

1. World Heritage Property Data

1.1 - Name of World Heritage Property

Henderson Island

1.2 - World Heritage Property Details

State(s) Party(ies)

- United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Type of Property

natural

Identification Number

487


Year of inscription on the World Heritage List

1988

1.3 - Geographic Information Table

Name	Coordinates (longitude / latitude)	Property (ha)	Buffer zone (ha)	Total (ha)	Inscription year
Henderson Island	-24.367 / -128.333	3700	0	3700	1988
Total (ha)		3700	0	3700	

1.4 - Map(s)

Title	Date	Link to source
Henderson Island outline, scale ~1:72,000.	16/07/2004	

1.5 - Governmental Institution Responsible for the Property

- Christopher Young
English Heritage
Head of World International Advice
- Paul Blaker
Department for Culture, Media and Sport
Head of World Heritage

Comment

DCMS contact is now Francesca Conlon, email Francesca.conlon@culture.gsi.gov.uk, phone +44 (0) 20 7973 6117, postal address 4th Floor, 100 Parliament St, London, SW1A 2BQ, UK

1.6 - Property Manager / Coordinator, Local Institution / Agency

- Dr Anthony WEIGHELL
Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC)
Earth Science and Coastal Advisor
- Ian Cramman
Tristan da Cunha and Pitcairn Overseas Territories
Department
Desk Officer

Comment

Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC) should be deleted as they have no management role.

1.7 - Web Address of the Property (if existing)

- [View photos from OUR PLACE the World Heritage collection](#)
- [The Henderson Island website](#)
- [Natural site datasheet from WCMC](#)

1.8 - Other designations / Conventions under which the property is protected (if applicable)

2. Statement of Outstanding Universal Value

2.1 - Statement of Outstanding Universal Value / Statement of Significance

Comment

Henderson Island is an uninhabited raised reef island in the Pitcairn Island group, a Dependent Territory of the United Kingdom of the SE Pacific. Henderson Island is the largest island in the group, one of the remotest groups of islands in the South Pacific, with no major land mass within a 5,000km radius. The group comprises four islands, with Henderson lying 200km east-north-east of Pitcairn. Henderson Island is the world's best remaining example of an elevated coral atoll ecosystem and is of outstanding value because of the comparatively low level of disturbance which provides a key for baseline information on similar atolls. Its isolation makes it ideal for studying the dynamics of island evolution and natural selection. Henderson Island has a high degree of plant endemism and a unique terrestrial fauna.

2.2 - The criteria (2005 revised version) under which the property was inscribed

(vii)(x)

2.3 - Attributes expressing the Outstanding Universal Value per criterion

Henderson Island has been inscribed under Criteria vii and x. Henderson Island is of outstanding universal value because: i. The superlative natural phenomena and area of exceptional natural beauty represented by Henderson Island makes it one of the few remaining raised oceanic coral atolls with its fundamental features intact. It is thus of immense value for biogeographical and biological research on the processes of island conservation and the last near-pristine limestone island of significant size in the world. ii. Henderson Island has a high degree of plant endemism. The terrestrial vegetation of the island is rich and almost undisturbed. Due to its relative freedom from man and cyclonic inundations the flora and fauna are unique relicts of the original undegraded condition. There are 71 recorded species of vascular plants, ten of which are endemic to the island and ten introduced, with some 20 bryophytes and 30 lichens. iii. Henderson Island has a unique terrestrial fauna including nesting seabirds and endemic land birds. It is home to over 55 unique species. All four of the island's land birds are endemic: the flightless Henderson rail *Porzana atra*, Stephen's lorikeet *Vini stephensi*, Henderson fruit dove *Ptilinopus insularis* and Henderson warbler *Acrocephalus vauhani taiti*. It is the only known breeding site of the endangered Henderson petrel. iv. The island's invertebrate fauna is also little known but about one-third of the insects and gastropods so far collected are endemic.

