

Geography

(territory of the US)

Location: Oceania, atoll in the North Pacific Ocean, about one-half of the way from Hawaii to Australia

Map references: Oceania

Area:

total area: 1.4 sq km

land area: 1.4 sq km

comparative area: about 2.3 times the size of The Mall in Washington, DC

Land boundaries: 0 km

Coastline: 4.8 km

Maritime claims:

exclusive economic zone: 200 nm

territorial sea: 12 nm

International disputes: none

Climate: equatorial; scant rainfall, constant wind, burning sun

Terrain: low, nearly level coral island surrounded by a narrow fringing reef

Natural resources: guano (deposits worked until 1891)

Land use:

arable land: 0%

permanent crops: 0%

meadows and pastures: 0%

forest and woodland: 0%

other: 100%

Irrigated land: 0 sq km

Environment:

current issues: no natural fresh water resources

natural hazards: the narrow fringing reef surrounding the island can be a maritime hazard

international agreements: NA

Note: treeless, sparse, and scattered vegetation consisting of grasses, prostrate vines, and low growing shrubs; primarily a nesting, roosting, and foraging habitat for seabirds, shorebirds, and marine wildlife