

EUROPE / NORTH AMERICA

ANI CULTURAL LANDSCAPE

TURKEY

WORLD HERITAGE NOMINATION – IUCN COMMENTS TO ICOMOS

ANI CULTURAL LANDSCAPE (TURKEY)

IUCN provides the following brief comments to ICOMOS based on a review of the nomination by the World Heritage Panel, and 4 desk reviews. No field mission was undertaken and no questions from ICOMOS were received where particular points were requested to be considered.

The nomination is a small site (250 ha) with a small buffer zone (292 ha).

The nomination contains a clear description of biodiversity values, which are notable at the national level. The area is not protected for its nature conservation values, including an inventory of threatened species. The area nominated is considered by reviewers to be too small to conserve significant biodiversity over time.

The location of the nominated area on a triangular promontory appears to be the main human-nature interaction within the nomination as put forward, but the boundaries in the wider landscape exclude key landscape features, for instance bisecting river valleys, which tend to weaken justification of the area proposed for inscription as representing the combined works of nature and of people. Whilst not commenting on cultural value, IUCN would have doubts that the nomination as proposed is a cultural landscape, in the terms of the Operational Guidelines, due to its small size and the exclusion of the surrounding natural/semi natural landscape around the nominated property.

IUCN further notes that following discussion with ICOMOS, the State Party decided to change the category of the property and it is now not a cultural landscape anymore but an archaeological site. IUCN concurs with that assessment and change to the nomination.