

1. World Heritage Property Data

1.1 - Name of World Heritage Property

Sacred Sites and Pilgrimage Routes in the Kii Mountain Range

1.2 - World Heritage Property Details

State(s) Party(ies)

- Japan

Type of Property

cultural

Identification Number

1142

Year of inscription on the World Heritage List

2004



1.3 - Geographic Information Table

Name	Coordinates	Property (ha)	Buffer zone (ha)	Total (ha)	Inscription year
Sacred Sites and Pilgrimage Routes in the Kii Mountain Range	33.837 / 135.776	495.3	1137	1632.3	2004
Total (ha)		495.3	1137	1632.3	

Comment

The location of the property is 33°50'13"N / 135°46'35"E. The area of the buffer zone is 11,370 ha, for a total of 11,865.3 ha. Please correct accordingly.

1.4 - Map(s)

Title	Date	Link to source
Comprehensive Preservation and Management Plan	27/01/2003	
Map indicating the location of the nominated property	27/01/2003	

1.5 - Governmental Institution Responsible for the Property

Comment

The Agency for Cultural Affairs 3-2-2 Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8959 TEL: +81-3-5253-4111 FAX: +81-3-6734-3822 The Ministry of the Environment Godocho No.5, 1-2-2 Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8975 TEL: +81-3-3581-3351 FAX: +81-3-3591-3228

1.6 - Property Manager / Coordinator, Local Institution / Agency

- ODA Seitaro
Cultural Heritage Division of wakayama Prefectural Board of Education

1.7 - Web Address of the Property (if existing)

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

2. Statement of Outstanding Universal Value

2.1 - Statement of Outstanding Universal Value / Statement of Significance

Comment

Set in the dense forests of the Kii Mountains overlooking the Pacific Ocean, three sacred sites - Yoshino and Omine, Kumano Sanzan, Koyasan - linked by pilgrimage routes to the ancient capital cities of Nara and Kyoto, reflect the fusion of Shinto, rooted in the ancient tradition of nature worship in Japan, and Buddhism, which was introduced from China and the Korean Peninsula. The sites (495.3ha) and their surrounding forest landscape reflect a tradition of sacred mountains over 1,200 years.

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

(ii)(iii)(iv)(vi)

2.3 - Attributes expressing the Outstanding Universal Value per criterion

(ii) The monuments and sites of the Kii Mountains are unique fusion between Shintoism and Buddhism. (iii) The shrines and temples bear exceptional testimony to the development of Japan's religious culture. (iv) The Kii Mountains have become the setting for the creation of unique forms of shrine and temple buildings in Japan. (vi) The sites and the forest landscape of the Kii Mountains reflect a persistent and extraordinarily well-documented tradition of sacred mountains over the 1,200 years.

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

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

nothing in particular

3. Factors Affecting the Property

3.14. Other factor(s)

3.14.1 - Other factor(s)

nothing in particular

3.15. Factors Summary Table

3.15.1 - Factors summary table

	Name	Impact	Origin
3.1	Buildings and Development		
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		
3.3.4 Localised utilities			
3.4	Pollution		
3.4.3 Surface water pollution			
3.5	Biological resource use/modification		
3.5.10 Forestry /wood production			
3.6	Physical resource extraction		
3.6.2 Quarrying			
3.8	Social/cultural uses of heritage		
3.8.1 Ritual / spiritual / religious and associative uses			
3.8.2 Society's valuing of heritage			
3.8.4 Changes in traditional ways of life and knowledge system			
3.8.6 Impacts of tourism / visitor / recreation			
3.9	Other human activities		
3.9.2 Deliberate destruction of heritage			
3.10	Climate change and severe weather events		
3.10.1 Storms			
3.11	Sudden ecological or geological events		
3.11.2 Earthquake			
3.11.3 Tsunami/tidal wave			
3.11.4 Avalanche/ landslide			
3.11.5 Erosion and siltation/ deposition			
3.13	Management and institutional factors		
3.13.1 Low impact research / monitoring 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				
3.2.1 Ground transport infrastructure	restricted	intermittent or sporadic	significant	medium capacity	increasing
3.2.4 Effects arising from use of transportation infrastructure	restricted	intermittent or sporadic	minor	medium capacity	static
3.3	Services Infrastructures				
3.3.4 Localised utilities	restricted	intermittent or sporadic	minor	medium capacity	increasing
3.4	Pollution				
3.4.3 Surface water pollution	restricted	intermittent or sporadic	minor	low capacity	static
3.8	Social/cultural uses of heritage				
3.8.6 Impacts of tourism / visitor / recreation	restricted	intermittent or sporadic	significant	medium capacity	static
3.9	Other human activities				

	Spatial scale	Temporal scale	Impact	Management response	Trend
3.9.2 Deliberate destruction of heritage	restricted	one off or rare	significant	low capacity	increasing
3.10 Climate change and severe weather events					
3.10.1 Storms	widespread	intermittent or sporadic	significant	low capacity	static
3.11 Sudden ecological or geological events					
3.11.4 Avalanche/ landslide	restricted	one off or rare	minor	medium capacity	decreasing
3.11.5 Erosion and siltation/ deposition	restricted	intermittent or sporadic	minor	low capacity	static

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

3.17.1 - Comments

In April 2011 an incident occurred involving the unauthorized cutting of 0.58 ha of forest. This forest was part of Three Shrines of Kumano), and was an element of the cultural landscape comprising part of the inherent value of the World Heritage site. Remedies for the situation include speedy restoration of the affected forest, a thorough investigation of the causes of the incident, and stepping up educational and public relations efforts aimed at preventing a recurrence of such incidents.