2.4 - If needed, please provide details of why the Statement of Outstanding Universal Value should be revised

No Statement of Outstanding Universal Value has previously been agreed. A draft retrospective SOUV has been submitted and awaits evaluation by IUCN and agreement by the World Heritage Committee

**2.5 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations
related to Statement of Outstanding Universal Value**

see previous reply

































3. Factors Affecting the Property

3.14. Other factor(s)

3.14.1 - Other factor(s)

3.15. Factors Summary Table

3.15.1 - Factors summary table

	Name	Impact	Origin
3.4	Pollution		
3.4.1	Pollution of marine waters	  	
3.5	Biological resource use/modification		
3.5.1	Fishing/collecting aquatic resources	  	
3.9	Other human activities		
3.9.1	Illegal activities	  	
3.10	Climate change and severe weather events		
3.10.5	Changes to oceanic waters	  	
3.10.6	Temperature change	   	
3.12	Invasive/alien species or hyper-abundant species		
3.12.2	Invasive/alien terrestrial species	   	
3.12.4	Invasive / alien marine species	  	
3.13	Management and institutional factors		
3.13.1	Low impact research / monitoring activities	  	
Legend	 Current	 Potential	 Negative
	 Positive	 Inside	 Outside

3.16. Assessment of current negative factors

3.16.1 - Assessment of current negative factors

	Spatial scale	Temporal scale	Impact	Management response	Trend
3.10	Climate change and severe weather events				
3.10.6	Temperature change	widespread	intermittent or sporadic	minor	no capacity and / or resources
3.12	Invasive/alien species or hyper-abundant species				
3.12.2	Invasive/alien terrestrial species	widespread	on-going	significant	medium capacity
					decreasing

3.17. Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to factors affecting the property

3.17.1 - Comments

Main negative impact arising through presence of rats.
Eradication programme undertaken with partial success.

4. Protection, Management and Monitoring of the Property

4.1. Boundaries and Buffer Zones

4.1.1 - Buffer zone status

There is **no buffer zone**, and it is not needed

4.1.2 - Are the boundaries of the World Heritage property adequate to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value?

The boundaries of the World Heritage property are **adequate** to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value

4.1.3 - Are the buffer zone(s) of the World Heritage property adequate to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value?

The property had **no buffer zone** at the time of its inscription on the World Heritage List

4.1.4 - Are the boundaries of the World Heritage property known?

The boundaries of the World Heritage property are known by both the management authority and local residents / communities / landowners.

4.1.5 - Are the buffer zones of the World Heritage property known?

The property had **no buffer zone** at the time of its inscription on the World Heritage List

4.1.6 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to boundaries and buffer zones of the World Heritage property

4.2. Protective Measures

4.2.1 - Protective designation (legal, regulatory, contractual, planning, institutional and / or traditional)

Access to Henderson requires a licence issued by the Governor in consultation with the Island Council. The wildlife of Henderson is protected by part IV of the Local Government Regulations. This incorporates provisions to implement the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals. Part III of the Regulations incorporates the provisions of the Convention on International Trade in Wild Species of Flora and Fauna.

Periodic Reporting Cycle 1 (2001-2006) Section 2

Source: [Periodic Reporting Cycle 1 \(2001-2006\)](#)

Submitted on Monday, October 31, 2005

- **Question 6.02**

Visitors are normally restricted to the beach areas, and

this encouraged in the code of conduct for visitors. The zoning and other legislative issues will be addressed by the Management Committee

4.2.2 - Is the legal framework (i.e. legislation and / or regulation) adequate for maintaining the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Integrity and / or Authenticity of the property?

The legal framework for the maintenance of the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Authenticity and / or Integrity of the World Heritage property provides **an adequate or better basis** for effective management and protection

4.2.3 - Is the legal framework (i.e. legislation and / or regulation) adequate in the buffer zone for maintaining the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Integrity and / or Authenticity of the property?

