



PUBLIC CONSULTATION BRIEF

on the

Conservation of Wild Birds (Amendment) Regulations, 2021

19/01/2021

The Wild Birds Regulation Unit invites stakeholders to submit comments and proposals in relation to the draft Conservation of Wild Birds (Amendment) Regulations, 2021. Comments and proposals are to be submitted via email to wildbirds@gov.mt by not later than 16th February 2021 at noon.

Proposed legislative draft

The proposed amendment to the Conservation of Wild Birds Regulations, 2021 includes provisions to enable a person who is not licensed as a bird-ringer in accordance with regulation 23(2), to capture certain birds for the purpose of geo-tagging, followed by their immediate release back into the wild.

This proviso is subject to the submission of an application to the Wild Birds Regulation Unit by not later than two (2) months prior to the geo-tagging commencement date, including details of the species and quantity, the proposed methodology, including proposed dates, and the sites where geo-tagging will be carried out, in accordance with regulation 23(3)(c).

A proviso requesting the recommendations of the Ornithology Committee, in accordance with regulation 10(6) and that applicants must adhere to the conditions specified in the licence issued for the purpose of geo-tagging by the Wild Birds Regulation Unit, shall be included.

Regulation 27 paragraph (b) of the third proviso to sub-regulation (2) thereof, “the Court shall order the permanent revocation of any permit or license issued under these regulations upon the second conviction:” shall be amended to specify that the permanent revocation of any permit or

license shall be effected in accordance to these regulations and Part XV of the Code of Police Laws.

Through this proposed Legal Notice, the third proviso to sub-regulation (3) of Regulation 27 of the English version, shall be amended to remove reference to 'hunting' in the sentence "ordered the disqualification from obtaining a hunting licence for life". By removing the word 'hunting', the person shall be disqualified from obtaining any licence rather than hunting licence only to reflect the Maltese version.

This amendment shall also remove reference to the administrative fine related to the use or possession of any electric or electronic device or/and use or possession of bird caller. Illegal use of such devices will no longer be subject to an administrative fine but subject to court referral.