Evaluation of the Impacts of Increasing Tourism Related Activities on the Environment Perseverance and Sustainability

Sourav Mangoch

Jammu and Kashmir, souravmangoch999@gmail.com

Dr. D. Jain

Jammu and Kashmir, research.dkj@gmail.com

Abstract

This article goals to evaluate the impression of tourism on the atmosphere at various spots. Governments and regional and municipal authorities have taken notice of the growing importance of travel as a basis of revenue, service, and infrastructure for the populace of many locations, as well as a vital element in the 'balance of payments for many nations, especially developing ones. As a major source of foreign exchange earnings and opening up wide opportunities for newer employment, tourism has attained importance here due to the rich, exotic, variegated scenic landscapes, cultural heritage, traditional art, architectural monuments, colorful life, festivals, traditional and varied customs, and many other remarkable aspects of culture and civilization. The goal line of this study is to analyzethe different environmental consequences of tourism in the study region. Analysis of how much of an impact tourism has had on the environment at the location. Estimation of resource requirements and waste disposal to the local ecosystem. Research on how sightseeing affects the local ecosystem. Primary sources included local residents, tour operators, forest officials, and tourists themselves. The secondary sources were numerous Indian government websites and their respective departments' databases.

Keywords: Tourism, Environment, Destination, Local Communities.

INTRODUCTION

The travel and leisure industry sector is the biggest civilian sector globally and a fastest-growing sector in the biosphere. Until 2010, the tourism industry in India was expected to provide 25 million new employees. Having a distinct time for work and another for play is a relatively recent development. Twenty-first-century business culture's emphasis on paid vacations had a significant role in altering vacation habits. As the number of visitors expanded, so did the diversity of those who visited, from families on vacation to free spirits in search of excitement. This is because more and more people are opting to spend their

vacation time in preserved natural areas and other conservation-minded destinations. Many tourist sites owe their pristine condition to the preservation of natural ecosystems and the plant and animal species inside them(Briassoulis, 1992).

Tourism's many facets as an economic activity allow for reciprocal exchanges with the natural world. One can think of the environment as both a boon and a bane to the tourism industry: on the one hand, it provides one of the elementary "constituents," a required construction component, for the manufacturing of tourism products and services natural as well asthe man-made setting for the sightseer to

relish, conscious in, and unwind the further side, it generates a diverse range of undesired by-products, which are discarded purposefully and unknowingly, to and change environment(Jafari, et al.. Additionally, additional forms of monetary activity consume and alter the quality of the environment that tourists may enjoy. This connection highlights the increasing status of the tourist industry's role as a knowledgeable participant environmental in policy formulation. There may be significant effects on wildlife and other aspects of the natural setting, even when accommodations and largescale facilities are not involved, despite the fact that nature and adventure excursions are planned and managed to have minimal effects. Not only has tourism expanded fast over the globe, but many locals who have experienced issues because of visitors often blame mass tourism(Holden, 2000).

"The research of chapgone from his distinctive habitat, of the corporate which response to his requirements, and of the significances that together he and the industry have on the political and social, fiscal, and external condition of the host," defines tourism. A categorization using terminology like "tourists" or "excursionists" is not especially useful when analyzing the effects of tourism. Consider the environmental effects of a tourist's or excursionist's feet on a natural or semi-natural landscape: it makes little difference whether the individual is a tourist or an excursionist. Since it may be difficult to differentiate between the behaviors of day visitors (excursionists) and those of long-stay tourists, the idea that a definition of tourism does not require reference to an extra night has become significantly more accepted in recent years(Cole, 1993).

Without a doubt, tourism has great promise as a tool for protecting natural areas. It's important

to remember, however, that harmony between tourists and nature is precarious. Anxious to gain the full advantages of tourism, many developing nations have, without doing a sufficient study of the possible repercussions, converted their virgin regions into visitors' hubs to suit the preferences and wishes of mass tourism. Such fast growth has the potential to completely alter a place, having long-lasting effects on the local ecosystem(Cilimburg, et al., 2000). Tourists are distinct from locals in any setting other than their own since they are visitors who spend money while they are in town for a short period of time. Individuals have varying needs and preferences when it comes to leisure travel and entertainment. Pilgrimages, climates, animal parks, adventures, and picnics all rank high on the list of reasons people want to travel.

