



## Media Release from Alderney Wildlife Trust

Date: 2023-12-15

### **The Alderney Wildlife Trust announces pioneering Alderney State of Nature project**

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The Alderney Wildlife Trust (AWT) has won funding for a three-year project to develop a State of Nature assessment of Alderney. The project aims to understand how key species and habitats on Alderney and within its territorial waters have changed over time, and to make this information available to anyone interested in the natural world. The assessment will also help ensure the AWT's conservation management is best targeted to the most important and effective actions in its reserves.

The Alderney State of Nature project will learn from current reports and methods developed in the UK and EU and modify them to be tailored to Alderney's unique environment. The first step of this project is to identify the island's key species and habitats that are important for global, or local conservation, as well as those important to members of Alderney's community, and the island's economy, such as tourism. The AWT will then assess patterns of change for these key species and habitats, and whether they are currently at a favourable conservation status. This builds on the baseline data collected by the AWT for over twenty years on a wide variety of species and habitats, with the project looking to make as much of this data publicly available as possible.

An integral part of the project is to enable members of Alderney's community to get involved with wildlife recording. Throughout each year of the project, the AWT will run at least four engagement events aimed at encouraging new volunteer recorders in the community. Further training opportunities will be provided for current volunteers to foster skill development and thank those who actively help to collect biological data that is useful for the Alderney State of Nature assessment.

This project marks a significant milestone in the AWT's continued work to study, champion, and protect Alderney's wildlife. Further announcements about how members of the public can get involved in the project will be coming in the New Year.

The Alderney State of Nature project is funded by the Social Investment Fund Guernsey (SIF) and provides funding for one full-time and one part-time member of staff until August 2026, as well as for hosting events and training for members of Alderney's community to help them get involved with biological recording.

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## Background

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### **About the Alderney Wildlife Trust**

The Alderney Wildlife Trust is one of the 46 Wildlife Trusts working across the British Isles. We are the youngest of the Wildlife Trust, forming 21 years ago and since then the AWT has received incredible support from a dedicated team of wildlife enthusiasts, what we like to think of as the 'TeamWilder'. This team isn't just limited to residents and AWT members, it includes people from all walks of life who have an interest in our island's wildlife, as well as supporters and organizations from around the world. We work with the local community to engage them with their natural environment in order to protect Alderney's wildlife for the future.

Our mission is to study, protect and champion Alderney's wildlife. We wish to see a thriving natural island where wildlife and natural habitats play a valued role in addressing our island's future and the climate and ecological emergencies that face us.

***Alderney is a very special place and by helping the work of the Alderney Wildlife Trust you can make a difference. After all, if you love where you live, you'll want to look after it - Dr. George McGavin, Patron AWT***

## Notes to Media

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