



**PERIODIC REPORTING EXERCISE
ON THE APPLICATION OF THE WORLD
HERITAGE CONVENTION**

SECTION II

State of Conservation of specific World Heritage properties

State Party: ...JAPAN.....
Property Name: ...Yakushima.....

PERIODIC REPORTING FOR WELL PLANNED HERITAGE PRESERVATION

Background

The twenty-ninth General Conference of UNESCO, held in 1997, decided to activate Article 29 of the World Heritage Convention concerning the submission of periodic reports on the state of implementation of the World Heritage Convention (Section I) and the State of Conservation of World Heritage properties (Section II). The national authorities are invited to report on Section I, while Section II shall be prepared for each property inscribed on the World Heritage list by the person(s) directly in charge of the property's management.

The periodic reports prepared by the States Parties will serve a three-fold purpose:

- ❖ to assess the current state of all World Heritage related issues in a State Party,
- ❖ to help focus the Committee's as well as the State Party's future activities and funds,
- ❖ to strengthen sub-regional and regional co-operation between States Parties.

The Periodic Reporting Questionnaire

In 1998, at its twenty-second session, the World Heritage Committee approved *Explanatory Notes*, designed to be read in conjunction with the *Periodic Reporting Format*, in order to outline the information expected to flow from the periodic reporting exercise. To facilitate the preparation of the report, a *Questionnaire* was developed that the States Parties are encouraged to use. It closely follows the subjects referred to in the *Explanatory Notes*, but in contrast to the latter splits the subjects up into short questions to be answered in a few sentences or paragraphs. A second type of question requires the indication of YES or NO by circling or underlining the appropriate answer. All questions are clearly identified with a little number in the right hand column of the *Questionnaire*. To make the reporting results meaningful every one of these questions has to be answered. If no answer is possible, the reasons should be given. If the available space is not sufficient for the answer, the response should be continued on a separate sheet of paper, clearly indicating the number of the question the text refers to (e.g. 006).

Benefits for the States Parties

The *Questionnaire* was developed in such a way as to allow to extract and compile or compare relevant information from different States Parties or properties, facilitating the process of preparing the regional synthesis report to be presented to the World Heritage Committee. The YES / NO questions make it possible to evaluate the reports quantitatively, but only the details that should be supplied in the related 'open question' make the answers meaningful and can be the basis for concerted actions to preserve a State Party's most valuable heritage for its transmission to future generations.

The information collected in this way will help the States Parties to assess their own strengths and weaknesses concerning the implementation of the World Heritage Convention, putting them in a position to (re)define policies and to request assistance in order to finance projects and / or training. On the other hand it allows the World Heritage Committee to collect information needed to devise *Regional Action Plans*, give well-informed advice to States Parties and to focus funds as well as attention on the region(s), States Parties and / or properties that need the collective support of the international community.

The preparation process of the regional periodic report will furthermore enhance regional co-operation through information meetings as well as through the better availability of regularly up-dated information on activities as well as contact addresses etc. The identification of the State Party's strengths makes it possible to exchange experiences and look for solutions to problems (e.g. of site conservation) within the region.

Conclusion

Periodic Reporting is a participatory exercise, aiming to collect information on World Heritage related issues on a national as well as on the property level. The individual State Party reports will be collated into a regional synthesis report to be presented to the World Heritage Committee. This information will enhance cooperation between the Committee and the States Parties and allow to focus funds and activities more efficiently, allowing the States Parties to protect their most valuable heritage more effectively for transmission to future generations.

**PERIODIC REPORTING ON THE APPLICATION OF THE
WORLD HERITAGE CONVENTION
(FORMAT)**

SECTION II: STATE OF CONSERVATION OF SPECIFIC WORLD HERITAGE PROPERTIES

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

II.1 Introduction

- a. State Party
- b. Name of World Heritage property
- c. Geographical coordinates to the nearest second
- d. Date of inscription on the World Heritage List
- e. Organization(s) or entity(ies) responsible for the preparation of the report
- f. Date of report
- g. Signature on behalf of State Party

II.2. Statement of significance

II.3. Statement of authenticity/integrity

II.4. Management

II.5. Factors affecting the property

II.6. Monitoring

II.7. Conclusions and recommended action

- a. Main conclusions regarding the state of the World Heritage values of the property (see items II.2. and II.3. above)
- b. Main conclusions regarding the management and factors affecting the property (see Items II.4 and II.5. above)
- c. Proposed future action/actions
- d. Responsible implementing agency/agencies
- e. Timeframe for implementation
- f. Needs for international assistance.

