



# Ramsar Information Sheet

Published on 24 June 2025

Update version, previously published on : 1 January 2006

## **United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (Crown dependencies)**

**Alderney West Coast and the Burhou Islands**



|                  |                       |
|------------------|-----------------------|
| Designation date | 24 August 2005        |
| Site number      | 1587                  |
| Coordinates      | 49°43'24"N 02°15'20"W |
| Area             | 1 568,00 ha           |

<https://rsis Ramsar.org/ris/1587>  
Created by RSIS v.2.0 on - 24 June 2025

Color codes

Fields back-shaded in light blue relate to data and information required only for RIS updates.

Note that some fields concerning aspects of Part 3, the Ecological Character Description of the RIS (tinted in purple), are not expected to be completed as part of a standard RIS, but are included for completeness so as to provide the requested consistency between the RIS and the format of a ‘full’ Ecological Character Description, as adopted in Resolution X.15 (2008). If a Contracting Party does have information available that is relevant to these fields (for example from a national format Ecological Character Description) it may, if it wishes to, include information in these additional fields.

1 - Summary

|   |
|---|
| Summary   |
| <p>The Alderney West Coast and the Burhou Islands Ramsar Site comprises the western coast of Alderney and adjacent shallow waters and islets in the strongly tidal, high-energy system of the northern Channel Islands (including a high velocity tidal stream known as ‘The Swinge’). It contains diverse and inter-related ecosystems, notably rocky shore, tide swept habitats, kelp forest and coastal grassland.</p> <p>A high diversity of marine life is present. This includes numerous species of marine algae, globally threatened marine species such as the Pink sea fan <i>Eunicella verrucosa</i> and Green ormer <i>Haliotis tuberculata</i>, and a wide range of fish, including species that are of both ecological importance (e.g. Lesser sand eel <i>Ammodytes tobianus</i>) and commercial/cultural importance (e.g. European sea bass <i>Dicentrarchus labrax</i>). There are also sizeable areas of habitat associated with various life stages of fin and shellfish, notably sandbars, kelp forest and intertidal rocky shore, with multiple numerous species using the site for spawning and as a nursery. The site forms a regionally important breeding area and year-round refuge for Grey seal <i>Halichoerus grypus</i>, and Bottlenose dolphin <i>Tursiops truncatus</i>, Common dolphin <i>Delphinus delphis</i>, Harbour porpoise <i>Phocoena phocoena</i> and Minke whale <i>Balaenoptera acutorostrata</i> also frequent the area.</p> <p>The site is also important for birds. A range of breeding seabirds are present, including 2% of the global breeding population of Northern gannet <i>Morus bassanus</i> and a small (c.185 pairs) fragile population of Atlantic puffin <i>Fratercula arctica</i> at the edge of their breeding range. Other breeding species include the only confirmed European storm petrel <i>Hydrobates pelagicus</i> colony in the Channel Islands, the majority of Guillemot <i>Uria aalge</i> individuals that occur on Alderney, and the last consistent population of Ringed plover <i>Charadrius hiaticula</i> within the Channel Islands. In addition to this, the site supports thousands of other waterbirds annually.</p> |

## 2 - Data & location

### 2.1 - Formal data

#### 2.1.1 - Name and address of the compiler of this RIS

##### Responsible compiler

|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| Institution/agency | Alderney Wildlife Trust                                     |
| Postal address     | 48 Victoria Street<br>Alderney<br>GY9 3TA<br>United Kingdom |

##### National Ramsar Administrative Authority

|                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| Institution/agency | Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs       |
| Postal address     | 2 Marsham Street<br>London<br>SW1P 4DF<br>United Kingdom |

#### 2.1.2 - Period of collection of data and information used to compile the RIS

|           |      |
|-----------|------|
| From year | 2005 |
| To year   | 2024 |

#### 2.1.3 - Name of the Ramsar Site

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Official name (in English, French or Spanish) | Alderney West Coast and the Burhou Islands |
| Unofficial name (optional)                    | Alderney Ramsar Site                       |

#### 2.1.4 - Changes to the boundaries and area of the Site since its designation or earlier update

|  |   |
|--|---|
| (Update) A. Changes to Site boundary                                   | Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/> |
| (Update) B. Changes to Site area                                       | the area has decreased  |
| (Update) The Site area has been calculated more accurately             | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>                           |
| (Update) The Site has been delineated more accurately                  | <input type="checkbox"/>                                      |
| (Update) The Site area has increased because of a boundary extension   | <input type="checkbox"/>                                      |
| (Update) The Site area has decreased because of a boundary restriction | <input type="checkbox"/>                                      |
| (Update) For secretariat only: This update is an extension             | <input type="checkbox"/>                                      |

#### 2.1.5 - Changes to the ecological character of the Site

|  |  |
|--|--|
| (Update) 6b i. Has the ecological character of the Ramsar Site (including applicable Criteria) changed since the previous RIS? | No   |
| (Update) Optional text box to provide further information  | There are indications that the characteristics of the site may be changing, notably in relation to warming sea surface temperatures and the introduction of invasive species. However, based on current available monitoring and other information no overall positive or negative change is apparent. |

## 2.2 - Site location

### 2.2.1 - Defining the Site boundaries

b) Digital map/image  
<1 file(s) uploaded>

|             |   |
|-------------|---|
| Former maps | 0 |
|-------------|---|

##### Boundaries description

The boundaries start at the western end of Platte Saline Bay, run north to the offshore Burhou archipelago (including Burhou, the Nannals, Renoquet, Verte Tere), then north west to Ortac, then south east towards Les Etacs, and then across the entire Clonque Bay coastline back to Platte Saline.

### 2.2.2 - General location

a) In which large administrative region does the site lie?

b) What is the nearest town or population centre?

### 2.2.3 - For wetlands on national boundaries only

- a) Does the wetland extend onto the territory of one or more other countries? Yes ☐ No ☒
- b) Is the site adjacent to another designated Ramsar Site on the territory of another Contracting Party? Yes ☐ No ☒

### 2.2.4 - Area of the Site

Official area, in hectares (ha):

Area, in hectares (ha) as calculated from GIS boundaries

### 2.2.5 - Biogeography

Biogeographic regions

| Regionalisation scheme(s)             | Biogeographic region |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------|
| EU biogeographic regionalization      | Atlantic Ocean       |
| Marine Ecoregions of the World (MEOW) | Celtic Seas          |

Other biogeographic regionalisation scheme

The site falls within the Atlantic Ocean biogeographic region of Europe as defined by the European Environment Agency

### 3 - Why is the Site important?

#### 3.1 - Ramsar Criteria and their justification

☒ Criterion 1: Representative, rare or unique natural or near-natural wetland types

|                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Hydrological services provided    | See section 4.5   |
| Other ecosystem services provided | See section 4.5   |
| Other reasons                     | The Ramsar Site supports a range of diverse, complex habitats, including vegetated shingle banks, sand dunes, dune and coastal grassland, sea cliffs, sandy, gravelly and rocky shores (including the offshore islands of Burhou, Les Etacs and Ortac), rock pools, sand bars and kelp forests; there is also a small area of dune slack wet grassland at Platte Saline. Recently the Tuning-fork algae <i>Bicaria bifucata</i> has begun to create a new habitat type within the site, growing outside of rockpools in the lower shore, where it was previously limited to subtidal areas and rock pools. A tidal stream body (an area with extremely high tidal velocity known as 'The Swinge') produces areas of tide-swept habitat. |

☒ Criterion 2 : Rare species and threatened ecological communities

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Optional text box to provide further information | <p>Burhou Island supports the largest breeding population of the Atlantic puffin <i>Fratercula arctica</i> in the Channel Islands, and one of the largest colonies in the English Channel region. This species is listed as Vulnerable according to the IUCN Red List and faces several threats.</p> <p>Two important colonies of Northern gannet <i>Morus bassanus</i> are also found within the site (see Criterion 6). These were greatly affected by the Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) outbreak, which caused significant adult mortality (estimated 20-30% increase in adult mortality during 2022). Locally the species has low productivity with a high proportion of non-breeding birds; in addition, the nearby colony of Rouzic had started to decline prior to HPAI, and those on Les Etacs and Ortac are now following a comparable pattern.</p> <p>Rocky shores, notably under-boulder habitats, within the site (such as Clonque Bay) provide local strongholds for the Green ormer <i>Haliotis tuberculata</i>, a marine gastropod listed as Vulnerable on the IUCN Red List with a decreasing population trend. Locally the species has seen significant historical reductions in abundance, likely due to intense fishing pressure and extreme weather events.</p> <p>Other globally threatened species using the site include: Tope shark <i>Galeorhinus galeus</i> (listed as Critically Endangered and declining on the IUCN Red List) that are frequently caught and released by sport fishers; Ocean sunfish <i>Mola mola</i> and Nursehound <i>Scyliorhinus stellaris</i> (both listed Vulnerable on the IUCN Red List) (with Nursehound having been recorded on baited recorded underwater video surveys); European spiny lobster <i>Palinurus elephas</i> (listed as Vulnerable and declining on the IUCN Red List); and Pink sea fan <i>Eunicella verrucosa</i> (listed as Vulnerable on the IUCN Red List), which occurs within tide-swept habitats along with the Whip fan nudibranch <i>Tritonia nilsodhneri</i> that is reliant on Pink sea fan.</p> |
|--|---|