The emergence of mass tourism has resulted in a late realization that it is a renewable resource sector, and it has come to imply a wide variety of manufacturing and service enterprises that work together to provide a vacation experience by taking advantage of economies of scale and mass merchandising. The challenges of some destinations and stress within the system could not be ignored during the days of fast development, but when competition for few resources grew and the strain of numerous tourists became apparent, the problems of particular destinations were brought to the forefront(Williamsand Gill, 1995).

From the hobbies of the wealthy few to the travels of the masses, tourism has been propelled by the "desire to discover the unknown, to explore new and unexpected locations, to seek changes in the environment and through new experiences". It is possible that initial, less harmful activities may grow into much bigger ones. While tourism may certainly contribute to the economy, its growth

should not be at the expense of environmental protection(Cooper andOzdil, 1992). To make matters worse, the vast majority of organizations and people are now prioritizing the exploitation of nature above its preservation of it. People's movements in various regions of India provide an example of how such situations provide an opportunity for citizen participation in the implementation of plans for the protection of mountain ecosystems, leading to tangible outcomes.

The purportedly undesirable effects of tourism on the setting turn out to be exaggerated upon closer inspection. The tourism industry is not in opposition to ecological principles; rather, it should be seen as a means to that end. The interdependence of the tourist, leisure, and conservation sectors was described. Conservation, in the sense of preserving, restoring, and explaining cultural and historical artifacts and sites, piques visitors' attention and so enhances this kind of tourism(Holden, 2000).

The lives, traditional beliefs and rites, family ties, and moral ideals of the mass community all undergo changes as anoutcome of encounters with visitors, which are considered to be among the societal and cultural implications of tourism. The people of an area with a high travel intensity experience economic, social, and psychological changes. It is challenging to analyze and quantify the potentially negative social implications to incorporate them in an economic supraregional study, even though these impacts are commonly characterized as positive and negative(Plog, 2001).

Hosts' views and attitudes toward the increase of services and amenities to suit tourists' needs may quickly become more adversarial and may finally reach unmanageable dimensions.

Despite the fact that effects should be seen from a broader perspective including not just tourist elements but also larger social issues, it is frequently simple to do so. When considering the communal and cultural effects of tourism, it is essential to take into account not only the character of the tourists but also the nature of the locals who welcome them(Pizam, 1982). It's likely that the degree to which the two sets of people interact will have a significant effect on the impact kinds. Such a predicament is common in the world's poorest nations. There is a theory called the "demonstration effect" that says locals would alter their actions after seeing how visitors do them.

People in the host country will envy the visitors' because of the circumstances. Potentially, this might help inhabitants change their habits to become more fruitful. But often, it causes problems because locals are angry that they can't buy the things and live the way the tourists do(Cooper andOzdil, Individuals of all ages, but especially young people, are vulnerable to the demonstration effect. The generation gap between young people and elderly people in society may potentially be attributed to tourism(Pigram, 1990). Because of the demonstration effect, talented young people may leave rural communities for metropolitan ones or even other countries in quest of the "demonstrated" way of life. A further process, acculturation, may take place if the connections last for longer and are more in-depth. Even if acculturation has grown in significance since the turn of the century, many travellers still go abroad in search of a new cultural experience(Lindberg and Johnson, 1997).

The ecosystem is deeply intertwined with the tourism industry. The environment is the tourism industry's foundation since it is the natural beauty of a destination that draws

visitors there. So, protecting the natural world is essential to keeping the tourist industry afloat in many circumstances. Further, it was explored whether or not ecotourism is incompatible with conservation efforts, or if the two might live in harmony(Williamsand Gill, 1995).

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Research into the Environmental Effects of Tourism is expanding, and additional studies in the field are likely in the near future. The first attempts to examine the effects human activity has on the environment focused mostly on the consequences of recreation, particularly outdoor recreation. Investigating the negative possessions of tourism on the milieu has been ongoing since the 1980s, although the first studies on the topic came in the 1970s. Islands, coastal regions, alpine regions, national greens, and other endangered areas have all been the subject of research on the ecological and biological effects of tourism(Batta, 2003).

