



Types & Examples of Tourist Impact Indicators

Basic types of indicators:

1. Environmental (Biophysical)
2. Socio-cultural aspects
3. Visitor Experience
4. Economic
5. Managerial (Infrastructure)

1. Examples of environmental indicators:

- Soil erosion at a particular site
- Site spreading (vegetation loss) in campgrounds or along trails
- Sea floor litter at mooring sites
- Stress on a particular wildlife species (nesting success, animal aggression against visitors, etc.)
- Illegal fires or campfires
- Landslides along a road
- Coliform bacteria count in river X, beach X
- Visibility from point X
- Number of damaged trees in picnic area
...etc....

2. Examples of visitor experience indicators:

- Number of encounters with other groups per day
- Number of safety violations per month
- Number of complaints about noisy visitors
- Number of students using area for environmental education
- Number of illegal hunters encountered in location X
- Percent of visitors pleased with their visit to the area/site
- Evidence of human waste
- Number of return visitors
- Visitor perception of naturalist guides



...etc....

3. Examples of economic indicators:

- Number of ecotourism entrepreneurs in neighboring communities
- Amount of entrance fees collected in a month
- Average length of stay in the site/community
- Overall contribution of ecotourism to site's budget (percentage)
- Level of tourism employment
- Level of investment in local public services and facilities

...etc....

4. Examples of socio-cultural (on communities) indicators:

- Maintenance of traditional practices
- Change in population
- Reports of negative behavior by visitors toward residents
- Change in crime rate
- Number of visitors at local cultural events/sites
- Perception of guides of sustainable tourism activity
- General perception of residents of sustainable tourism activity

...etc....

5. Examples of managerial (infrastructure) indicators:

- Number and length of trails
- Amount of time spent on infrastructure maintenance
- Amount of graffiti found in campgrounds

...etc....