Cave of Altamira and Paleolithic Cave Art of Northern Spain

1. World Heritage Property Data

1.1 - Name of World Heritage property

Cave of Altamira and Paleolithic Cave Art of Northern Spain

1.2 - World Heritage property details

1.3 - Geographic information table

Name	Coordinates	Property (ha)	Buffer zone (ha)	Total (ha)	Inscription year
	0 / 0	?	?	?	
	0 / 0	?	?	?	
Altamira	43.383 / -4.12	0.32	16	16.32	1985
La Peña de Candamo	43.456 / -6.072	?	99.97	99.97	
Tito Bustillo	43.461 / -5.068	?	243.38	243.38	
Covaciella	43.318 / -4.875	?	11.336	11.336	
Llonín	43.331 / -4.645	?	17.37	17.37	
El Pindal	43.398 / -4.533	?	69.37	69.37	
Chufín	43.291 / -4.458	?	16.65	16.65	
Hornos de la Peña	43.261 / -4.03	?	25.05	25.05	
Monte Castillo - El Castillo	43.291 / -3.964	?	68.93	68.93	
Monte Castillo - Las Monedas	43.291 / -3.964	?	68.93	68.93	
Monte Castillo - La Pasiega	43.291 / -3.964	?	68.93	68.93	
Monte Castillo - Las Chimeneas	43.291 / -3.964	?	68.93	68.93	
El Pendo	43.388 / -3.912	?	63.79	63.79	
La Garma	43.431 / -3.666	?	100.07	100.07	
Covalanas	43.246 / -3.452	?	1374.4	1374.4	
Santimamiñe	43.346 / -2.637	?	98.8	98.8	
Ekain	43.236 / -2.275	?	14.59	14.59	
Altxerri	43.269 / -2.134	?	15	15	
Total (ha)		**0.32**	**2441.496**	**2441.816**	

1.4 - Map(s)

Title	Date	Link to source
Altamira and Paleolithic Cave Art, Map of Core and Buffer Zone	2007	
Altamira Cave and its buffer zones	2007	
Cave of Altamira and Paleolithic Cave Art of Northern Spain - Map of inscribed property	2016	

1.5 - Web and Social Media data of the property (if applicable)

1. World Heritage Sites in Spain (Tourist Office of Spain)
2. Ministerio de Educacion, Cultura y Deporte
3. Museo de Altamira
4. Dep. de Cultura (in spanish)
5. Cultura de Cantabria (in Spanish)
6. Cultura de Cantabria (in Spanish)
7. Museo Arqueológico de Asturias

Comment

-Ministry of Culture and Sports: https://bit.ly/3ZeHUwl -Prehistoric Art in Northern Spain: https://bit.ly/41iFiiE -Altamira Museum: https://bit.ly/2AykCIF -Palaeolithic Art in Asturias: https://bit.ly/3xHSjVq -Prehistoric caves In Cantabria: https://bit.ly/2ThSYX9 -Cultural Heritage Center of Basque Country: https://bit.ly/3Sns3ZZ -World

Heritage in Cantabria: https://bit.ly/3LEh64V -Cave of Tito Bustillo: https://bit.ly/42qpzi9 -Cave of Ekain: https://bit.ly/42uNahw -Cave of Santimamiñe: https://bit.ly/42v6fAg

2. Other Conventions/Programmes under which the World Heritage property is protected (if applicable)

2.1 - Records indicate that your World Heritage property (in whole or in part) is designated and/or protected under the Conventions/programmes shown in the prefilled table below. Please check and amend as necessary.

		The World Heritage property (in whole or in part) **is** designated and/or protected under this convention/programme	The World Heritage property (in whole or in part) **is not** designated and/or protected under this convention/programme
2.1.1	**International Register of Cultural Property under Special Protection** (1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict)		✖
2.1.2	**List of Cultural Property under Enhanced Protection** (Second Protocol to the 1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict)		✖
2.1.3	**The List of Wetlands of International Importance (The Ramsar List)** (Convention on Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Convention))		✖
2.1.4	**World Network of Biosphere Reserves** Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme	✖	
2.1.5	**Global Geoparks Network** UNESCO Global Geoparks	✖	

2.2 - Please provide comments on 2.1 if necessary

-World Network of Biosphere Reserve of Urdaibai (Euskadi) affects to Santimamiñe Cave. It appears in the legislation as archeological site. -World Network of Biosphere Reserve of Picos de Europa (Asturias) affects to Covaciella Cave -Basque Coast Geopark (Euskadi) affects to Ekain Cave. There is a reference in the Strategic Plan to Ekainberri (the replica of Ekain) -Also It is planned the Costa Quebrada Geopark (Cantabria) that will affect to the cave of El Pendo and the cave of Altamira

2.3 - Do your national authorities intend to request the granting of Enhanced Protection (if relevant) under the Second Protocol to the 1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict for the World Heritage property in the next three years?

Not applicable

2.4 - Do your national authorities intend to designate whole or part of the World Heritage property for inclusion in the List of Wetlands of International Importance (The Ramsar List), if relevant, in the next three years?

Not applicable

2.5 - Do your national authorities intend to designate whole or part of the World Heritage property as a Man and Biosphere Reserve (if relevant) in the next three years?

Not applicable

2.6 - Do your national authorities intend to apply for whole or part of World Heritage property to be designated as a UNESCO Global Geopark (if relevant) in the next three years?

Yes

2.7 - Please indicate the level of cooperation at property level between designations under different Conventions/Programmes

2.7.1	**1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict**	
2.7.1	There is **no contact** with the Focal Point(s) of this designation/programme.	✖
2.7.2	The World Heritage Site Manager **occasionally** communicates with the Focal Point(s) of this designation/programme.	
2.7.3	The World Heritage Site Manager **regularly** communicates with the Focal Point(s) of this designation/programme.	
2.7.4	The World Heritage Site Manager **also manages** this designation/programme.	
2.7.2	**Second Protocol to the 1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict**	
2.7.1	There is **no contact** with the Focal Point(s) of this designation/programme.	✖
2.7.2	The World Heritage Site Manager **occasionally** communicates with the Focal Point(s) of this designation/programme.	
2.7.3	The World Heritage Site Manager **regularly** communicates with the Focal Point(s) of this designation/programme.	
2.7.4	The World Heritage Site Manager **also manages** this designation/programme.	

2.7.3	**Convention on Wetlands of International Importance (Ramsar Convention)**	
2.7.1	There is **no contact** with the Focal Point(s) of this designation/programme.	✖
2.7.2	The World Heritage Site Manager **occasionally** communicates with the Focal Point(s) of this designation/programme.	
2.7.3	The World Heritage Site Manager **regularly** communicates with the Focal Point(s) of this designation/programme.	
2.7.4	The World Heritage Site Manager **also manages** this designation/programme.	
2.7.4	**Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme**	
2.7.1	There is **no contact** with the Focal Point(s) of this designation/programme.	✖
2.7.2	The World Heritage Site Manager **occasionally** communicates with the Focal Point(s) of this designation/programme.	
2.7.3	The World Heritage Site Manager **regularly** communicates with the Focal Point(s) of this designation/programme.	
2.7.4	The World Heritage Site Manager **also manages** this designation/programme.	
2.7.5	**UNESCO Global Geoparks**	
2.7.1	There is **no contact** with the Focal Point(s) of this designation/programme.	
2.7.2	The World Heritage Site Manager **occasionally** communicates with the Focal Point(s) of this designation/programme.	✖
2.7.3	The World Heritage Site Manager **regularly** communicates with the Focal Point(s) of this designation/programme.	
2.7.4	The World Heritage Site Manager **also manages** this designation/programme.	

2.8 - Please add any further comments on cooperation with the other designation(s)/programme(s)

In the Basque Country, Santimamiñe is affected by World Network of Biosphere Reserve of Urdaibai (Euskadi) and Ekain Cave is affected by Basque Coast Geopark. In this case Ekainberri (the replica of Ekain) is listed in its Strategic Plan 2021-2026 because it is a touristic resource in the area. In Cantabria, Cave of El Pendo Cave and Cave of Altamira have contacts with authorities in charge of the designation of Costa Quebrada Geopark.

2.9 - Are you aware of any elements associated with the World Heritage property that have been inscribed on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage?

No

2.10 - Please list any elements associated with the World Heritage property inscribed under the Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of which you are aware

2.11 - Are you aware of any documentary heritage listed under the Memory of the World Programme associated with the World Heritage property?

No

2.12 - Please list any documentary heritage associated with the World Heritage property listed under the Memory of the World Programme of which you aware.

3. Statement of Outstanding Universal Value

3.1 - Statement of Outstanding Universal Value for the property as adopted by the World Heritage Committee

Statement of Outstanding Universal Value

Brief synthesis

The caves of Altamira, Peña de Candamo, Tito Bustillo, Covaciella, Llonín, El Pindal, Chufín, Hornos de la Peña, Las Monedas, La Pasiega, Las Chimeneas, El Castillo, El Pendo, La Garma, Covalanas, Santimamiñe, Ekain and Altxerri, which make up “The Cave of Altamira and Palaeolithic Cave Art of Northern Spain” property, are located in the Autonomous Communities of Asturias, Cantabria and the Basque Country, administrative districts that circumscribe the physiographic region known as the “Cantabrian Corniche”.

The cave art in the Cave of Altamira was discovered in 1879 by Marcelino Sanz de Sautuola. The discovery and dating of the art to the Palaeolithic Age, effectively represented the discovery of Palaeolithic cave art, marking the first acknowledgement that the people of that period were capable of making carvings and paintings on the walls and ceilings of caves and rock shelters.

The eighteen decorated caves on the Cantabrian Corniche illustrate the appearance and flourishing of the human art over the long Upper Palaeolithic period (35,000 – 11,000 BP). It is entirely linked to the appearance of Homo sapiens and the emergence of a new human culture involving profound material changes, the invention of new techniques, and the development of artistic expression through painting, engraving and sculpture. By their number and quality, the caves of the Cantabrian Corniche offer a veritable monograph of Upper Palaeolithic cave art, which is exceptionally rich and diversified. The ensemble is moreover remarkably well conserved. It bears an outstanding testimony to human History, from the Aurignacian era to the Magdalenian period. Given the broad iconographic repertoire and the diversity of techniques and styles it presents, the north of Spain is a world reference in the emergence of this Art, the oldest in Europe.

After hundreds of discoveries across the five continents, the Cave of Altamira, the first cave in which Palaeolithic cave art was identified, still stands out for its aesthetic quality and its technical workmanship. It is considered to be a unique artistic illustration of this period, in particular of the Magdalenian culture. The other seventeen caves share, complement and enhance the values of Altamira providing, as a whole, a complete range of Palaeolithic Art with its own meaning, enabling a better understanding of this phenomenon. This art was a reflection of humanity’s economic, social and cultural adaptations. This new level of artistry is directly related to the appearance of Homo sapiens (anatomically modern humans) over 40,000 years ago in Europe, and their cognitive development and developments in social organisation. Therefore, rock art enables us to discover essential aspects of their way of life and, particularly, of their symbolic beliefs.

Criterion (i): The Palaeolithic cave art of the Cantabrian Corniche fully and significantly illustrates some of the earliest human art, over a long period of the history of

Homo sapiens. It bears testimony to the creative genius of humans during the different periods of the Upper Palaeolithic.

Criterion (iii): The ensemble bears outstanding and unique testimony to an ancient stage, which vanished more than 10,000 years ago, of the origins of human civilization. This was the period when the hunter-gatherers of the Upper Palaeolithic achieved an accomplished artistic, symbolic and spiritual expression of their human society.

Integrity

The eighteen caves bear all the characteristics of Palaeolithic cave art and they are of adequate size to express their Outstanding Universal Value. The values and attributes of the cave art in these caves are inherent to the delimited space of the cavities in which they are located, therefore, all the characteristics fall within the boundaries of each cave of the serial property.

Despite inevitable alterations following the modern-day discovery and frequentation of the caves, the general state of conservation since the origins of the cave art and the integrity of the inscribed ensembles are very good. The excellent conservation of the cave art is the result of the choice of deep galleries, isolated from external climatic influences, to make the pictures.

All the inscribed caves incorporate the repertoire of themes, techniques and styles of Franco-Cantabrian Palaeolithic cave art; therefore, the complete ensemble represents the earliest human art. The appropriate protection measures (legal and physical) and conservation measures applied to all the caves ensure that this art has been maintained practically intact since its discovery and the slight deterioration it may have suffered, due mainly to natural causes, in no way affects the intrinsic values or attributes of the property.

Authenticity

The caves of Altamira, Peña de Candamo, Tito Bustillo, Covaciella, Llonín, El Pindal, Chufín, Hornos de la Peña, Las Monedas, La Pasiega, Las Chimeneas, El Castillo, El Pendo, La Garma, Covalanas, Santimamiñe, Ekain and Altxerri have been documented and researched since their discovery, therefore their heritage values are widely known.

There is not the slightest doubt about the authenticity of the cave art of Northern Spain, and its attribution to the Upper Palaeolithic, and no expert has challenged them. Technological innovation has enabled analytical methods and techniques to be improved, such as dating methods, which enable the chronologies of the art to be determined with greater precision, or geomatics technology, which has vastly improved the precision of formal and spatial documentation of cave art expressions and the caves in which they are located.

