

# Jersey Marine Spatial Plan

Marine Resources

September 2023



**JERSEY MARINE  
SPATIAL PLAN**



# What is a Marine Spatial Plan?

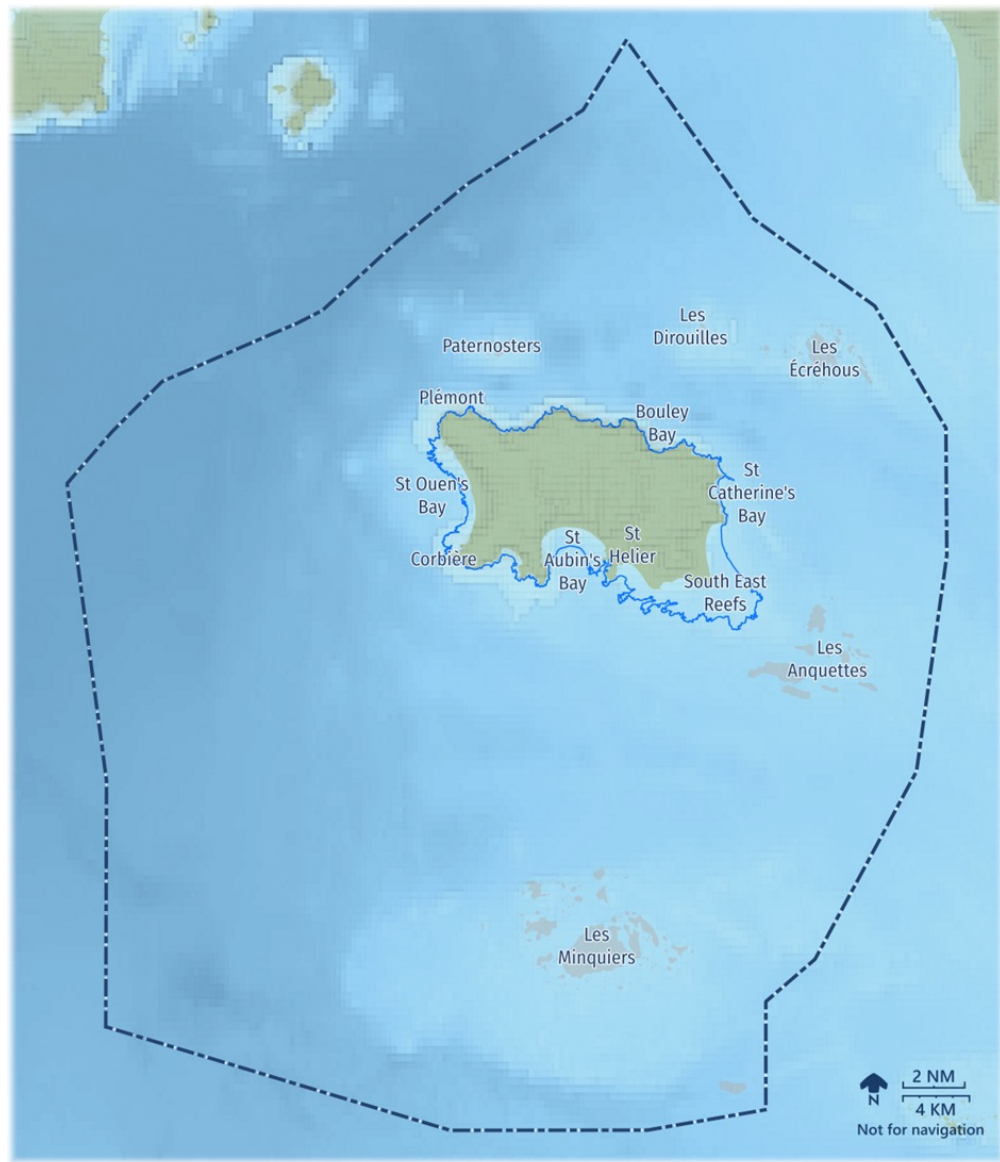
Marine Spatial Planning is a consultative process which seeks to evidence, analyse and manage all activities (human and otherwise) within defined marine zones.

