

Can Australia protect the heard and McDonald Islands?

By extending adequate protection of Heard and McDonald islands,Australia has the chance to show global leadership in conserving this precious natural asset in the Southern Ocean. A new report has found the marine reserve covering the Heard and McDonald islands must urgently be expanded.

Where are Heard Island and McDonald Islands located?

The islands are a territory (Territory of Heard Island and McDonald Islands) of Australia administered from Hobart by the Australian Antarctic Division of the Australian Department of Climate Change,Energy,the Environment and Water.

Are the Heard Island and McDonald Islands at risk?

Known as the Heard Island and McDonald islands,they are among the most remote places on Earth: a haven for marine life amid the vast ocean,virtually undisturbed by human pressures. But as our report released today reveals,this special place in Australia's territory is at risk.

Are Heard Island and McDonald Islands a 'unique and extraordinary' part of our planet?

Announcing the decision,Environment Minister Tanya Plibersek said Heard Island and McDonald Islands - about 4,000 kilometres southwest of Perth - are a "unique and extraordinary part of our planet. We are doing everything we can to protect it." But the announcement,while welcome,is a missed opportunity on several fronts.

How big is Heard Island & McDonald Islands?

The group's overall land area is 372 km² (144 sq mi)and it has 101.9 km (63 mi) of coastline. Discovered in the mid-19th century,the islands lie on the Kerguelen Plateau in the Indian Ocean and have been an Australian territory since 1947. Heard Island and McDonald Islands contain Australia's only two active volcanoes.

Should a marine reserve cover Heard and McDonald Islands?

The current marine reserve covering Heard and McDonald islands is not sufficient. It should cover deeper water ecosystems and provide protection for foraging areas of resident seals,penguins and albatross.

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The protection awarded to Heard Island and McDonald Islands falls short of this standard. It fails to protect vulnerable marine species from climate change and fishing, and squanders a chance...

Location and Values: The Heard and McDonald Islands are remote sub-Antarctic volcanic islands located in the far south of the Indian Ocean, about 1,600 km from Antarctica and half-way between Australia and South Africa. They lie a little to ...

The Territory of Heard Island and McDonald Islands (HIMI) is an Australian external territory comprising a volcanic group of mostly barren Antarctic islands, about two-thirds of the way from Madagascar to Antarctica. The ...

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Overview Administration and economy History Geography Wildlife See also Further reading External links The United Kingdom formally established its claim to Heard Island in 1910, marked by the raising of the Union Flag and the erection of a beacon by Captain Evensen, master of the Mangoro. Effective government, administration and control of Heard Island and the McDonald Islands was transferred to the Australian government on 26 December 1947 at the commencement of the first

The McDonald Islands are small, rocky and actively volcanic. The islands are populated by large numbers of seal and bird species, and have been designated a nature reserve. There are 4 ...

Big Ben has erupted several times over the past two decades. McDonald Island lies 43.5 kilometres due west of Heard Island, and is the major island in the McDonald Islands ...

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