



Délégation permanente du Japon auprès de l'UNESCO
100, avenue de Suffren, 75015 Paris

108/21

The Permanent Delegation of Japan to UNESCO presents its compliments to the Secretariat of UNESCO, and has the honour to refer to the submission made by Japan for inscription on the World Heritage List under the name of the property "*Amami-Oshima Island, Tokunoshima Island, the northern part of Okinawa Island and Iriomote Island*", whose dossier was recommended by the Advisory Board, IUCN, to be inscribed on the World Heritage List.

The Permanent Delegation of Japan to UNESCO has further the honour to reiterate, as shown in the attached Note Verbale, dated 13 September 2016, addressed to the World Heritage Centre of UNESCO, that:

- As clearly mentioned in the submission, the area which demonstrates Outstanding Universal Value for inscription on the World Heritage List is to be limited, in the light of scientific examination, only to four islands: Amami-Oshima Island, Tokunoshima Island, the northern part of Okinawa Island and Iriomote Island.
- The endemic species on these four islands are terrestrial species affected by the geological isolation, and incapable of moving over a wide range of areas. They do not include migratory birds.
- The property (encompassing mangrove areas) and its buffer zones under this submission will not be extended, therefore, beyond the four islands mentioned above, i.e. beyond the coastal zone shown by the colored areas in the attached maps.

In connection with the above, the Permanent Delegation of Japan to UNESCO also informs, in the light of scientific examination, that the surrounding conservation areas of the property are the land areas of the four islands mentioned above, and are not to be extended beyond these islands.

The Permanent Delegation of Japan to UNESCO would also like to refer to the submission made by Japan for the inscription on the World Heritage List under the name of the property "*Jomon Prehistoric Sites in Northern Japan*", whose dossier was recommended by the Advisor Body, ICOMOS, to be inscribed on the World Heritage List.

The Permanent Delegation of Japan to UNESCO would appreciate the valuable cooperation of the Secretariat of UNESCO for the inscription of these properties on the World Heritage List through the smooth adoption of the decision to that effect at the forthcoming Extended 44th Session of the World Heritage Committee

The Permanent Delegation of Japan to UNESCO avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretariat of UNESCO the assurance of its highest consideration.

Paris, 9 June 2021

Secretariat of UNESCO





Délégation permanente du Japon auprès de l'UNESCO

100, avenue de Suffren, 75015 Paris

238/16

The Permanent Delegation of Japan to UNESCO presents its compliments to the World Heritage Centre of UNESCO and has the honour to refer to the submission made by Japan for the inscription on its tentative list for the World Heritage List under the name of property: "Amami-Oshima Island, Tokunoshima Island, the northern part of Okinawa Island and Iriomote Island".

The Permanent Delegation of Japan to UNESCO has further the honour to inform the World Heritage Centre of UNESCO that:

- As clearly mentioned in the submission, the area which demonstrates Outstanding Universal Value for inscription on the World Heritage List is to be limited, in the light of scientific examination, only to four islands: Amami-Oshima Island, Tokunoshima Island, the northern part of Okinawa Island and Iriomote Island.
- The endemic species on these four islands are terrestrial species affected by the geological isolation, and incapable of moving over a wide range of areas. They do not include migratory birds.
- The property (encompassing mangrove areas) and its buffer zone under this submission will not be extended, therefore, beyond the four islands mentioned above i.e. beyond the coastal zone shown by the colored areas in the attached maps.

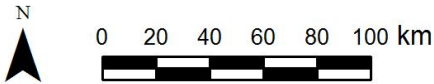
The Permanent Delegation of Japan to UNESCO avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the World Heritage Centre of UNESCO the assurance of its highest consideration.

Paris, 13 September 2016

World Heritage Centre
UNESCO



Amami-Oshima Island, Tokunoshima Island, the northern part of Okinawa Island and Iriomote Island



Amami-Oshima Island



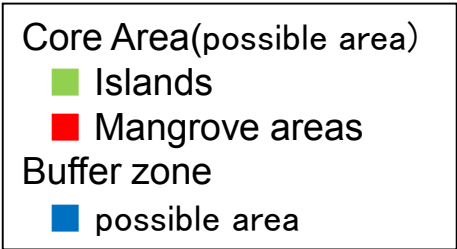
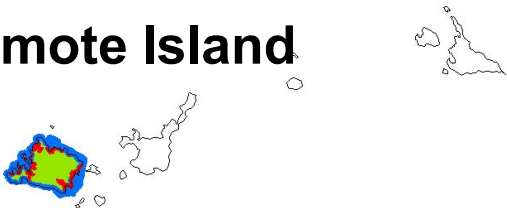
Tokunoshima Island



