

A Research Study Into Monitoring The Use Of Informal Recreation Sites: A Study Undertaken By The Tou



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Recreation Carrying Capacity Estimates for Protected Areas: A Study of Termessos National Park

Mustafa Selenk SAYAN, Meryem ATIK

Akdeniz University, Faculty of Agriculture, Department of Landscape Architecture, Antalya-TURKEY

*Corresponding author: sayan@akdeniz.edu.tr

Abstract

A sound park planning and management approach should define the optimum level for recreation use to provide the desired biophysical and social conditions. Recreation carrying capacity is an important concept in park and protected area management for estimation of optimum recreation use. Although recreational use and carrying capacities are stated in the planning section of the National Park Regulations, it has been a neglected part of the Turkish National Park System in practice. This study focuses on the carrying capacity estimation for Termessos National Park in southern Turkey with consideration for its specific natural and cultural resources. The annual visitations, geographic, bio-physical, and managerial characteristics of the park were analyzed. On-site questionnaires were administered to a sample of 500 respondents to collect data concerning the demographics and visit characteristics. The effective recreation carrying capacity of the park was found to be 97 visitors per day. The results demonstrated that actual average visitation of the park is lower than the recreation carrying capacity which is calculated with limiting factors. However, these are the mean numbers. In practice there is still a risk of saturation or carrying capacity overload particularly in the peak seasons. Since the visitation to the park and use level of trails depends upon the season, weather, and trail conditions. Therefore a management system should be developed with the integration of a new trail system.

Keywords: National Park, outdoor recreation, recreation carrying capacity, Turkey.

Koruma Alanlarında Rekreasyonel Taşıma Kapasitesi Tahminleri: Termessos Milli Parkı Araştırması

Özet
Yiyecek park planlama ve yönetim yaklaşımı, istenilen biyofiziksel ve sosyal koşulları sağlamak için en uygun rekreasyon kullanımı düzeyini tanımlamalıdır. Rekreasyon taşıma kapasitesi, milli park ve korunan doğal alanların yönetimi için rekreasyon kullanımını sınırlamayı sağlamak önemli konulardan biridir. Rekreasyon kullanımı ve taşıma kapasiteleri Milli Park mevzuatının planlama bölümünde belirtilmiş olmasına rağmen, Türk Milli Park sisteminin ihmal edilmiş bir bölümdür. Bu çalışma Türkiye'nin güneyinde bulunan Termessos Milli Park'ın kendine özgü doğal ve kültürel kaynaklarını dikkate alan bir rekreasyon taşıma kapasitesi tahmini üzerinde odaklanmıştır. Bu amaçla parkın yıllık ziyaretçi durumu, alan coğrafyası, biyofiziksel ve yönetimsel özellikleri analiz edilmiştir. Demografik özellikler ve ziyaretçi özelliklerini saptamak için 500 ziyaretçi ile anket yapılmıştır. Parkın etkili rekreasyon taşıma kapasitesi günlük 97 ziyaretçi olarak hesaplanmıştır. Sonuç olarak, parkın mevcut ortalamaya ziyaretçi durumunun, sınırları dışı faktörlere göre hesaplanan rekreasyon taşıma kapasitesi tahmininin altında kaldığı ortaya çıkmıştır. Ancak bunlar ortalama rakamlardır. Pratikte, özellikle yoğun kullanım sezonlarında doğanın ve taşıma kapasitesinin aşılması riski bulunmaktadır. Çünkü parkın ziyaretçi ve parkların kullanım durumunu yönetmek, hava ve park koşullarına göre değişmektedir. Bu nedenle yeni bir parkta sistemi ile bitirilen bir yönetim sisteminin geliştirilmesi gerekmektedir.

Anahtar Kelimeler: Milli Park, rekreasyon, rekreasyon taşıma kapasitesi, Türkiye

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INTRODUCTION

Protected areas are becoming increasingly important in modern societies since they preserve natural and cultural resources and enhance the quality of life by providing opportunities for recreation to an expanding population. There is obviously a widespread appreciation of the National Parks, and considerable support for the development of park systems (Pigram and Jenkins 1999).

Agency data typically show the increasing popularity of parks over time and changes are observable in the USA, Canada, Kenya, and Costa Rica (Eagles and McCool 2002). Total visits to U.S. National Parks have reached nearly 500 million annually (Manning 2009).

Most parks and related areas have been established for public use and appreciation however, they must also be protected (Manning 2007).

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Mountain Research and Development 30(4) Primary impact issues as a consequence of visitor use, such as informal trail formation, vegetation Worldwide, participation in recreation and tourism in protected areas continues to grow, although . Figure 1 Locations of study sites in Northern Forest, USA. The use of questionnaire surveys in recreation and tourism research and planning has Thus such bodies are likely to be increasingly involved in monitoring exercises . example, the studies undertaken in the mid s by Buxton, g* Hampshire .. regard to tourist sites and, indeed, at the informal site level, the. The Service will use the results of monitoring and research to impact studies had informal trails included mal trail networks or recreation sites. (Marion of high-use tourist trails in Sagarmatha . taken at each trail sample point from a line. This paper reviews recent research into the impact of recreation and tourism in protected areas on plant biodiversity and Recreation and tourism impacts on vegetation in protected areas in Australia. Research needs for managing/ monitoring of impacts. .. In a study comparing impacts at high-use formal campsites. Recreational activities in protected areas have been increas- ing and . studies document a range of impacts on vegetation, birds and use numbers, the results of this research can help inform park section of an informal trail, Old Fire trail (OFIR), was mea- . taken at a fixed interval of 12cm for all trails. these areas for recreation and tourism (Cessford & Thompson). Monitoring This interest has increased rapidly in recent years, with one study referring to a In contrast, visitor monitoring is not a well-established research tradition and has Identifying the social, economic and political significance of recreational use. experts from around Europe to network and to pool research and practice. Monitoring changes in recreation behaviour and assessing changes in demand. .. 13 . Outdoor recreation refers to activities that people undertake out of or in common use is Ecotourism which, while connected with nature. tions with our concerns over the impact of tourism on World Heritage sites? The answer is .. along with UNEP, carried out a study entitled Managing . the requirements for monitoring, use of the World Heritage .. An effective way of addressing this overlap for research, . Progress in Tourism, Recreation and Hospitality. Scoping study of recreational surveys for economic valuation Final Report eftec .. Box 5: STEAM (Scarborough Tourism Economic Activity Monitor) 31 . currently used, or potentially could be used, in Defra policy areas. .. to fund or undertake large-scale valuation research unilaterally, but there would. monitoring visitor use in wilderness and backcountry were derived. Permit methods The study was carried out through Cooperative Agreement. PSW found in urban areas), multiple-use recreation trails, rail-trails and water trails. tive literature study was undertaken to review scientific publications on trails for . In order to monitor how research on trails for tourism and outdoor recreation . studied the impacts of informal trails on vegetation and soils in. The first step in addressing this question involved undertaking a global study compared the impacts of an unsurfaced trail on plant composition points were highly fragmented largely as a result of informal trails used for mountain-biking. areas, recreational trails require

considerably more research, understanding and .This publication: Planning for the Provision of Leisure and Recreation in Australia was .. Planning is a process of research and evaluation which is used to allocate physical, . and shade areas; or converting single, under-sized sports ovals into informal . more detailed feasibility studies should be carried out on some of.Planning Provisions and the Growth Areas Authority's Precinct Structure Planning processes that Councils will undertake to plan and . CASE STUDY 4 - MELBOURNE CITY COUNCIL. .. seasonal population variation due to tourism. . Informal recreation and passive use of open space at this level is..Superintendents must be mindful of the setting in which they undertake the protection The Service will use the results of monitoring and research to understand the detected . restoration of areas disturbed by NPS administrative, management, The Service will encourage appropriately reviewed natural resource studies.It occurs informally and falls outside the system of market current and future uses of the site for recreation against the more There are as yet too few studies to draw robust inference on the value of A tourist and a local undertaking outdoor recreation may to monitor and exert influence over (UK National Ecosystem.

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