Revised Management Plan for Antarctic Specially Protected Area No. 137 Northwest White Island, McMurdo Sound

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| ASPA No. 137 Northwest White Island, McMurdo Sound | |
| **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 |
| *First designation:* | Recommendation XIII-8 (1985) SSSI No. 18 |
| *First adoption of management plan:* | Recommendation XIII-8 (1985) SSSI No. 18 |
| *Any revisions to management plan:* | Measure 1 (2002), Measure 9 (2008), Measure 7 (2013). |
| *Current management plan:* | Measure 7 (2013). |
| *Any extensions of expiry dates of management plan:* | Recommendation XVI-7 (1991), Measure 3 (2001), A 0 (2018) |
| *Renamed and renumbered by Decision 1 (2002) as:* | ASPA No. 137 Northwest White Island, McMurdo Sound. |
| *Other relevant measures:* | Resolution 2 (2011). |
| **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?* | Yes. Map 1 has been replaced by a new version prepared in color to improve the clarity of site features and ASPA boundaries. |
| *(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.* | New information on Weddell seal pup production has been added to Section 6(i), and observations on exchange of individual seals between the site and Erebus Bay, McMurdo Sound. A new publication on seal genetic diversity has been cited.  A new provision on use of Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems has been added (Section 7(ii) Access).  Updates are made to reference the latest ATCM Resolutions on Non-native species and the Environmental Code of Conduct in Section 7(vi).  The first bullet Section 7(viii) has been expanded to be more specific about procedures for sampling.  Minor editorial changes have been implemented in the plan, and the reference list has been updated. |
| **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?** | N/A |
| *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 (c) an area with important or unusual assemblages of species; and (e) an area of particular scientific interest. |
| **9. Have you identified the main Environmental Domain represented by the ASPA/ASMA (Resolution 3 (2008))?** | Environment P – Ross and Ronne-Filchner Ice Shelves. |
| **10. Have you identified the main Antarctic Conservation Biogeographic Region represented by the ASPA/ASMA (Resolution 3 (2017))?** | N/A. The Area lies outside of the areas covered by the ACBR classification. |
| **11. Have you identified any Antarctic Important Bird Areas represented by the ASPA/ASMA (Resolution 5 (2015))?** | No. |

ASPA No. 137 – Northwest White Island, McMurdo Sound

1. The ATCM approved in 2018 continuance of the ASPA No.137 Northwest White Island management plan which was adopted in 2013, and the five-year period until the next review was then reset to fall due in 2023.
2. Accordingly, the United States has updated the management plan in light of recent research and scientific observations at the site, and has taken into account agreements reached by the Antarctic Treaty Parties since the last plan was adopted.
3. Permits issued for visits to the Area since the previous revision of the management plan were reviewed, with few visits made, and no significant changes to the description of the Area or policies in the management plan were required.
4. Map 1 has been replaced by a new version prepared in color to improve the clarity of site features and ASPA boundaries.
5. The exceptional values of the Area remain valid, and the management plan continues to protect those values.

**Recommendation**

The revised management plan and map are attached for consideration by the Committee for Environmental Protection for recommendation for adoption by the Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting.