

2023-2024 New & Updates Documents

New	Updated Doc Title	Updated Doc Change
Acoustic Awareness Zone - The Gullet, Adelaide Island	GSGSSI Bird Strike Notes	
IAATO Overarching Principles for Wildlife Watching	GSGSSI Information for Yachts	
ASPA ZZZ Draft Management plan for Danger Islands Archipelago (North-eastern Antarctic Peninsula)	GSGSSI Permit Holder Briefing	
ASPA 1XX Draft- Farrier Col, Horseshoe Island, Marguerite Bay	GSGSSI Permit Holder Welcome Letter	
Helsinki Declaration on Climate Change and the Antarctic	GSGSSI Rodent Monitoring Station Protocol	
2023-24 Helpful Hints for taking the Online Assessment	GSGSSI Visiting South Georgia	
IAATO Wildlife Distances Chart	IAATO Observer Scheme Responsibilities Guidelines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Operators who do not participate for two consecutive season will be in non-compliance. •Operator has the right to refuse an observer if evidence of conflict of interest unless observer is an IAATO Secretariat member •Training session for observers prior to observation •Operators must provide all permits, advance notification, environmental assessment documents from competent authority in advance of trip
Antarctic Ambassador Definition Poster	IAATO Operational Procedures for Viewing Birds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Changes to general code of conduct for viewing birds •Changes to recommended approach distances •Added section on Birds on floating ice
Can I Be An Ambassador Poster	IAATO Operational Procedures Upon the Discovery of a High or Unusual Mortality Event	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Defined high or unusual mortality/morbidity event for the purpose of the document •Added a note on whale strikes and other wildlife incidents
Marine Mammal Science - The most southerly occurrence of humpback whales in the western Weddell Sea 2023	IAATO Operational Procedures for Watching Whales	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •In presence of whales, all vessels slow to 10kn. •Do not assume whales will automatically respond to vessel's presence •Monitor animal behaviour throughout encounter for signs of disturbance. •Multiple vessels are more likely to disturb marine mammals
Seal Sighting Citizen Science Project	IAATO Operational Procedures for Viewing Seals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Updates to general code of conduct when viewing seals on land/ice •minimum distance to view seals on land or ice - 5m/15ft •No flash photography •No selfie sticks to get closer
GSGSSI Visitor Site Monitoring Instructions	IAATO Operational Procedures for Visiting Emperor Penguin Colonies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •New guide:visitor ratio when visiting Emperor Penguin colony, minimum 1:15. Enhanced biosecurity procedures to reduce risk of introducing HPAI •Updates to potential impact •Updates to general code of conduct
GSGSSI Site Checklist	IAATO Operational Procedures for General Wildlife Watching	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Document updated and split into IAATO Operational Procedures for Wildlife Watching and IAATO Overarching Principles for Wildlife Watching •Always maintain appropriate distances from wildlife to avoid signs of disturbance. •Keep at least 5m/15ft distance of wildlife on land/ice unless greater distance is required.
GSGSSI Visitor Site Inventory- St. Andrews Bay	IAATO Geofenced Whale Areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Extension of geofenced area in Gerlache Strait from Jan 1 to Nov 1 •Two new geofenced areas, South Shetland Islands and Elephant Island
ASPA 165 Edmonson Point, Wood Bay, Victoria Land, Ross Sea	ASPA 165 Edmonson Point, Wood Bay, Victoria Land, Ross Sea	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Paragraph 6 has been updated to take into account the results of recent investigations in the area. This includes an updated population estimates and reproductive success data for Adélie penguins (years 2017 to 2022); a new description of the variability of soils composition and of microfauna across soil environments. •Paragraph 8 has been revised to include addition of recent publications.