II.8. Assessment of the Periodic Reporting exercise for Section II

II.9. Documentation attached

Periodic Reporting Exercise on the Application of the World Heritage Convention
Section II: State of conservation of specific World Heritage properties

II.1. Introduction

a.	Country (and State Party if different): Japan	001
b.	Name of World Heritage property: Yakushima	002
c.	<p>In order to locate the property precisely, please attach a topographic map showing scale, orientation, projection, datum, site name, date and graticule. The map should be an original print and not be trimmed. The site boundaries should be shown on the map. In addition they can be submitted in a detailed description, indicating topographic and other legally defined national, regional, or international boundaries followed by the site boundaries.</p> <p>The State Parties are encouraged to submit the geographic information in digital form so that it can be integrated into a Geographic Information System (GIS).</p> <p>On this questionnaire indicate the geographical co-ordinates to the nearest second (in the case of large sites, towns, areas etc., give at least 3 sets of geographical co-ordinates):</p> <p>Centre point: 130.30.31E 30.18.54N North-west corner: 130.22.43E 30.22.59N South-east corner: 130.38.18E 30.14.48N</p>	003
d.	<p>Give the date of inscription on the World Heritage List and subsequent extension (if applicable):</p> <p>11th December, 1993</p>	004
e.	<p>Organisation(s) or entity(ies) responsible for the preparation of this report.</p> <p>Organisation(s) / entity(ies): 1) Ministry of the Environment 2) Forestry Agency, Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries</p> <p>Person(s) responsible: 1) Mr. Minoru Soeya 2) Mr. Tomohiro Ooishi</p> <p>Address: 1) 1-2-2, Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku 2) 1-2-1, Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku</p> <p>City and post code: 1) Tokyo, 100-8975 2) Tokyo, 100-8952</p> <p>Telephone: 1) +81-3-5521-8272 2) +81-3-3501-3843</p> <p>Fax: 1) +81-3-3591-3228 2) +81-3-3502-2104</p> <p>E-mail: 1) MINORU_SOEYA@env.go.jp 2) tomohiro_ooishi@maff.go.jp</p>	005
f.	<p>Date of preparation of the report:</p> <p>December 2002</p>	006
g.	<p>Signature on behalf of the State Party</p> <p>Signature:</p> <p>Name:</p> <p>Function:</p>	007

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

II.2. Statement of significance

	<p>At the time of inscribing a property on the World Heritage List, the World Heritage Committee indicates its outstanding universal value(s), or World Heritage value(s), by deciding on the criteria for which the property deserved to be included on the World Heritage List. Circle the criteria retained for the inscription:</p> <p>Cultural criteria: i – ii – iii – iv – v – vi Natural criteria: i – <u>ii</u> – <u>iii</u> – iv</p> <p>Were new criteria added by re-nominating and/or extending the property after the original inscription?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">YES / NO</p> <p>If YES, please explain:</p>	<p>008</p> <p>009</p> <p>010</p>
	<p>Please quote observations concerning the property made by the Advisory Body(ies) during the evaluation of the nomination:</p> <p>(please see page 28)</p> <p>Quote the decisions and observations / recommendations, if appropriate, made by the World Heritage Committee at the time of inscription and extension (if applicable):</p> <p>The Committee inscribed the site under criteria (ii) and (iii) noting in particular the sacred values of the ancient forests of Yakusugi and took note of the statement by the Japanese authorities that a coordinating committee for the site had been established. The Committee endorsed the suggestion in the IUCN report concerning follow-up measures.</p> <p>Identify the actions taken as follow-up to these observations and/or decisions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • March 1995: Yakushima Forest Environment Conservation Center was established. • September 1995: Official establishment of “Yakushima World Heritage Area Liaison Committee”. • November 1995: “Yakushima World Heritage Area Management Plan” was formulated and implemented. • April 1996: Yakushima World Heritage Conservation Center was opened. • April 1996: Yakushima Island Environmental and Cultural Village Center and Yakushima Island Environmental and Cultural Learning Center were opened. • October 1997: IUCN mission visited the site as a follow-up. • February 2001: Protection Plan for the National Park was intensified and additional designation of Special Zones. 	<p>011</p> <p>012</p> <p>013</p>

II.2. continued

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

II.2. continued

	<p>Is the State Party actively considering a revision of the property boundaries or the buffer zone?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">YES / NO</p>	019
	<p>If YES, indicate what is being done to that end:</p>	020

