

1. World Heritage Property Data

1.1 - Name of World Heritage Property

The Wadden Sea

1.2 - World Heritage Property Details

State(s) Party(ies)

- Germany
- Netherlands

Type of Property

natural

Identification Number

1314bis

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List

2009



Comment

Typo error natural

1.3 - Geographic Information Table

| Name | Coordinates (longitude / latitude) | Property (ha) | Buffer zone (ha) | Total (ha) | Inscription year |
|--|------------------------------------|---------------|------------------|---------------|------------------|
| Key Planning Decision (PKB) Wadden Sea, part I | 53.391 / 5.666 | 247386 | ? | 247386 | 2009 |
| Key Planning Decision (PKB) Wadden Sea, part II | 53.033 / 6.896 | 790 | ? | 790 | 2009 |
| Key Planning Decision (PKB) Wadden Sea part III / National Park Wadden Sea Niedersachsen, part I | 53.268 / 7.166 | 8931 | ? | 8931 | 2009 |
| National Park Wadden Sea Niedersachsen, part II | 53.696 / 7.333 | 166648 | ? | 166648 | 2009 |
| National Park Wadden Sea Niedersachsen, part III | 53.628 / 8.264 | 49134 | ? | 49134 | 2009 |
| National Park Wadden Sea Niedersachsen, part IV / National Park Wadden Sea Hamburg | 53.847 / 8.434 | 72417 | ? | 72417 | 2011 |
| National Park Wadden Sea Niedersachsen Schleswig-Holstein | 54.529 / 8.556 | 436698 | ? | 436698 | 2009 |
| Total (ha) | | 982004 | 0 | 982004 | |

1.4 - Map(s)

| Title | Date | Link to source |
|--|------------|---|
| Wadden Sea - inscribed property | 27/02/2008 |  |
| The Wadden Sea - inscribed minor boundary modification | 29/06/2011 |  |

1.5 - Governmental Institution Responsible for the Property

- Birgitta Ringbeck
Auswärtiges Amt
National World Heritage Focal Point
Referat 603-9
Multilaterale Kultur- und Medienpolitik

- Rene Wokke
Cultural Heritage Agency of the Netherlands
National Focal Point for Periodic Reporting

1.6 - Property Manager / Coordinator, Local Institution / Agency

- Jens Arne Enemark
Commonn Wadden Sea Secretariat
Secretary
- Christiane Paulus
- Harald Marencic

Comment

Replace text in 1.6 with Common Wadden Sea Secretariat
Jens Arne Enemark Secretary Virchowstr. 1 D-26382
Wilhelmshaven Tel: +49 (0)4421 910812
enemark@waddensea-secretariat.org
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Tel: +49 (0) 228 99 305 2620 christiane.paulus@bmu.bund.de
Jaap Verhulst Ministry of Economic Affairs PO Box 20401 NL -
2500 EK The Hague Mobile: +31 (0) 6 - 525 259 10
j.verhulst2@minez.nl

1.7 - Web Address of the Property (if existing)

- [View photos from OUR PLACE the World Heritage collection](#)
- [The Wadden Sea](#)

1.8 - Other designations / Conventions under which the property is protected (if applicable)

Comment

The Wadden Sea countries are contractual parties to Ramsar, CMS, AEWA, ASCOBANS, Bern Convention, OSPAR Convention, UNESCO Man and Biosphere. Specific Agreements: CMS-Seal Agreement Wadden Sea, IMO- Particularly Sensitive Sea Area (PSSA) Wadden Sea, Trilateral cooperation on the protection of the Waddensea European Union: Birds and Habitats Directive, Water Framework Directive, Marine Strategy Framework Directive. For details see nomination dossier.

2. Statement of Outstanding Universal Value

2.1 - Statement of Outstanding Universal Value / Statement of Significance

Statement of Outstanding Universal Value

Brief Synthesis

The Wadden Sea is the largest unbroken system of intertidal sand and mud flats in the world, with natural processes undisturbed throughout most of the area. It encompasses a multitude of transitional zones between land, the sea and freshwater environment, and is rich in species specially adapted to the demanding environmental conditions. It is considered one of the most important areas for migratory birds in the world, and is connected to a network of other key sites for migratory birds. Its importance is not only in the context of the East Atlantic Flyway but also in the critical role it plays in the conservation of African-Eurasian migratory waterbirds. In the Wadden Sea up to 6.1 million birds can be present at the same time, and an average of 10-12 million pass through it each year.

