The communal marshes are wet natural meadows that belong to the inhabitants of the towns. Several farmers put their flock (horses, cows, sheep, etc.) to graze from April to December.

Belle Henriette National Nature Reserve
From the beginning of spring to the end of summer, the reserve is a major site for Kentish Plover reproduction. Little Ringed Plovers, Meadow Plovers and Twite Plovers are also breeding during this period. At the end of summer, you can easily see the Western Osprey and the Caspian Tern during their migratory stopovers. Other species can be seen at different times of the year.

Michel Brasquel National Nature Reserve of Saint-Denis-du-Payré
In a hide with 18 birding scopes, the nature reserve hosts you all year round with activities to discover the exceptional natural heritage of the wet meadow. There are over 146 bird species, mostly shorebirds and ducks, without forgetting the Common Crane. There is payment for access to the observatory.

Aiguillon Bay National Nature Reserve
Between a vast wetland and a salt marsh, this is an old salt marsh converted to livestock farming. The network of wet areas, bushes and hedges hosts a wealth of flowers and plants.

Louhers' Communal Marsh and Biological Departmental Reserve
This wetland of 128 hectares is an interesting site for observation and migratory stopovers (European Golden Plover, Eurasian Whimbrel, Ruff...). The Northern Lapwing breeds here, herons and egrets often find food in wet meadows.

Curé’s Valley Communal Marshes
The communal of Saint-Benoist-sur-Mer has a loop of about 10km which provides a multitude of birdwatching opportunities along the banks of the Little Lay. At the end of winter in Curzon and Lairoux, these are particularly interesting sites for birdwatching. There are a multitude of birds at the end of winter in Curzon and Lairoux, but note that these natural flooded meadows have seen a significant reduction in the past few years.

Le Petit Rocher
This is a tidal-cycle basin, with islets particularly attractive as nesting sites for avocets, stilts and gulls. Their tranquility is a guarantee of success.

Maurice Gatteau
This ancient little cove is now a marsh composed of ponds, salt meadows, hosting many shorebirds, ducks and geese, as well as many other species throughout the year.

Le Petit Rocher
This is a tidal-cycle basin, with islets particularly attractive as nesting sites for avocets, stilts and gulls. It is an attractive site for watching Black-winged Stilts, Red Assents or Little Ringed Plovers, as well as many other species throughout the year.

Oiseaux des Pins
This is an ideal place for birdwatching around the Aiguillon Bay. It is a protected area with many habitats, including salt marshes, mudflats, and dunes. The site is easily accessible from Aiguillon-la-Presqu’île 5 km and a parking is available.

Best places for birdwatching around the Aiguillon Bay
To learn more about the natural reserves, visit our websites:
- www.reserve-naturelle-belle-henriette.fr
- www.reserve-baie-aiguillon.fr
- www.reserve-naturelle-vacherie.fr

Nature trips and activities are organised at most of these facilities. You can find them on www.lpo.fr et vendee.lpo.fr