

## FINAL THOUGHTS

- 1 With so many different people/entities/industries using & enjoying our limited coastline AND tuna farming operations already being one of the highest volume producers in the world when will someone say **enough is enough? THE SEA IS A FINITE RESOURCE**
- 2 How can anyone justify applying to double the scale of operations in a location which was assigned and still is listed as a **Temporary Location? WHAT ABOUT THE NAZ & THE ONGOING STUDIES?**
- 3 When just 14 pens caused such a disaster on our coastline, beaches & water quality in 2016 do we have any doubt whatsoever what effect 24 pens will have?

Do we really want to subject the residents & tourists in Northern localities to **another summer of dead fish, slicks of fish oil and surface slime of decomposed fish matter, fats & oils?**

## WHO AM I?

### Nicolai Abela



Raised in UK

Maltese Citizen & Resident

4th Generation Resident of  
St.Paul's Bay

## WHY AM I HERE?

## WHY AM I HERE?



Love of Sea

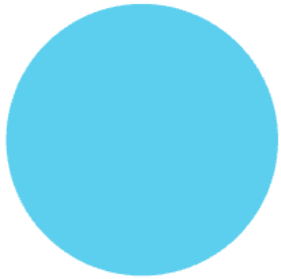


Feel strongly that the sea is one of Malta's greatest asset



Believe that no one has the right to infringe on our right to enjoy the natural environment

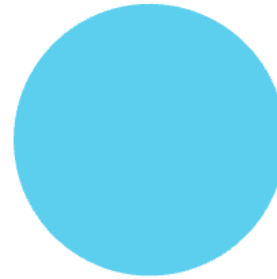
# 1980's



The beginning of  
Aquaculture Industry  
in Malta



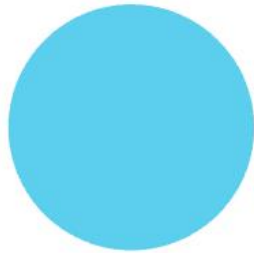
# 2000



Setup of first  
tuna ranching  
operation 1km  
off coast  
of St.Paul's Bay



**2000**



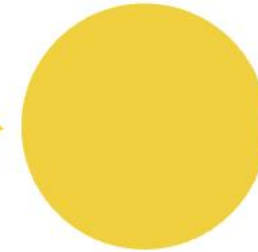
Setup of first  
tuna ranching  
operation 1km  
off coast  
of St.Paul's Bay



Northern coastline waters & shoreline  
exposed to nauseous odors of dead fish,  
slicks of fish oil , surface slime of  
decomposed fish matter, fats & oils



**2015**



aters & shoreline  
dors of dead fish,  
rface slime of  
itter, fats & oils



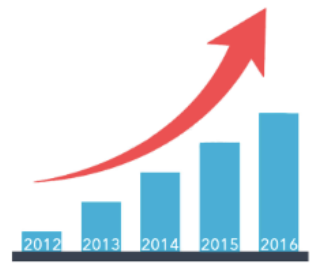
**2015**



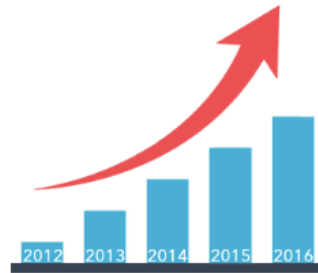
**2016**



**Fish Farm Pollution  
reaches record  
levels in August**



**reaches record  
levels in August**



**Public outcry &  
demand for  
accountability but  
still no answers!**

# STOP THE SLIME campaign setup to clean coastline & find a remedy.....





AND

it was also discovered that there were **double the number of pens** allowed in their permit (x14)!

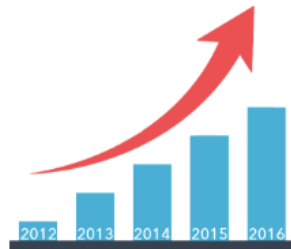


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**2016**

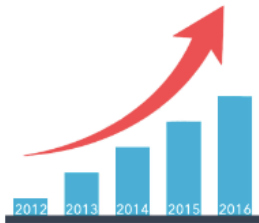
**2017**

Fish Farm Pollution  
reaches record  
levels in August





Fish Farm Pollution reaches record levels in August



Public outcry & demand for accountability but still no answers!

**STOP THE SLIME** campaign setup to clean coastline & find a remedy.....



**1** Illegal pens were ordered to be removed

**2** Operations were moved 5km offshore to a **TEMPORARY LOCATION**

**3** Process initiated to identify a suitable North Aquaculture Zone following the necessary studies & EIA.

2016

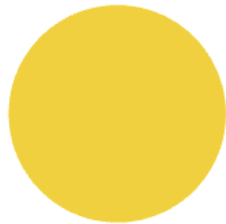


Storm Pollution  
Incidents record  
set in August



Consentatory &  
stand for

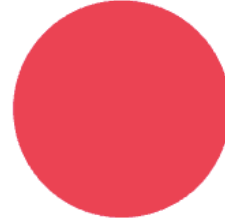
2017

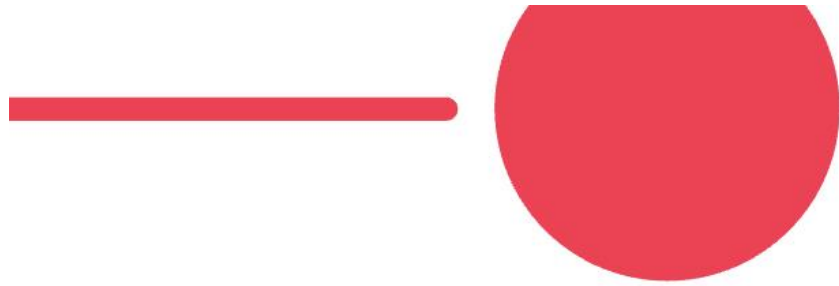


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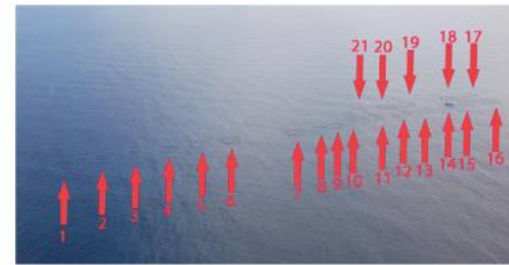
2 Operations were  
moved 5km  
offshore to a  
TEMPORARY  
LOCATION

2018





During routine inspections **STOP THE SLIME** discovers 21 pens instead of the permitted 12.



