

Nicola Lake Tourism and Recreation Planning

Presented to Nicola Lake
Working Group

By Sydney Johnsen, Peak
Planning Associates

April 8, 2013

Introduction

- Recreation on Lakes
 - Case Studies
- Sustainability
- Tourism
 - Tourism in BC
- Points to Ponder



A look at Recreation on Other Lakes

Common Issues related to Lake-Based Recreation

- Safety
- Moorage
- Access points
- Environmental impacts
- Enforcement
- Differing regulations at multiple levels

Lake Hume, Australia



- Issues:
 - Boating
 - Fishing
 - Public access
 - Infrastructure

Otty Lake, Ontario

- Issues:
 - Protecting Fish & Wildlife Health
 - Shoreline protection and Health
 - Protecting lake health
 - Boating Impacts

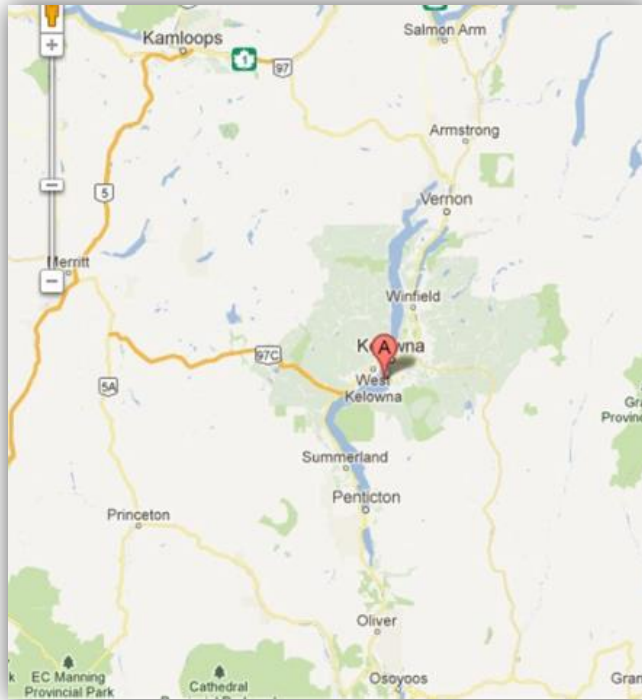


Buffalo Lake, Alberta

- Issues:
 - Riparian health
 - Water quality
 - Fisheries & wildlife management
 - Recreation access, activities & facilities
 - Public education & awareness



Lake Okanagan, BC



- Issues
 - Public Access
 - Clean beaches & waterfronts
 - Watercraft & infrastructure

Lake Windermere, BC

- Issues:
 - Boating
 - Mooring Buoys
 - Marinas
 - Infrastructure
 - Water Access
 - Management & enforcement



