

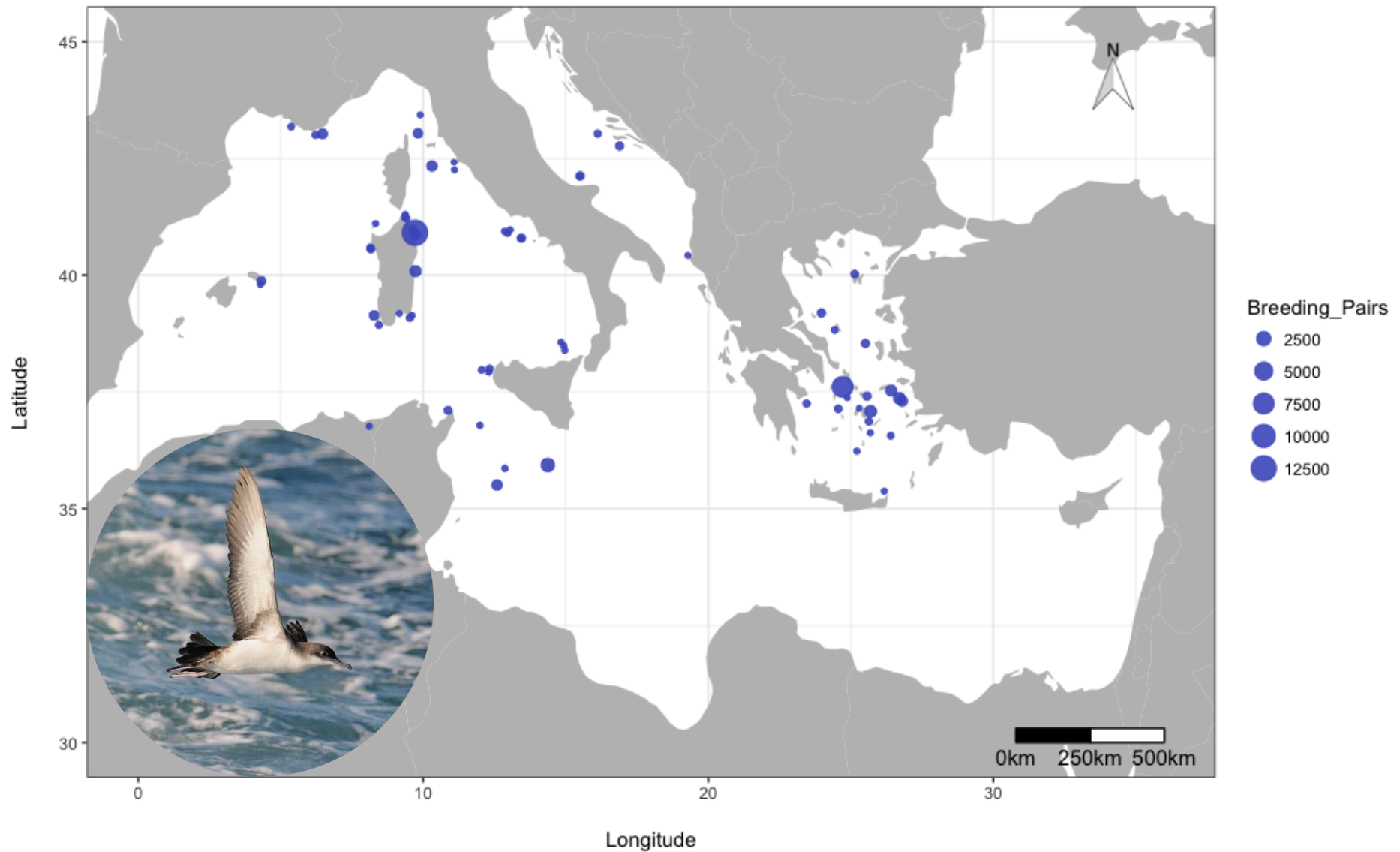
LIFE Arcipelagu Garnija LIFE14 NAT/MT/991  
Securing the Maltese Islands for the Yelkouan Shearwater  
Project Closing Webinar 9-10 July 2020

