



Management Plan

For Antarctic Specially Protected Area No. 151 LIONS RUMP, KING GEORGE ISLAND, SOUTH SHETLAND ISLANDS

Introduction

Lions Rump (62°08'S; 58°07'W) is located on the southwestern coast of King George Island, South Shetland Islands, covering an area of approximately 1.61 km².

The Area takes its name from the distinctive rocky hill lying between the southern extremity of King George Bay and Lions Cove.

The Area was originally designated as Site of Special Scientific Interest No 34 through Recommendation XVI-2 (1991, SSSI No 34) after a proposal by Poland on the grounds that it contains diverse biota and geological features and is a representative example of the terrestrial, limnological, and littoral habitats of the maritime Antarctic. The Area was designated primarily to protect its ecological value. It is also valuable as a reference site with diverse avian and mammalian Antarctic fauna, against which disturbance at sites situated near locations of human activity can be measured.

A revised Management Plan was adopted in Measure 1 (2000). The site was redesignated ASPA No 151 in Decision 1 (2002). Further revised Management Plans were adopted in Measure 11 (2013) and Measure 5 (2019).

Based on the Environmental Domains Analysis for Antarctica (Resolution 3 (2008)), ASPA No 151 lies within Environment A (Antarctic Peninsula northern geologic), which is a small, terrestrial environment around the northern Antarctic Peninsula consisting entirely of ice-free land cover and sedimentary geology (Morgan *et al.* 2007). Other protected areas containing Domain A include ASPA No 111, ASPA No 128 and ASMA No 1 (Morgan *et al.* 2007).

According to the Antarctic Conservation Biogeographic Regions classification (Resolution 6 (2012), updated in Resolution 3 (2017)), the Area lies within the Antarctic Conservation Biogeographic Region ACBR3 in the north-western Antarctic Peninsula.

There are five other ASPAs on King George Island and seven more on other islands of the South Shetland Archipelago, but only one of them (ASPA No 128 Western Shore of Admiralty Bay) represents both the same Environmental Domain A and the same primary reason for designation (area with important or unusual assemblages of species, including major breeding colonies of native birds or mammals) (Morgan *et al.* 2007) as ASPA No 151. In contrast to ASPA No 128, Lions Rump is located approximately 30 km from the nearest station and has been subjected to minimal disturbance from human activity. Therefore, ASPA No 151 complements ASPA No 128 by protecting against human impacts.

The Area is considered to be sufficiently large to provide adequate protection to the values described below. The biological, geological and scientific values of Lions Rump are vulnerable to human disturbance (e.g., trampling, oversampling, disturbance of wildlife). Therefore, it is important that human activities in the Area are managed to minimize the risk of impacts.

The earliest information about penguin populations at Lions Rump was given by Stephens in 1958 (Croxall and Kirkwood 1979). Later studies were conducted by Jabłoński (1984), Trivelpiece *et al.* (1987), Ciaputa and Sierakowski (1999) and Korczak-Abshire *et al.* (2013). Between 2007 and 2021, a monitoring program for birds and pinnipeds was carried out in the Area according to CCAMLR standard methods, and since 2014, Lions Rump has been one of the CEMP (CCAMLR Ecosystem Monitoring Program) camera network sites. In 2014/2015 and 2016/2017, aerial surveys by the RPAS were conducted in the Area (Zmarz *et al.* 2015), and since 2019, RPAS surveys have been conducted as part of regular monitoring to perform penguin population censuses and estimate the size of the breeding population of southern elephant seals in the area.

In 1989/90, 2004, 2007 and 2008, botanical studies were conducted in the Area, and vegetation maps of the Area were generated, revealing changes in lichen spatial distribution caused by climatic changes (Olech 1993, 1994, pers. comm., Olech and Slaby 2016). An attempt to estimate the ages of lichen colonization on the oldest moraines of the White Eagle Glacier was made (Angiel and Dąbski 2012).