Criterion (viii): The Wadden Sea is a depositional coastline of unparalleled scale and diversity. It is distinctive in being almost entirely a tidal flat and barrier system with only minor river influences, and an outstanding example of the large-scale development of an intricate and complex temperate-climate sandy barrier coast under conditions of rising sea-level. Highly dynamic natural processes are uninterrupted across the vast majority of the property, creating a variety of different barrier islands, channels, flats, gullies, saltmarshes and other coastal and sedimentary features. It is also one of the best-studied coastal areas on the planet, providing lessons of wider scientific importance for wetland and coastal management of international importance.

Criterion (ix): The Wadden Sea is one of the last remaining natural large-scale intertidal ecosystems, where natural processes continue to function largely undisturbed. Its geological and geomorphologic features are closely entwined with biophysical processes and provide an invaluable record of the ongoing dynamic adaptation of coastal environments to global change. There are a multitude of transitional zones between land, sea and freshwater that are the basis for the species richness of the property. The productivity of biomass in the Wadden Sea is one of the highest in the world, most significantly demonstrated in the numbers of fish, shellfish and birds supported by the property. The property is a key site for migratory birds and its ecosystems sustain wildlife populations well beyond its borders.

Criterion (x): Coastal wetlands are not always the richest sites in relation to faunal diversity, however this is not the case for the Wadden Sea. The salt marshes host around 2,300 species of flora and fauna, and the marine and brackish areas a further 2,700 species, and 30 species of breeding birds. The clearest indicator of the importance of the property is the support it provides to migratory birds as a staging, moulting and wintering area. Up to 6.1 million birds can be present at the same time, and an average of 10-12 million each year pass through the property. The availability of food and a low level of disturbance are essential factors that contribute to the key role of the nominated property in supporting the survival of migratory species. The nominated property is the essential stopover that enables the functioning of the East Atlantic and African-Eurasian migratory flyways. Biodiversity on a worldwide scale is reliant on the Wadden Sea.

Integrity
The boundaries of the property include all of the habitat types, features and processes that exemplify a natural and dynamic Wadden Sea. The large area of the property encompasses over 66% of the entire Wadden Sea ecosystems and is sufficient to maintain the critical ecological processes and to protect the key features and values. However the inscribed property would be strengthened by its further extension to include the area of the Wadden Sea which lies within the territory of Denmark. The property is subject to a comprehensive protection, management and monitoring regime which is supported by adequate human and financial resources. Human use and influences are well regulated with clear and agreed targets. Activities that are incompatible with its conservation have either been banned, or are heavily regulated and monitored to ensure they do not impact adversely on the property. As the property is surrounded by a significant population and contains human uses, the continued priority for the protection and conservation of the Wadden Sea is an important feature of the planning and regulation of use, including within land/water-use plans, the provision and regulation of coastal defences, maritime traffic and drainage. Key threats requiring ongoing attention include fisheries activities, harbours, industrial facilities and maritime traffic, residential and tourism development and climate change. Management and protection requirements

Maintaining the hydrological and ecological processes of the contiguous tidal flat system of the Wadden Sea is an overarching requirement for the protection and integrity of this property. Therefore conservation of marine, coastal and freshwater ecosystems through the effective management of protected areas, including marine no-take zones, is essential. The effective management of the property also needs to ensure an ecosystem approach that integrates the management of the existing protected areas with other key activities occurring in the property, including fisheries, shipping and tourism. Specific expectations for the long-term conservation and management of this property include maintaining and enhancing the level of financial and human resources required for the effective management of the property. Research, monitoring and assessment of the protected areas that make up the property also require adequate resources to be provided. Maintenance of consultation and participatory approaches in planning and management of the property is needed to reinforce the support and commitment from local communities and NGOs to the conservation and management of the property. The State Parties should also maintain their commitment of not allowing oil and gas exploration and exploitation within the boundaries of the property. Any development projects, such as planned wind farms in the North Sea, should be subject of rigorous Environmental Impacts Assessments to avoid any impacts to the values and integrity of the property.