☒ Criterion 3 : Biological diversity

Justification

The site is rich in biodiversity. It supports a wide range of costal and marine habitats (see Criterion 1), which provide food, refuge and habitat for important seabird and marine species. The intertidal rocky-shore environments specifically support many rare species of marine flora and fauna, including the locally important Green ormer *Haliotis tuberculata*. At least 134 species of marine algae have been identified. These include important species such as Egg wrack *Ascophyllum nodosum* and Rainbow wrack *Cystoseira tamariscifolia*; and key habitat forming species including four species of *Laminaria* and Fur bellows *Saccorhiza polyschides*, as well as several *Fucus* species that create sheltered understory habitats for invertebrates. The algae *Prasiola* sp. is abundant on the gannetries. Areas of Hanaine Bay are dominated by encrusting red algae. This high diversity of macro algae creates a range of micro-habitats and supports a highly diverse assemblage of consumers. A wide diversity of fish is present with over 35 species across a range of functional groups on record (see Criterion 7 and 8 for further information). The site is also important for birds. There is a large nesting seabird population (see criterion 4). Other birds, notably Curlew *Numenius arquata*, Sanderling *Calidris alba* and Dunlin *Calidris alpina*, occur as overwintering species. Other birds that breed and forage within and adjacent to the site include Peregrine falcon *Falco peregrinus*, Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus*, Common shelduck *Tadorna tadorna* and Raven *Corvus corax*. Marine mammals include a breeding population of Grey seal *Halichoerus grypus* in the Burhou archipelago; Bottlenose dolphin *Tursiops truncatus*, Common dolphin *Delphinus delphis* and Harbour porpoise *Phocoena phocoena* that frequently transit through and forage within the site; and Minke whale *Balaenoptera acutorostrata* that are frequently sighted adjacent to and presumably transit through the site. Larger baleen whales, including Humpback *Megaptera novaeangliae* and Fin whales *Balaenoptera physalus*, have increasingly been sighted in recent years within and adjacent to the site.

☒ Criterion 4 : Support during critical life cycle stage or in adverse conditions

Optional text box to provide further information

The rocky sea cliffs and stacks support breeding colonies of ten species of seabird; Les Etacs and Ortac support a globally important population of Northern gannet *Morus bassanus* (see Criterion 6) and the majority of Guillemot *Uria aalge* individuals that occur on Alderney. The adjacent coastline supports a colony of Northern fulmar *Fulmarus glacialis*, as well as Razorbill *Alca torda*, European shag, Gull *Larus argentatus*, Lesser black-backed gull *Larus fuscus*, Great black-backed gull *Larus marinus*, and Herring gull *Larus argentatus*. Additionally, the islands of Burhou and Little Burhou support seven species of breeding seabirds and waterbirds – importantly the coastal grassland provides excellent burrowing sites for Atlantic puffin *Fratercula arctica*, the only confirmed European storm petrel *Hydrobates pelagicus* colony in the Channel Islands, and the only colony of Great cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo* on Alderney. Wading birds that breed within the site include Oystercatcher *Haematopus ostralegus* and the last consistent population of Ringed plover *Charadrius hiaticula* within the Channel Islands.

The Burhou archipelago also provides an important refuge for a breeding population of Grey seal *Halichoerus grypus*, and the marine intertidal environment (notably in Clonque Bay) is a nursery site for commercially important fish and shellfish species (see Criterion 7 and 8).

☒ Criterion 5 : >20,000 waterbirds

Overall waterbird numbers

25250

Start year

2015

End year

2021

Source of data: Alderney Wildlife Trust WeBs surveys and seabird censuses (Alderney Wildlife Trust 2023)

Optional text box to provide further information

Based on the total number of birds recorded during WeBs surveys in 2021 and the number of breeding seabirds recorded in the Ramsar site in 2021, with estimates of Storm petrels taken from a population estimate in 2015 (Veron & Veron, 2016).

☒ Criterion 6 : >1% waterbird population

Optional text box to provide further information

The site supports an internationally important population of breeding Northern gannet *Morus bassanus*, with a large nesting population occurring on Les Etacs and Ortac, both of which are designated as Important Bird Areas (Birdlife International 2023a, 2023b). Around 17,078 breeding birds, 1,000 non-breeding birds, and 5,950 immature birds are present (see Alderney Wildlife Trust (2022) and internal survey data). This constitutes an estimated 2% of the global population (BirdLife International, 2023), although an outbreak of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza in 2022 affected Northern gannet colonies worldwide, including at Les Etacs and Ortac, which may alter this figure proportion depending on revised global population estimates. In addition to this, around 2,000 other seabirds (see criterion 4) breed within the site, in particular European storm petrel *Hydrobates pelagicus* and Lesser black-backed gull *Larus fuscus*.

☒ Criterion 7 : Significant and representative fish

Justification

The site is considered highly diverse in terms of fish species (see Alderney Wildlife Trust 2016b). It contains locally important fish and shellfish species, such as the culturally important Green ormer *Haliotis tuberculata*. and commercially important species such as Edible crab *Cancer pagurus*, European lobster *Homarus Gammarus*, Lesser sand eel *Ammodytes tobianus*, Black sea bream *Spondyliosoma cantharus* and European sea bass *Dicentrarchus labrax*. Several globally threatened fish/shellfish have been sighted, including Tope shark *Galeorhinus galeus* (listed as Critically Endangered and declining by the IUCN), Nursehound *Scyliorhinus stellaris* (listed as Threatened by the IUCN), Ocean sunfish *Mola mola*, Blonde skate *Raja brachyura*, Thornback ray *Raja clavate*, Nursehound *Scyliorhinus stellaris* (listed as Near Threatened by the IUCN), and European spiny lobster *Palinurus elephas* (listed as Vulnerable and declining by the IUCN). Shoaling fish, including Mackerel *Scomber scombrus* and Grey mullet *Mugil cephalus*, transit through the site in high numbers and are an important species to local anglers, as are Thicklip grey mullet *Chelon labrosus*, European conger *Conger conger* and Pollack *Pollachius pollachius*.

☒ Criterion 8 : Fish spawning grounds, etc.

Justification

The site contains areas of habitat associated with the life stages of fish and shellfish species. Key habitats include kelp forest, sand bars, vegetated shallow marine areas and intertidal rocky shore. Various shellfish species utilise the site as a nursery ground, including those mentioned under Criterion 7. Notable fish species that utilise habitats within the site for spawning and as a nursery include, Pollack *Pollachius pollachius*, Ballan wrasse *Labrus bergylta*, Corkwing wrasse *Symphodus melops*, Cornish sucker clingfish *Lepadogaster purpurea*, Two-spotted goby *Gobiusculus flavescens*, Black sea bream *Spondyliosoma cantharus*, Worm pipefish *Nerophis lumbriciformis* and multiple species of Goby and Blenny.

3.2 - Plant species whose presence relates to the international importance of the site

<no data available>

3.3 - Animal species whose presence relates to the international importance of the site

| Phylum | Scientific name | Species qualifies under criterion |   |   |   | Species contributes under criterion |   |   |   | Pop. Size | Period of pop. Est. | % occurrence 1) | IUCN Red List | CITES Appendix I | CMS Appendix I | Other Status | Justification |
|--------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|---|---|---|-------------------------------------|---|---|---|-----------|---------------------|-----------------|---------------|------------------|----------------|--------------|---------------|
|        |                 | 2                                 | 4 | 6 | 9 | 3                                   | 5 | 7 | 8 |           |                     |                 |               |                  |                |              |               |
| Others |                 |                                   |   |   |   |                                     |   |   |   |           |                     |                 |               |                  |                |              |               |



| Phylum                      | Scientific name                   | Species qualifies under criterion   |                                     |                          |                          | Species contributes under criterion |                          |                                     |                                     | Pop. Size | Period of pop. Est. | % occurrence 1) | IUCN Red List | CITES Appendix I         | CMS Appendix I                      | Other Status  | Justification  |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------|---------------------|-----------------|---------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|--|
|                             |                                   | 2                                   | 4                                   | 6                        | 9                        | 3                                   | 5                        | 7                                   | 8                                   |           |                     |                 |               |                          |                                     |   |  |
| PORIFERA / DEMOSPONGIAE     | <i>Adreus fascicularis</i>        | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            |           |                     |                 |               | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |   | Component of biodiversity with limited global distribution   |
| PORIFERA / DEMOSPONGIAE     | <i>Axinella infundibuliformis</i> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            |           |                     |                 |               | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |   | Component of subtidal sessile faunal biodiversity; near southern edge of distribution  |
| CNIDARIA / ANTHOZOA         | <i>Corynactis viridis</i>         | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            |           |                     |                 | LC            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |   | Component of subtidal sessile faunal biodiversity; potential local sub-species identified within the site by Seasearch divers  |
| CHORDATA / MAMMALIA         | <i>Delphinus delphis</i>          | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            |           |                     |                 | LC            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Protected under ASCOBANS and the Fishing (Conservation of Small Cetaceans) (Alderney) Ordinance, 2000 | Marine mammal that frequently transits through and forage within the site; protected species   |
| CNIDARIA / ANTHOZOA         | <i>Eunicella verrucosa</i>        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            |           |                     |                 | NT            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |   | Listed as Vulnerable at global level; habitat forming species and component of subtidal sessile faunal biodiversity  |
| CHORDATA / MAMMALIA         | <i>Halichoerus grypus</i>         | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | 105       | 2022                |                 | LC            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |   | Breeding marine mammal; occurs in regionally significant numbers   |
| CNIDARIA / ANTHOZOA         | <i>Parazoanthus axinellae</i>     | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            |           |                     |                 | LC            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |   | Component of subtidal sessile faunal biodiversity and culturally important species (featured on Alderney postal stamp)   |
| CHORDATA / MAMMALIA         | <i>Phocoena phocoena</i>          | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            |           |                     |                 | LC            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Protected under ASCOBANS and the Fishing (Conservation of Small Cetaceans) (Alderney) Ordinance, 2000 | Marine mammal that frequently transits through and forage within the site  |
| CHORDATA / MAMMALIA         | <i>Tursiops truncatus</i>         | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            |           |                     |                 | LC            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Protected under ASCOBANS and the Fishing (Conservation of Small Cetaceans) (Alderney) Ordinance, 2000 | Marine mammal that frequently transits through and forage within the site; protected species   |
| Fish, Mollusc and Crustacea |                                   |                                     |                                     |                          |                          |                                     |                          |                                     |                                     |           |                     |                 |               |                          |                                     |   |  |
| CHORDATA / ACTINOPTERYGII   | <i>Ammodytes tobianus</i>         | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |           |                     |                 | DD            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |   | Important component of local biodiversity; abundant within the site and key prey species for seabirds  |
| CHORDATA / ACTINOPTERYGII   | <i>Belone belone</i>              | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            |           |                     |                 | LC            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |   | Important component of local biodiversity and prey species for seabirds  |
| ARTHROPODA / MALACOSTRACA   | <i>Cancer pagurus</i>             | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |           |                     |                 |               | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |   | Important commercial species both locally and internationally; site acts as an important nursery ground  |
| CHORDATA / ACTINOPTERYGII   | <i>Chelon labrosus</i>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |           |                     |                 | NT            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |   | Locally important to anglers; historic records of large shoals and still abundant  |
| CHORDATA / ACTINOPTERYGII   | <i>Conger conger</i>              | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |           |                     |                 | LC            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |   | Important component of local biodiversity and important to local anglers   |
| CHORDATA / ACTINOPTERYGII   | <i>Dicentrarchus labrax</i>       | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |           |                     |                 | NT            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |   | Commercially important species and component of local biodiversity   |
| CHORDATA / ELASMOBRANCHII   | <i>Galeorhinus galeus</i>         | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |           |                     |                 | CR            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |   | Listed as Critically Endangered at global level by IUCN; component of local biodiversity and important to anglers  |
| CHORDATA / ACTINOPTERYGII   | <i>Gobiusculus flavescens</i>     | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |           |                     |                 |               | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |   | Abundant breeding species; important component of local biodiversity   |
| MOLLUSCA / GASTROPODA       | <i>Haliotis tuberculata</i>       | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |           |                     |                 | VU            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Protected under Bailiwick of Guernsey law   | Resident species listed as Vulnerable at global level; decreasing population trend and at edge of northern edge of distribution; of local cultural importance; protected under Bailiwick of Guernsey law |

| Phylum                    | Scientific name                 | Species qualifies under criterion   |                                     |                          |                          | Species contributes under criterion |                                     |                                     |                                     | Pop. Size | Period of pop. Est. | % occurrence 1) | IUCN Red List | CITES Appendix I         | CMS Appendix I           | Other Status  | Justification   |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------|---------------------|-----------------|---------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|---|---|
|                           |                                 | 2                                   | 4                                   | 6                        | 9                        | 3                                   | 5                                   | 7                                   | 8                                   |           |                     |                 |               |                          |                          |   |   |
| ARTHROPODA / MALACOSTRACA | <i>Homarus gammarus</i>         | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |           |                     |                 | LC            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |   | Important commercial species both locally and internationally; site acts as an important nursery ground   |
| CHORDATA / ACTINOPTERYGII | <i>Labrus bergyllta</i>         | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |           |                     |                 | LC            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |   | Breeding species; locally important to anglers and prey species for Grey seal   |
| CHORDATA / ACTINOPTERYGII | <i>Lepadogaster purpurea</i>    | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |           |                     |                 | LC            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |   | Breeding species; important component of local biodiversity   |
| CHORDATA / ACTINOPTERYGII | <i>Mola mola</i>                | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |           |                     |                 | LC            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |   | Listed as Vulnerable at global level; component of local biodiversity   |
| CHORDATA / ACTINOPTERYGII | <i>Mugil cephalus</i>           | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |           |                     |                 | LC            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |   | Abundant transitory species and important for local anglers   |
| CHORDATA / ACTINOPTERYGII | <i>Nerophis lumbriciformis</i>  | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |           |                     |                 | LC            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |   | Breeding species  |
| ARTHROPODA / MALACOSTRACA | <i>Palinurus elephas</i>        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |           |                     |                 | VU            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |   | Listed as Vulnerable at global level with decreasing population trend; listed as a priority species in the UK Biodiversity Action Plan            |
| CHORDATA / ACTINOPTERYGII | <i>Parablennius gattorugine</i> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |           |                     |                 | LC            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |   | Breeding species; key component of local biodiversity   |
| CHORDATA / ACTINOPTERYGII | <i>Pollachius pollachius</i>    | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |           |                     |                 | LC            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |   | Abundant breeding species; important component of local biodiversity; key prey species and important to local anglers                             |
| CHORDATA / ELASMOBRANCHII | <i>Raja brachyura</i>           | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |           |                     |                 | NT            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |   | Listed as Near Threatened at global level; component of local biodiversity  |
| CHORDATA / ELASMOBRANCHII | <i>Raja clavata</i>             | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |           |                     |                 | NT            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |   | Listed as Near Threatened at global level; component of local biodiversity  |
| CHORDATA / ACTINOPTERYGII | <i>Scomber scombrus</i>         | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |           |                     |                 | LC            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |   | Abundant transitory species and important for local anglers   |
| CHORDATA / ELASMOBRANCHII | <i>Scyliorhinus stellaris</i>   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |           |                     |                 | VU            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |   | Listed as Vulnerable at global level; component of local biodiversity   |
| CHORDATA / ACTINOPTERYGII | <i>Spondyllosoma cantharus</i>  | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            |           |                     |                 | LC            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |   | Abundant breeding species; important component of local biodiversity and important to local anglers   |
| CHORDATA / ACTINOPTERYGII | <i>Symphodus melops</i>         | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |           |                     |                 | LC            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |   | Breeding species; important component of local biodiversity   |
| MOLLUSCA / GASTROPODA     | <i>Tritonia nilsodhneri</i>     | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            |           |                     |                 |               | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |   | Reliant on the Pink sea fan Eunicella verrucosa which is listed as Vulnerable at global level   |
| Birds                     |                                 |                                     |                                     |                          |                          |                                     |                                     |                                     |                                     |           |                     |                 |               |                          |                          |   |   |
| CHORDATA / AVES           | <i>Alca torda</i>               | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | 5         | 2023                |                 | LC            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Protected under Protection of Wild Birds (Alderney) Ordinance, 2005 | Breeding seabird and component of biodiversity; protected species on Alderney   |
| CHORDATA / AVES           | <i>Calidris alba</i>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            |           |                     |                 | LC            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Protected under Protection of Wild Birds (Alderney) Ordinance, 2005 | Notable overwintering wading bird species   |
| CHORDATA / AVES           | <i>Calidris alpina</i>          | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            |           |                     |                 | NT            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Protected under Protection of Wild Birds (Alderney) Ordinance, 2005 | Notable overwintering wading bird species   |
| CHORDATA / AVES           | <i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>     | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | 12        | 2022                |                 | LC            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Protected under Protection of Wild Birds (Alderney) Ordinance, 2005 | Breeding waterbird bird; site supports the last consistent population of the species within the Channel Islands, notable overwintering population |

