

BATHING WATER PROFILE

Environmental Protection (EP) has produced a bathing water profile for all monitored bathing waters in Jersey. The profile summarises EP's knowledge of a bathing water, including its quality and details of any improvements aimed at providing better water quality for bathers.

The bathing water profiles are a requirement of the revised Bathing Water Directive 2006/7/EC.

Name: Watersplash



Beach operator States of Jersey

Details

Monitoring began: 1995

Sampling point location: Lat/Long 49.13 N 2.14 W (see map)

Bathing water quality: Weekly monitoring results are uploaded to the web page at: www.gov.je/water

For details of yearly compliance assessments for this bathing water, please see below.

Watersplash

Annual water quality classification

2017: Excellent bathing water quality



2016: Excellent bathing water quality



2015: Excellent bathing water quality



A classification for each bathing water is calculated annually, based on all of the samples from the previous four years. These classifications, from best to worst, are “excellent”, “good”, “sufficient” or “poor”.

Classification	Thresholds	Confidence level
Excellent	EC: ≤ 250 cfu/100ml; IE: ≤ 100 cfu/100ml	95 th percentile
Good	EC: ≤ 500 cfu/100ml; IE: ≤ 200 cfu/100ml	95 th percentile
Sufficient	EC: ≤ 500 cfu/100ml; IE: ≤ 185 cfu/100ml	90 th percentile
Poor	Values are worse than sufficient	

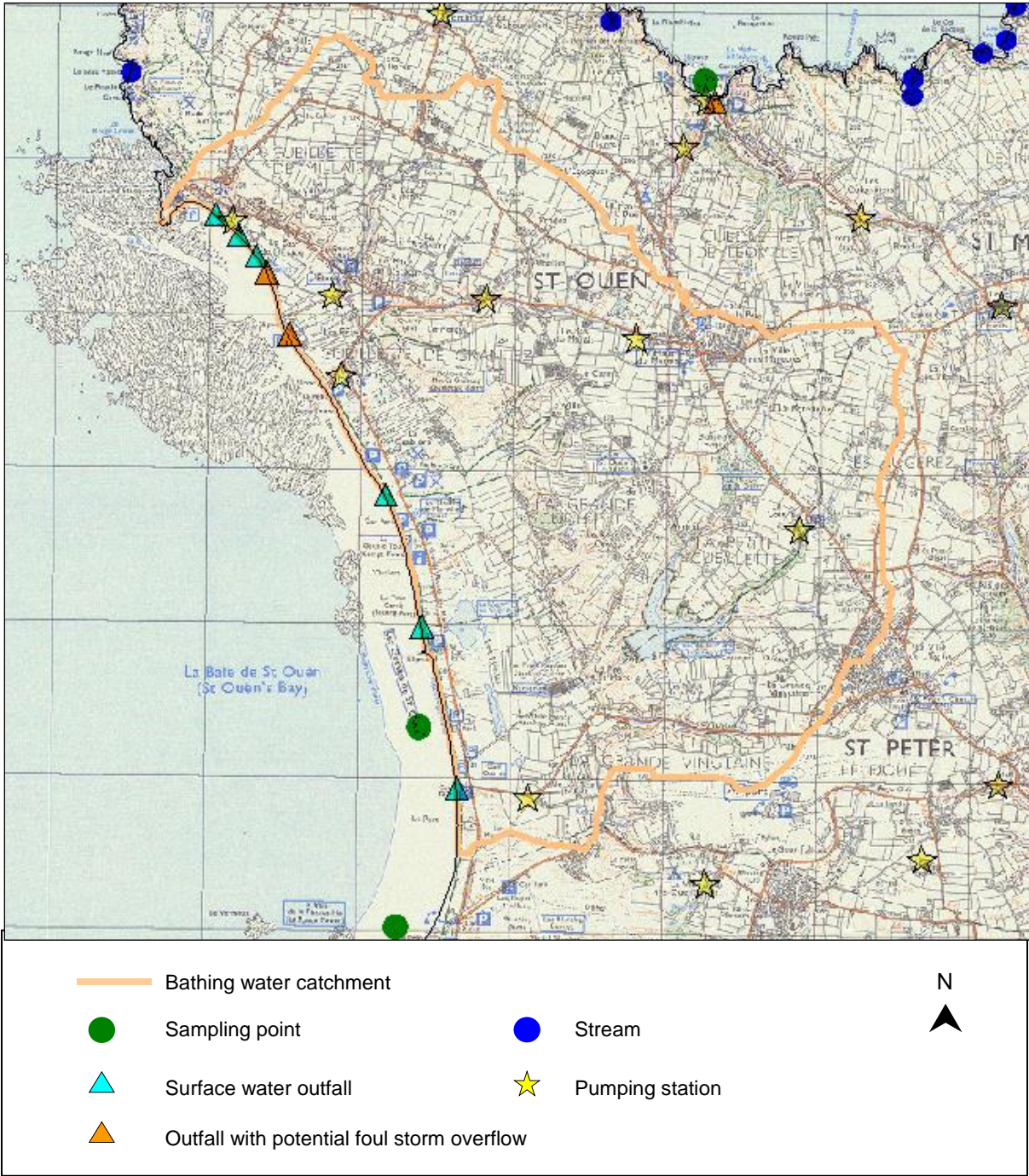
Escherichia coli (EC)
Intestinal enterococci (IE)