Consequently, the 1970s mark the beginning of the modern era of seeking the environmental properties of tourism. The research on how tourism affects the natural world has mostly been descriptive and qualitative. There is a complex interplay between the nature of tourism progress, the socioeconomic and other qualities of visitors, and the physical, demographic, and organizational features of the host province that determines the nature and magnitude of tourism's environmental consequences(Briassoulis, 1992). There has been a recent uptick in awareness that environmental factors are crucial to the success of tourist destinations. It became clear in the latter span of the twentieth era that the environment is crucial to the tourism industry, either as a primary draw for visitors or as the setting for vacations(Buckley, 1999).

There is a multi-faceted interaction between tourism and the ecosystem. Dynamic feedback mechanisms define not only the immediate, short-term effects of tourism on environmental stewardship (such as pollutants, noise, and disruption) but also the indirect, long-term effects of tourism on sustainability(Budowski, 1976). It was argued that limiting tourist numbers in vulnerable areas like mountains and coastlines at the periphery of global economies might help ease the problem. However, there is a severe lack of education focusing on domestic tourism in India. This is due, in part, to the datum that "tourism," a component of "foreign" innovation and, more specifically, industrialism, stands in theoretical comparison to the travel practices of the native Indian masses that existed before tourism came to India in the shape of postcolonial and colonial eras(Cilimburg, et al., 2000).

As the number of people using wildland outdoor spaces grows, so does the need for a mechanism to track and mitigate any damage that may be done by visitors both directly and indirectly. The piling of trash and improper disposal of human waste are universal issues at unregulated tourist destinations(Cole, 1993). Most of the principal consequences on trails and campsites, where recreation usage is concentrated, are well understood by managers, and the importance of these impacts is seen in a new light. They know a lot about what elements determine the size of an effect, so they can weigh the benefits and drawbacks of various approaches to management. Multiple treatment strategies have been analysed for their efficacy, and effective surveillance systems have been established(Cooper andOzdil, 1992).

(Gunn, 1982) identified need to tackle the question of how much tourism is sustainable in

aarea, arguing that natural regeneration should be the deciding factor. It is not always easy to separate the environmental effects of tourism from those of other developments caused by socioeconomic, technical, or agricultural shifts. There has been a lot of research done to separate out the effects of tourism and to classify the different types of tourist settings(Holden, 2000).

It is necessary to identify the limits of the ecosystem and investigate the connections between tourism and its many beneficial compounds before analyzing its potential effects. However, the countrysidelinking tourism and the environment is intricate (Jafari, et al., 1990). The relationship between them is symbiotic because of the mutual dependency they share. One common misconception is that the word "environment" refers only to the natural elements present in a certain area. On the other hand, five components of the environment: nature, agriculture, animals, human constructions, and natural resources are interconnected (Lindberg and Johnson, 1997).

When it comes to the resources on which the tourist industry relies, any kind of tourism might have unintended consequences. The magnitude of ecotourism and additional forms of landscape tourism always results in the disruption or degradation of park resources, which in the shot may impair the superiority of experience(Pigram, the tourist Destroying these ecosystems may have an even bigger impact on how people see resource depletion, which is why this topic is becoming a hotspot for academic inquiry. It is important to remember, however, that each observer's value stance and perceptions of the effects will determine the sort of influence thev experience(Pizam, 1982).

The development of a trail through the National Park to accommodate visitors, as one observer would advise, might be a means to route people and, by extension, reduce damage, which is a good influence. An opposing viewpoint may be that this trail layout encourages a rise in visitor numbers, which in turn increases the prospect of environmental harm(Plog, 2001). There are day tourists, who stay in one place for a single day and then depart, seasonal residents, who act as tourists for the duration of their stay, and visitors on bus tours and other travels, who may stop by a certain area for a matter of minutes or many weeks. Ecological systems are impacted by day-trippers both during their travels and at their destinations(Singh, 2002).

The expansion of tourism-related infrastructure also has effects on native fauna. The migratory winter range of several animals is constrained due to development at the lower altitudes of mountain resorts. As with any kind of development, tourism may have both direct and indirect effects on local animal populations(Urry, 1994).

Animals' diets and feeding habits are the first things that tourists may expect to disrupt, followed by their natural habitats. Directly, visitors' feeding of animals disrupts their natural eating habits, and indirectly, trash wildlife to forage in unnatural drives places(Van den Bergh and Nijkamp, 1991). As a result of human activity, unique ecosystems including mountains, coasts, and oceanic islands see the emergence of new challenges. environmental For instance, mountains aren't very resistant to things like mass tourism, landslides, rockfalls, and the subsequent loss of flora and animals, as well as changes in the physical structure(Williamsand Gill, 1995).

