

L.N. 256 of 2022

**ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION ACT
(CAP. 549)**

**Conservation of Wild Birds (Framework for Allowing a Derogation
to Carry out Scientific Research on Seven Finch Species)
(Amendment) Regulations, 2022**

IN EXERCISE of the powers conferred by articles 54 and 55 of the Environment Protection Act, the Minister responsible for the environment in conjunction with the Minister for Gozo and after consultation with the Environment and Resources Authority, has made the following regulations:-

1. The title of these regulations is the Conservation of Wild Birds (Framework for Allowing a Derogation to Carry out Scientific Research on Seven Finch Species) (Amendment) Regulations, 2022 and these regulations shall be read and construed as one with the Conservation of Wild Birds (Framework for Allowing a Derogation to Carry out Scientific Research on Seven Finch Species) Regulations, hereinafter referred to as the "principal regulations". Citation.

S.L. 549.145.
2. In sub-regulation (2) of regulation 2 of the principal regulations, in the definition "live-decoy", immediately after the words "any specimen from the relevant species fitted with a" there shall be added the words "closed ring, any specimen from the relevant species fitted with a". Amends
regulation 2 of
the principal
regulations.
3. In paragraph (k) of sub-regulation 12 of the principal regulations, immediately after the words "birds from the relevant species" there shall be added the words "fitted with a closed ring, to birds from the relevant species". Amends
regulation 12 of
the principal
regulations.
4. Sub-regulation (3) of regulation 13 of the principal regulations shall be substituted by the following new sub-regulation: Amends
regulation 13 of
the principal
regulations.
 - "(3) During the course of a spot-check carried out in terms of sub-regulation (1), should a Police officer find a bird from the relevant species:
 - (a) without a ring, or
 - (b) not fitted with a seamless closed leg-ring or leg-band in a continuous circle, without any break or join, or

(c) fitted with a leg-ring or leg-band that has been tampered with, or

(d) fitted with a single-use ring not bearing code R16U, or

(e) fitted with a single-use ring bearing code R16U that was not supplied by the Wild Birds Regulation Unit in 2016 and 2017,

S.L. 549.42. the licence holder shall be subject to the penalties established in regulation 27 of the Wild Birds Regulations. After having documented the evidence of all birds not in compliance with the conditions of the special research licence or with the conditions of any other special licence, the Police officer shall immediately release all birds not fitted with a ring from the same research station and also seize from the licence holder all birds that are fitted with closed rings that are not seamless, not in a continuous circle, with a break or join, have been tampered with, those fitted with an unauthorised single-use ring and any other bird not authorised by the special research licence issued in accordance with these regulations or under any other special licence:

Provided that this sub-regulation does not apply to colour-variants (mutations), mules or hybrids."