II.3. Statement of authenticity / integrity

	<p>Have the World Heritage values identified above been maintained since the property's inscription?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">YES / NO</p>	021
	<p>If NO, please describe the changes and name the causes:</p>	022
	<p>What was the evaluation of the authenticity / integrity of the property at the time of inscription? (Please quote from the ICOMOS / IUCN evaluation):</p> <p>The site has a complex sinuous boundary and clearly some World Heritage values (e.g. Some prime areas of old-growth forest and some scenic features and waterfalls) fall outside but adjacent to the nominated area.</p> <p>On the whole, the legal basis for protection of the site is sufficient. Although the vertical compartmentalization of conservation management provides a diversity of approaches, it is also complex and requires extra effort to ensure coordination among agencies. Also an overall management plan for the nominated site is required.</p>	023

II.3. continued

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

Periodic Reporting Exercise on the Application of the World Heritage Convention
Section II: State of conservation of specific World Heritage properties

<p>Have there been changes in the authenticity / integrity since inscription? YES/ NO</p>	024
<p>If YES, please describe the changes to the authenticity / integrity and name the main causes?</p>	025
<p>Are there (further) changes foreseeable to the authenticity / integrity of the property in the near future?</p>	026
<p style="text-align: right;">YES / NO</p>	
<p>If YES, please explain and indicate how these changes might affect the World Heritage values of the property:</p>	027

II.4. Management

<p>How could the arrangements for the protection and the management of the property best be defined (more than one indication possible)?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Legal (x) Contractual () Traditional ()</p>	028
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II.4. continued

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

Periodic Reporting Exercise on the Application of the World Heritage Convention
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<p>Please describe and assess the implementation and effectiveness of these arrangements for the preservation of the values described under item II.2 at the national, provincial and/or municipal level:</p> <p>The national and prefectural governments communicate and coordinate through the Yakushima World Heritage Area Liaison Committee established in September 1995 and implement the legislations.</p> <p>The measures taken by each administrative body are as follows;</p> <p>National Government: Ministry of the Environment and Forest Agency collaborate in patrol, monitoring of number of visitors and research on monitoring methods. Ministry of the Environment implement the regulations of Nature Conservation Law, Forestry Agency implement the regulations of the Forest Ecosystem Reserve in accordance with Forest Law and Protected Forest System, and the Agency for Cultural Affairs implement the regulations of the Law on the Protection of Cultural Properties. The Area is strictly conserved. The national government also maintains the mountain trails and shelters.</p> <p>Kagoshima Prefecture: It assists the Ministry of the Environment and the Agency for the Cultural Affairs in implementing the legal restrictions. It also maintains mountain trails and shelters, and contributes to the strict protection of the Area.</p> <p>Kamiyaku-cho Town and Yaku-cho Town: They maintain mountain trails, shelters and public lavatories, and contribute to the protection of the Area.</p>	029
<p>In general terms, can this legislative, contractual and/or traditional protection be considered sufficient?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">YES / NO</p>	030
<p>Please explain:</p> <p>The area is protected under several laws and regulations, and the protection is sufficient for the time being.</p>	031
<p>Provide a list and summaries of laws and regulations concerning cultural and natural properties protection and management (including extracts of relevant articles from the Constitution, Criminal Law, Law/Regulations on Land-use, Environment Law and Forestry Law, amongst others). Please also attach any documentation available concerning these points:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">(please see page 28)</p>	032

II.4. continued

Describe the administrative and management arrangements that are in place for the	033
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If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

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<p>property concerned, making special mention of the institutions and organisations that have management authority over the property as well as of the arrangements that are in place for the coordination of their actions:</p> <p>Ministry of the Environment designated the whole area as protected areas (Wilderness Area, Special Protection Zone and Special Zone of National Park) by relevant laws.</p> <p>Forestry Agency designated the whole National Forest which is the major part of the World Heritage Area as Forest Ecosystem Reserve.</p> <p>The Agency for Cultural Affairs designated the Special Natural Monument (i.e. Primeval Yakusugi Forest which is a part of the Area) and Natural Monuments (i.e. Ryukyu Robin, Japanese Black Wood Pigeon, Izu Island Thrush and Ijima's Willow Warbler).</p> <p>These actions are routinely coordinated at the Yakushima World Heritage Area Liaison Committee.</p>	
<p>Please indicate under which level of authority the property is managed:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Property (x) Regional (x) National (x) Other (please describe):</p> <p>Please provide the full name, address and phone/fax/e-mail of the entity(ies) directly responsible for the management (conservation, preservation, visitor management) of the property:</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Ministry of the Environment Forestry Agency (For contact information, please refer to 005)</p>	<p>034</p> <p>035</p>
<p>Is it necessary to revise the administrative and management arrangements for the property?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">YES / NO</p>	<p>036</p>
<p>If YES, explain why this is the case:</p>	<p>037</p>

