

Heard and McDonald Islands solar battery

Where are Heard Island & McDonald Islands?

Heard Island and McDonald Islands (HIMI) are a sub-Antarctic island group. They are located in the Southern Ocean, about 4,000 km south west of mainland Australia. Penguins are by far the most abundant birds on the island. Photo: Stephen Brown/AAD The islands enjoy World Heritage protection and marine reserve status.

What's happening on Heard Island & McDonald Islands?

Landing stores, Atlas Cove, Heard Island with Rogers Head in background Photo: Alan Campbell-Drury Due to the extreme isolation of Heard Island and McDonald Islands (HIMI), together with the persistently severe weather and sea conditions, human activities in the region have been, and remain, limited.

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.

Who manages Heard Island & McDonald Islands?

They are managed by the Australian Antarctic Division. The islands are unoccupied by humans and remain one of the world's least anthropogenically disturbed areas. A map of Heard Island and McDonald Islands land areas updated in 2024 with recent coastline mapping and 2014 glacial...

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.

Is there a threat to Heard Island and the McDonald Islands?

Ongoing and accelerating climate change poses an increasing risk of fundamental alterations in biodiversity. Geological processes (primarily volcanism and glacial retreat) continue undisturbed. The overall assessment is that there is a low threat to the World Heritage values of Heard Island and the McDonald Islands if visitation remains low.

Overview Wildlife History Geography Administration and economy See also Further reading External links The islands are part of the Southern Indian Ocean Islands tundra ecoregion that includes several subantarctic islands. In this cold climate, plant life is mainly limited to grasses, lichens, and mosses. Low plant diversity reflects the islands' isolation, small size, severe climate, the short, cool growing season and, for Heard Island, substantial permanent ice cover. The main environmental deter...

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Location and Values: The Heard and McDonald Islands are remote sub-Antarctic volcanic islands located in the far south of the Indian Ocean, about 1,600 km from Antarctica and half-way between Australia and South Africa. They lie a little to ...

Heard Island and McDonald Islands are uninhabited, barren, Subantarctic islands in the Southern Ocean, far due south of India and roughly 400 km southeast of Kerguelen of the French ...

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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 ...

Big Ben has erupted several times over the past two decades. McDonald Island lies 43.5 kilometres due west of Heard Island, and is the major island in the McDonald Islands ...

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