Due to mass tourism, sewage issues, beach pollution, disfiguring coasts, eroding dunes, and the unsightly construction of structures on supple landscapes, coastlines take on a strange shape based on linear development. Others, meanwhile, maintain that proper management may result in improved environmental conditions as well as the preservation of natural attractions and animal populations(Batta, 2003).

Overuse of public pathways and trails has been linked to noise pollution, littering, and elevated erosion rates. Multiple scholars have seen an increase in rivalry for land and labour, as well as a corresponding increase in the destruction of flora and the harassment of animals. Although several studies have shown positive shifts in the supply of rural infrastructure like roads and water, and in the amount of money farmers may earn through leasing land, renting space, or expanding their production of food and handicrafts, these findings have been largely disregarded(Briassoulis, 1992). Cities' infrastructure has been reportedly feeling the pinch. In addition, during the last two decades, Protected Lands have emerged as hotspots for the growing niches of ecotourism and naturebased tourism(Buckley, 1999).

Research into the effects of tourism on state and regional economies over the last 20 years. It was further revealed that this is true not only in the developed world but also in undeveloped nations(Budowski, 1976). This is a well-known effect of the steadily cumulative number of entitiesthat engage in tourism as a means of making money. Increasing tourism has a significant effect on the development of areas. As a location grows and changes, so will the effects of tourism(Cilimburg, et al., 2000).

Key elements contributing to the nature of the consequences include the sort of tourist

activities pursued, the features of the host municipal in the destination location, and the countryside of the contact between visitors and locals. A variety of parallel effects, most notably the significance of time and place in describing the results of tourism(Cole, 1993). To make matters more complicated, distinguishing socio-cultural effects from other effects make it hard to quantify them separately (Cooper andOzdil, 1992).

Several elements, such as the target area's degree of economic growth, the availability of an organizational body to cope with tourism, and the type and origin of financial participation, especially the role of foreign investors, have been highlighted as crucial by researchers(Gunn, 1982). Economic benefits accrue to both "entry" and "exit" towns as a result of tourism. A rise in tourism may boost the economy, creating more jobs and raising living standards(Holden, 2000).

There are other positive effects on the economy that have been attributed to tourism as well, such as the expansion of public services and the modernization of transportation networks, and an increase in levy revenues. India's economy has relied increasingly on revenue from tourism, with the country's central region serving as a primary draw(Jafari, et al., 1990). Scholars have recently placed a premium on locals' perspectives on visitors and tourism and argued that their informed opinions should be included in the design and development of tourist hotspots(Van den Bergh and Nijkamp, 1991).

Locals' perspectives matter because they are the ones who see and do something in the tourist scene and because they are the ones who will be most immediately (or indirectly) influenced by it(Pigram, 1990). Therefore, their perspectives should be more grounded in

reality than the observers' subjective perceptions gleaned from a limited number of trips to the region. Construction of eyesores that contrast with their natural surroundings, known as "architectural" or "visual" pollution, may lower the overall aesthetic appeal of a tourist area(Lindberg and Johnson, 1997).

It's a helpful tool for integrating the study of project costs and benefits with consideration of the environmental, social, cultural, and aesthetic impacts(Pizam, 1982). Visitors and those in the tourist industry may gain from a development project at a historical site, but the local community may feel the effects of the increased demand placed on the infrastructure and services provided to them. Developing effective management methods relies on a thorough understanding of plant communities and the interplay between those communities and their surrounding environments(Plog, 2001).

Almost 300 years have passed since the first descriptions of exotic vegetation were made in the field of vegetation research. The rapidly evolving industry of tourism has produced an abundance of literature on trial evaluation techniques. The paths are mostly used for leisure pursuits. This means that paths, especially unpaved ones, are particularly vulnerable to the effects of recreation on the surrounding environment, including plant and animal life(Singh, 2002). Both the preservation of recreational resources and the provision of high-quality recreational opportunities depend on accurate assessments and ongoing monitoring of the conditions at these heavily visited locations(Urry, 1994).

OBJECTIVES OF STUDY

• Determine and analyse the many ways in which tourism has altered the local ecosystem.