2.2 - The criteria (2005 revised version) under which the property was inscribed

(viii)(ix)(x)

2.3 - Attributes expressing the Outstanding Universal Value per criterion

(viii) Geology: intricate and complex temperate-climate sandy barrier coast with sand and mud flats under conditions of sea-level rise (ix) Natural Processes: natural processes undisturbed throughout most of the area, multitude of transitional zones, productivity of biomass, sustain wildlife beyond its borders. (x) Biodiversity: 10,000 species, up to 6.1 million migratory birds at the same time, biodiversity on a worldwide scale is reliant on the Wadden Sea. (to be updated by TG-WH)

2.4 - If needed, please provide details of why the Statement of Outstanding Universal Value should be revised

none

2.5 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to Statement of Outstanding Universal Value

none

3. Factors Affecting the Property

3.14. Other factor(s)

3.14.1 - Other factor(s)

None

3.15. Factors Summary Table

3.15.1 - Factors summary table

| | Name | Impact | | | | | | Origin |
|---------------|--|-----------|----------|----------|--------|---------|--|--------|
| 3.1 | Buildings and Development | | | | | | | |
| 3.1.4 | Major visitor accommodation and associated infrastructure | | | | | | | |
| 3.1.5 | Interpretative and visitation facilities | | | | | | | |
| 3.2 | Transportation Infrastructure | | | | | | | |
| 3.2.3 | Marine transport infrastructure | | | | | | | |
| 3.2.4 | Effects arising from use of transportation infrastructure | | | | | | | |
| 3.3 | Services Infrastructures | | | | | | | |
| 3.3.2 | Renewable energy facilities | | | | | | | |
| 3.3.3 | Non-renewable energy facilities | | | | | | | |
| 3.3.4 | Localised utilities | | | | | | | |
| 3.3.5 | Major linear utilities | | | | | | | |
| 3.4 | Pollution | | | | | | | |
| 3.4.1 | Pollution of marine waters | | | | | | | |
| 3.4.3 | Surface water pollution | | | | | | | |
| 3.5 | Biological resource use/modification | | | | | | | |
| 3.5.1 | Fishing/collecting aquatic resources | | | | | | | |
| 3.5.2 | Aquaculture | | | | | | | |
| 3.6 | Physical resource extraction | | | | | | | |
| 3.6.3 | Oil and gas | | | | | | | |
| 3.8 | Social/cultural uses of heritage | | | | | | | |
| 3.8.2 | Society's valuing of heritage | | | | | | | |
| 3.8.5 | Identity, social cohesion, changes in local population and community | | | | | | | |
| 3.8.6 | Impacts of tourism / visitor / recreation | | | | | | | |
| 3.10 | Climate change and severe weather events | | | | | | | |
| 3.10.5 | Changes to oceanic waters | | | | | | | |
| 3.12 | Invasive/alien species or hyper-abundant species | | | | | | | |
| 3.12.1 | Translocated species | | | | | | | |
| 3.12.2 | Invasive/alien terrestrial species | | | | | | | |
| 3.12.4 | Invasive / alien marine species | | | | | | | |
| Legend | Current | Potential | Negative | Positive | Inside | Outside | | |

3.16. Assessment of current negative factors

3.16.1 - Assessment of current negative factors

| | Spatial scale | Temporal scale | Impact | Management response | Trend | |
|------------|---|----------------|--------------------------|---------------------|---------------|------------|
| 3.1 | Buildings and Development | | | | | |
| 3.1.4 | Major visitor accommodation and associated infrastructure | restricted | intermittent or sporadic | insignificant | high capacity | static |
| 3.2 | Transportation Infrastructure | | | | | |
| 3.2.3 | Marine transport infrastructure | restricted | intermittent or sporadic | insignificant | high capacity | increasing |
| 3.2.4 | Effects arising from use of transportation infrastructure | restricted | intermittent or sporadic | minor | high capacity | static |
| 3.3 | Services Infrastructures | | | | | |
| 3.3.5 | Major linear utilities | restricted | one off or rare | insignificant | high capacity | increasing |
| 3.5 | Biological resource use/modification | | | | | |
| 3.5.1 | Fishing/collecting aquatic resources | extensive | on-going | minor | high capacity | static |
| 3.5.2 | Aquaculture | restricted | intermittent or sporadic | insignificant | high capacity | static |

| | | Spatial scale | Temporal scale | Impact | Management response | Trend |
|--------|--|---------------|----------------|--------|---------------------|--------|
| 3.10 | Climate change and severe weather events | | | | | |
| 3.10.5 | Changes to oceanic waters | widespread | on-going | minor | medium capacity | static |
| 3.12 | Invasive/alien species or hyper-abundant species | | | | | |
| 3.12.4 | Invasive / alien marine species | extensive | frequent | minor | medium capacity | static |

3.17. Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to factors affecting the property

3.17.1 - Comments

Differentiation between the status of negative and positive effects of the same factor is not possible in this questionnaire (e.g. 3.8.6 and 3.13).

