Revision of the Management Plan for Antarctic Specially Protected Area (ASPA) No. 132, Potter Peninsula

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Potter Peninsula

**Working Paper presented by Argentina**

***Summary***

Argentina has carried out a revision of the Management Plan for the Antarctic Specially Protected Area (ASPA) No. 132, Potter Peninsula, and has determined that only minor amendments are required. Argentina recommends that the CEP approve the attached revised Management Plan.

***Background***

The Antarctic Specially Protected Area 132 was originally designated as Site of Special Scientific Interest 13 according to Rec. XIII-8 (1985). Its Management Plan was adjusted to the requirements of Annex V by Measure 3 (Christchurch, 1997). It was later re-numbered according to Decision 1 (Warsaw, 2002) as ASPA 132, and, under Measure 2 (2005), a first revision was approved. The next revision was submitted in 2012 and, at the request of the Committee, the Plan was revised between sessions by the Management Plans Subsidiary Group, after which the Plan was again submitted in 2013 and adopted by the Committee under Measure 4 (2013). Finally, in 2018, the last revision of the Plan was approved under Measure 3 (2018).

During this new revision process, which responds to the provisions in Article 6.3 of Annex V to the Protocol on Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty, the values present in the Area were updated in detail based on the latest scientific findings and the validity of the measures necessary to protect it were revised in consultation with the main researchers who carry out tasks in this Area and in light of an analysis of the corresponding Visit Reports.

### *Summary of amendments*

A revised Management Plan for ASPA 132 is provided in Annex A. There are no major changes in the Management Plan. The minor amendments are summarised as follows:

* Information has been updated within the *Introduction and Description of the Area.*
* The *Aims and Objectives* have been reworded without changes in meaning to bring them into line with the writing standards used in the latest management plans presented.
* Some management guidelines have been incorporated in accordance with standards adopted in the Antarctic Treaty in recent years.
* The following text has been added pursuant to section ii) of Article 7*,* “Access to, and movement within or over the Area*:* “*The use of RPAs will not be allowed within the limits of the ASPA, unless previously analysed case by case during the environmental impact assessment process. They may only be used when stated in the entry permit and under the conditions established therein. During the analysis and authorisation process, all Antarctic Treaty directives in force will be taken into account.”*
* The supporting documentation section has also been updated.
* A series of editorial changes have been made throughout the process, largely in the interests of 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

Argentina recommends that the CEP approve the attached revised Management Plan for ASPA 132, Potter Peninsula (Appendix A).

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| **ASPA 132, Potter Peninsula** | |
| 1. **1. Is the designation of a new ASPA proposed?** | 1. No |
| 1. **2. Is the designation of a new ASMA proposed?** | 1. No |
| 1. **3. Does the proposal relate to an existing ASPA or ASMA? 1** | 1. Yes. ASPA 132 |
| * Original designation: | 1. Designated as SSSI 13 according to Rec. XIII-8 (1985) |
| * First adoption of the management plan: | 1. Measure 3 (1997) |
| * Management plan revisions: | 1. Measure 2 (2005), Measure 4 (2013) and Measure 3 (2018) |
| * Current management plan: | * Measure 3 (2018) |
| * Any extension of the expiry date of the management plan: | * None |
| * Change of name and number to............... pursuant to Decision 1 (2002). | * ASPA 132, Potter Peninsula, 25 de Mayo/King George Island, South Shetland Islands |
| * Other significant measures: | * Not applicable |
| 1. **4. If the proposal contains a revision of an existing management plan, please indicate the types of amendment:** |  |
| (i) Is it a major or minor rectification? | Minor |
| (ii) Are there any changes to the boundaries or co-ordinates? | No |
| (iii) Are there any changes to the maps? If so, do the changes affect only the legends or also the graphics? | No |
| (iv) Are there any changes to the description of the Area that are significant to identifying its location or its boundaries? | No |
| (v) Are there any changes that affect any other ASPA, ASMA or HSM within this area or adjacent to it? In particular, explain if there has been any merger with existing sites or areas or if any were determined to be added or removed. | No |
| vi) Other – brief summary of other kinds of changes, indicating the Management Plan paragraphs where they are established (particularly useful if the plan is extensive). | • The introduction has been updated.  • The aims and objectives have been rewritten in accordance with the current standards for the latest management plans.  • The description of the values to be protected has been updated.  • Management guidelines have been incorporated in accordance with standards adopted in the Antarctic treaty.  • The Description of the area has been updated.  • The bibliography that makes up the support documentation has been updated.  • The following text has been added pursuant to section iii) of Article 7, Access to, and movement within or over the Area: “The use of RPAs will not be allowed within the limits of the ASPA, unless previously analysed case by case during the environmental impact assessment process. They may only be used when stated in the entry permit and under the conditions established therein. During the analysis and authorisation process, all Antarctic Treaty directives in force will be taken into account.”  • A series of editorial changes have been made throughout the process, largely in the interests of 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”. |
| 1. **If a new ASPA or ASMA is proposed, does it contain a marine area?** | No |
| 1. **If so, does the proposal require the prior approval of CCAMLR in accordance with Decision 9 (2005)? Yes/No** | N/A |
| 1. **If so, has the prior approval of the CCAMLR been obtained?** | N/A |
| If yes, the reference to the significant paragraph of the CCAMLR Final report should be provided. |  |
| 1. **If the proposal relates to an ASPA, what is the primary reason for designation (ie, which part under Article 3.2 of Annex V)?** | * Article 3.2. * (b) representative examples of major terrestrial, including glacial and aquatic, ecosystems and marine ecosystems; * (e) areas of particular interest to ongoing or planned scientific research; * Examples of outstanding geological, glaciological or geomorphological features. |
| 1. **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])?**   If the answer is yes, the main environmental domain must be indicated here). | ASPA 132 represents the Environmental Domain of the “Antarctic Peninsula offshore islands”. |
| 1. **Has the main Antarctic Conservation Biogeographic Region (ACBR) represented by the ASPA/ASMA been identified? (see document “Antarctic Conservation Biogeographic Regions” annexed to Resolution 6 [2012])**   If the answer is yes, the main Antarctic Biogeographic Conservation Region should be indicated here). | According to Terauds *et al.* (2012), the area represents the “Northwest Antarctic Peninsula” region of the “Antarctic Conservation Biogeographic Regions”. |
| 1. **If applicable, have Important Bird Areas (IBA) in Antarctica (Resolution 5 [2015]) represented by ASPA/ASMA been identified? (see the summary appended to the Information Paper IP27 from ATCM XXXVIII, Summary of Important Bird Areas in Antarctica 2015) and the full report in:** [**http://www.era.gs/resources/iba/**](http://www.era.gs/resources/iba/)**)?**   If the answer is yes, indicate the main Important Bird Area here. | According to “Important Bird Areas in Antarctica 2015” (Harris *et al.*, 2015), Potter Peninsula is area 047. |

The above form can be used as a template or check-list for the delivery note to ensure delivery of all requested information.