II.4. continued

<p>Is there a management plan for the property?</p>	<p>YES / NO</p>	<p>038</p>
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If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

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Section II: State of conservation of specific World Heritage properties

	<p>If YES, please summarise, indicating if the plan is being implemented and since when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implemented since November 1995. • There will be unified management of the whole Heritage Area, and the Area will be conserved by the Designation Systems. • The “Yakushima World Heritage Area Liaison Committee” will be established as a forum for coordination and communication among the administrative bodies, i.e. the Environment Agency, the Forestry Agency, the Agency for Cultural Affairs, and Kagoshima Prefecture. This committee will promote mutual cooperation and collaboration, as well as manage the Heritage Area in unified, appropriate and smooth manner. • Since it is essential to enhance understanding and cooperation of the local people, for the implementation of effective management of the Heritage Area, the Liaison Committee will seek to promote cooperation with the organization concerned. • The major management measures are the protection of animals, plants and the natural scenery, proper use of nature, strengthening of management programs, and enhancement of research and monitoring. 	039
	<p>Please report on legal and administrative actions that are foreseen for the future, to preserve the values described under item II.2 (e.g. passing of legislation, adjusting administrative and management arrangements, implementing or drawing up of a (new) management plan, etc.):</p> <p>The current management arrangements will continue.</p>	040

	<p>Please provide detailed information, particularly in cases where changes have occurred since the inscription of the property, on the following matters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Conservation</u> Make reference to all major interventions at the property and describe its present state of conservation: • Improvement of management and visitor facilities such as signposts, viewing platform, ranger station, shelter pavilion, public lavatories and footpath. • In a part of the World Heritage Area, the Protection Plan for the National Park was intensified. Total area of 2,262 ha in surrounding areas was newly added to the National Park to conserve the World Heritage Area. • Establishment of Yakushima Forest Environment Conservation Center, Yakushima World Heritage Conservation Center, Yakushima Island Environmental and Cultural Village Center and Yakushima Island Environmental and Cultural Learning Center. 	041
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II.4. continued

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Ownership</u> 	042
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If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

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	<p>Make reference to all major changes in ownership of the property and describe the present state of ownership:</p> <p>No change</p>	
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	<p>Please, give a detailed description of the staffing of the site:</p> <p>The staff of Regional Office for Nature Conservation and Yakushima Ranger Office belong to the Ministry of the Environment, the staff of Kyushu Forest Management Office, Regional Forest Office and the Yakushima Forest Environment Conservation Center belong to the Forestry Agency and the staff of the environment division of Kagoshima Prefecture, Kamiyaku Town and Yaku Town are all working together to conserve the World Heritage Area.</p>	043
	<p>Is the staffing level sufficient for adequate management of the property? NO</p>	<p>YES / 044</p>
	<p>If NO, what should be done to improve the situation?</p>	045
	<p>Other than the above mentioned staff of Ministry of the Environment, Forestry Agency, Kagoshima Prefecture, Kamiyaku Town and Yaku Town, natural park guides, forest patrols and park volunteers are also participated the patrol.</p>	

II.4. continued

	Does the staff need additional training?	046
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If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

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	<p style="text-align: right;">YES / NO</p> <p>If YES, what are the training needs for your staff?</p>	047
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	<p>Describe the funding and financial situation of the property, indication sources, level and regularity of financing:</p> <p>Ministry of the Environment, Forestry Agency, Kagoshima Prefecture, Kamiyaku Town and Yaku Town created new budget lines for the conservation of the World Heritage Area when it was inscribed on the list, and budget allocation has been continued since then.</p>	048
	<p>Is the available funding sufficient for adequate management of the property? YES / NO</p>	049
	<p>If NOT, describe the financial resources that would be required for the management of the property:</p>	050

	<p>Indicate International Assistance from which the property has benefited: None</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • World Heritage Fund: 	051
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II.4. continued

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNESCO International Campaign: 	052
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If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National and/or regional projects of UNDP, the World Bank or other agencies: 	053
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bilateral co-operation: 	054
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other assistance: 	055

	<p>Describe the IT (computer) equipment of the site and/or management office and assess its effectiveness:</p> <p>Yakushima Ranger Office (Ministry of the Environment): 7 PC and 1 Fax Yakushima Forest Environment Conservation Center (Forestry Agency) : 7 PC and 1 Fax</p>	056
	<p>Are you using (multiple indications are possible):</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">PC (x) Apple () Mainframe ()</p>	057
	<p>Please, give the number of available computers: 14</p>	058
	<p>Does an operational access to the Internet exist? YES / NO</p>	059