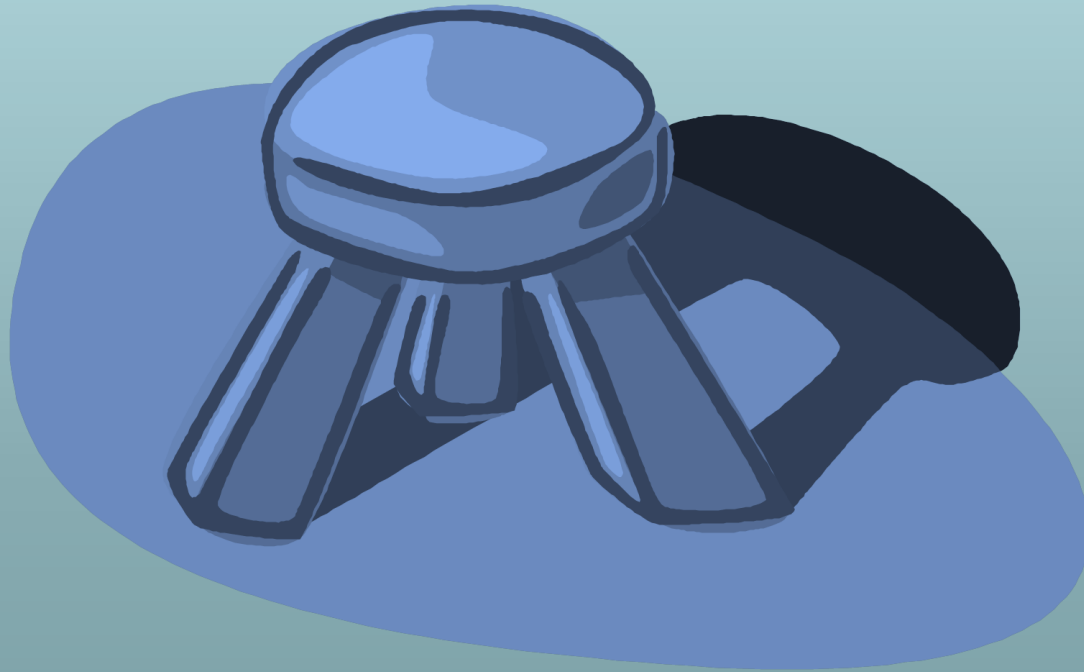
Changing Conditions

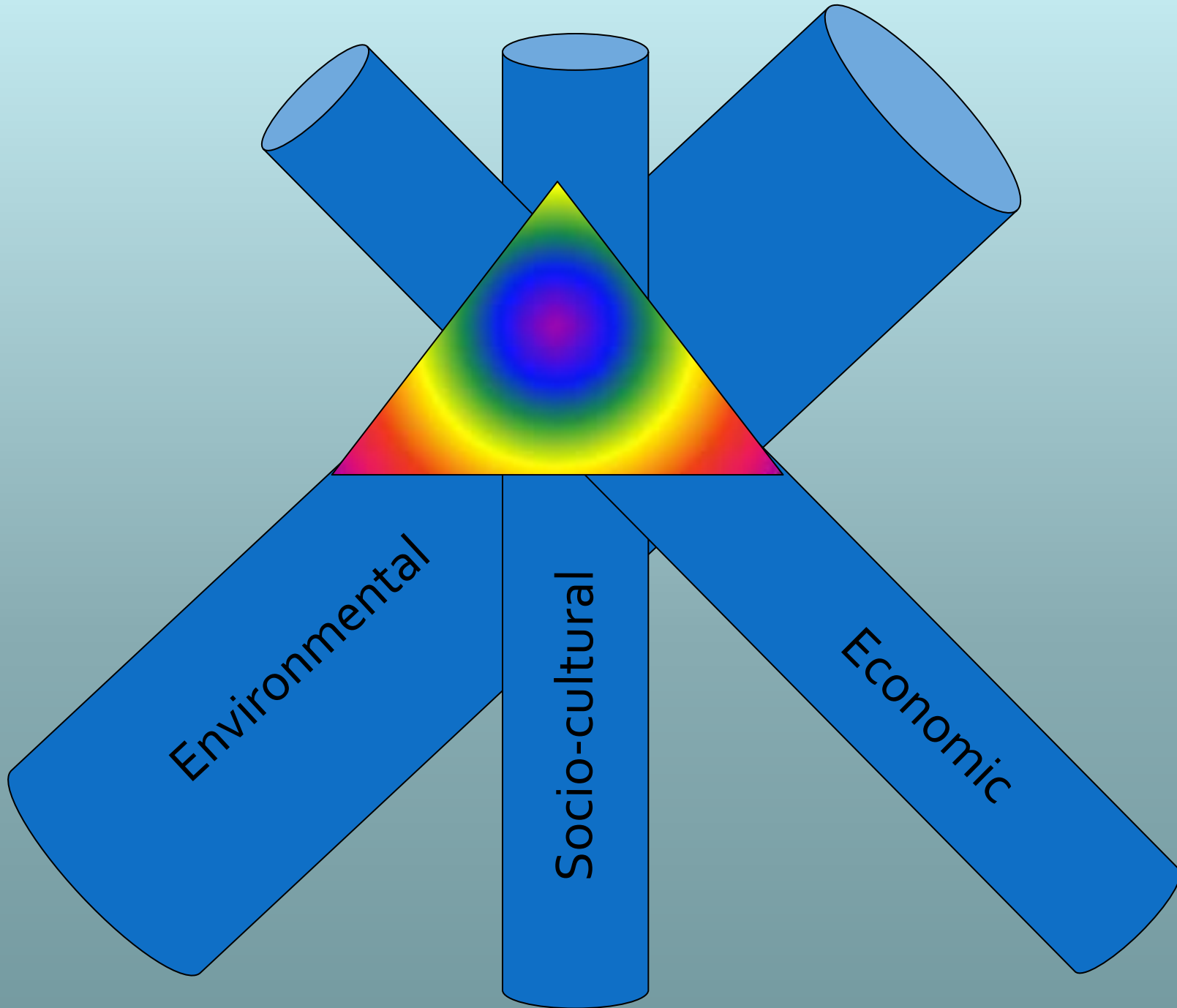
- Four factors influence impacts
 - Activity style
 - Resource specificity
 - Mode of experience
 - Tolerance of lifestyle diversity
- Policymakers adopt benefits-based management strategies
- Increasing number of recreationists
 - Visitors (Tourists)
 - Residents
 - Permanent
 - Seasonal
 - amenity migrants