Bathing water description

The Watersplash bathing water is in the northern part of St Ouen’s Bay on the west coast of Jersey. The Watersplash bathing water section of the bay is approximately 5.0 km long. The beach slopes gently, resulting in a long distance to the sea at low tide. The beach consists of sand with large areas of rock (in the north) which become exposed at lower tides.

During and after heavy rainfall events water quality may deteriorate in streams and outfalls flowing onto the beach.

Bathing water map

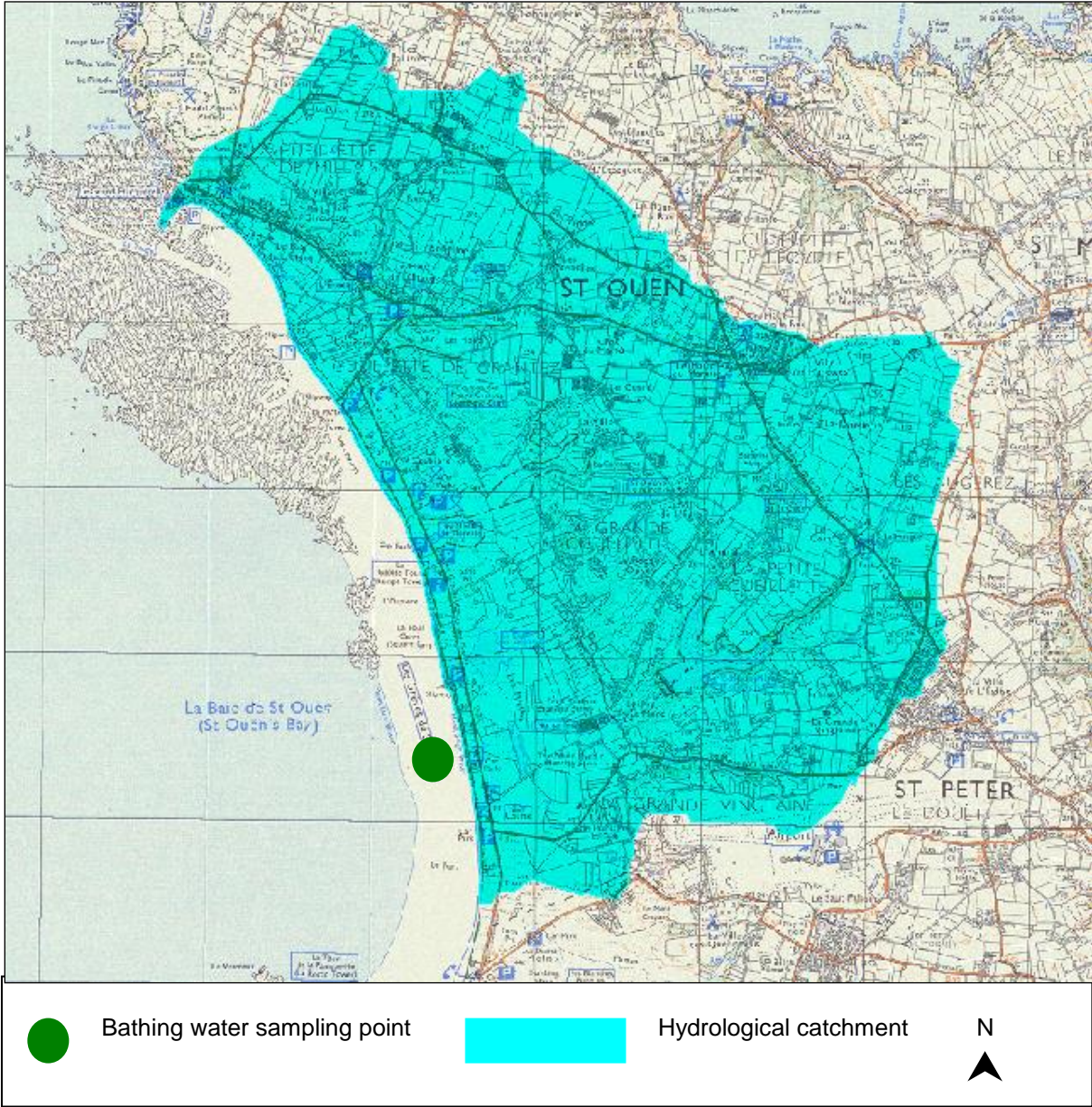


Catchment description

The natural drainage (hydrological) catchment surrounding the bathing water is approximately 1,328 hectares. The middle of the catchment is steeply sloping whilst the upper and lower parts of the catchment are relatively flat.

Approximately 70 percent of the catchment is agricultural land with the majority of this land being used for growing potatoes. Natural vegetation (mainly scrub and grassland) makes up about 17 percent of the catchment and surface water features such as St Ouen's pond and Val de la Mare reservoir covering a further three percent. Around ten percent of the catchment is comprised of domestic properties. Part of the airport is situated within the catchment.

Catchment map



Pollution management

The quality of the sea is dependant on the type and size of land (the catchment) draining to the coast and the activities undertaken on it.

The following section gives an indication of potential sources of pollution, conditions under which they may arise and measures put in place to drive improvements.

Sewage Treatment Works outfall

There is no sewage treatment works outfall within this catchment.

Emergency/Storm overflows

There are seven pumping stations located within this catchment. Milano pumping station has an overflow capacity but spills onto the slip once the overflow capacity has been reached. L'Etacq pumping station has an overflow capacity and spills onto the road next to the station once the overflow capacity has been reached. Les Laveurs pumping station has an overflow capacity but spills 600m to the south near to La Mielle des Morville once the overflow capacity has been reached. La Route du Port pumping station has an overflow capacity and spills at the station once the overflow capacity has been reached. The other three pumping stations are situated further inland. The overflows operate during heavy rainfall when the sewerage system can become overwhelmed by the amount of surface waters entering the sewerage system. The overflows prevent sewage from backing up pipes and flooding properties. Milano pumping station has spilled eight times in the five-year period 1 January 2012 to 31 December 2016. One spill was due to a blockage and the other seven spills occurred during heavy rainfall. The spill of 10 July 2011 lasting a total of 2 hours and 51 minutes and the spill of 13 August 2015 lasting 8 minutes occurred during the bathing water season.

