Ramsar Information Sheet

Published on 9 January 2017

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

Herm, Jethou and The Humps

Designation date	19 October 2015
Site number	2277
Coordinates	49°28'54"N 02°27'02"W
Area	1 802,92 ha

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 Site consists of two small islands (Herm and Jethou), nine rocky islets - Grande Fauconniere Crevichon and Brehon Tower, the Humps (six) and surrounding shallow tidal waters (c.80% less than 16 metres below Chart Datum. Guernsey's geographic location and its large tidal differences create and support a diverse range of habitats. The convergence of cold (boreal) and warm currents (Lusitanian) biogeographic regions support an array of species which include rich plankton currents, which flow eastward from the Atlantic to the North Sea. The site has an exceptionally large tidal range – at up to 10 metres, it is among the largest in the world and the intertidal zone is particularly large and biodiverse. Several important habitats are present, including Eelgrass (Zostera) beds, Maerl beds, shallow reef systems and sunken shipwreck reefs (7), which provide spawning grounds for fish such as Sea Bass and Black Sea Bream, with significant tidal races. The Site is contiguous with benthic and pelagic habitats, respectively supporting flatfish, shellfish; seabirds, Basking Shark, Sun Fish, Atlantic Grey Seal and four species of cetacean. The coastlines provide breeding sites for nine species of seabird and Atlantic Grey Seal.

The Site is located within the Normand-Breton Gulf, which is a large marine area in the west part of the English Channel, including French marine waters (Bay of Saint Malo) and British (Channel islands) marine waters. This area of over 11, 000 km² comprises numerous marine protected areas with six marine Ramsar sites (of which five are in the Channel Islands), and Natura 2000 sites, French designation sites and a proposed marine nature park in French waters.

In terms of human geography, fishing (both commercial and recreational) within the site is of high cultural, economic and traditional importance to the population of Guernsey. There are significant archaeological and historical features and the site is, in part, a tourist destination.

2 - Data & location

2.1 - Formal data

2.1.1 - Name and address of the compiler of this RIS

Compiler 1

Name	Paul Fisher (c/o Andrew McCutcheon)
Institution/agency	States of Guernsey
Postal address	Environment Department Sir Charles Frossard House PO Box 43 St. Peter Port, Guernsey, Channel Islands, UK
E-mail	paul.fisher@rspb.org.uk
Phone	+44 1481 717390

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

From year	1994
To year	2013

2.1.3 - Name of the Ramsar Site

Official name (in English, French or Spanish)	Herm, Jethou and The Humps
Unofficial name (optional)	The portion of the site referred to as the Humps is also known as les Amfroques

2.2 - Site location

2.2.1 - Defining the Site boundaries

b) Digital map/image
<no file available>

Former maps	0

Boundaries description

The site consists of all the land of the three sub-units (islands and islets) and the surrounding sea and sub littoral zone to a depth of 16 metres below Chart Datum (17.2 metres below local low tide). The Site is located five kilometres east of the main island of Guernsey, Channel Islands, English Channel.

2.2.2 - General location

a) In which large administrative region does the site lie?	Bailiwick of Guernsey, UK Crown Dependency of Guernsey (Channel Islands)
b) What is the nearest town or population centre?	St Peter Port, Guernsey

2.2.3 - For wetlands on national boundaries only

a) Does the wetland extend onto the territory of one or more other countries?	Yes ○ No ◉
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):	1802.92
Area, in hectares (ha) as calculated from GIS boundaries	1850.61

2.2.5 - Biogeography

Biogeographic regions

Regionalisation scheme(s)	Biogeographic region
Marine Ecoregions of the World (MEOW)	26. Celtic Seas
EU biogeographic regionalization	Atlantic Region

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

Other ecosystem services provided: Contributes to Guernsey commercial fishery. Tourism, community recreation, mariculture (oysters) and shellfish gathering (notably Ormers)

Other reasons: In the context of Criterion 1.1, the site is both representative of the Marine Ecoregion and a rare example, due to the confluence of warm and cold currents and the particularly large tidal range.

☑ Criterion 2 : Rare species and threatened ecological communities

☑ Criterion 3 : Biological diversity

Justification: As apparent from the wide range of species present and listed.

☑ Criterion 4 : Support during critical life cycle stage or in adverse conditions

☑ Criterion 7 : Significant and representative fish

Justification: As apparent from the wide range of species present and listed.

☑ Criterion 8 : Fish spawning grounds, etc.

Justification: Dwarf eelgrass (Zostera noltii) beds, Maerl beds, shallow reef systems, sunken shipwreck reefs and Golden Kelp (Laminaria ochroleuca) provide important fish spawning habitats for fish such as Sea Bass and Black Sea Bream, with significant tidal races. The bivalve reefs contained within the site are particular significant. The Site is contiguous with benthic and pelagic habitats supporting flatfish and shellfish among others.

3.2 - Plant species whose presence relates to the international importance of the site

Scientific name	Common name	Criterion 2	Criterion 3	Criterion 4	IUCN Red List	CITES Appendix I	Other status	Justification
Zostera marina	Common Eelgrass/seawrack	☐	☑	☐	LC	☐	UK Biodiversity Action Plan List	Northerly species cf Zostera noltii. Declining UK. More subtidal that Zostera noltii
Zostera noltii	Dwarf Eelgrass	☐	☑	☐		☐	UK Biodiversity Action Plan List	Southerly species - Mediterranean Sea, Black Sea, Caspian Sea, European and African Atlantic coasts.

PLANT SPECIES NOT IN CATALOGUE OF LIFE BUT PRESENT IN SITE RELATES TO INTERNATIONAL IMPORTANCE

Laminaria ochroleuca; Golden Kelp; Criterion 3; Other status: UK Biodiversity Action Plan Species; Justification: Northern position with its Lusitanian range: Iberian peninsula, Mediterranean & SW UK

3.3 - Animal species whose presence relates to the international importance of the site