4. Protection, Management and Monitoring of the Property

4.1. Boundaries and Buffer Zones

4.1.1 - Buffer zone status

There is **no buffer zone**, and it is not needed

4.1.2 - Are the boundaries of the World Heritage property adequate to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value?

The boundaries of the World Heritage property are **adequate** to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value

4.1.3 - Are the buffer zone(s) of the World Heritage property adequate to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value?

The property had **no buffer zone** at the time of its inscription on the World Heritage List

4.1.4 - Are the boundaries of the World Heritage property known?

The boundaries of the World Heritage property are known by both the management authority and local residents / communities / landowners.

4.1.5 - Are the buffer zones of the World Heritage property known?

The property had **no buffer zone** at the time of its inscription on the World Heritage List

4.1.6 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to boundaries and buffer zones of the World Heritage property

4.2. Protective Measures

4.2.1 - Protective designation (legal, regulatory, contractual, planning, institutional and / or traditional)

Note WHC (July 2012): Please carefully review and update the information provided below.

The property is mainly classified as an IUCN Category VI protected area that includes other more restrictive categories of protected areas within its boundaries. All the existing protected areas are legally established by federal or state decrees. A small part of the property (0.25%) is under private ownership. Management of private lands is regulated by existing protective measures. An essential feature of the protection of the property is that the framework of the Trilateral Wadden Sea Cooperation (The Netherlands, Germany and Denmark) provides it with one comprehensive protection and management scheme, with additional layers of protection at

federal and state levels. This is also supported by a number of international legal instruments such as the Ramsar Convention, a Biosphere Reserve under the UNESCO's MaB Programme, a Particularly Sensitive Sea Area (PSSA) under the International Maritime Organization (IMO), Special Protection Area (SPAs) and a Special Area of Conservation (SACs) under the EU Birds and Habitats Directives. The property is also protected under the African-Eurasian Waterbird Agreement (AEWA), which protects 235 waterbird species ecologically dependant on wetlands within the flyway.

Comment

Editorial remarks: 1) Add "designations and" in the 5th sentence after "a number of international" 2) Replace "a Biosphere Reserve" with "several Biosphere Reserves" (5th sentence)

4.2.2 - Is the legal framework (i.e. legislation and / or regulation) adequate for maintaining the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Integrity and / or Authenticity of the property?

The legal framework for the maintenance of the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Authenticity and / or Integrity of the World Heritage property provides an **adequate or better basis** for effective management and protection

4.2.3 - Is the legal framework (i.e. legislation and / or regulation) adequate in the buffer zone for maintaining the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Integrity and / or Authenticity of the property?

The property had **no buffer zone** at the time of inscription on the World Heritage List

4.2.4 - Is the legal framework (i.e. legislation and / or regulation) adequate in the area surrounding the World Heritage property and buffer zone for maintaining the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Integrity and / or Authenticity of the property?

The legal framework for the area surrounding the World Heritage property and the buffer zone provides an **adequate or better basis** for effective management and protection of the property, contributing to the maintenance of its Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Authenticity and / or Integrity

4.2.5 - Can the legislative framework (i.e. legislation and / or regulation) be enforced?

There is **excellent** capacity / resources to enforce legislation and / or regulation in the World Heritage property

4.2.6 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to protective measures

4.3. Management System / Management Plan

4.3.1 - Management System

Note WHC (July 2012): Please carefully review and update the information provided below. If a more recent management plan / system is in force, we will very much appreciate it if you could provide its 2 paper and electronic copies to the WHC. The submission should be accompanied by a cover letter to DIR/WHC. Thank you for your cooperation.

The key management authorities in the property are the Federal Ministry for the Environment

(Germany), the Nature Protection and Nuclear Safety Agency (Germany); the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (Germany); and the Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality (The Netherlands). The work of these institutions is supported and implemented through the different states by existing national parks administration. The involvement of Non Governmental Organisations (NGOs) in protected area management is substantial; they support not only operations through rangers and experts, but also most environmental education and awareness raising activities.

The property is subject to active planning, management and monitoring, in national and international contexts, and with an exceptional level of integration and harmonized approach between the three countries involved in the management of the Wadden Sea. There are two key documents guiding the overall management: the "Wadden Sea Plan" which represents a legally binding planning and management framework for the whole area; and an Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) Strategy, prepared to address recommendations from the European Parliament on coastal zone conservation and management. There are specific management plans for the different protected areas within the property.