Ornithogenic soils in the penguin rookery area at Lions Rump were described by Tatur (1989) and then included in regional pedological synthesis (Tatur 2002). The surface loamy weathering cover of the Area has not yet been described in different soil categories. In 1988, when investigations preceding the establishment of ASPA No 151 were conducted, the southern part of the Area was covered by glaciers. Due to the retreat of the White Eagle Glacier as a result of regional climate change, a new ice-free, postglacial landscape has appeared (Angiel and Dąbski 2012).



Paleogene and Neogene rocks from the Area and its close surroundings provide important data for world glacial history. The sequence consists of sedimentary and volcanic rocks from preglacial Eocene terrestrial and freshwater sediments to the onlapping sequence of early Oligocene diamictite and Miocene pillow lavas. Eocene sedimentary, pyroclastic and andesite rocks covering a main part of the Area belong to the "Lions Cove Formation" (Birkenmajer 1980, 1981, 1994; 2001; Birkenmajer *et al.* 1991a, b). The "Lions Cove Formation" was excluded from the "Lions Rump Group" of Barton (1961, 1965). The Eocene age for the "Lions Cove Formation" was proposed by Smellie *et al.* (1984) and confirmed by K–Ar determinations (Pańczyk and Nawrocki 2011, Tatur *et al.* 2009, Krajewski *et al.* 2009, Krajewski *et al.* 2010, Tatur *et al.* 2010., Krajewski *et al.* 2011). Oligocene tillites and glaciomarine sediments of the "Polonez Cove Formation" (see Birkenmajer 2001) border the Area forming steep rocky walls from the west, south and east sides. The central part of the area is covered by the youngest Miocene andesite lavas and pillow lavas that form hummocks along cliffs (K–Ar dating from the Ace Group, pers. comm.).

1. Description of Values to be Protected

Lions Rump was first designated a protected area as a representative of the terrestrial, limnological and littoral ecosystems of King George Island, possessing diverse biota and rock formations (volcanic and sedimentary rocks important for world geological history). In the Antarctic Protected Areas Database, it is characterized as an area with important or unusual assemblages of species, including major breeding colonies of native birds or mammals.

The original goals for designating the Area are still relevant.

The breeding avifauna of the Area are diverse and numerous, including three pygoscelid penguin species (Adélie penguin (*Pygoscelis adeliae*), gentoo penguin (*Pygoscelis papua*) and chinstrap penguin (*Pygoscelis antarcticus*), as well as eight other bird species, such as cape petrel (*Daption capense*), Wilson's storm petrel (*Oceanites oceanicus*), black-bellied storm petrel (*Fregetta tropica*), snowy sheathbill (*Chionis albus*), south polar skua (*Catharacta maccormicki*), brown skua (*Catharacta antarctica lonnbergi*), kelp gull (*Larus dominicanus*), and Antarctic tern (*Sterna vittata*).

Furthermore, southern elephant seals (*Mirounga leonina*), Weddell seals (*Leptonychotes weddellii*), leopard seals (*Hydrurga leptonyx*), crabeater seals (*Lobodon carcinophagus*), and fur seals (*Arctocephalus gazella*) rest and/or breed on the beaches.

ASP No 151 includes unique preglacial Eocene and partially glacial Oligocene sequences. The continental glacial sequence of the "Polonez Formation" (tillites and glacial diamicts bearing erratic clasts) provides the oldest known hard evidence of the coming Cenozoic glaciation (28–32 SIS dating). Outcrops providing hard data of this event should be protected; collecting petrified wood, rare leaves, layers of coal representing lustrous (vitrinite) brown-coal multiphase and volcanic bombs from tuff deposits in the Area should be limited to the necessary minimum. Eocene flora (Mozer 2013) are identical to flora cropping from the other side of White Eagle Glacier (Zastawniak 1981, 1990) and are consistent with regional floristic patterns (Pool *et al.* 2001).

Lions Rump contains rich lichen flora and numerous stands of two native vascular plants, namely, *Colobanthus quitensis* and *Deschampsia antarctica*. The lichen biota of the Area consist of 140 taxa, making it one of the most diverse sites in the Antarctic (Olech 2001; Olech and Słaby 2016).

