



Ramsar Information Sheet

Published on 10 April 2024

Update version, previously published on : 2 February 2005

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

Les Pierres de Lecq



Designation date	2 February 2005
Site number	1457
Coordinates	49°17'35"N 02°12'15"W
Area	512,00 ha

<https://rsis.ramsar.org/ris/1457>

Created by RSIS V.1.6 on - 10 April 2024

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

The Les Pierres de Lecq Ramsar Site is based on an exposed underwater plateau, located 5 km north of the island of Jersey. It comprises a sub-tidal reef, characterized by kelp forests and animal turfs, and an intertidal zone dominated by rocks and boulders. The site is fed by clean well-oxygenated water, does not suffer from issues associated with pollution, overdevelopment or overfishing, and has a tidal range exceeding 12 m. At high tide only four small patches of rock remain uncovered. At low tide the area forms a complex series of low-lying rocky reefs and heads. Sediment is very scarce and much of its wildlife is adapted to survive in an environment subject to strong tidal currents and waves.

The site is rich in biodiversity with 25 different biotopes and around 200 marine species having been recorded. The diverse array of habitats and micro-habitats includes kelp beds, furoid algae on intertidal rocky platforms, rockpools, gullies, and intertidal channels with sponge and ascidian communities. Extensive shallow-water areas and numerous intertidal pools provide habitat and act as a nursery area to a wide range of fish and invertebrate species. The cold-water reef is characterised by limit-of-range species that are scarce or not present on shores further north or south. Some species are regionally scarce and/or listed as Vulnerable by the IUCN, including the Green ormer *Haliotis tuberculata* and Pink sea-fan *Eunicella verrucosa*. The site is used by Grey seals *Halichoerus grypus*, which breed in the other Jersey Ramsar Sites and is a foraging habitat for one of the largest breeding populations of Bottlenose dolphin *Tursiops truncatus* in the British Isles. The exposed reef also forms an important resting site for birds and feeding ground for seabirds.

The area provides multiple ecosystem services. It contributes to an important commercial fishery for various shellfish and wetfish species, is used extensively for recreational fishing, and in the summer is frequented by canoeists and kayakers. It also plays an important role in offering biological resilience to the wider Bay of Granville region.

2 - Data & location

2.1 - Formal data

2.1.1 - Name and address of the compiler of this RIS

Responsible compiler

Institution/agency	Department of the Environment, Government of Jersey
Postal address	Howard Davis Farm Trinity Jersey JE3 5JP

National Ramsar Administrative Authority

Institution/agency	Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
Postal address	2 Marsham Street London SW1P 4DF

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

From year	2010
To year	2023

2.1.3 - Name of the Ramsar Site

Official name (in English, French or Spanish)	Les Pierres de Lecq
Unofficial name (optional)	The Paternosters

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	No change to area
(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
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2.2 - Site location

2.2.1 - Defining the Site boundaries

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

Former maps	0
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Boundaries description

The geographic coordinates for the centre point of the site are 49°17'30"N 2°12'20"W. It is located in the English Channel, 5 km north from the harbour of Grève de Lecq on the north-west coast of the island of Jersey.

2.2.2 - General location

a) In which large administrative region does the site lie?	Bailiwick of Jersey, Channel Islands
b) What is the nearest town or population centre?	St Helier, Jersey

2.2.3 - For wetlands on national boundaries only

a) Does the wetland extend onto the territory of one or more other countries?	Yes <input type="radio"/> No <input checked="" type="radio"/>
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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
Marine Ecoregions of the World (MEOW)	South European Atlantic Shelf
Other scheme (provide name below)	Atlantic Ocean

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
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Other ecosystem services provided	See section 4.5
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Other reasons	Les Pierres de Lecq is an internationally important example of a large, near-natural, coastal ecosystem. It is representative of the European Atlantic marine ecoregion and has one of the largest tidal ranges in the world. In addition to a sub-tidal cold-water reef characterised by kelp forests and animal turfs, the site includes intertidal areas dominated by rocks and boulders with very little sediment. A diverse range of habitats and communities is present, including 25 different biotopes defined by regional classifications (JNCC/EUNIS).
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- Criterion 3 : Biological diversity

Justification	<p>The site is rich in biodiversity. Around 200 marine species have been recorded and a wide range of subtidal, tidal and coastal habitats are present. There are extensive areas of shallow water habitat and numerous intertidal pools, which provide habitat and act as a nursery area to a wide range of fish and invertebrate species, including commercial species such as crabs and lobsters. Cold-water reefs host a high diversity of life and provide an edge of range habitat, where many southern and northern European marine species find their outer limit of tolerance. Thus, species such as the Green ormer <i>Haliotis tuberculata</i>, which are associated with warmer southern European waters and are rare or absent from British coasts, coexist with those normally associated with colder northern waters, such as the Beadlet anemone <i>Actinia equina</i>. A small number of species are listed as Vulnerable under IUCN criteria or are regionally scarce, including the Pink sea-fan <i>Eunicella verrucosa</i>, Five Shilling Shell <i>Macra glauca</i> and Sunset cup-coral <i>Leptopsammia pruvoti</i>.</p>
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	<p>The site and surrounding area support a small population of breeding Grey seal <i>Halichoerus grypus</i> and one of the largest breeding populations of Bottlenose dolphin <i>Tursiops truncatus</i> in the British Isles. Other cetaceans frequenting the site include Common dolphin <i>Delphinus delphis</i> and Harbour porpoise <i>Phocoena phocoena</i>. It also represents the only area around Jersey that is commonly used by Risso's dolphin <i>Grampus griseus</i>.</p>
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	<p>Although the site is not used by nesting birds, as it very exposed and even the highest rocky outcrops are regularly over-washed by the sea, the exposed reef is an important resting site for birds and feeding ground for seabirds.</p>
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- Criterion 4 : Support during critical life cycle stage or in adverse conditions

- Criterion 8 : Fish spawning grounds, etc.

Justification

The site includes a large area of kelp forest and numerous intertidal pools, which act as an important habitat and nursery zone for shore and shallow sublittoral fish communities. Many species of fish feed and grow in the fertile shallows before commencing their autumn migration to spawn elsewhere. Conversely, other species winter in the area and leave during the summer. Among the most important fish species are Allis shad *Allosa alosa*, Twaites shad *Alosa fallax*, European seabass *Dicentrarchus labrax*, Giant goby *Gobius cobitis*, Short-snouted seahorse *Hippocampus hippocampus*, Common goby *Pomatoschistus microps*, and Sand goby *Pomatoschistus minutus*. Commercial invertebrates, such as King scallop, lobster, cuttlefish and various crab species, are also known to breed in the area, and the Green ormer *Haliotis tuberculata* occurs in suitable locations.

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																	
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"/>	200	2020		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Protected under the Wildlife (Jersey) Law 2021	Important component of biodiversity, protected species on Jersey
CNIDARIA/ ANTHOZOA	<i>Eunicella verrucosa</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"/>	100	2017		VU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Protected under the Wildlife (Jersey) Law 2021	Important component of biodiversity, regionally scarce species, listed as Vulnerable on the IUCN Red list, protected species on Jersey
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA	<i>Grampus griseus</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"/>	10	2020		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Protected under the Wildlife (Jersey) Law 2021	Important component of biodiversity, protected species on Jersey
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"/>	15	2020		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Protected under the Wildlife (Jersey) Law 2021	Important component of biodiversity, notable breeding species, protected species on Jersey
CNIDARIA/ ANTHOZOA	<i>Leptopsammia pruvoti</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"/>	50	2013			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Protected under the Wildlife (Jersey) Law 2021	Important component of biodiversity, regionally scarce species, protected species on Jersey
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"/>	50	2020		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Protected under the Wildlife (Jersey) Law 2021	Important component of biodiversity, protected species on Jersey
CHORDATA/ MAMMALIA	<i>Tursiops truncatus</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"/>	50	2020		LC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Protected under the Wildlife (Jersey) Law 2021	Important component of biodiversity, notable breeding species, protected species on Jersey
Fish, Mollusc and Crustacea																	
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	<i>Alosa alosa</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"/>	Protected under the Wildlife (Jersey) Law 2021	Notable breeding fish species, protected species on Jersey
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	<i>Alosa fallax</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"/>	Protected under the Wildlife (Jersey) Law 2021	Notable breeding fish species, protected species on Jersey
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	<i>Dicentrarchus labrax</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"/>		Notable breeding fish species
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	<i>Gobius cobitis</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"/>		Notable breeding fish species
MOLLUSCA/ GASTROPODA	<i>Haliotis tuberculata</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"/>	500	2017		VU	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Protected under the (Jersey) Ormer fishing and possession regulations	Important component of biodiversity, listed as Vulnerable on the IUCN Red list, notable breeding shellfish species
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	<i>Hippocampus hippocampus</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"/>				DD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Protected under the Wildlife (Jersey) Law 2021	Notable breeding fish species, protected species on Jersey
ARTHROPODA/ MALACOSTRACA	<i>Homarus gammarus</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"/>		Notable breeding crustacean species
MOLLUSCA/ BIVALVIA	<i>Pecten maximus</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"/>		Notable breeding shellfish species
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	<i>Pomatoschistus microps</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"/>		Notable breeding fish species
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	<i>Pomatoschistus minutus</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"/>		Notable breeding fish species
MOLLUSCA/ CEPHALOPODA	<i>Sepia officinalis</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"/>		Notable breeding marine mollusc species
Birds																	
CHORDATA	<i>Aves</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>					<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		