The property had **no buffer zone** at the time of inscription on the World Heritage List

4.2.4 - Is the legal framework (i.e. legislation and / or regulation) adequate in the area surrounding the World Heritage property and buffer zone for maintaining the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Integrity and / or Authenticity of the property?

There is **no legal framework** for controlling use and activities in the area surrounding the World Heritage property and the buffer zone

4.2.5 - Can the legislative framework (i.e. legislation and / or regulation) be enforced?

There is **acceptable** capacity / resources to enforce legislation and / or regulation in the World Heritage property but some deficiencies remain

4.2.6 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to protective measures

4.3. Management System / Management Plan

4.3.1 - Management System

Steering group formally set up on 01 January 2005 to put into effect the provisions of the management plan. There is a site manager for the site. A management Plan is being implemented since 2004. Levels of public authority who are primarily involved with the management of the site: national (DCMS; FCO); local

Periodic Reporting Cycle 1 (2001-2006) Section 2

Source: [Periodic Reporting Cycle 1 \(2001-2006\)](#)

Submitted on Monday, October 31, 2005

- **Question 5.02**

Steering group or similar management committee has been set up to guide the management of the site

- **Question 5.03**

Set up date: 2005

Function: To put into effect the provisions of the Management Plan

Mandate: To put into effect the provisions of the Management Plan



Constituted: formal

- **Question 5.05**

Overall management system of the site

- Consensual management

4.3.2 - Management Documents

Title	Status	Available	Date	Link to source
Henderson Island World Heritage Site Management Plan	N/A	Available	01/01/2004	
The Pitcairn Islands Environment Management Plan 2008	In Force	Available	08/02/2008	

4.3.3 - How well do the various levels of administration (i.e. national / federal; regional / provincial / state; local / municipal etc.) coordinate in the management of the World Heritage Property ?

There is **excellent coordination** between all bodies / levels involved in the management of the property

4.3.4 - Is the management system / plan adequate to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value ?

The management system / plan is **fully adequate** to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value

4.3.5 - Is the management system being implemented?

The management system is being **fully** implemented and monitored

4.3.6 - Is there an annual work / action plan and is it being implemented?

An annual work / action plan exists and **many activities** are being implemented

4.3.7 - Please rate the cooperation / relationship with World Heritage property managers / coordinators / staff of the following

Local communities / residents	Good
Local / Municipal authorities	Not applicable
Indigenous peoples	Not applicable
Landowners	Not applicable
Visitors	Good
Researchers	Good
Tourism industry	Not applicable
Industry	Not applicable

4.3.8 - If present, do local communities resident in or near the World Heritage property and / or buffer zone have input in management decisions that maintain the Outstanding Universal Value?

Local communities directly **participate** in all relevant decisions relating to management, i.e. co-management

4.3.9 - If present, do indigenous peoples resident in or regularly using the World Heritage property and / or buffer zone have input in management decisions that maintain the Outstanding Universal Value?

Indigenous peoples directly participate in **all relevant** decisions relating to management, i.e. co-management

4.3.10 - Is there cooperation with industry (i.e. forestry, mining, agriculture, etc.) regarding the management of the World Heritage property, buffer zone and / or area surrounding the World Heritage property and buffer zone?

There is **little or no contact** with industry regarding the management of the World Heritage property, buffer zone and /

or area surrounding the World Heritage property and buffer zone

4.3.11 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to human resources, expertise and training

The necessary policies on visitor management are included in the management plan.