The original values of the Area regarding the marine bottom fauna cannot be confirmed as one of the primary reasons for special protection of the Area because there is a lack of new data available describing these communities. However, future research may uncover new data. Therefore, the marine boundary of the Area has not been redefined.

The Area has not been subjected to frequent visits, scientific research or sampling. The human presence in the Area is currently limited to a few people carrying out monitoring research during several one-day visits between late October and March and short visits by other scientists. Therefore, the Area may be regarded as a reference site for future comparative studies.

2. Aims and Objectives

Management of the Area aims to:

- avoid degradation of, or substantial risk to, the values of the Area by preventing unnecessary human disturbance to the Area;
- allow scientific research in the Area, provided it is for compelling reasons that cannot be served elsewhere and provided that it will not jeopardize the natural ecological system in the Area. Invasive practices used during biological research are excluded in this area;
- allow visits for management purposes in support of the aims of the management plan;
- prevent or minimize the introduction and dispersal of nonnative species (plants, animals and microbes);
- preserve the Area as a reference site for future comparative studies.



3. Management Activities

The following management activities should be undertaken to protect the values of the Area:

- Visits should be made as necessary to assess whether the ASPA continues to serve the purposes for which it was designated and to ensure that management and maintenance measures are adequate.
- The Management Plan shall be reviewed at least every five years and updated as needed.
- A copy of this Management Plan shall be made available at Arctowski Station (Poland: 62°09'34"S, 58°28'15"W), Comandante Ferraz Station (Brazil: 62°05'07"S, 58°23'32"W), Machu Picchu Station (Perú: 62°05'30"S, 58°28'30"W), Copacabana Field Station (USA: 62°10'45" S, 58°26'49" W), Hennequin Point Refuge (Ecuador: 62°07'16"S, 58°23'42"W) and in the refuge proximate to the area (62°07'54"S, 58°09'20"W).
- The staff authorized to access the Area shall be specifically instructed on the conditions of this Management Plan.
- Markers, signs and other structures erected within the Area for scientific or management purposes should be secured and maintained in good condition and removed when no longer needed.
- Approach distances to fauna must be respected, except when scientific projects may require otherwise and this is specified in the relevant permits.
- All scientific and management activities within the Area should be subject to an Environmental Impact Assessment (Annex I of the Protocol on Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty).
- Where appropriate, National Antarctic Programmes are encouraged to coordinate activities to prevent excessive sampling of biological and geological material within the Area, to prevent or minimize the danger of introduction and dispersal of nonnative species and to minimize environmental impacts, including cumulative impacts.

4. Period of Designation

The Area is designated for an indefinite period.

5. Maps

- **Map 1.** The location of Lions Rump in relation to King George Island.
- **Map 2.** Lions Rump in greater detail.
- **Map 3.** Vegetation map of Lions Rump.
- **Map 4.** Geological map of Lions Rump.

6. Description of the Area

6 (i) Geographical coordinates, boundary markers and natural features

The Area is located on the southern coast of King George Bay, King George Island, on the South Shetlands Islands (Maps 1, 2). It is described as all land and sea falling within the area bounded by the following coordinates:

62°07'39.18"S, 58°09'1.79"W;

62°07'51.92"S, 58°06'59.15"W;

62°08'07.24"S, 58°09'16.94"W;

62°08'18.24"S, 58°07'35.22"W;

62°08'23.12"S, 58°07'23.07"W.

The Area includes littoral and sublittoral zones extending from the eastern end of Lajkonik Rock to the most northerly point of Twin Pinnacles. From this point, the boundary extends to the easternmost end of the columnar plug of the Lions Head to the east of the White Eagle Glacier. On land, the Area includes the coast with raised beaches, freshwater pools and streams on the south side of King George Bay, around Lions Cove, and the moraines and slopes, which lead to the foreland of White Eagle Glacier, which then moves westward to a small moraine that protrudes through the ice cap southeast of the Sukiennice Hills.



