

Heard and McDonald Islands kers system

What is the significance of Heard Island & McDonald Islands?

Heard Island and the McDonald Islands, with the Kerguelen Islands, are exposed parts of the Kerguelen Plateau, possibly the largest submarine plateau on earth, and provide geochemical and isotopic insights into the formation of oceanic plateaux, mantle plume development and the separation of Australia, India and Africa from Antarctica.

Why are Heard Island and McDonald Islands isolated?

However, the site's isolation assists in reducing anthropogenic impacts upon the site's values. Heard Island and McDonald Islands are located in the Southern Ocean, approximately 1,700 km from the Antarctic continent and 4,100 km south-west of Perth.

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.

What is the difference between Heard and McDonald Islands?

The geological histories of Heard and the Kerguelen Islands extend over the last 50 Ma while the McDonald Islands are very young, perhaps having formed within the last 100 000 years.

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.

Are Heard and McDonald Islands volcanoes?

Heard and the McDonald Islands are young oceanic-island volcanoes which, together with the Kerguelen Islands 466 km to the northwest, are the only subaerial expressions of the dominantly volcanic and relatively shallow northern part of the submarine Kerguelen Plateau which has a geological history extending over 115 Ma (Davies et al. 1989).

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

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Heard Island and McDonald Islands (HIMI) are a remote subantarctic island group located about 4,000 km south-west of Western Australia and approximately 1,700 km from the Antarctic ...

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McDonald Island is much smaller (2.5 km²), about 100 000 years old and totally ice-free, and is predominantly composed of phonolitic rocks. 9, 10 During the campaign, signs of volcanic activity ...

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