4.3.12 - Please report any significant changes in the legal status and / or contractual / traditional protective measures and management arrangements for the World Heritage property since inscription or the last Periodic report

4.4. Financial and Human Resources

4.4.1 - Costs related to conservation, based on the average of last five years (relative percentage of the funding sources)

Multilateral funding (GEF, World Bank, etc)	0%
International donations (NGO's, foundations, etc)	75%
Governmental (National / Federal)	25%
Governmental (Regional / Provincial / State)	0%
Governmental (Local / Municipal)	0%
In country donations (NGO's, foundations, etc)	0%
Individual visitor charges (e.g. entry, parking, camping fees, etc.)	0%
Commercial operator payments (e.g. filming permit, concessions, etc.)	0%
Other grants	0%

4.4.2 - International Assistance received from the World Heritage Fund (USD)

Title	Year	Amount	Link to source
Contribution to the University of Oxford's expedition to involve Pitcairn Islanders in the preparation of a management strategy for Henderson Island	1990	8000.00	
Total		8000	

4.4.3 - Is the current budget sufficient to manage the World Heritage property effectively?

The available budget is **acceptable** but could be further improved to fully meet the management needs

4.4.4 - Are the existing sources of funding secure and likely to remain so?

Existing sources of funding are **not secure**

4.4.5 - Does the World Heritage property provide economic benefits to local communities (e.g. income, employment)?

There is **some flow** of economic benefits to local communities

4.4.6 - Are available resources such as equipment, facilities and infrastructure sufficient to meet management needs?

There are **adequate** equipment and facilities

4.4.7 - Are resources such as equipment, facilities and infrastructure adequately maintained?

Equipment and facilities are **well maintained**

4.4.8 - Comments, conclusion, and / or recommendations related to finance and infrastructure

4.4.9 - Distribution of employees involved in managing the World Heritage property (% of total)

Full-time	0%
Part-time	100%

4.4.10 - Distribution of employees involved in managing the World Heritage property (% of total)

Permanent	0%
Seasonal	100%

4.4.11 - Distribution of employees involved in managing the World Heritage property (% of total)

Paid	0%
Volunteer	100%

4.4.12 - Are available human resources adequate to manage the World Heritage property?

Human resources are **adequate** for management needs

4.4.13 - Considering the management needs of the World Heritage property, please rate the availability of professionals in the following disciplines

Research and monitoring	Good
Promotion	Not applicable
Community outreach	Not applicable
Interpretation	Fair
Education	Not applicable
Visitor management	Good
Conservation	Good
Administration	Good
Risk preparedness	Fair
Tourism	Fair
Enforcement (custodians, police)	Fair

4.4.14 - Please rate the availability of training opportunities for the management of the World Heritage property in the following disciplines

Research and monitoring	Medium
Promotion	Not applicable
Community outreach	Not applicable
Interpretation	Not applicable
Education	Not applicable
Visitor management	Medium
Conservation	Medium
Administration	Medium
Risk preparedness	Medium
Tourism	Medium
Enforcement (custodians, police)	Medium

4.4.15 - Do the management and conservation programmes at the World Heritage property help develop local expertise?

A capacity development plan or programme is in place and **partially implemented**; some technical skills are being transferred to those managing the property locally **but most of the technical work is carried out by external staff**

4.4.16 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to human resources, expertise and training

4.5. Scientific Studies and Research Projects

4.5.1 - Is there adequate knowledge (scientific or traditional) about the values of the World Heritage property to support planning, management and decision-making to ensure that Outstanding Universal Value is maintained?

Knowledge about the values of the World Heritage property is **sufficient**

4.5.2 - Is there a planned programme of research at the property which is directed towards management needs and / or improving understanding of Outstanding Universal Value?

There is a **comprehensive, integrated programme of research**, which is relevant to management needs and / or improving understanding of Outstanding Universal Value

4.5.3 - Are results from research programmes disseminated?

Research results are **shared widely** with the local, national and international audiences

4.5.4 - Please provide details (i.e. authors, title, and web link) of papers published about the World Heritage property since the last Periodic Report

4.5.5 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to scientific studies and research projects

4.6. Education, Information and Awareness Building

4.6.1 - At how many locations is the World Heritage emblem displayed at the property?

In many locations and easily visible to visitors

4.6.2 - Please rate the awareness and understanding of the existence and justification for inscription of the World Heritage property amongst the following groups

Local communities / residents	Excellent
Local / Municipal authorities within or adjacent to the property	Not applicable
Local Indigenous peoples	Not applicable
Local landowners	Not applicable
Visitors	Average
Tourism industry	Average
Local businesses and industries	Not applicable

4.6.3 - Is there a planned education and awareness programme linked to the values and management of the World Heritage property?

There is **no need** for an education and awareness programme

4.6.4 - What role, if any, has designation as a World Heritage property played with respect to education, information and awareness building activities?

World Heritage status has been an **important influence** on education, information and awareness building activities

4.6.5 - How well is the information on Outstanding Universal Value of the property presented and interpreted?

The Outstanding Universal Value of the property is **not presented or interpreted**

4.6.6 - Please rate the adequacy for education, information and awareness building of the following visitor facilities and services at the World Heritage property

Visitor centre	Not needed
Site museum	Not needed
Information booths	Not needed
Guided tours	Not needed
Trails / routes	Not needed
Information materials	Not needed
Transportation facilities	Not needed
Other	Not needed

4.6.7 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to education, information and awareness building

4.7. Visitor Management

4.7.1 - Please provide the trend in annual visitation for the last five years

Last year	Minor Increase
Two years ago	Minor Increase
Three years ago	N/A
Four years ago	N/A
Five years ago	N/A

4.7.2 - What information sources are used to collect trend data on visitor statistics?

Visitor surveys

4.7.3 - Visitor management documents

4.7.4 - Is there an appropriate visitor use management plan (e.g. specific plan) for the World Heritage property which ensures that its Outstanding Universal Value is maintained?

Visitor use of the World Heritage property is **effectively managed** and does not impact its Outstanding Universal Value

4.7.5 - Does the tourism industry contribute to improving visitor experiences and maintaining the values of the World Heritage property?

There is **excellent co-operation** between those responsible for the World Heritage property and the tourism industry to present the Outstanding Universal Value and increase appreciation

4.7.6 - If fees (i.e. entry charges, permits) are collected, do they contribute to the management of the World Heritage property?

The fee is collected, and makes **some contribution** to the management of the World Heritage property

4.7.7 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to visitor use of the World Heritage property

4.8. Monitoring

4.8.1 - Is there a monitoring programme at the property which is directed towards management needs and / or improving understanding of Outstanding Universal Value?

There is considerable monitoring but it is **not directed towards management needs** and / or improving understanding of Outstanding Universal Value

4.8.2 - Are key indicators for measuring the state of conservation used to monitor how the Outstanding Universal Value of the property is maintained?

Information on the values of the World Heritage property is sufficient to define key indicators, **but this has not been done**

4.8.3 - Please rate the level of involvement in monitoring of the following groups

World Heritage managers / coordinators and staff	Average
Local / Municipal authorities	Not applicable
Local communities	Average
Researchers	Excellent
NGOs	Average
Industry	Not applicable
Local indigenous peoples	Not applicable

4.8.4 - Has the State Party implemented relevant recommendations arising from the World Heritage Committee?

Implementation is **underway**

4.8.5 - Please provide comments relevant to the implementation of recommendations from the World Heritage Committee

A rat eradication programme has been completed with partial success. Further studies are in progress to determine future actions.

4.8.6 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to monitoring

4.9. Identification of Priority Management Needs

4.9.1 - Please select the top 6 managements needs for the property (if more than 6 are listed below)

Please refer to question 5.2

5. Summary and Conclusions

5.1. Summary - Factors affecting the Property

5.1.1 - Summary - Factors affecting the Property

	World Heritage criteria and attributes affected	Actions	Monitoring	Timeframe	Lead agency (and others involved)	More info / comment	
3.10	Climate change and severe weather events						
3.10.6	Temperature change	Criteria X..The highly endemic plant and bird populations may be affected.	None possible.	In progress.	Not known at present.	Foreign and Commonwealth Office/RSPB	Potential changes due to climate change are being monitored.
3.12	Invasive/alien species or hyper-abundant species						
3.12.2	Invasive/alien terrestrial species	Criteria X..The highly endemic bird populations are affected.	Rat eradication through baiting.	In progress.	Baiting programme completed. Monitoring in progress.	Foreign and Commonwealth Office/RSPB	Impact of baiting programme being monitored.