1) Percentage of the total biogeographic population at the site

All population sizes in the table above are approximate. Risso's dolphin *Grampus griseus* visit the site seasonally, which is at the shallower end of their feeding range; it is unclear if sightings of this species represent one or two individuals that visit the site often or many more that occasionally pass by. Sunset cup-coral *Leptopsammia pruvoti* is known from only a single location within the site, whilst Pink sea-fan *Eunicella verrucosa* is common on rocky surfaces >20 m depth.

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
Kelp forests	<input type="checkbox"/>	See below	See below

[Optional text box to provide further information](#)

The site includes around 100 ha of Kelp forests (EUNIS habitat type A3.211/A3.1151), which form an important nursery area for marine life, associated biodiversity and environmental resilience.

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

4.1 - Ecological character

Les Pierres de Lecq is situated in an exposed location to the north of the Jersey mainland. It is based on an underwater plateau that covers 280 ha and has an average depth of 5-15 m. This is separated from the mainland by a submarine trench (La Fosse de Plémont, which extends to 50m depth) and an area of deeper seabed (mostly around 24-30 m depth).

The site is geographically isolated and does not suffer from issues associated with pollution, overdevelopment or overfishing. It is fed by clean and well-oxygenated water from the western English Channel, which is relatively warm water due to the influence of the Gulf Stream and surrounding oceanographic conditions. It also has one of the largest tidal ranges in the world, which can exceed 12 m. At high tide just four small patches of rock (covering <0.3 ha) remain uncovered within the reef. At low tide the area forms a complex series of low-lying rocky reefs and heads that are distributed across the underwater plateau. The sub-tidal reef is characterized by kelp forests and animal turfs. The intertidal area is dominated by rocks and boulders. Sediment is very scarce.

A diverse array of habitats and micro-habitats occur. This includes luxuriant growth of furoid algae on intertidal rocky platforms, rockpools and gullies with a variety of algae, crustaceans and fish, and intertidal channels with sponge and ascidian communities. It is characterised by limit-of-range species at the northern and southern margins of their distributions, which are not present on shores either to the north or south respectively. Much of wildlife is adapted to survive in an environment subject to strong tidal currents and waves; this, combined with the lack of sediment, limits the overall diversity of habitats and species.

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	Includes EUNIS types A5.135/145/231	2	150	Representative
B: Marine subtidal aquatic beds (Underwater vegetation)	Includes EUNIS types A3.125/211/214/2142/713	1	330	Representative
D: Rocky marine shores	Includes EUNIS types A1.112/1122/1131/1133/125/214/2142/313/3132/4111/4121/451, B3.112/113		20	Representative

Other non-wetland habitat

Other non-wetland habitats within the site	Area (ha) if known
Marine waters >6m deep (includes EUNIS type A5.141)	15

4.3 - Biological components

4.3.1 - Plant species

Invasive alien plant species

Phylum	Scientific name	Impacts	Changes at RIS update
CHLOROPHYTA/AULOVOPHYCEAE	<i>Codium fragile fragile</i>	Actual (minor impacts)	No change
OCHROPHYTA/PHAEOPHYCEAE	<i>Sargassum muticum</i>	Actual (minor impacts)	No change

Optional text box to provide further information

Sargassum muticum has taken extensive hold of much of the lower intertidal pools and shallow subtidal areas regionally. Growing up to 5m long with a significant mass of small brown leaves and pods its positive buoyancy can cause both shading and heating of the waters below it. *Codium fragile* competes with its native equivalent and has an established presence on the reef.