ASPA 122 Arrival Heights, Hut Point Peninsula, Ross Island	ASPA 122 Arrival Heights, Hut Point Peninsula, Ross Island	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Map 1 incorrectly labelled an area of the McMurdo Ice Shelf as the Ross Ice Shelf and this has been corrected. •Section 6(v) Special Zones within the Area. Paragraph (4) listed under Geomagnetic Observatory Restricted Zone: boundary extent and conditions for access and installations has been replaced by wording to facilitate safe access to the Geomagnetic Observatory during the winter months
ASPA 108 Green Island, Berthelot Islands, Antarctic Peninsula	ASPA 108 Green Island, Berthelot Islands, Antarctic Peninsula	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new label has been added to Map 2 showing the location of ASPA No. 176. • Description of the Area has been updated including information on bird population counts and the vegetation within the Area. • New text under section 7(ii) Access to and movement within or over the Area
ASPA 117 Avian Island, Marguerite Bay, Antarctic Peninsula	ASPA 117 Avian Island, Marguerite Bay, Antarctic Peninsula	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Map 1 has been redrawn and updated to show ASPA 177 and the recently constructed Turkish Scientific Research Camp. • The Description of the Area has been updated. • Section 6(ii) Location of structures within and adjacent to the Area has been updated to describe the current status of the two refuges within the ASPA. • New text added to Section 7(ii) Access to and movement within or over the Area
ASPA 147 Ablation Valley and Ganymede Heights, Alexander Island	ASPA 147 Ablation Valley and Ganymede Heights, Alexander Island	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Map 2 has been amended with new labels showing the location of ASPA No. 177 and the newly constructed Turkish Scientific Research Camp. • New text under section 7(ii) Access to and movement within or over the Area
ASPA 170 Marion Nunataks, Charcot Island, Antarctic Peninsula	ASPA 170 Marion Nunataks, Charcot Island, Antarctic Peninsula	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The text has been updated to record the discovery of a new species of tardigrade, WP 8 5 Hebesuncus mollispinus, identified from samples taken from the Area. • New text under section 7(ii) Access to and movement within or over the Area
ASPA 137 Northwest White Island, McMurdo Sound	ASPA 137 Northwest White Island, McMurdo Sound	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Map 1 has been replaced by a new version prepared in color to improve the clarity of site features and ASPA boundaries • New information on Weddell seal pup production has been added to Section 6(i), and observations on exchange of individual seals between the site and Erebus Bay, McMurdo Sound. A new publication on seal genetic diversity has been cited. • A new provision on use of Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems has been added (Section 7(ii) Access) • Updates are made to reference the latest ATCM resolutions on Non-native species and the Environmental Code of Conduct in Section 7(vi). • The first bullet Section 7 (viii) has been expanded to be more specific about procedures for sampling
ASPA 123 Barwick and Balham Valleys, Southern Victoria Land	ASPA 123 Barwick and Balham Valleys, Southern Victoria Land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The map has been replaced by a new version prepared in color to improve the clarity of site features and ASPA boundary. • A new objective to "preserve the almost pristine ecosystem as a biological reference area" has been added to Section 2. • Section 6 Description of the Area notes soil samples were collected in 2019 for a new soil map of the McMurdo Dry Valleys in preparation • A new provision on helicopter access has been added to Section 7(ii), specifying that "Helicopter landings should avoid frozen lakes and stream beds. By preference, and where safe and practical, landings should be made on snow surfaces to minimize dust and soil disturbance." • The latest ATCM Resolution on Non-native species is referenced in Section 7(vi) • Section 7(viii) has been revised to be more specific about sampling procedures.

<p>ASPA 172 Lower Taylor Glacier and Blood Falls, McMurdo Dry Valleys, Victoria Land</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •The maps have been replaced by new versions prepared in color to improve the clarity of site features and ASPA boundaries. •Section 6(i) Boundaries and coordinates has been clarified to specify that within the Sub-aerial component of the Area the vertical boundary includes the entire glacier depth from the surface to the glacier bed. The other vertical and all lateral boundaries of the Area remain unchanged •The scientific value of Blood Falls as one of the few locations where Antarctic groundwater can be collected at the surface has been added to Section 1. •Section 6 Description of the Area has been updated to include recent scientific results and the reference list was updated. • A minor amendment on following guidelines for use of Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems has been added (Section 7(ii) Access). •In Section 7(iii) it was clarified that activities with educational aims do not include tourism. • The latest ATCM Resolution on Non-native species and the CEP Non-native Species Manual (Z109) is referenced in Section 7(vi) • Section 7(viii) has been revised to be more specific about sampling procedures.
<p>ASPA 138 Linnaeus Terrace, Asgard Range, Victoria Land</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •The maps have been replaced by new versions prepared in color to improve the clarity of site features and ASPA boundaries. •Dr Laura Selbmann (University of Tuscia, Viterbo, Italy) contributed new information that the first endolithic fungal endemic species <i>Cryomyces antarcticus</i> and <i>Friedmanniomyces endolithicus</i> were described at Linnaeus Terrace. This has been added to Section 1 Values and Section 6 Description of the Area. Dr Selbmann also noted recent WP 26 4 research showing a strong genetic divergence and diversity of microbial species in the Area, which remain largely undescribed. References were added in support of these observations. •A new provision on use of Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems has been added (Section 7(ii) Access). •Updates are made to reference the latest ATCM Resolutions on Non-native species and the Environmental Code of Conduct in Section 7(vi). •The first bullet Section 7(viii) has been expanded to be more specific about procedures for sampling.