Used internationally to assist with maritime management and to ensure that the economic and natural capital value of marine areas are used to the best advantage.

Objectives include conflict reduction, increased cooperation, the identification of investment and development opportunities and protection of the marine environment.

The MSP is also an opportunity to look at our island in a valued and non-cynical way. To build the sense of place and island identity we need to see us through the unprecedented change of the coming decades.

# Marine Spatial Planning: Background



## Key dates:

### Jersey Actions

- 2006** — UNESCO workshops designed and formalised principles and methodologies which administrations can use to design a marine spatial plan.
- 2009** — *Marine Spatial Planning: a Step-by-Step Approach Towards Ecosystem-Based Management* published by UNESCO IOC
- 2014** — EU adopted Directive 2014/89/EU which required coastal member states to participate in a European framework for maritime spatial planning. Coastal member states were tasked with designing and creating their own MSPs with administrative and technical support from the EU.
- 2016** — UK and France started work on their MSPs
- 2016–2021** — UK develops Marine Plans for Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland, North-east England, North-west England, South-east England and South-west England.
- 2017** — Jersey begins its MSP project, with a joint meeting between Jersey, UK and France. Gathering of information for Evidence Base begins.
- 2020** — France notified the adoption of four sea-basin strategies (East Channel – North Sea, North Atlantic – West Channel, South Atlantic, Mediterranean) to the European Commission. Sea-basin strategy documents are the legal solution chosen by France to address the requirements of the EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive and MSP Directive, and specify the conditions for implementing the National Strategy for the Seas and Coast according to local specificities.<sup>2</sup>
- 2021** — *International Guide on Marine/Maritime Spatial Planning* published by UNESCO IOC
- 2021** — Jersey Bridging Island Plan (BIP) published, requiring the MSP process to ‘develop a network of marine protected areas which will be consistent with overall environmental, economic and social objectives’
- 2022** — (Autumn) Consultants appointed to work with Marine Resources to prepare the Jersey MSP.
- 2023** — Jersey MSP consultation and writing (*see Methodology section 3.0*).

Fig 1b. Area covered by the Jersey Marine Spatial Plan

Jersey Territorial Seas  
  Land  
  Offshore Reefs  
  Chart Datum (Lowest Spring Tide)

