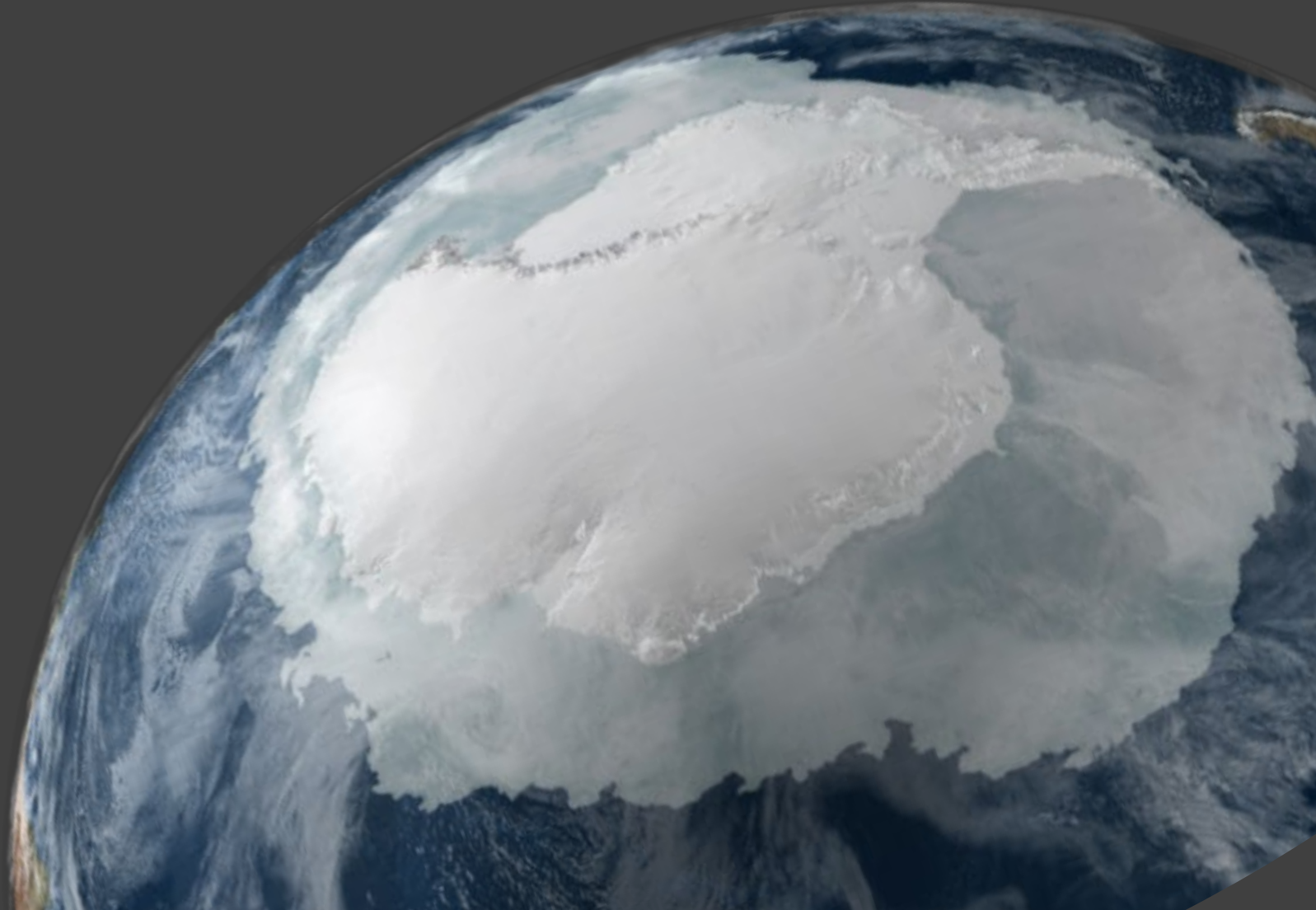


# COMNAP: An Update

Presented on behalf of COMNAP by Dirk Mengedoht  
from COMNAP Member program

Alfred Wegener Institute Helmholtz Center for Polar and Marine Research



COMNAP is an international association of the 32 national Antarctic programs from the following countries:



- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <br>Argentina        | <br>France  | <br>Republic of Belarus |
| <br>Australia        | <br>Germany   | <br>Republic of Korea   |
| <br>Belgium          | <br>India   | <br>Russian Federation  |
| <br>Brazil           | <br>Italy   | <br>South Africa        |
| <br>Bulgaria         | <br>Japan   | <br>Spain               |
| <br>Canada           | <br>Netherlands   | <br>Sweden              |
| <br>Chile            | <br>New Zealand   | <br>Türkiye             |
| <br>China           | <br>Norway   | <br>Ukraine            |
| <br>Czech Republic | <br>Peru  | <br>United Kingdom    |
| <br>Ecuador        | <br>Poland  | <br>United States     |
| <br>Finland        | <br>Council of Managers of National Antarctic Programs (COMNAP) | <br>Uruguay           |



Photo: Pimperiv / BAI



# Facility Operations

**117** facilities,  
includes 68 research stations

**38** Year-round  
(winter-over population) &

**30** Seasonal  
(summer-only population)

**500+** research  
projects supported / annum;  
Long-term (many since 1957/58)

**12,000** people

# Safety

## Search & Rescue Workshop IV (2019) & Workshop V (June 2023)

**COMNAP**  
Co-ordinating Agency  
of National Antarctic Programs

**FINAL REPORT**  
Antarctic Search and Rescue (SAR) Workshop IV  
Improving SAR Coordination and Response in the Antarctic

Co-hosted by the Joint Rescue Coordination Centre New Zealand (JRCCNZ) Maritime New Zealand & Antarctica New Zealand

**Antarctica New Zealand**

**Rescue COORDINATION CENTRE**  
**MARITIME NEW ZEALAND**

14 May (Tuesday) and 15-16 May (Thursday and Friday) 2019  
Wellington and Christchurch, New Zealand

## Aviation Project & Workshop (2022)

**AFIM**  
ANTARCTIC FLIGHT INFORMATION MANUAL

**JEPPESSEN**  
ROTHERA, ANTARCTICA  
ROTHERA STATION RUNWAY

APR Elev 37'  
AFIM ROTHERA 24 OCT 08  
5000 7775 118.1  
118.1 0/8  
HANGAR 507 24.0 W068 07.7

Map labels: Paperie Edge, High Ground up to 1000', Ice Cliffs, Runway Crossing Point Warning, PAPI Lights, 116', 172', 122', 110'

DIMENSION		USABLE LENGTHS		LANDING BEYOND	
Threshold	Guide Slope	TAKE-OFF	WIDTH	Threshold	WIDTH

for info.

S07 34.0 W068 07.7  
THRESHOLD RWY 36  
S07 34.27 W068 07.85  
THRESHOLD RWY 18  
S07 33.83 W068 07.40

CHANGE: Threshold runway 18 coordinates.

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## ATCM XLIV Resolution 3 (2022) Air Safety in Antarctica

## Tsunami & Natural Hazards Awareness Project (on-going)

**WHAT TO DO IN THE EVENT OF  
A TSUNAMI IN ANTARCTICA**

If you are on land, grounded ice or inside a station or other building;

After dropping, covering & holding if you feel an earthquake, follow the instructions of your station leader, and:

- If you hear an official tsunami warning or detect the natural signs of a tsunami, activate the tsunami response plan.
- Take your emergency preparedness kit. Having supplies will make you more comfortable during the evacuation.