No restoration has ever been carried out on Palaeolithic works of art partially damaged by water run-off or any other cause, which means that the authenticity of the art is complete.

The authenticity of the cave art of the Northern Spain is expressed in particular by coherent and easily identifiable changes in forms within a regional entity, the use of materials and substances directly originating from the immediate environment and Palaeolithic ways of life, characteristic use of the karst caves of the region, resulting in art that is fully integrated in the life of Palaeolithic human communities, and expresses the symbolic and spiritual needs of the communities.

In most of the caves, original materials related to the execution of the art have been found, such as flint chisels, charcoal pencils, fragments of iron and manganese oxides and even blow pipes made from bird bones to “airbrush” paint. Research has enabled understanding of the technical processes involved, including the preparation of the walls, the carving and modelling techniques for engravings, and the preparation and application of pigments.

Protection and management requirements

The eighteen caves have been declared a Property of Cultural Interest under the Law on Spanish Historical Heritage (1985), the highest legal protection in Spain. They also have the maximum level of protection under the regulations in each Autonomous Community.

In terms of conservation, most of the factors affecting the eighteen caves are related to the environmental conditions of caves, the stability of which is essential for appropriate preservation purposes. Given that access by people is, in this regard, a risk factor, accessibility is defined in access management programmes under established sustainability criteria based on the carrying capacity of each cave. Within the access limitations, in caves open to the public, visits are restricted to group visits, always accompanied by guides.

Other risks for the cave art are related to their geological characteristics and microbiological activities. Conservation initiatives, aimed at maintaining and preserving the values of the sites and based on preventive conservation criteria, are a fundamental part of the management plans for each cave. Research programmes are put forward in carrying out conservation, which analyse the main risk factors and the appropriate measures to stop or mitigate them.

There is no pressure in terms of economic or urban development, since all the areas of the caves benefit from legally protected buffer zones. The boundaries, together with the buffer zones, are appropriate for the effective protection of all the caves.

Each cave has its own management plan, based on its specific characteristics, state of conservation, carrying capacity, whether or not it is open to the public, and its associated infrastructure. All the management plans include constant monitoring of the state of conservation.

The Cave of Altamira is managed by the Ministry of Culture, through the National Museum and Research Centre of Altamira. The Preventive Conservation Plan for the Cave of Altamira has been approved and implemented, as an instrument to coordinate all measures for its existing and future preventive conservation initiatives and research for conservation.

In the Principality of Asturias, the Tito Bustillo, El Pindal, La Covaciella and Llonín caves are managed by the regional government; the Town Council of Candamo manages the San Román cave under a collaboration agreement with the regional government for visitor management for the San Román cave. The Government of Asturias is responsible, through its Directorate General for Cultural Heritage, for management with respect to the protection, conservation and research.

Except for Altamira, the Autonomous Community Government of Cantabria is responsible for the caves in this region, managed through the Regional Ministry competent for Culture and its General Directorate for Culture’s services for Cultural Heritage and the Regional Society for Education, Culture and Sport. The first two are responsible for protection, conservation, research and dissemination of these archaeological sites; the latter is responsible for tourism-related activities at the caves open to the public, the management of which also depends on the Service for Cultural Centres.

In the Basque Country, the competent Department for Culture of the Basque Country, through the Directorate for Cultural Heritage, is responsible for protection of the caves, both administratively and for controlling access, etc. Their conservation and intervention and research permits, are managed by the cultural heritage services of the provincial councils of Bizkaia and Gipuzkoa. General dissemination and research activities are carried out by both the government and provincial councils. The direct management of Santimamiñe is carried out by the provincial councils of Bizkaia; and of the caves of Ekain and Altxerri by the Directorate for Cultural Heritage of the Basque Government. Ekainberri is managed by a joint Foundation.

In 2007, the Coordination Commission for the management of the Site and its Committee was created, with representation from national and regional governments, to coordinate programmes, action plans and projects, with administrators and managers joining forces for the conservation, protection, research and social use of all the caves in the property.

3.2 - Please list the key attributes of Outstanding Universal Value of your property and give an assessment of their condition. As a

guideline, it is suggested to focus on approximately five key attributes (no more than 15 overall).

	Brief identification of attribute	Preserved	Compromised	Seriously compromised	Lost
3.2.1	First examples of humanity's first art recognised by the scientific community	✖			
3.2.2	Quantity and quality of caves on the Cantabrian Corniche from a geological and artistic point of view.	✖			
3.2.3	Excellent conservation of the inscribed caves with minimal alterations.	✖			
3.2.4	A representative and unique group of Palaeolithic rock art from the Franco-Cantabrian area, due to the variety and specificity of themes, techniques and styles.	✖			
3.2.5	Long chronology with examples from the Aurignacian to the Magdalenian period.	✖			
3.2.6	Archaeological sites in the decorated caves, containing materials and archeological contexts associated with the art and material culture of their inhabitants.	✖			
3.2.7	Findings of pieces of portable art in the archeological sites related to the rock art inside the caves.	✖			
3.2.8	A sample of the cognitive development and symbolic thought of "Homo sapiens" and their new culture.	✖			
3.2.9	Expression of social cohesion of Palaeolithic hunter-gatherer societies.	✖			
3.2.10					
3.2.11					
3.2.12					
3.2.13					
3.2.14					
3.2.15					

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

4. Factors Affecting the Property

4.1. Buildings and Development

4.1.1 - Housing

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Not relevant

Relevant	✖ Not relevant

4.1.2 - Commercial development

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Not relevant

Relevant	✖ Not relevant

4.1.3 - Industrial areas

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Not relevant

Relevant	✖ Not relevant

4.1.4 - Major visitor accommodation and associated infrastructure

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Not relevant

Relevant	✖ Not relevant

4.1.5 - Interpretative and visitation facilities

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Relevant, Positive, Current, Outside

✖ Relevant	Not relevant

	Impact		Origin		Trend of impact		
Impact	Current	Potential	Inside	Outside	↘ Decreasing	→ Stable	↗ Increasing
Positive ✖	✖	✖		✖		→	

Negative							

4.1.6 - Please comment as necessary on how the factors selected as relevant in 4.1 are affecting the property either negatively or positively

All the sites has got buffer zones that protect the site, in that way only interpretative and visitors facilities can be found inside the boundaries and buffer zones.

4.2. Transportation Infrastructure

4.2.1 - Ground transport infrastructure

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Relevant, Positive, Current, Outside

Relevant	Not relevant

	Impact		Origin		Trend of impact		
Impact	**Current**	**Potential**	**Inside**	**Outside**	**Decreasing**	**Stable**	**Increasing**
Positive	✖	✖		✖		→	
Negative							

4.2.2 - Underground transport infrastructure

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Not relevant

Relevant	Not relevant

4.2.3 - Air transport infrastructure

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Not relevant

Relevant	Not relevant

4.2.4 - Marine transport infrastructure

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Not relevant

Relevant	Not relevant

4.2.5 - Effects arising from use of transportation infrastructure

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Not relevant

Relevant	Not relevant

	Impact		Origin		Trend of impact		
Impact	**Current**	**Potential**	**Inside**	**Outside**	**Decreasing**	**Stable**	**Increasing**
Positive							
Negative		✖		✖		→	

4.2.6 - Please comment as necessary on how the factors selected as relevant in 4.2 are affecting the property either negatively or positively

Most part of the sites are located in rural areas, they may be affected by nearby roads and the use of vehicles.

4.3. Services Infrastructures

4.3.1 - Water infrastructure

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Not relevant

Relevant	Not relevant

4.3.2 - Renewable energy facilities

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Not relevant

Relevant	Not relevant

4.3.3 - Non-renewable energy facilities

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Not relevant

Relevant	✖ Not relevant

4.3.4 - Localised utilities

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Not relevant

Relevant	✖ Not relevant

4.3.5 - Major linear utilities

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Not relevant

Relevant	✖ Not relevant

4.3.6 - Please comment as necessary on how the factors selected as relevant in 4.3 are affecting the property either negatively or positively

4.4. Pollution

4.4.1 - Pollution of marine waters

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Not relevant

Relevant	✖ Not relevant

4.4.2 - Ground water pollution

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Not relevant

✖ Relevant	Not relevant

	Impact		Origin		Trend of impact		
Impact	**Current**	**Potential**	**Inside**	**Outside**	**Decreasing**	**Stable**	**Increasing**
Positive							
Negative ✖	✖	✖	✖			→	

4.4.3 - Surface water pollution

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Not relevant

✖ Relevant	Not relevant

	Impact		Origin		Trend of impact		
Impact	**Current**	**Potential**	**Inside**	**Outside**	**Decreasing**	**Stable**	**Increasing**
Positive							
Negative ✖	✖	✖		✖		→	

4.4.4 - Air pollution

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Not relevant

✖ Relevant	Not relevant

	Impact		Origin		Trend of impact		
Impact	**Current**	**Potential**	**Inside**	**Outside**	**Decreasing**	**Stable**	**Increasing**
Positive							
Negative ✖	✖	✖		✖		→	

4.4.5 - Solid waste

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Not relevant

✖ Relevant	Not relevant

	Impact		Origin		Trend of impact		
Impact	**Current**	**Potential**	**Inside**	**Outside**	**Decreasing**	**Stable**	**Increasing**
Positive							
Negative ✖	✖	✖		✖		→	

4.4.6 - Input of excess energy

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Not relevant

Relevant	✖ Not relevant

4.4.7 - Please comment as necessary on how the factors selected as relevant in 4.4 are affecting the property either negatively or positively

The pollution may indirectly affect these sites; though the areas are mainly rural some pollution of the surroundings can have some influence inside the caves, for example the acid rain can affect the fabrics and the agriculture has its influence also in the form of micro-organisms . It is controlled and no signs of increment have been detected.

4.5. Biological resource use/modification

4.5.1 - Fishing/collecting aquatic resources

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Not relevant

Relevant	✖ Not relevant

4.5.2 - Aquaculture

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Not relevant

Relevant	✖ Not relevant

4.5.3 - Land conversion

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Not relevant

Relevant	✖ Not relevant

4.5.4 - Livestock farming/Grazing of domesticated animals

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Not relevant

✖ Relevant	Not relevant

	Impact		Origin		Trend of impact		
Impact	**Current**	**Potential**	**Inside**	**Outside**	**Decreasing**	**Stable**	**Increasing**
Positive							
Negative ✖	✖	✖		✖	↘		

4.5.5 - Crop production

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Not relevant

✖ Relevant	Not relevant

	Impact		Origin		Trend of impact		
Impact	**Current**	**Potential**	**Inside**	**Outside**	**Decreasing**	**Stable**	**Increasing**
Positive							
Negative ✖		✖		✖	↘		

4.5.6 - Commercial wild plant collection

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Not relevant

Relevant	✖ Not relevant

4.5.7 - Subsistence wild plant collection

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Not relevant

Relevant	✖ Not relevant

4.5.8 - Commercial hunting

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Not relevant

Relevant	✖ Not relevant

4.5.9 - Subsistence hunting

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Not relevant

Relevant	✖ Not relevant

4.5.10 - Forestry/Wood production

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Not relevant

Relevant	✖ Not relevant

4.5.11 - Please comment as necessary on how the factors selected as relevant in 4.5 are affecting the property either negatively or positively

These caves have got buffer zones stablished so there is little impact of the exploitation of its territory, but traditionally there were collecting or harvesting activities and wood exploitation with eucaplyptus plantations. In the case of some caves, for example Altxerri and Tito Bustillo , there are fields used for grazing domesticated animals just above the cave. Also, in the case of Altamira, the same problem was detected in the past but now it has been controlled . No risks are detected.

4.6. Physical resource extraction

4.6.1 - Mining

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Not relevant

✖ Relevant	Not relevant

	Impact		Origin		Trend of impact		
Impact	**Current**	**Potential**	**Inside**	**Outside**	**Decreasing**	**Stable**	**Increasing**
Positive							
Negative ✖		✖		✖		→	

4.6.2 - Quarrying

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Not relevant

✖ Relevant	Not relevant

	Impact		Origin		Trend of impact		
Impact	**Current**	**Potential**	**Inside**	**Outside**	**Decreasing**	**Stable**	**Increasing**
Positive							
Negative ✖		✖		✖		→	

4.6.3 - Oil and gas

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Not relevant

Relevant	✖ Not relevant

4.6.4 - Water (extraction)

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Not relevant

✖ Relevant	Not relevant

	Impact	Origin	Trend of impact

Impact	Current	Potential	Inside	Outside	Decreasing	Stable	Increasing
Positive							
Negative ✖		✖		✖		→	

4.6.5 - Please comment as necessary on how the factors selected as relevant in 4.6 are affecting the property either negatively or positively

Mining, quarrying and water extraction are potential risks to these sites, not inside the buffer zone that protect the site but in the surroundings. It´s a potential danger and it depends on future decisions, at the moment there isn´t any immediate risk.

4.7. Local conditions affecting physical fabric

4.7.1 - Wind

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Not relevant

Relevant	✖ Not relevant

4.7.2 - Relative humidity

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Relevant, Negative, Potential, Inside

✖ Relevant	Not relevant

	Impact		Origin		Trend of impact		
Impact	Current	Potential	Inside	Outside	Decreasing	Stable	Increasing
Positive							
Negative ✖		✖	✖			→	

4.7.3 - Temperature

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Relevant, Negative, Potential, Inside

✖ Relevant	Not relevant

	Impact		Origin		Trend of impact		
Impact	Current	Potential	Inside	Outside	Decreasing	Stable	Increasing
Positive							
Negative ✖		✖	✖				↗

4.7.4 - Radiation/Light

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Not relevant

Relevant	✖ Not relevant

4.7.5 - Dust

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Not relevant

✖ Relevant	Not relevant

	Impact		Origin		Trend of impact		
Impact	Current	Potential	Inside	Outside	Decreasing	Stable	Increasing
Positive							
Negative ✖		✖	✖			→	

4.7.6 - Water (rain/water table)

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Not relevant

✖ Relevant	Not relevant

	Impact		Origin		Trend of impact		
Impact	Current	Potential	Inside	Outside	Decreasing	Stable	Increasing

Positive							
Negative ✖	✖	✖		✖		→	

4.7.7 - Pests

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Not relevant

Relevant	✖ Not relevant

4.7.8 - Micro-organisms

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Relevant, Negative, Current, Inside

✖ Relevant	Not relevant

	Impact		Origin		Trend of impact		
Impact	**Current**	**Potential**	**Inside**	**Outside**	**Decreasing**	**Stable**	**Increasing**
Positive							
Negative ✖	✖		✖			→	

4.7.9 - Please comment as necessary on how the factors selected as relevant in 4.7 are affecting the property either negatively or positively

Some sites, for example Altamira, are closely motorized what allows to value the risks. At this moment, the situation seems stabilized and the micro-organism, humidity and rain water are stable but it is a potential risk. Also, some signs of the weather change have been detected specially in relation with temperatures.

4.8. Social/Cultural uses of heritage

4.8.1 - Ritual/Spiritual/Religious and associative uses

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Not relevant

Relevant	✖ Not relevant

4.8.2 - Society's valuing of heritage

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Relevant, Positive, Current, Outside

✖ Relevant	Not relevant

	Impact		Origin		Trend of impact		
Impact	**Current**	**Potential**	**Inside**	**Outside**	**Decreasing**	**Stable**	**Increasing**
Positive ✖	✖			✖		→	
Negative							

4.8.3 - Indigenous hunting, gathering and collecting

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Not relevant

Relevant	✖ Not relevant

4.8.4 - Changes in traditional ways of life and knowledge system

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Not relevant

Relevant	✖ Not relevant

4.8.5 - Identity, social cohesion, changes in local population and community

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Not relevant

Relevant	✖ Not relevant

4.8.6 - Impacts of tourism/Visitation/Recreation

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Relevant, Positive, Current, Outside

✖ Relevant	Not relevant

	Impact		Origin		Trend of impact		
Impact	Current	Potential	Inside	Outside	Decreasing	Stable	Increasing
Positive	✖			✖		→	
Negative							

4.8.7 - Please comment as necessary on how the factors selected as relevant in 4.8 are affecting the property either negatively or positively

There is a strong awareness in the society and among the authorities on the importance of these sites. Also, the tourism has got an impact in the area, especially if there are visitors' facilities that allow approaching this heritage.

4.9. Other human activities

4.9.1 - Illegal activities

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Not relevant

Relevant	✖ Not relevant

4.9.2 - Deliberate destruction of heritage

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Not relevant

Relevant	✖ Not relevant

4.9.3 - Military training

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Not relevant

Relevant	✖ Not relevant

4.9.4 - War

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Not relevant

Relevant	✖ Not relevant

4.9.5 - Terrorism

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Not relevant

Relevant	✖ Not relevant

4.9.6 - Civil unrest

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Not relevant

Relevant	✖ Not relevant

4.9.7 - Please comment as necessary on how the factors selected as relevant in 4.9 are affecting the property either negatively or positively

4.10. Climate change and severe weather events

4.10.1 - Storms

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Not relevant

Relevant	✖ Not relevant

4.10.2 - Flooding

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Not relevant

Relevant	✖ Not relevant

4.10.3 - Drought

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Not relevant

✖ Relevant	Not relevant

	Impact		Origin		Trend of impact		
Impact	**Current**	**Potential**	**Inside**	**Outside**	**Decreasing**	**Stable**	**Increasing**
Positive							
Negative ✖		✖		✖			↗

4.10.4 - Desertification

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Not relevant

Relevant	✖ Not relevant

4.10.5 - Changes to oceanic waters

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Not relevant

Relevant	✖ Not relevant

4.10.6 - Temperature change

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Not relevant

✖ Relevant	Not relevant

	Impact		Origin		Trend of impact		
Impact	**Current**	**Potential**	**Inside**	**Outside**	**Decreasing**	**Stable**	**Increasing**
Positive							
Negative ✖		✖		✖			↗

4.10.7 - Other climate change impacts

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Not relevant

Relevant	✖ Not relevant

4.10.8 - Please comment as necessary on how the factors selected as relevant in 4.10 are affecting the property either negatively or positively

There are signs of an increasing influence of the weather change inside the caves, especially the droughts and the increase of temperature.

4.11. Sudden ecological or geological events

4.11.1 - Volcanic eruption

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Not relevant

Relevant	✖ Not relevant

4.11.2 - Earthquake

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Not relevant

Relevant	✖ Not relevant

4.11.3 - Tsunami/Tidal wave

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Not relevant

Relevant	✖ Not relevant

4.11.4 - Avalanche/Landslide

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Not relevant

Relevant	✖ Not relevant

4.11.5 - Erosion and siltation/Deposition

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Not relevant

Relevant	✖ Not relevant

4.11.6 - Fire (wildfire)

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Not relevant

✖ Relevant	Not relevant

	Impact		Origin		Trend of impact		
Impact	**Current**	**Potential**	**Inside**	**Outside**	**Decreasing**	**Stable**	**Increasing**
Positive							
Negative ✖		✖		✖	↘		

4.11.7 - Please comment as necessary on how the factors selected as relevant in 4.11 are affecting the property either negatively or positively

Due to the location of the caves, the fire is a potential risk. Thanks to the efforts made in forest clearance, it is decreasing, though.

4.12. Invasive/alien species or hyper-abundant species

4.12.1 - Translocated species

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Not relevant

Relevant	✖ Not relevant

4.12.2 - Invasive/Alien terrestrial species

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Not relevant

Relevant	✖ Not relevant

4.12.3 - Invasive/Alien freshwater species

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Not relevant

Relevant	✖ Not relevant

4.12.4 - Invasive/Alien marine species

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Not relevant

Relevant	✖ Not relevant

4.12.5 - Hyper-abundant species

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Not relevant

Relevant	✖ Not relevant

4.12.6 - Modified genetic material

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Not relevant

Relevant	✖ Not relevant

4.12.7 - Please comment as necessary on how the factors selected as relevant in 4.12 are affecting the property either negatively or positively

4.13. Management and institutional factors

4.13.1 - Management system/Management plan

✖ Relevant	Not relevant

	Impact	Origin	Trend of impact

Impact	Current	Potential	Inside	Outside	Decreasing	Stable	Increasing
Positive ✖	✖			✖		→	
Negative							

4.13.2 - Legal framework

✖ Relevant	Not relevant

	Impact		Origin		Trend of impact		
Impact	Current	Potential	Inside	Outside	Decreasing	Stable	Increasing
Positive ✖	✖			✖		→	
Negative							

4.13.3 - Governance

✖ Relevant	Not relevant

	Impact		Origin		Trend of impact		
Impact	Current	Potential	Inside	Outside	Decreasing	Stable	Increasing
Positive ✖		✖		✖		→	
Negative							

4.13.4 - Management activities

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Relevant, Positive, Current, Inside, Outside

✖ Relevant	Not relevant

	Impact		Origin		Trend of impact		
Impact	Current	Potential	Inside	Outside	Decreasing	Stable	Increasing
Positive ✖	✖			✖		→	
Negative							

4.13.5 - Financial resources

✖ Relevant	Not relevant

	Impact		Origin		Trend of impact		
Impact	Current	Potential	Inside	Outside	Decreasing	Stable	Increasing
Positive ✖	✖			✖		→	
Negative							

4.13.6 - Human resources

✖ Relevant	Not relevant

	Impact		Origin		Trend of impact		
Impact	Current	Potential	Inside	Outside	Decreasing	Stable	Increasing
Positive ✖	✖			✖		→	
Negative							

4.13.7 - Low impact research/monitoring activities

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Relevant, Positive, Current, Inside

✖ Relevant	Not relevant

	Impact		Origin		Trend of impact		
Impact	Current	Potential	Inside	Outside	Decreasing	Stable	Increasing
Positive ✖	✖		✖	✖		→	
Negative							

4.13.8 - High impact research/monitoring activities

Previous answer Cycle 2 (22/07/2014):

- Not relevant

✖ Relevant	Not relevant

	Impact		Origin		Trend of impact		
Impact	**Current**	**Potential**	**Inside**	**Outside**	**Decreasing**	**Stable**	**Increasing**
Positive ✖	✖		✖			→	
Negative							

4.13.9 - Please comment as necessary on how the factors selected as relevant in 4.13 are affecting the property either negatively or positively

The implementation of an effective management system and the efforts of legally protected the caves have got a positive impact in the conservation of the World Heritage Sites. There is awareness in the authorities involved and sites managers that has as a result in the human and financial resources available. The research and monitoring activities have a positive impact on the knowledge of the sites, even though some techniques use destructive sampling (for example, calcite samples).

4.14. Other factor(s)

4.14.1 - Other factor(s)

In the caves, the variations in internal microclimate are an important factor: visitors and researchers are a potential risk but it is monitored and all the caves that are open to public have restricted visits. Also, these visits provoke an increase in the CO2 levels. Finally, this increase can be attributable to the outdoor vegetation near the cave. In the case of Altamira, from the geological point of view, the cave is in a collapse phase and that´s a potential risk.

4.15. Factors Summary Table

4.15.1 - Factors Summary Table

Name	Impact			Origin		Trend
4.1 Buildings and Development						
4.1.5 Interpretative and visitation facilities	⊕	⚑	⚑		↻	→
4.2 Transportation Infrastructure						
4.2.1 Ground transport infrastructure	⊕	⚑	⚑		↻	→
4.2.5 Effects arising from use of transportation infrastructure	⊖		⚑		↻	→
4.4 Pollution						
4.4.2 Ground water pollution	⊖	⚑	⚑	◉		→
4.4.3 Surface water pollution	⊖	⚑	⚑		↻	→
4.4.4 Air pollution	⊖	⚑	⚑		↻	→
4.4.5 Solid waste	⊖	⚑	⚑		↻	→
4.5 Biological resource use/modification						
4.5.4 Livestock farming/Grazing of domesticated animals	⊖	⚑	⚑		↻	↘
4.5.5 Crop production	⊖		⚑		↻	↘
4.6 Physical resource extraction						
4.6.1 Mining						

	⊖		↓		↘	→
4.6.2 Quarrying						
	⊖		↓		↘	→
4.6.4 Water (extraction)						
	⊖		↓		↘	→
4.7 Local conditions affecting physical fabric						
4.7.2 Relative humidity						
	⊖		↓	◎		→
4.7.3 Temperature						
	⊖		↓	◎		↗
4.7.5 Dust						
	⊖		↓	◎		→
4.7.6 Water (rain/water table)						
	⊖	↓	↓		↘	→
4.7.8 Micro-organisms						
	⊖	↓		◎		→
4.8 Social/Cultural uses of heritage						
4.8.2 Society's valuing of heritage	⊕	↓			↘	→
4.8.6 Impacts of tourism/Visitation/Recreation	⊕	↓			↘	→
4.10 Climate change and severe weather events						
4.10.3 Drought						
	⊖		↓		↘	↗
4.10.6 Temperature change						
	⊖		↓		↘	↗
4.11 Sudden ecological or geological events						
4.11.6 Fire (wildfire)						
	⊖		↓		↘	↘
4.13 Management and institutional factors						
4.13.1 Management system/Management plan	⊕	↓			↘	→
4.13.2 Legal framework	⊕	↓			↘	→
4.13.3 Governance	⊕		↓		↘	→
4.13.4 Management activities	⊕	↓			↘	→
4.13.5 Financial resources	⊕	↓			↘	→
4.13.6 Human resources	⊕	↓			↘	→

4.13.7 Low impact research/monitoring activities						
4.13.8 High impact research/monitoring activities						

Legend	Current	Potential	Negative	Positive	Inside	Outside

4.16. Assessment of current and potential positive and negative factors

4.16.1 - Assessment of current and potential negative and positive factors

4.1 Buildings and Development

Name	**Impact**			**Origin**		**Trend**
4.1.5 Interpretative and visitation facilities						

	Spatial scale - Area affected by the factor
✖	Restricted
	Localised
	Extensive
	Widespread
	Temporal scale - Occurence of the impact
	One off or rare
	Intermittent or sporadic
	Frequent
✖	On-going
	Impact - Impact on the attributes
	Insignificant
✖	Minor
	Significant
	Major
	Management response - Capacity of management to respond
	High capacity
✖	Medium capacity
	Low capacity
	No capacity and / or resources
	Trend - Developement over the last 6 years
	Decreasing
✖	Static
	Increasing

4.2 Transportation Infrastructure

Name	**Impact**			**Origin**		**Trend**
4.2.1 Ground transport infrastructure						

Spatial scale - Area affected by the factor	
	Restricted
✖	Localised
	Extensive
	Widespread
Temporal scale - Occurence of the impact	
	One off or rare
	Intermittent or sporadic
	Frequent
✖	On-going
Impact - Impact on the attributes	
	Insignificant
✖	Minor
	Significant
	Major
Management response - Capacity of management to respond	
✖	High capacity
	Medium capacity
	Low capacity
	No capacity and / or resources
Trend - Developement over the last 6 years	
✖	Decreasing
	Static
	Increasing

Name	Impact			Origin		Trend
4.2.5 Effects arising from use of transportation infrastructure						
	⊖					→

Spatial scale - Area affected by the factor	
	Restricted
✖	Localised
	Extensive
	Widespread
Temporal scale - Occurence of the impact	
	One off or rare
	Intermittent or sporadic
	Frequent
✖	On-going
Impact - Impact on the attributes	
	Insignificant
✖	Minor
	Significant

	Major
Management response - Capacity of management to respond	
✖	High capacity
	Medium capacity
	Low capacity
	No capacity and / or resources
Trend - Developement over the last 6 years	
✖	Decreasing
	Static
	Increasing

4.4 Pollution

Name	Impact			Origin		Trend
4.4.2 Ground water pollution						
	⛔					➡

Spatial scale - Area affected by the factor	
	Restricted
✖	Localised
	Extensive
	Widespread
Temporal scale - Occurence of the impact	
	One off or rare
✖	Intermittent or sporadic
	Frequent
	On-going
Impact - Impact on the attributes	
	Insignificant
	Minor
✖	Significant
	Major
Management response - Capacity of management to respond	
	High capacity
✖	Medium capacity
	Low capacity
	No capacity and / or resources
Trend - Developement over the last 6 years	
	Decreasing
✖	Static
	Increasing

Name	Impact			Origin		Trend
4.4.3 Surface water pollution						

						

Spatial scale - Area affected by the factor	
	Restricted
	Localised
✖	Extensive
	Widespread
Temporal scale - Occurence of the impact	
	One off or rare
✖	Intermittent or sporadic
	Frequent
	On-going
Impact - Impact on the attributes	
	Insignificant
	Minor
✖	Significant
	Major
Management response - Capacity of management to respond	
	High capacity
✖	Medium capacity
	Low capacity
	No capacity and / or resources
Trend - Developement over the last 6 years	
	Decreasing
	Static
✖	Increasing

Name	Impact			Origin		Trend
4.4.4 Air pollution						
						

Spatial scale - Area affected by the factor	
	Restricted
	Localised
✖	Extensive
	Widespread
Temporal scale - Occurence of the impact	
	One off or rare
✖	Intermittent or sporadic
	Frequent
	On-going
Impact - Impact on the attributes	
	Insignificant
	Minor

✖	Significant
	Major
Management response - Capacity of management to respond	
	High capacity
✖	Medium capacity
	Low capacity
	No capacity and / or resources
Trend - Developement over the last 6 years	
	Decreasing
✖	Static
	Increasing

Name	Impact			Origin		Trend
4.4.5 Solid waste						
						

Spatial scale - Area affected by the factor	
✖	Restricted
	Localised
	Extensive
	Widespread
Temporal scale - Occurence of the impact	
	One off or rare
✖	Intermittent or sporadic
	Frequent
	On-going
Impact - Impact on the attributes	
	Insignificant
	Minor
✖	Significant
	Major
Management response - Capacity of management to respond	
✖	High capacity
	Medium capacity
	Low capacity
	No capacity and / or resources
Trend - Developement over the last 6 years	
✖	Decreasing
	Static
	Increasing

4.5 Biological resource use/modification

Name	Impact	Origin	Trend

4.5.4 Livestock farming/Grazing of domesticated animals						

Spatial scale - Area affected by the factor	
	Restricted
✖	Localised
	Extensive
	Widespread
Temporal scale - Occurence of the impact	
✖	One off or rare
	Intermittent or sporadic
	Frequent
	On-going
Impact - Impact on the attributes	
	Insignificant
	Minor
✖	Significant
	Major
Management response - Capacity of management to respond	
	High capacity
✖	Medium capacity
	Low capacity
	No capacity and / or resources
Trend - Developement over the last 6 years	
✖	Decreasing
	Static
	Increasing

Name	Impact			Origin		Trend
4.5.5 Crop production						

Spatial scale - Area affected by the factor	
	Restricted
✖	Localised
	Extensive
	Widespread
Temporal scale - Occurence of the impact	
✖	One off or rare
	Intermittent or sporadic
	Frequent
	On-going
Impact - Impact on the attributes	
	Insignificant

	Minor
✖	Significant
	Major
Management response - Capacity of management to respond	
	High capacity
✖	Medium capacity
	Low capacity
	No capacity and / or resources
Trend - Developement over the last 6 years	
✖	Decreasing
	Static
	Increasing

4.6 Physical resource extraction

Name	Impact			Origin		Trend
4.6.1 Mining						
	⛔		👎		👍	➡

Spatial scale - Area affected by the factor	
	Restricted
✖	Localised
	Extensive
	Widespread
Temporal scale - Occurence of the impact	
✖	One off or rare
	Intermittent or sporadic
	Frequent
	On-going
Impact - Impact on the attributes	
	Insignificant
	Minor
✖	Significant
	Major
Management response - Capacity of management to respond	
✖	High capacity
	Medium capacity
	Low capacity
	No capacity and / or resources
Trend - Developement over the last 6 years	
	Decreasing
✖	Static
	Increasing

Name	Impact			Origin		Trend
4.6.2 Quarrying						
	⛔		↰		↱	→

Spatial scale - Area affected by the factor	
	Restricted
✖	Localised
	Extensive
	Widespread

Temporal scale - Occurence of the impact	
✖	One off or rare
	Intermittent or sporadic
	Frequent
	On-going

Impact - Impact on the attributes	
	Insignificant
	Minor
✖	Significant
	Major

Management response - Capacity of management to respond	
✖	High capacity
	Medium capacity
	Low capacity
	No capacity and / or resources

Trend - Developement over the last 6 years	
	Decreasing
✖	Static
	Increasing

Name	Impact			Origin		Trend
4.6.4 Water (extraction)						
	⛔		↰		↱	→

Spatial scale - Area affected by the factor	
	Restricted
✖	Localised
	Extensive
	Widespread

Temporal scale - Occurence of the impact	
	One off or rare
✖	Intermittent or sporadic
	Frequent
	On-going

Impact - Impact on the attributes

	Insignificant
	Minor
✖	Significant
	Major
Management response - Capacity of management to respond	
✖	High capacity
	Medium capacity
	Low capacity
	No capacity and / or resources
Trend - Developement over the last 6 years	
	Decreasing
✖	Static
	Increasing

4.7 Local conditions affecting physical fabric

Name	Impact			Origin		Trend
4.7.2 Relative humidity						
	⛔					➡

Spatial scale - Area affected by the factor	
	Restricted
	Localised
✖	Extensive
	Widespread
Temporal scale - Occurence of the impact	
	One off or rare
	Intermittent or sporadic
	Frequent
✖	On-going
Impact - Impact on the attributes	
	Insignificant
	Minor
	Significant
✖	Major
Management response - Capacity of management to respond	
	High capacity
✖	Medium capacity
	Low capacity
	No capacity and / or resources
Trend - Developement over the last 6 years	
	Decreasing
✖	Static
	Increasing

Name	Impact			Origin		Trend
4.7.3 Temperature						
	⛔		👎	⚙		↗

	Spatial scale - Area affected by the factor
	Restricted
✖	Localised
	Extensive
	Widespread
	Temporal scale - Occurence of the impact
	One off or rare
✖	Intermittent or sporadic
	Frequent
	On-going
	Impact - Impact on the attributes
	Insignificant
	Minor
✖	Significant
	Major
	Management response - Capacity of management to respond
	High capacity
✖	Medium capacity
	Low capacity
	No capacity and / or resources
	Trend - Developement over the last 6 years
	Decreasing
	Static
✖	Increasing

Name	Impact			Origin		Trend
4.7.5 Dust						
	⛔		👎	⚙		→

	Spatial scale - Area affected by the factor
	Restricted
✖	Localised
	Extensive
	Widespread
	Temporal scale - Occurence of the impact
	One off or rare
✖	Intermittent or sporadic
	Frequent
	On-going

Impact - Impact on the attributes	
	Insignificant
✖	Minor
	Significant
	Major

Management response - Capacity of management to respond	
	High capacity
✖	Medium capacity
	Low capacity
	No capacity and / or resources

Trend - Developement over the last 6 years	
	Decreasing
✖	Static
	Increasing

Name	Impact			Origin		Trend
4.7.6 Water (rain/water table)						
	⛔					➡

Spatial scale - Area affected by the factor	
	Restricted
	Localised
✖	Extensive
	Widespread

Temporal scale - Occurence of the impact	
	One off or rare
✖	Intermittent or sporadic
	Frequent
	On-going

Impact - Impact on the attributes	
	Insignificant
	Minor
✖	Significant
	Major

Management response - Capacity of management to respond	
	High capacity
	Medium capacity
✖	Low capacity
	No capacity and / or resources

Trend - Developement over the last 6 years	
	Decreasing
✖	Static
	Increasing

Name	Impact			Origin		Trend
4.7.8 Micro-organisms						

	Spatial scale - Area affected by the factor
	Restricted
✖	Localised
	Extensive
	Widespread
	Temporal scale - Occurence of the impact
	One off or rare
✖	Intermittent or sporadic
	Frequent
	On-going
	Impact - Impact on the attributes
	Insignificant
	Minor
✖	Significant
	Major
	Management response - Capacity of management to respond
	High capacity
✖	Medium capacity
	Low capacity
	No capacity and / or resources
	Trend - Developement over the last 6 years
	Decreasing
✖	Static
	Increasing

4.8 Social/Cultural uses of heritage

Name	Impact			Origin		Trend
4.8.2 Society's valuing of heritage						

	Spatial scale - Area affected by the factor
	Restricted
	Localised
✖	Extensive
	Widespread
	Temporal scale - Occurence of the impact
	One off or rare
	Intermittent or sporadic

	Frequent
✖	On-going
Impact - Impact on the attributes	
	Insignificant
	Minor
	Significant
✖	Major
Management response - Capacity of management to respond	
✖	High capacity
	Medium capacity
	Low capacity
	No capacity and / or resources
Trend - Developement over the last 6 years	
	Decreasing
✖	Static
	Increasing

Name	Impact			Origin		Trend
4.8.6 Impacts of tourism/Visitation/Recreation						

Spatial scale - Area affected by the factor	
	Restricted
	Localised
✖	Extensive
	Widespread
Temporal scale - Occurence of the impact	
	One off or rare
✖	Intermittent or sporadic
	Frequent
	On-going
Impact - Impact on the attributes	
	Insignificant
	Minor
	Significant
✖	Major
Management response - Capacity of management to respond	
✖	High capacity
	Medium capacity
	Low capacity
	No capacity and / or resources
Trend - Developement over the last 6 years	
	Decreasing

✖	Static
	Increasing

4.10 Climate change and severe weather events

Name	Impact			Origin		Trend
4.10.3 Drought						
	⛔		👎		👍	↗

	Spatial scale - Area affected by the factor
	Restricted
✖	Localised
	Extensive
	Widespread
	Temporal scale - Occurence of the impact
	One off or rare
✖	Intermittent or sporadic
	Frequent
	On-going
	Impact - Impact on the attributes
	Insignificant
	Minor
✖	Significant
	Major
	Management response - Capacity of management to respond
	High capacity
	Medium capacity
✖	Low capacity
	No capacity and / or resources
	Trend - Developement over the last 6 years
	Decreasing
	Static
✖	Increasing

Name	Impact			Origin		Trend
4.10.6 Temperature change						
	⛔		👎		👍	↗

	Spatial scale - Area affected by the factor
	Restricted
	Localised
✖	Extensive
	Widespread
	Temporal scale - Occurence of the impact
	One off or rare

✖	Intermittent or sporadic
	Frequent
	On-going
Impact - Impact on the attributes	
	Insignificant
	Minor
	Significant
✖	Major
Management response - Capacity of management to respond	
	High capacity
✖	Medium capacity
	Low capacity
	No capacity and / or resources
Trend - Developement over the last 6 years	
	Decreasing
	Static
✖	Increasing

4.11 Sudden ecological or geological events

Name	Impact			Origin		Trend
4.11.6 Fire (wildfire)						
	⛔					↘

Spatial scale - Area affected by the factor	
	Restricted
	Localised
	Extensive
✖	Widespread
Temporal scale - Occurence of the impact	
✖	One off or rare
	Intermittent or sporadic
	Frequent
	On-going
Impact - Impact on the attributes	
	Insignificant
	Minor
✖	Significant
	Major
Management response - Capacity of management to respond	
✖	High capacity
	Medium capacity
	Low capacity
	No capacity and / or resources

Trend - Developement over the last 6 years	
✖	Decreasing
	Static
	Increasing

4.13 Management and institutional factors

Name	Impact			Origin		Trend
4.13.1 Management system/Management plan						→

Spatial scale - Area affected by the factor	
	Restricted
	Localised
	Extensive
✖	Widespread
Temporal scale - Occurence of the impact	
	One off or rare
	Intermittent or sporadic
	Frequent
✖	On-going
Impact - Impact on the attributes	
	Insignificant
	Minor
	Significant
✖	Major
Management response - Capacity of management to respond	
✖	High capacity
	Medium capacity
	Low capacity
	No capacity and / or resources
Trend - Developement over the last 6 years	
	Decreasing
✖	Static
	Increasing

Name	Impact			Origin		Trend
4.13.2 Legal framework						→

Spatial scale - Area affected by the factor	
	Restricted
	Localised
	Extensive

✖	Widespread
Temporal scale - Occurence of the impact	
	One off or rare
	Intermittent or sporadic
	Frequent
✖	On-going
Impact - Impact on the attributes	
	Insignificant
	Minor
	Significant
✖	Major
Management response - Capacity of management to respond	
✖	High capacity
	Medium capacity
	Low capacity
	No capacity and / or resources
Trend - Developement over the last 6 years	
	Decreasing
✖	Static
	Increasing

Name	Impact			Origin		Trend
4.13.3 Governance						

Spatial scale - Area affected by the factor	
	Restricted
	Localised
	Extensive
✖	Widespread
Temporal scale - Occurence of the impact	
	One off or rare
	Intermittent or sporadic
	Frequent
✖	On-going
Impact - Impact on the attributes	
	Insignificant
	Minor
	Significant
✖	Major
Management response - Capacity of management to respond	
✖	High capacity
	Medium capacity

	Low capacity
	No capacity and / or resources
Trend - Developement over the last 6 years	
	Decreasing
✖	Static
	Increasing

Name	Impact			Origin		Trend
4.13.4 Management activities						→

Spatial scale - Area affected by the factor	
	Restricted
	Localised
	Extensive
✖	Widespread
Temporal scale - Occurence of the impact	
	One off or rare
	Intermittent or sporadic
	Frequent
✖	On-going
Impact - Impact on the attributes	
	Insignificant
	Minor
	Significant
✖	Major
Management response - Capacity of management to respond	
✖	High capacity
	Medium capacity
	Low capacity
	No capacity and / or resources
Trend - Developement over the last 6 years	
	Decreasing
✖	Static
	Increasing

Name	Impact			Origin		Trend
4.13.5 Financial resources						→

Spatial scale - Area affected by the factor	
	Restricted
	Localised
	Extensive

✖	Widespread
Temporal scale - Occurence of the impact	
	One off or rare
	Intermittent or sporadic
	Frequent
✖	On-going
Impact - Impact on the attributes	
	Insignificant
	Minor
	Significant
✖	Major
Management response - Capacity of management to respond	
	High capacity
✖	Medium capacity
	Low capacity
	No capacity and / or resources
Trend - Developement over the last 6 years	
	Decreasing
✖	Static
	Increasing

Name	Impact			Origin		Trend
4.13.6 Human resources						→

Spatial scale - Area affected by the factor	
	Restricted
	Localised
	Extensive
✖	Widespread
Temporal scale - Occurence of the impact	
	One off or rare
	Intermittent or sporadic
	Frequent
✖	On-going
Impact - Impact on the attributes	
	Insignificant
	Minor
✖	Significant
	Major
Management response - Capacity of management to respond	
	High capacity
✖	Medium capacity

	Low capacity
	No capacity and / or resources
Trend - Developement over the last 6 years	
	Decreasing
✖	Static
	Increasing

Name	Impact			Origin		Trend
4.13.7 Low impact research/monitoring activities						→

Spatial scale - Area affected by the factor	
	Restricted
	Localised
✖	Extensive
	Widespread
Temporal scale - Occurence of the impact	
	One off or rare
	Intermittent or sporadic
	Frequent
✖	On-going
Impact - Impact on the attributes	
	Insignificant
	Minor
	Significant
✖	Major
Management response - Capacity of management to respond	
	High capacity
✖	Medium capacity
	Low capacity
	No capacity and / or resources
Trend - Developement over the last 6 years	
	Decreasing
✖	Static
	Increasing

Name	Impact			Origin		Trend
4.13.8 High impact research/monitoring activities						→

Spatial scale - Area affected by the factor	
✖	Restricted
	Localised
	Extensive

	Widespread
Temporal scale - Occurence of the impact	
	One off or rare
✖	Intermittent or sporadic
	Frequent
	On-going
Impact - Impact on the attributes	
	Insignificant
✖	Minor
	Significant
	Major
Management response - Capacity of management to respond	
✖	High capacity
	Medium capacity
	Low capacity
	No capacity and / or resources
Trend - Developement over the last 6 years	
	Decreasing
✖	Static
	Increasing

4.17. Serial inscriptions (national or transnational)

4.17.1 - If your property is a serial inscription (national or transnational) please identify which components of the property are impacted by each factor

All the factors are current or potential ones that are or will be affecting this type of heritage. So, they are common in all the sites but in the grade we can find variations. We have 18 components with some common characteristics.

4.18. Prediction of the state of conservation at next cycle of Periodic Reporting.

4.18.1 - Please predict what the state of conservation of each attribute will be approximately 6 years from now (at the time of the next cycle of Periodic Reporting)

	Attribute	Preserved	Compromised	Seriously compromised	Lost
4.18.1.1	First examples of humanity's first art recognised by the scientific community	✖			
4.18.1.2	Quantity and quality of caves on the Cantabrian Corniche from a geological and artistic point of view.	✖			
4.18.1.3	Excellent conservation of the inscribed caves with minimal alterations.	✖			
4.18.1.4	A representative and unique group of Palaeolithic rock art from the Franco-Cantabrian area, due to the variety and specificity of themes, techniques and styles.	✖			
4.18.1.5	Long chronology with examples from the Aurignacian to the Magdalenian period.	✖			

5. Protection and Management of the Property

5.1. Boundaries and Buffer Zones

5.1.1 - Are the boundaries of the World Heritage property adequate to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value?

The boundaries are **adequate to maintain** the property's Outstanding Universal Value

5.1.2 - Are the boundaries of the World Heritage property known and recognised?

The boundaries **are known by both** the management authority and local communities/landowners

5.1.3 - Are the buffer zone(s) of the World Heritage property adequate to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value?

The buffer zones are **adequate** to maintain the property's Outstanding Universal Value

5.1.4 - Are the boundaries of the buffer zones known and recognised?

The buffer zones of the World Heritage property **are known and recognised by both** the management authority and local communities/landowners

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

There has been an effort to delimitate clearly boundaries and buffer zones that are adequate for each cave. The boundaries incorporate all the attributes of the Outstanding Universal Value and there are large buffer zones which contribute to the protection. Regional and national laws were approved and they defined boundaries and buffer zones for each cave.

5.2. Protective Measures

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

Principal regulations directly or indirectly affecting the protection of the Altamira Cave:

- Decree of 25 April 1924 declaring the Altamira Cave a Monumento ArquitectónicoArtístico (ArchitecturalArtistic Monument).
- Law of 13 May 1933 consolidating all previously existing designations under the category of Monumento ArquitectónicoArtístico.
- Royal Decree 2410 of 27 August 1977, whereby the municipal government of Santillana granted full powers to the State over the Altamira Cave and property.
- Ministerial Order of 15 June 1979 creating the Altamira National Museum and Research Centre.
- Ministerial Order of 17 October 1979, creating the Board of Trustees of the Altamira Museum and Research Centre
- Ministerial Order of 17 May 1985 updating the composition of the Board of Trustees of the Altamira National Museum and Research Centre.
- Law 16/ 1985 of 25 June on Spanish Historical Heritage declaring all caves containing manifestations of rupestrian art a Bien de Interés Cultural .
- Law 11/1998 of 13 October on the Cultural Heritage of Cantabria.
- Resolution of 7 April 2004 of the Department of the Presidency, and Territorial and Urban Development of the Government of Cantabria approving the Municipal Master Plan and the Special Plan for the Protection of the Historical Complex of Santillana del Mar.
- Royal Decree 172/2010 of 19 February, for the regulation of the National Museum Board and Research Center of Altamira
- Law 7/1990 of Basque Cultural Heritage (Ekain caves, and Santimamiñe Altxerri)
- Law 1/2001 of Cultural Heritage of the Principality of Asturias (caves of Tito Bu stillo, Peña de Candamo Llonín, Covaciella and El Pindal)
- Legal protection: Extension of protection environment of La Garma. Agreement.of the Governing Council of Cantabria April 12, 2012.

The Palaeolithic art caves are governed by Law no.16/1985 of Spanish Historic Heritage, and more particularly its Articles 40-1 and 40-2. They are defined as public properties of cultural interest and are thus subject to national listing for protection purposes. These listing measures include some earlier provisions concerning the recognition of Spanish national heritage. Following their discovery and study to establish their artistic and prehistoric value, all the nominated caves have been scheduled under the law, in 19241925 for those known earliest, and in 19971998 for the most recent (El Pando, La Garma).

- The three autonomous regions of the Basque Country, Cantabria and Asturias provide regulatory protection for the buffer zones of the nominated caves. No modification may be made or new construction established without the authorisation of the Regional Council for Culture. The same authorisation is required for water catchments in the buffer zone. These specific authorisations for the nominated property and its buffer zone are included in the land use plan.

Source: Periodic Reporting Cycle 1; Advisory Body Evaluation, 2008; Periodic Reporting Cycle 2

Comment

We add a new and complete list of legislation and other measures related to all the caves that are World Heritage. The old references can be deleted.

5.2.2 - Please list any legislation and other measures (regulatory -including spatial planning- contractual, institutional or traditional) not included in 5.2.1 and indicate the category

1924 / Royal Order, of 25 April 1924, declaring Architectural Artistic Monuments to the following caves: Altamira, La Pasiega, El Castillo, Covalanas, Hornos de la Peña, Peña de Cándamo, El Pindal and Basondo (Santimamiñe). /
https://www.boe.es/diario_gazeta/comun/pdf.php?p=1924/05/07/pdfs/GMD-1924-128.pdf

1933 / Law, of 13 May 1933, on National Artistic Heritage , consolidating all the previously existing designations. /
https://www.boe.es/diario_gazeta/comun/pdf.php?p=1933/05/25/pdfs/GMD-1933-145.pdf

1970 / Decree 995/1970, of 12 March, declaring Historic Artistic Monument to Tito Bustillo Cave in Ardines, Rivadesella (Asturias). /
https://www.boe.es/boe/dias/1970/04/08/pdfs/A05554-05554.pdf

1978 / Royal Decree 1808/1978, of 23 June, declaring Historic Artistic Monument to Las Monedas and Las Chimeneas Caves, in Puente Viesgo (Santander). /
https://www.boe.es/boe/dias/1978/08/01/pdfs/A18064-18065.pdf

1979 / Ministerial Order, of 15 June 1979, creating the Altamira National Museum and Research Centre in Santillana del Mar (Santander). /
https://www.boe.es/boe/dias/1979/10/31/pdfs/A25328-25328.pdf

1979 / Ministerial Order, of 17 October of 1979, reorganizing the administration of the archaeological site of Altamira Caves, in Santillana del Mar (Santander), creating the Board of Trustees of the Altamira Museum and Research Centre. /
https://www.boe.es/boe/dias/1979/10/24/pdfs/A24724-24724.pdf

1984 / Decree 265/1984, of 14 de July, declaring Historic Artistic Monument to Ekain, Altxerri and Santimamiñe Caves. /
https://www.euskadi.eus/y22-bopv/es/bopv2/datos/1984/08/8401568a.pdf

1985 / Ministerial Order, of 17 May 1985, updating the composition of the Board of Trustees of the Altamira National Museum and Research Centre. /
www.boe.es/boe/dias/1985/05/28/pdfs/A15660-15660.pdf

1985 / Law 16/1985, of 25 June, on Spanish Historical Heritage, declaring all the caves with Rock Art Properties of Cultural Interest. /
https://www.boe.es/buscar/pdf/1985/BOE-A-1985-12534-consolidado.pdf AND THE ENGLISH TRANSLATION:
www.eui.eu/Projects/InternationalArtHeritageLaw/Documents/NationalLegislation/Spain/law16of1985.pdf

1996 / Decree 66/96, of 24 October, delimiting the buffer zone of the Rock Art Cave of La Covaciella, in Cabrales (Asturias). /
https://sede.asturias.es/bopa/disposiciones/repositorio/LEGISLACION14/66/1/4EB5DD05B2E84ED0A035E820ACEE0FD3.pdf

1998 / Law 11/1998, of 13 October, on Cultural Heritage of Cantabria. /
https://www.boe.es/buscar/pdf/1999/BOE-A-1999-652-consolidado.pdf

