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Objet: Nouveau message de Pré-évaluation  
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À: thierry.lefebvre@uicn.fr



## Nom

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## Date

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## Choix des critères

### Q1. Sur quel critère du dossier porte votre évaluation ?

Critère (x) : Habitats d'espèces menacées

## Description des valeurs

### Q2. Quel est le niveau de spécificité ou d'universalité des valeurs mises en avant pour le bien proposé ? Décrivez les valeurs ayant une pertinence globale et pourquoi vous les considérez comme telles.

[If useful, here is some more detail to complement the information already in the dossier]

A recent international study by the IUCN and the WCMC-UNEP has specifically recommended Martinique as a priority for future classification as World Heritage under criterion X (Bertzky et al., 2013; Le Saout et al., 2013). This study has ranked the world's 170,000 terrestrial Protected Areas in terms of their irreplaceability for the global conservation of threatened vertebrate species, and the Parc Naturel Régional de Martinique was identified within the top 100 areas. The park was considered to be of global importance for the conservation of 13 bird species (two of which are globally threatened (*Icterus bonana*, *Ramphocinclus brachyurus*), three amphibians (including one species that is not found anywhere else, *Allobates chalcopis*), and for four mammals (particularly *Myotis martiniquensis*).

More broadly, the above-mentioned study argues that exceptionally high irreplaceability should be considered as an operational indicator of outstanding universal value, as it reflects the uniqueness and importance of the site to global conservation. Accordingly, the authors found a very good agreement between the areas of high irreplaceability and those already inscribed as World Heritage Sites under criterion X: 9 out of 10 of these World Heritage Sites are within the top 5% most irreplaceable sites. Areas of outstanding irreplaceability that are not yet World Heritage Sites, such as Martinique, were therefore identified as potential candidate sites for inclusion in the Natural World Heritage network. Martinique is included within several major international schemes of global priorities for biodiversity conservation:

Martinique is part of the "Caribbean Islands Biodiversity Hotspot" (Myers et al., 2000). Biodiversity Hotspots are biogeographic regions designated for their high level of plant endemism and high threat to biodiversity. Martinique is also part of the "Lesser Antilles Endemic Bird Area" (Stattersfield et al., 1998). Endemic Bird Areas are biogeographic regions designated for their endemism in birds.

There are 10 Important Bird Areas (IBAs) within Martinique (Wege & Anadon-Irizarry, 2008). These are sites that are globally significant for the long-term viability of naturally occurring bird populations. Seven IBAs in particular cover the majority of the area being proposed:

- Forêts du Nord et de la Montagne Pelée IBA (<http://www.birdlife.org/datazone/sitefactsheet.php?id=20769>), overlapping the 2nd area .

- Pitons du Carbet IBA (<http://www.birdlife.org/datazone/sitefactsheet.php?id=20507>), overlapping the 3rd area.
- Pointe Pain de Sucre IBA (<http://www.birdlife.org/datazone/sitefactsheet.php?id=20503>), overlapping the 1st area.
- Presqu'île de la Caravelle IBA (<http://www.birdlife.org/datazone/sitefactsheet.php?id=20502>), overlapping the 4th area
- Massif forestier entre Le Diamant et les Trois-Îlets IBA (<http://www.birdlife.org/datazone/sitefactsheet.php?id=20768> ), overlapping the 5th area
- Rocher du Diamant IBA (<http://www.birdlife.org/datazone/sitefactsheet.php?id=20506>), overlapping the 6th area
- Îlets et falaises de Sainte Anne IBA (<http://www.birdlife.org/datazone/sitefactsheet.php?id=20758>), overlapping the 6th area

[NOTE : the data sheets for each IBA (follow the links) have a lot of information about each one of them, including about the notable habitats and endemism in other taxa besides birds. This is largely be redundant with the information already in the dossier, but I recommend checking it in case there is additional information used for describing the value of each area as well as the endemism for other taxa besides birds]

#### References:

- Bertzky B., Shi Y., Hughes A., Engels B., Kenza Ali M., & Badman T. (2013) Terrestrial Biodiversity and the World Heritage List: Identifying Broad Gaps and Potential Candidate Sites for Inclusion in the Natural World Heritage Network. .
- Myers N., Mittermeier R.A., Mittermeier C.G., Fonseca G.A.B., & Kent J. (2000) Biodiversity hotspots for conservation priorities. *Nature*, 403, 853 – 858.
- Le Saout S., Hoffmann M., Shi Y., Hughes A., Bernard C., Brooks T.M., Bertzky B., Butchart S.H.M., Stuart S.N., Badman T., & Rodrigues A.S.L. (2013) Protected Areas and Effective Biodiversity Conservation. *Science*, 342, 803–805.
- Stattersfield A.J., Crosby M.J., Long A.J., & Wege D.C. (1998) Endemic Bird Areas of World: Priorities for Biodiversity Conservation. BirdLife International, Cambridge, UK.
- Wege D.C. & Anadon-Irizarry V. (2008) Important Bird Areas in the Caribbean: Key Sites for Conservation. BirdLife International, Cambridge.