| Phylum         | Scientific name                  | Species qualifies under criterion   |                                     |                                     |                          | Species contributes under criterion |                                     |                          |                          | Pop. Size | Period of pop. Est. | % occurrence 1) | IUCN Red List | CITES Appendix I                    | CMS Appendix I           | Other Status  | Justification   |
|----------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------|---------------------|-----------------|---------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|---|---|
|                |                                  | 2                                   | 4                                   | 6                                   | 9                        | 3                                   | 5                                   | 7                        | 8                        |           |                     |                 |               |                                     |                          |   |   |
| CHORDATA/ AVES | <i>Corvus corax</i>              | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |           |                     |                 | LC            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | Protected under Protection of Wild Birds (Alderney) Ordinance, 2005 | Breeds adjacent to and hunts within the site; protected species on Alderney   |
| CHORDATA/ AVES | <i>Falco peregrinus</i>          | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |           |                     |                 | LC            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Protected under Protection of Wild Birds (Alderney) Ordinance, 2005 | Hunts within and breeds adjacent to and occasionally within the site; protected species on Alderney   |
| CHORDATA/ AVES | <i>Falco tinnunculus</i>         | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |           |                     |                 | LC            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | Protected under Protection of Wild Birds (Alderney) Ordinance, 2005 | Breeds adjacent to and hunts within the site; protected species on Alderney   |
| CHORDATA/ AVES | <i>Fratercula arctica</i>        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 368       | 2022                |                 | EN            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | Protected under Protection of Wild Birds (Alderney) Ordinance, 2005 | Burhou island supports the largest breeding population of Atlantic puffin in the Channel Islands, listed as Vulnerable at global level with declining population and facing several threats; protected species on Alderney  |
| CHORDATA/ AVES | <i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>     | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 24        | 2022                |                 | VU            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | Protected under Protection of Wild Birds (Alderney) Ordinance, 2005 | Breeding seabird and component of biodiversity, notable overwintering population; listed as Near Threatened at global level; protected species on Alderney  |
| CHORDATA/ AVES | <i>Hydrobates pelagicus</i>      | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 3000      | 2015                |                 | LC            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | Protected under Protection of Wild Birds (Alderney) Ordinance, 2005 | Important breeding seabird and component of biodiversity; only confirmed colony for the species in the Channel Islands; protected species on Alderney   |
| CHORDATA/ AVES | <i>Larus argentatus</i>          | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 94        | 2021/23             |                 | LC            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | Protected under Protection of Wild Birds (Alderney) Ordinance, 2005 | Important breeding seabird and on UK red list; protected species on Alderney  |
| CHORDATA/ AVES | <i>Larus fuscus</i>              | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 1432      | 2021                |                 | LC            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | Protected under Protection of Wild Birds (Alderney) Ordinance, 2005 | Breeding seabird occurring in regionally important numbers (40% of Channel Island population) (Veron and Veron 2016); protected species on Alderney   |
| CHORDATA/ AVES | <i>Larus marinus</i>             | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 8         | 2021/23             |                 | LC            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | Protected under Protection of Wild Birds (Alderney) Ordinance, 2005 | Local breeding seabird and component of local ecosystem; protected species on Alderney  |
| CHORDATA/ AVES | <i>Morus bassanus</i>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 17078     | 2021                | 2               | LC            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | Protected under Protection of Wild Birds (Alderney) Ordinance, 2005 | Breeding seabird forming a large nesting colony accounting for around 2% of the global population; the only gannet colony within the Channel Islands and the most southerly in the UK; population threatened by the Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) outbreak; key component of the regional pelagic ecosystem; protected species on Alderney |
| CHORDATA/ AVES | <i>Numenius arquata</i>          | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |           |                     |                 | NT            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | Protected under Protection of Wild Birds (Alderney) Ordinance, 2005 | Notable overwintering wading bird species; listed as Near Threatened at global level  |
| CHORDATA/ AVES | <i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis</i> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 44        | 2023                |                 |               | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | Protected under Protection of Wild Birds (Alderney) Ordinance, 2005 | Breeding seabird and component of biodiversity; protected species on Alderney   |
| CHORDATA/ AVES | <i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>       | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 18        | 2022                |                 | LC            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | Protected under Protection of Wild Birds (Alderney) Ordinance, 2005 | Breeding seabird and component of biodiversity; protected species on Alderney   |
| CHORDATA/ AVES | <i>Tadorna tadorna</i>           | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |           |                     |                 | LC            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | Protected under Protection of Wild Birds (Alderney) Ordinance, 2005 | Breeding waterbird and component of biodiversity; protected species on Alderney   |
| CHORDATA/ AVES | <i>Uria aalge</i>                | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | 110       | 2022                |                 | LC            | <input type="checkbox"/>            | <input type="checkbox"/> | Protected under Protection of Wild Birds (Alderney) Ordinance, 2005 | Breeding seabird and component of biodiversity; site supports most of the population of the species on Alderney; protected species on Alderney  |

1) Percentage of the total biogeographic population at the site

Other notable species include Egg wrack *Ascophyllum nodosum* and Rainbow wrack *Cystoseira tamariscifolia*, which are both important species of marine algae, and Fur bellows *Saccorhiza polyschides* which is a key habitat forming algae species.

Seabird and Grey seal population data is based on Alderney Wildlife Trust (2022, 2023) – number given is maximum recorded. Subtidal species data is taken from Seasearch and Shoresearch surveys and Alderney Wildlife Trust (2022, 2023).

Seabird populations calculated as individuals from respective units: Atlantic puffin = Apparently Occupied Burrow; European storm petrel = individuals; Cormorant, Great black backed gull, Herring gull, Lesser black-backed gull, Shag = Apparently Occupied Nests; Northern gannet, Guillemot = Apparently Occupied Site; Razorbill = pairs.

### 3.4 - Ecological communities whose presence relates to the international importance of the site

| Name of ecological community  | Community qualifies under Criterion 2? | Description | Justification |
|---|--|-------------|---------------|
| Intertidal rocky-shore, including areas of under-boulder communities            | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>    | See below   | See below     |
| Subtidal sandbanks  | <input type="checkbox"/>               | See below   | See below     |
| Tide-swept habitat (mixed faunal communities on high energy infralittoral rock) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>    | See below   | See below     |
| Coastal vegetation  | <input type="checkbox"/>               | See below   | See below     |
| Sub-tidal kelp beds   | <input type="checkbox"/>               | See below   | See below     |
| Intertidal sandbanks  | <input type="checkbox"/>               | See below   | See below     |
| Maritime cliffs and slopes  | <input type="checkbox"/>               | See below   | See below     |

Optional text box to provide further information

Intertidal rocky-shore, including areas of under-boulder communities. Description: several areas of intertidal rocky-shore occur within Hanaine Bay, Clonque Bay and Burhou – these comprise of stands of seaweeds, barnacle mosaics, boulder fields, wave cut platforms, and rock pools which support marine invertebrates and vertebrates. Justification: contains regionally and locally important marine habitat biotopes, including areas of underboulder communities (listed as a priority habitat under the UK Biodiversity Action Plan (<http://www.jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-5155>) that provide habitat for a high biodiversity of marine life; also provides important habitat and food sources for the IUCN Red listed Green Ormer, as well as numerous crustaceans, fish, wading birds and seabirds.

Tide-swept habitat (mixed faunal communities on high energy infralittoral rock). Description: very fast tidal streams create areas of tide-swept reef with mixed faunal communities with numerous suspension and filter feeding animals. Justification: characteristic of the site and supports a wide diversity of sessile marine invertebrates including IUCN Vulnerable species such as the Pink sea fan; listed as a priority habitat under the UK Biodiversity Action Plan (<http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-5706>).