The ice-free area of ASPA No 151 exhibits a range of geomorphological features, including beaches of various widths and lengths, moraines, hills and inland rocks (Map 4). The highest point rises to the altitude of c. 190 m. Geologically, Lions Rump area is composed mainly of tuff, fuffite, lahar-bearing wood and andesite basalt lava layers interbedded and deposited inside a tectonic paleovalley. In the upper part of this sequence, andesite lava flow (42-45 Ma K-Ar dating) preceded by lahars occurred. These terrestrial pyroclastics were exposed to alluvial erosion, and valleys were ultimately filled with massive conglomerate (Conglomerate Bluff). All the complexes of Eocene "Lions Cove Formation" rocks were cut by younger andesite dykes (Lions Rump). The "Lions Cove Formation" is topped by glaciomarine clastic sediments of the "Oligocene Polonez Cove Formation" (Krakowiak and Low Head Members). Oligocene rocks form steep walls surrounding the Area. The Area is largely covered by glacial moraines and slope loamy deposits. The front of the White Eagle Glacier is marked by large, dome-shaped moraine ridges belonging to several Holocene stages of glacial advance and retreat. Eocene sediments were affected by complex alterations related to postmagmatic changes, weathering processes and low-grade metamorphism. Chloritization, palagonization and zeolitization are observed in all the sediments. The terrestrial Eocene and glaciomarine Oligocene rocks are covered by Miocene andesite lava flows and pillow lava flows (c. 20 Ma, ACE group pers. com.). This volcanic rock occupies the central part of the ASPA No 151 territory, and most of it forms the Sukiennice Hills.

Large numbers of penguins breed throughout the Area. In 2018/19, there were 3,473 occupied nests of Adèlie penguins (*Pygoscelis adeliae*), 3,789 occupied nests of gentoo penguins (*Pygoscelis papua*), and 42 occupied nests of chinstrap penguins (*Pygoscelis antarcticus*) (Polish Antarctic Station Report 2018/19). In the 2023/24 season, 2716 Adèlie penguin nests, 3769 gentoo penguin nests and 39 chinstrap penguin nests were recorded (Polish Ecological Monitoring program). Since 1995/96, a decrease in the Adèlie penguin breeding population and an increase in the Gentoo penguin breeding population have been observed. The chinstrap population is not large enough to detect any statistically significant changes (Angiel and Korczak 2008; Angiel and Korczak-Abshire 2011; Zmarz *et al.* 2015).

There are 8 other bird species breeding in the Area (cape petrel (*Daption capense*), Wilson's storm petrel (*Oceanites oceanicus*), black-bellied storm petrel (*Fregetta tropica*), snowy sheathbill (*Chionis albus*), south polar skua (*Catharacta maccormicki*), brown skua (*Catharacta antarctica lonnbergi*), kelp gull (*Larus dominicanus*), and Antarctic tern (*Sterna vittata*)). In 2018/19, the most numerous were kelp gulls (17 nests), cape petrels (8 nests) and Antarctic terns (12 nests) (Polish Antarctic Station Report).

Elephant seals (*Mirounga leonina*), Weddell seals (*Leptonychotes weddellii*), leopard seals (*Hydrurga leptonyx*), crabeater seals (*Lobodon carcinophagus*), and fur seals (*Arctocephalus gazella*) rest and/or breed on the beaches. In October 2022, two harems and 97 pups of elephant seals were observed in the Area. In addition, the 1665 individuals of fur seals on March 13, 2021 were observed in the Area (Polish Antarctic Station Report).

Approximately 13 taxa of macroalgae were found in the littoral zone of the Area. The most common of these algae were green algae (*Monostroma hariotti*), red algae (*Georgiella confluens*, *Iridaea cordata* and *Leptosarca simplex*), and brown algae (*Adenocystis utricularis* and *Ascoseira mirabilis*). There are rich and abundant bottom fauna in the marine part of the Area, with bivalves being the dominant group. Both Amphipoda and Polychaeta also contributed significantly to benthic faunal abundance. The species composition and proportion of endemics indicate that King George Bay is transitional between the Antarctic and Subantarctic (unpublished data). The marine part of the Area is shallow, with many skerries and rocks, and is not accessible to ships.