# LIFE Arcipelagu Garnija: A Success Story on the Conservation of Yelkouan Shearwater in the Maltese Archipelago

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BirdLife Malta



# Why Yelkouan Shearwater?



# Maltese Archipelago and Yelkouan Shearwater

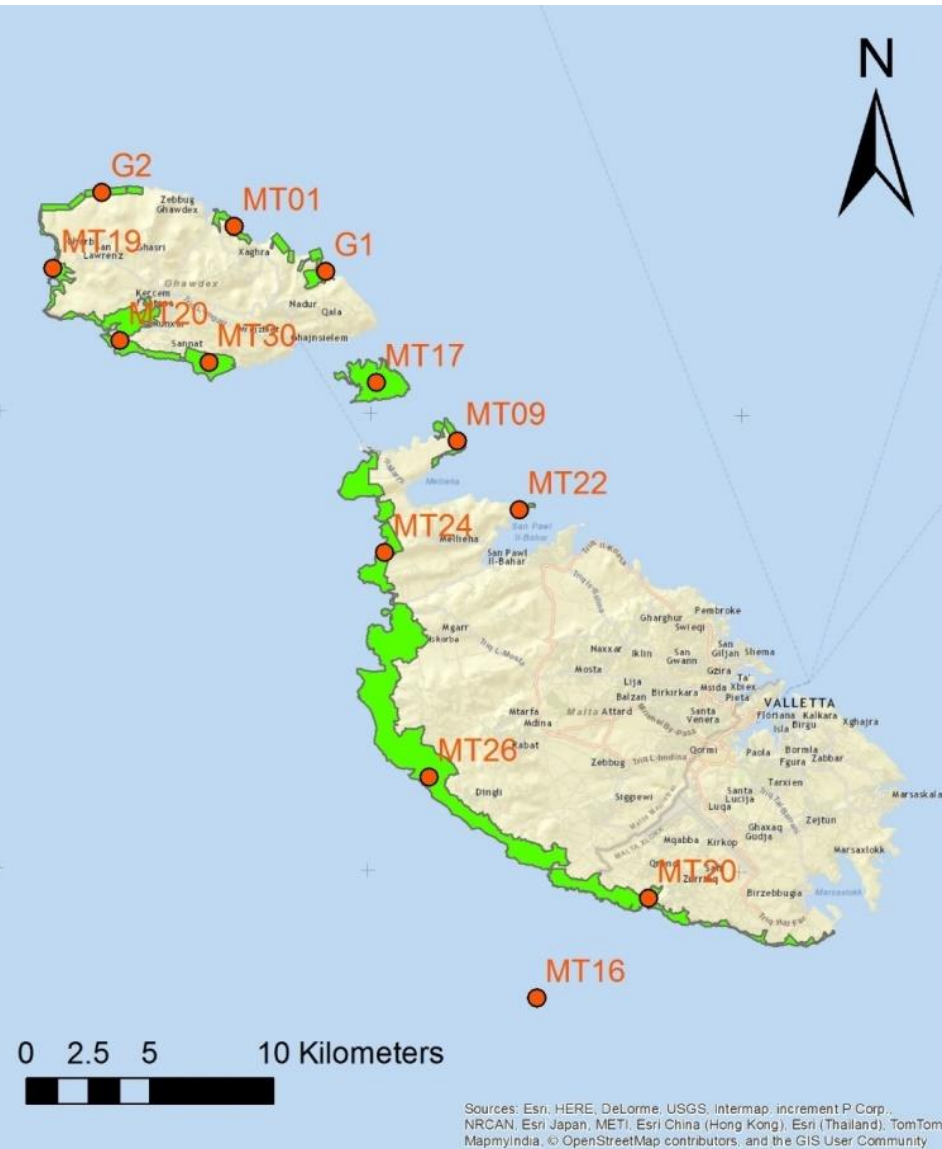
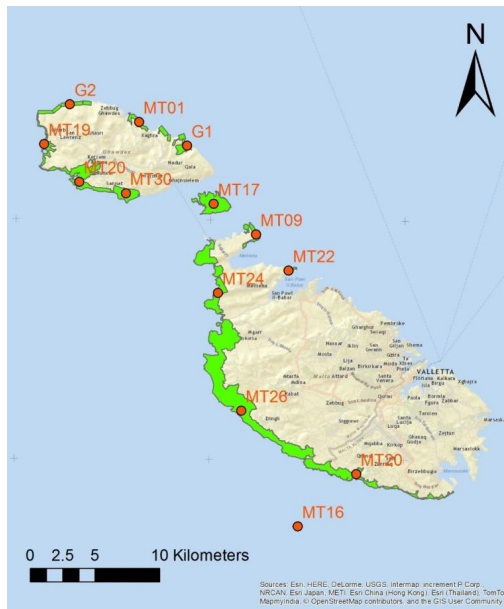
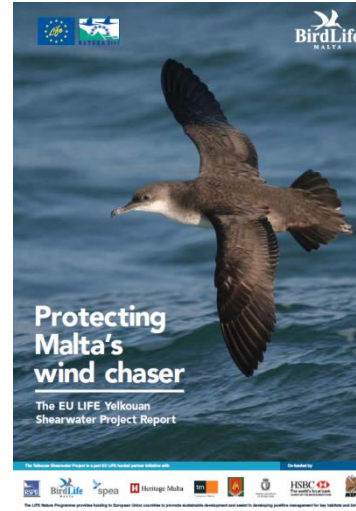


Photo: LIFE Arcipelagu Garnija & Oliver Slessor

# Conservation of Yelkouan Shearwater in Malta



Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, USGS, Intermap, increment P Corp., NRCAN, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri (Thailand), TomTom, Mapbox, and OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

