

# **REC 3033**

## **Commercial Recreation and Tourism**

### **Class Week 7**

## **External Environments for Ecotourism (a.k.a. the societal context)**

- Relationship to conventional mass tourism
  - Convergence of ecotourism with mass tourism
    - Mass tourism adopting more green practices
    - Hard ecotourism yielding to purchasing more services
  - Interdependence between ecotourism and conventional mass tourism (as one increases, so does the other)
- Relationship to recreational hunting and fishing
  - Presumed adversarial relationship
  - Some operators in Canada do both hunting and ecotourism
  - More complimentary relationship in Australia (e.g., hunting of feral animals assists ecotourism)
  - CAMPFIRE program in Africa
  - Rogue hunting (e.g., Siberia) is threat to ecotourism
  - Catch and release fishing consistent with ecotourism?

## **Other Resource Stakeholders**

- Agriculture
  - Destroys and degrades natural habitat (destination for ecotourism)
  - Largescale conversion of forests to agriculture in Central and South America and Asia (esp. Brazil and Indonesia)
  - Land clearance in Australia (for cattle)
  - Stable agriculture can provide opportunities for ecotourism
  - Efficiency allows other areas such as New England to develop an ecotourism market
- Forestry and Logging
  - Presumed adversarial relationship
  - Logging of old-growth forests pose the greatest threat to ecotourism
- Mining
- Non-recreational hunting and fishing
  - Poaching
- Subsistence hunting
- Military
- Urbanization and exurbanization

## **Public Policy Impacts on Ecotourism (National)**

- Security—are the ecotourism destinations safe?
- Politics and administration—does the country encourage or discourage tourism? What are the inter-government relations? What is the status of tourism administration within the government?
- Dependency-how economically dependent is one country on another?
- Infrastructure—does government support infrastructure for ecotourism?
- Fiscal policy—govt. decisions regarding entry fees, taxation
- Financial incentive—does govt. favor large projects through tax concessions, grants?

## **Communities and NGOs**

- Local communities—can act in support or as barrier to ecotourism
- Non-ecotourism NGOs—two flavors—environmental NGOs generally support ecotourism while industry association NGOs pose threat (e.g., NRA or Safari Club Int.)

## **Physical Environment Factors**

- Seismic and volcanic activity (e.g., tsunamis, earthquakes, eruptions)
- Climate—unusual circumstances (e.g., floods) can create unique opportunities
- Global warming-???
- Disease (e.g., malaria, AIDS)
- Intrusion of exotic species