<p>ASPA 156 Lewis Bay, Mount Erebus, Ross Island</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Section 1: Minor update "to within 200m of the coastline" •Section 5: Descriptions of new maps added. •Section 6(i): Very minor editorial updates. •Section 6(iii): Sentence adding the name and elevation of HSM 73, very minor editorial update. •Section 6(iv): Correction of ASPA 130 to ASPA 175 •Section 7(ii): Additional sentence prohibiting overflight and landings by Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS). •Section 7(iv): Addition of "or scientific equipment installed" and removal of "It is prohibited to modify or remove any structure that was present with the Area at the time of special protection designation" It is deemed the plane and associated debris are considered 'materials' and covered under 7(viii). As there are no structures in the ASPA and therefore no structures to modify or remove, the second sentence has been removed to clarify and avoid confusion. •Section 7(v): Minor edit to the coordinates to match those of the 1981 Royal Commission Report and additional sentence stating the coordinates are approximate as of 1981. The coordinates stated are of the impact site centre, but the debris has moved downslope and these coordinates therefore approximate. •Section 7(viii): Minor wording updates. Addition of sentence "The wreckage of TE-901 and associated debris are considered 'materials' within this management plan" •Map A updated to Map 1 •Addition of Map 2.
<p>ASPA 168 Mount Harding, Grove Mountains, East Antarctica</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Twelve surveying rods for current velocity were erected in the area. Description is added in paragraph 6(ii)
<p>ASPA 149 Cape Shirreff and San Telmo Island, Livingston Island, South Shetland Islands</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Map 3 has been replaced by a new version showing the change in designated route from Módulo Beach to the field hut located on the northern Cape Shirreff peninsula. •Section 7(ii) Access has been amended to allow vehicle use on a designated route between the main Cape Shirreff Camp and a field hut located on the northern Cape Shirreff peninsula.
<p>ASPA 145 Port Foster, Deception Island, South Shetland Islands</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Description of values that require protection •Added information to describe the GEOLOGICAL CHARACTERISTICS AND VOLCANIC (paras. 1 to 3). • 6(i) Access to the Zone, was modified and corrected, and now it has four paragraphs. • 6(ii) Location of structures within the Area and in adjacent areas, the wording of paragraph 2 was corrected. • 6(iv) Location of protected areas in which neighborhoods, paragraph 1 was incorporated and the paragraph 2. • 6(V) Special Areas inside the Zone, the text was modified. • 7(i) General conditions of permits. They corrected points 1 and 5. • 7(ii) Access to and movement within the Area or about it, information was modified and added, and now has 5 paragraphs. • 7(iii) Activities that can be carried out within the Zone, two points were added (4 and 5). • 7(iv) Installation, modification or dismantling of structures, two points (4 and 5) were added. • 7(v) Location of the camps, was modified and corrected. • 7(vi) Restrictions relating to materials and organisms that may be introduced into the Area, incorporated text in paragraphs 2 and 3. • 7(vii) Collection of native flora and fauna or damage that these may suffer, a paragraph was incorporated (para. 3). • 7(viii) The collection or removal of materials that are not have been brought into the Area by the permit holder, paragraph 3 was modified and paragraph 4 was incorporated. • 7(x) Actions that may be necessary to continue fulfilling the objectives of the Management Plan, amended paragraph 2 and added paragraph 3. • 7(xi) Reporting requirements, the text will be completely modified and added new paragraphs (4 and 5).
<p>ASPA 132 Potter Peninsula</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. • New text has been added pursuant to section iii of Article 7, Access to and movement within or over the Area
<p>ASMA 1 Admiralty Bay, King George Island</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General review of the contents of the current Management Plan and their comparison with applicable Antarctic Treaty regulations and guidelines • Information updated on the current status of values to be protected, biological communities, scientific research and monitoring being conducted, climate, tourism, and commercial harvesting within the ASMA No. 1. • Contacts were made with IAATO for updated information on tourism on Admiralty Bay • Code of Conduct for Visitors (appendix A) and Scientific and Environmental Guidelines (Appendix B) revised, to make sure this is up to date, and to include reference to relevant Treaty documents • New maps of ASMA No. 1 boundaries and Comandante Ferraz Antarctic Station visitors zone included.
<p>Seabird Survey Citizen Science Project</p>	<p>General text updates</p>
<p>FjordPhyto Citizen Science Project</p>	<p>General text updates</p>
<p>GLOBE Clouds citizen Science Project</p>	<p>General text updates</p>
<p>PenguinWatch Citizen Science Project</p>	<p>General text updates</p>
<p>Secchi Disk Citizen Science Project</p>	<p>General text updates</p>
<p>UKAHT Port Lockroy Information Sheet 2023-24</p>	