Phylum	Scientific name	Common 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								
Birds																		
CHORDATA/ AVES	*Alca torda*	Razorbill	☐	☐	☐	☐	☑	☐	☐	☐	28	1994-2013		LC	☐	☐		38.8% of the Gulf + Channel Islands assemblage
CHORDATA/ AVES	*Branta bernicla bernicla*	Dark-bellied Brent Goose	☐	☑	☐	☐	☑	☐	☐	☐	100	1994-2013			☐	☐	UK Biodiversity Action Plan	feeding ground for a population of 100
CHORDATA/ AVES	*Falco peregrinus*	Peregrine Falcon	☑	☐	☐	☐	☑	☐	☐	☐		1994-2013		LC	☑	☐	UK Biodiversity Action Plan	
CHORDATA/ AVES	*Fratercula arctica*	Atlantic Puffin	☐	☐	☐	☐	☑	☐	☐	☐	70			LC	☐	☐	UK Biodiversity Action Plan	22.5% of the Gulf + Channel Islands assemblage
CHORDATA/ AVES	*Fulmarus glacialis*	Northern Fulmar	☐	☐	☐	☐	☑	☐	☐	☐	30	1994-2013		LC	☐	☐	UK Biodiversity Action Plan	8.4% of the Gulf + Channel Islands assemblage
CHORDATA/ AVES	*Hydrobates pelagicus*	European Storm Petrel; European Storm-Petrel	☐	☐	☐	☐	☑	☐	☐	☐		1994-2013		LC	☐	☐	UK Biodiversity Action Plan	
CHORDATA/ AVES	*Larus argentatus*	European Herring Gull; Herring Gull	☐	☐	☐	☐	☑	☐	☐	☐	345	1994-2103		LC	☐	☐	UK Biodiversity Action Plan	
CHORDATA/ AVES	*Larus fuscus graellsii*	Lesser Black-backed Gull	☑	☐	☐	☐	☑	☐	☐	☐	160	1994-2013			☐	☐	UK Biodiversity Action Plan; Appendix III Bern Convention	NW Atlantic sub-species, 6.6% of the Gulf + Channel Islands assemblage
CHORDATA/ AVES	*Larus marinus*	Great Black-backed Gull	☐	☐	☐	☐	☑	☐	☐	☐	73	1994-2013		LC	☐	☐	UK Biodiversity Action Plan	4.5% of the Gulf + Channel Islands assemblage
CHORDATA/ AVES	*Phalacrocorax aristotelis*	European Shag	☐	☐	☐	☐	☑	☐	☐	☐	365	1994-2013		LC	☐	☐	UK Biodiversity Action Plan	Atlantic (nominate) sub-species, 8.9% of the Gulf + Channel Islands assemblage
CHORDATA/ AVES	*Phalacrocorax carbo*	Great Cormorant	☐	☐	☐	☐	☑	☐	☐	☐	40	1994-2013		LC	☐	☐	UK Biodiversity Action Plan	2.5% of the Gulf + Channel Islands assemblage
CHORDATA/ AVES	*Puffinus puffinus*	Manx Shearwater	☐	☐	☐	☐	☑	☐	☐	☐	15	2000		LC	☐	☐	UK Biodiversity Action Plan	
CHORDATA/ AVES	*Sterna hirundo hirundo*	Common Tern	☐	☑	☐	☐	☑	☐	☐	☐	50	1994-2013		LC	☐	☐	UK Biodiversity Action Plan	16.4% of the Gulf + Channel Islands assemblage
CHORDATA/ AVES	*Uria aalge albionis*	Common Guillemot	☐	☐	☐	☐	☑	☐	☐	☐	80	1994-2013		LC	☐	☐	UK Biodiversity Action Plan	8.5% of the Gulf + Channel Islands assemblage
Fish, Mollusc and Crustacea																		
CHORDATA/ ELASMOBRANCHII	*Cetorhinus maximus*	Basking Shark	☑	☐	☐	☐	☑	☐	☐	☐				VU	☐	☐		
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	*Dicentrarchus labrax*	Sea Bass	☐	☐	☐	☐	☑	☐	☐	☑		? - 2013		LC	☐	☐		
MOLLUSCA/ GASTROPODA	*Haliotis tuberculata*	Green Ormer	☐	☐	☐	☐	☑	☐	☐	☑		? - 2013			☐	☐		Green Ormer occurs at the northern edge of its range and is found only in the Channel Islands in the UK. It is a major target of traditional shore-gathering
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	*Mola mola*	Ocean Sunfish	☐	☐	☐	☐	☑	☐	☐	☐		? - 2013			☐	☐		
CHORDATA/ ACTINOPTERYGII	*Pollachius pollachius*	Pollack	☐	☐	☐	☐	☑	☐	☐	☐		? - 2013		LC	☐	☐		

Phylum	Scientific name	Common 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								
CHORDATA / ACTINOPTERYGII	*Scomber scombrus*	Mackerel	☐	☐	☐	☐	☑	☐	☐	☐		? - 2013		LC	☐	☐		
CHORDATA / ACTINOPTERYGII	*Spondyliosoma cantharus*	Black Sea Bream	☐	☐	☐	☐	☑	☐	☐	☑		2013		LC	☐	☐	Present	
Others																		
CHORDATA / MAMMALIA	*Delphinus delphis*	Short-beaked Common Dolphin; Short-beaked Saddleback Dolphin	☑	☐	☐	☐	☑	☐	☐	☐		1994-2013		LC	☐	☑	Annex IV EU Habitats Directive	
CHORDATA / MAMMALIA	*Grampus griseus*	Risso's Dolphin	☑	☐	☐	☐	☑	☐	☐	☐				LC	☐	☐	Appendix II Bern; CITES Appendix II; UK Biodiversity Action Plan	
CHORDATA / MAMMALIA	*Halichoerus grypus*	Grey Seal	☐	☑	☐	☐	☑	☐	☐	☐	60	1994-2013		LC	☐	☐	UK Biodiversity Action Plan; Appendix III Bern Convention	Small breeding colony and present year-round
CHORDATA / MAMMALIA	*Phocoena phocoena*	Harbor Porpoise	☐	☐	☐	☐	☑	☐	☐	☐		1994-2013		LC	☐	☐		
CHORDATA / MAMMALIA	*Tursiops truncatus*	Bottlenosed Dolphin; Bottlenose Dolphin	☑	☐	☐	☐	☑	☐	☐	☐		1994-2013		LC	☐	☑	Annex II & IV EU Habitats Directive; UK Biodiversity Action Plan; CITES Appendix II	