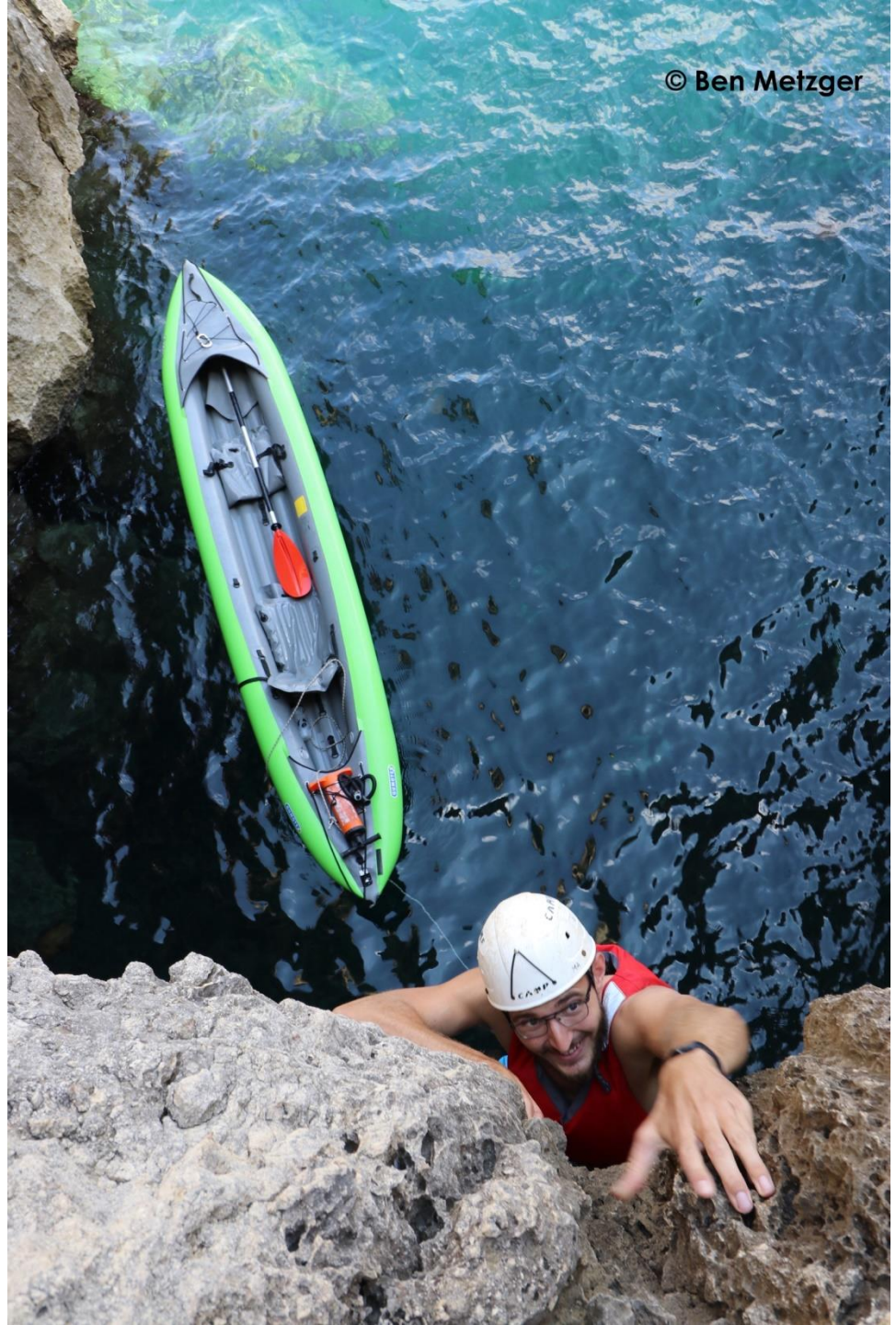


# LIFE Arcipelagu Garnija Project

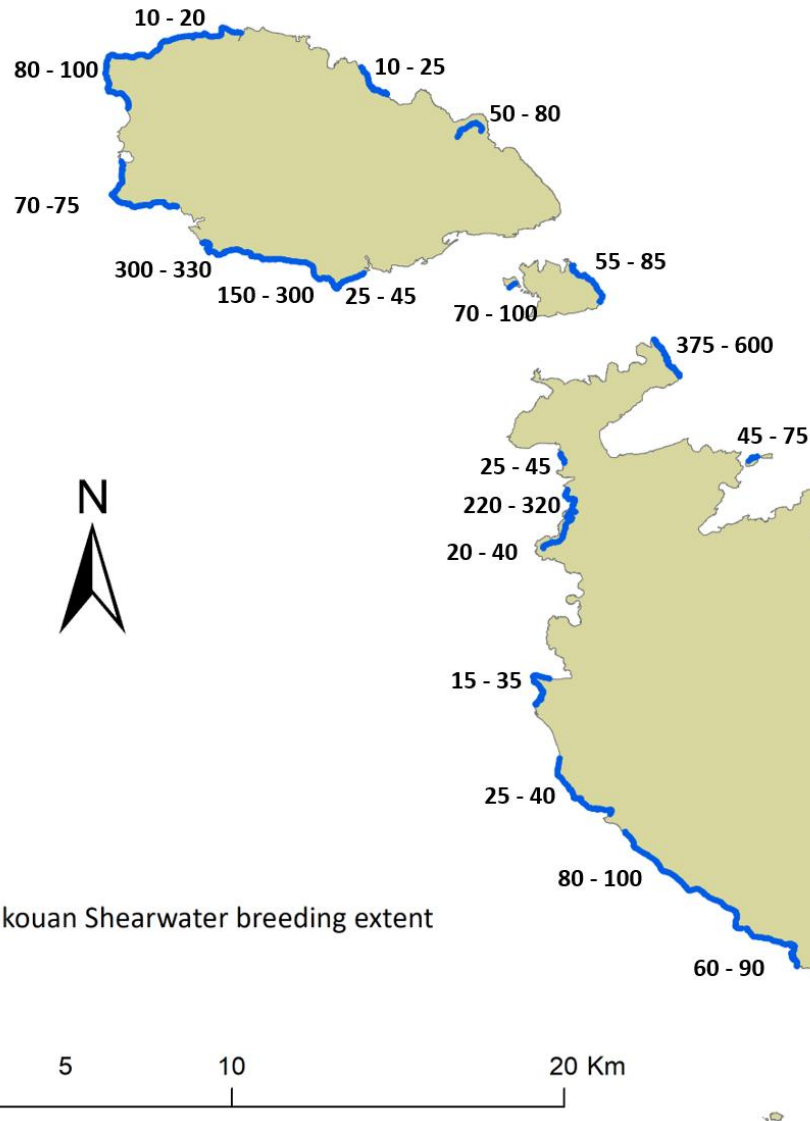
- Securing the Maltese Islands for the Yelkouan Shearwater by;
  - Closing the gap in the knowledge: distribution, numbers and success of breeding birds
  - Assessing the site-based threats
  - Managing and reducing the threats by one third
  - Increasing breeding success



What we have  
achieved?