The lichen (lichenized fungi) biota of the Area consisted of 140 taxa (Map 3). Moreover, 11 lichenicolous fungal species were recorded. The most diverse genera were Caloplaca (19 species), Buellia (9 species) and Lecanora (8 species). The highest species richness was found in places with diversified habitats, e.g., with rocks, near penguin colonies or in places where birds perch. The lowest species richness was found in recently deglaciated terrain (young moraines) or in snowbeds. Since 1988/90, changes in lichen spatial distribution caused by glacial retreat and resulting water deficit have been observed. Liverworts have little importance in local plant communities. They occur mostly in moss banks. Fungi are rare or uncommon. Knowledge of freshwater algae in this area is poor.

6 (ii) Access to the Area

Access should be provided by small boats landing outside the Area. The accessible beach is situated outside the western boundary of the Area, in front of the refuge (62°07'54"S, 58°09'20"W).

Access to the Area from the recommended landing site should be on the foot.

Helicopters may land in the Area only in cases of emergency. The suggested landing site is a flat area 50-100 m east of the refuge on both sides of the Area boundary. The changeable distributions of marine mammals, snow patches and stream tributaries should be considered during landing. Landing on vegetation or near wildlife should be avoided to the greatest extent possible. To avoid overflying breeding sites, the approach should preferably be from the north or west.

Overflight operations by fixed-wing aircraft and helicopters should be carried out, as a minimum requirement, in accordance with the "Guidelines for the Operation of Aircraft near Concentrations of Birds" contained in Resolution 2 (2004).

6 (iii) Location of structures within the Area

A signboard is located on the wall of the refuge outside the western border of the Area.

A four-berth wooden refuge (62°07'54"S, 58°09'20"W) constructed by Poland is located on a flat marine gravel terrace approximately 50 m outside the western boundary of the Area.

The nearest scientific research stations are located ca. 30 km west (Arctowski Station – Poland, 62°09'34"S, 058°28'15"W) and northwest (Comandante Ferraz – Brazil, 62°05'07"S, 58°23'32"W) from the Area.



6 (iv) Location of other Protected Areas within close proximity

ASPAs No 125, Fildes Peninsula, King George Island (25 de Mayo), and ASPA No 150, Ardley Island, Maxwell Bay, King George Island (25 de Mayo), lie approximately 50 km west of Lions Rump. ASPA No 171 Narebski Point, Barton Peninsula, King George Island lies approximately 40 km west of Lions Rump. ASPA No 132, Potter Peninsula, King George Island (25 de Mayo), South Shetland Islands, lies approximately 35 km to the west. ASMA No 1, Admiralty Bay, King George Island and ASPA No 128, on the western shore of Admiralty Bay, King George Island, South Shetland Islands, lie approximately 20 km to the west.

7. Permit conditions

7 (i) General permit conditions

Permits may be issued only by appropriate national authorities as designated under Annex V Article 7 of the Protocol on Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty.

Conditions for issuing a permit for the Area are that:

- it is issued only for a compelling scientific purpose which cannot be served elsewhere, or
- it is issued for essential management purposes such as inspection, maintenance or review,
- the actions permitted will not jeopardize the natural ecological system or scientific values of the Area,
- any management activities are in support of the objectives of the Management Plan,
- the actions permitted are in accordance with this Management Plan,
- the permit, or an authorized copy, must be carried within the Area,
- a permit is issued for a stated period only,
- a report is supplied to the authority named in the Permit,
- the appropriate authority should be notified of any activities/measures undertaken that were not included in the Permit.

7 (ii) Access to and movement within or over the Area

Access to, and movement within the Area shall be on foot from the direction of the recommended landing site on the beach near the refuge.

Access shall be limited in order to avoid disturbance to birds, and damage to vegetation and geological features.

Land vehicles are prohibited in the Area. Helicopters may land only in case of emergency (see 6(ii)).

Overflight of bird colonies within the Area by Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS) shall not be permitted unless for scientific or operational purposes, and in accordance with a permit issued by an appropriate national authority. Guidance can be found in *Environmental Guidelines for operation of Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS) in Antarctica* (Resolution 4 (2018)).