II.4. continued

	<p>Is e-mail used for daily correspondence? YES / NO</p>	060
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If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

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Is there a Geographical Information System (GIS) for the site?	YES / NO	061
If YES, what software do you have and how is the GIS used?		062

List scientific studies and research programmes that have been conducted concerning the site:	063
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Study on Nature Conservation of Yakushima National Forests (1969 by Forestry Agency) • Study on Yakushima Wilderness Area (1984 by Ministry of the Environment) • Study on Yakushima Wilderness Area (1994 by Ministry of the Environment) • Study on Utilization Management Plan for Yakushima area (1995 by Ministry of the Environment) • Water Environment Monitoring (1995- by Forestry Agency) • Research on Conservation of the Island Ecosystem of Yakushima (1996-1999 by Ministry of the Environment) • Monitoring on Yakushima Ecosystem (1997- by Forestry Agency) • Study on Conservation and Utilization in Nature Conservation of Yakushima (1998 by Ministry of the Environment) • Monitoring on Landscape (1998- by Ministry of the Environment and Forestry Agency) • Study on Improvement Strategy for mountain trails in Yakushima (1999 by Ministry of the Environment) • Study on Utilization Management Strategy for Mountain Areas (2000 by Ministry of the Environment) • Research on Monitoring of Island Ecosystem of Yakushima (2000-2002 by Ministry of the Environment) 	

Describe financial and human resource inputs for the research programmes and or facilities:	064
Financial resource: Governmental funds	
Human resource: (please refer to 063)	
Describe how the information / results are disseminated?	065
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The reports are circulated among relevant organizations e.g. World Heritage Conservation Center, and distributed when extra copies are available. • A database on research on Yakushima has established and distributed. • Self-guidebook on Yakushima World Heritage Area "Forests of Yakushima" has produced. 	

II.4. continued

Are there any visitor statistics for the site?	YES / NO	066
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If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

Periodic Reporting Exercise on the Application of the World Heritage Convention
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<p>If YES, please summarise the statistics and attach to this report:</p> <p>There is a statistics on visitors to Yakushima island as a whole. The number of the people entering the World Heritage Area is automatically counted.</p>	067
<p>What visitor facilities do you have at the property?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Road (Western area) • Footpaths (Mountain trails) • Shelters (Takatsuka Shelter Pavilion, Shin Takatsuka Shelter Pavilion, Shikanosawa Shelter Pavilion, Yodogawa Shelter Pavilion) 	068
<p>What visitor facilities are you in need of?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public lavatories with the function of sewage treatment. • Upgraded mountain trail. 	069
<p>Is a public use plan (tourism / visitor management plan) in existence for the property? YES / NO</p>	070

II.4. continued

<p>If YES, please summarise, if NO explain if one is needed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the utilization plan of the National Park, there is a facility plan for roads, footpaths and so on, and strategy of management is stipulated in the management plan of the 	071
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If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

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	<p>Park.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management and utilization are also regulated in the Yakushima Forest Ecosystem Reserve. 	
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	<p>Indicate how the property's World Heritage values are communicated to residents, visitors and the public (please attach examples of leaflets, videos, posters etc. and print-outs and/or the address of a web-page):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Yakushima manner guide" which describes the mental attitude required and rules in Yakushima are provided to the visitors at the airport and the harbour. • Nature-watching for the local people are held six times per year with the collaboration of the Ministry of the Environment, Kmiyaku-cho Town, Yaku-cho Town and Yakushima Island Environmental and Cultural Foundation, to popularise and share the knowledge on natural values of Yakushima. • Self-guidebook on Yakushima World Heritage Area "Forests of Yakushima" has produced. • "Yakushima Official Map and Guide" has produced. • Brochures on World natural Heritage, National Park and Forest Ecosystem Reserve were produced. • Yakushima Forest Environment Conservation Center opened web page: http://www.infobears.ne.jp/rinkuma/syoukai/hozen-s.html • Yakushima Environmental and Cultural Foundation opened web page: http://www.yakushima.or.jp 	072
	<p>Are there educational programmes concerning the property aimed at schools? YES / NO</p>	073
	<p>If yes, please describe:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forest School • Lectures on World Heritage at the Yakushima World Heritage Conservation Center 	074