# The Jersey Marine Spatial Plan: Objectives and Timeline

## Strategic Proposal 3 – Creating a marine spatial plan for Jersey

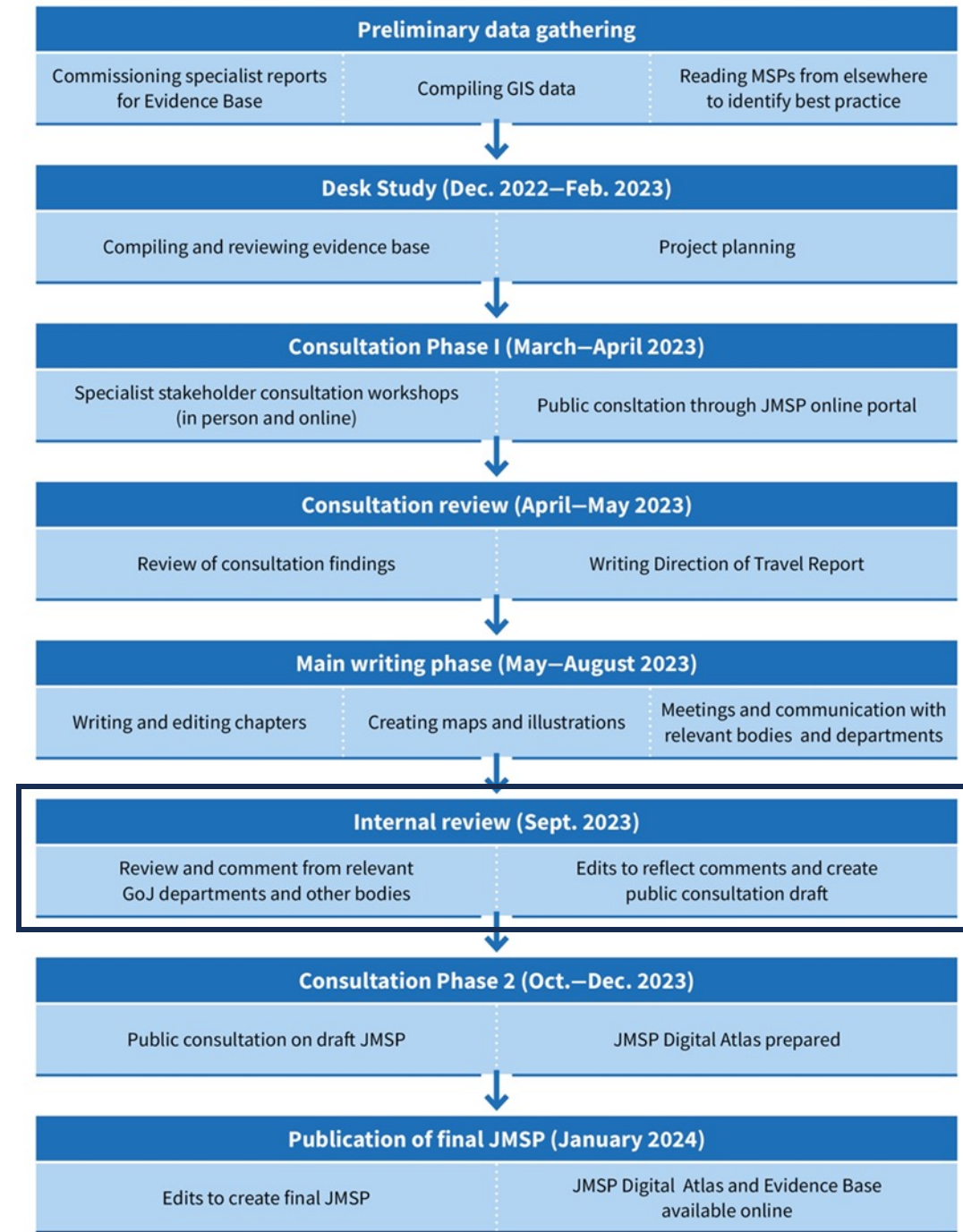
The Minister for the Environment will undertake further work to develop a Marine Spatial Plan before 2025, to organise human and marine resources and activities in Jersey’s territorial waters and in particular, to develop a network of marine protected areas, which will be consistent with overall environmental, economic and social objectives.

This work will inform the policies of the next iteration of the Island Plan and support coordinated policy development and decision-making on all aspects affecting the marine environment.

The Jersey Marine Spatial Plan (JMSP) was proposed in the 2022 Bridging Island Plan and initiated by a vote in the States Assembly in March 2022.

The MSP was given four key objectives:

- 1) **To organise human and marine resources and activities in Jersey’s territorial waters.**
- 2) **To develop a network of Marine Protected Areas.**
- 3) **To inform the policies of the next iteration of the Island Plan.**
- 4) **To support co-ordinated development and decision-making on all aspects affecting the marine environment.**





# The Jersey Marine Spatial Plan: Coverage and Status

All parts of the marine environment are covered by marine spatial planning: the seabed (the benthic environment), the water column (the pelagic environment), the water surface, and the air above.



<b>VISION:</b>	A thriving marine environment providing environmental, economic, cultural and social benefits	
<b>AIMS:</b>		Seascapes are valued and their character is retained and enhanced
		The natural environment is restored and biodiversity is thriving
		Commercial fishing and aquaculture are sustainable and profitable
		Cultural heritage is understood and protected
		Recreation and tourism is flourishing, diverse and safe
		Infrastructure, energy and transport are resilient and efficient

The JMSP forms an **overarching strategic framework** setting the approach for a range of tools, including land use planning, marine resource management and fishing regulation. The JMSP is **not a statutory document**, but will give direction to other legislative and policy tools, which will be used to deliver the actions set out in the JMSP.