L'Etacq pumping station has spilled 19 times, during heavy rainfall, in the five-year period 1 January 2012 to 31 December 2016. No spills occurred during the bathing season. La Route du Pont pumping station and Les Laveurs pumping station have not spilled during the five-year period 1 January 2012 to 31 December 2016.

Misconnections

The misconnection of domestic foul water to surface water drainage can affect the water quality of streams and the sea.

EP is not aware of any current misconnections within the bathing water catchment.

Surface water outfalls

There are eight surface water outfalls situated within this catchment (indicated by the light-blue triangles and the orange triangles on the bathing water map). Any contamination entering the streams and surface water drains will discharge through these outfalls onto the beach. This is most likely to occur after heavy rainfall. EP has historically monitored La Saline and St Ouen's pond outfalls. The closest outfall to the bathing water sampling point is approximately 700 m to the north and drains St Ouen's pond.

Highway drains

Heavy rain falling on pavements and roads often drains into highway drains surface water sewers, ending up in local streams, and ultimately, the sea.

Highway drains are often connected to streams which could result in the quality of the stream or bathing water becoming adversely affected, especially following periods of heavy rainfall.

Working with the farming community

There are between 20 and 30 cows, over 60 sheep, between 30 and 40 pigs and approximately 2,500 poultry registered to various holdings within this catchment.

All farmers are required to adhere to the cross-compliance requirements in order to be able to claim the single area payment under the States of Jersey Rural Economic Strategy. This cross-compliance involves a number of measures to minimise pollution including where necessary a 'Farm Manure Waste Management Plan'.

During and after periods of heavy rainfall, run-off from agricultural areas will be greatly increased. The quality of the bathing water may be adversely affected as a result of such events.

Working with industry

There is a large sand extraction pit located on the boundary of this catchment and the Le Braye catchment. There is no drainage outlet from the sand-pit. There should be no impact on bathing water quality from this site.

The northern part of the airport drains into the stream alongside Le Mont du Jubilé which does not drain to the sea.

There was historic land-filling in the bay and the orange/brown liquid that can be occasionally seen coming out of the wall below Kempt Tower is iron/manganese which may come from the landfill. It does not impact on the bathing water quality and is not a health issue.

Working with private owners

More than half of domestic properties are not on the main sewerage system and have private sewage treatment arrangements. EP do not believe these are a source of pollution to the bathing water at present. If any concerns arise, EP will investigate and request immediate remedial action from those responsible.

Streams

Streams can be affected by human or industrial inputs from further up the catchment. There are six streams situated within the catchment which drain through the various outfalls onto the beach (see bathing water map). Streams may sometimes be a source of poorer water quality than usual after heavy rainfall. EP currently routinely monitors the water quality of the Val de la Mare east stream. EP has historically monitored the water quality of the Pres d'Auvergne stream, which discharges through the La Saline outfall.

Boats

Boats do not tend to be moored at this bathing water.

Wildlife

Seagulls are occasionally present at this bathing water.

Algae

Macroalgae (seaweed) and phytoplankton (microscopic algae) are a natural part of the marine environment.

Seaweed (macroalgae)

EP's current information suggests that the bathing water can be subject to small amounts of seaweed depending on tides and the weather.

Phytoplankton

Phytoplankton (microscopic algae) naturally increase in numbers at certain times of the year. This process is known as a phytoplankton bloom. EP's current information suggests that this bathing water is unaffected by phytoplankton blooms.

Access and Facilities

Parking	✓
Easy access	✓
Access by steps	
Refreshments	✓
Deck chair hire	✓
Watersports	✓
Toilets	✓
Disabled toilets	✓
Showers	✓
Lifeguards	✓

Further information

To make any comments about the contents of this bathing water profile please send an email to: envprotection@gov.je. Please phone the water pollution hotline on Tel: 709535 to report pollution. For health advice please contact Environmental Health on Tel: 445808 or visit www.gov.je/environmentalhealth

About this document

Original: August 2011

Last update: May 2018

Next update: