

Periodic Report - Second Cycle

1. World Heritage Property Data

1.1 - Name of World Heritage Property

Heard and McDonald Islands

1.2 - World Heritage Property Details

Australia Asia and the Pacific natural Marine & coastal 577 rev 1997

1.3 - Geographic Information Table

Name	Coordinates	Property (ha)	Buffer zone (ha)	Total (ha)	Inscription year
Heard and McDonald Islands	-53.1 / 73.5	38600	0	38600	1997
Total (ha)		38600	0	38600	

Comment

Total area is incorrect. Agreed area as per nomination is 658,903 ha, and includes both terrestrial and marine areas. No boundary modification is required.

1.4 - Map(s)

1.5 - Governmental Institution Responsible for the Property

Comment

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1.6 - Property Manager / Coordinator, Local Institution / Agency

- Lyn Maddock
Australian Antarctic Division

Comment

Ms Lyn Maddock Director Australian Antarctic Division Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities 203 Channel Highway, Kingston, Tasmania, 7050 Ph: +61 3 6232 3200 Fax: +61 3 6232 3215 lyn.maddock@aad.gov.au

1.7 - Web Address of the Property (if existing)

1. [The Official Site for Australian Travel and Tourism Australia](#)
2. [Australian Antarctic Division](#)
3. [Natural site datasheet from WCMC](#)
4. [Heard Island and McDonald Islands](#)
5. [Heard and McDonald Islands \(Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts\)](#)

Comment

1. Heard and McDonald Islands (Australian Antarctic Division, Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities): www.heardisland.aq
2. Heard and McDonald Islands (Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities): <http://www.environment.gov.au/heritage/places/world/heard-mcdonald/index.html>
3. The Official Site for Australian Travel and Tourism Australia: <http://www.australia.com/>

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

Comment

Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals. CBD. Agreement on the Conservation of Albatrosses and Petrels. Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources. International Convention for Prevention of Pollution from Ships. Convention on the International Trade of Endangered Species. United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. Commonwealth Marine Reserve. JAMBA. CAMBA

2. Statement of Outstanding Universal Value

2.1 - Statement of Outstanding Universal Value / Statement of Significance

Comment

A Retrospective Statement of Outstanding Universal Value was submitted to the World Heritage Centre on 1 February 2011, awaiting World Heritage Committee approval in June 2012.

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

(viii)(ix)

2.3 - Attributes expressing the Outstanding Universal Value per criterion

see <http://www.environment.gov.au/heritage/places/world/heard-mcdonald/values.html>

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

Not required.

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

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						
3.7	Local conditions affecting physical fabric					
3.7.8 Micro-organisms						
3.9	Other human activities					
3.9.1 Illegal activities						
3.9.2 Deliberate destruction of heritage						
3.11	Sudden ecological or geological events					
3.11.1 Volcanic eruption						
3.11.4 Avalanche/ landslide						
3.12	Invasive/alien species or hyper-abundant species					
3.12.1 Translocated species						
3.12.2 Invasive/alien terrestrial species						
3.12.3 Invasive / alien freshwater species						
3.12.4 Invasive / alien marine species						
3.12.5 Hyper-abundant species						
3.13	Management and institutional factors					
3.13.2 High impact research / monitoring activities						
3.13.3 Management 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
3.9	Other human activities				
3.9.1 Illegal activities	localised	intermittent or sporadic	minor	high capacity	decreasing
3.11	Sudden ecological or geological events				
3.11.1 Volcanic eruption	localised	intermittent or sporadic	minor	no capacity and / or resources	static
3.11.4 Avalanche/ landslide	restricted	one off or rare	insignificant	no capacity and / or resources	static
3.12	Invasive/alien species or hyper-abundant species				
3.12.2 Invasive/alien terrestrial species	restricted	intermittent or sporadic	significant	low capacity	increasing
3.13	Management and institutional factors				
3.13.3 Management activities	localised	intermittent or sporadic	insignificant	medium capacity	static

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

3.17.1 - Comments

Human activities can be managed and restricted. There is no capacity to manage or control climate change and severe weather events or their consequences at the local scale.

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

The boundary of the WHA is adequate to protect the Outstanding Universal Values of the property. No buffer zone is required. Note that there are no local residents/communities/landowners.

4.2. Protective Measures

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

Comment

All World Heritage properties in Australia are 'matters of national environmental significance' protected and managed under national legislation, the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999. This Act is the statutory instrument for implementing Australia's obligations under a number of multilateral environmental agreements, such as the

World Heritage Convention, the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Ramsar Convention.

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?

The legal framework for the area surrounding the World Heritage property and the buffer zone provides **an adequate or better basis** for effective management and protection of the property, contributing to the maintenance of its Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Authenticity and / or Integrity

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

Management of the Territory, including responsibility for implementation of environmental management requirements of the Environment Protection and Management Ordinance 1987, is the responsibility of the Australian Antarctic Division. The primary plan for management of the territory is the *Heard Island Wilderness Reserve Management Plan*.

Comment

Management of the Territory, including responsibility for implementation of environmental management requirements of the Environment Protection and Management Ordinance 1987, is the responsibility of the Australian Antarctic Division, Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities. The primary plan for management of the Territory is the Heard Island and McDonald Islands Marine Reserve Management Plan (2005).

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4.3.2 - Management Documents

Comment

Heard Island and McDonald Islands Marine Reserve Management Plan (2005).

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 **most or all activities** are being implemented and monitored

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

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

No local communities are resident in or living near the World Heritage property and / or buffer zone

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?

No indigenous peoples are resident in or regularly using the World Heritage property and / or buffer zone

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 **regular contact** with industry regarding the management of the World Heritage property, buffer zone and /

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or area surrounding the World Heritage property and buffer zone and **substantial co-operation** on management

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

Heard Island and McDonald Islands Marine Reserve Management Plan (2005) , will be reviewed by 2012.

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)	
International donations (NGO's, foundations, etc)	
Governmental (National / Federal)	100%
Governmental (Regional / Provincial / State)	
Governmental (Local / Municipal)	
In country donations (NGO's, foundations, etc)	
Individual visitor charges (e.g. entry, parking, camping fees, etc.)	
Commercial operator payments (e.g. filming permit, concessions, etc.)	
Other grants	

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

Comment

Not applicable.

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

The available budget is **sufficient** but further funding would enable more effective management to international best practice standard

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

The existing sources of funding **are secure** in the medium-term and planning is underway to secure funding in the long-term

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

The World Heritage property **does not deliver any 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

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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

There is minimal infrastructure on Heard and McDonald Islands. Only structures that exist are refuges at the south and north of the Head Island, these were designed to require little and infrequent maintenance.

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

Full-time	100%
Part-time	

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

Permanent	100%
Seasonal	

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

Paid	100%
Volunteer	

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	Fair
Promotion	Good
Community outreach	Good
Interpretation	Good
Education	Good
Visitor management	Good
Conservation	Good
Administration	Good
Risk preparedness	Non-existent
Tourism	Good
Enforcement (custodians, police)	Good

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	Low
Promotion	Low
Community outreach	Low
Interpretation	Low
Education	Low
Visitor management	Low
Conservation	Low
Administration	Low
Risk preparedness	Low
Tourism	Low
Enforcement (custodians, police)	High

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

No capacity development plan or programme is in place; management is implemented by external staff and skills are not transferred

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

Note Heard Island does not have an indigenous population nor permanent population.

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** for most key areas **but there are gaps**

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 **considerable** research but it is **not directed** towards 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

<http://www.heardisland.aq/protection-and-management/management-plan/download-the-heard-island-and-mcdonald-islands-marine-reserve-management-plan>

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

More frequent and continuing studies related to the outstanding universal values of the property are required. However, costs are prohibitive in undertaking these studies because of the isolation and remoteness of the island.

4.6. Education, Information and Awareness Building

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

Not displayed at all

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	Not applicable
Local / Municipal authorities within or adjacent to the property	Not applicable
Local Indigenous peoples	Not applicable
Local landowners	Not applicable
Visitors	Excellent
Tourism industry	Excellent
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 a **planned and effective** education and awareness programme that contributes to the protection of the World Heritage property

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?