# Population Range, Size and Breeding Success



## KEY RESULTS

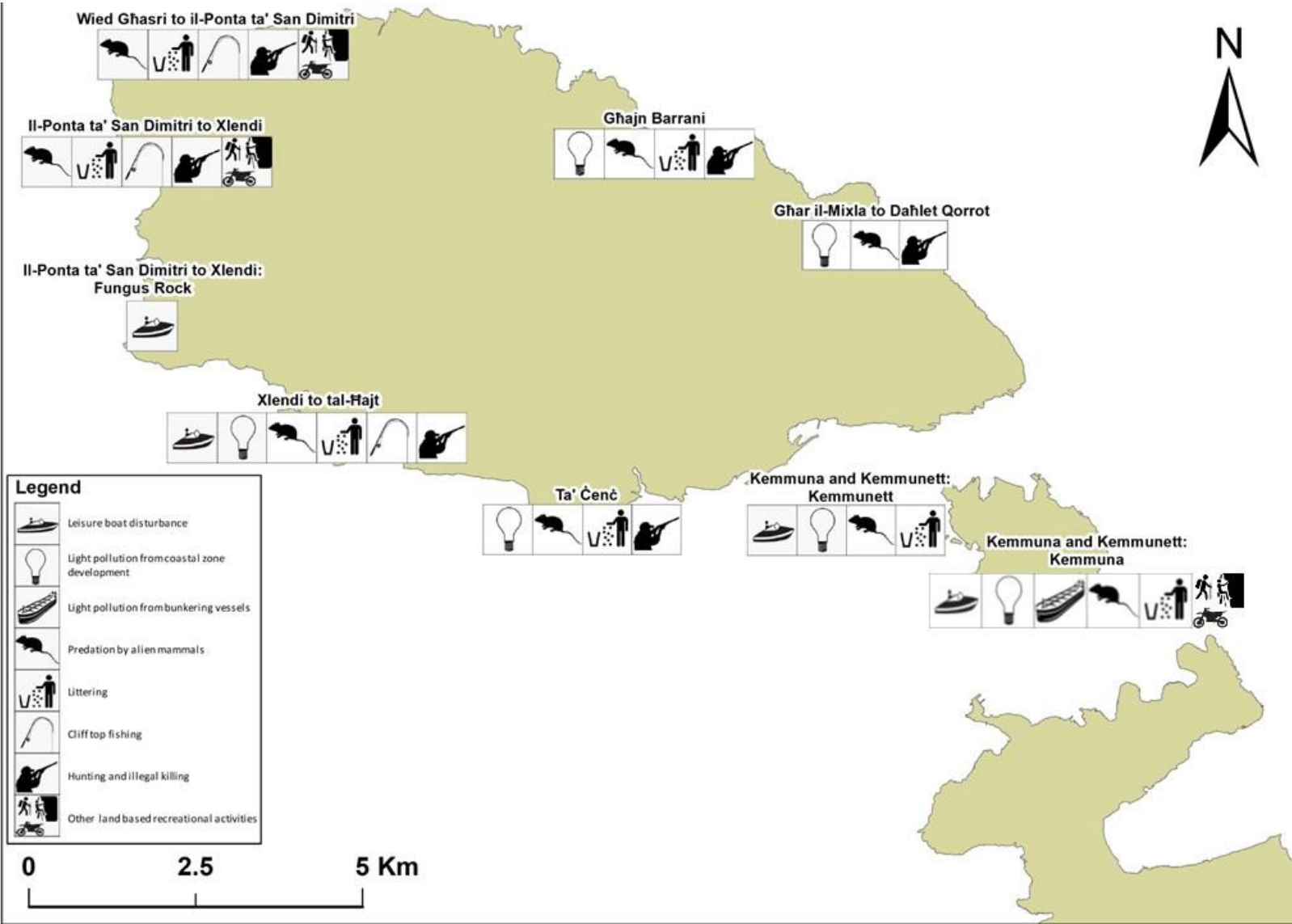
- 1.370 - 2.000 → 1.795 - 2.635
- Higher figures due to higher effort
- Low reproductive success

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Combination of methods and technologies
- Baseline data for future monitoring