1977 / Royal Decree 2410/1977, of 27 Agust, approving the agreement between the Sate and Santillana del Mar council (Santander) in relation with the property of Altamira Caves. / https://www.boe.es/boe/dias/1977/09/20/pdfs/A21085-21085.pdf

2001 / Law 1/2001, of 6 March, on Cultural Heritage of the Principality of Asturias. / https://www.boe.es/buscar/pdf/2001/BOE-A-2001-10676-consolidado.pdf

2003 / Decree 124/2003, of 18 July, delimiting the buffer zone of the Property of Cultural Interest called El Pendo Cave, in Escobedo, in Camargo area (Cantabria). / https://www.boe.es/boe/dias/2003/09/12/pdfs/A34021-34022.pdf

2004 / Resolution, of 7 April 2004, of the Regional Department of Territorial and Urban Development, approving the Municipal Master Plan and the Special Plan for hte protection for the Historial Complex of Santillana del Mar. / https://boc.cantabria.es/boces/verAnuncioAction.do?idAnuBlob=65572

2004 / Decree 114/2004, of 28 October, delimiting the buffer zone of the Property of Cultural Interest called Hornos de la Peña Cave, in Tarriba, in San Felices de Buelna area. / https://boc.cantabria.es/boces/verAnuncioAction.do?idAnuBlob=73288

2005 / Decree 25/2005,of 10 March, delimiting the buffer zone of the Property of Cultural Interest called Chufin and Chufin IV Cave, in Riclones, in Rionansa area. / https://boc.cantabria.es/boces/verAnuncioAction.do?idAnuBlob=79327

2006 / Agreement, of 30 November 2006, of the Government Council, declaring Property of Cultural Interest, in the category of archaeological site, to the Archeological Site of Ramales, in Ramales de la Victoria area (including the Covalanas Cave). / https://boc.cantabria.es/boces/verAnuncioAction.do?idAnuBlob=110299

2009 / Decree 48/2009, of 1 July, delimiting the buffer zone of El Pindal Cave, in Ribadedeva Council. / https://sede.asturias.es/bopa/2009/07/09/2009-16897.pdf

2009 / Decree 59/2009, of 1 July, delimiting the buffer zone of La Peña Cave, in San Román, Candamo Council. / https://sede.asturias.es/bopa/2009/07/09/2009-17086.pdf

2009 / Decree 118/2009, of 16 September, delimiting the buffer zone of Llonín Cave, in Peñamellera Alta Council. / https://sede.asturias.es/bopa/2009/10/02/2009-22325.pdf

2009 / Decree 117/2009, of 16 September, deliminting the buffer zone of TIto Bustillo, La Cuevona, Les Pedroses and La Lloseta Caves, in Ribadesella Council. / https://sede.asturias.es/bopa/2009/10/02/2009-22322.pdf

2010 / Royal Decree 172/2010, of 19 February, regulating the Board of Trustees of the Altamira National Museum and Research Centre. / https://www.boe.es/boe/dias/2010/03/11/pdfs/BOE-A-2010-4055.pdf

2016 / Decree 76/2016, of 1 December, declaring nature reserve of special interest to the Pendo-Peñajorao Caves (Camargo area) / https://boc.cantabria.es/boces/verAnuncioAction.do?idAnuBlob=307027

2019 / Law 6/2019, of 9 May, on Basque Cultural Heritage. / https://www.boe.es/eli/es-pv/l/2019/05/09/6/dof/spa/pdf

1998 / Decree 64/1998, of 7 July, declaring Property of Cultural Interest, in the category of archaeological site, to La Garma Karstic complex, in Omoño (Ribamontán al Monte). / https://www.boe.es/boe/dias/1998/09/11/pdfs/A30794-30794.pdf

2022 / Decision of 12 July 2022, of the General Department of Cultural Heritage and Fine Arts , publishing the agreement with the Regional Society of Education, Culture and Sport to operationalize, manage and develop the International Centre for Rock Art and World Heritage Convention. / https://www.boe.es/boe/dias/2022/07/18/pdfs/BOE-A-2022-11935.pdf

2015 / Decree 20/2015, of 25 March, approving the Regulations for the implementation of the Law 1/2001, of 6 March 2001, on Cultural Heritage of the Principality of Asturias. / https://sede.asturias.es/bopa/2015/04/01/2015-05817.pdf

2012 / Agreement of 12 April 2012, of Government Council declaring an extension of the buffer area of the Property of Cultural Interest, in the category of archaeological site, La Garma Karstic complex, in Omoño, in Ribamontán al Monte area. / https://www.boe.es/boe/dias/2012/05/14/pdfs/BOE-A-2012-6362.pdf

2004 / Decree 88/2004, of 16 September, delimiting the buffer zone of the Properties of Cultural Interest called El Castillo, La Pasiega, Las Monedas y Las Chimeneas Caves, in Puente Viesgo, in Puente Viesgo area. / https://boc.cantabria.es/boces/verAnuncioAction.do?idAnuBlob=71406 AND CORRECTIONS https://boc.cantabria.es/boces/verAnuncioAction.do?idAnuBlob=71818

5.2.3 - Is the legal framework (i.e. legislation and/or regulation including spatial planning) adequate for maintaining the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Integrity and/or Authenticity of the property?

The **legal framework** for maintaining of the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Authenticity and/or Integrity of the World Heritage property provides an **adequate basis for effective management and protection**

5.2.4 - 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** in the buffer zone for the maintenance of the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Authenticity and/or Integrity of the World Heritage property provides an **adequate basis for effective management and protection**

5.2.5 - Is the legal framework (i.e. legislation and/or regulation) in the broader setting of the World Heritage property adequate for maintaining the Outstanding Universal Value including conditions of Integrity and/or Authenticity of the property?

The **legal framework** for the broader setting of the World Heritage property provides an **adequate 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

5.2.6 - Can the legal framework (i.e. legislation and/or regulation) be enforced?

There is **adequate capacity/resources** to enforce legislation and/or regulation in the World Heritage property

5.2.7 - Please provide a short summary of how the legislation, including spatial planning and other regulation, works in practice

First, there is a National Law on Spanish Historical Heritage (Law 16/1985, of 25 June) that declares all the caves with Rock Art Properties of Cultural Interest. Second, there are three other regional laws, one for each regional authority involved, that protect the caves of each region: for the Basque Country Law 6/2019, of 9 May; for Asturias Law 1/2001, of 6 March and for Cantabria Law 11/1998, of 13 October. Third, there are other laws that protect each site separately.

5.2.8 - Comments, conclusions and/or recommendations about the information related to the measures taken to protect the World Heritage property

All the sites have the maximum level of protection by law. The sites are located on public domain declared by the Spanish Constitution (art.46 and 132) and all the sites are declared Properties of Cultural Interest by the National Law 16/1985. Also, the regional laws ensure that maximum protection in their territories.

5.3. Management System/Management Plan

5.3.1 - Please check the box which most closely match the character of the governance and management system of the property

Other

If 'Other', please specify

Mixed Public National and Regional Management System

5.3.2 - Management System: Please indicate which of the various management tools listed below are used to help protect the property.

A statutory Management Plan or zoning plan for the property.
A management plan
An annual work plan or business plan
A disaster, climate or conflict risk management plan
A visitor/visitation management plan

5.3.3 - Please give a brief description of the management system currently in place at your property

In the case of the Cave of Altamira, the authority is the Spanish Ministry of Culture and the Museum of Altamira is in charge of its management, in partnership with the region of Cantabria and the municipality of Santillana del Mar. The other sites are directed by the specialist management divisions of Basque Country, Cantabria and Asturias. - In Asturias, General Directorate for Culture and Heritage - In Cantabria, General Directorate for Culture's services for Cultural Heritage and the Regional Society for Education, Culture and Sport. - In Basque Country, the competent Department for Culture of the Basque Country, through the Directorate for Cultural Heritage. Also, an interadministrative commission was created in 2007 for the coordination of the WH Site, decision and policy makers meet twice a year.

5.3.4 - Management Documents

Title	Status	Available	Date	Link to source
Programa De Investigación Para La Conservación Preventiva Y Régimen De Acceso De La Cueva De Altamira Plan De Conservación Preventiva De La Cueva De AltamirA	N/A	Available	2012	

Comment

- In the case of the Cave of Altamira, since 2014 the management document is the " Preventive conservation plan for the cave of Altamira. 2012-2014" that was the result of the Research Programme of 2012.

5.3.5 - Has any use been made of the 2011 Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape in developing policies and best practices for the protection of this property?

The 2011 Recommendation on the Historic Urban Landscape is **not relevant** to this property

5.3.6 - If the Historic Urban Landscape Recommendation has been used at this property, please describe briefly what has been done.

5.3.7 - Has any use been made of the Policy Document on the Impacts of Climate Change on World Heritage Properties at the property?

Some use has been made of the World Heritage Policy for Climate Change

5.3.8 - If the Climate Change policy has been used, please briefly describe what has been done along with any research on the impacts of Climate Change on the property:

The nature of the materials of our sites made them especially vulnerable to climate change: the decorated surfaces can be damaged by the crystallization and dissolution of salts due to changes in wetting and drying cycles. First, the sites are monitored, so the management planning has got as a priority the conservation of their OUV. For these reasons some caves are closed to public and in the rest visits are very limited, for example efforts have been made to create visitor centres with replicas. Second, in relation with the mitigation of emissions the different administrations involved encourage recycling programs, teleworking and the use of electronic documents.

5.3.9 - Has any use been made of the Strategy for Reducing Risks from Disasters at World Heritage Properties at the property ?

Some use has been made of the Strategy for Reducing Risks from Disasters at World Heritage Properties

5.3.10 - If the Strategy for Reducing Risks from Disasters at World Heritage Properties has been used, please briefly describe what has been done

Firstly, our sites are exposed to the impacts of natural and man-triggered catastrophic events. In relation with the man ones, buffer zones have been implemented in all the sites as a way to control external, potential risks. Secondly, there is an inherent vulnerability in the nature of the sites. In order to understand the threats and reduce the vulnerability lots of researches have been carried out, our professionals have taken part in workshops, the conclusions have been published and constant monitoring of the sites exits. So, this knowledge has developed a culture of prevention in all the administrations involved and there are different management plans to provide a response at all levels: readiness or before, response or during and recovery or after. Also, the idea is to achieve an effective reduction of risks with the involvement of the local communities, all administrations, visitors and stakeholders in general.

5.3.11 - Rate the coordination between the various levels of administration (i.e. national/federal; regional/provincial/state; local/municipal etc.) involved in the management of the World Heritage property

There is **adequate coordination** between all bodies/levels involved in the management of the property

5.3.12 - 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

5.3.13 - Is the management system being implemented?

The management system is being **fully implemented and monitored**

5.3.14 - Is there an annual work/action plan and is it being implemented?

An annual work/action plan **exists and all of its activities are being implemented and monitored**

5.3.15 - Does the management system include formal mechanisms and procedures that ensure participation and contribution of the following groups, living within or near the World Heritage property and/or buffer zone in management decisions that maintain the Outstanding Universal Value of the property?

		Not applicable	No mechanisms for participation	Some participation	Direct participation	Transformative participation in all relevant decision processes
5.3.15.1	Local communities			×		
5.3.15.2	Local authorities				×	
5.3.15.3	Landowners in the property and the buffer zone				×	
5.3.15.4	Indigenous peoples	×				
5.3.15.5	Women	×				
5.3.15.6	Other specific groups					
	If you selected, 'Other specific groups' please specify					

5.3.16 - Please rate the cooperation/relationship between the World Heritage property managers/coordinators/staff and the following groups

		Not applicable	Non-existent	Poor	Fair	Good
5.3.16.1	Local communities				×	
5.3.16.2	Local/Municipal authorities					×
5.3.16.3	Indigenous peoples	×				
5.3.16.4	Landowners				×	
5.3.16.5	Women				×	
5.3.16.6	Youth/Children				×	
5.3.16.7	Researchers					×
5.3.16.8	Local Visitors/Tourists					×
5.3.16.9	National/International tourists					×
5.3.16.10	Tourism Industry				×	
5.3.16.11	Local businesses and industries				×	
5.3.16.12	NGOs				×	
5.3.16.13	Other specific groups					
	If you selected 'Other specific groups', please specify					

5.3.17 - Please rate the extent to which the management system of your property contributes towards achieving the objectives of the World Heritage Committee's Policy for the Integration of a Sustainable Development Perspective into the Processes of the *World Heritage Convention*

		Not applicable	No contribution	Limited	Significant	Full achievement
5.3.17.1	The management system of the property contributes to gender equality				×	
5.3.17.2	The management system of the property provides ecosystem services/benefits to the local community (e.g. fresh air, water, food, medicinal plants)	×				
5.3.17.3	The management system of the property contributes to social inclusion and equity, improving opportunities for all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status				×	

5.3.17.4	The management system of the property integrates a human rights-based approach				✖	
5.3.17.5	The management system of the property contributes to fostering inclusive local economic development, and to enhancing livelihood				✖	
5.3.17.6	The management system of the property contributes to conflict prevention, including respect for cultural diversity within and around the World Heritage property	✖				

5.3.18 - Please provide further details on the ratings of the management system given in the table above

There is awareness in the gender studies and some researches are carried out under this topic. Also the management system aims to contribute to the local economic growth and social inclusion. Finally, all the involved administrations are focused on the Sustainable Development Goals adopted by 2030 Agenda.