4.3.2 - Animal species

Invasive alien animal species

Phylum	Scientific name	Impacts	Changes at RIS update
ARTHROPODA/MAXILLOPODA	<i>Austrominius modestus</i>	Actual (minor impacts)	No change
MOLLUSCA/GASTROPODA	<i>Crepidula fornicata</i>	Actual (minor impacts)	No change
MOLLUSCA/BIVALVIA	<i>Magallana gigas</i>	Actual (minor impacts)	No change
CHORDATA/ASCIDIACEA	<i>Styela clava</i>	Actual (minor impacts)	No change

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)

4.4.2 - Geomorphic setting

a) Minimum elevation above sea level (in metres)

a) Maximum elevation above sea level (in metres)

- 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.

The site is an offshore reef system located in the English Channel, in the NE Atlantic Ocean.

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

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 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 tidal range is 12m.

4.4.5 - Sediment regime

Significant transportation of sediments occurs on or through the site

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

Sediment regime unknown

Please provide further information on sediment (optional):

There is little sediment accretion within the site, but quantities of sediment are transported through the site by strong tidal currents.

4.4.6 - Water pH

Circumneutral (pH: 5.5-7.4)

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

Unknown

4.4.7 - Water salinity

Euhaline/Eusaline (30-40 g/l)

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

Unknown

4.4.8 - Dissolved or suspended nutrients in water

Unknown

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

The site is offshore with little or no terrestrial influence; nutrient levels have not been measured.

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 i) broadly similar ii) significantly different site itself:

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:

The site is surrounded by open sea, with the islands of Jersey to the South and Guernsey to the north-west.

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)	Low

Regulating Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Erosion protection	Soil, sediment and nutrient retention	Medium
Climate regulation	Regulation of greenhouse gases, temperature, precipitation and other climactic processes	Medium

Cultural Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Recreation and tourism	Nature observation and nature-based tourism	High
Recreation and tourism	Water sports and activities	High
Recreation and tourism	Recreational hunting and fishing	Medium
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
Scientific and educational	Long-term monitoring site	High
Scientific and educational	Important knowledge systems, importance for research (scientific reference area or 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
Nutrient cycling	Storage, recycling, processing and acquisition of nutrients	High

Optional text box to provide further information

The site is important for both commercial and recreational fishing. It contributes to an important commercial fishery for various shellfish and wetfish species including lobster, brown crab and sea bass, and is used extensively by recreational fishers due to its proximity to the small harbour at Greve de Lecq and other north coast Jersey harbours. Fishing within the site is of great cultural, social and traditional importance to the population of Jersey. Local and visiting fishers frequently use the site for recreational fishing. Potting, low water fishing and angling are the main métiers employed by the recreational fishing sector. There is also some recreational scallop diving and spear fishing.

The site is of limited recreational importance, although it is frequently visited by canoeists and kayakers, especially during the summer months when organised trips are available. Small boats also occasionally visit. Visitors to the reef are, however, very low, although occasionally scuba divers visit the wreck of the Heron Dutch cargo ship, which is located within the site.

Habitats and topographical features within the site provide for many aspects of environmental resilience and multiple ecosystem services, including:

- sediment and nutrient retention, erosion control and the provision of shelter banks – the reef system with its extensive shingle and sand banks provides shelter to important subtidal habitats and adjacent coastal areas;
- storage, recycling, processing and acquisition of nutrients and carbon;
- regulation of greenhouse gases, temperature, precipitation, carbon and other climactic processes –marine habitats are understood to be vital in the balance of CO2 levels and healthy seagrass and clam beds are increasingly being recognized as key carbon sinks;
- storage, recycling, processing and acquisition of nutrients;
- biochemical and pollution regulation; and
- biological productivity and the provision of nursery and fisheries functions.

Les Pierres de Lecq is regarded as a biodiversity hotspot and probable nursery area for a range of species. It also plays an important role in offering biological resilience to the wider Bay of Granville region.

Within the site:

Outside the site:

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
- 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

<no data available>

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"/>

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

The site is former Crown Land that was donated to the States of Jersey in 2015.

