A remote habitat on a raised coral atoll in the western Pacific

The native residents are the direct managers of the site. When Australia’s International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) requested a mission to East Rennell in 2003, Dingwall was delighted. For Dingwall, East Rennell was like stepping back in time to a world where people are the direct stewards of their land and marine resources, exactly as intended by UNESCO when the World Heritage Convention was adopted in 1972. "The site encompasses an area extending three nautical miles around the island," said McMahon, the Solomon Islands’ lead in seeking World Heritage status. "These steps are crucial to ensuring that the marine site and development of tourism is based on traditional resource management and subsistence activities, with local residents and communities being the direct managers of the site." McMahon said. "This is in line with the World Heritage Convention, which states that the local community should be involved in decision-making processes to ensure the protection and conservation of the site." In fact, the Solomon Islands government has already begun implementing policies to involve the local communities in the management of the site. The country has established a co-management agreement with the local communities to ensure that they are involved in the decision-making process and can benefit from the site’s tourism and conservation efforts. This approach is in line with the World Heritage Convention’s principle of involving local communities in the management of World Heritage sites.

The site itself is located in the Solomon Islands, which are known for their diverse and abundant marine life. The site is protected by the Solomon Islands government, which has been proactive in preserving and protecting the site’s cultural and natural heritage.

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