Revision of the Management Plan for Antarctic Specially Protected Area (ASPA) No. 129 Rothera Point, Adelaide Island

**Revision of the Management Plan for Antarctic Specially Protected Area (ASPA) No. 129 Rothera Point, Adelaide Island**

**Working Paper submitted by the United Kingdom**

***Summary***

The United Kingdom has conducted a review of the Management Plan for Antarctic Specially Protected Areas (ASPA) No. 129 Rothera Point, Adelaide Island, and has determined that only minor amendments are required. The United Kingdom recommends that the CEP approves the attached revised Management Plan.

***Background***

The United Kingdom has conducted a review of the Management Plan for ASPA No. 129 Rothera Point, Adelaide Island, in accordance with Annex V to the Protocol on Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty and the Revised Guide to the Preparation of Management Plans for Antarctic Specially Protected Areas appended to Resolution 2 (2011)*.*

Rothera Point was originally designated through Recommendation XIII-8 (1985, SSSI No. 9) after a proposal by the United Kingdom. The primary reason for the designation of Rothera Point, Adelaide Island (Lat. 68o07’S, Long. 67o34’W), as an Antarctic Specially Protected Area is to protect scientific values, primarily that the Area would serve as a control area, against which the effects of human impact associated with the adjacent Rothera Research Station (UK) could be monitored in an Antarctic fellfield ecosystem. Recent research has shown the Area to contain significant cryptogam diversity and it has value as a biological research site.

Summary of amendments

A revised Management Plan for ASPA No. 129 is provided at Attachment A. There are no major changes to the Management Plan. Minor amendments are summarised as follows:

* Annex 1 *Supporting Information* has been updated, based upon new scientific research, including information on local botanical diversity and bird populations.
* Details of the recently designated ASPA No. 177 Léonie Islands and south-east Adelaide Island have been added to the text and Map 1.
* Details of the recently identified Important Bird and Biodiversity Area (IBA) AQ205 have been added.
* Text concerning the use of Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems within the Area has been updated.
* A range of editorial amendments have been made throughout, including for consistency with the provisions of other ASPA Management Plans and with the Revised Guide to the Preparation of Management Plans for Antarctic Specially Protected Areas.

Recommendation

The United Kingdom recommends that the CEP approves the attached revised Management Plan for ASPA No. 129 Rothera Point, Adelaide Island (Attachment A).

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| ASPA No. 129, Rothera Point, Adelaide Island | |
| 1. Is a new ASPA proposed? | No |
| 2. Is a new ASMA proposed? | No |
| 3. Does the proposal relate to an existing ASPA or ASMA? | Yes. ASPA No. 129 |
| First designation: | Recommendation XIII-8 (1985) |
| First adoption of management plan: | Recommendation XIII-8 (1985) |
| Any revisions to management plan: | Resolution 7 (1995)  Measure 1 (1996)  Measure 1 (2007)  Measure 6 (2012)  Measure 5 (2017) |
| Current management plan: | Measure 5 (2017) |
| Any extensions of expiry dates of management plan: | No |
| Renamed and renumbered by Decision 1 (2002) as: | ASPA No. 129 |
| Other relevant measures: | N/A |
| 4. If the proposal contains a revision of an existing management plan, please indicate the types of amendment: | |
| (i) major or minor? | Minor |
| (ii) any changes to the boundaries or co-ordinates? | No |
| (iii) any changes to the maps? If yes, are the changes in the captions only or also in the graphics? | Map 1 has been redrawn and now includes ASPA 177 Léonie Islands and south-east Adelaide Island |
| (iv) any change to the description of the area that is relevant to identifying its location or its boundaries? | No |
| (v) any changes that affect any other ASPA, ASMA or HSM within this area or adjacent to it? In particular, please explain any merger with, incorporation of or abolition of any existing area or site. | No |
| (vi) Other - brief summary of other types of changes, indicating the paragraphs of the management plan in which these are located. | * Annex 1 *Supporting Information* has been updated, based upon new scientific research, including information on local botanical diversity and bird populations. * Details of the recently designated ASPA No. 177 Léonie Islands and south-east Adelaide Island have been added to the text and Map 1. * Details of the recently identified Important Bird and Biodiversity Area (IBA) AQ205 have been added. * Text concerning the use of Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems within the Area has been updated. * A range of editorial amendments have been made throughout, including for consistency with the provisions of other ASPA Management Plans and with the Revised Guide to the Preparation of Management Plans for Antarctic Specially Protected Areas. |
| 5. If a new ASPA or ASMA is proposed, does it contain any marine area? | N/A |
| 6. If yes, does the proposal require the prior approval of CCAMLR in accordance with Decision 9 (2005)? | N/A |
| 7. If yes, has the prior approval of CCAMLR been obtained? If yes, please list the CCAMLR Final Report and Paragraph No. | N/A |
| 8. If the proposal relates to an ASPA, what is the primary reason for designation (i.e. which part under Article 3.2 of Annex V)? | Article 3.2 (a) areas kept inviolate from human interference so that future comparisons may be possible with localities that have been affected by human activities |
| 9. If relevant, have you identified the main Environmental Domain represented by the ASPA/ASMA (refer to the ‘Environmental Domains Analysis for the Antarctic Continent’ appended to Resolution 3 (2008))? Yes/No (If yes, the main Environmental Domain should be noted here). | Domain B |
| 10. If relevant, have you identified the main Antarctic Conservation Biogeographic Region represented by the ASPA/ASMA (refer to the ‘Antarctic Conservation  Biogeographic Regions’ appended to Resolution 6 (2012))? Yes/No (If yes, the main Antarctic Conservation Biogeographic Region should be noted here). | ACBR 3 Northwest Antarctic Peninsula |
| 11. If relevant, have you identified any Antarctic Important Bird Areas (Resolution 5 (2015)) represented by the ASPA/ASMA (refer to the ‘Important Bird Areas in Antarctica 2015 Summary’ appended to ATCMXXXVIII IP27 and the full report available at: http://www.era.gs/resources/iba/)? Yes/No (If yes, the Important Bird Area(s) should be noted here). | IBA AQ205 (designated after 2015) |