5.2. Summary - Management Needs

5.2.2 - Summary - Management Needs

Please select your top management needs in question 4.9 before filling in the summary table.

5.3. Conclusions on the State of Conservation of the Property

5.3.1 - Current state of Authenticity

Not applicable (for sites inscribed exclusively under criteria vii to x)

5.3.2 - Current state of Integrity

The integrity of the World Heritage property has been **compromised** by factors described in this report

5.3.3 - Current state of the World Heritage property's Outstanding Universal Value

The World Heritage property's Outstanding Universal Value has been **impacted** by factors described in this report, but this situation is being **addressed through effective management actions**.

5.3.4 - Current state of the property's other values

Other important cultural and / or natural values and the state of conservation of the World Heritage property are **predominantly intact**

5.4. Additional comments on the State of Conservation of the Property

5.4.1 - Comments

Following a baiting programme partial eradication of invasive rats has been achieved. Monitoring is in progress to establish the response of the seabird populations. First reports indicate significant short term population increases.

6. World Heritage Status and Conclusions on Periodic Reporting Exercise

6.1 - Please rate the impacts of World Heritage status of the property in relation to the following areas

Conservation	Positive
Research and monitoring	Positive
Management effectiveness	Positive
Quality of life for local communities and indigenous peoples	Not applicable
Recognition	Positive
Education	Not applicable
Infrastructure development	Not applicable
Funding for the property	Not applicable
International cooperation	Not applicable
Political support for conservation	No impact
Legal / Policy framework	No impact
Lobbying	Positive
Institutional coordination	Positive
Security	Not applicable
Other (please specify)	Not applicable

6.2 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to World Heritage status

6.3 - Entities involved in the preparation of this Section of the Periodic Report

Governmental institution responsible for the property

6.4 - Was the Periodic Reporting questionnaire easy to use and clearly understandable?

yes

6.5 - Please provide suggestions for improvement of the Periodic Reporting questionnaire

6.6 - Please rate the level of support for completing the Periodic Report questionnaire from the following entities

UNESCO	Good
State Party Representative	Good
Advisory Body	Good

6.7 - How accessible was the information required to complete the Periodic Report?

Most of the required information was accessible

6.8 - The Periodic Reporting process has improved the understanding of the following

Monitoring and reporting

6.9 - Please rate the follow-up to conclusions and recommendations from previous Periodic Reporting exercise by the following entities

UNESCO	Satisfactory
State Party	Satisfactory
Site Managers	Satisfactory
Advisory Bodies	Satisfactory

6.10 - Summary of actions that will require formal consideration by the World Heritage Committee

- **Statement of Outstanding Universal Value / Statement of Significance**

Reason for update: Henderson Island is an uninhabited raised reef island in the Pitcairn Island group, a Dependent Territory of the United Kingdom of the SE Pacific. Henderson Island is the largest island in the group, one of the remotest groups of islands in the South Pacific, with no major land mass within a 5,000km radius. The group comprises four islands, with Henderson lying 200km east-north-east of Pitcairn. Henderson Island is the world's best remaining example of an elevated coral atoll ecosystem and is of outstanding value because of the comparatively low level of disturbance which provides a key for baseline information on similar atolls. Its isolation makes it ideal for studying the dynamics of island evolution and natural selection. Henderson Island has a high degree of plant endemism and a unique terrestrial fauna.

6.11 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to the Assessment of the Periodic Reporting exercise

None.