

## COMMON TERN (*Sterna hirundo*)

### AT LES ÉCRÉHOU

In 2005 Les Écréhous were declared a Ramsar site under the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance

The extensive rocky intertidal areas and warm waters host a large diversity of marine wildlife. The area is particularly valuable for a number of species of waders and seabirds who visit the reef both for shelter and breeding.

In 2007 and 2008 the tern breeding colony failed. In 2007 it was thought this was due to naturally occurring circumstances. In 2008 human disturbance may have been a contributory factor.

Terns are silvery-grey and white birds with reddish beaks and a black tip at the end. They have a buoyant graceful flight. Other bird species that can be seen at Les Écréhous include shag, great black-backed gull, oystercatcher and sandwich tern.

Under the Wildlife Law it is an offence to intentionally kill or injure birds, chicks, eggs or nests whilst in use.

The bird species in this area are sensitive to disturbance and need to be treated with respect and understanding.



ECO-ACTIVE marine, part of ECO-ACTIVE, is a dedicated programme designed to provide accurate advice to empower Islanders to make more environmentally conscious decisions on marine and coastal issues

[www.eco-active.je](http://www.eco-active.je)

“WISE USE AND PROTECTION OF OUR  
MARINE RESOURCES”



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These details are correct at time of printing. Copies of appropriate legislation are available from the States Greffe and Fisheries website.

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States  
of Jersey 

## Seabird Protection Zone

### Common Tern (*Stena hirundo*)



Fisheries and Marine Resources

## Code of Conduct

**Follow the Marine Wildlife Watching Code.**

**Take extreme care when walking on the reefs.** Birds may be nesting or roosting anywhere and nests are not easily visible.

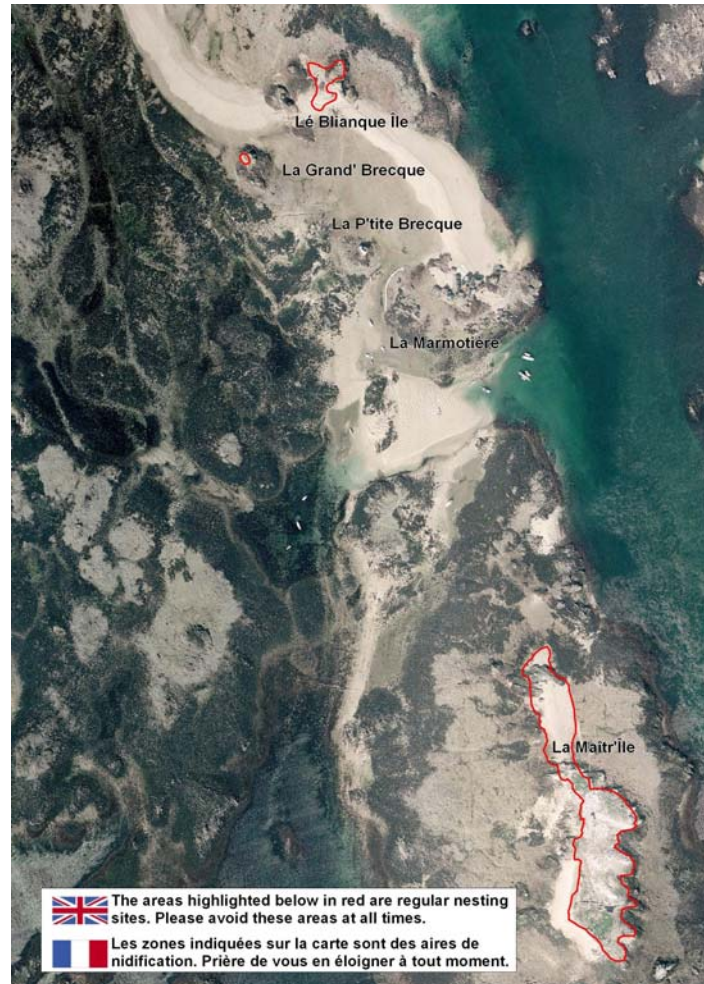
**Do not approach** bird colonies, roosts, nests or rafts of birds at sea.

**Keep disturbance to a minimum** by moving quietly. If you observe birds appearing agitated move away immediately.

**Be aware that birds may feel threatened by human presence,** this may cause them to display behaviour resulting in personal injury.

**Use only recognised landing areas** to avoid disturbing the birds.

## Seabird Protection Zone – Tern



Together with the Ornithology section of the Société Jersiaise, the Planning and Environment Department designated some areas of the reef as a Seabird Protection Zone to assist the terns with breeding success.

## Code de Bonne Conduite

**Respectez le Code de l'Observation de la Faune Marine**

**Faites très attention en marchant sur les récifs.** Les oiseaux peuvent être au repos ou avoir des nids partout et ils ne sont pas toujours très visibles.

**Ne vous approchez pas** des colonies d'oiseaux, des nids ou des oiseaux posés sur la mer ou sur la terre.

**Pour ne pas déranger les oiseaux déplacez-vous en faisant le moins de bruit possible.** Si les oiseaux vous semblent agités éloignez-vous immédiatement.

**Sachez que si les oiseaux se sentent menacés par la présence d'humains** ils peuvent avoir un comportement susceptible de nuire aux personnes.

**Utilisez uniquement les aires de débarquement** reconnues afin d'éviter de déranger les oiseaux