Subtidal sandbanks. Description: subtidal sandbanks with fine and coarse sediment. Justification: support key fish species, e.g. Black sea bream, which also provide food for other key species, e.g. seals; listed as a priority habitat under the UK Biodiversity Action Plan (<http://www.jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-5155>).

Sub-tidal kelp beds. Description: a variety of kelp beds exist within the shallow sub-tidal environment (0-20m depth), notably throughout the Burhou archipelago. Justification: provide habitat for marine vertebrates (particularly fish) and invertebrates, which are important food sources for seabirds, seals and wading birds.

Coastal vegetation. Description: coastal grassland occurs on Burhou Island. Justification: provides an excellent area for seabirds including Atlantic puffin and Storm petrel to burrow without obstruction from tall vegetation such as Bracken, which dominates other areas of Burhou Island.

Maritime Cliffs and Slopes. Description: seacliffs and rocky islets of hard rock which have been eroded by wave action. Justification: provide nesting habitat for seabird species (see criterion 4), including ca. 1.5% of the global breeding population of Northern gannet and UK red listed Herring gull.

## 4 - What is the Site like? (Ecological character description)

### 4.1 - Ecological character

Topographical features of the site are shown on the site map. These include a series of steep sea cliffs and tidal islets (located on the west side of Alderney) and two steep offshore stacks known as Les Etacs and Ortac (which are composed of grano-diorite and sandstone respectively). At the base of the cliffs there are rocky beaches with large cobbles, boulders, patches of shingle and sand, and large rock pools. In contrast, at Plate Saline to the east of the site, blown sand of considerable thickness has been deposited up to 100 m inland; this has given rise to a low-lying coastal area with no shore platforms and a steeply sloping shingle beach. To the north is the Burhou archipelago. This consists of the low-lying grassy islands of Burhou and Little Burhou, which have rocky shorelines and numerous exposed rocky islets to the north. There are both sheltered and highly exposed areas in the intertidal zone, notably the large rocky Clonque Bay, which contrast with the highly exposed rocky bays and reefs on the west coast and around the Burhou archipelago.

The surrounding marine area contains a very strong tidal current upwards of 6 knots; the tidal stream within the site is specifically known as 'The Swinge'. These conditions create large areas of high energy infralittoral and circalittoral rock and reef, in addition to areas of infralittoral coarse sediment, sandbars, and circalittoral coarse sediment. Subtidal habitats include very tide-swept infralittoral fauna communities, kelp forests and macroalgae beds. The water is clean with high light penetration (with no nearby river basins) and relatively warm temperatures due to the Bay of Saint Marlo tidal body and Gulf Stream current. Due to this, numerous southern and northern species occur at the edge of their biogeographic ranges. Warming sea temperatures have seen more southern marine species (e.g. red porgy *Pagrus pagrus* and furrowed crab *Xantho hydrophilus*) colonize the site. Marine algae habitats are also changing, for example *Bifucaria bifucata* – a growth form associated with the Mediterranean region – is now found on the site growing outside of rockpools.

These physical features give rise to a wide range of habitats, which support a variety of wading birds, seabirds, marine invertebrate, and marine vertebrates. Important habitat types include coastal grassland, vegetated shingle banks, sea cliffs and islets, intertidal rocky shore, tide-swept faunal communities, kelp beds and sandbars.

Based on available evidence these habitats are in a healthy condition. Human activity, including recreation, commercial boating, lobster potting and shore gathering, is limited and available data indicates that these activities are not significantly affecting the character of the site. The main concern is the introduction of invasive species and recent increases in seawater temperature and storm frequency, along with a single sewage outfall to the east of the site which may result in some pollution (although data on this is limited and any impact is not likely to have changed since the designation of the site).

In the last 80 years the Gannet population has grown, whilst other seabirds (e.g. puffin) have decreased, and kittiwake no longer use the site (although there have been few changes since the designation of the Ramsar Site). Seabird populations declined and subsequently recovered following the 2014 seabird wreck. In 2022 the Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) outbreak caused high mortality in the Northern gannet population, but not other breeding seabirds. There are annual variations in the number of seabirds breeding on site (especially Shags and Gulls), potentially due to climatic conditions or cyclic population trends.

Grey seals breed within the site with an average of 26 individuals in 2023 – although numbers vary greatly during the year with a seasonal mean peak of 45 in September and low of 5 in January in 2023.

### 4.2 - What wetland type(s) are in the site?

#### Marine or coastal wetlands

| Wetland types (code and name)                           | Local name  | Ranking of extent (1: greatest - 4: least) | Area (ha) of wetland type | Justification of Criterion 1 |
|---|---|--|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| A: Permanent shallow marine waters                      | Subtidal shallow marine waters, sand bars, tide swept marine habitats, and subtidal aquatic beds (type B) | 1  | 1315.5                    | Representative               |
| B: Marine subtidal aquatic beds (Underwater vegetation) | Marine macro algae assemblages and kelp forests   | 2  | 140                       | Representative               |
| D: Rocky marine shores                                  | Rocky shores and rocky islets/sea cliffs  | 3  | 85                        | Representative               |
| E: Sand, shingle or pebble shores                       | Pebble shores, shingle/sand shores, and sand dunes  | 4  | 10                        | Representative               |
| G: Intertidal mud, sand or salt flats                   | Sand flats and tidal sand bars  | 4  | 3                         | Representative               |

#### Inland wetlands

| Wetland types (code and name)  | Local name   | Ranking of extent (1: greatest - 4: least) | Area (ha) of wetland type | Justification of Criterion 1 |
|--|--|--|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| Fresh water > Flowing water >> N: Seasonal/intermittent/irregular rivers/streams/creeks                              | Streams on Clonque/Platte Saline beaches and cliffs near Les Etacs   | 4  |                           |                              |
| Fresh, saline, brackish or alkaline water > Subterranean >> Zk(b): Karst and other subterranean hydrological systems | Subterranean streams under dune systems at Platte Saline and Clonque | 4  |                           |                              |

#### Other non-wetland habitat

| Other non-wetland habitats within the site | Area (ha) if known |
|--|--------------------|
| Coastal grassland                          | 8.4                |

## 4.3 - Biological components

### 4.3.1 - Plant species

#### Invasive alien plant species

| Phylum                     | Scientific name              | Impacts                | Changes at RIS update |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| RHODOPHYTA/FLORIDEOPHYCEAE | <i>Asparagopsis armata</i>   | Actual (major impacts) | increase              |
| TRACHEOPHYTA/MAGNOLIOPSIDA | <i>Carpobrotus chilensis</i> | Potential              | No change             |
| TRACHEOPHYTA/MAGNOLIOPSIDA | <i>Carpobrotus edulis</i>    | Potential              | No change             |
| OCHROPHYTA/PHAEOPHYCEAE    | <i>Colpomenia peregrina</i>  | Potential              | increase              |
| RHODOPHYTA/FLORIDEOPHYCEAE | <i>Dasysiphonia japonica</i> | Potential              | increase              |
| RHODOPHYTA/FLORIDEOPHYCEAE | <i>Grateloupia turuturu</i>  | Potential              | increase              |
| RHODOPHYTA/FLORIDEOPHYCEAE | <i>Hypnea musciformis</i>    | Potential              | increase              |
| OCHROPHYTA/PHAEOPHYCEAE    | <i>Sargassum muticum</i>     | Actual (major impacts) | increase              |

#### Optional text box to provide further information

Harpoon weed *Asparagopsis armata*, Hook weed, *Hypnea musciformis* and Oyster thief *Colpomenia peregrina* are all now well-established within macro algae communities and have the potential to dominate these. Harpoon weed may inhibit native marine invertebrates through the release of toxins (Silva et al. 2021). Japanese wireweed *Sargassum muticum* is dominant in some subtidal, rock pools and areas of the lower shore, where it creates large shaded and heated areas and increased turbidity. Devil's tongue *Grateloupia turuturu* was first recorded in 2023 and is currently infrequent in the lower shore of Clonque Bay.

