Center for Community-Based Resource Management (CBRM)

Natural Resources Institute, University of Manitoba

CBRM Database

Date:	**22.05.2013**	**Entry Number:**	**1307**
Case Study Name:	**Climate Change and the Sustainability of Ski-based Tourism in Eastern North America: A Reassessment**		
Author:	Daniel Scott , Geoff McBoyle , Alanna Minogue & Brian Mills		
Document Type:	Book chapter; journal article		
Year:	2006		
Language:	English		
Document Location:	*Journal of Sustainable Tourism*		
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Region:	Eastern North America		
Country:	Canada, USA		
Ecosystem Type:	Boreal, wetlands and/or marshes		
Social Characteristics:	Indigenous communities, urban communities		
Scale of Study:	Community		
Resource Type:	Fisheries, forestry, surface water, species conservation		
Type of Initiative:	Community initiative, research-driven project		
Community-Based Work:	Resource management, conservation, ecosystem restoration		

Keywords:	Canada, climate change, skiing, United States, winter tourism
Summary:	**The sustainability of skiing tourism has been repeatedly identified as vulnerable to global climate change. Earlier research, however, did not fully consider snowmaking as an adaptation strategy, which is integral to the ski industry in eastern North America. This study examines how it reduces the vulnerability of ski areas to climate change in six study areas by developing a model to assess the impact of climate change on season length, probability of operations during critical tourism periods, snowmaking costs, and water requirements. It suggests that in the 2020s, even the warmest climate change scenario poses only a minor risk to four of the six ski areas. The reassessment for the 2050s period found that only the warmest scenario would jeopardise the sustainability of three of the ski areas examined. The confluence of climatic changes and other non- climate business factors will advantage certain ski areas and likely result in further contraction and consolidation in this regional ski market.**