	<p>What role does World Heritage inscription play for the site concerning the visitor number, the research programmes and/or the awareness building activities?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The number of visitors are increasing because it is better-known. • The interest of researchers also increased and various researches are conducted. • The public awareness of nature conservation has been raised among local residents and visitors with the inscription on the World Heritage List. 	075
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II.5. Factors affecting the property

	<p>Please comment on the degree to which the property is threatened by particular problems and risks, such as development pressure, environmental pressure, natural disasters and preparedness, visitor / tourism pressure, number of inhabitants. Also mention all other</p>	076
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If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

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	<p>issues that you see as problematic.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some erosion or destruction of footpaths developed in many areas because of heavy rain and trampling pressure. It is planned to rehabilitate by the Ministry of the Environment, Forestry Agency and Kagoshima Prefecture. • The current public lavatories in the mountain areas do not have sewage treatment function and there is a concern for the water pollution and impacts on Forest ecosystem. It is planned to exchange with improved types by the Ministry of the Environment and Kagoshima Prefecture. • Washout caused by the erosion of mountain trails flows in Hananoego and Kohananoego, the southernmost upland moor in Japan, and give negative impact on the moor which became drier and vegetation has changed. The conservation measures are taken by Ministry of the Environment, Forestry Agency and Kagoshima Prefecture. 	
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II.5. continued

	<p>Is there an emergency plan and / or risk preparedness plan for the property in existence?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">YES/ NO</p>	077
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If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

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<p>If YES, please summarise the plan and provide a copy:</p>	078
<p>If NO, describe what is being done – and by whom – to counteract the dangers that threaten or may threaten the property:</p> <p>Yakushima World Heritage Area Liaison Committee conducts monitoring on natural environment and the number of visitors. When a possible threats to the World Heritage is foreseen, the counter measures are discussed among the Liaison Committee and are implemented.</p>	079
<p>Indicate areas where improvement would be desirable and/or towards which the State Party is working:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improvement of footpaths and public lavatories. • Conservation of upland moor. 	080

II.5. continued

<p>Give an indication if the impact of the factors affecting the property is increasing or decreasing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes of the number of visitors and mountain climbers. • Indicators on natural environment and water environment. 	081
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If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

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	<p>What actions have been effectively taken, or are planned for the future, to address the factors affecting the property?</p> <p>Several monitoring programs are carried out to identify the affecting factors and to assess the extent of the impact.</p>	082

II.6. Monitoring

	<p>If applicable, give details (e.g. dates, results, indicators chosen) of any previous periodic or reactive monitoring exercises of the property:</p> <p>The number of mountain climbers, water quality of mountain stream, precipitation and state of landscape are continuously monitored.</p>	083
	<p>Is there a formal monitoring system established for the site? YES / NO</p> <p>If YES, please give details of its organisation:</p> <p>The progress of the monitoring and the reaction to the result are discussed at the Yakushima World Heritage Area Liaison Committee (consisting of Ministry of the Environment, Forestry Agency, Kagoshima Prefecture, Kamiyaku Town and Yaku Town).</p>	084 085

II.6. continued

	<p>If not already in place, is the establishment of a formal monitoring system planned? YES / NO</p> <p>If YES, please outline the functioning of that system, taking into consideration the key indicators you will be asked to define below (see 089 / 090):</p>	086 087
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If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

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<p>Are there any indicators established for monitoring the state of conservation of the property?</p> <p style="text-align: right;">YES / NO</p>	088
<p>If YES, please provide up-to-date information with respect to each of the key indicators established and/or used. Care should be taken to ensure that this information is as accurate and reliable as possible, for example by carrying out observations in the same way, using similar equipment and methods at the same time of the year and day. Name and describe the key indicators for measuring the state of conservation of this property:</p> <p>The number of mountain climbers, water quality of mountain stream, precipitation and state of landscape are continuously monitored.</p>	089
<p>If NO indicators have been identified and / or used so far, please define key indicators for future use in monitoring:</p>	090

II.6. continued

<p>Indicate which partners, if any, are involved or will be involved in the regular monitoring exercise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administrative bodies such as Ministry of the Environment, Forestry Agency and Kagoshima Prefecture. • Research institutes such as Kagoshima University. 	091
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If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

