

# **Port Erin Bay Marine Nature Reserve**

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## **Spotter Sheet**

#### Fulmar



This petrel looks like a gull but has a thick-set neck, tube-nose and flies with straight wings. Breeds on rocky cliffs in the bay



during summer.



Kelp Holdfast

Kelp (a large seaweed) forms undersea forests that provide habitat for a variety of species. The holdfast attaches to the seabed, but isn't a true root.

### Nurdles



Lentil-sized pieces used to create plastic products. Lost from ships, they drift before washing ashore, where they may be harmful to wildlife. Collect and bin.

### Moon Jellyfish



Dome-shaped and translucent, with four pink-purple circular gonads in the centre. These moon jellies are often found washed ashore.

## Common Blenny



A small fish with big eyes. Although common, their mottled colouration provides camouflage, so they may be hard to spot. Also called a shanny.

## Spiral Wrack



A common intertidal, uppershore brown seaweed with twisted fronds ('leaves') and a distinct central rib. It does not have air bladders.

#### Raven



Very large, all-black 'crow' with a diamond-shaped tail in flight. Common around rocky cliffs, listen for their deep croaking call, cronk-cronk.

## Dahlia Anemone



Found in rockpools on the lower shore and recognised by sand grains stuck to the surface. It catches planktonic prey with its stinging tentacles.

## Oystercatcher



This common black and white wader prises off shellfish or hammers them open with its strong orange bill. It has a distinct 'peep-peep' call.

### Razor Shell



These edible bivalves live buried upright in sand, feeding on plankton via a siphon. The elongate shells may be washed ashore, especially after storms.