5.3.19 - Comments, conclusions and/or recommendations related to the management system/plan

Some caves are closed to the public but they are subect to a management plan, in those cases there are few contacts with the different groups. When they are open, there are more contacts with these groups. Each region has got their own system and Altamira has got its own also, but there is a Commission created for the coordination of the sites.

6. Financial and Human Resources

6.1. Funding

6.1.1 - If your funding sources do not exactly fit those shown, put the relevant amounts against the funding type that most closely represents your situation, and use the comment box below to provide more details.

		Project costs	Running costs
6.1.1.1	Multilateral funding (GEF, World Bank, etc.)	%	%
6.1.1.2	Bilateral international funding	%	%
6.1.1.3	World Heritage Fund (International Assistance)	%	%
6.1.1.4	Contribution from other conventions and programmes	%	%
6.1.1.5	International donations (NGOs, foundations, etc.)	%	%
6.1.1.6	Governmental (national/federal)	25 %	25 %
6.1.1.7	Governmental (regional/provincial/state)	75 %	75 %
6.1.1.8	Governmental (local/municipal)	%	%
6.1.1.9	In-country donations (NGOs, foundations, etc.)	%	%
6.1.1.10	Individual visitor charges (e.g. entry, toilets, parking, camping fees, etc.)	%	%
6.1.1.11	Commercial activities (e.g. merchandising and catering, filming permit, concessions, etc.)	%	%
6.1.1.12	Other	%	%
		Total 100 %	Total 100 %

6.1.2 - Please comment here on any other aspects of funding sources not covered in the table above

6.1.3 - 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

6.1.4 - Are the existing sources of funding secure and likely to remain so?

The existing sources of funding are **secure over both the medium- and long-term**

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

The General State Budget of the Spanish State covers the Cave of Altamira and its infrastructure. Meanwhile the three regional governments involved do the same with the other sites.

6.1.6 - Estimate the distribution of men and women involved in the management, conservation, interpretation of the World Heritage properties and the extent to which they are drawn from local communities.

		From local communities %	From elsewhere %
6.1.6.1	Men	20 %	20 %
6.1.6.2	Women	80 %	80 %
		Total 100 %	Total 100 %

6.1.7 - Are available human resources adequate to manage the World Heritage property?

Human resources are **adequate** for management needs

6.1.8 - Considering the management needs of the World Heritage property, please rate the availability of professionals in the following disciplines

Conservation	Good

Environmental sustainability	Fair
Community participation and inclusion	Poor
Risk preparedness	Good
Capacity development and education	Good
Administration	Good
Research and monitoring	Good
Awareness raising and public information/communication	Fair
Marketing and promotion	Fair
Interpretation	Good
Visitor management/tourism	Good
Enforcement (custodians, police)	Good

6.1.9 - Please rate the availability of training opportunities for the management of the World Heritage property in the following disciplines

Conservation	Good
Environmental sustainability	Good
Community participation and inclusion	Good
Risk preparedness	Good
Capacity development and education	Good
Administration	Good
Research and monitoring	Good
Awareness raising and public information/communication	Good
Marketing and promotion	Good
Interpretation	Good
Visitor management/tourism	Good
Enforcement (custodians, police)	Good

6.1.10 - Has any use been made of the World Heritage Strategy for Capacity Building at the property?

Some use has been made of the World Heritage Strategy for Capacity Building

6.1.11 - If the World Heritage Strategy for Capacity Building has been used, please briefly describe what has been done.

One of the objectives of this strategy is expanding target audiences to include not just practitioners, but also institutions, communities and networks. An effort to improve institutional structures has been made by the creation of a Commission for the Coordination of the WH site where the different decision-makers and policy-makers work together. Also, an inclusive approach with wider environment, that use the structure of the visitor centres, site museums or regional museums, exists with an inclusive approach and they help to “knowledge acquisition” about heritage and conservation using new technologies. Finally, there is a connection for cultural an natural heritage due to the characteristics of the sites (caves in the middle of the nature) and the inclusion of some caves inside some national or international natural heritage sites.

6.1.12 - Are there site-specific capacity building plans or programmes that develop local expertise and that contribute to the transfer of skills for the conservation and management of the World Heritage property?

A site-based capacity building plan or programme is in place and fully implemented**; all technical skills are being transferred** to those managing the property locally

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

For each administration of the sites there are different designated professionals. The staff is trained and specialized in various disciplines: managers, researchers, curators, guides. Also each administration provides a wide range of training opportunities.

7. Scientific Studies and Research Projects

7.1 - Is there adequate knowledge (scientific or traditional) about the values and attributes of the World Heritage property to support planning, management and decision-making to ensure that Outstanding Universal Value is maintained?

Knowledge about the values and attributes of the World Heritage property is **adequate**

7.2 - 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

7.3 - Are results from research programmes publicly available and disseminated?

Research results **are shared** widely **with active outreach** to local communities and national and international audiences

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

The administration involved, and the Museum in charge if it exists, promotes scientific studies and research projects. They are articulated in three topics: preventive conservation, archaeological research and education-communication. There is a long term tradition in Prehistory and Archaeology studies back to the 19th century in the North of Spain.

8. Education, Information and Awareness Building

8.1 - Please rate the awareness and understanding of the existence and justification for inscription of the World Heritage property amongst the following groups

Local communities	Good
Local/municipal authorities	Good
Indigenous peoples	Not applicable
Landowners	Good
Women	Good
Youth/children	Good
Researchers	Good
Local visitors	Good
National/international tourists	Good
Tourism industry	Good
Local businesses and industries	Good
NGOs	Not applicable
Other specific groups	Not applicable
If you selected 'Other specific groups', please describe	

8.2 - Does the property have a heritage education programme(s) for children and/or youth, that can contribute to a better understanding of heritage, promote diversity and foster intercultural dialogue?

There is **a planned and effective education and awareness programme** for children and youth that contributes to the protection of the World Heritage property

8.3 - Who are the target audiences for education and awareness programmes at your property?

Local communities
Local/municipal authorities
Women
Youth/children
Researchers
Local Visitors
National/international tourists
Tourism industry

8.4 - Please rate the adequacy of the following visitor facilities and services at the World Heritage property for education, information, interpretation and awareness building

Visitor centre	Good
Site museum	Good
Information booths	Good
Guided tours	Good
Trails/routes	Good
Printed information materials	Good
Online (website, social media, etc.)	Good
Transportation facilities	Poor
Other	Not needed

If 'Other' is selected, please specify	

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

There are some Visitor Centres near to some sites, but some sites are completely closed to public and they do not have any visitor's facilities or services. Also in each of the administrative region there are museums dedicated to Prehistory or Archaeology, and the cave of Altamira has its own Site Museum and Researcher Centre. All the Visitor Centres, Site Museums and Regional Museums have their own education and awareness programmes dedicated to the World Heritage Sites.

9. Visitor Management

9.1 - Please provide estimated annual visitor numbers (including national and international visitors) since the last Periodic Report

251 424 visitors just Museum of Altamira/ 239 visitors just Cave of Altamira / 131 128 visitors just Museum of Altamira / 238 visitors just Cave of Altamira / 98 802 visitors just Museum of Altamira/ 136 visitors just Cave of Altamira / 277 474 visitors just Museum of Altamira / 245 visitors just Cave of Altamira / 287 929 visitors just Museum of Altamira/ 255 visitors just Cave of Altamira /

9.2 - What information sources are used to collect visitor statistics?

Entry tickets and registries

Visitor surveys

Other

Altamira annual report

9.3 - What is the average length stay of a visitor to the World Heritage property?

One to three hours

9.4 - Please provide the source of information

If the cave is opened to public visits, the site managers have a strict control of the entrances in the caves and there are a limited number of visitors that are allow visiting them every day. Also, all the visits are controlled and they are only available guided visits under the control of a responsible person with a fixed duration.

9.5 - What is the approximate average daily visitor expenditure? (Please provide an estimated monetary figure in USD)

57 / 48 / 45 / 8 / 0 / 17 /

43 / 33 / 0 / 0 / 0 / 11 /

9.6 - Please provide the source of information

-TOURIST PROFILE IN CANTABRIA- ICANE (2021)
https://app.powerbi.com/view?r=eyJrIjoiYWVlMDMxNDItYjZjYS00ZTdmLWFiOTEtYzk1ZGQwZjNkZTE1IiwidCI6ImNjMzQ5YjUyLWUy ZmEtNGQ5Ni1hMmU0LTdiMmFkYjkzNGE2OCIsImMiOjl9 -FEATURES OF TOURISM IN ASTURIAS- SADEI (2019)
https://www.sadei.es/sadei/turismo/caracteristicas-del-turismo-recibido_213_1_ap.html -TOURIST PROFILE IN PAÍS VASCO – EUSTAT (2021-20)
https://www.eustat.eus/estadisticas/tema_1000/opt_0/tipo_1/ti_perfil-turistico/temas.html

9.7 - Does the management system/plan for the World Heritage property include a strategy with an action plan to manage visitors, tourism activity and its derived economic, socio-cultural and environmental impacts?

There is a planned and **effective strategy** to manage visitors, tourism activity and its derived impacts on the World Heritage property

9.8 - Please provide any comments relating to the answer provided above in question 9.7

Among the 18 caves that compose the WH site, eight caves are closed to visitors and the other ten caves have a very limited access regime. Each administration has got its own management plan and human resources devoted to scientific monitoring of the state of conservation, although all of them are quite similar. It´s true that this heritage is very fragile in general but there are variants depending on the cave. The maximum number of visitors is different depending on the local conditions of the caves opened to the public. Due to the restricted access to the caves, there are a wide offer of interpretation centres and museums: -Altamira National Museum and Research Centre in Santillana del Mar (Cantabria) -In the Basque Country: Ekainberri Museum in Zestoa and a 3D visit for Santimamiñe cave in Kortezubi -In Cantabria: Rock Art Interpretation Centre in Puente Viesgo (Opening in 2023) -In Asturias: Prehistory Park of Teverga , Tito Bustillo Cave Art Centre and Valdés Bazán Palace in Candamo

9.9 - Is visitor use effectively managed to maintain the Outstanding Universal Value of the property?

Visitor use of the World Heritage property is **effectively managed and does not impact its Outstanding Universal Value**

9.10 - Is the effectiveness of tourism management regularly monitored?

Yes, using a different system

If a different system, please specify

Some of the caves are closed and others have a limited open access regimes.

9.11 - How does the tourism industry cooperate with the site management to improve visitor experiences and maintain the Outstanding Universal Value of the World Heritage property?

There is **good cooperation** between those responsible for the World Heritage property and the tourism industry **to present the Outstanding Universal Value and increase appreciation**

9.12 - How well is the information on the Outstanding Universal Value of the property presented and interpreted?

The Outstanding Universal Value of the property **is adequately presented and interpreted**

9.13 - At how many locations is the World Heritage emblem displayed at the property?

In **many locations** and **easily visible** to visitors

9.14 - How does visitor/tourism revenue (e.g. entry charges, permits) contribute to the management of the World Heritage property?

Fees are collected, and make **some contribution** to the management of the World Heritage property

9.15 - Are there locally driven sustainable tourism initiatives?

Yes

If 'Yes', please specify

In the case of Altamira: SLOW MUSEUM

9.16 - Are the benefits of tourism shared with local communities?

Yes

If 'Yes', please specify

Through indirect benefits

9.17 - Comments, conclusions and/or recommendations related to visitation/tourism/public use of the World Heritage property

There are initiatives to raise the knowledge of the Heritage Sites and their Outstanding Universal Values (for example in Cantabria the Rock Art Day is celebrated on the 7th July since 2013, the date of the Unesco declaration) and to promote sustainable initiatives (for example, the museum of Altamira takes part in the Slow museum initiative). Also, the visits of the sites create direct benefits in the tourism sector that have their influence in local communities.

10. Monitoring

10.1 - Is there a monitoring programme at the property directed towards management needs and/or towards improving the understanding of the Outstanding Universal Value?

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

10.2 - Is necessary information available in order to define key indicators for measuring the state of conservation and are they used in monitoring how the Outstanding Universal Value of the property is being maintained?

Information on the values of the World Heritage property is **adequate and key indicators have been defined but monitoring of the status of indicators could be improved**

10.3 - Are key indicators defined and in place for the following principal aspects of the property?

	Extend of indicators	Not applicable	No indicators	Indicators have been defined but are not yet in use	Indicators are in place and in use since the last Periodic Reporting cycle
10.3.1	State of conservation				✖
10.3.2	Effectiveness of the management system				✖
10.3.3	Character of governance		✖		
10.3.4	Appropriate synergy with other conservation designations		✖		
10.3.5	Contribution to sustainable development				✖
10.3.6	Capacity development		✖		

10.4 - Please provide information on relevant key indicators adopted at the property

In the case of Altamira, there is a “Preventive conservation plan for the cave of Altamira”. In this document, the risks were defined and they were evaluated in different ways so as to monitor the conservation and management system easier. For example, there is a closely control of biodeterioration, monitoring of environmental conditions and measurement of radon gas, full control of the drainage system, the characteristics of the overlying rock and soil overburden, geochemical control of water infiltration and microbiological control of suspended particles.

