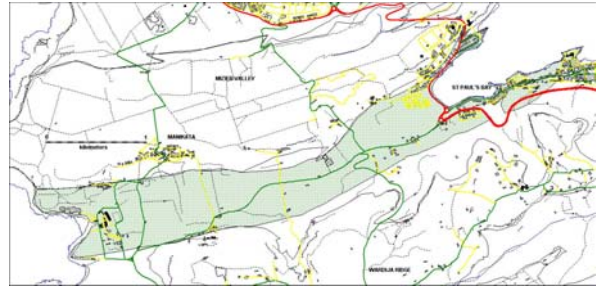




MALTA RESOURCES AUTHORITY



Groundwater Body Code

MT005

Groundwater Body Name

Pwales Coastal Groundwater Body

Reference Year

2004

General Characteristics

Location

The Pwales aquifer forms a low block between the Wardija and the Bajda Ridges, with its base rising slightly above sea level in the west, resulting in a limited area perched above sea level; whilst to the east where the Blue Clay formation dips below sea level it is in direct contact with the sea. The Blue Clay base is probably breached below sea level by sink-holes and faults allowing limited vertical contact with sea water.

Area

2.8km²

Main Aquifer

Upper Coralline Limestone

Main Aquifer Type

Fractured Carbonate Media

Groundwater Horizon

1

Maximum Length

0.7km

Maximum Width

5.6km

Mathematical centre of groundwater body

444000, 3977900

Hydro-geological characteristics

Stratigraphy

Tertiary—Miocene

Mean Annual Precipitation

524mm

Mean Aquifer Thickness

n/a

Main Recharge Source

Precipitation

Mean Annual Recharge

0.7hm³

Pressures

Main Land-Use Features (Corinne Landcover 2000)

Discontinuous urban fabric

17%

Agriculture with significant area of natural vegetation

80%

Schlerophyllous vegetation

2%

Sparsely vegetated areas

1%

Other Pressures

Water Abstraction Purpose

Irrigation

Artificial Recharge

No

Possible Associated Aquatic Ecosystems

Is-Simar Saline Marshlands