1) Percentage of the total biogeographic population at the site

ANIMAL SPECIES NOT IN CATALOGUE OF LIFE BUT PRESENT IN SITE

INVERTEBRATA - Symsagitiffera roscoffensis; Green Flatworm; Criterion 3; Present 2013

OTHER ISSUES
Population unit for Shag, Lesser Black-backed Gull, Great Black-backed Gull, Herring Gull, Northern Fulmar, Manx Shearwater, Great Cormorant, Razorbill = Apparently Occupied Nests

Population unit for Common Guillemot and Atlantic Puffin = individuals in the breeding season

Population unit for Dark-bellied Brent Geese = individuals in the non-breeding season

Population size for Risso's Dolphin is unknown

Population size for European Storm Petrel = 0-10

Population size for Peregrine = 2-3 pairs

Description of nest seabird assemblage
The assemblage is representative of the biogeographical region and contributes significantly to the Normand-Breton asseremblage of seabird species.
The Normand-Breton Gulf, comprising St Malo Bay and The Channel Islands archipelago is itself internationally important for Lesser Black-backed Gull and Great Black-backed Gull.
The Ramsar site population as a percentage of the Gulf + Channel Islands assemblage for each seabird species:
Lesser Black-backed Gull 6.6%, Great black-backed Gull 4.5%, European Shag 8.9 %, Great Cormorant 2.5%, Razorbill 38.8%, Common Guillemot 8.5%, Common Tern 16.4%, Atlantic Puffin 22.5%, Northern Fulmar 8.4%.
This indicates a high local significance of the nesting seabird assemblage and its contribution to the biogeographical region. The total assemblage of nine species is 4.6% of the Gulf and Channel Islands population. The relative surface area is 0.2%.

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
Maerl bed	☑	Reef-forming rock hard encrusted red seaweed species, with hard, chalky skeletons. Occurs to a depth of c. 20 metres	Annex I EU Habitats Directive; UK priority BAP habitat
Eelgrass bed	☑	Zostera marina and Zostera noltei each form eelgrass beds across the tidal range – subtidal and intertidal, enhancing ecological distribution and species community support at the site	Provides shelter for fish and invertebrates; fish spawning grounds and feeding for c. 100 Dark-bellied Brent Goose (Branta bernicla bernicla) at Herm, their single station in the site
Biogenic bivalve reef	☑	Green Ormer Haliotis tuberculata and Common Razor Clam Ensis sp.	
Nesting seabird assemblage	☑	The Normand-Breton Gulf, comprising St Malo Bay and The Channel Islands archipelago is itself internationally important for Lesser Black-backed Gull and Great Black-backed Gull. List of species in Additional material.	representative of the biogeographical region and contributes significantly to the Normand-Breton asseremblage of seabird species.

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

4.1 - Ecological character

The ecological character of Herm, Jethou and The Humps is a shallow marine ecosystem comprising a small archipelago of islands and rocky islets. Shorelines are rocky and sandy, with an extensive intertidal zone, rich in biodiversity. Eighty percent of the marine area within the site is shallower than 16 metres below Chart Datum (17.2 metres below local LWS). The site is integral to and affected by a highly dynamic marine environment – at the confluence of southern and northern sea currents, with high primary productivity and an unusually high tidal range(at up to 10 metres, amongst the highest in the world), with attendant tidal rapids.