There is **excellent presentation and interpretation** of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property

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	Excellent
Transportation facilities	Not needed
Other	Not needed

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

A web site has been established to communicate the values of Heard and McDonald Islands. www.heardisland.aq. The Heard Island and McDonald Islands Marine Reserve Management Plan was published in 2005, and provides a comprehensive evaluation of the Outstanding Universal Values of the place.

4.7. Visitor Management

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

Last year	Static
Two years ago	Static
Three years ago	Static
Four years ago	Static
Five years ago	Static

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

Other

4.7.3 - Visitor management documents

Comment

Heard Island and McDonald Islands Marine Reserve Management Plan (2005), Chapter 5 Visitor Management and Reserve Use.

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?

No fees are collected

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

The current visitor management plan remains relevant as the number of visitors are small and infrequent. The managing authority has established a very productive relationship with tour operators who are of great assistance in promoting the values of the place.

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 and key indicators have been defined but **monitoring the status of indicators could be improved**

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	Not applicable
Researchers	Average
NGOs	Not applicable
Industry	Not applicable
Local indigenous peoples	Not applicable

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

No relevant Committee recommendations to implement

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

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

A more consistent and regular monitoring program is required, scientific expeditions to the island are infrequent.

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
3.9	Other human activities					
3.9.1	Illegal activities					
3.11	Sudden ecological or geological events					
3.11.1	Volcanic eruption					
3.11.4	Avalanche/ landslide					
3.12	Invasive/alien species or hyper-abundant species					
3.12.2	Invasive/alien terrestrial species					
3.13	Management and institutional factors					
3.13.3	Management activities					

5.2. Summary - Management Needs

5.2.2 - Summary - Management Needs

4.4 Financial and Human Resources						
		Actions	Timeframe	Lead agency (and others involved)	More info / comment	
4.4.5	The World Heritage property does not deliver any economic benefits to local communities	Not relevant. Note Heard and McDonald Islands has no indigenous nor permanent population.				
4.4.15	No capacity development plan or programme is in place	Not relevant. Note Heard and McDonald Islands has no indigenous nor permanent population.				
4.6 Education, Information and Awareness Building						
4.6.1	World Heritage emblem not displayed	The managing authority does not intend to instal the World Heritage emblem on the site. Part of the values of the place is the absence of modern human interference and introduction of new structures would diminish the natural values of the place.		Australian Antarctic Division, Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities.		

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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 is **intact**

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

The World Heritage property's Outstanding Universal Value has been **maintained**.

5.3.4 - Current state of the property's other values

Other important cultural and / or natural values are being **partially degraded** but the state of conservation of the World Heritage property has not been significantly impacted

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

5.4.1 - Comments

Some human cultural elements have been destroyed by erosion from the ocean, wind and storms.

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	Very positive
Research and monitoring	Very positive
Management effectiveness	Very positive
Quality of life for local communities and indigenous peoples	Not applicable
Recognition	Not applicable
Education	Positive
Infrastructure development	Not applicable
Funding for the property	Very positive
International cooperation	No impact
Political support for conservation	No impact
Legal / Policy framework	Very positive
Lobbying	No impact
Institutional coordination	Very positive
Security	Very positive
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
Site Manager/Coordinator/World Heritage property staff

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

no

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	Very good
State Party Representative	Very good
Advisory Body	Very poor

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

All required information was accessible

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

The World Heritage Convention
The concept of Outstanding Universal Value
The property's Outstanding Universal Value
The concept of Integrity and / or Authenticity
The property's Integrity and / or Authenticity
Managing the property to maintain the Outstanding Universal Value
Monitoring and reporting
Management effectiveness

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

UNESCO	Not Applicable
State Party	Not Applicable
Site Managers	Not Applicable
Advisory Bodies	Not Applicable

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: A Retrospective Statement of Outstanding Universal Value was submitted to the World Heritage Centre on 1 February 2011, awaiting World Heritage Committee approval in June 2012.

• Geographic Information Table

Reason for update: Total area is incorrect. Agreed area as per nomination is 658,903 ha, and includes both terrestrial and marine areas. No boundary modification is required.

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