- Analysis of how much of an impact tourism has had on the environment at the location.
- Calculating projected resource use and waste disposal into the local ecosystem.
- Evaluation of how tourism affects local ecosystems.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Most of the information used in tourist studies comes from three distinct types of data collection: primary sources, secondary sources, observational studies. and The "observation" is used to describe the practice of collecting data by systematically observing and measuring empirical phenomena in the field. Villagers, travel agencies, forest officials, and tourists who visited the attractions all provided primary data. To determine and confirm the needfor survey schedules and questions, data were obtained from these respondents via faceto-face interviews using pre-tested survey questionnaires. Schedules and questionnaires for the surveys were well-organized, containing both open-ended and closed-ended questions. The secondary sources used for this study were numerous websites and government offices throughout India.

ANALYSIS AND RESULTS

The ages of the visitors polled ranged from 25 to 60, with a mean of 36.48 years as well as the highest frequency of responses in the category of 39 years. The numbers of visitors also start to drop down sharply beyond the age of 40, as shown by the statistics.

Overall, men made up 73.7% of the visitors polled, while women accounted for 26.3%. The results of the poll show that most tourists to these locations are domestic travelers from all around the country. Only locations listed as

World Heritage Sites will see significant numbers of international tourists. While unexplored areas may have the potential to draw in tourists, particularly from outside, a lack of infrastructure has so far stymied any such efforts. Domestic religious travelers, particularly during fairs and festival times, are a big boon to the local tourism industry. Domestic travelers flock to these spots at far higher rates than they do to more well-known locations. However, despite the high volumes of visitors to these locations, there is a dearth of organized record-keeping and site administration. Another issue is the potential for physical, natural, and local environmental externalities to be caused by the influx of tourists. For these places to be able to handle the influx of tourists and meet their demands, certain safeguards and steps need to be adopted right from the start.

Those that visited the site are highly educated, with the majority holding advanced degrees such as bachelor's and master's degrees, as well as technical and scientific certifications. Planning and management authorities need this information to effectively roll out new initiatives, such as ecotourism projects or awareness programs aimed at enlightening tourists about environmental concerns and encouraging environmentally responsible travel.

The majority of visitors are likely to be professionals and service workers on the weekend picnicking with their families and friends. The guests who have the most in common with one another in terms of their profession are middle-class.

The average monthly income of the tourists who visit is between Rs. 5,000 and Rs. 20,000. Taking into account the visitors' total monthly household income yields a mean value of Rs.

17,541.30, with a range of between Rs. 5,000 and Rs. 95,000. It shows how much money people are making every month and how much money they make as a family on average.

When it comes to the average size of the groups that tourists travel in, families (particularly those from India) make up the vast majority, with an average of four to five people per group. Group sizes might be as low as 2 people and as high as 30 or more. However, most international tourists travel in groups of two to eight people. In this way, it can be shown that domestic tourism plays a disproportionately large role in the global tourist industry.

Visitors from other countries tend to remain longer than those from their own country, with a mean length of stay of 4.6 hours compared to 4.3 hours for domestic tourists. Travelers often stay anywhere from 1.5 to 8 hours throughout the day, while some may even spend the night if accommodations are provided. Because the amenities here are of higher quality, as requested by international tourists, and the sights are also conveniently accessible, some people, especially foreign visitors, have taken to spending the night in hotels or other locations.

The results of the poll show that the likelihood of returning to the location decreases with each successive visit. This is because of the religious significance of the area and the strong feelings that its inhabitants have for the spot. The region also has a relatively low influx rate. Only around half of the people who visited a certain location for the first time ever ended up returning there for a second trip. Most tourists drive alone or use taxis provided by tour operators to their locations. Many weekend day-trippers from inside the country go to popular tourist destinations on bicycles or motorcycles.

For the purposes of verifying the accuracy of the visitors' perceptions, it is crucial to know how well they have reacted to questions pertaining to the environment and concerns. The study results show that most tourists are well-informed on environmental topics such as pollution, its repercussions, ecotourism, and more. The survey findings indicating a high level of education among the tourists lend credence to this high proportion.

More than 90 percent of tourists care about preserving the forest or other natural resources. To that end, people are eager to join environmental education and awareness efforts in which they may contribute freely of their own will.

