

1. World Heritage Property Data

2. Statement of Outstanding Universal Value

1.1 - Name of World Heritage Property

Yellowstone National Park

2.1 - Statement of Outstanding Universal Value / Statement of Significance

1.2 - World Heritage Property Details

State(s) Party(ies)

- United States of America

Type of Property

natural

Identification Number

28

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List

1978


1.3 - Geographic Information Table

Name	Coordinates (longitude / latitude)	Property (ha)	Buffer zone (ha)	Total (ha)	Inscription year
Yellowstone National Park	44.461 / -110.828	898349	0	898349	1978
Total (ha)		898349	0	898349	

Comment

Our official estimate is slightly different: 898,317 ha

1.4 - Map(s)

Title	Date	Link to source
Yellowstone National Park	01/03/2006	

1.5 - Governmental Institution Responsible for the Property

- Jonathan Putnam
US National Park Service Office of International Affairs
World Heritage Program Officer

1.6 - Property Manager / Coordinator, Local Institution / Agency

- Dan Wenk

Superintendent

1.7 - Web Address of the Property (if existing)

1. [View photos from OUR PLACE the World Heritage collection](#)
2. [Natural site datasheet from WCMC](#)
3. [Yellowstone National Park \(U.S. World Heritage\)](#)
4. [Yellowstone National Park \(U.S. National Park Service\)](#)
5. [World Heritage in the United States](#)

Comment

Links #2 and #3 are not active ("Natural site datasheet from WCMC" and "Yellowstone National Park (U.S. World Heritage)")

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

Comment

We are also a Biosphere Reserve

Statement of Significance

Yellowstone National Park is a protected area showcasing significant geological phenomena and processes. It is also a unique manifestation of geothermal forces, natural beauty, and wild ecosystems where rare and endangered species thrive. As the site of one of the few remaining intact large ecosystems in the northern temperate zone of earth, Yellowstone's ecological communities provide unparalleled opportunities for conservation, study, and enjoyment of large-scale wildland ecosystem processes.

Criteria

(vii) The extraordinary scenic treasures of Yellowstone include the world's largest collection of geysers, the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone River, numerous waterfalls, and great herds of wildlife.

(viii) Yellowstone is one of the world's foremost sites for the study and appreciation of the evolutionary history of the earth. The park has a globally unparalleled assemblage of surficial geothermal activity, thousands of hot springs, mudpots and fumaroles, and more than half of the world's active geysers. Nearly 150 species of fossil plants, ranging from small ferns and rushes up to large Sequoia and many other tree species, have been identified in the park's abundant fossil deposits. The world's largest recognized caldera (45km by 75km – 27 miles by 45 miles) is contained within the park.

(ix) The park is one of the few remaining intact large ecosystems in the northern temperate zone of the earth. All flora in the park are allowed to progress through natural succession with no direct management being practiced. Forest fires, if started from lightning, are often allowed to burn where possible to permit the natural effects of fire to periodically assert itself. The park's bison are the only wild, continuously free-ranging bison remaining of herds that once covered the Great Plains and, along with other park wildlife, are one of the greatest attractions.

(x) Yellowstone National Park has become one of North America's foremost refuges for rare plant and animal species and also functions as a model for ecosystem processes. The grizzly bear is one of the worlds' most intensively studied and best-understood bear populations. This research has led to a greater understanding of the interdependence of ecosystem relationships. Protection of the park's flora and fauna, as well as the natural processes that affect their population and distribution allow biological evolution to proceed with minimal influence by man.

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

(vii)(viii)(ix)(x)

2.3 - Attributes expressing the Outstanding Universal Value per criterion

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

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

3. Factors Affecting the Property

3.14. Other factor(s)

3.14.1 - Other factor(s)