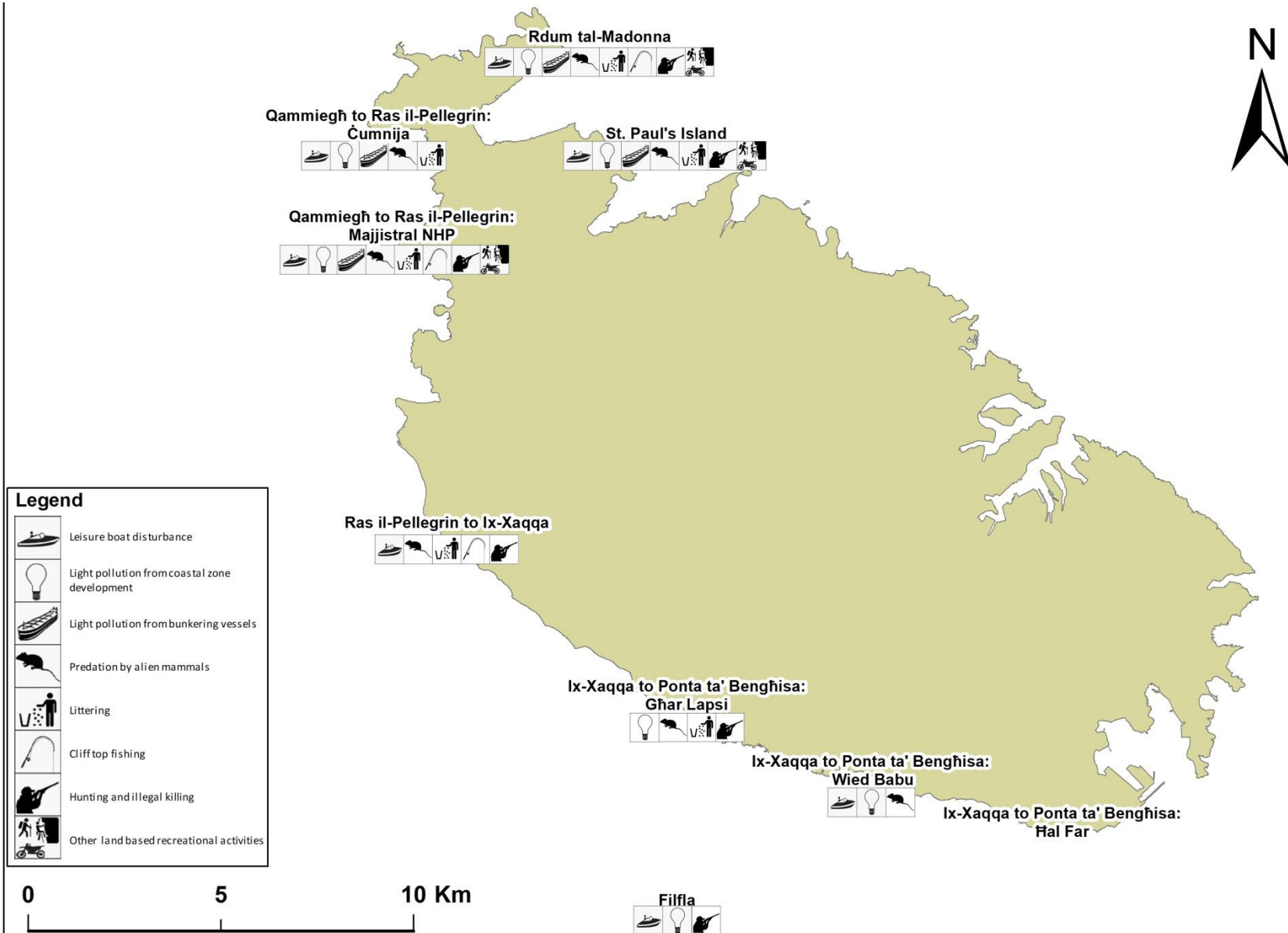


# Site-based Assessment of Threats

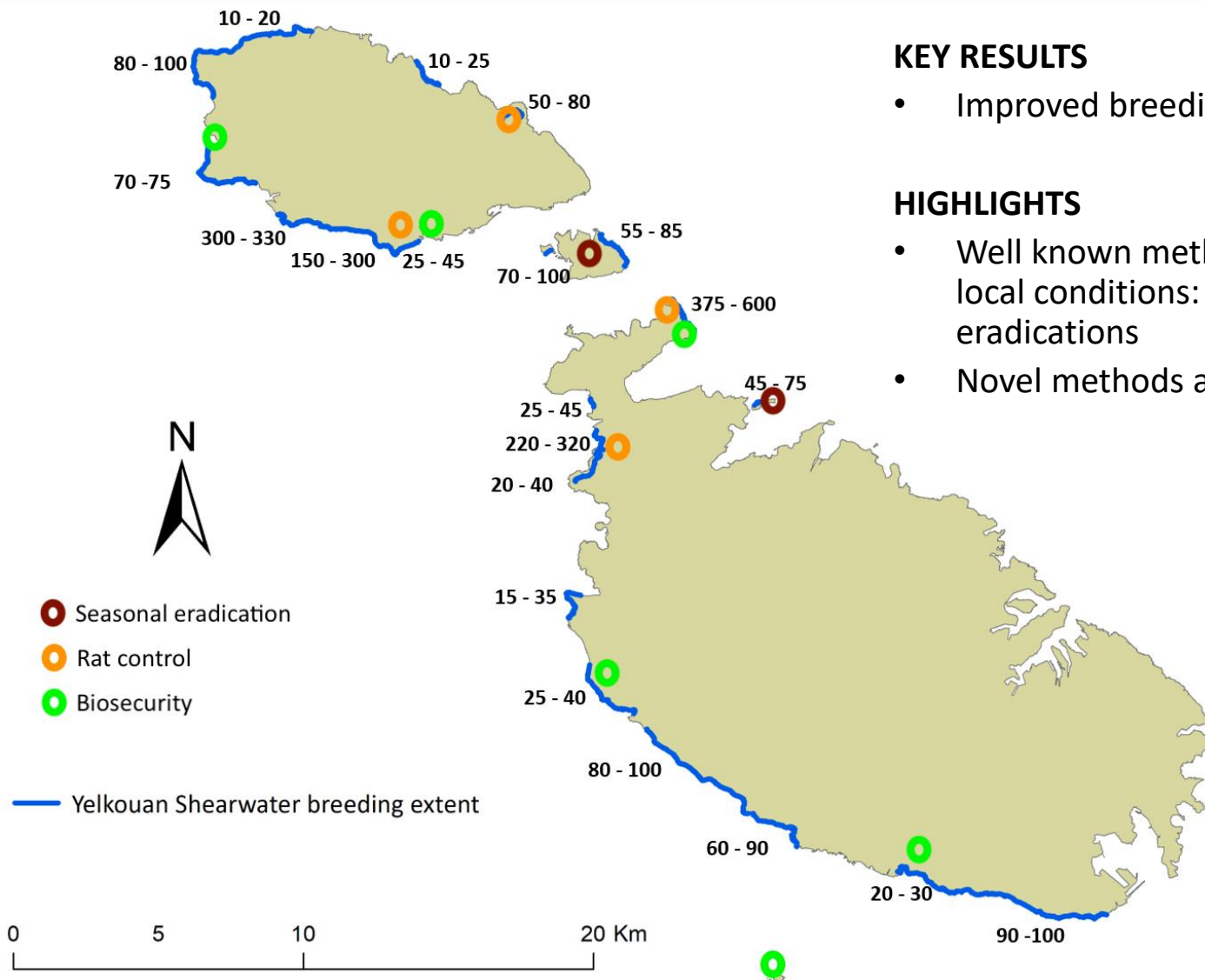




# Site-based Assessment of Threats



# Predator Management



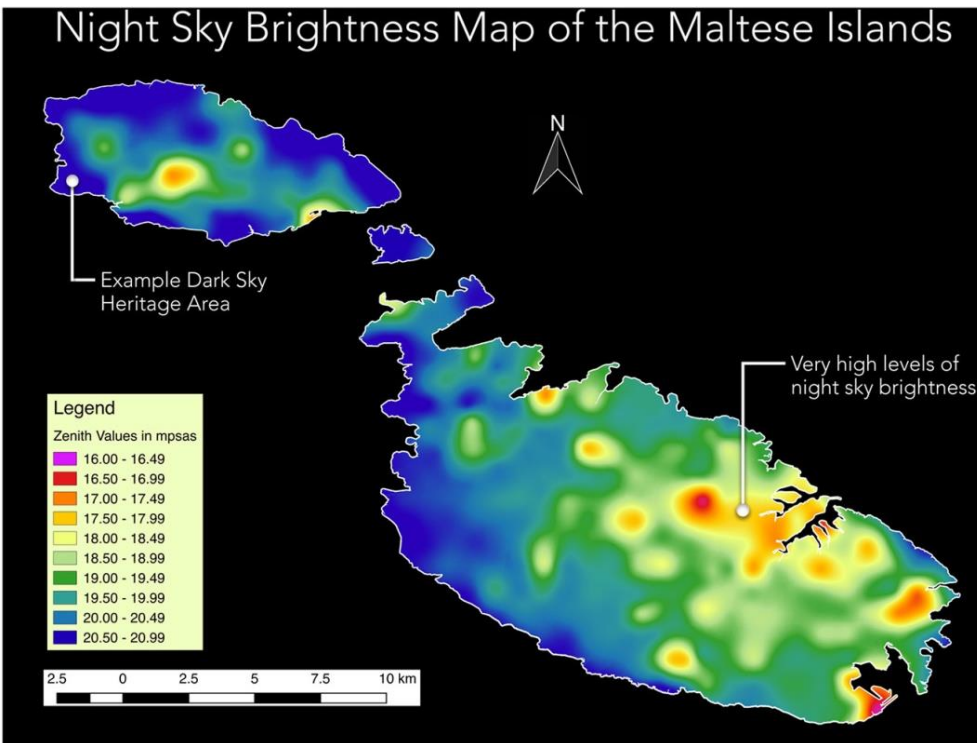
## KEY RESULTS

- Improved breeding success

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Well