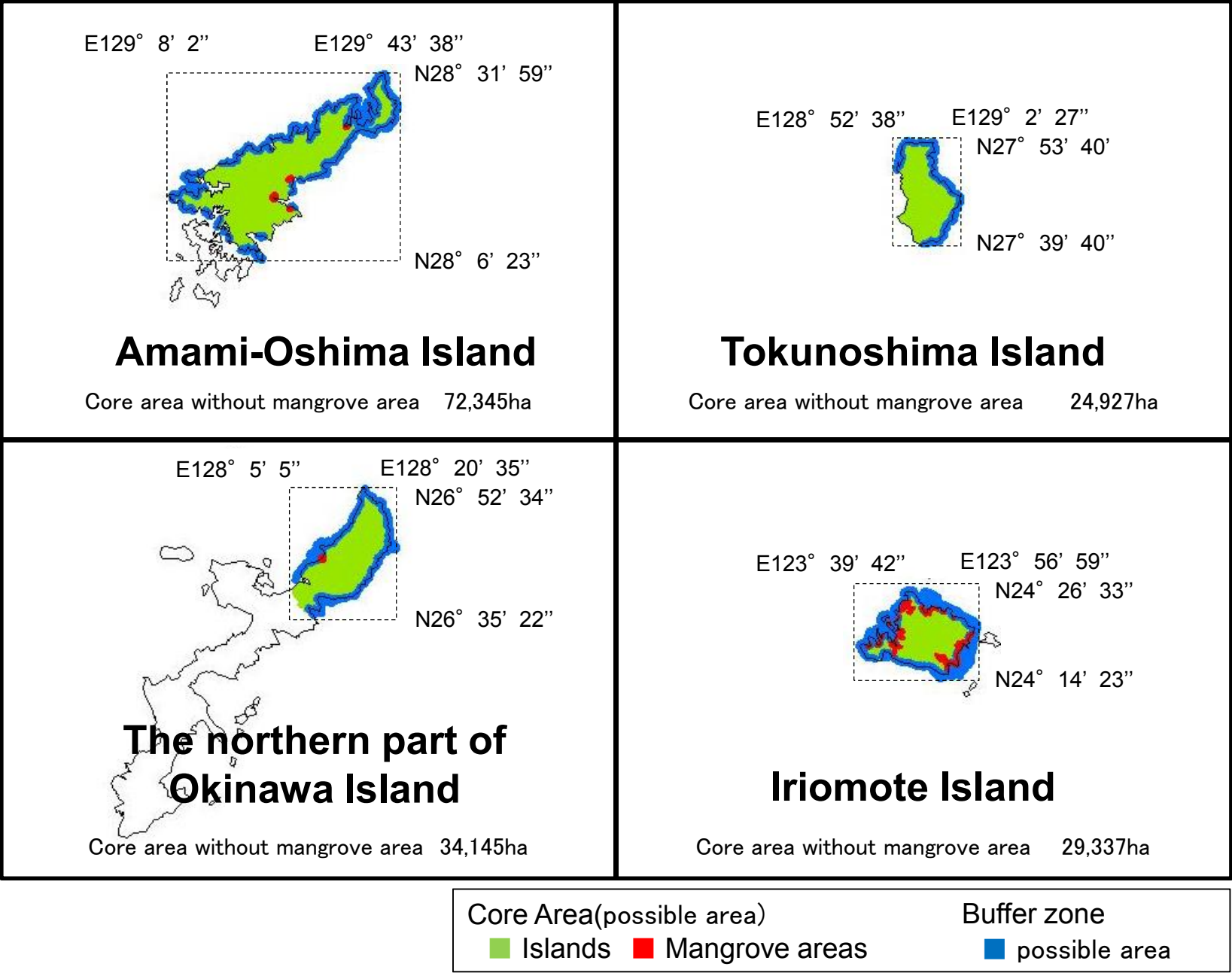
The northern part of Okinawa Island



Iriomote Island



Amami-Oshima Island, Tokunoshima Island, the northern part of Okinawa Island and Iriomote Island



(Non-paper)

Question: Do the property and its buffer zones and surrounding conservation areas to be inscribed on the World Heritage List refer only to the land areas of the four islands, or include the sea surrounding the four islands?

Answer: The property and its buffer zones and surrounding conservation areas to be inscribed on the World Heritage List refer only to the land areas of the four islands.

Question: Will the surrounding conservation areas of the property possibly be extended beyond the four islands?

Answer: Given that boundaries of surrounding conservation areas of natural heritages are decided based on scientific examination, the surrounding conservation areas of the property for inscription are the land areas of the four islands mentioned above. It is therefore obvious that there are not any reasons or grounds for the areas to be extended beyond the land areas of the islands.

Question: Where are the boundaries of the property and its buffer zones and surrounding conservation areas for inscription in accordance with the IUCN recommendation drawn?

Answer: The boundaries of the property and its buffer zones and surrounding conservation areas for inscription in accordance with the IUCN recommendation are shown in the map below.