3.15. Factors Summary Table

3.15.1 - Factors summary table

	Name	Impact					Origin	
3.1	Buildings and Development							
3.1.1	Housing							
3.1.2	Commercial development							
3.1.3	Industrial areas							
3.1.4	Major visitor accommodation and associated infrastructure							
3.1.5	Interpretative and visitation facilities							
3.2	Transportation Infrastructure							
3.2.1	Ground transport infrastructure							
3.2.4	Effects arising from use of transportation infrastructure							
3.3	Services Infrastructures							
3.3.1	Water infrastructure							
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							
3.4.2	Ground water pollution							
3.4.3	Surface water pollution							
3.4.4	Air pollution							
3.4.5	Solid waste							
3.4.6	Input of excess energy							
3.5	Biological resource use/modification							
3.5.1	Fishing/collecting aquatic resources							
3.5.3	Land conversion							
3.5.4	Livestock farming / grazing of domesticated animals							
3.6	Physical resource extraction							
3.6.1	Mining							
3.6.4	Water (extraction)							
3.7	Local conditions affecting physical fabric							
3.7.3	Temperature							
3.7.7	Pests							
3.8	Social/cultural uses of heritage							
3.8.6	Impacts of tourism / visitor / recreation							
3.9	Other human activities							
3.9.1	Illegal activities							
3.10	Climate change and severe weather events							
3.10.1	Storms							
3.10.2	Flooding							
3.10.3	Drought							
3.10.6	Temperature change							
3.10.7	Other climate change impacts							
3.11	Sudden ecological or geological events							
3.11.1	Volcanic eruption							
3.11.2	Earthquake							

Name		Impact				Origin	
3.11.4	Avalanche/ landslide						
3.11.5	Erosion and siltation/ deposition						
3.11.6	Fire (wildfires)						
3.12	Invasive/alien species or hyper-abundant species						
3.12.1	Translocated species						
3.12.2	Invasive/alien terrestrial species						
3.12.3	Invasive / alien freshwater species						
3.13	Management and institutional factors						
3.13.1	Low impact research / monitoring activities						
3.13.2	High impact research / monitoring activities						
3.13.3	Management activities						
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						
3.1.1	Housing	restricted	on-going	minor	low capacity	increasing
3.2 Transportation Infrastructure						
3.2.1	Ground transport infrastructure	restricted	on-going	minor	medium capacity	static
3.2.4	Effects arising from use of transportation infrastructure	restricted	on-going	minor	medium capacity	increasing
3.3 Services Infrastructures						
3.3.1	Water infrastructure	restricted	on-going	minor	high capacity	static
3.3.4	Localised utilities	restricted	on-going	minor	high capacity	increasing
3.3.5	Major linear utilities	restricted	on-going	minor	medium capacity	static
3.4 Pollution						
3.4.2	Ground water pollution	restricted	one off or rare	minor	low capacity	static
3.4.3	Surface water pollution	restricted	intermittent or sporadic	minor	low capacity	static
3.4.4	Air pollution	widespread	intermittent or sporadic	minor	no capacity and / or resources	static
3.4.5	Solid waste	restricted	intermittent or sporadic	insignificant	medium capacity	static
3.4.6	Input of excess energy	restricted	on-going	minor	high capacity	static
3.5 Biological resource use/modification						
3.5.1	Fishing/collecting aquatic resources	extensive	on-going	minor	high capacity	static
3.5.3	Land conversion	restricted	on-going	minor	low capacity	increasing
3.5.4	Livestock farming / grazing of domesticated animals	restricted	one off or rare	insignificant	low capacity	static
3.6 Physical resource extraction						
3.6.1	Mining	restricted	on-going	minor	low capacity	static
3.7 Local conditions affecting physical fabric						
3.7.3	Temperature	widespread	on-going	significant	low capacity	increasing
3.7.7	Pests	extensive	on-going	significant	low capacity	static
3.8 Social/cultural uses of heritage						
3.8.6	Impacts of tourism / visitor / recreation	localised	on-going	minor	medium capacity	increasing
3.9 Other human activities						
3.9.1	Illegal activities	restricted	intermittent or sporadic	insignificant	low capacity	static
3.10 Climate change and severe weather events						
3.10.1	Storms	widespread	on-going	significant	low capacity	increasing
3.10.2	Flooding	restricted	intermittent or sporadic	insignificant	low capacity	static
3.10.3	Drought	extensive	on-going	minor	no capacity and / or resources	static
3.10.6	Temperature change	widespread	on-going	significant	no capacity and / or resources	increasing

	Spatial scale	Temporal scale	Impact	Management response	Trend
3.10.7 Other climate change impacts	widespread	on-going	minor	low capacity	increasing
3.11	Sudden ecological or geological events				
3.11.6 Fire (wildfires)	extensive	intermittent or sporadic	significant	medium capacity	decreasing
3.12	Invasive/alien species or hyper-abundant species				
3.12.1 Translocated species					
3.12.2 Invasive/alien terrestrial species	extensive	on-going	significant	medium capacity	increasing
3.12.3 Invasive / alien freshwater species	extensive	on-going	significant	medium capacity	increasing
3.13	Management and institutional factors				
3.13.3 Management activities	extensive	on-going	significant	medium capacity	static