known methods adapted to the local conditions: seasonal eradications
- Novel methods at colonies: E2 traps

# Mitigating Light Pollution



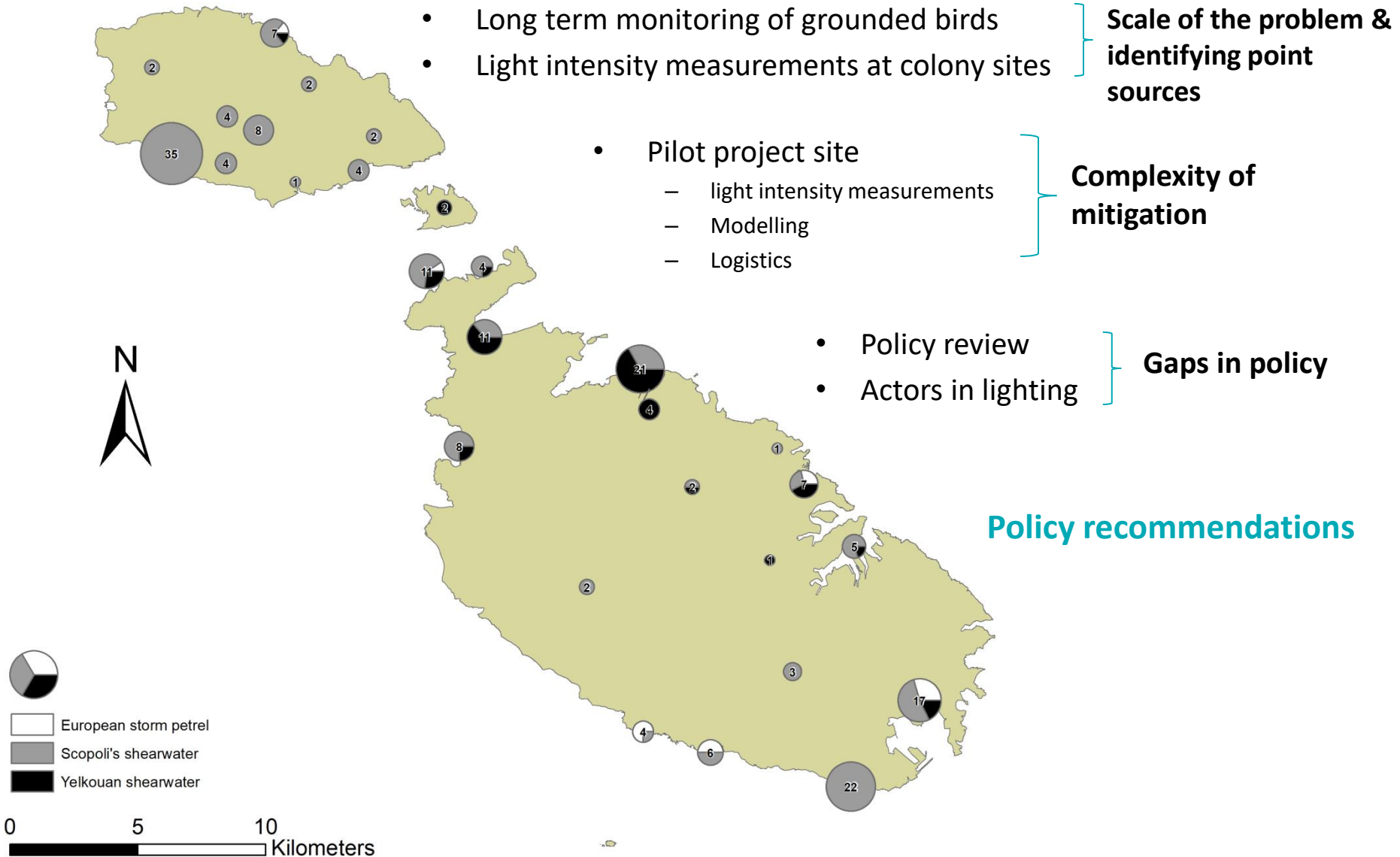
- Understanding the mechanism and impact of light pollution
- Tackle it through influencing policy in the long term

Two components:

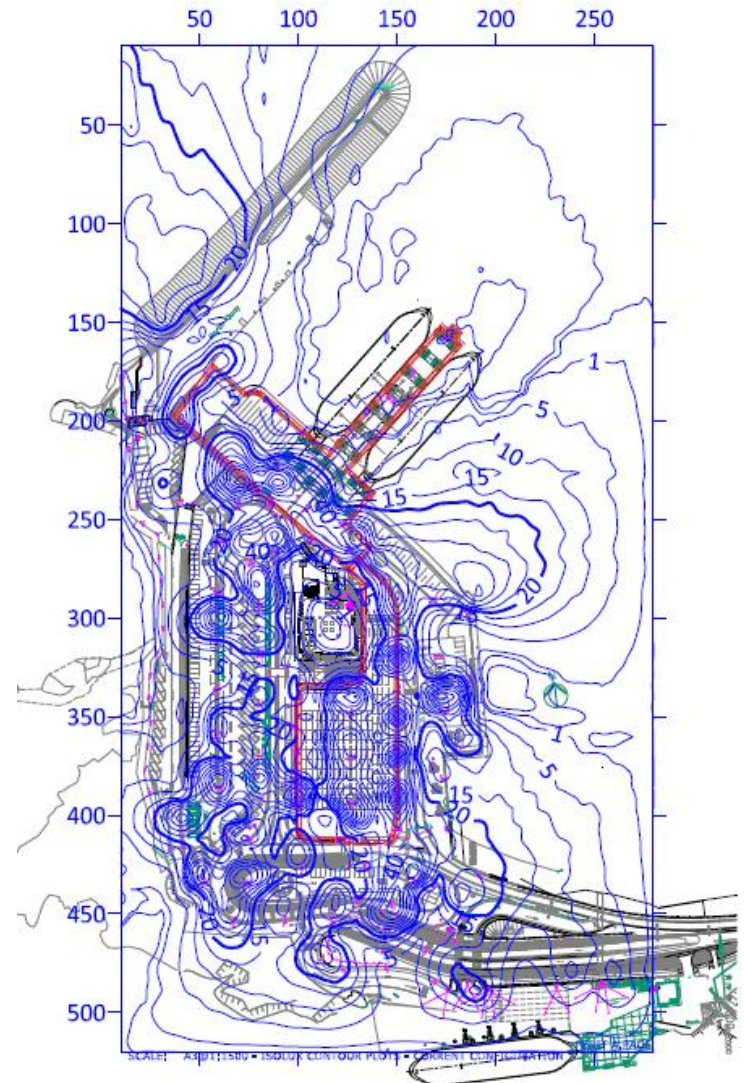
- **permanent** coastal light pollution from development
- **temporary** light pollution from maritime activities like bunkering



# Mitigating Light Pollution: Systematic Approach



# Mitigating Light Pollution: Ćirkewwa Pilot Project



LIFE Arcipelagu Garnija, Unpublished Data

# Mitigating Light Pollution: Ćirkewwa Pilot Project





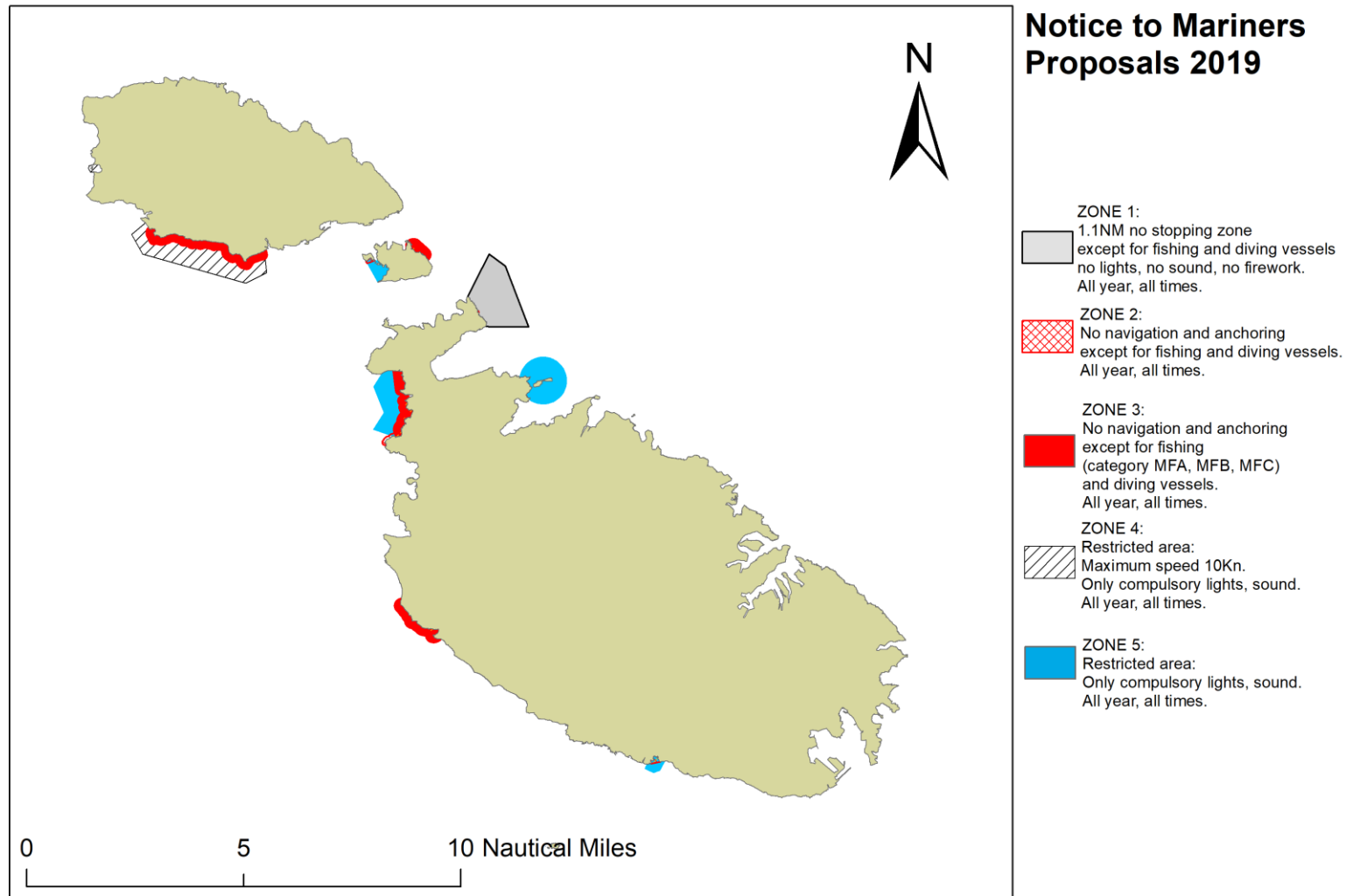
# Mitigating Light Pollution

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Baseline data
- Complications understood
- Public opinion on light pollution