A navigation system used for commercial and recreational boats in the Wadden Sea has geo-referenced information on the boundaries of all existing protected areas and the restrictions associated to each of them, thus helping to avoid negative impacts, and are augmented by targeted education programmes. Conservation efforts are also strongly supported by local governments and local NGOs provide significant volunteer support to management activities. Local communities are strongly committed to nature conservation through environmental education and nature based tourism activities.

The Wadden Sea Plan was officially adopted in 1997 and is a legally binding document. The implementation of the plan is done by the standing bodies of the Trilateral Wadden Sea Cooperation through a Wadden Sea Board which oversees operational aspects of implementation and ensures effective coordination of the different tiers of management. The Common Wadden Sea Secretariat (CWSS) is tasked with the daily implementation of the Wadden Sea Plan, coordination of the activities in the framework of the plan and a regular review of its implementation.

Comment

As this textbox does not provide sufficient space for corrections, we are submitting the corrected version by separate mail to the WHC (cc Ms. Manz and Ms Fiebig).

4.3.2 - Management Documents

Comment

Joint Declaration on the Protection of the Wadden Sea 2010; Trilateral Wadden Sea Plan, 2010; Ministerial Council Declaration, Sylt 2010; Designation of the Wadden Sea as Particularly Sensitive Sea Area (PSSA) by IMO, 2002; Agreement on the Conservation of Seals in the Wadden Sea according to Article 4 of the CMS, 1990; Trilateral Seal Management Plan. Note: National management documents see nomination dossiers. All relevant documents have been submitted with the nomination dossiers.

4.3.3 - How well do the various levels of administration (i.e. national / federal; regional / provincial / state; local /

municipal etc.) coordinate in the management of the World Heritage Property ?

There is **excellent coordination** between all bodies / levels involved in the management of the property

4.3.4 - Is the management system / plan adequate to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value ?

The management system / plan is **fully adequate** to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value

4.3.5 - Is the management system being implemented?

The management system is being **fully** implemented and monitored

4.3.6 - Is there an annual work / action plan and is it being implemented?

An annual work / action plan exists and **most or all activities** are being implemented and monitored

4.3.7 - Please rate the cooperation / relationship with World Heritage property managers / coordinators / staff of the following

| | |
|-------------------------------|----------------|
| Local communities / residents | Good |
| Local / Municipal authorities | Good |
| Indigenous peoples | Not applicable |
| Landowners | Good |
| Visitors | Good |
| Researchers | Good |
| Tourism industry | Good |
| Industry | Good |

4.3.8 - If present, do local communities resident in or near the World Heritage property and / or buffer zone have input in management decisions that maintain the Outstanding Universal Value?

Local communities directly **participate** in all relevant decisions relating to management, i.e. co-management

4.3.9 - If present, do indigenous peoples resident in or regularly using the World Heritage property and / or buffer zone have input in management decisions that maintain the Outstanding Universal Value?

No indigenous peoples are resident in or regularly using the World Heritage property and / or buffer zone

4.3.10 - Is there cooperation with industry (i.e. forestry, mining, agriculture, etc.) regarding the management of the World Heritage property, buffer zone and / or area surrounding the World Heritage property and buffer zone?

There is **regular contact** with industry regarding the management of the World Heritage property, buffer zone and / or area surrounding the World Heritage property and buffer zone and **substantial co-operation** on management

4.3.11 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to human resources, expertise and training

4.3.6.5: Work plans and action plans exist on regional, national and trilateral level.

4.3.12 - Please report any significant changes in the legal status and / or contractual / traditional protective

measures and management arrangements for the World Heritage property since inscription or the last Periodic report

None

4.4. Financial and Human Resources

4.4.1 - Costs related to conservation, based on the average of last five years (relative percentage of the funding sources)

| | |
|---|-----|
| Multilateral funding (GEF, World Bank, etc) | 0% |
| International donations (NGO's, foundations, etc) | 0% |
| Governmental (National / Federal) | 40% |
| Governmental (Regional / Provincial / State) | 50% |
| Governmental (Local / Municipal) | 5% |
| In country donations (NGO's, foundations, etc) | 5% |
| Individual visitor charges (e.g. entry, parking, camping fees, etc.) | 0% |
| Commercial operator payments (e.g. filming permit, concessions, etc.) | 0% |
| Other grants | 0% |

4.4.2 - International Assistance received from the World Heritage Fund (USD)

Comment

State Parties are not eligible for funding from the World Heritage Fund.