4. Protection, Management and Monitoring of the Property

4.1. Boundaries and Buffer Zones

4.1.1 - Buffer zone status

There is a buffer zone

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 buffer zones of the World Heritage property are **adequate** to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value

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

The boundaries of the World Heritage property are known by the management authority but **are not known by local residents / communities / landowners.**

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

The buffer zones of the World Heritage property are known by the management authority but **are not known by local residents / communities/landowners.**

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

The buffer zone should be expanded, and regulations should be strengthened in order to preserve the skyline that constitutes the heart of the cultural landscape related to mountain worship in the region.

4.2. Protective Measures

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

The Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties, 1950, is the main legal framework. All the key cultural sites are designated as national treasures or important cultural properties, historic sites, places of scenic beauty or natural monuments. These are listed in the dossier and total 41 in all.

Any alteration to, or activities with adverse effects on the existing condition of, cultural properties designated under the Law for the Protection of Cultural Properties, is only permitted with prior permission from the Commissioner of the Agency for Cultural Affairs. In addition, small-scale repair or restoration for maintenance purpose also requires prior submission of notification. However, minor alterations without prior permission or notice are found in some properties. Natural sites in the property and its buffer zones are located within the boundary of the Special Zone or the Special Protection Zone of the Yoshino-Kumano National Park, which is designated by the Natural Park Law.

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?

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 **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

nothing in particular

4.3. Management System / Management Plan

4.3.1 - Management System

The Agency for Cultural Affairs in the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology is in charge of cultural properties including World Heritage sites.

The owners or custodial bodies manage, repair and open them to the public. The national government, where necessary, subsidises the cost of repair and management of the designated sites and provides technical guidance.

Shinto shrines and Buddhist Temples are owned by religious organisations or by individuals. Pilgrimage routes are owned by individuals or by national or local governments. Places of Scenic Beauty and Natural Monuments are owned by private owners or corporations or by national or local governments.

A Management Plan has been produced by the Boards of Education of Mie, Nara and Wakayama Prefectures, in collaboration with the Agency for Cultural Affairs.

4.3.2 - Management Documents

Comment

The Preservation and Management Plan for the World Heritage, "Sacred Sites and Pilgrimage Routes in the Kii Mountain Range", drafted in January 2003 sets forth specific policies for the appropriate long-term preservation of the constituent assets and the surrounding environment and landscape, and in addition outlines appropriate standards for managing activities that might exert an impact on preservation efforts.

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?

No annual work / action plan exists

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	Good
Indigenous peoples	Not applicable
Landowners	Good
Visitors	Fair
Researchers	Fair
Tourism industry	Fair

Industry	Fair
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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 have **some** input into discussions relating to management but no direct role in 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

Participation in preservation and management by local residents who grasp the OUV of the property must be promoted.

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

Preservation and maintenance are now being carried out on the basis of the Preservation and Management Plan for the World Heritage, "Sacred Sites and Pilgrimage Routes in the Kii Mountain Range", drafted on the basis of recommendations given at the 28th Session of the World Heritage Committee and approved at the 30th Session.

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)	1%
Governmental (National / Federal)	45%
Governmental (Regional / Provincial / State)	31%
Governmental (Local / Municipal)	20%
In country donations (NGO's, foundations, etc)	0%
Individual visitor charges (e.g. entry, parking, camping fees, etc.)	1%
Commercial operator payments (e.g. filming permit, concessions, etc.)	0%
Other grants	2%

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

Comment

Not applicable

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?

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

An extensive cultural landscape must be preserved and managed, and this requires stabilization and strengthening of finances.

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

Full-time	9%
Part-time	91%

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

Permanent	14%
Seasonal	86%

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

Paid	83%
Volunteer	17%

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	Fair
Community outreach	Fair
Interpretation	Fair
Education	Fair
Visitor management	Poor
Conservation	Fair
Administration	Poor
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	Low
Promotion	Medium
Community outreach	Medium
Interpretation	Medium
Education	Not available
Visitor management	Medium
Conservation	Medium
Administration	Low
Risk preparedness	Medium
Tourism	Low
Enforcement (custodians, police)	Low

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

Efforts need to be made at qualitative improvements in human resources.

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 **considerable** research but it is **not directed** towards management needs and / or improving understanding of Outstanding Universal Value

4.5.3 - Are results from research programmes disseminated?