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<p>Identify the administrative provisions for organizing the regular monitoring of the property:</p> <p>Monitoring is required by the management plan as follows;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. With cooperation of the many interested research organizations, research and monitoring will be implemented to gather basic data on wild animals, plants, water resources and environment, etc. A base facility to support these researches and monitoring activities will also be established. 2. For rare species, there is a concern that even a small sample for research purposes may have a significant impact on their remaining numbers. Therefore, extreme caution will be exercised in handling of these species. 3. The study tracking the shift of the forest structure established in the research areas within the Wilderness Area's vertical distribution zones will continue. Furthermore, there will also be coordination with ecological research that is being conducted on Yakusugi by university research facilities within the Forest Ecosystem Conservation area. Furthermore, coordinating arrangement with the research activities on ecosystems of Yakusugi natural forests in the plots set by research institution such as Universities will be continued. 4. There will be further communication facilitation with the related organizations and the researchers, at the Yakushima World Heritage Conservation Center and the Yakushima Forest Environment Conservation Center. These centers possess ability to function as base facilities for researchers, and will conduct both academically necessary studies, and long-term monitoring activities to gain a better understanding of the current natural environment. Furthermore, these centers will produce reports on research results, collect and collate documents, and establish a position where they can widely distribute information. Simultaneously, they will provide basic data, facilitate the networking of researchers, and will increase the efficiency of research and monitoring. 	092
<p>Describe what improvement the State Party foresees or would consider desirable in improving the monitoring system:</p> <p>Currently none.</p>	093
<p>In specific cases, the World Heritage Committee and/or its Bureau may have already examined the state of conservation of the property and made recommendations to the State Party, either at the time of inscription or afterwards. In such cases the State Party is requested to report on the actions that have been taken in response to the observations or decisions made by the Bureau or Committee. Give details, if applicable:</p> <p>IUCN follow-up mission was invited in October 1997. (Please refer to 013 for the activities taken after the mission.)</p>	094

II.7. Conclusions and recommended actions

<p>Please summarise the main conclusions regarding the state of the World Heritage values of the property (see items II.2. and II.3. above):</p> <p>The Area was inscribed with the criteria N(ii) and N(iii) for it's unique characteristics of many endemic species such as Yakusugi of thousands years old, rare species and vertical distribution of flora from the coastal regions to the subalpine region. From the time of</p>	095
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If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

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<p>inscription up to now, the value of the Area is properly maintained by the management plan and the integrity of the Area has not changed.</p>	
<p>Please summarise the main conclusions regarding the management and factors affecting the property (see items II.4. and II.5. above):</p> <p>The administrative organs involved (Government, Prefectures, Towns) always communicate and coordinate through Yakushima World Heritage Area Liaison Committee and implement steadily the management of the Area in accordance with the relevant Laws and Management Plan, education and awareness raising, and monitoring and scientific research. The impact on the trails by mountain climbers are always monitored, and the necessary measures are discussed and implemented by the Liaison Committee.</p>	096
<p>Give an overview over proposed future action / actions:</p> <p>The Area is conserved properly by the current management system and there is no specific future action plan.</p>	097
<p>Name the agency responsible for implementation of these actions (if different from 005):</p> <p>The member organizations of the Yakushima World Heritage Area Liaison Committee: Ministry of the Environment, Forestry Agency, Kagoshima Prefecture, Kagoshima Prefecture Board of Education, Yaku Town and Kamiyaku Town.</p>	098
<p>Give a timeframe for the implementation of the actions described above:</p> <p>When other activities become necessary, the activities will be discussed fully in the Liaison Committee and then implemented as soon as possible.</p>	099

II.7. continued

<p>Indicate for which of the planned activities International Assistance from the World Heritage Fund may be needed (if any):</p> <p>None</p>	100
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<p>Are there any contacts with management units of other properties within or outside your</p>	101
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If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

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	country? <p style="text-align: right;">YES / NO</p>	
	<p>If YES, please explain:</p> <p>Other properties within the country: Exchange of information with the staff of "Shirakami-Sanchi" World Heritage Area whenever necessary.</p> <p>Other properties outside the country:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ministry of the Environment organized "Regional Workshop on Nature and Biodiversity as World Heritage" in Tokyo and Yakushima in 2000, invited the relevant Governmental officers from East and Southeast Asia and exchanged views and information. • Attending the regional site manager's workshop such as the " UNESCO Regional Workshop on Periodic Reporting for Natural and Mixed World Heritage Properties in Asia and the Pacific" held at Blue Mountains World Heritage Area in Australia in 2002, and exchanging views on the management of World Heritage. 	102
	<p>Please indicate which experience made during the periodic reporting exercise and/or during the on-going conservation / protection efforts of the property could be shared with other States Parties dealing with similar problems or issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The experience of conservation and management of World Heritage through the cooperation and coordination of plural organizations. • The significant contribution of local inhabitants and local governments to the conservation and management of World Heritage. 	103
	<p>Provide the name(s) and address(es) of organization(s) or specialist(s) who could be contacted for this purpose:</p> <p>Agency / Organisation: : (same as 005)</p> <p>Person responsible:</p> <p>Address:</p> <p>City and post code:</p> <p>Telephone:</p> <p>Fax:</p> <p>E-mail:</p>	104