No pedestrian routes are designated within the Area, but persons on foot should at all times avoid disturbance to birds and mammals, and damage to vegetation and paleontological (marine fauna in Polonez Cove Formation, wood and rare leaves in lahars) and geological (erratics) evidences.

7 (iii) Activities which are or may be conducted within the Area, including restrictions on time and place

- Compelling scientific research which cannot be conducted outside the Area, and which will not damage or interfere with any aspect of the Area's biological, geological, or aesthetic values.
- Essential management activities, including monitoring.

7 (iv) Installation, modification or removal of structures

No new structures are to be erected in the Area, or scientific equipment installed, except for compelling scientific or management reasons and for a pre-established period, as specified in a Permit. Installation (including site selection), maintenance, modification or removal of structures and equipment shall be undertaken in a manner that minimises disturbance to the Area. All structures or scientific equipment installed in the Area shall be clearly identified by country, name of the principal investigator and year of installation.

All such items should be free of organisms, propagules (e.g. seeds, eggs) and non-sterile soil, and be made of materials that can withstand the environmental conditions and pose minimal risk of contamination of the Area. Removal of specific structures or equipment for which the Permit has expired shall be a condition of the Permit. Permanent structures or installations are prohibited.



7 (v) Location of the field camps

Camping is prohibited in the Area.

A four-berth wooden refuge constructed by Poland is located on a flat marine gravel terrace ca 50 m outside the western boundary of the Area (62°07'54"S, 58°09'20"W). The refuge is used mostly by Polish researchers monitoring birds and pinnipeds in the Area. Additional camping outside the Area is possible on non-vegetated sites near the refuge. Care should be taken to minimize disturbance to wildlife.

7 (vi) Restrictions on materials and organisms which may be brought into the Area

No living animals, plant material or microorganisms shall be deliberately introduced into the Area. To ensure that the floristic and ecological values of the Area are maintained, special precautions shall be taken against accidentally introducing microbes, invertebrates or plants from other Antarctic sites, including stations, or from regions outside Antarctica. Special care must be extended to ensure that non-native grass *Poa annua* that is present in the vicinity of Arctowski Station will not be inadvertently introduced to the Area. All sampling equipment or markers brought into the Area shall be cleaned or sterilized. Introduction of non-sterile soil is prohibited.

To the maximum extent practicable, footwear, outer clothing, backpacks and other equipment used or brought into the Area shall be thoroughly cleaned before entering the Area. *CEP Non-native Species Manual* and *COMNAP/SCAR Checklists for supply chain managers of National Antarctic Programmes for the reduction in risk of transfer of non-native species* shall be used for further guidance. Potential non-native species spotted in the Area should be reported to the appropriate authorities.

In view of the presence of breeding bird colonies within the Area no poultry products, including food products containing uncooked dried eggs, shall be released into the Area or into adjacent sea.

No herbicides or pesticides shall be brought into the Area. Any other chemicals, including radio-nuclides or stable isotopes, which may be introduced for scientific or management purposes specified in the Permit, shall be removed from the Area at or before the conclusion of the activity for which the Permit was granted. Release of radio-nuclides or stable isotopes directly into the environment in a way that renders them unrecoverable should be avoided.

Fuel or other chemicals shall not be stored in the Area unless specifically authorised by Permit condition. They shall be stored and handled in a way that minimises the risk of their accidental spill into the environment, and their quantity shall be kept to the minimum needed for scientific or management purposes specified in the Permit.

Materials introduced into the Area shall be for a stated period only and shall be removed by the end of that stated period.

If release occurs which is likely to compromise the values of the Area, removal is encouraged only where the impact of removal is not likely to be greater than that of leaving the material in situ. The appropriate authority should be notified of anything released and not removed that was not included in the authorised Permit.

7 (vii) Taking or harmful interference with native flora and fauna

Taking or harmful interference with native flora and fauna is prohibited, except by Permit issued in accordance with Annex II to the Protocol on Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty. Where taking of or harmful interference with animals is involved, the *SCAR Code of Conduct for Use of Animals for Scientific Purposes in Antarctica* should be used as a minimum standard.