The site character will be most critically determined by global climate change, especially sea level rise, changes of the sea current and increased storminess, with resultant water turbidity. It will also be potentially determined by commercial fishing practice and tourism and recreational activities. A number of seabirds have shown declines in population and breeding success in recent years and European Storm Petrel appears to be extinct as a breeding species. The presence of rats at some seabird colonies is an existing threat.

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		1		Rare
B: Marine subtidal aquatic beds (Underwater vegetation)		2		Rare
D: Rocky marine shores		3		Representative
E: Sand, shingle or pebble shores		3	26.94	Representative
Ga: Bivalve (shell-fish) reefs		0		Rare
G: Intertidal mud, sand or salt flats		2	291	Representative

Other non-wetland habitat

Other non-wetland habitats within the site	Area (ha) if known
Improved/amenity grassland	41.09
Dense scrub	10.2
Continuous Bracken sward	22
Woodland	9.7
Human habitation	102.83

4.3 - Biological components

4.3.1 - Plant species

Other noteworthy plant species

Scientific name	Common name	Position in range / endemism / other
Fulgensia fulgens	Scrambled egg Lichen	Rare in Channel Islands
Inula conyza	Ploughman's Spikenard	Rare in Channel Islands
Rosa rubiginosa	Sweet Briar	Rare in Channel Islands

Invasive alien plant species

Scientific name	Common name	Impacts	
Carpobrotus edulis	Hottentot Fig	Actual (minor impacts)	No change
Carpobrotus glaucescens	Angular Sea-fig	Actual (minor impacts)	No change
Phormium tenax	New Zealand Flax	Actual (minor impacts)	No change

4.3.2 - Animal species

Invasive alien animal species

Phylum	Scientific name	Common name	Impacts	
CHORDATA/MAMMALIA	*Rattus norvegicus*	Norway rat	Actual (major 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)

Extreme storminess.
In December 2013, there was unusually high seabird mortality in Guernsey and the other Channel Islands. This might indicate a trend in climatic change as it is a highly unusual event until recent times and has had a continued effect in high levels of water turbidity, probably leading to low seabird breeding productivity.

4.4.2 - Geomorphic setting

a) Minimum elevation above sea level (in metres): -18

a) Maximum elevation above sea level (in metres): 68

- 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.

English Channel, Atlantic Ocean

4.4.3 - Soil

- Mineral ☑
- Organic ☐
- 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?	
Usually permanent water present	No change
Usually seasonal, ephemeral or intermittent water present	No change

Source of water that maintains character of the site

Presence?	Predominant water source	
Marine water	☑	No change

Water destination

Presence?	
Marine	No change

Stability of water regime

Presence?	
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.

Large tidal differences create and support a diverse range of habitats. The convergence of cold (boreal) and warm (Lusitanian) bio-geographic regions and currents support an array of species which include rich plankton currents, which flow eastward from the Atlantic to the North Sea. The islands have an exceptionally large tidal range (up to 10 metres). Tidal flow is frequently extremely rapid. Water turbidity is typically low, but recently has been poor at times after storms.

4.4.5 - Sediment regime

Significant erosion of sediments occurs on the site ☑
Significant accretion or deposition of sediments occurs on the site ☐
Significant transportation of sediments occurs on or through the site ☑
Sediment regime is highly variable, either seasonally or inter-annually ☑
Sediment regime unknown ☐

Please provide further information on sediment (optional):

Requires further investigation and monitoring

4.4.6 - Water pH

Acid (pH<5.5) ☐
Circumneutral (pH: 5.5-7.4) ☐
Alkaline (pH>7.4) ☐
Unknown ☑

4.4.7 - Water salinity

Fresh (<0.5 g/l) ☐
Mixohaline (brackish)/Mixosaline (0.5-30 g/l) ☐
Euhaline/Eusaline (30-40 g/l) ☑
Hyperhaline/Hypersaline (>40 g/l) ☐
Unknown ☐

Please provide further information on salinity (optional):

More investigation needed

4.4.8 - Dissolved or suspended nutrients in water

Eutrophic ☐
Mesotrophic ☐
Oligotrophic ☐
Dystrophic ☐
Unknown ☑

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

Marine water - no known data

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 site itself: i) broadly similar ○ ii) significantly different ◉

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:

Surrounding area is most distinctly pelagic and benthic, with some industrial development on the adjacent coastline of Guernsey and much further east in France, with potential diffuse effects.

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)	High

Cultural Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Recreation and tourism	Recreational hunting and fishing	High
Recreation and tourism	Water sports and activities	Medium
Recreation and tourism	Picnics, outings, touring	Medium
Recreation and tourism	Nature observation and nature-based tourism	Medium
Spiritual and inspirational	Inspiration	Low
Spiritual and inspirational	Cultural heritage (historical and archaeological)	Medium
Spiritual and inspirational	Aesthetic and sense of place values	Low
Scientific and educational	Educational activities and opportunities	Low
Scientific and educational	Long-term monitoring site	Medium

Supporting Services

Ecosystem service	Examples	Importance/Extent/Significance
Biodiversity	Supports a variety of all life forms including plants, animals and microorganizms, the genes they contain, and the ecosystems of which they form a part	Low
Pollination	Support for pollinators	Medium

Within the site: 60,000

Outside the site: 100,000

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 ☑

Description if applicable

Traditional sustainable activities, including regulated activities and examples of good practice will be developed and ultimately inform future management. Inclusive community management.

ii) the site has exceptional cultural traditions or records of former civilizations that have influenced the ecological character of the wetland ☑

Description if applicable

A very rich historical tapestry. Neolithic tombs and standing stones. Medieval tombs, early Christian churches and settlements. Variously governed by N Normandy and England in the Middle Ages and the islands were occupied by Germany during World War II. This indicates a long history of human activity, which has necessarily presented a long-term and varied interaction with the ecological character of the wetland.

iii) the ecological character of the wetland depends on its interaction with local communities or indigenous peoples ☑

Description if applicable

The potential for selective removal of ecological interest features is potentially high from continuing fishing activities (including the traditional practice of Ormer gathering).

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 ☐

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
Local authority, municipality, (sub)district, etc.	☑	☑

Private ownership

Category	Within the Ramsar Site	In the surrounding area
Commercial (company)	☑	☑
Other types of private/individual owner(s)	☑	☑

Other

Category	Within the Ramsar Site	In the surrounding area
Commoners/customary rights	☑	☑

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

Herm Island is owned by the UK Crown, administered by the States of Guernsey and leased to the Herm Island Company Limited. Jethou Island is owned by the UK Crown administered by the States of Guernsey and leased to a private individual. There is no right of public access to Jethou and its rocky islets. The seabed is owned by the UK Crown. Local agreements restrict uncontrolled access to The Humps and the Brehon Tower.

5.1.2 - Management authority

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

States of Guernsey [Sea Fisheries, Property Services], Raymond Falla House, PO Box 459, Longue Rue, St Martin's, Guernsey, Channel Islands GY1 6AF
States of Guernsey [States Property Services & Environment Dept], Sir Charles Frossard House, PO Box 43, La Charroterie, St Peter Port, Guernsey , Channel Islands GY1 1FH
Guernsey Harbours, PO Box 631, St Julians Emplacement, St Peter Port, Guernsey, Channel Islands GY1 3DL

Responsibilities
1. Chris Morris – regulated commercial fishery and code of practice for recreational fishing
2. Andrew Shilling – property and leases management, resources management
3. Andrew McCutcheon – biodiversity, coastal defence
4. Captain Chad Murray – shipping, boating regulation