### 4.3.2 - Animal species

#### Other noteworthy animal species

| Phylum                  | Scientific name                   | Pop. size | Period of pop. est. | % occurrence | Position in range /endemism/other |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------|---------------------|--------------|-----------------------------------|
| CHORDATA/MAMMALIA       | <i>Balaenoptera acutorostrata</i> |           |                     |              |                                   |
| CHORDATA/MAMMALIA       | <i>Balaenoptera physalus</i>      |           |                     |              |                                   |
| CHORDATA/MAMMALIA       | <i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>     |           |                     |              |                                   |
| CHORDATA/MAMMALIA       | <i>Pipistrellus kuhlii</i>        |           |                     |              |                                   |
| CHORDATA/MAMMALIA       | <i>Pipistrellus pipistrellus</i>  |           |                     |              |                                   |
| CHORDATA/ACTINOPTERYGII | <i>Thunnus thynnus</i>            |           |                     |              |                                   |

#### Invasive alien animal species

| Phylum               | Scientific name                | Impacts                | Changes at RIS update |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| CHORDATA/MAMMALIA    | <i>Rattus rattus</i>           | Actual (major impacts) | unknown               |
| BRYOZOA/GYMNOLAEMATA | <i>Watersipora subtorquata</i> | Actual (major impacts) | increase              |

#### Optional text box to provide further information

Black rat *Rattus rattus* is present on the tidal Hanaine Bay and West-Cliff stacks. They are presumed (among other factors) responsible for the loss of the Atlantic puffin *Fratercula arctica* population from Hanaine stack and may be suppressing populations of other seabirds attempting to breed on these sites (e.g. Auks, Shags, Fulmar).

Red ripple bryozoan *Watersipora subtorquata* is abundant and dominates many bryozoan communities in sheltered, shady areas, reducing biodiversity.

## 4.4 - Physical components

### 4.4.1 - Climate

| Climatic region                                 | Subregion   |
|---|---|
| C: Moist Mid-Latitude climate with mild winters | Cfb: Marine west coast (Mild with no dry season, warm summer) |

Warming sea temperatures are affecting local ecosystems and allowing southern species (e.g. Xantho crabs) to colonise the site. They may also be causing spatio-temporal mismatches with seabirds and their prey, resulting in low productivity and potential population declines in Northern gannet *Morus bassanus*.

4.4.2 - Geomorphic setting

a) Minimum elevation above sea level (in metres)

0

a) Maximum elevation above sea level (in metres)

50

Entire river basin

☐

Upper part of river basin

☐

Middle part of river basin

☐

Lower part of river basin

☐

More than one river basin

☐

Not in river basin

☐

Coastal

☒

Please name the river basin or basins. If the site lies in a sub-basin, please also name the larger river basin. For a coastal/marine site, please name the sea or ocean.

Atlantic Ocean, English Channel

4.4.3 - Soil

Mineral

☒

(Update) Changes at RIS update

No change ☒

Increase ☐

Decrease ☐

Unknown ☐

No available information

☐

Are soil types subject to change as a result of changing hydrological conditions (e.g., increased salinity or acidification)?

Yes ☐

No ☒

Please provide further information on the soil (optional)

The soils in the sloping cliffs of Clonque and Hanaine Bays are brownish-grey and very thin with stony subsoil. In contrast, at Plate Saline in the east, blown sand of considerable thickness has been deposited up to 100 m inland.

4.4.4 - Water regime

Water permanence

| Presence?                       | Changes at RIS update |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Usually permanent water present | No change             |

Source of water that maintains character of the site

| Presence?                       | Predominant water source            | Changes at RIS update |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Marine water                    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No change             |
| Water inputs from precipitation | <input type="checkbox"/>            | No change             |

Water destination

| Presence? | Changes at RIS update |
|-----------|-----------------------|
| Marine    | No change             |

Stability of water regime

| Presence?                                  | Changes at RIS update |
|--|-----------------------|
| Water levels fluctuating (including tidal) | No change             |

Please add any comments on the water regime and its determinants (if relevant). Use this box to explain sites with complex hydrology:

The Swinge, which is a tidal stream body situated between Alderney and Burhou, flows through the site. It produces strong tidal conditions, with tidal peak estimates from 1.98-2.59 m/sec. There are several small freshwater inputs from streams into Platte Saline and Clonque Bay.

4.4.5 - Sediment regime

Significant erosion of sediments occurs on the site

☒

(Update) Changes at RIS update

No change ☐

Increase ☐

Decrease ☐

Unknown ☒

Significant accretion or deposition of sediments occurs on the site

☒

(Update) Changes at RIS update

No change ☐

Increase ☐

Decrease ☐

Unknown ☒

Significant transportation of sediments occurs on or through the site

☒

(Update) Changes at RIS update

No change ☐

Increase ☐

Decrease ☐

Unknown ☒

Sediment regime is highly variable, either seasonally or inter-annually

☒

(Update) Changes at RIS update

No change ☐

Increase ☐

Decrease ☐

Unknown ☒

Sediment regime unknown

☐

Please provide further information on sediment (optional):



Sediment (sand, gravel, pebbles) is frequently deposited and removed from both Clonque and Platte Saline Bays, with significant changes in sediment composition and depth during and between years. It is unknown whether this process has changed due to a general increase in storm frequency and severity.

#### 4.4.6 - Water pH

Acid (pH<5.5) ☐

(Update) Changes at RIS update No change ☐ Increase ☐ Decrease ☐ Unknown ☒

Circumneutral (pH: 5.5-7.4) ☐

(Update) Changes at RIS update No change ☐ Increase ☐ Decrease ☐ Unknown ☒

Alkaline (pH>7.4) ☒

(Update) Changes at RIS update No change ☒ Increase ☐ Decrease ☐ Unknown ☐

Unknown ☐

Please provide further information on pH (optional):

Detailed recording between 2017-2018 indicates pH is c.8.2.

#### 4.4.7 - Water salinity

Fresh (<0.5 g/l) ☒

(Update) Changes at RIS update No change ☒ Increase ☐ Decrease ☐ Unknown ☐

Mixohaline (brackish)/Mixosaline (0.5-30 g/l) ☐

(Update) Changes at RIS update No change ☐ Increase ☐ Decrease ☐ Unknown ☒

Euhaline/Eusaline (30-40 g/l) ☒

(Update) Changes at RIS update No change ☒ Increase ☐ Decrease ☐ Unknown ☐

Hyperhaline/Hypersaline (>40 g/l) ☐

(Update) Changes at RIS update No change ☐ Increase ☐ Decrease ☐ Unknown ☒

Unknown ☐

Please provide further information on salinity (optional):

There may have been a change in the amount of fresh water based on changes in rainfall.

#### 4.4.8 - Dissolved or suspended nutrients in water

Eutrophic ☐

(Update) Changes at RIS update No change ☐ Increase ☐ Decrease ☐ Unknown ☒

Mesotrophic ☐

(Update) Changes at RIS update No change ☐ Increase ☐ Decrease ☐ Unknown ☒

Oligotrophic ☒

(Update) Changes at RIS update No change ☐ Increase ☐ Decrease ☐ Unknown ☒

Dystrophic ☐

(Update) Changes at RIS update No change ☐ Increase ☐ Decrease ☐ Unknown ☒

Unknown ☐

Please provide further information on dissolved or suspended nutrients (optional):

The majority of site is marine subtidal and therefore unlikely to be nutrient rich, although there is a sewage outflow adjacent to the site which could potentially cause slight eutrophication.

#### 4.4.9 - Features of the surrounding area which may affect the Site

Please describe whether, and if so how, the landscape and ecological characteristics in the area surrounding the Ramsar Site differ from the site itself: i) broadly similar ☐ ii) significantly different ☒

Surrounding area has greater urbanisation or development ☒

Surrounding area has higher human population density ☒

Surrounding area has more intensive agricultural use ☒

Surrounding area has significantly different land cover or habitat types ☒

Please describe other ways in which the surrounding area is different:

To the east of the site is the commercial harbour for Alderney with associated urbanisation. To the north and west is open sea. Areas of open sea, rocky sea cliffs and tidal stacks with populations of breeding seabirds occur to the south.