Research results are **shared with local participants and some national agencies**

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

Three Prefectures Council to Promote World Heritage Inscription (author and publisher), Sacred Sites and Pilgrimage Routes in the Kii Mountain Range (2005); Three Prefectures Council for the World Heritage "Sacred Sites and Pilgrimage Routes in the Kii Mountain Range" (author and publisher), Preservation and Management Plan for World Heritage "Sacred Sites and Pilgrimage Routes in the Kii Mountain Range" (2006)

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

Research projects have thus far been limited to limited areas; in future we wish to promote research on preservation of a broader area.

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 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	Excellent
Local Indigenous peoples	Not applicable
Local landowners	Excellent
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 education and awareness programme but it only **partly meets the needs** and could be improved

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?

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	Adequate
Site museum	Adequate
Information booths	Adequate
Guided tours	Excellent
Trails / routes	Excellent
Information materials	Adequate
Transportation facilities	Poor
Other	Not needed

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

This World Heritage property is made up of sites and pilgrimage routes sacred to a variety of religious traditions, and the value of the cultural landscape nurtured by this is recognized but not well understood by the public. Because of this, it must be said that we face challenges in the areas of education and dissemination of information.

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	Minor Increase
Four years ago	Minor Increase
Five years ago	Major Increase (100%+)

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

Accommodation establishments
Tourism industry

4.7.3 - Visitor management documents

Comment

Rules of the Pilgrimage Routes in the Kii Mountain Range.

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?

There is **some management** of the visitor use of the World Heritage property

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

There is **limited 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

Site management must cooperate with the tourist industry to propose types of tourism that will promote visitor understanding of the OUV of the 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	Excellent
Local / Municipal authorities	Excellent
Local communities	Non-existent
Researchers	Non-existent
NGOs	Non-existent
Industry	Non-existent
Local indigenous peoples	Not applicable

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

Implementation is **complete**

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

Implementation of the recommendations has enabled preservation and management appropriate to the various elements of the constituent assets (transport-related assets, shrine and temple assets, natural and scenic sites, flora and fauna, geological and mineral assets).

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

The range of people involved in monitoring needs to be expanded.

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					
3.2.1	Ground transport infrastructure					
3.3	Services Infrastructures					
3.3.4	Localised utilities					
3.8	Social/cultural uses of heritage					
3.8.6	Impacts of tourism / visitor / recreation					
3.9	Other human activities					
3.9.2	Deliberate destruction of heritage	Such activity is a threat to future appropriate management of the elements comprising the property's fundamental value and of the surrounding landscape.	Legal action, warnings, augmented patrols.	Regular monitoring	Various	Shrines and temples, cities and townships, local residents As the property is widely distributed over mountainous terrain, monitoring of considerable scope is required.
3.10	Climate change and severe weather events					
3.10.1	Storms	Related to all	Countermeasures against wind and rain from typhoons.	Immediate response in aftermath of storm.	Various	National, prefectural, and local governments, owners, and local residents. Appropriate maintenance must be carried out on a regular basis to prepare against interruption of transport by erosion of roadbeds and surfaces, fallen trees, etc. as a result of heavy rains and typhoons.
3.11	Sudden ecological or geological events					
3.11.5	Erosion and siltation/ deposition					

5.2. Summary - Management Needs

5.2.2 - Summary - Management Needs

Please select your top management needs in question 4.9 before filling in the summary table.

5.3. Conclusions on the State of Conservation of the Property

5.3.1 - Current state of Authenticity

The authenticity of the World Heritage property has been **preserved**

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

We hope to revise the content and aim for wider distribution.

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	Positive
Management effectiveness	Positive
Quality of life for local communities and indigenous peoples	Positive
Recognition	Positive
Education	Very positive
Infrastructure development	Positive
Funding for the property	No impact
International cooperation	Positive
Political support for conservation	No impact
Legal / Policy framework	Positive
Lobbying	No impact
Institutional coordination	Positive
Security	No impact
Other (please specify)	Not applicable

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

Inscription as a World Heritage site has had a noticeably positive effect on preservation efforts. However, more must be done to promote understanding of the OUV of the property. A secure financial basis for preservation efforts must also be secured.

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

nothing in particular

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

UNESCO	Fair
State Party Representative	Good
Advisory Body	Fair

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

Monitoring and reporting

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

• Statement of Outstanding Universal Value / Statement of Significance

Reason for update: Set in the dense forests of the Kii Mountains overlooking the Pacific Ocean, three sacred sites - Yoshino and Omine, Kumano Sanzan, Koyasan - linked by pilgrimage routes to the ancient capital cities of Nara and Kyoto, reflect the fusion of Shinto, rooted in the ancient tradition of nature worship in Japan, and Buddhism, which was introduced from China and the Korean Peninsula. The sites (495.3ha) and their surrounding forest landscape reflect a tradition of sacred mountains over 1,200 years.

• Geographic Information Table

Reason for update: The location of the property is 33°50'13"N / 135°46'35"E. The area of the buffer zone is 11,370 ha, for a total of 11,865.3 ha. Please correct accordingly.

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

nothing in particular