# Reducing the Disturbance from Maritime Activities

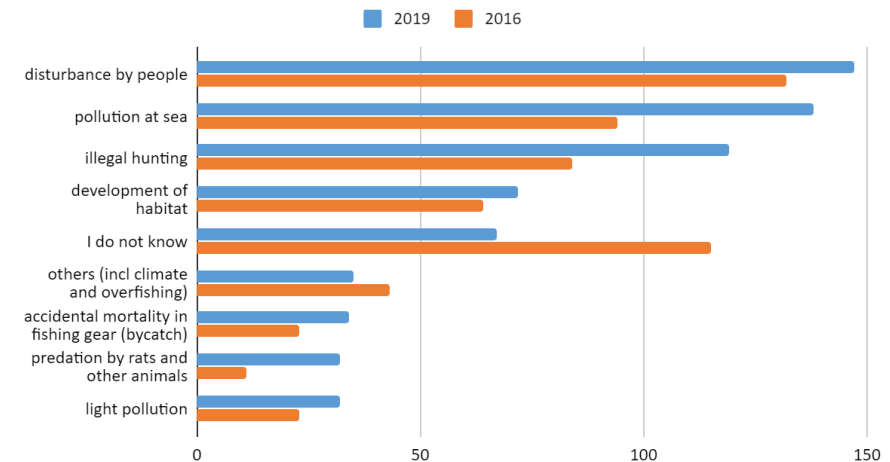


# Reducing the Impact of Site Users



## On-site surveys with site users

### Major reasons for decline, all sites



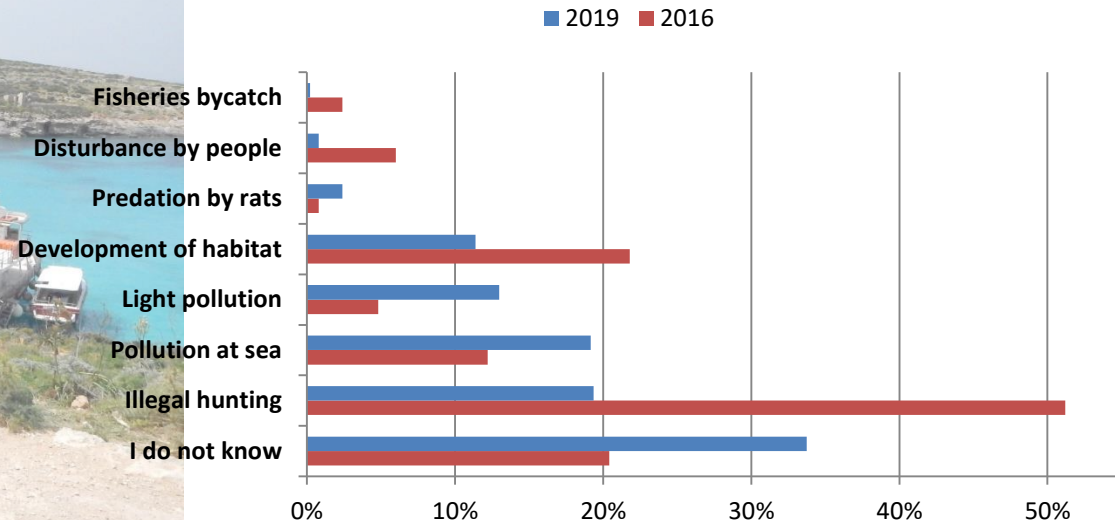
LIFE Arcipelagu Garnija unpublished data



# Reducing the Impact of Site Users



Telephone surveys with the general public



LIFE Arcipelagu Garnija unpublished data

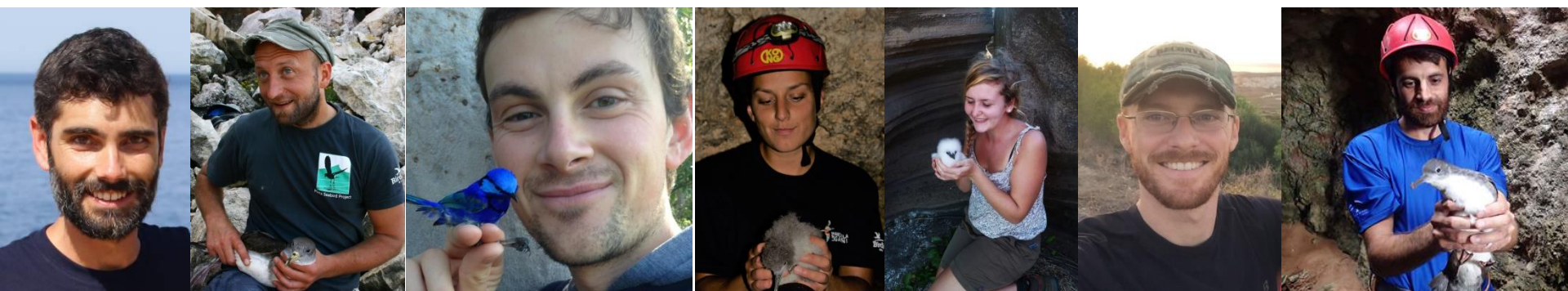
# Where we are now?

- Increased knowledge about the needs of local colonies – transferability
- Improved breeding success at rat control colonies
- Better knowledge about what to do with light pollution
- New areas with less disturbance and Notice to mariners
- Increased awareness on the species

# Where to go?

- Predator management + Biosecurity
- Light pollution policy in Malta
- Sustainable maritime activities –esp. tourism
- More awareness
- Marine areas
- International collaboration





Thanks to the passionate people!