### **Q3. Est-ce que le dossier technique démontre de façon convaincante l'existence d'une valeur universelle exceptionnelle et justifie suffisamment pourquoi le site devrait être inscrit sur la Liste du patrimoine mondial? Expliquer pourquoi.**

Above I give some suggestions for further reinforcing the value of Martinique. In particular, I would recommend stressing more the IUCN/WCMC study, as this specifically recommends irreplaceability as an indicator of "outstanding universal value" and so recommends the inclusion of Martinique in the World Heritage list under criterion X.

### **Valeurs scientifiques du site**

#### **Q4. En quoi les valeurs scientifiques du bien sont-elles de niveau international ?**

All discussions of endemism and irreplaceability above refer to the global scale.

#### **Q5. Est-ce que le bien proposé est le seul ou le principal site où des progrès scientifiques majeurs ont été (ou sont) réalisés, qui ont apporté une contribution importante à la compréhension des valeurs pour lesquelles le bien est proposé?**

Freshwater habitats of Martinique (and of Guadeloupe) have been studied for 10 years by a team at the Centre d'Ecologie Fonctionnelle et Evolutive (CEFE, Montpellier). These are being used as a natural laboratory to study evolutionary and ecological processes, including metapopulation dynamics and biological invasions, using aquatic snails as a study-group (see: <http://www.cefe.cnrs.fr/genetique-et-ecologie-evolutive/field-sites>).

#### **Q6. Quelles sont les perspectives de nouvelles découvertes scientifiques sur le site, et quels types de découvertes pourraient être anticipés?**

I do not know.

## Analyse comparative

**Q7. Les sites comparés dans le dossier technique sont-ils équivalents ? Si non, expliquer pourquoi**

I do not know...

**Q8. Existe-t-il d'autres sites à l'échelle nationale, régionale et mondiale qui contiennent des valeurs d'un niveau similaire ou supérieur? Si oui, indiquer le nombre de sites concernés et donner quelques exemples précis si possible**

[I think the comparison that has been done as part of the IUCN-WCMC study is also valid here, so here's a suggestion]

The recent international study by the IUCN and the WCMC-UNEP (mentioned above) compared protected areas worldwide in terms of their irreplaceability. Two island systems with similar irreplaceability values to Martinique are the Socotra Archipelago and the Islands of Gulf of Mexico, both of which are designated as World Heritage Sites under criterion X.

## Intégrité et périmètre

**Q9. Est-ce que le bien proposé répond aux conditions d'intégrité et, si non, quels sont les besoins pour remplir ces conditions ?**

I do not know.

**Q10. Le bien a-t-il subi les effets négatifs du développement, de la négligence ou de tout autre processus de dégradation ? Si oui, préciser lesquels.**

I do not know.

**Q11. Les éventuels processus à l'origine des dégradations sont-ils maîtrisés ? Expliquer.**

I do not know.

## Evaluation générale du dossier

**Q12. Le dossier technique et la fiche de déclaration de valeur universelle exceptionnelle comporte-t-elle des erreurs factuelles (préciser les principales d'entre-elles le cas échéant) ?**

I didn't find any.

**Q13. Quels sont les principaux points forts du dossier ?**

Detailed information, beautiful layout.

**Q14. Quels sont les principaux points faibles du dossier ?**

I find the structure a bit confusing, sometimes repetitive. What is the difference between sections 1.3 and 2?

I am surprised by the lack of scientific references (in the text as well as a reference list at the end). Maybe this is the usual style, but makes it look less scientific to me.

**Q16. Quelles références autres que celles mentionnées sur ce site avez-vous utilisé pour réaliser cette pré-évaluation?**

Bertzky B., Shi Y., Hughes A., Engels B., Kenza Ali M., & Badman T. (2013) Terrestrial Biodiversity and the World Heritage List: Identifying Broad Gaps and Potential Candidate Sites for Inclusion in the Natural World Heritage Network.

Myers N., Mittermeier R.A., Mittermeier C.G., Fonseca G.A.B., & Kent J. (2000) Biodiversity hotspots for conservation priorities. *Nature*, 403, 853 – 858.

Le Saout S., Hoffmann M., Shi Y., Hughes A., Bernard C., Brooks T.M., Bertzky B., Butchart S.H.M., Stuart S.N., Badman T., & Rodrigues A.S.L. (2013) Protected Areas and Effective Biodiversity Conservation. *Science*, 342, 803–805.

Stattersfield A.J., Crosby M.J., Long A.J., & Wege D.C. (1998) Endemic Bird Areas of World: Priorities for

Biodiversity Conservation. BirdLife International, Cambridge, UK.

Wege D.C. & Anadon-Irizarry V. (2008) Important Bird Areas in the Caribbean: Key Sites for Conservation. BirdLife International, Cambridge.

**Q17. Pouvez-vous suggérer des experts pour compléter la pré-évaluation du dossier technique?**

No.