Information on taking and harmful interference will be duly exchanged through the Antarctic Treaty Information Exchange system.

To prevent human disturbance of the breeding penguin colony, visitors shall not approach within 10 m of the colony during breeding season, unless authorised by Permit for specific scientific or management purposes.

7 (viii) Collection and removal of anything not brought into the Area by the Permit holder

Collection or removal of anything not brought into the Area by the permit holder shall only be in accordance with a Permit and should be limited to the minimum necessary to meet scientific or management needs.

Permits shall not be granted if there is reasonable concern that the sampling proposed would take, remove or damage such quantities of soil, sediment, flora or fauna that their distribution or abundance within the Area would be significantly affected.

Other material of human origin likely to compromise the values of the Area (e.g. plastic debris) which was not brought into the Area by the permit holder or otherwise authorised, may be removed from the Area unless the environmental impact of the removal is likely to be greater than leaving the material in situ; if this is the case the appropriate Authority must be notified and approval obtained.

7 (ix) Disposal of waste

All wastes, including human waste, shall be removed from the Area.



7 (x) Measures that may be necessary to ensure that the aims and objectives of the Management Plan continue to be met

Permits may be granted to enter the Area to carry out scientific research, monitoring and site inspection activities, which may involve the collection of small number of samples for analysis, to erect and maintain signpost, or to carry out protective measures.

Scientific activities shall be performed in accordance with SCAR's *environmental code of conduct for terrestrial scientific field research in Antarctica*.

Any specific sites of long-term monitoring shall be appropriately marked, and the markers or signs maintained.

To avoid interference with long-term research and monitoring activities, consultations and exchange of information with established programs working at Lions Rump are recommended.

7 (xi) Requirements for reports

The principal permit holder for each visit to the Area shall submit a report to the appropriate national authority as soon as practicable, and no later than six months after the visit has been completed.

Such reports should include, as appropriate, the information identified in the Visit Report form contained in Appendix 2 to the Guide to the Preparation of Management Plans for Antarctic Specially Protected Areas (Resolution 2/2011).

If appropriate, the national authority should also forward a copy of the visit report to the Party that proposed the Management Plan, to assist in managing the Area and reviewing the Management Plan.

Parties should, wherever possible, deposit originals or copies of such original visit reports in a publicly accessible archive to maintain a record of usage, for the purpose of any review of the Management Plan and in organising the scientific use of the Area.

The relevant authority should be notified of any activity undertaken, any measure taken or material released and not removed which are not covered by a permit.

8. Supporting Documentation

COMNAP/SCAR Checklists for supply chain managers of National Antarctic Programmes for the reduction in risk of transfer of non-native species – ATCM XXXIV – CEP XIV, Buenos Aires (available at: <https://www.comnap.aq/Shared%20Documents/checklistsbrochure.pdf>)

Environmental Guidelines for operation of Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS) in Antarctica. Resolution 4 (2018) – ATCM XLI – CEP XXI, Buenos Aires (available at: https://www.ats.aq/devAS/info_measures_listitem.aspx?lang=e&id=679)

Guidelines for the Operation of Aircrafts near Concentrations of Birds in Antarctica. Resolution 2 (2004) – ATCM XXVII – CEP VII, Cape Town (available at: http://www.ats.aq/documents/recatt/Att224_e.pdf)

Non-Native Species Manual. Resolution 4 (2016) – ATCM XXXIX – CEP XIX, Santiago (available at: https://www.ats.aq/devAS/info_measures_listitem.aspx?lang=e&id=640)

SCAR Code of Conduct for the Use of Animals for Scientific Purposes (available at: http://www.scar.org/treaty/atcmxxxiv/ATCM34_ip053_e.pdf)

