

Alderney State of Nature Project

Narrative Criteria for Identifying Key Habitats and Species

The Alderney State of Nature Project considers key habitats and species to be those which meet elements of the narrative criteria below. These criteria will be weighted to give a final score, against which a threshold comparison will be used to list which species and habitats are key. The weighting process incorporates the magnitude of evidence (for instance being Endangered on the IUCN Red List counts more than being Vulnerable), confidence in the evidence (for instance peer-reviewed, up-to-date assessments are upweighted), and may weight some criteria over others (e.g. current invasive species (C1) count more than potential invasive species (C2, C3)). A validation exercise will be conducted to check the sufficiency and redundancy of the list compared to expert opinion.

A. Vulnerable

- **A1.** The habitat or species is of particular conservation concern either locally (Alderney), regionally (Channel Islands, UK, Europe), or globally.
- **A2.** The habitat or species is endemic or Alderney contains a substantial portion of the global population, distribution or extent of the habitat or species.

B. Valuable

- **B1.** The habitat or species generates economic value either locally or regionally, for instance through tourism, direct use (e.g. wood harvesting, fisheries), or other ecosystem services (e.g. pollination improving crop yields, reducing coastal erosion).
- **B2.** The habitat or species is of importance to Alderney's community/has particular cultural value.

C. Harmful

- **C1.** The species is an invasive non-native species (INNS) on Alderney or in its waters.
- **C2.** The species is non-native and present on Alderney, and is at risk of becoming invasive, for instance with evidence of becoming invasive in comparable locations elsewhere.
- **C3.** The species is not currently present on Alderney, but is a known invasive non-native species (INNS) in environmentally similar, geographically close locations with identifiable, plausible means of invasion to Alderney.

D. Required

- **D1.** There is a legal requirement to monitor or manage for the benefit of the habitat or species, regardless of its conservation status or value.
- **D2.** There is a legal requirement to monitor or manage for the control of the habitat or species, regardless of its conservation status or value.