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REVISION HISTORY

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Chapter 1

108

1.1 108.guide

Texified version of data for Howland Island.

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Howland Island

1.2 108.guide/Howland Island

Howland Island

Header (Howland Island)
Geography (Howland Island)
People (Howland Island)
Government (Howland Island)
Economy (Howland Island)
Communications (Howland Island)
Defense Forces (Howland Island)

1.3 108.guide/Header (Howland Island)

Header (Howland Island)
=====

Affiliation:
 (territory of the US)

1.4 108.guide/Geography (Howland Island)

Geography (Howland Island)
=====

Location:
 in the North Pacific Ocean, 2,575 km southwest of Honolulu, just north of
 the Equator, about halfway between Hawaii and Australia
Map references: Oceania
Area:
 total area:
 1.6 km²
 land area:
 1.6 km²
 comparative area:
 about 2.7 times the size of the Mall in Washington, DC
Land boundaries:
 0 km
Coastline:
 6.4 km
Maritime claims:
 contiguous zone:
 24 nm
 continental shelf:
 200 m or the depth of exploitation
 exclusive economic zone:
 200 nm
 territorial sea:
 12 nm
International disputes:

none
 Climate:
 equatorial; scant rainfall, constant wind, burning sun
 Terrain:
 low-lying, nearly level, sandy, coral island surrounded by a narrow ←
 fringing
 reef; depressed central area
 Natural resources:
 guano (deposits worked until late 1800s)
 Land use:
 arable land:
 0%
 permanent crops:
 0%
 meadows and pastures:
 0%
 forest and woodland:
 5%
 other:
 95%
 Irrigated land:
 0 km2
 Environment:
 almost totally covered with grasses, prostrate vines, and low-growing
 shrubs; small area of trees in the center; lacks fresh water; primarily a
 nesting, roosting, and foraging habitat for seabirds, shorebirds, and ←
 marine
 wildlife; feral cats

1.5 108.guide/People (Howland Island)

People (Howland Island)
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Population:
 uninhabited; note - American civilians evacuated in 1942 after Japanese air
 and naval attacks during World War II; occupied by US military during World
 War II, but abandoned after the war; public entry is by special-use permit
 only and generally restricted to scientists and educators

1.6 108.guide/Government (Howland Island)

Government (Howland Island)
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Names:
 conventional long form:
 none

conventional short form:
Howland Island
Digraph:
HQ
Type:
unincorporated territory of the US administered by the Fish and Wildlife
Service of the US Department of the Interior as part of the National
Wildlife Refuge System
Capital:
none; administered from Washington, DC

1.7 108.guide/Economy (Howland Island)

Economy (Howland Island)
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Overview:
no economic activity

1.8 108.guide/Communications (Howland Island)

Communications (Howland Island)
=====

Ports:
none; offshore anchorage only, one boat landing area along the middle of the
west coast
Airports:
airstrip constructed in 1937 for scheduled refueling stop on the
round-the-world flight of Amelia Earhart and Fred Noonan – they left Lae,
New Guinea, for Howland Island, but were never seen again; the airstrip is
no longer serviceable
Note:
Earhart Light is a day beacon near the middle of the west coast that was
partially destroyed during World War II, but has since been rebuilt in
memory of famed aviatrix Amelia Earhart

1.9 108.guide/Defense Forces (Howland Island)

Defense Forces (Howland Island)
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defense is the responsibility of the US; visited annually by the US Coast

Guard