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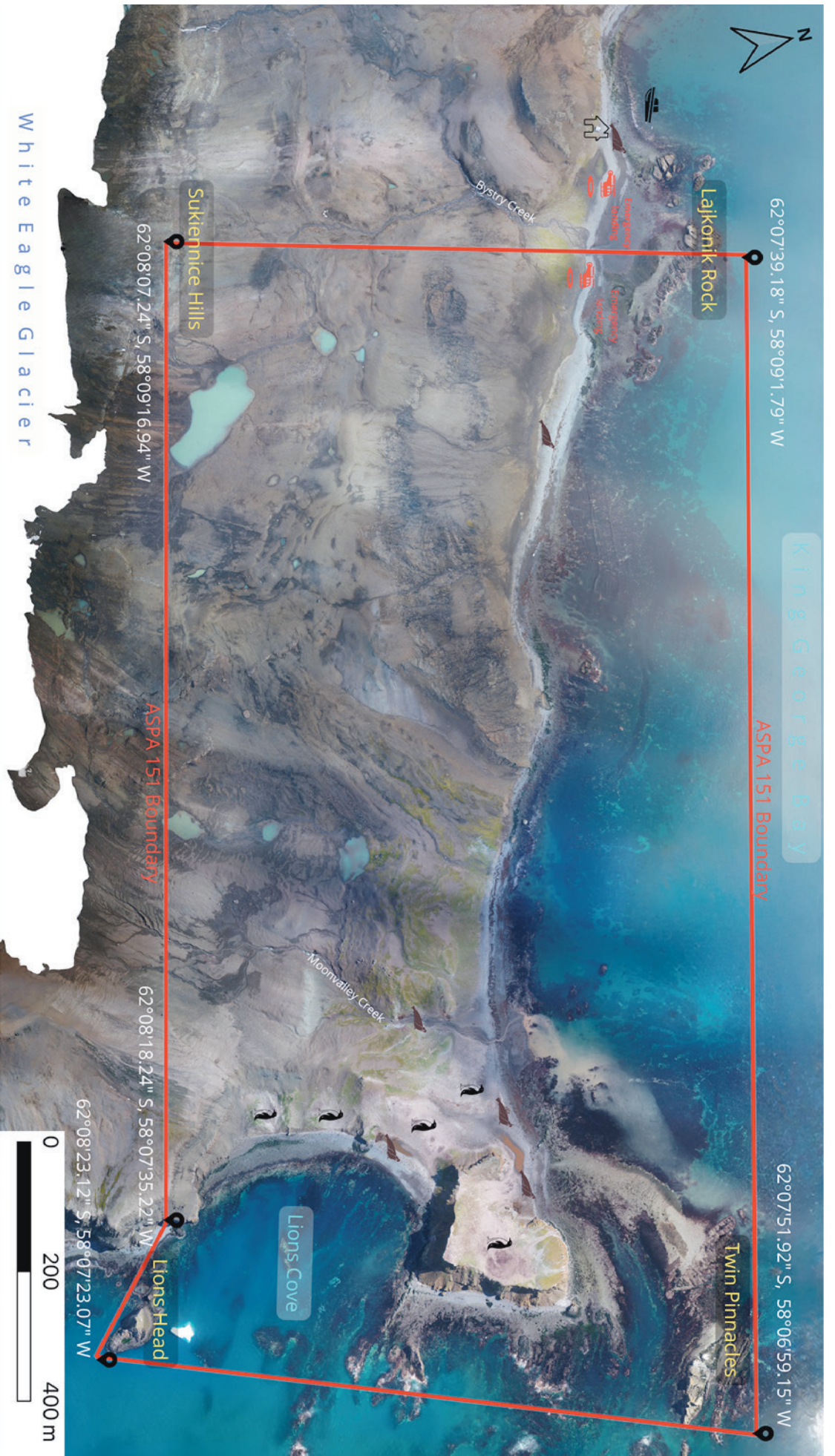


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Explanation of symbols and additional information:

Aerial photos for the ortomosaic were taken on 10 Feb. 2024 (1:02-1:45 p.m. UTC-3).

-  Helicopter landing area - only in the case of safety and rescue operations. The presence of birds and pinnipeds should be ruled out before the landing approach.
-  Landing place for small boats
-  Field refuge
-  Southern elephant seals' breeding site
-  Penguins' breeding site