# The Jersey Marine Spatial Plan: Example - Marine Protected Areas

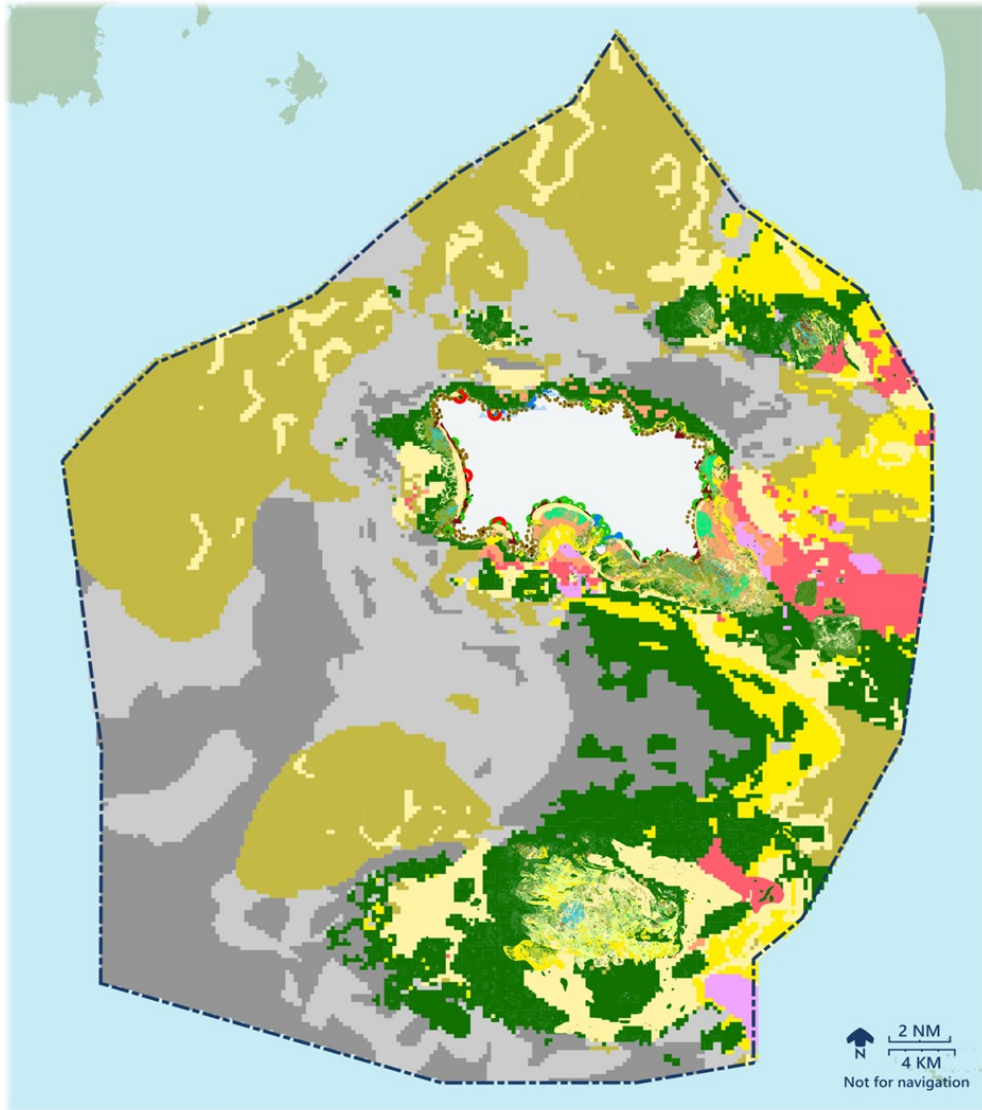


Fig 8d. Simplified habitats

- |  |   |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|
| <span style="color: green;">■</span> Kelp              | <span style="color: brown;">■</span> Rock: barnacle communities | <span style="color: yellow;">■</span> Sediment: rich fauna   | <span style="color: grey;">■</span> Hardground: unstable |
| <span style="color: red;">■</span> Maerl               | <span style="color: olive;">■</span> Rock: seaweed communities  | <span style="color: tan;">■</span> Sediment: robust fauna    | <span style="color: grey;">■</span> Hardground: stable   |
| <span style="color: magenta;">■</span> Slipper limpets | <span style="color: cyan;">■</span> Rockpool communities        | <span style="color: lightgreen;">■</span> Sediment: seaweed  |  |
| <span style="color: orange;">■</span> Sandmason        | <span style="color: green;">■</span> Seagrass                   | <span style="color: yellow;">■</span> Sediment: sparse fauna |  |

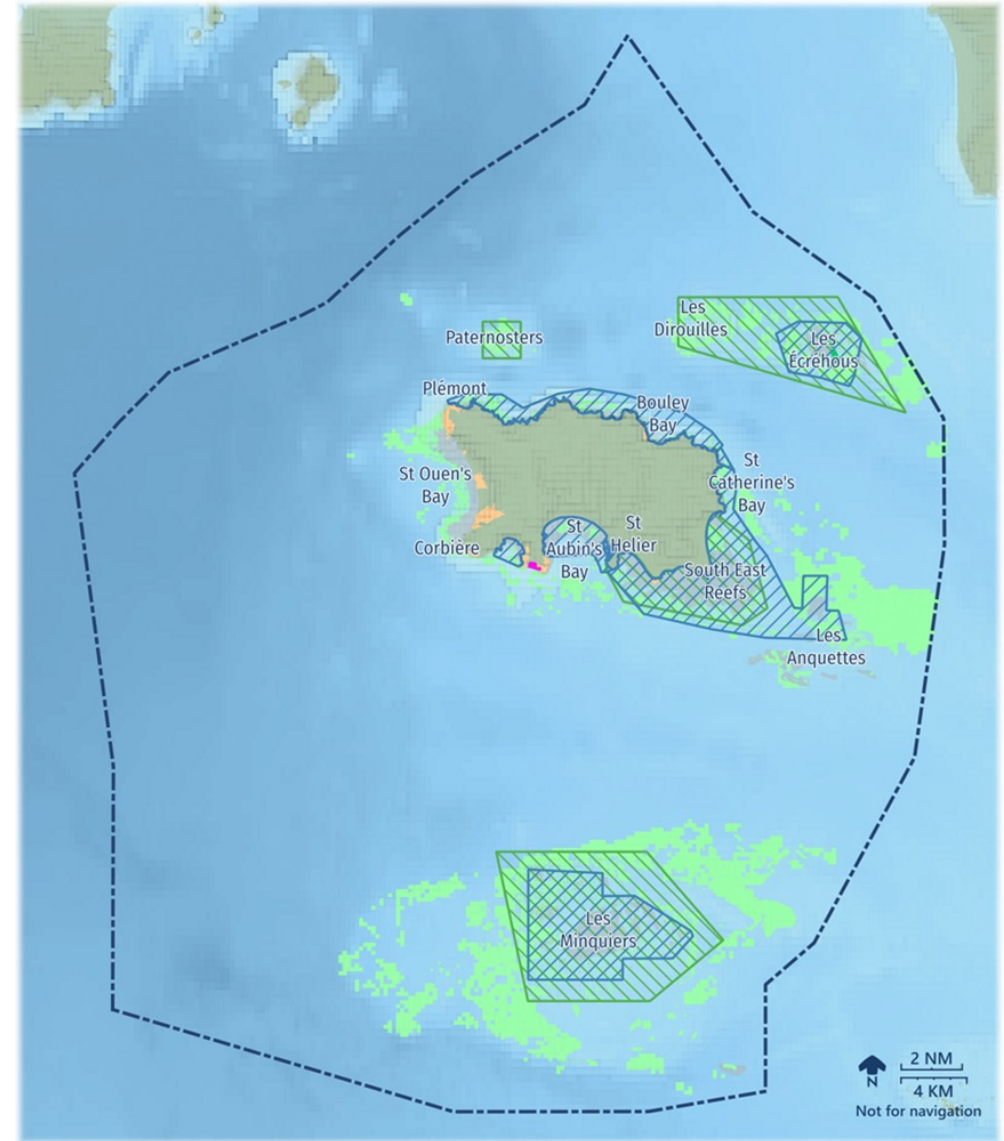


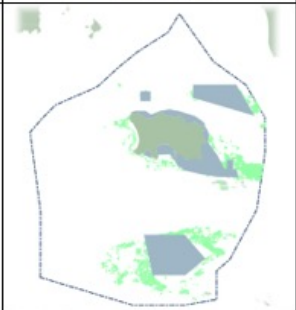
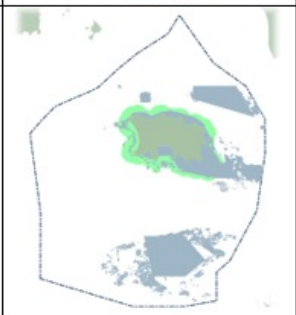
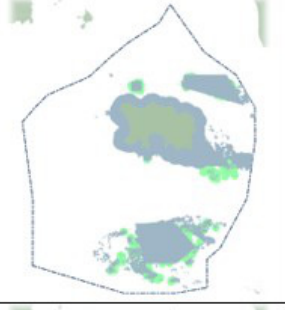


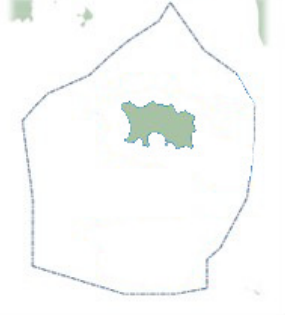


Fig 8a. Existing marine protections

- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <span style="color: magenta;">■</span> Portelet No Take Zone               | <span style="color: green;">■</span> Area of Special Protection        | <span style="border: 1px dashed black; padding: 2px;"> </span> Marine Protected Area |
| <span style="border: 1px dashed black; padding: 2px;"> </span> Ramsar Site | <span style="color: orange;">■</span> Natural Site of Special Interest | <span style="color: lightgreen;">■</span> OSPAR Priority Habitats                    |

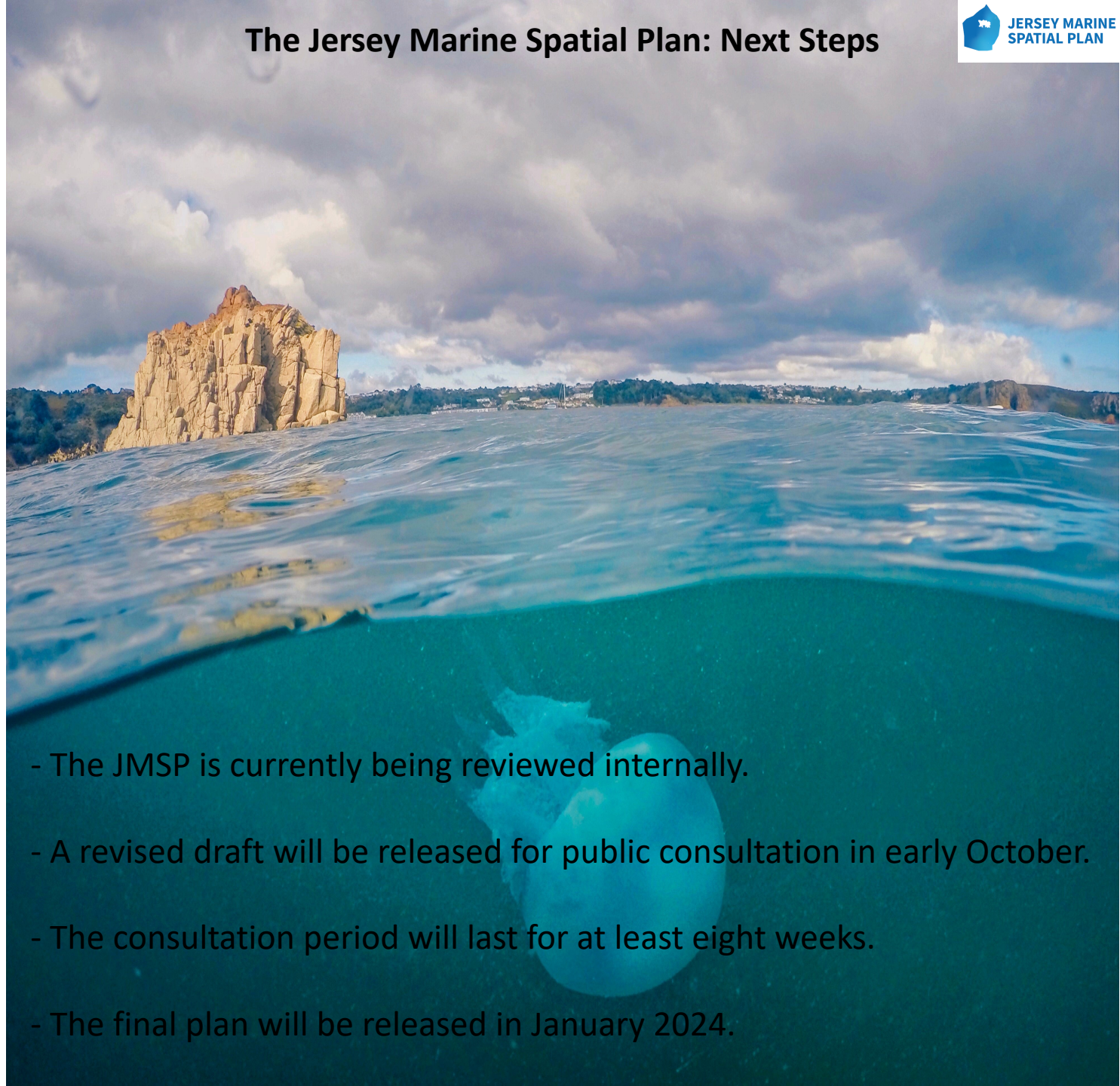
# The Jersey Marine Spatial Plan: Example - Marine Protected Areas