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We also discovered  
an application to  
double the number  
of pens to 24

meae.gov.mt\*

Search

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Main EN > Public Consultations > MESDC > EA 0007/18 - Extension to an existing tuna farm operation off the Northeast coast of Malta

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Click on the 'Online Consultation' logo to go to the Public Consultations platform.

ONLINE CONSULTATION

### EA 0007/18 - Extension to an existing tuna farm operation off the Northeast coast of Malta

CLOSED CONSULTATION

From: Ministry for the Environment, Sustainable Development and Climate Change (ERA)  
Published: 9 February 2018  
Running till: 11 March 2018  
Last Updated: 12 March 2018

1. Background  
The proposed development falls under Schedule I Category I as per Section 8.2.1.1 of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2017 (S.L. 549.120).
2. Consultation Questions

*The Environment and Resources Authority is formulating terms of reference for the preparation of an Environmental Impact Assessment of the development mentioned above. The general public is invited to submit written comments on matters it wishes to see included in the terms of reference.*

In response Stop The Slime setup the very first **Parliamentary Online Petition** which gathered nearly 2000 verified signatures opposing this extension

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Thirteenth Legislature (2017 - )

Standing Orders of the House of Representatives  
Media Archive

**Petition No: 1** **Signatures: 1500**

Thirteenth Legislature (2017 - )

Details - Online

Title	Objection to an extension for an existing tuna farm operation of the Northeast coast of Malta
Date	05-03-2018
Date petition closed for signatures	04-05-2018
Creator of petition	NICCOLAI ABELA
Reason for Petition	I object to the increase in tuna pens in the temporary location which is in the North East of Malta. This tuna farm is located outside St Pauls Bay, Qawra and Ghadira and the operators are requesting to double the number of pens from 12 to 24 to the detriment of the residents, swimmers and causing damage to the marine environment through oil spills, fish residue and waste products from the tuna confined to these pens. I object fully to this extension.
Background	In Summer 2016 on the North East coastline of Malta (in particular on the shores of Xerxija, St Paul's Bay and Qawra) a large amount of pollution, oil spills, fish slime & residue originating from the tuna pens covered the surface of the sea and shoreline making it unsuitable for swimming. On investigation the authorities also found that the tuna farm operator had more pens than was permitted and had ships to have the illegal pens removed. In 2017 the PA allowed the pens to be relocated with 12 tuna pens at a temporary location during which studies would be conducted to confirm the best location for such operations. This temporary location was approx. 5 km offshore from St Paul's Bay and a maximum of 12 pens was permitted. The final report should be released in May 2018. In December a new application was made to double the number of pens from 12 to 24 even though the studies have not been concluded. In January and February of this year the pens were illegally increased to 22. Protests were made to the PA and EMA but the situation remained the same regardless of the legislation. In spite of the fact that the pens have been moved further offshore we are still at high risk of experiencing the same pollution and incidents of 2016 due to the increase of pens from 12 to 24. The authorities seem powerless or have no interest in remedying this situation.
Additional Details	Objection to EA 0002718 - Extension to an existing tuna farm operation of the Northeast coast of Malta

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1 of 16 | © Parliament of Malta 2017



As of today  
there are now  
**26 pens** whilst  
permit still  
stands at 12!

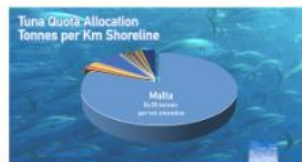


## THE FACTS



From all European & Non-European countries in ICCAT Malta has the **highest quota of tuna tonnage** (13,800 tonnes) allocated to its tuna farm operations.

The International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas

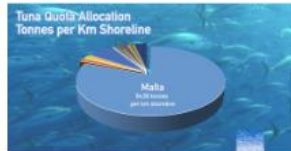


Malta has the **highest ratio of tuna tonnage per km of shoreline** of any country in the world (54 tonnes/km closest to this is Cyprus with 4.6 tonnes/km).

Lots of Tuna + Short Coastline + Densely Populated  
= Lots of Slime having a High Impact



farm operations.



Malta has the **highest ratio of tuna tonnage per km of shoreline** of any country in the world (54 tonnes/km closest to this is Cyprus with 4.6 tonnes/km).

**Lots of Tuna + Short Coastline + Densely Populated  
= Lots of Slime having a High Impact**

<b>Case Number:</b>	PAWS0210
<b>Location of development:</b>	Site at, in Slika I Bay, San Pawl il-Bani, Malta
<b>Description of works:</b>	To <b>extend</b> the <b>existing</b> <b>tuna cages</b> to a site off the coast of Slika I Bay.
<b>Applicant:</b>	M. Charles Bugeja
<b>Architect:</b>	M. Charles Bugeja
<b>Receipt date:</b>	27 March 2017

The proposed extension is being made to **pens in a temporary location** which has been assigned as an interim solution until the **North Aquaculture Zone** is confirmed.



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