

1. World Heritage Property Data

1.1 - Name of World Heritage Property

Olympic National Park

1.2 - World Heritage Property Details

State(s) Party(ies)

- United States of America

Type of Property

natural

Identification Number

151


Year of inscription on the World Heritage List

1981

1.3 - Geographic Information Table

Name	Coordinates (longitude / latitude)	Property (ha)	Buffer zone (ha)	Total (ha)	Inscription year
Olympic Mountains , Washington	0 / 0	352335	?	352335	
Pacific Coastal Area , Washington	0 / 0	17324.8	?	17324.8	
Total (ha)		369659.8	0	369659.8	

1.4 - Map(s)

Title	Date	Link to source
Olympic 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

- Sarah Creachbaum

Superintendent

1.7 - Web Address of the Property (if existing)

1. [Olympic National Park \(U.S. World Heritage\)](#)
2. [Olympic National Park \(U.S. National Park Service\)](#)
3. [World Heritage in the United States](#)

Comment

Please remove link 1 above as it no longer is active

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

Comment

Olympic National Park is a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve, and 95% of the park is designated as a Federal Wilderness Area.

2. Statement of Outstanding Universal Value

2.1 - Statement of Outstanding Universal Value / Statement of Significance

Statement of Significance

Olympic National Park features spectacular coastline, scenic lakes, majestic mountains and glaciers, and magnificent temperate rainforest. It is the lowest latitude in the world in which glaciers form at relatively low elevation. Its relative isolation and highly varied rainfall have produced complex and varied life zones. Olympic contains a great wealth of geological formations. The rocky islets along the coast are remnants of a continuously receding and changing coastline. The biological evolution, ecological variety and sheer splendor of Olympic National Park make it a special place.

Criteria

(vii) Olympic National Park is of remarkable beauty, and is the largest protected area in the temperate region of the world that includes in one complex ecosystems from ocean edge through temperate rainforest, alpine meadows and glaciated mountain peaks. It contains one of the world's largest stands of virgin temperate rainforest, and includes many of the largest coniferous tree species on earth.

(ix) The park's varied topography from seashore to glacier, affected by high rainfall has produced complex and varied vegetation zones, providing habitats of unmatched diversity on the Pacific coast. The coastal Olympic rainforest reaches its maximum development within the property and has a living standing biomass which may be the highest anywhere in the world. The park's isolation has allowed the development of endemic wildlife, subspecies of trout, varieties of plants and unique fur coloration in mammals, indications of a separate course of evolution.

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

(vii)(ix)

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								
3.1.4	Major visitor accommodation and associated infrastructure								
3.1.5	Interpretative and visitation facilities								
3.2	Transportation Infrastructure								
3.2.1	Ground transport infrastructure								
3.2.3	Marine transport infrastructure								
3.2.4	Effects arising from use of transportation infrastructure								
3.4	Pollution								
3.4.1	Pollution of marine waters								
3.4.3	Surface water pollution								
3.4.4	Air pollution								
3.5	Biological resource use/modification								
3.5.1	Fishing/collecting aquatic resources								
3.5.10	Forestry /wood production								
3.8	Social/cultural uses of heritage								
3.8.1	Ritual / spiritual / religious and associative uses								
3.8.2	Society's valuing of heritage								
3.8.3	Indigenous hunting, gathering and collecting								
3.8.4	Changes in traditional ways of life and knowledge system								
3.8.6	Impacts of tourism / visitor / recreation								
3.10	Climate change and severe weather events								
3.10.1	Storms								
3.10.2	Flooding								
3.10.5	Changes to oceanic waters								
3.10.6	Temperature change								
3.10.7	Other climate change impacts								
3.11	Sudden ecological or geological events								
3.11.2	Earthquake								
3.11.3	Tsunami/tidal wave								
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								
3.12.4	Invasive / alien marine species								
3.13	Management and institutional factors								
3.13.1	Low 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	
3.2	Transportation Infrastructure					
3.2.4	Effects arising from use of transportation infrastructure	restricted	intermittent or sporadic	minor	medium capacity	static
3.4	Pollution					
3.4.4	Air pollution	widespread	on-going	minor	low capacity	increasing
3.5	Biological resource use/modification					
3.5.1	Fishing/collecting aquatic resources	localised	intermittent or sporadic	minor	medium capacity	static

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

3.17.1 - Comments

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)

In 1897, the beauty and significance of the Olympic Peninsula was formally recognized through President Cleveland's designation of 2,188,000 acres (885,456 hectares) as the Olympic Forest Reserve (which was later reduced in size by over 500,000 acres/202,344 hectares). Within that area, Mount Olympus National Monument was established in 1909 (it, too, was subsequently reduced in size). In 1916, the National Park Service was created, and, in 1933, administration of Mount Olympus National Monument was transferred from the U.S. Forest Service to the National Park Service. Olympic National Park was established in 1938 with the abolishment of Mount Olympus National Monument (52 Stat. 1241). Legislation subsequent to the enabling act of Olympic National Park has, among other provisions, authorized exclusive jurisdiction within the park, added rain forest acreage, the Morse Creek watershed, and the Queets

corridor, enlarged the coastal strip, adjusted park boundaries to hydrographic divides, and designated a portion of the park as wilderness (Frank and Rhines, 1986). The park currently encompasses over 922,000 acres (373,121 hectares).

The following are United States federal statutes:

Antiquities Act, 1906 (16 USC 431 et seq.)

Act to Establish the National Park Service (Organic Act), 1916 (16 USC 1)

Act to Abolish Mount Olympus National Monument and Establish Olympic

National Park, 1938 (P.L. 75-778, 52 Stat. 1241)

Wilderness Act, 1964 (16 USC 1131 et seq.)

