

Center for Community-Based Resource Management (CBRM)

Natural Resources Institute, University of Manitoba

CBRM Database

Date:	04/15/2013	Entry Number:	1273
Case Study Name:	Social-ecological resilience and community-based tourism: An approach from Agua Blanca, Ecuador		
Author:	Esteban Ruiz-Ballesteros		
Document Type:	Paper in a Scientific Journal		
Year:	2011		
Language:	English		
Document Location:	Tourism Management		
Full Citation:	Ruiz-Ballesteros, E. (2011). Social-Ecological Resilience and Community-Based Tourism An Approach from Agua Blanca, Ecuador. <i>Tourism Management</i> , 32, 655-666.		
Region:	South America		
Country:	Ecuador		
Ecosystem Type:	Tropical Rainforest		
Social Characteristics:	Indigenous Community		
Scale of Study:	Community		
Resource Type:	Tourism/Ecotourism		
Type of Initiative:	Community Initiative		
Community- Based Work:	Development Planning		
Keywords:	Community-based tourism, Socio-ecological resilience, Community, Turismo comunitario, Ecuador		
Summary:	Socio-ecological resilience (SER), as a theoretical framework, provides an original approach to the study of socio-ecological sustainability, affirming that sustainable development can only be achieved in sufficiently resilient socio-ecosystems. Sustainability is one of the major challenges facing tourism.		

Therefore, the exploratory application of this theoretical approach to tourist contexts could be particularly apt. Practically all current modes of tourist operation profess a commitment to sustainability, but this is much more significant in experiences of community-based tourism (CBT). This paper presents an ethnographic case study in Agua Blanca, an Ecuadorian community that engages in turismo comunitario, a community-based tourism development strategy. The study explores the expediency of studying socioecological resilience in tourist research and attempts to open up new pathways for analytical and methodological development.