

NAME OF PRESENTER:	
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TITLE OF PAPER:	Prospects for World Heritage in the equatorial and south Pacific Islands
THEME:	Theme 2: Cultural Landscape Practice and Management

PAPER ABSTRACT:

This paper reviews the state of cultural World Heritage in the small Pacific island states and the islands which come under the sovereignty of Chile, United States and Ecuador. From about 2003 ICOMOS Paris initiated a number of strategic workshops, thematic studies and missions in the Pacific region addressing the serious lack of balance and representativeness in our region. There have been a number of important successful nominations since that time. The inscriptions of Nan Madol: Ceremonial Centre of Eastern Micronesia (FSM), Chief Roi Mata's Domain (Vanuatu), Bikini Atoll Nuclear Test Site (Marshall Islands), Kuk (PNG), Levuka Historical Port Town, Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument (Hawaii USA) and Taputapuatea (French Polynesia/France) have increased the pitifully small numbers that existed before 2003. All the inscriptions have challenged in different ways the scope and decision-making procedures of the World Heritage Convention and the advisory bodies. The debate surrounding thematic studies and the collective wisdom of the World Heritage Committee processes have made this possible. The islands are currently covered by the Action Plan for World Heritage in the Pacific 2016-2020. In addition there is the programme for the 39 Small Island Developing States (SIDS) which includes Caribbean and Pacific island states. These current action plans and the island states tentative lists are explored to see where useful developments can be encouraged, such as serial extensions of some sites, inscription of cultural associative values (e.g Galapagos, Rock Islands, Te Wahi Pounamu) for existing inscriptions and action on tentative list sites such as those in New Zealand, Cook Islands, Tonga and Samoa.

BRIEF BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE PRESENTER:

Kevin L. Jones is an archaeologist in private practice in Wellington with a background in Pacific World Heritage, New Zealand regional archaeologies, aerial photography and archaeological site conservation methodology. He participated in the 2003 Port Vila Pacific themes workshop, co-authored the Pacific cultural World Heritage landscapes study for ICOMOS Paris and has been involved with reviews of heritage in Palau, the Federated States of Micronesia and Tonga. Recently he conducted the ICOMOS technical mission to Taputapuatea in French Polynesia, successfully inscribed in 2017 as a World Heritage cultural landscape.