

# THIRD SUPPLEMENT TO THE GIBRALTAR GAZETTE

No. 5318 GIBRALTAR Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2026

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B. 25/26

## BILL

FOR

AN ACT to designate certain species as national species of Gibraltar; to confer symbolic national status upon those species; and for connected purposes.

ENACTED by the Legislature of Gibraltar.

### Short title and commencement.

1.(1) This Act may be cited as the National Species Act 2026.

(2) This Act comes into operation on a date to be appointed by the Minister by notice in the Gazette.

### Interpretation.

2. In this Act, unless the context otherwise requires-

“British Gibraltar Territorial Waters” has the meaning given to the term “BGTW” in the Nature Protection Act 1991;

“the Minister” means the Minister with responsibility for the environment;

“national species” means a species designated as a national species of Gibraltar in the Schedule;

“native species” means a species which is indigenous to, or naturally occurs in, Gibraltar;

“symbolic national status” means the recognition of a species as a national emblem of Gibraltar.

### Designation of national species.

3.(1) The species listed in the Schedule are hereby designated as national species of Gibraltar.

(2) The designation of a species as a national species confers symbolic national status upon that species only.

**Criteria for designation of further national species.**

4.(1) The Minister may, by order published in the Gazette, designate further species as national species of Gibraltar, provided that any such species satisfies one or more of the following criteria—

- (a) it is a wild species native to Gibraltar or is representative of the flora or fauna of Gibraltar;
- (b) it is a wild species endemic to Gibraltar;
- (c) it is a species of particular importance because of its scientific, ecological, biodiversity, biogeographical, landscape or educational interest;
- (d) it is a species with a specific cultural or historical connection with Gibraltar and its identity;
- (e) it is a threatened, rare or possibly extinct species, particularly with a restricted distribution in Gibraltar;
- (f) it is a charismatic species that may serve as a symbol or focal point to raise environmental awareness and consciousness;
- (g) it is a species with the potential to enhance acceptance of habitat preservation or capable of favourably influencing attitudes towards environmental conservation and management; or
- (h) it is a species which, in the Minister's opinion, is otherwise of national significance to Gibraltar.

(2) An order under subsection (1) shall amend the Schedule accordingly.

(3) In this section, a reference to Gibraltar includes a reference to British Gibraltar Territorial Waters.

**Communication and public awareness.**

5. The Minister may promote education and general information regarding the national species of Gibraltar and, in that respect, may encourage—

- (a) appropriate publicity for the designation of national species;
- (b) the dissemination of information on national species, their habitats, and their significance to Gibraltar; and

- (c) co-operation with public bodies, educational institutions, and other organisations in developing educational and public awareness programmes with respect to national species and their habitats.

**Relationship with other enactments.**

6. Nothing in this Act affects any provision of the Nature Protection Act 1991, the Gibraltar National Park Act 2023 or any other enactment relating to the protection, conservation, or management of any species.

**Power to amend Schedule.**

7. The Minister may, by order published in the Gazette, amend the Schedule for the purpose of adding, removing, or varying any entry.

**Regulations.**

8.(1) The Minister may make regulations for carrying into effect the purposes and provisions of this Act.

(2) Without prejudice to the generality of subsection (1), regulations under this section may—

- (a) provide for the protection, conservation, and promotion of national species and their habitats;
- (b) establish procedures for the designation or removal of national species;
- (c) impose duties on public bodies in relation to the promotion of awareness and education concerning national species;
- (d) provide for the establishment of advisory bodies or committees to advise the Minister on matters relating to national species;
- (e) make different provision for different purposes, different areas or habitats, or different species or categories of species;
- (f) make incidental, supplementary, consequential, transitional, transitory, or saving provision; and
- (g) make provision to delegate functions to any person or body, subject to such conditions or limitations as the Minister considers appropriate.

(3) Before making regulations under this section, the Minister may consult such persons or bodies as the Minister considers appropriate.

**SCHEDULE**

**Section 2**

**NATIONAL SPECIES OF GIBRALTAR**

<b>Designation</b>	<b>Common Name (<i>Scientific Name</i>)</b>
National Flower	Gibraltar Campion ( <i>Silene tomentosa</i> )
National Bird	Barbary Partridge ( <i>Alectoris barbara</i> )
National Mammal	Barbary Macaque ( <i>Macaca sylvanus</i> )
National Tree	Wild Olive ( <i>Olea europaea</i> var. <i>sylvestris</i> )

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