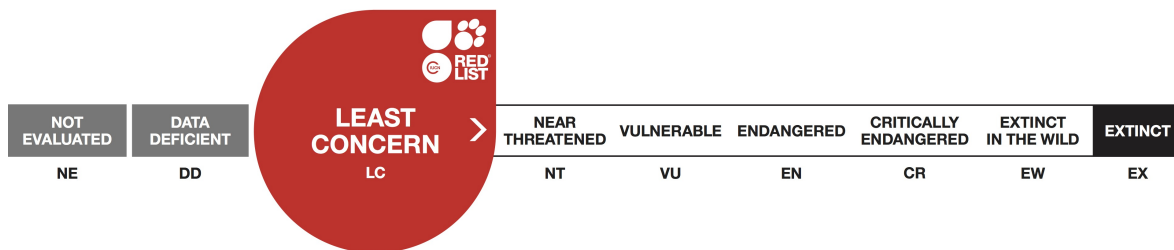


Zannichellia melitensis, Maltese Horned Pondweed

Assessment by: Lansdown, R.V.



View on www.iucnredlist.org

Citation: Lansdown, R.V. 2018. *Zannichellia melitensis*. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2018: e.T167938A87709741. <http://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2018-1.RLTS.T167938A87709741.en>

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Taxonomy

Kingdom	Phylum	Class	Order	Family
Plantae	Tracheophyta	Liliopsida	Alismatales	Potamogetonaceae

Taxon Name: *Zannichellia melitensis* Brullo, Giusso & Lanfr.

Common Name(s):

- English: Maltese Horned Pondweed

Taxonomic Source(s):

Uotila, P. 2009. Zannichelliaceae. Euro+Med Plantbase - the information resource for Euro-Mediterranean plant diversity. Available at: <http://ww2.bgbm.org/EuroPlusMed/>.

Taxonomic Notes:

The taxonomy of the genus *Zannichellia* is complex, with one species recognised throughout much of the World but with many taxa recognised at or below species level in different regions. The distinguishing characters for some taxa appear to be useful, but others appear to have been described based on very few samples and relatively minor morphological differences.

Zannichellia melitensis is treated by Kew as a synonym of *Zannichellia palustris* subsp. *palustris* (WCSP 2016), however we follow Euro+Med Plantbase (Uotila 2009) in accepting its species status.

Assessment Information

Red List Category & Criteria: Least Concern [ver 3.1](#)

Year Published: 2018

Date Assessed: January 19, 2016

Justification:

This Mediterranean species endemic to Malta has been assessed as Least Concern because, even though it has a restricted range, its subpopulations appear to be stable and not facing any major threats at present.

Previously Published Red List Assessments

2011 – Least Concern (LC)

<http://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2011-1.RLTS.T167938A6420506.en>

Geographic Range

Range Description:

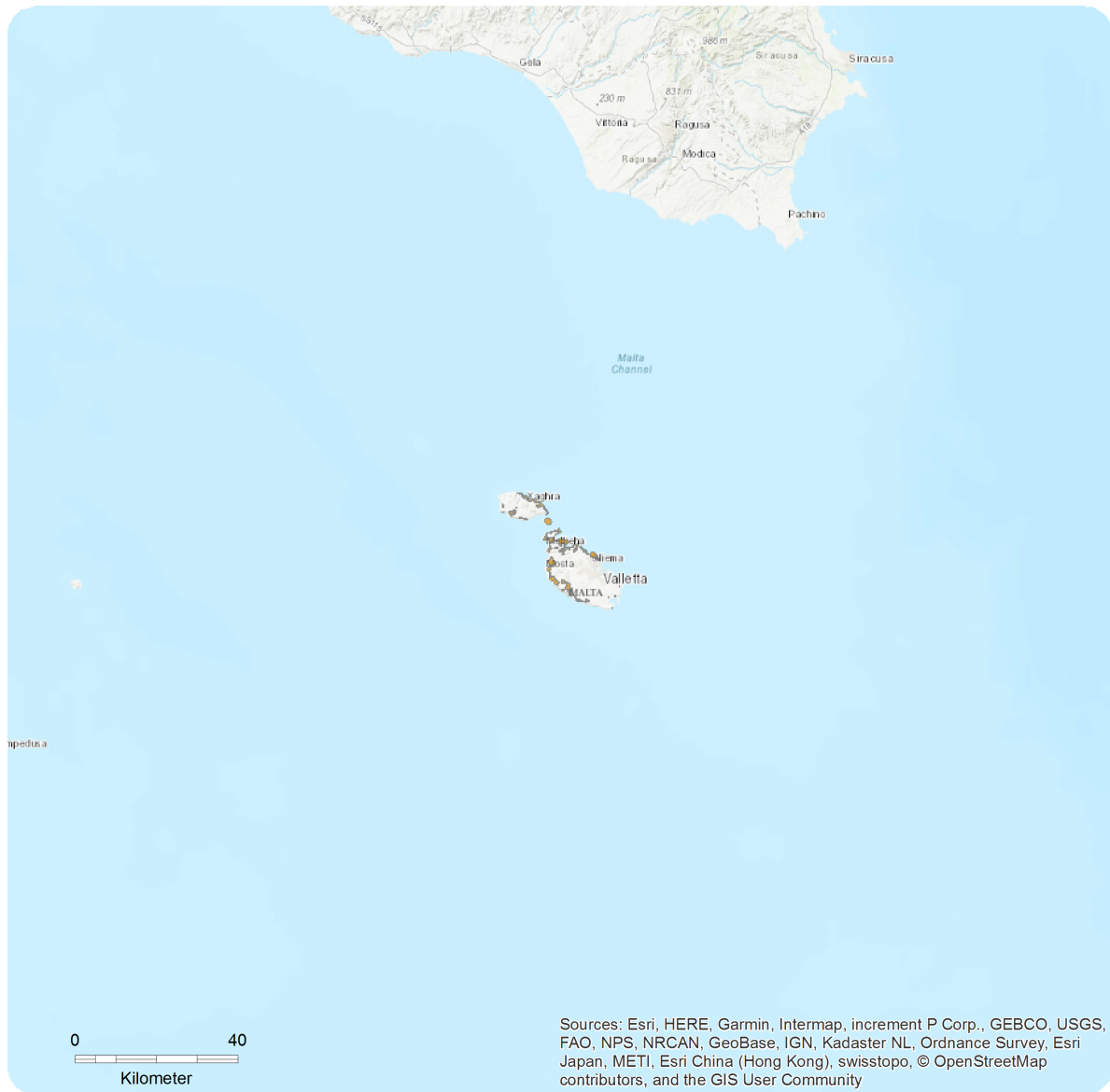
This species is endemic to the islands of Malta, Gozo and Comino in Malta (Brullo *et al.* 2001).

Country Occurrence:

Native: Malta

Distribution Map

Zannichellia melitensis



Range

Extant (resident)

Compiled by:

IUCN Mediterranean Red List



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply any official endorsement, acceptance or opinion by IUCN.



Population

There is no indication that population is in decline, but the restricted distribution makes the species susceptible to land-use changes.

Current Population Trend: Stable

Habitat and Ecology (see Appendix for additional information)

It inhabits small seasonal deep pools temporary filled with rainwater, where it has been found in calcareous bedrock; it can be seen from December to April (Brullo *et al.* 2001).

Systems: Freshwater

Use and Trade

The species is not utilized.

Threats

There are no known past, ongoing or future threats to this species.

Conservation Actions (see Appendix for additional information)

The species is present in protected areas (IUCN and UNEP-WCMC 2017). The species is legally protected through Legal Notice 311/2006. A considerable portion of the population falls within protected Natura 2000 sites (Schembri and Sultana 1989).

Credits

Assessor(s): Lansdown, R.V.

Reviewer(s): Mifsud, S., Allen, D.J., García Murillo, P.G. & García, N.

Contributor(s): Alcázar Montañez, E.

Bibliography

Brullo, S., Giusso del Galdo, G. and Lanfranco, E. 2001. A new species of *Zannichellia* L. (Zannichelliaceae) from Malta. *Flora Mediterranea* 11: 379-384.

IUCN. 2018. The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. Version 2018-1. Available at: www.iucnredlist.org. (Accessed: 28 June 2018).

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Schembri, P.J. and Sultana, J. 1989. *Red Data Book for the Maltese Islands*. Department of Information, University of Malta.

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Citation

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External Resources

For [Images and External Links to Additional Information](#), please see the [Red List website](#).

Appendix

Habitats

(<http://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/classification-schemes>)

Habitat	Season	Suitability	Major Importance?
5. Wetlands (inland) -> 5.8. Wetlands (inland) - Seasonal/Intermittent Freshwater Marshes/Pools (under 8ha)	Resident	Suitable	Yes

Conservation Actions in Place

(<http://www.iucnredlist.org/technical-documents/classification-schemes>)

Conservation Actions in Place
In-Place Land/Water Protection and Management
Occur in at least one PA: Yes

Additional Data Fields

Distribution
Lower elevation limit (m): 0
Upper elevation limit (m): 30
Population
Continuing decline of mature individuals: No
Extreme fluctuations: No
Population severely fragmented: No
Habitats and Ecology
Continuing decline in area, extent and/or quality of habitat: No

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