4.4.3 - Is the current budget sufficient to manage the World Heritage property effectively?

The available budget is **sufficient** but further funding would enable more effective management to international best practice standard

4.4.4 - Are the existing sources of funding secure and likely to remain so?

The existing sources of funding **are secure** in the medium-term and planning is underway to secure funding in the long-term

4.4.5 - Does the World Heritage property provide economic benefits to local communities (e.g. income, employment)?

Potential economic benefits are recognised and plans to realise these are being developed

4.4.6 - Are available resources such as equipment, facilities and infrastructure sufficient to meet management needs?

There are **adequate** equipment and facilities

4.4.7 - Are resources such as equipment, facilities and infrastructure adequately maintained?

Equipment and facilities are **well maintained**

4.4.8 - Comments, conclusion, and / or recommendations related to finance and infrastructure

None

4.4.9 - Distribution of employees involved in managing the World Heritage property (% of total)

| | |
|-----------|-----|
| Full-time | 75% |
| Part-time | 25% |

4.4.10 - Distribution of employees involved in managing the World Heritage property (% of total)

| | |
|-----------|-----|
| Permanent | 95% |
| Seasonal | 5% |

4.4.11 - Distribution of employees involved in managing the World Heritage property (% of total)

| | |
|-----------|-----|
| Paid | 90% |
| Volunteer | 10% |

4.4.12 - Are available human resources adequate to manage the World Heritage property?

Human resources are **adequate** for management needs

4.4.13 - Considering the management needs of the World Heritage property, please rate the availability of professionals in the following disciplines

| | |
|----------------------------------|------|
| Research and monitoring | Good |
| Promotion | Good |
| Community outreach | Good |
| Interpretation | Good |
| Education | Good |
| Visitor management | Good |
| Conservation | Good |
| Administration | Good |
| Risk preparedness | Good |
| Tourism | Good |
| Enforcement (custodians, police) | Good |

4.4.14 - Please rate the availability of training opportunities for the management of the World Heritage property in the following disciplines

| | |
|----------------------------------|------|
| Research and monitoring | High |
| Promotion | High |
| Community outreach | High |
| Interpretation | High |
| Education | High |
| Visitor management | High |
| Conservation | High |
| Administration | High |
| Risk preparedness | High |
| Tourism | High |
| Enforcement (custodians, police) | High |

4.4.15 - Do the management and conservation programmes at the World Heritage property help develop local expertise?

A capacity development plan or programme is **in place and fully implemented**; all technical skills are being transferred to those managing the property locally, who are assuming leadership in management

4.4.16 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to human resources, expertise and training

None

4.5. Scientific Studies and Research Projects

4.5.1 - Is there adequate knowledge (scientific or traditional) about the values of the World Heritage

property to support planning, management and decision-making to ensure that Outstanding Universal Value is maintained?

Knowledge about the values of the World Heritage property is **sufficient**

4.5.2 - Is there a planned programme of research at the property which is directed towards management needs and / or improving understanding of Outstanding Universal Value?

There is a **comprehensive, integrated programme of research**, which is relevant to management needs and / or improving understanding of Outstanding Universal Value

4.5.3 - Are results from research programmes disseminated?

Research results are **shared widely** with the local, national and international audiences

4.5.4 - Please provide details (i.e. authors, title, and web link) of papers published about the World Heritage property since the last Periodic Report

Karsten Reise et al 2010. The Wadden Sea – A Universally Outstanding Tidal Wetland. Wadden Sea Ecosystem 29. Wolff et al 2010. The Wadden Sea Quality Status Report 2010. Wadden Sea Ecosystem 29 All publications on www.waddensea-secretariat.org

4.5.5 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to scientific studies and research projects

None

4.6. Education, Information and Awareness Building

4.6.1 - At how many locations is the World Heritage emblem displayed at the property?

In **many locations, but not easily visible** to visitors

4.6.2 - Please rate the awareness and understanding of the existence and justification for inscription of the World Heritage property amongst the following groups

| | |
|--|----------------|
| Local communities / residents | Average |
| Local / Municipal authorities within or adjacent to the property | Excellent |
| Local Indigenous peoples | Not applicable |
| Local landowners | Average |
| Visitors | Average |
| Tourism industry | Average |
| Local businesses and industries | Average |

4.6.3 - Is there a planned education and awareness programme linked to the values and management of the World Heritage property?