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

3.17.1 - Comments

3.3.2 - A small scale hydro power project inside the park supplies the park with more than 1.2 million kilowatt hours each year with no significant impact on park resources. 3.3.4 - Cell phone towers may create small impacts to aesthetics of the park for visitors 3.3.5 - Hundreds of miles in power line corridors create natural resource impacts and impacts to aesthetics of the park for visitors.

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 **do not limit** the ability to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value but they could be improved

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

4.1.2 - The boundaries of the World Heritage property could be improved to enable free movement of migratory wildlife species.

4.2. Protective Measures

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

The park is guided first by the relevant statutory laws of the United States emphasizing parks such as the Yellowstone Organic Act (16 USC 21-22), NPS Organic Act (16 USC 1 *et seq*), General Authorities Act (16 USC 1a-1), National Parks and Recreation Act (16 USC 1a-7), the "Redwood Act" (16 USC

1a-1), and the National Parks Omnibus Management Act (16 USC 5901 *et seq*). In addition, other national statutes in part focus on parks such as the Clean Air Act (42 USC 7401 *et seq*), Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 USC 1251 *et seq*), Wilderness Act (16 USC 1131 *et seq*), National Environmental Policy Act (42 USC 4332 *et seq*), Endangered Species Act (7 USC 136 *as amended*), Geothermal Steam Act (30 USC 1001 *et seq*), Antiquities Act (16 USC 431 *et seq*), Historic Sites Act (49 Stat. 666), National Historic Preservation Act (80 Stat. 915 *as amended*), Archeological and Historic Preservation Act (88 Stat. 174), are examples among others.

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?

An **adequate** legal framework exists for the area surrounding the World Heritage property and the buffer zone, but **there are some deficiencies in its implementation** which undermine the maintenance of the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Authenticity and / or Integrity of the property

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

There is **acceptable** capacity / resources to enforce legislation and / or regulation in the World Heritage property but some deficiencies remain

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

4.2.4 - Development of geothermal resources, fracking, oil and gas development and habitat fragmentation in areas surrounding the park have the potential to threaten the protection of the park's Outstanding Universal Value. 4.2.5 - Liberalized legislation that allowed the presence of fire arms in backcountry areas of Yellowstone National Park is an example of a legal enforcement challenge that potentially makes maintaining Outstanding Universal Value conditions difficult.

4.3. Management System / Management Plan

4.3.1 - Management System

The Greater Yellowstone Coordinating Committee (GYCC) was formed in 1964 to allow representatives from the National Park Service (NPS), US Forest Service, and the US Fish and Wildlife Service to pursue opportunities of mutual cooperation and coordination in the management of core federal lands in the GYE. The GYE is a unique and special place, with federally

administered lands that include six national forests, two national parks and two national wildlife refuges; they are geographically contiguous, ecologically interdependent, and unalterably linked.

GYCC member representatives include park superintendents from Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks; forest supervisors from the Beaverhead-Deerlodge, Bridger-Teton, Caribou-Targhee, Custer, Gallatin, and Shoshone National Forests; and refuge managers from the National Elk Refuge and Red Rock Lakes National Wildlife Refuge. The members provide leadership that serves the public and sustains the resources of the GYE. They strive to find intersection in the missions of their agencies and opportunities of cooperative management of area resources that make sense, enhance public service and maintain or enhance the integrity of the Greater Yellowstone.

The GYCC's role is to ensure coordination of planning, monitoring and practices across national park, national forest, and national wildlife refuge units where possible. GYCC managers periodically identify priority resource management issues where coordination across the Greater Yellowstone area is desirable. This helps to identify and address ongoing and emerging issues, and promotes coordinated strategic thinking. The managers affirmed the following priorities in fall 2009:

- Ecosystem Health
 - o Air Quality
 - o Climate Change
 - o Disease
 - o Invasive Species: Aquatic Invasives, Terrestrial Invasives
 - o Species on the Brink: Native Fish, Whitebark Pine, Wildlife
 - o Healthy Water Quality and Flow
- Sustainable Operations
- Protection of GYE Landscape Integrity
- Connect People to the Land

The GYCC also endeavors to create a climate that encourages coordination and sharing within the federal units and with partners. To that end, they provide a forum for interaction with other government agencies (federal, state, and local), and with private organizations and the public. Other benefits include helping to minimize duplication of effort, and providing opportunities to share information, resources, and data. More information is available at <http://fedgycc.org>.