In areas where no entrance fee is currently collected from site visitors, data show that the vast majority would be willing to pay such a fee if it meant a better explanation of the area's natural surroundings, organic diversity (flora as well as fauna), and history, as well as the prevention of environmental degradation and the improvement of the area's aesthetic appeal. The majority of guests are happy with the existing methods of management and are prepared to spend more than Rs. 50.00 if it means additional leisure options are made available to them. It's worth noting, meanwhile, that guests have high hopes for improved leisure services from the hotel's administration but have so far been disappointed.

It is worth noting that the locals' top concerns regarding the ecological impacts of tourism in the area are including waste management buildup and polluting the environment caused by the increasing number of visitors in the area, blog overcrowding along with the damage of aesthetic appeal of the locations, and environmental damage in the regions due to increase in the tourist industry in the years ahead.

Likewise, locals worry about the potential harm that tourism might do to the area's natural ecosystems in the future, whether that harm comes from visitors' actions or through buildings. They prioritized the build-up of solid waste and littering, the overcrowding of the Site, and the pollution concerns in the vicinity. There is little support for a number of possible outcomes, including those that put stress on energy supplies or raise the prospect of ecological imbalance. This suggests that tourism in the region is only getting started, but the reactions that have evolved thus far may be of concern to policymakers, administrators, and conservationists. The risks of ecosystem degradation and the deterioration of roads and soil as a result of tourism were placed toward the bottom of the list of possible consequences.

Based on the responses given, most residents believe that tourism is to blame for the area's growing sense of discontent because of the resulting rise in low- and middle-income occupations. On top of that, they believe that public order is disrupted during peak tourist seasons because of the influx of visitors and that tourism-related jobs are only seasonal for the residents. Locals place a low value on other sociocultural effects such as the westernization effect, the transformation of traditional patterns of occupation, the sharing of information, and the safeguarding of homegrown art and culture. The current low level of tourism in the region may be to blame. Consequently, natives are not well-versed in the breadth and gravity of tourism's effects.

Fifty-two percent, roughly, of residents, are very concerned about preserving the area's natural resources and forests. Sustainable tourism in the region with conservation

practices and local involvement would be a good example of a program that could be implemented with this kind of support and would benefit the local community. Any residents who have shown an interest may be included within the "Intrigued" group. Consequently, roughly 83.0% of the inhabitants are enthusiastic about preservation, restoration, and contributing to the region.

The locals have proposed limiting the use of polymers and Polyethene as a resource of mitigating the adverse effects of tourism as the industry expands, particularly given the prevalence of plastic as a significant source of trash and pollution in popular tourist spots. The research also shows that these items account for the vast bulk of trash left by tourists at the location. As long as tourism keeps growing at the current pace, these factors may also contribute to soil contamination, water pollution, and the devaluation of the area's aesthetics in the near future. However, locals have asked for widespread public support and engagement in order to foster a sustainable tourist industry, as well as for government intervention to ensure adequate planning and implementation. Therefore, in the current environment, government and management actions are required to limit or offset the possible negative repercussions of increased tourism.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Natural beauty and diverse ecosystems in the study region have untapped potential to benefit the local economy. As a result, the current tourist situation is not having any noticeable effects on either the environment or local residents. Also contributing to this is the element that visitors incline to stay on the site for extended periods of time, with their whole

focus never leaving it. However, it has been shown that owing to the intensity, waste products such as structures called hyphae, food materials, papers, etc. are spread, resulting in an excessive build-up of waste products at the site. As bodies of water tend to be near tourist hotspots, trash from such regions may find its way into the water supply, potentially harming aquatic life and setting the stage for water pollution in the ages to come.

The study's importance stems from the fact that it addresses pressing modern concerns about the toll that tourism has on the natural world. Small-scale, locally-focused tourist development has the potential to be successful in these regions and may be utilized as a tool for the region's conservation and economic growth with the right amount of planning and organization.

The research also highlights the need for restoration and environmental protection initiatives to be implemented, since the ecological imbalance and other consequences seen by the locals may become a severe concern in the near future as tourism in the region is projected to expand. Since most people have only a basic education, it is all the more crucial that they participate in ongoing community-wide awareness campaigns on the need of protecting the local ecosystem and preserving its resources. However, it is equally crucial that locals understand that, in addition to government action, they have a role to play in limiting future externalities.

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