Sr-Nd-Pb-Hf isotopes reveal the nature and evolution of mantle upwelling at Ross Island, Antarctica

ERIN H. PHILLIPS, KENNETH W.W. SIMS, JANNE BLICHERT-TOFT, PHILIP R. KYLE, GLENN A. GAETANI, PAUL J. WALLACE, DANIEL J. RASMUSSEN





Introduction





Map modified from Handler et al. (2003)

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Erebus Lineage lavas from Sims et al. (2008) and this study



The HIMU signature

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- Large pre-Cenozoic fossil plume metasomatized the mantle lithosphere, imparting a HIMU signature (Hart et al., 1997; Rocholl et al., 1995, Panter et al., 2000)
- Subduction-related (~100-500 Ma) metasomatism of continental lithosphere as the source for regional HIMU signature (Finn et al., 2005)

A Ross Island Mantle Plume?

- Radial symmetry
- High eruptive volume at Erebus (melting of >82,000 km³ of mantle peridotite; Kyle et al., 1992)
- Kaersutite in peripheral centers: a cooler, wetter periphery?
- Seismic data (e.g., Watson et al., 2006; Hanson et al., 2014)







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Incorporation of source material with a different long-term U/Th ratio?





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- Suggestion of a disparate component (pelagic sediment?) in the source of Bird lavas
- Marked decrease in ²⁰⁶Pb/²⁰⁴Pb with distance from Erebus for Terror and Bird lavas

Conclusions

- Evidence exists that suggests the presence of a Ross Island mantle plume
- Ross Island lavas fall on mixing line between DMM and HIMU
- A regional HIMU-like signature is present
- A widespread regional enrichment event does not preclude the presence of young deep mantle plumes

