Planning for recreation / tourism opportunities in National Parks

Europarc Conference Workshop B6
2009-09-12

Per Wallsten
Superintendent, Tyresta National Park
per.wallsten@tyresta.se
1. FULUFJÄLLET NATIONAL PARK
Establishing with rising conflicts

- Reduce impacts of traditional use
- Unclear benefits
- Mistrust, strong emotions
Traditional "outside-in" process

- Inside area boundary
- Regulations of use
- Focus on problems

User demands

Impacts & Restrictions
Change of perspective

- New tools and process from below
- Project-leaders coaching: confidence
- Creating local networks: encouraging
- Insights of NP benefits
- Local vision formulated
Improved, ”inside-out” process

- Deal with park surroundings
- Benefits outside area boundary
- Focus on possibilities

Socio-economic benefits

Resource opportunities
Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS) planning concept

- Everybody can’t have everything everywhere
- Managers need to provide a spectrum of recreational opportunities in an area
- Use ROS to define desirable settings, experiences and activities in different zones
ROS Zoning in Fulufjället

I Undisturbed zone
II Low activity zone
III High activity zone
IV Structure zone

- Express area resources
- Communication tool
- National and local interests provided
# ROS-zone spectrum

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Factors</th>
<th>Zone I --------------</th>
<th>Zone IV Structure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>On-site management</td>
<td>low</td>
<td>high</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visitor impact</td>
<td>low</td>
<td>high</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social interaction level</td>
<td>low</td>
<td>high</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Probability to experience:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☰ solitude</td>
<td>high</td>
<td>medium/low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☰ silence</td>
<td>high</td>
<td>medium/low</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>☰ unspoilt nature</td>
<td>high</td>
<td>medium/low</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The turning point

- Intense local debate
- The yes-side emerges
- Political acceptance
- Local vision realizes
- Concrete actions
Local & regional benefits

- Improved infrastructure
- Stakeholder cooperation, social networks
- Improved marketing, rising attention
- Long-term jobs
- New confidence in the future
- Sustainable profile of municipality
National benefits

- First mountain NP in 40 years
- Showcase for NP establishing processes
Visitor study before-and-after NP

- 40 % more visitors
- 80-90 % satisfied
- NP as main motive for the visit: 15 %
- NP influences choice of visit: 45 %
- NP improves visitor outcomes: 80 % (+ 15 %)
- NP improves regional values: 85 % + (15 %)
Socio-economic effects today

Pros

- New tourism entrepreneurs (10)
- More employment (20)
- Local network between tourism companies
- International marketing

Cons

- Cultural differences
- Project dependency
2. TYRESTA NATIONAL PARK
Tyresta characteristics

- **Close**: 20 km SE of Stockholm center
- **Large**: 2000 ha NP, 2700 ha Nature Reserve
- **Pristine**: extraordinary virgin forest
- **Accessible**: Well visited, good infrastructure
Tyresta nationalpark och naturreservat

[Text in Swedish about Tyresta National Park and Nature Reserve, including the area, vegetation, and visitor information.]
Spectrum of Recreation Opportunities

- Trails from "baby carriage loop" to hiking boot standard
- Short and long hikes, berry and mushroom picking
- From core area solitude and wilderness, to cultural landscape and village
Regional planning – Stockholm Green wedges

$r = 20$ km
Peri-urban management issues

- Recreation supply competition
- Information reach-out difficulties
- Committed and complex public
- Attraction- & distant-dependent users
- Intense visitor management needed
- Undeveloped potential for tourism
3. KEY QUESTIONS

- How to find the tourism entrepreneurs?
- Role of managers for tourism development?
- Tourism services: Private market or part of PA management?