## 4.5 - Ecosystem services

### 4.5.1 - Ecosystem services/benefits

#### Provisioning Services

| Ecosystem service | Examples   | Importance/Extent/Significance |
|-------------------|--|--------------------------------|
| Food for humans   | Sustenance for humans (e.g., fish, molluscs, grains) | Medium                         |

#### Regulating Services

| Ecosystem service | Examples  | Importance/Extent/Significance |
|-------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| Hazard reduction  | Coastal shoreline and river bank stabilization and storm protection | High                           |

#### Cultural Services

| Ecosystem service           | Examples  | Importance/Extent/Significance |
|-----------------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| Recreation and tourism      | Nature observation and nature-based tourism   | High                           |
| Recreation and tourism      | Recreational hunting and fishing  | Medium                         |
| Recreation and tourism      | Picnics, outings, touring   | High                           |
| Spiritual and inspirational | Contemporary cultural significance, including for arts and creative inspiration, and including existence values | High                           |
| Spiritual and inspirational | Aesthetic and sense of place values   | High                           |
| Spiritual and inspirational | Cultural heritage (historical and archaeological)   | Low                            |
| Scientific and educational  | Important knowledge systems, importance for research (scientific reference area or site)                        | High                           |
| Scientific and educational  | Educational activities and opportunities  | High                           |
| Scientific and educational  | Long-term monitoring site   | High                           |

#### Supporting Services

| Ecosystem service | Examples  | Importance/Extent/Significance |
|-------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| Biodiversity      | Supports a variety of all life forms including plants, animals and microorganisms, the genes they contain, and the ecosystems of which they form a part | High                           |

#### Optional text box to provide further information

The Alderney tourism office relies heavily on the natural resources of the Ramsar Site in its advertising – see <https://www.visitalderney.com/our-island/nature/wild-protected-landscapes/>

Shore-gathering and angling are commonplace and culturally important to the island. Local shore gatherers have their own 'patches' where they will gather seafood, notably Green Ormer. The site, especially Buhrou which has been used as a fisherman's refuge for hundreds of years, holds cultural significance to Alderney's population. Of note, the seabirds (e.g. Puffin) and Green Ormer feature heavily in many artworks from the island, and the shells of Ormer have been traditionally used to decorate houses. There are historical buildings on Burhou and archaeological evidence of human use including flint flakes. Furthermore, there are numerous shipwrecks in the site including many of historical importance and ten recorded on Burhou alone.

A small number of residents live within the site, but many hundreds of people benefit from the economic services that it provides relating to nature and tourism and fisheries. and tens of thousands benefit from educational services through online resources e.g. webcams. The site (especially Clonque Bay) is popular as a recreational site with local people and visitors (which number in the thousands yearly). Activities include picnicking, snorkelling, beach coming and walking, and there are multiple walking and boating tours of the site. In addition, a range of educational activities take place, including citizen science programmes.

A significant amount of research is conducted on the site, which is regarded as an area of high biodiversity. This is conducted through both local wildlife organisations and University research placements and includes both long term monitoring and scientific research. This includes monitoring populations of seabirds and seals, research into tracking the movements of seabirds and marine life (e.g. commercial fish species, Green Ormer), habitat mapping and assessing fish assemblages among other work streams (Alderney Wildlife Trust 2023).

Within the site: 10s

Outside the site: 1000s

Have studies or assessments been made of the economic valuation of ecosystem services provided by this Ramsar Site? Yes ☐ No ☒ Unknown ☐

### 4.5.2 - Social and cultural values

i) the site provides a model of wetland wise use, demonstrating the application of traditional knowledge and methods of management and use that maintain the ecological character of the wetland ☐

ii) the site has exceptional cultural traditions or records of former civilizations that have influenced the ecological character of the wetland ☒

Description if applicable

The island of Burhou has been inhabited in the past and used as a refuge and storage area for fishermen for at least 600 years and very likely more (the name Burhou is Norman and may come from this use). There is evidence of far earlier inhabitation with flint flakes and standing stones having been uncovered on the island. It is maintained by the ‘Burhuo Warden’ – a hereditary position on Alderney whose responsibilities include protecting the Puffin population through control of gulls. This historic use and current control and maintenance on the island affects its current ecological character.

iii) the ecological character of the wetland depends on its interaction with local communities or indigenous peoples ☐

iv) relevant non-material values such as sacred sites are present and their existence is strongly linked with the maintenance of the ecological character of the wetland ☐

4.6 - Ecological processes

<no data available>

## 5 - How is the Site managed? (Conservation and management)

### 5.1 - Land tenure and responsibilities (Managers)

#### 5.1.1 - Land tenure/ownership

##### Public ownership

| Category                    | Within the Ramsar Site              | In the surrounding area             |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| National/Federal government | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

##### Private ownership

| Category                                   | Within the Ramsar Site   | In the surrounding area             |
|--|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Other types of private/individual owner(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

Provide further information on the land tenure / ownership regime (optional):

The States of Alderney (government) is responsible for managing the site. It appointed the Alderney Wildlife Trust as the site administrator to assist in the preparation of reporting and planning documents. The Alderney Wildlife Trust is a member of the UK Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts and a locally founded charity (CH261). In formal ratification of this role, the Alderney Wildlife Trust have been designated as the Alderney Ramsar Secretariat by the States of Alderney.

#### 5.1.2 - Management authority

Please list the local office / offices of any agency or organization responsible for managing the site:

The States of Alderney and Alderney Wildlife Trust

Provide the name and/or title of the person or people with responsibility for the wetland:

General Services Committee (States of Alderney); Richard Phelan, States of Alderney Manager of Estates Environment & Infrastructure, Estates Environment & Infrastructure Engineer (States of Alderney); Ramsar Officer (Alderney Wildlife Trust)

Postal address:

The States of Alderney  
PO Box 1001  
Alderney  
GY9 3AA  
Channel Islands  
UK

Alderney Wildlife Trust  
48 Victoria Street  
Alderney  
GY9 3TA  
Channel Islands  
UK

E-mail address:

ramsar@alderneywildlife.org

### 5.2 - Ecological character threats and responses (Management)

#### 5.2.1 - Factors (actual or likely) adversely affecting the Site's ecological character

##### Human settlements (non agricultural)

| Factors adversely affecting site | Actual threat | Potential threat | Within the site                     | Changes   | In the surrounding area  | Changes   |
|----------------------------------|---------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|-----------|
| Tourism and recreation areas     |               | High impact      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No change | <input type="checkbox"/> | No change |

##### Transportation and service corridors

| Factors adversely affecting site | Actual threat | Potential threat | Within the site                     | Changes   | In the surrounding area             | Changes   |
|----------------------------------|---------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| Shipping lanes                   |               | High impact      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No change | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No change |
| Aircraft flight paths            |               | Medium impact    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No change | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No change |

##### Biological resource use

| Factors adversely affecting site         | Actual threat | Potential threat | Within the site                     | Changes   | In the surrounding area  | Changes   |
|--|---------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|-----------|
| Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources |               | High impact      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No change | <input type="checkbox"/> | No change |

##### Human intrusions and disturbance

| Factors adversely affecting site    | Actual threat | Potential threat | Within the site                     | Changes | In the surrounding area             | Changes |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|---------|-------------------------------------|---------|
| Recreational and tourism activities |               | Medium impact    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | unknown | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | unknown |

##### Invasive and other problematic species and genes

| Factors adversely affecting site   | Actual threat | Potential threat | Within the site                     | Changes  | In the surrounding area             | Changes  |
|------------------------------------|---------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|----------|-------------------------------------|----------|
| Invasive non-native/ alien species | Medium impact | High impact      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | increase | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | increase |
| Problematic native species         |               | Medium impact    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | increase | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | increase |

Pollution

| Factors adversely affecting site    | Actual threat | Potential threat | Within the site          | Changes   | In the surrounding area             | Changes   |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|------------------|--------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| Household sewage, urban waste water |               | Medium impact    | <input type="checkbox"/> | No change | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | No change |

Climate change and severe weather

| Factors adversely affecting site | Actual threat | Potential threat | Within the site                     | Changes  | In the surrounding area             | Changes  |
|----------------------------------|---------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|----------|-------------------------------------|----------|
| Habitat shifting and alteration  |               | High impact      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | unknown  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | unknown  |
| Temperature extremes             |               | High impact      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | increase | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | increase |
| Storms and flooding              | High impact   | High impact      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | increase | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | increase |

Please describe any other threats (optional):

The main threats to the site are:

- climate change effects, including increased storm frequency, increased sea and air temperatures resulting in habitat and species shifts, temperature extremes (e.g. heatwaves, marine heatwaves) and droughts;
- invasive species, notably marine algae such as Sargassum and Harpoon weed; and
- human activities including recreational tourism, commercial and recreational gathering and hunting, and household and industrial pollution (including from shipping, e.g. oil spills)

### 5.2.2 - Legal conservation status

National legal designations

| Designation type  | Name of area | Online information url                              | Overlap with Ramsar Site |
|---|--------------|---|--------------------------|
| Protected Zone under the States of Alderney Land Use Plan |              | https://alderney.gov.gg/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=103170 | whole                    |

Non-statutory designations

| Designation type                | Name of area                | Online information url   | Overlap with Ramsar Site |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| Important Bird Area             | Les Etacs                   | http://datazone.birdlife.org/site/factsheet/2699                                   | whole                    |
| Important Bird Area             | Ortac                       | http://datazone.birdlife.org/site/factsheet/2700                                   | whole                    |
| Other non-statutory designation | Burhou Puffin Friendly Zone | https://www.alderneywildlife.org/conservation-projects/ramsar/puffin-friendly-zone | whole                    |