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

1. Chris Morris (Senior Sea Fisheries Officer), 2. Andrew Shilling (Head of States Property Services), 3. Andrew McCutcheon (Principal Environment Services Manager), 4. Captain Chad Murray (Guernsey Harbour Master)

Postal address:

For 1-4: PO Box 631, St Julian's Emplacement, St Peter Port, Guernsey, Channel Islands, UK

E-mail address:

Andrew.McCutcheon@gov.gg

5.2 - Ecological character threats and responses (Management)

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

Human settlements (non agricultural)

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	In the surrounding area
Housing and urban areas	Low impact		☐	☑
Commercial and industrial areas	Low impact		☐	☑
Tourism and recreation areas	Low impact	Medium impact	☑	☑

Agriculture and aquaculture

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	In the surrounding area
Marine and freshwater aquaculture	Low impact	Low impact	☑	☐

Energy production and mining

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	In the surrounding area
Renewable energy		Low impact	☐	☑

Transportation and service corridors

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	In the surrounding area
Shipping lanes	Medium impact	Medium impact	☐	☑

Biological resource use

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	In the surrounding area
Fishing and harvesting aquatic resources	Medium impact	High impact	☑	☐

Human intrusions and disturbance

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	In the surrounding area
Recreational and tourism activities	Low impact	Medium impact	☑	☑

Invasive and other problematic species and genes

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	In the surrounding area
Invasive non-native/ alien species	Medium impact	High impact	☑	☐

Pollution

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	In the surrounding area
Household sewage, urban waste water	Low impact		☐	☑
Excess heat, sound, light	Low impact	Medium impact	☑	☑

Climate change and severe weather

Factors adversely affecting site	Actual threat	Potential threat	Within the site	In the surrounding area
Storms and flooding	Medium impact	High impact	☑	☑
Habitat shifting and alteration	Low impact	High impact	☑	☐

Please describe any other threats (optional):

The potential for selective removal of ecological interest features is potentially high from continuing fishing activities (including the traditional practice of Ormer gathering) and disturbance may also result from recreational and tourism activities. Herm is regarded as the primary holiday destination for Guernsey.

5.2.2 - Legal conservation status

Non-statutory designations

Designation type	Name of area	Online information url	Overlap with Ramsar Site
Other non-statutory designation	Site includes three sites of Channel Islands importance for birds: Herm, Jethou & The Humps		whole

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

Legal protection

Measures	Status
Legal protection	Partially implemented

Species

Measures	Status
Threatened/rare species management programmes	Partially implemented
Control of invasive alien plants	Partially implemented
Control of invasive alien animals	Proposed

Human Activities

Measures	Status
Regulation/management of wastes	Partially implemented
Fisheries management/regulation	Implemented
Harvest controls/poaching enforcement	Partially implemented
Regulation/management of recreational activities	Partially implemented
Communication, education, and participation and awareness activities	Proposed
Research	Partially implemented

5.2.5 - Management planning

Is there a site-specific management plan for the site? In preparation

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
Plant community	Proposed
Animal species (please specify)	Proposed
Animal community	Proposed
Plant species	Proposed
Birds	Implemented

6 - Additional material

6.1 - Additional reports and documents

6.1.1 - Bibliographical references

Guernsey Biological Records Centre.

Henney, J. 2010. Habitat Survey of Guernsey, Herm and Associated islands. States of Guernsey, Environment Department.

Veron, P.K. 1997. The Important Sites for Birds in the Channel Islands.

Cataroche, J. 2012. The History and Archaeology of Jethou.

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
<no file available>

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:

Aerial oblique view of Herm and the Humps (*Richard Lord, -*)

One of The Humps: Grande Amfroque (*Paul Fisher, 14-05-2014*)

The Humps, Longue Pierre (*Paul Fisher, -*)

Herm, Jethou and the Humps (*Guernsey Biological Records Centre, 25-04-2014*)

6.1.4 - Designation letter and related data

Designation letter
<1 file(s) uploaded>

Date of Designation: 2015-10-19