

'Puffin Friendly Zone'



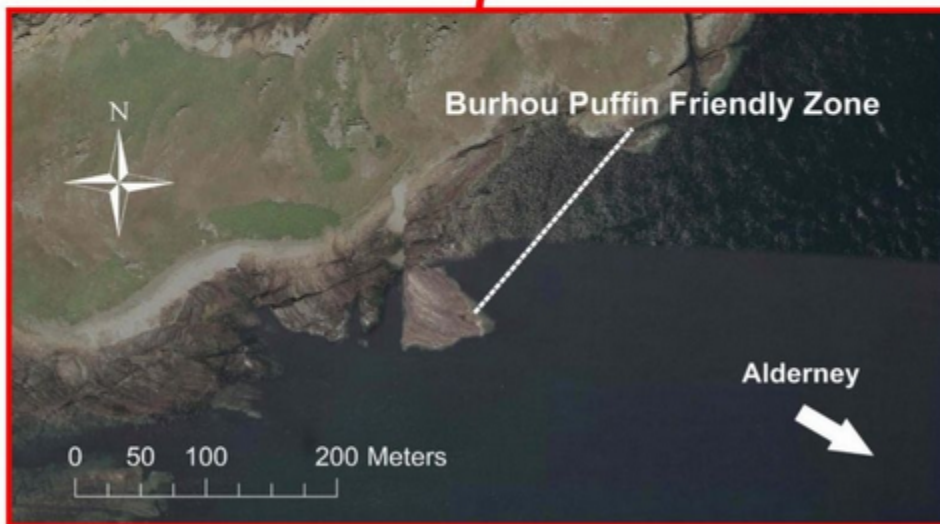
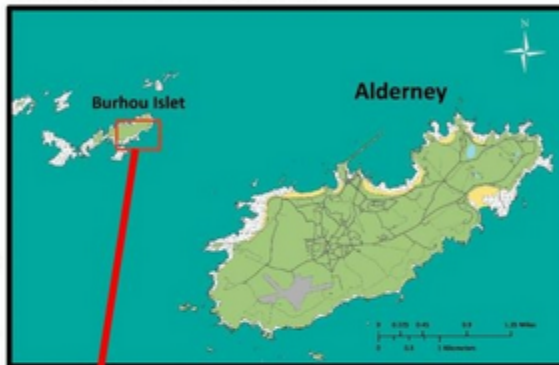
From March to August, Burhou hosts the largest population of Atlantic puffins in the Channel Islands. The puffin population declined from 2012, with recent observations suggesting the population may be beginning to stabilise.

They use this bay to rest, so please help our puffins by staying out; disturbance causes excess energy expenditure and prevents parents returning to chicks, reducing their breeding success.

We kindly ask that all mariners please:

- **DO NOT** cross the white line
- **KEEP** your speed under **10 knots** when coming close to the island.
- **TRY drifting** by in the tide, keeping noise to a minimum and the birds will come out to visit you.
- **DO NOT** force the birds to fly.

Thank you for your cooperation.



For more information please contact the Alderney Wildlife Trust

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STATES OF ALDERNEY



Ends

Background

Ramsar - About the reserve

The West Coast and 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. It achieved the Ramsar designation in 2005 through regionally, nationally and internationally important populations of seabirds. In particular,

the islets of Ortac and Les Etacs support over 1% of the world population of Northern Gannet. It also provides a habitat for a seal colony to the north of Burhou Island as well as some fish and shellfish species such as Lobster, Ormer, Bass and Plaice.

The site hosts about 100 species of seaweeds, which play a significant role in supporting all marine fauna and thus the large seabird population. Besides commercial and non-commercial fishing, tourism is the main activity: there is a visitor centre that provides both educational measures for children and information materials for the public. Since designation data has been collected on 10 seabird species for population size and productivity success rates; marine habitat mapping is carried out in new locations each year and terrestrial surveys are a large part of the monitoring work. The recording of this data is continued and expanded each year by the AWT in order to better understand the ecological processes of the Ramsar site and conserve its diversity within the convention guidelines.

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

For further information, please contact:

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