys incubacea subsp. garganica (E. Nelson ex O. Danesch et E. Danesch) Galesi, Cristaudo et Maugeri; O. passionis subsp. garganica E. Nelson ex H. Baumann et R. Lorenz]	Brimba tal-Ġwienaħ Safrana	Gargano Spider Orchid
Ophrys xgaulosana Mifsud [= Ophrys melitensis x tenthredinifera]	Dubbiena ta' Għawdex	Gozo Spider Orchid
Ophrys glabra Persoon [= Ophrys lutea subsp. lutea Cavanilles]	Żunżana tal-Magħreb	Maghrebian Yellow Bee Orchid
Ophrys grandiflora Tenore [= Ophrys tenthredinifera subsp. grandiflora (Tenore) Kreutz	Naħla Kbira ta' Sqallija	Sicilian Sawfly Orchid

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Ophrys hospitalis Delforge [= Ophrys iricolor subsp. hospitalis (Delforge) Mifsud	Dubbiena tal-Kavallieri; Dubbiena Bikrija	Hospitallier Rainbow Bee Orchid
et Lewis]		
Ophrys incubacea Bianca		
[= Ophrys atrata Lindl.; O. sphegodes subsp. atrata (Rchb. fil) Bolòs]	Brimba tal-Ġwienaħ	Bianca's Spider Orchid
Ophrys iricolor Desfontaines s.l.		
[= Ophrys fusca subsp. iricolor (Desfontaines) Richter s.l.]	Dubbien	Blue Orchids
Ophrys lacaitae Lojacono		
[= Ophrys oxyrrhynchos subsp. lacaitae (Lojacono) Del Prete]	Brimba Safra	Yellow Spider Orchid; Lacaita's Spider Orchid
Ophrys lojaconoi Delforge		
[= Ophrys iricolor subsp. lojaconoi (Delforge) Kreutz]	Dubbiena ta' Lojacono	Lojacono's Rainbow Bee Orchid
Ophrys lucifera Devillers-Terschuren et Devillers [= Ophrys fusca subsp. lucifera (Devillers-Tersch. et Devillers) Kreutz]	Dubbiena tar-Rebbiegħa	Brown Orchid
Ophrys lupercalis Devillers- Terschuren et Devillers [= Ophrys fusca subsp. lupercalis (Devillers- Terschuren et Devillers) Kreutz]	Dubbiena tal-Luperkalja	Lupercalia Rainbow Bee Orchid
Ophrys lutea Cavanilles s.str.		W. D. C
[= Ophrys vespifera Brotero]	Žunżana l-Kbira	Yellow Bee Orchid
Ophrys mesaritica (Paulus, C. Alibertis et A. Alibertis) Kreutz	Dubbiena Bikrija	Cretan Rainbow Bee Orchid
[= Ophrys iricolor subsp. mesaritica Paulus, C. Alibertis et A. Alibertis]	Date Manual	S.S. Marian S. W. Boo S. Cillia

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Ophrys oxyrrhynchos Todaro [= Ophrys fuciflora subsp. oxyrrhynchos (Todaro) Soó	Brimba taʻ Sqallija	Beaked Spider Orchid
Ophrys pallida Rafinesque [= Ophrys fusca subsp. pallida (Rafinesque) EG Camus; O. pectus Mutel]	Dubbiena Milwija	Pale Green Orchid; Reflexed Brown Orchid
Ophrys passionis Sennen s.l. [= O. garganica subsp. passionis (Sennen ex Devillers-Tersch. & Devillers) Paulus & Gack s.l.]	Brimba tal-Ġwienaħ Safrana	Easter Spider Orchid; Passion Spider Orchid
Ophrys phryganae Devillers-Terschuren et Devillers [= Ophrys lutea subsp. phryganae (Devillers- Terschuren et Devillers) Melki]	Żunżana tal-Lvant	Eastern Yellow Bee Orchid
Ophyrs Sect. Pseudophrys	Dubbien; Żunżan	Bee Orchids
Ophrys romolinii Soca [= Ophrys bertolonii subsp. romolinii (Soca) Véla et R.Martin]	Dubbiena ta' Romolini	Romolini's Bee Orchid
Ophrys sicula Tineo [= Ophrys minor (Todaro) Paulus et Gack; O. lutea subsp. minor (Todaro) O Danesch et E Danesch; O. lutea subsp. sicula (Tineo) Soldano]	Żunżana ż-Żgħira	Sicilian Yellow Bee Orchid
Ophrys speculum Link [= Ophrys ciliata Bivona-Bernardi]	Dubbiena l-kaħla	Mirror Orchid; Mirror of Venus
Ophrys sphegodes Miller s.l. [= Ophrys aranifera Hudson s.l.]	Brimba	Spider Orchid

