

France recommendations (ECS ID-1700)

Kerguelen Plateau Region

The area is located on the Northern Kerguelen Plateau, a large igneous province in the South Atlantic Ocean just north of Antarctica. The water depths on this plateau are less than 1000m and rise 3000-4000m above the abyssal plain. The state divided this region into six sub-regions (North, Central, and Southern Kerguelen Plateau (NKP, CKP, SKP); Skiff Bank (SB); Elan Bank (EB); Williams Ridge (WR)). These regions were then divided into nine FOS zones. The volcanic Kerguelen Island located on the northern part of the plateau constitutes the landmass.

The sub-commission generally agreed with the BOS zone but rejected some locations on the basis that the area was part of the deep ocean floor (saddle area not significantly higher than surrounding deep ocean floor natural roughness; area not morphologically connected to the slope).

Issues

Sub-commission rejected the use of the depth constraint on the Galleini Ridge as they classified it as a ridge not a submarine elevation (however they did accept part of an unnamed spur as a submarine high).