There is a **planned and effective** education and awareness programme that contributes to the protection of the World Heritage property

4.6.4 - What role, if any, has designation as a World Heritage property played with respect to education, information and awareness building activities?

World Heritage status has been an **important influence** on education, information and awareness building activities

4.6.5 - How well is the information on Outstanding Universal Value of the property presented and interpreted?

The Outstanding Universal Value of the property is adequately presented and interpreted **but improvements could be made**

4.6.6 - Please rate the adequacy for education, information and awareness building of the following visitor facilities and services at the World Heritage property

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------|
| Visitor centre | Excellent |
| Site museum | Excellent |
| Information booths | Excellent |
| Guided tours | Excellent |
| Trails / routes | Adequate |
| Information materials | Excellent |
| Transportation facilities | Adequate |
| Other | Adequate |

4.6.7 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to education, information and awareness building

None

4.7. Visitor Management

4.7.1 - Please provide the trend in annual visitation for the last five years

| | |
|-----------------|--------|
| Last year | Static |
| Two years ago | Static |
| Three years ago | Static |
| Four years ago | Static |
| Five years ago | Static |

4.7.2 - What information sources are used to collect trend data on visitor statistics?

| |
|------------------------------|
| Accommodation establishments |
| Transportation services |
| Tourism industry |
| Visitor surveys |

4.7.3 - Visitor management documents

Comment

Trilaterally: QSR 2004, QSR 2009. A strategy for sustainable tourism in the World Heritage Wadden Sea destination is in preparation for 2014. Nationally: Official statistic bureaus.

4.7.4 - Is there an appropriate visitor use management plan (e.g. specific plan) for the World Heritage property which ensures that its Outstanding Universal Value is maintained?

Visitor use of the World Heritage property is **effectively managed** and does not impact its Outstanding Universal Value

4.7.5 - Does the tourism industry contribute to improving visitor experiences and maintaining the values of the World Heritage property?

There is **excellent co-operation** between those responsible for the World Heritage property and the tourism industry to present the Outstanding Universal Value and increase appreciation

4.7.6 - If fees (i.e. entry charges, permits) are collected, do they contribute to the management of the World Heritage property?

No fees are collected

4.7.7 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to visitor use of the World Heritage property

None

4.8. Monitoring

4.8.1 - Is there a monitoring programme at the property which is directed towards management needs and / or improving understanding of Outstanding Universal Value?

There is a **comprehensive, integrated programme** of monitoring, which is relevant to management needs and / or improving understanding of Outstanding Universal Value

4.8.2 - Are key indicators for measuring the state of conservation used to monitor how the Outstanding Universal Value of the property is maintained?

Information on the values of the World Heritage property is **sufficient** for defining and monitoring key indicators for measuring its state of conservation

4.8.3 - Please rate the level of involvement in monitoring of the following groups

| | |
|--|----------------|
| World Heritage managers / coordinators and staff | Excellent |
| Local / Municipal authorities | Not applicable |
| Local communities | Not applicable |
| Researchers | Excellent |
| NGOs | Excellent |
| Industry | Average |
| Local indigenous peoples | Not applicable |

4.8.4 - Has the State Party implemented relevant recommendations arising from the World Heritage Committee?

Implementation is **underway**

4.8.5 - Please provide comments relevant to the implementation of recommendations from the World Heritage Committee

Inclusion of the Danish Wadden Sea: Nomination document submitted in Jan 2013, Sustainable Tourism Strategy in preparation for approval at Ministerial Conference in Feb 2014, Alien Species Strategy prepared for approval at Ministerial Conference in Feb 2014, Wadden Sea Flyway Initiative established strengthening cooperation along the Flyway.

