



PORTS AND YACHTING DIRECTORATE

Transport Malta

## LOCAL NOTICE TO MARINERS No 104 of 2020

Our Ref: **TM/PYD/0001/20**

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[www.transport.gov.mt](http://www.transport.gov.mt)

### **Studies on light-induced seabird ship strikes in the Maltese waters by BirdLife Malta**

The Ports and Yachting Directorate, Transport Malta notifies that BirdLife Malta is conducting research on light induced seabird strikes on vessels in the Central Mediterranean Region around the Maltese Islands (from coastal to offshore) in respect of:

- 1) Yelkouan Shearwater
- 2) Scopoli's Shearwater
- 3) Mediterranean Storm Petrel
- 4) Any other bird species

The aim is to understand the scale and the extent of light-induced seabird strikes on vessels in the Central Mediterranean Region around the Maltese waters in connection with EU-funded LIFE Arcipelagu Garnija project (LIFE14 NAT/MT/991).

Mariners are requested to cooperate and support the research by reporting sightings immediately as follows to:

Email: [BirdLife Malta seabirds@birdlifemalta.org](mailto:BirdLife_Malta_seabirds@birdlifemalta.org)  
SMS/phone on mobile/whatsapp: +356 99894405

The information required includes the following:

#### **Event Information**

Vessel MMSI: \_\_\_\_\_

Vessel Activity: Anchoring/Bunkering / In Transit / Fishing

Level of illumination on the vessel: Navigation / Deck / Accommodation (Super structure) / Lights for fishing

Date & Time (when the bird is found): \_\_\_\_\_

GPS position (where the bird is found): \_\_\_\_\_



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**Initial observations**

Status of the bird:                      Dead / Alive

Number of individuals:                \_\_\_\_\_

Species:            Yelkouan Shearwater / Scopoli's Shearwater /  
Mediterranean Storm Petrel / any other bird species

Retrieved:                                On deck/ In water:

**If found alive:**

Condition of the bird:                    Injured / Exhausted / Healthy / Oil on the bird

Flew off without assistance:            Yes / No

Time spent on board:                    \_\_\_\_\_

Outcome:                                    Released / Died

**Comments:**

Where possible, mariners are requested to provide supporting evidence in the form of an image or video of the bird and any additional information, including local wind direction, strength and visibility.

The participation of mariners in such a long-term initiative is necessary to improve the conservation status of these threatened seabird species in the Maltese waters.