Ophrys tenthredinifera Willdenow s.str. [= Ophrys tenoreana Lindley s.l.]	Naħla Kbira	Sawfly Orchid
Ophrys xtumentia Mifsud [= Ophrys caesiella x iricolor]	Dubbiena ta' Sidirha Kbir	Swollen-Chest Brown Bee Orchid
Ophrys vallesiana Deviller- Terschuren et Devillers [= Ophrys iricolor subsp. vallesiana (Devillers- Terschuren et Devillers) Paulus et Gack]	Dubbiena ta' Tuneż	Vallès Rainbow Bee Orchid
Orchis italica Poiret [= Orchis longicruris Link; O. undulatifolia Bivona-Bernardi]	Hajja u Mejta tal-Werqa Fdewxa; Orkida tal-Weraq Fdewxa	Naked-Man Orchid
Serapias bergonii E.G. Camus [= Serapias vomeracea subsp. laxiflora (Soó) Gölz et Reinhard]	Orkida tal-Ilsien tal-Lvant	Eastern Ploughshare
Serapias cordigera L. [= Serapias ovalis LCM Richard]	Orkida tal-Qalb	Heart-Flowered Tongue Orchid
Serapias lingua L. [= Serapias columnae (Rchb. Fil.) Lojacono]	Orkida tal-Ilsien	Tongue Orchid; Tongue Serapias
Serapias orientalis (Greuter) Baumann et Künkele [= Serapias vomeracea subsp. orientalis Greuter]	Orkida tal-Ilsien tal-Lvant	Oriental Tongue Orchid
Serapias vomeracea (Burmann fil.) Briquet [= Orchis vomeracea Burmann fil.; Serapias longipetala (Tenore) Pollini]	Orkida tal-Ilsien Kbir	Ploughshare; Long-Lipped Tongue Orchid
Spiranthes spiralis (L.) Chevallier [= Spiranthes autumnalis LCM Richard]	Il-Ħajja u Mejta tal-Ħarifa	Autumn Lady's Tresses

In Schedule VII of the regulations under the title Amends 'CRUSTACEA – DECAPODA' the name 'Scillarides latus' shall be substituted by the name 'Scyllarides latus'.

regulations.

Schedule VIII of the principal regulations shall be amended 27. as follows:

Amends Schedule VIII of the principal regulations.

immediately under the title 'Alopiidae' there shall be added the following species:

Alopias superciliosus	Pixxivolpi ta' Għajnu	Bigeye Thresher Shark
	Kbira	

(b) under the title 'Carcharhinididae' there shall be added the following species:

"

Carcharhinus obscurus	Kelb il-Baħar Sewdieni	Dusky Shark

"; and

under the title 'CRUSTACEA' the following species shall be deleted:

Scyllarus latus	Ċkala; Ċkala Ħamra	Flat Lobster; European
[= Scyllarides latus]		Paddle-Nosed Lobster

28. Schedule XI of the principal regulations shall be deleted.

Deletes of Schedule XI of the principal regulations.

29. Schedule XII of the principal regulations shall be amended as follows:

Amends Schedule XII of the principal regulations.

Schedule XII shall be renumbered as Schedule XI; (a) and

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(b) the words "SCHEDULE IX(a)" and "Schedule IX(b)" shall be substituted by the words "SCHEDULE XI(a)" and "Schedule XI(b)" respectively.

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