



Alderney
Wildlife Trust



States of
Alderney



States of Alderney
Harbour Authority

Media Release from Alderney Wildlife Trust and States of Alderney

Date: 19th February 2026

Channel Islanders asked to report injured or dead seabirds

Members of the public across Jersey, Guernsey, Alderney and Sark are asked to look out for and report injured or dead seabirds, including puffins, when visiting the beach, following a series of storms and ongoing bad weather in the Atlantic.

It is currently estimated that between 5,000 and 10,000 dead seabirds have washed up on the shores of France and Spain, and now with a change in the wind direction, these birds are now being found on the coastlines of the Channel Islands.

Puffins have been particularly affected as they need clear water to find food. Rough seas, caused by storms make it difficult for them to find enough food to survive.

If an injured bird is found, please contact the relevant local organisation below for advice on what to do:

- Jersey: JSPCA Animals' Shelter - 01534 724331 (daytime) or 07797 720331 (out of hours)
- Guernsey: GSPCA - 01481 257261
- Alderney: Alderney Animal Welfare Society - alderneyanimalwelfare@outlook.com
- Sark: La Société Sercquaise - wildlife@socsercq.sark.gg

If a dead bird is found, please contact:

- Jersey: Natural Environment Department - environment@gov.je
- Guernsey: Ornithology Section, La Societe Guernesaise - ornithology@societe.org.gg
- Alderney: Alderney Wildlife Trust - ramsar-ecologist@alderneywildlife.org or on WhatsApp - 07781 107202.
- Sark: La Societe Sercquaise - wildlife@socsercq.sark.gg

When reporting a dead bird, please include the following, where possible:

- The location of the bird, ideally using What3Words (except for Sark where just the beach name is required) or a Google Maps pin
- A photo of the whole bird
- A photo of the bird's beak (for identifying the species and determining the age of the bird)
- The number on the ring on a bird's leg, if it has a ring and where this is possible. However, please don't touch the bird with bare hands. Instead use gloves, a plastic bag (e.g. a dog poo bag) or another object to check.

Although it is unlikely that any deaths are the result of disease, dead birds can still carry diseases that pose a risk of infection, so please do not remove any injured or dead seabird from the location where it has been found.

Members of the public are also asked to avoid disturbing birds on Channel Island shorelines this winter. Disturbance can cause seabirds to use up vital energy reserves and reduce the time available for feeding and roosting. This is particularly important during storms and rough seas when it is harder for birds to feed. For more information, please see:

- The Channel Islands general wildlife guidance at ci-ramsar.com/general-wildlifeguidance/
- Guernsey's Wildlife Code of Conduct at gov.gg/givewildlifeachance

Alderney Wildlife Trust – Seabird Wreck FAQ sheet

Ends

Background

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 over 20 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 organisations 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

For further information, please contact:

Roland Gauvain
Manager@alderneywildlife.org