### 5.2.3 - IUCN protected areas categories (2008)

- Ia Strict Nature Reserve

☐
- Ib Wilderness Area: protected area managed mainly for wilderness protection

☐
- II National Park: protected area managed mainly for ecosystem protection and recreation

☐
- III Natural Monument: protected area managed mainly for conservation of specific natural features

☐
- IV Habitat/Species Management Area: protected area managed mainly for conservation through management intervention

☐
- V Protected Landscape/Seascape: protected area managed mainly for landscape/seascape conservation and recreation

☒
- VI Managed Resource Protected Area: protected area managed mainly for the sustainable use of natural ecosystems

☐

### 5.2.4 - Key conservation measures

Legal protection

| Measures         | Status      |
|------------------|-------------|
| Legal protection | Implemented |

#### Species

| Measures                                      | Status                |
|---|-----------------------|
| Control of invasive alien plants              | Partially implemented |
| Control of invasive alien animals             | Implemented           |
| Threatened/rare species management programmes | Implemented           |

#### Human Activities

| Measures   | Status      |
|--|-------------|
| Fisheries management/regulation                                      | Implemented |
| Harvest controls/poaching enforcement                                | Implemented |
| Regulation/management of recreational activities                     | Implemented |
| Research   | Implemented |
| Communication, education, and participation and awareness activities | Implemented |

#### Other:

The terrestrial area within the site, including intertidal rock formations, is a Protected Zone under the States of Alderney Land Use Plan (2016). As a result, no development is likely to be permitted in the site other than restoration of existing structures.

Visiting restrictions are applied to the islet of Burhou, with no access allowed between March/April and the end of July during the Puffin breeding season. This is enforced under the Protection of Wild Birds (Alderney) Ordinance 2005. Furthermore, a protected area (the "Puffin Friendly Zone") prohibits boats from entering the bay where the majority of the Puffin population raft is located during the breeding season (see <https://www.alderneywildlife.org/conservation-projects/ramsar/puffin-friendly-zone>). Nest cordons and sensitive wildlife signage are in place on Platte Saline around Ringed plover nesting areas to reduce disturbance of this fragile population.

There is a code of conduct available for the site, in addition to an overall code of conduct for Ramsar Sites across the Channel Islands, which makes recommendations about a variety of factors such as bird disturbance, littering trampling and drone use (see <http://www.ci-ramsar.com/code-of-conduct/>).

A range of fishery legislation/measures are applied to the site. These are enforced by the States of Alderney and cover key species such as the Green ormer. The Protection of Wild Birds (Alderney) Ordinance, 2005, prohibits disturbance of nesting birds or the taking, injuring or killing of wild birds or eggs without a permit.

Control of non-native black rats takes place on the intertidal islets within the Ramsar Site, which are breeding sites for Auks, Gulls and Shags. Biosecurity monitoring is in place on the island of Burhou against rodent incursions. Control of invasive sea fig and sour fig takes place within the Ramsar Site, with successful control, but not eradication on Burhou. Furthermore, control of Bracken on Burhou has been proposed to increase available habitat for burrowing seabirds.

The Alderney Wildlife Trust produces information leaflets, posters and boards, and carries out a significant number of educational events and boat tours within the Ramsar Site throughout the year. The Alderney Bird Observatory brings visiting ringing groups onto the site for seabird ringing.

Results of ecological monitoring within the Ramsar Site are published yearly in the form of annual reviews. Key findings are often presented at an annual Inter Islands Conference (a scientific conference between crown dependencies open to the public).

### 5.2.5 - Management planning

Is there a site-specific management plan for the site? Yes

Has a management effectiveness assessment been undertaken for the site? Yes ☐ No ☒

If the site is a formal transboundary site as indicated in section Data and location > Site location, are there shared management planning processes with another Contracting Party? Yes ☐ No ☒

Please indicate if a Ramsar centre, other educational or visitor facility, or an educational or visitor programme is associated with the site:

The Alderney Wildlife Trust visitor engagement programme features a range of activities within the site. Additionally, the 'Living Islands: LIVE: Teaching through nature' educational programme is linked with the Ramsar Site and includes several public webcams, including the "Alderney PuffinCam"

URL of site-related webpage (if relevant):

<https://www.alderneywildlife.org/ramsar-alderneys-internationally-important-wetland;>  
<https://www.alderneywildlife.org/wildlife/webcams>

### 5.2.6 - Planning for restoration

Is there a site-specific restoration plan? No need identified

### 5.2.7 - Monitoring implemented or proposed

| Monitoring                      | Status      |
|---------------------------------|-------------|
| Animal community                | Implemented |
| Birds                           | Implemented |
| Water quality                   | Proposed    |
| Animal species (please specify) | Implemented |
| Plant community                 | Implemented |
| Plant species                   | Implemented |

Specific monitoring of animal species (excluding birds) includes intertidal crabs, Green ormer, Grey seals, bats, rodents, cetaceans and commercial fish species (e.g. Sea bass, Sea bream, Blue fin tuna)

## 6 - Additional material

### 6.1 - Additional reports and documents

#### 6.1.1 - Bibliographical references

Alderney Land Use Plan (2016) Section 2: Sites. States of Alderney Planning Office, St Anne, Alderney.

Alderney Wildlife Trust (2016a) Alderney West Coast and Burhou Islands Ramsar Site Strategy 2017 - 2021. Alderney Ramsar Strategy 3 (ARS3). Alderney Wildlife Trust, Alderney. <https://www.alderneywildlife.org/ramsar-alderneys-internationally-important-wetland>

Alderney Wildlife Trust (2016b) Benthic Environment Desk-based Review: Alderney Ramsar Site Marine Series: Report 1. Alderney Wildlife Trust, Alderney.

Alderney Wildlife Trust (2022) Alderney's West Coast and Burhou Islands Ramsar Site and Other Sites Annual Ramsar Review 2021. <https://www.alderneywildlife.org/ramsar-alderneys-internationally-important-wetland>

Alderney Wildlife Trust (2023) Alderney's West Coast and Burhou Islands Ramsar Site and Other Sites Annual Ramsar Review 2022. <https://www.alderneywildlife.org/ramsar-alderneys-internationally-important-wetland>

BirdLife International (2023a) Species factsheet: *Morus bassanus*. <http://datazone.birdlife.org/species/factsheet/northern-gannet-morus-bassanus>

BirdLife International (2023b) Important Bird Area factsheet: Les Etacs, Alderney. <http://datazone.birdlife.org/site/factsheet/les-etacs-alderney-iba-united-kingdom>

BirdLife International (2023c) Important Bird Area factsheet: Ortac, Alderney. <http://datazone.birdlife.org/site/factsheet/ortac-alderney-iba-united-kingdom>

Channel Islands Ramsar Code of Conduct. <http://www.ci-ramsar.com/code-of-conduct/>

IUCN (2023) The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. <https://www.iucnredlist.org/>

JNCC (2005) Alderney West Coast and Burhou Islands Ramsar Information Sheet. Version 3.0, dated 13/06/2008. <https://jncc.gov.uk/jncc-assets/RIS/UK22002.pdf>

Silva, CO, Novais, SC, Soares, AMVM, Barata & Lemos, MFL (2021) Impacts of the invasive seaweed *Asparagopsis armata* exudate on energetic metabolism of rock pool invertebrates. *Toxins* Volume 3(1), 15.

Veron, M. and Veron, C (2016). Seabird Count 2015; monitoring the status of Guernsey's Seabirds. La Société Transactions, Channel Islands.

#### 6.1.2 - Additional reports and documents

i. taxonomic lists of plant and animal species occurring in the site (see section 4.3)

<3 file(s) uploaded>

ii. a detailed Ecological Character Description (ECD) (in a national format)

<no file available>

iii. a description of the site in a national or regional wetland inventory

<no file available>

iv. relevant Article 3.2 reports

<no file available>

v. site management plan

<2 file(s) uploaded>

vi. other published literature

<1 file(s) uploaded>

#### 6.1.3 - Photograph(s) of the Site

Please provide at least one photograph of the site:



Clonque Bay and Ortac Island in the distance ( Alderney Wildlife Trust, 05-07-2017 )



Hannaine Bay and Burhou Island ( Alderney Wildlife Trust, 05-07-2017 )



Les Etacs Gannet colony ( Alderney Wildlife Trust, 05-07-2017 )



Puffins on Burhou Island ( Alderney Wildlife Trust, 25-07-2009 )



Adult and Juvenile Gannets on Ortac ( Alderney Wildlife Trust, 23-06-2009 )

#### 6.1.4 - Designation letter and related data

Designation letter

<1 file(s) uploaded>

Date of Designation 2005-08-24