In 2012, the park is continuing to demonstrate its regional leadership and commitment to integrated planning for resource protection, management and decision-making by presenting its 11th Biennial Scientific Conference on the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem. The 2012 event, titled Greater Yellowstone in Transition: linking science to decision-making, will focus on strengthening the link between research and science-based management decisions for the region and Yellowstone National Park. An estimated 200 representatives from academia, government (county, state and federal) agencies, and nongovernmental organizations are expected to attend. Conference information can be accessed online and the proceedings of the conference will be compiled and published in 2013.

Comment

An estimated 200 representatives from academia, government (county, state and federal) agencies, and nongovernmental organizations are expected to attend. Replace with: "Approximately 300 representatives attended from academia, government (county, state and federal) agencies, and nongovernmental organizations." In addition add: The park is managed using a portfolio of publicly reviewed natural, cultural resource, and visitor management plans.

4.3.2 - Management Documents

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 coordination between the range of administrative bodies / levels involved in the management of the property **but it could be improved**

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 **many activities** are being implemented

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

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

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 contribute** to some decisions relating to 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?

Indigenous peoples directly contribute to **some decisions** relating to management but their involvement could be improved

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 contact but only **some cooperation** with industry regarding the management of the World Heritage property, buffer zone and / or area surrounding the World Heritage property and buffer zone

Periodic Report - Second Cycle

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

4.3.3 - There is a framework in place for coordination between different land management agencies but differing missions can make coordination challenging at times. 4.3.4 - The park is managed using a portfolio of publicly reviewed developed area, visitor, natural, and cultural resource management plans.

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

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)	55%
Governmental (Regional / Provincial / State)	0%
Governmental (Local / Municipal)	0%
In country donations (NGO's, foundations, etc)	20%
Individual visitor charges (e.g. entry, parking, camping fees, etc.)	10%
Commercial operator payments (e.g. filming permit, concessions, etc.)	10%
Other grants	5%

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

Comment

We do not receive any assistance from the World Heritage Fund.

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

The available budget is **acceptable** but could be further improved to fully meet the management needs

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

Existing sources of funding are **not secure**

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

There is a **major flow** of economic benefits to local communities from activities in and around the World Heritage property

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?

There is **basic** maintenance of equipment and facilities

Section II-Yellowstone National Park

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

4.4.3 - The current budget has been subjected to across-the-board cuts to all park programs. At present, no park programs are funded to meet all identified needs. 4.4.4 - The park's current budget (FY2013) of \$63.7 million is not fully secure. Approximately 40% of this total is non-recurring funding from sources that may or may not be available in the future (i.e. donations, project based funding, user fees, and reimbursable accounts).

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

Full-time	80%
Part-time	20%

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

Permanent	30%
Seasonal	70%

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

Paid	80%
Volunteer	20%

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

A range of human resources exist, but these are **below optimum** to manage the World Heritage Property.

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	Fair
Promotion	Not applicable
Community outreach	Fair
Interpretation	Good
Education	Good
Visitor management	Fair
Conservation	Good
Administration	Good
Risk preparedness	Good
Tourism	Not applicable
Enforcement (custodians, police)	Fair

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	Medium
Promotion	Medium
Community outreach	Medium
Interpretation	Medium
Education	Medium
Visitor management	Medium
Conservation	Medium
Administration	Medium
Risk preparedness	Medium
Tourism	Medium
Enforcement (custodians, police)	Medium

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

4.4.12 - Due to issues with budget and administrative actions that restrict recruitment for vacant positions, there are empty employment slots in various resource areas which, if filled, would help in the management of the World Heritage property.

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** for most key areas **but there are gaps**

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

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

4.5.1 - There are gaps as we seek to better understand ecosystem dynamics, the effects of climate change, and to further our understanding of social science.