National Historic Preservation Act, 1966 (16 USC 470 et seq.)

Clean Air Act, 1967, as amended (42 USC 7401-671)

National Environmental Policy Act, 1969, as amended (42 USC 4321 et seq.)

Act to Improve the Administration of the National Park System (General Authorities Act, 1970, as amended (16 USC 1a-5 et seq.)

Federal Water Pollution Control Act, 1972 (Clean Water Act), as amended (33 USC 1251 et seq.)

Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 USC 1455, as amended through P.L. 104-150, Coastal Zone Protection Act of 1996)

Endangered Species Act, 1973 (16 USC 1531 et seq.)

Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, 1976, as amended (42 USC 6901 et seq.)

American Indian Religious Freedom Act, 1978 (42 USC 1996 et seq.)

Archaeological Resources Protection Act, 1979 (16 USC 470 et seq.)

National Parks Overflights Act, 1987 (Public Law 100-91)

Washington Park Wilderness Act of 1988 (P.L. 100-668, 102 Stat. 3961)

Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, 1990 (25 USC 3001 et seq.)

Elwha Ecosystem and Fisheries Restoration Act of 1992, (P.L. 102-495, 106 Stat. 3173)

Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, 1996 (16 USC 1801)

National Park Air Tour Management Act, 2000 (Public Law 106-181)

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 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

4.2.4 - 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 **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

4.3. Management System / Management Plan

4.3.1 - Management System

The last park management plan was the 1976 Master Plan. While the plan discussed uses and concepts, it did not include alternatives or prescriptions. The 1976 plan focused on finding a balance between visitor use and natural resource constraints, and highlighted as a high priority research such as a vegetation mapping, soil mapping, human behavior patterns, monitoring forest conditions, status of rare and endangered plants, and effects of human activities. None of these studies have been completed; however, various research studies have included elements of vegetation mapping, rare and endangered species status, and effects of human activities. The General Management Plan that is in progress (2005) contains specific decision points and desired conditions based on public and agency issues. The decision points address the following: resource protection and sound science; the role of cultural resource protection and interpretation; wilderness values and visitor experience, facilities in the wilderness, protection standards to preserve wilderness values and accomadation while preserving resources; park access without causing greater impacts to the resources (trails, parking and roads); and partnerships to protect our resources, and to enhance cooperative opportunities with Olympic Peninsula tribes to protect tribal heritage values. The outcome of this plan will be preferred alternatives to guide decision making over the next 20 years. Park General Management Plan scheduled for completion in 2005.

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 **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 **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	Good
Local / Municipal authorities	Good
Indigenous peoples	Good
Landowners	Good
Visitors	Good
Researchers	Good
Tourism industry	Good
Industry	Fair

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

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

The General Management Plan is available here:
<http://parkplanning.nps.gov/projectHome.cfm?projectId=1023>
 3

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)	
International donations (NGO's, foundations, etc)	
Governmental (National / Federal)	70%
Governmental (Regional / Provincial / State)	
Governmental (Local / Municipal)	
In country donations (NGO's, foundations, etc)	5%
Individual visitor charges (e.g. entry, parking, camping fees, etc.)	20%
Commercial operator payments (e.g. filming permit, concessions, etc.)	5%
Other grants	

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

Comment

No international funding is received for this site.

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)?

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?

Equipment and facilities are **well maintained**

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

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

Full-time	98%
Part-time	2%

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

Permanent	60%
Seasonal	40%

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	Fair
Community outreach	Fair
Interpretation	Fair
Education	Fair
Visitor management	Good
Conservation	Fair
Administration	Fair
Risk preparedness	Fair
Tourism	Fair
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 **partially implemented**; some technical skills are being transferred to those managing the property locally **but most of the technical work is carried out by external staff**

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

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

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

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	Average
Local / Municipal authorities within or adjacent to the property	Average
Local Indigenous peoples	Average
Local landowners	Poor
Visitors	Average
Tourism industry	Excellent
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 influenced education, information and awareness building activities, **but it could be improved**

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	Excellent
Information materials	Excellent
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	Minor Increase
Two years ago	Static
Three years ago	Static
Four years ago	Decreasing
Five years ago	Decreasing

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

Entry tickets and registries
Accommodation establishments
Visitor surveys

4.7.3 - Visitor management documents

Comment

Olympic National Park Management Plan was completed in 2008. It can be found at: <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/olym>

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?

The fee is collected and makes a **substantial 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

4.8. 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	Average
Local communities	Average
Researchers	Average
NGOs	Average
Industry	Average
Local indigenous peoples	Average

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

No relevant Committee recommendations to implement

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
3.4	Pollution						
3.4.4	Air pollution	World Heritage attributes that may be affected are criteria ii and iii.	This is from outside sources, no management actions apply.	The park will continue to monitor air quality.	Ongoing	National Park Service	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	Very positive
Research and monitoring	Very positive
Management effectiveness	Positive
Quality of life for local communities and indigenous peoples	No impact
Recognition	Very positive
Education	Very positive
Infrastructure development	Positive
Funding for the property	Positive
International cooperation	Not applicable
Political support for conservation	Very positive
Legal / Policy framework	Very positive
Lobbying	No impact
Institutional coordination	Very positive
Security	Positive
Other (please specify)	Not applicable

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

None

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?

yes

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

No comments

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

UNESCO	Good
State Party Representative	Good
Advisory Body	Good

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 concept of Outstanding Universal Value
The property's Outstanding Universal Value
The property's Integrity and / or Authenticity
Managing the property to maintain the 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

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

None