10.5 - Please rate the level of involvement in monitoring of the following groups:

World Heritage managers/coordinators and staff	Good
Local/municipal authorities	Fair
Local communities	Fair
Indigenous peoples	Not applicable
Landowners	Not applicable
Women	Good
Researchers	Fair
Tourism industry	Not applicable
Local businesses and industry	Not applicable
NGOs	Not applicable
Other specific groups	Not applicable

If you selected 'Other specific groups', please specify	

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

Implementation is complete

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

First, the Commission for the Coordination of the WH site with a Technical Committe has been created. It is fully operated and there are meetings once a year. Second, the necessary boundaries and buffer zones have been stablished. Third, an extremely rigorous management has been implemented, with a scientific monitoring and a rational management of visits.

10.8 - Comments, conclusions and/or recommendations related to Monitoring

The monitoring of the state of conservation has allowed stablishing the conservation parameters, especially in relation with preventive conservation. The risk has been identified and at this moment there are research projects in relation with conservation.

11. Identification of Priority Management Needs

11.1 - Identification of Priority Management Needs

5.3	Management System/Management Plan	
5.3.7	**Some use** has been made of the Policy Document on the Impacts of Climate Change on World Heritage Properties at the property	✖
5.3.9	**Some use** has been made of the Strategy for Reducing Risks from Disasters at World Heritage Properties at the property	✖
6.1	**Funding**	
6.1.3	The available **budget is acceptable** but **could be further improved** to fully meet the management needs of the World Heritage property	✖
6.1.10	**Some use** has been made of the World Heritage Strategy for Capacity Development at the World Heritage property	✖
10	**Monitoring**	
10.1	There is **considerable monitoring** at the World Heritage property but it is not directed towards management needs and/or improving understanding of Outstanding Universal Value	✖
10.2	Information on the values of the World Heritage **property is adequate and key indicators have been defined but monitoring of the status of indicators could be improved**	✖

Please select 0 more issues.

Please save this question to reflect changes

12. Summary and Conclusions

12.1. Summary - Factors affecting the Property

12.1.1 - Summary - Factors affecting the Property

4.4	Pollution						
4.4.2	Ground water pollution	(i), (iii) It can affect to the attributes but it is under controlled, so it is preventive.	Control the effects and use the buffer areas as protection.	Control and sample collection.	Long term, periodically.	The four administrations involved.	None.
4.4.3	Surface water pollution	(i), (iii) It can affect to the attributes but it is under controlled, so it is preventive.	Collecting water samples, analysis of the water that infiltrates into the caves, analysis of the polluting components that are dissolved in the water.	Sample collection in different points of the caves.	Long term, every 15 days	The four administrations involved.	None.
4.4.4	Air pollution	(i), (iii) It can affect to the attributes but it is under controlled, so it is preventive.	Control the effects and use the buffer areas as protection.	Control and sample collection.	Long term, periodically.	The four administrations involved.	None.
4.7	**Local conditions affecting physical fabric**						
4.7.2	Relative humidity	(i), (iii) It can affect to the attributes but it is controlled, so it is needed a control in changes to be able to take measures.	It is monitored with probes of temperature and relative humidity.	Measurement control.	On going	The four administrations involved.	None.

4.7.3	Temperature	(i), (iii) It can affect to the attributes but it is under controlled, so it is preventive.	It is monitored with probes of temperature and relative humidity.	Measurement control	On going.	The four administrations involved.	None.
4.7.6	Water (rain/water table)	(i), (iii) It can affect to the attributes but it is under controlled, so it is preventive.	Measurement of water flow rates by sampling	Infiltration water collection	Long term, every 15 days	The four administrations involved.	None.
4.7.8	Micro-organisms	(i), (iii) It can affect to the attributes but it is under controlled, so it is preventive.	Control the sources and effects.	Control and sample collection.	Long term, periodically.	The four administrations involved.	None.
4.10	**Climate change and severe weather events**						
4.10.3	Drought	(i), (iii) It can affect to the attributes but it is under controlled, so it is preventive.	Measurement of water flow rates by sampling	Collection of samples	Long term, every 15 days.	The four administrations involved.	None.
4.10.6	Temperature change	(i), (iii) It is controlled, so it is needed a control in changes to be able to take measures.	It is monitored with probes of temperature and relative humidity.	Measurement control.	On going.	The four administrations involved.	None.
4.11	**Sudden ecological or geological events**						
4.11.6	Fire (wildfire)	(i), (iii) It can affect to the attributes but it is under controlled, so it is preventive.	Maintenance and control of the outside vegetation and lawn.	Clearing and mowing grass regularly.	All the year round	The four administrations involved.	None.

Summary - Factors affecting the Property **completed**

12.2. Summary - Management Needs

12.2.1 - Summary - Management Needs

5.3	**Management System/Management Plan**				
		Actions	**Timeframe**	**Lead agency (and others involved)**	**More info / comment**
5.3.7	**Some use** has been made of the Policy Document on the Impacts of Climate Change on World Heritage Properties at the property	All the sites are monitored and conservation is a priority.	Long term.	The four administrations involved.	None.
5.3.9	**Some use** has been made of the Strategy for Reducing Risks from Disasters at World Heritage Properties at the property	Implementation of buffer zones, research and a culture of prevention.	Medium term.	The four administrations involved.	None.
6.1	**Funding**				
6.1.3	The available **budget is acceptable** but **could be further improved** to fully meet the management needs of the World Heritage property	The basic needs are covered but a raise in the budget will increase the number of future projects.	Medium-long term.	The four administrations involved.	None.

6.1.10	**Some use** has been made of the World Heritage Strategy for Capacity Development at the World Heritage property	Campaigns to raise the awareness of the target audience; continuation with the work of the Commission for the Coordination of the WH site; implementation and improvement of visitors centres, site museums or regional museums; and inclusion of the caves inside some national or international natural heritage sites.	Short, medium, long term	The four administrations involved.	None.

10	**Monitoring**				
10.1	There is **considerable monitoring** at the World Heritage property but it is not directed towards management needs and/or improving understanding of Outstanding Universal Value	The monitoring is considered with a wider perspective, because it is not constricted to the needs and understanding OUV. Some monitoring is included inside internal and external conservation projects.	Short, medium, long term.	The four administrations involved.	None.
10.2	Information on the values of the World Heritage **property is adequate and key indicators have been defined but monitoring of the status of indicators could be improved**	The monitoring is considered with a wider perspective, because it is not constricted to the needs and understanding OUV. Some monitoring is included inside internal and external conservation projects.	Short, medium, long term.	The four administrations involved.	None.

Summary - Management Needs completed

12.3. Conclusions on the State of Conservation of the Property

12.3.1 - Following the analysis undertaken for this report, what is the current state of Authenticity of the World Heritage property?

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

12.3.2 - Following the analysis undertaken for this report, what is the current state of Integrity of the World Heritage property?

The Integrity of the World Heritage property is **intact**

12.3.3 - Following the analysis undertaken for this report, what is the current state of the World Heritage property's Outstanding Universal Value?

The World Heritage property's Outstanding Universal Value has been **maintained**.

12.3.4 - What is the 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 **intact**

12.3.5 - Comments. conclusions and/or recommendations related to the state of conservation of the property.

All the caves that are part of the Word Heritage Declaration maintain the Outstanding Universal Value. A great effort has been made from the management and research point of view. As a result, integrity, authenticity and preservation are guaranteed and none of the values are under threat.

13. Impact of World Heritage Status

13.1 - 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	Positive

Infrastructure development	Positive
Funding for the property	Positive
International cooperation	Positive
Political support for conservation	Positive
Legal/Policy framework	Very positive
Advocacy	Positive
Institutional coordination	Very positive
Security	Positive
Gender equality	Not applicable
Provision of ecosystem services/ benefits to local communities	Not applicable
Social inclusion and equity, and improvement of opportunities for all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, ethnicity, origin, religion, or economic or other status	Not applicable
Fostering inclusive local economic development and enhancing livelihood	Positive
Contributing to conflict prevention, including respect for cultural diversity within and around heritage properties	Not applicable
Other	Not applicable
If 'Other', please specify	

13.2 - Comments, conclusions and/or recommendations related to World Heritage status and its impacts

In the case of these sites, the World Heritage status had an impact on the conservation and recognition among the authorities, visitors and local communities of the importance and fragility of this type of heritage. The framework protects the sites and the researches study the risks of this type of heritage. However the impact on the communities and the economy is restricted to the fact the visitors are under controlled and there is no risk of mass tourism.

14. Good Practice in the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention

14.1 - Example of good practice in World Heritage protection, identification, conservation or management at the property level

We can propose as an example of goof practise the "Preventive conservation plan for the cave of Altamira". The results have been published and there is an open example to other sites who wants to improve their conservation management. The plan has been the result of a long term work of researchers involved in the conservation of this type of heritage.

14.2 - Define which topics are covered by this example of best practice at the property level

Sustainable Development
State of Conservation
Management

15. Assessment of the Periodic Reporting Exercise

15.1. Relevance of Periodic Reporting

15.1.1 - Has the Periodic Reporting process improved the understanding of the following?

The *World Heritage Convention*
The concept of Outstanding Universal Value
The property's Outstanding Universal Value
The concept of Integrity and/or Authenticity
The property's Integrity and/or Authenticity
Management effectiveness to maintain the Outstanding Universal Value
Monitoring and reporting

15.1.2 - Please rate the follow-up to conclusions and recommendations from previous Periodic Reporting exercise by the following entities

State Party	Good
Site Managers	Good
UNESCO World Heritage Centre	Not needed
Advisory Bodies (ICOMOS, IUCN, ICCROM)	Not needed

15.2. Use of Data

15.2.1 - How do the authorities in charge of the property plan to use the data recorded from this cycle of Periodic Reporting?

Revision of priorities/strategies/policies for the protection, management and conservation of heritage
Update of management plans

15.2.2 - Comments on use of data from the Cycle of Periodic Reporting

The process of the Periodic Reporting has reinforced the coordination of the different sites that compose the World Heritage. This is really important because the common points and detected future challenges have served to unite the sites regardless of the authority in charge. The collected information and dates can be used in common projects and to establish common links.

15.3. Timing and resources

15.3.1 - Entities involved in the filling out of this online questionnaire (tick as many boxes as applicable)

Governmental institutions responsible for cultural and natural heritage
Site Manager/Coordinator World Heritage property staff
UNESCO National Commission

15.3.2 - Has a gender balanced contribution and participation been considered in the filling out of this questionnaire?

Gender balance **is explicitly considered and effectively implemented** in the process.

15.3.3 - Were you given adequate time (i.e. roughly ten months) to gather necessary information and to fill in this questionnaire?

Yes

15.3.4 - Please estimate the time (working hours) needed to complete this questionnaire

220 / 100 / 60 /

15.3.5 - Did you mobilise any additional resources to fill out this questionnaire?

	Additional resources	No	Yes
15.3.5.1	Human resources		✖
15.3.5.2	Financial resources for organizing consultation meetings/ training	✖	

15.4. Format and content of the Periodic Report

15.4.1 - How accessible was the information required to complete this questionnaire?

Most required information was accessible.

15.4.2 - Was the questionnaire easy to use and clear to understand?

		Very Difficult	Difficult	Easy	Very easy
15.4.2.1	Ease of use of questionnaire			✖	
15.4.2.2	Clarity of questions			✖	

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

Some parts were quite difficult to fill in due to the fact of being 18 different sites. So, maybe extra space would be needed. Some questions are difficult to valuate because of the different nature of all the types of heritage involved in this process.

15.5. Training and Guidance

15.5.1 - Please rate the level of support in terms of training and guidance from the following entities in completing this questionnaire

UNESCO World Heritage Centre	Good
UNESCO (other sectors/field offices)	Not applicable
UNESCO National Commission	Good
ICOMOS International	Not applicable
IUCN International	Not applicable
ICCROM international/regional	Not applicable
ICOMOS national/regional	Not applicable
IUCN national/regional	Not applicable

15.5.2 - Please rate the level of support for completing the Periodic Reporting questionnaire from the following entities

UNESCO World Heritage Centre	Not applicable

State Party Representative (national Focal Point)	Good
UNESCO other sectors (e.g. field office)	Not applicable
National Commission for UNESCO	Good
ICOMOS International	Not applicable
ICCROM International/regional	Not applicable
ICOMOS national/regional	Not applicable
IUCN national/regional	Not applicable
IUCN International	Not applicable

15.5.3 - Were the online training resources prepared by the World Heritage Centre regarding Periodic Reporting adequate for you to complete this questionnaire?

Yes

15.5.4 - If you found that the online training resources were not adequate, what changes would you like to see implemented?

More practical examples.

15.6. Actions that will require formal consideration by the World Heritage Committee

15.6.1 - Summary of actions that will require formal consideration by the World Heritage Committee

No item were proposed for update

15.7. Comments, conclusions and/or recommendations related to the Assessment of the Periodic Reporting Exercise

15.7.1 - Comments, conclusions and/or recommendations related to the Assessment of the Periodic Reporting Exercise

15.7.2 - Thank you for having filled in all the questions. Please contact your National Focal Point for validation.