5.1.2 - Management authority

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

Department of the Environment, Government of Jersey

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

Paul Chambers, Assistant Director, Marine Resources & Dr T du Feu, Head of Land Resource Management

Postal address:

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5.2 - Ecological character threats and responses (Management)

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

Water regulation

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	Changes	In the surrounding area	Changes
Dredging	Low impact	Low impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change	<input checked="" 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		Low impact	<input 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	Medium impact	Medium impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change	<input checked="" 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		Low impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change	<input type="checkbox"/>	No change

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		Low impact	<input checked="" 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	Medium impact	Medium impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change	<input type="checkbox"/>	No change
Storms and flooding	Medium impact	Medium impact	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No change	<input type="checkbox"/>	No change

Please describe any other threats (optional):

The main threats are posed by pollution (noting that The English Channel is one of the busiest shipping lanes in the world, with ships carrying all types of cargoes); over-fishing and harvesting of other aquatic resources; invasive non-native species; and climate change resulting in increased storms and habitat and species loss.

5.2.2 - Legal conservation status

<no data available>

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

Species

Measures	Status
Threatened/rare species management programmes	Implemented
Control of invasive alien plants	Implemented
Control of invasive alien animals	Implemented

Human Activities

Measures	Status
Research	Partially implemented
Regulation/management of wastes	Implemented
Harvest controls/poaching enforcement	Implemented
Fisheries management/regulation	Implemented

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

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 species (please specify)	Proposed
Animal community	Proposed
Soil quality	Proposed
Water quality	Implemented

Animal monitoring includes lobsters, crabs and birds

6 - Additional material

6.1 - Additional reports and documents

6.1.1 - Bibliographical references

Anon. (1997) Anthropogenic radionuclides in the region of Jersey. Southampton Oceanography Centre, Geosciences Division, unpublished report to States of Jersey.

Bishop, AC & Bisson, G (eds.) (1989) Jersey: description of 1:25,000 Channel Islands sheet 2. HMSO, London, for British Geological Survey (Classical areas of British geology).

Critchley, AT, Farnham, WF & Morrell, SL (1983) A chronology of new European sites of attachment for the invasive brown alga, *Sargassum muticum*, 1973–1981. *Journal of the Marine Biological Association*, 63, 799-811.

Crutchley, S (1997) Designation of a Marine Protected Area in Jersey: Recommendations with special reference to molluscs. Unpublished MSc dissertation, University College London.

Culley, M, Farnham, W, Fletcher, R & Thorp, C (1996) The marine ecology of Maitresse Ile, Les Minquiers. University of Portsmouth, Marine Laboratory, unpublished report to States of Jersey

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Hiscock, K (ed.) (1996) Marine Nature Conservation Review: rationale and methods. Joint Nature Conservation Committee, Peterborough. (Coasts and Seas of the United Kingdom. MNCR series).

IUCN (2022) The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. <https://www.iucnredlist.org/>

Jewell, S (1995) An identification and analysis of key criteria for the sustainable development of Jersey's coastal zone. Unpublished MSc dissertation, Heriot-Watt University, Institute of Offshore Engineering, Edinburgh.

Kindleysides, D (1995) Conserving the intertidal biodiversity of Jersey: a strategy. Unpublished MSc dissertation, University College London.

Les Pierres de Lecq (the Paternosters), Jersey, Ramsar Information Sheet UK23004. Version 3.0, 13/06/2008, produced by JNCC.

Orbi, A & Salomon, J-C (1988) Dynamique de maree dans le Golfe Normand-Breton. *Oceanologica Acta*, 11(1), 55-64.

States of Jersey Department of the Environment (2012) Paternosters Ramsar Management Plan. Dated February 2012. <https://www.gov.je/Environment/ProtectingEnvironment/SeaCoast/Pages/Ramsar.aspx>

Taylor, PD & Cook, PL (1981) *Hippoporidra edax* (Busk, 1859) and a revision of some fossil and living Hippoporidra (Bryozoa). *Bulletin of the British Museum (Natural History) (Geology)*, 35, 243-251.

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

Jersey Government fish and shellfish regulations and monitoring webpage: <https://www.gov.je/Environment/LandMarineWildlife/FishShellfish/Pages/index.aspx>

6.1.2 - Additional reports and documents

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

<no file available>

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

<1 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:



View across Les Pierres de Lecq Ramsar site looking west from Great Rock (Department of the Environment, Government of Jersey, 2012)



View of Great Rock and Sharp Rock, Les Pierres de Lecq Ramsar site (Department of the Environment, Government of Jersey, 2012)

6.1.4 - Designation letter and related data

Designation letter

<1 file(s) uploaded>

Date of Designation