# Environmental Protection

## Avian Flu Heightened Risk Consultations with SCAR & IAATO on Avian Flu Advice

### WILDLIFE GUIDANCE AVIAN FLU RISK LEVEL HIGH

Infographic by:  
L. Cugniere

#### WHAT IS IT

##### Migratory birds

##### Transmission:

- faecal-oral route
- water contamination

##### Risks:

- outbreaks
- mass mortality
- breeding failure

##### Risks linked to visitors:

- wildlife ↔ human transmission and avian flu spreading via contaminated gears

##### Common signs of avian flu:

- loss of coordination/balance
- head/body trembling
- mass mortality
- lethargy, drooping wings, dragging legs, unresponsiveness

#### HOW YOU CAN HELP

##### BEFORE TRAVELING

- Working in other wildlife areas? Bring new gear or clean/disinfect your gear using Virkon™ S, F10 or soap followed by 10% bleach

##### BEFORE LANDING


- Site evaluation: look for the common signs using binoculars before landing or, at least, 150m from closest animal aggregation
- Signs of avian flu? Abort visit and immediately report outbreak\*
- Clean and disinfect all gear before each landing

##### DURING VISIT

- Keep at least 5m/16ft away from wildlife, retreat when approached

## Reduce Plastic Pollution Understanding sources of plastics; Take action on micro- plastics

Understanding sources of plastics in the Antarctic Treaty area



National Antarctic programs use macro-plastics in support of science, for operations and logistics in the Antarctic. Often, using plastics make good sense and reduces fuel requirements for shipping since plastics weigh less than alternatives that exist. National Antarctic programs have good macro-plastic waste management and waste return systems in place.

Research into micro-plastic distribution show that micro-plastics have been found in the marine area south of 60S. To reduce plastics in the Antarctic Treaty

## Ambitions Framework Supporting the COMNAP Sustainability Statement

### Protection of the Environment

All national Antarctic programmes are co-ordinated to meet the objectives of the Environmental Protocol



Energy Efficiency



Emissions



# Global Pandemic

BBC Sign in News Sport Reel Worklife Travel Future More

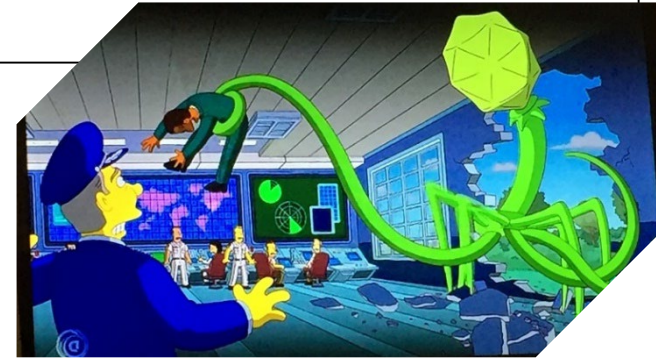
**NEWS**

Science & Environment

**Coronavirus complicates journeys home from Antarctica**

Asia / Australasia

**Pacific islands, Antarctic bases: coronavirus-free living in some of Earth's most isolated places**



Watching the pandemic from a Covid-19-free continent



**Antarctica is the last continent without COVID-19.**

Studying Antarctica is critical to combating climate change, but most scientists can't travel to the continent this upcoming season.

The Washington Post  
*Democracy Dies in Darkness*

World

**One continent remains untouched by the coronavirus: Antarctica**



# Further Information/Publications and Guidance

- Search & Rescue:  
<https://www.comnap.aq/s/SAR-Workshop-IV-2019-Final-Report.pdf>
- Aviation Safety:  
<https://www.comnap.aq/s/COMNAP-Antarctic-Aviation-Workshop-2022-FINAL-REPORT-18March2022-ddnp.pdf>
- Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS):  
<https://www.comnap.aq/s/COMNAP-RPAS-Handbook-15-October-2022.pdf>
- Tsunami Awareness:  
<https://www.comnap.aq/s/Earthquake-Tsunami-Volcanic-Events-Awareness-Project.pdf>
- Avian Flu Heightened Risk:  
<https://doi.org/10.32942/osf.io/8jrbu>
- Plastic Pollution:  
<https://www.comnap.aq/s/COMNAP-Understanding-sources-of-plastics-in-the-Antarctic-Treaty-Area.pdf>
  
- All COMNAP Projects: <https://www.comnap.aq/projects>
- All COMNAP Expert Groups: <https://www.comnap.aq/expert-groups>



Thank you!



COMNAP

Photo: Australian Antarctic Division (AAD)