II.8. Assessment of the Periodic Reporting exercise for Section II

	<p>Was sufficient and adequate information made available to the responsible authorities and individuals during the preparation phase of the Periodic Reporting exercise (information given, meetings etc.)?</p> <p>Full discussion and information exchange were performed at Yakushima World Heritage Area Liaison Committee.</p>	105
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If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

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<p>Was the questionnaire clear and did it help to comply with the reporting requirements of the State Party?</p> <p>Yes</p>	106
<p>What are the perceived benefits and lessons learnt of the exercise?</p> <p>This exercise is suitable for the periodic examination of sate of conservation of the World Heritage with the participation of all involved organizations.</p>	107
<p>Please describe the expected outcome of the Periodic Reporting exercise and the desired follow-up by the World Heritage Committee:</p> <p>Expected outcomes are;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sharing and exchange information and experience on conservation of World Heritage and implementation of the Convention among the State Parties • objective evaluation of the conservation status. 	108

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

II.9. Documentation attached

The State Party is invited to supply the materials listed below. Please check those items that were attached.

1. Maps and plans showing the general location of the property, its boundary and buffer zone as well as the necessary detail of the property itself (see question 003 for specifications)
2. Photo of general view (aerial view) of the property
3. Illustrations of the state of conservation of the site (photographs, slides and, if available, film/videos)
4. Details of the important aspects of the property (landscapes, animal and vegetable species, monuments etc.)
5. Photos illustrating the main threats to the site and its surroundings
6. Extracts of relevant laws and regulations concerning the protection of cultural and natural heritage at national, provincial and municipal levels
7. Copies of the management plan of the site as well as extracts and/or copies of other plans relating to the site (e.g. emergency plan, use plan, etc.)
8. Indicative bibliography

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).

Addition

<p>Yakushima's values for which it is nominated are less for its appeal to mass tourism than for its biological, scientific and aesthetic significance. The presence of such a site on a small island is especially valuable particularly as it includes not only the high peaks of the central core but a salient which reaches down 2000m to the seacoast. Because of this phenomenon plus the fact that the nominated area contains the last, best example of an ecosystem dominated by the Japanese cedar in a superb scenic setting, the site meets natural criterion (iii).</p> <p>Moreover, Yakusima also meets criterion (ii) as it contains a unique remnant of a warm-temperate ancient forest which have been much reduced elsewhere in the region. These forests extend through an altitudinal sequence from broadleaved forest along the coast up through temperate coniferous at middle altitudes to a cold-temperate bamboo grassland at the central peaks. The site is very important for scientific studies on evolutionary biology, biogeography, vegetation succession, interaction of lowland and upland systems, hydrology and warm-temperate ecosystem processes. It is also meets the conditions of integrity for this criterion as a full representation of the different life-zones is included.</p>	<p>011</p>
<p>Nature Conservation Law</p> <p>Together with other laws aiming conservation of natural environment such as Natural Parks Law, the Law aims to promote the proper conservation of the natural environment in the area where conservation is essential, so that the nation can enjoy the blessings of natural environment and pass it to the future generation and thus contribute to secure the healthy and cultural life of the current and future nations.</p> <p>Natural Parks Law</p> <p>The Law aims to protect the scenic area as well as to promote the utilization and thus contribute to the health, recreation and enlightenment of the nation.</p> <p>Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties</p> <p>The Law aims to preserve the cultural properties as well as to promote the utilization and thus contribute to the improvement of the nation's standard of living and to progress of the World's culture.</p> <p>The Forest Law</p> <p>The Law aims to enhance sustainable culture of Forest and forest productivity by stipulating the basic matters relating to forests such as the Forest Plan and Protection Forest, and thus contribute to the conservation of National land and development of National economy.</p> <p>Guidelines for the establishment of Protected Reserve (Forest Ecosystem Reserve)</p> <p>The purpose is to maintain natural environment composed of forest ecosystem, protect flora and fauna, and preserve genetic resources by preserving natural forest of a fairly primordial state among National Forests.</p>	<p>032</p>

If the space on the Questionnaire is not sufficient, please continue on a separate page, clearly labelling the answer with the corresponding number of the question (e.g. 006).