4.6. Education, Information and Awareness Building

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

In **one location and 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	Poor
Local / Municipal authorities within or adjacent to the property	Non-existent
Local Indigenous peoples	Poor

Local landowners	Non-existent
Visitors	Poor
Tourism industry	Poor
Local businesses and industries	Non-existent

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 **not influenced** education, information or awareness building activities

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

There is **excellent presentation and interpretation** of the Outstanding Universal Value of the property

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	Adequate
Site museum	Adequate
Information booths	Adequate
Guided tours	Adequate
Trails / routes	Adequate
Information materials	Adequate
Transportation facilities	Adequate
Other	Adequate

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

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	Minor Increase
Three years ago	Minor Increase
Four years ago	Minor Increase
Five years ago	Minor Increase

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

Entry tickets and registries
Accommodation establishments
Tourism industry
Visitor surveys

4.7.3 - Visitor management documents

Comment

We have recently completed developed area plans and we have a nearly complete long-range interpretive plan that assists with visitor management.

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 managed but **improvements could be made**

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?

The fee is collected, and makes **some contribution** to the management of the World Heritage property

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

4.7.4 - The park has experienced a rapid increase in visitation over the last decade which may have an impact on how visitors experience the park. A contemporary visitor use management plan could be an improvement. 4.7.5 - There is excellent co-operation between those responsible for the World Heritage property and the tourism industry operating inside the park to present the Outstanding Universal Value and increase appreciation

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	Average
Local / Municipal authorities	Poor
Local communities	Average
Researchers	Excellent
NGOs	Average
Industry	Not applicable

Local indigenous peoples	Average
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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

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

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	
3.7	Local conditions affecting physical fabric						
3.7.3	Temperature	vii, viii, ix, x	Other than seasonal fisheries closures to protect stressed native fish no actions are planned.	We maintain a number of meteorological stations throughout the park.	On-going	National Park Service and USGS	Air and water temperature
3.7.7	Pests	vii, viii, ix, x	Plans, inspections and best practices to avoid new infestations	Monitoring of water crafts and in known areas of infestation.	On-going	National Park Service	Number of non-native species
3.10	Climate change and severe weather events						
3.10.1	Storms	vii, viii, ix, x	None	Through use of existing meteorological monitoring stations.	On-going	National Park Service and USGS	Frequency and intensity of storms.
3.10.6	Temperature change	vii, viii, ix, x	None	Monitoring by existing meteorological stations.	On-going	National Park Service and USGS	Air and water temperatures
3.10.7	Other climate change impacts	vii, viii, ix, x	None	Climate meteorological monitoring.	On-going	National Park Service and USGS	Precipitation, phenology
3.12	Invasive/alien species or hyper-abundant species						
3.12.2	Invasive/alien terrestrial species	vii, viii, ix, x	Active invasive plant control program and early detection rapid response for invasive animals.	Under development	On-going	National Park Service	Number and extent of infestation of invasive plants and animals.. Park has just developed a new invasive plant management plan.

5.2. Summary - Management Needs

5.2.2 - Summary - Management Needs

4.1 Boundaries and Buffer Zones						
	Actions	Timeframe	Lead agency (and others involved)	More info / comment		
4.1.2	Boundaries could be improved	Continue to work cooperatively with land managers in areas surrounding the park to improve the ability for native migratory wildlife to utilize habitat outside the park.	On-going.	Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks, US Forest Service		

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 **impacted** by factors described in this report, but this situation is being **addressed through effective management actions**.

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

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	No impact
Research and monitoring	No impact
Management effectiveness	No impact
Quality of life for local communities and indigenous peoples	No impact
Recognition	No impact
Education	No impact
Infrastructure development	No impact
Funding for the property	No impact
International cooperation	Positive
Political support for conservation	Positive
Legal / Policy framework	No impact
Lobbying	No impact
Institutional coordination	No impact
Security	No impact
Other (please specify)	No impact

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

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

no

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

It was fairly easy to use and understandable, yet hard to apply to so many different sites. Sometimes the reporting was of limited value given the inability to describe the justification behind the answers.

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

UNESCO	Fair
State Party Representative	Very good
Advisory Body	Fair

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

Most of the required information was accessible

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

The property's Outstanding Universal Value

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

UNESCO	Satisfactory
State Party	Satisfactory
Site Managers	Satisfactory
Advisory Bodies	Satisfactory

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

- **Geographic Information Table**
Reason for update: Our official estimate is slightly different: 898,317 ha

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