4.8.6 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to monitoring

None

4.9. Identification of Priority Management Needs

4.9.1 - Please select the top 6 managements needs for the property (if more than 6 are listed below)

Please refer to question 5.2

5. Summary and Conclusions

5.1. Summary - Factors affecting the Property

5.1.1 - Summary - Factors affecting the Property

| | World Heritage criteria and attributes affected | Actions | Monitoring | Timeframe | Lead agency (and others involved) | More info / comment |
|---------------|--|--|---|---|-----------------------------------|--|
| 3.2 | Transportation Infrastructure | | | | | |
| 3.2.4 | Effects arising from use of transportation infrastructure | ix: ecological processes x: biodiversity | Adequate contingency procedures and regulations are in place | All activities and possible impacts closely monitored. | Continuously | Competent authorities at national and state level. none |
| 3.5 | Biological resource use/modification | | | | | |
| 3.5.1 | Fishing/collecting aquatic resources | ix: impact on sea bottom and associated fauna and flora, natural processes x: impact on marine species composition and abundance | Environmental Impact Assessments. Regulations and management plans. | Several regular monitoring programmes | on-going | Competent authorities at national and state level. none |
| 3.10 | Climate change and severe weather events | | | | | |
| 3.10.5 | Changes to oceanic waters | viii and ix: impact on geomorphological system and the entwined biophysical processes due to climate change effects x: changes in species composition and abundance | Research on climate change effects and adaptation measures. | Monitoring on sedimentation processes and hydrodynamics, and species. | ongoing | Competent authorities at national and state level. Trilateral Wadden Sea Cooperation None |
| 3.12 | Invasive/alien species or hyper-abundant species | | | | | |
| 3.12.4 | Invasive / alien marine species | ix and x: impacts on species distribution and abundance, and natural processes. | Implementation of international conventions. Trilateral alien species strategy being developed. | Further development of the TMAP according to the strategy | 2014 - 2018 | Competent authorities at national and state level. Trilateral Wadden Sea Cooperation. Research institutions and private parties. none |

5.2. Summary - Management Needs

5.2.2 - Summary - Management Needs

Answers provided have not outlined any serious management need.

5.3. Conclusions on the State of Conservation of the Property

5.3.1 - Current state of Authenticity

Not applicable (for sites inscribed exclusively under criteria vii to x)

5.3.2 - Current state of Integrity

The integrity of the World Heritage property is intact

5.3.3 - Current state of the World Heritage property's Outstanding Universal Value

The World Heritage property's Outstanding Universal Value has been maintained.

5.3.4 - Current state of the property's other values

Other important cultural and / or natural values and the state of conservation of the World Heritage property are predominantly intact

5.4. Additional comments on the State of Conservation of the Property

5.4.1 - Comments

none

6. World Heritage Status and Conclusions on Periodic Reporting Exercise

6.1 - Please rate the impacts of World Heritage status of the property in relation to the following areas

| | |
|--|----------------|
| Conservation | Positive |
| Research and monitoring | Positive |
| Management effectiveness | Positive |
| Quality of life for local communities and indigenous peoples | Positive |
| Recognition | Positive |
| Education | Positive |
| Infrastructure development | Positive |
| Funding for the property | Positive |
| International cooperation | Very positive |
| Political support for conservation | Positive |
| Legal / Policy framework | Positive |
| Lobbying | Positive |
| Institutional coordination | Positive |
| Security | Not applicable |
| Other (please specify) | Not applicable |

6.2 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to World Heritage status

6.3 - Entities involved in the preparation of this Section of the Periodic Report

| |
|--|
| Governmental institution responsible for the property |
| Site Manager/Coordinator/World Heritage property staff |

6.4 - Was the Periodic Reporting questionnaire easy to use and clearly understandable?

yes

6.5 - Please provide suggestions for improvement of the Periodic Reporting questionnaire

Spelling check. :-)

6.6 - Please rate the level of support for completing the Periodic Report questionnaire from the following entities

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------|
| UNESCO | Good |
| State Party Representative | Very good |
| Advisory Body | Good |

6.7 - How accessible was the information required to complete the Periodic Report?

All required information was accessible

6.8 - The Periodic Reporting process has improved the understanding of the following

| |
|---|
| The World Heritage Convention |
| The concept of Outstanding Universal Value |
| The property's Outstanding Universal Value |
| The concept of Integrity and / or Authenticity |
| The property's Integrity and / or Authenticity |
| Managing the property to maintain the Outstanding Universal Value |
| Monitoring and reporting |
| Management effectiveness |

6.9 - Please rate the follow-up to conclusions and recommendations from previous Periodic Reporting exercise by the following entities

| | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| UNESCO | Not Applicable |
| State Party | Not Applicable |
| Site Managers | Not Applicable |
| Advisory Bodies | Not Applicable |

6.10 - Summary of actions that will require formal consideration by the World Heritage Committee

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6.11 - Comments, conclusions and / or recommendations related to the Assessment of the Periodic Reporting exercise

none