<p><b>Stage 1:</b> Existing MPAs and NTZ (shown in blue) JMSP principle that there will be no loss of protection from existing levels</p>	
<p><b>Stage 2:</b> Ramsar Sites (shown in blue) Designated and managed as wetlands of international importance, but currently without statutory protection</p>	
<p><b>Stage 3:</b> OSPAR habitats (shown in green) Areas of seagrass, maerl and kelp forest internationally recognised for their importance to biodiversity</p>	
<p><b>Stage 4:</b> Intertidal and nearshore zone (shown in green) Areas of diverse habitat which require close management due to the range of activities being undertaken</p>	

<p><b>Stage 5:</b> Drying rocks and islets (shown in green) Rich habitats associated with reefs, shoals and channel complexes, and supporting nursery habitats for fish as well as diverse fauna</p>	
<p><b>Stage 6:</b> Blue Carbon Areas of greatest potential to produce and store blue carbon. (The darker the colour, the greater the blue carbon potential)</p>	
<p><b>Stage 7:</b> Scores for secondary features Combined results of scoring process for benefits from nature, marine biodiversity and seabed depth (The darker the colour, the higher the score).</p>	
<p><b>Stage 8:</b> Proposed MPA network [TBC]</p>	



# The Jersey Marine Spatial Plan: Next Steps



## Preliminary data gathering

Commissioning specialist reports for Evidence Base	Compiling GIS data	Reading MSPs from elsewhere to identify best practice
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## Desk Study (Dec. 2022–Feb. 2023)

Compiling and reviewing evidence base	Project planning
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## Consultation Phase I (March–April 2023)

Specialist stakeholder consultation workshops (in person and online)	Public consultation through JMSP online portal
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## Consultation review (April–May 2023)

Review of consultation findings	Writing Direction of Travel Report
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## Main writing phase (May–August 2023)

Writing and editing chapters	Creating maps and illustrations	Meetings and communication with relevant bodies and departments
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## Internal review (Sept. 2023)

Review and comment from relevant GoJ departments and other bodies	Edits to reflect comments and create public consultation draft
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## Consultation Phase 2 (Oct.–Dec. 2023)

Public consultation on draft JMSP	JMSP Digital Atlas prepared
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## Publication of final JMSP (January 2024)

Edits to create final JMSP	JMSP Digital Atlas and Evidence Base available online
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- The JMSP is currently being reviewed internally.
- A revised draft will be released for public consultation in early October.
- The consultation period will last for at least eight weeks.
- The final plan will be released in January 2024.