(Source: Jenkins, J. Pigram, J., (2005). Outdoor Recreation Management)

Sustainability

Three Pillars of Sustainability





Tourism

A Quick Overview

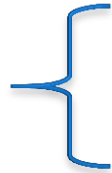
What is Tourism?

- 'Official' definition in Canada:
 - involves one-way travel distance of 80km
 - includes activities participated in
 - one year max
 - includes leisure, business and other purposes

What is Tourism?

Industry Sectors

Hospitality



1. Transportation
2. Accommodation
3. Food & Beverage
4. Attractions
5. Adventure Tourism
6. Events/Conferences
7. Travel Trade
8. Tourism Services

Tourism in BC

National

- Canadian Tourism Commission (CTC)
- Parks Canada
- Transport Canada
- Canadian Council of Tourism Ministers
- Other (Air Competitiveness, Border Initiatives)

BC Government

- Ministry of Jobs, Tourism and Skills Training
 - Tourism Strategy & Policy
 - *Gaining the Edge: 2012-2016*
 - *RV Park Development Report*
 - Tourism BC
 - Provincial & community Visitor Centres
 - HelloBC Listings/Reservations
 - BC Magazine

Tourism in BC

Marketing (Management) Organizations

- Destination BC (PDMO)
 - Community & Sector Tourism Programs
- 6 Regional (RDMO)
 - Thompson Okanagan Tourism Association (TOTA)
 - *Embracing Our Potential – A 10 year Tourism Strategy for the Thompson Okanagan Region*
- Aboriginal Tourism BC
- Community
 - Merritt Tourist/ Visitor Info Booth

Tourism in BC - Other BC Gov Agencies

- Forests, Lands & Natural Resource Operations
 - Recreation Sites & Trails
 - Resorts & Alpine Ski Developments
 - Adventure Tourism
 - Resource Stewardship
- Environment
 - BC Parks
- Finance
 - Hotel Room Tax
 - Tenure rental

Summary

Goal of Lake-based Recreation Management

- Ensure a quality recreation experience
 - the degree to which the experience contributes to the physical, psychological and spiritual well being of recreationists
- Quality of the experience is largely a function of how effective the management strategies are in protecting lake-based resources



Tourism Brings Benefits & Costs to Destinations

Benefits of Tourism

- Social
 - Supports rebirth of local/traditional arts, crafts
 - Renews architectural traditions
 - Supports development of new community amenities
 - Develops food and beverage services
 - Supports heritage
- Environmental
 - Stimulates interest in protection & conservation
 - Promotes establishment of parks/protected areas
 - Encourages greater pride in community appearance

'Cost' of Tourism

- Economic
 - Inflation, Opportunity Cost, over-dependence on tourism
- Social
 - Overcrowding, decline in traditional activities, loss of 'real' (authentic) culture
- Environmental
 - Litter, pollution, erosion, disturbance of ecological habitats, non-indigenous species & non local architectural designed buildings

Points to Ponder

- Understand impacts (+ & -) of recreation
 - Ecological
 - Social & Cultural
 - Economic
- Consider
 - Recreationists & Activities
 - Water-based
 - Land-based
- Balance impacts - **seek 'net benefit'**



Johnsen, S., Hull, J. (2012)

More Information

- Best Practices Lake Based Recreation
<http://www.slippbc.ca/review-of-best-practices-recreation>
- United Nations Environmental Program,
Making Tourism More Sustainable: A Guide for Policy Makers
- Questions?
sydney.johnsen@gmail.com