The Guidance of Relevant Theories on the Study of Impact on Grassland Tourism Environment

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Abstract: The study of the impact on tourism environment has become core contents of grassland tourism development healthily and sustainably. And relevant theoretical basis was an important support for the research on the effect on grassland tourism environment. Through the practical application of the theory of sustainable development, the theory of Eco-tourism and landscape ecology in the research on impact on grassland tourism environmental, the writer summarizes the basic idea and content of these theories exerting important guide role in the research on the effect on grassland tourism environment, and expects to provide a certain reference for the study on the impact on grassland tourism environment in the future.

1. Introduction

The impact on grassland tourism environment is the impact that is brought by the development of grassland tourism industry, appropriate tourist activities and production and living of local residents as well as the change of climate and other natural factors in the context of grassland tourism environment. Grassland tourism environment is the basis of the existence of grassland tourism resources, and also a prerequisite for the development of grassland tourism. Be confronted with the fragile grassland ecological environment and competitive tourism market, how to reasonably and efficiently develop grassland tourism industry on the basis of protecting grassland ecological environment, has become the primary problem of healthy development of grassland tourism industry. Therefore, to carry out the study on grassland tourism environment impact naturally became the basis work of promoting the development of grassland tourism industry, sustainable development theory and ecotourism theory and landscape ecology theory are the theoretical basis and an important support for the research on impact on grassland tourism environment.

2. The theory of Sustainable development

2.1 The basic idea of sustainable development theory

Sustainable development is a comprehensive and composite concept, covering a very wide range, including the organic unity of sustainable development of ecology, sustainable development of economy and sustainable development of human society. The basic idea of sustainable development literally means the two terms’ interpretation of “sustainable” and “development”. Sustainable development is the harmonization of sustainable economy, sustainable ecology and sustainable society, which requires human beings to pay attention to economic efficiency in the process of development, concerned about the ecological harmony, the pursuit of social equity, and ultimately achieve the comprehensive development of human society[1] Among which, resources and environment is the basis and conditions for human survival and development, sustainable use of resources and the sustainability of ecological environment are an important guarantee of sustainable development. Therefore, sustainable development requires human development being must be based on natural conditions, such as the air, water, soil, biology, etc. that supporting life on Earth system, which must adapt to the capacity of resources and the environment[2]. Thus, through these
basic ideas above, we can find the basic principles of sustainable development theory: the principle of fairness, the principle of sustainability, the principle of harmony, the principle of needs, the principle of efficiency and the principle of step[3]

2.2 The theory of tourism sustainable development

Sustainable development of tourism is in fact the specific application of the concept of sustainable development in the field of tourism, an important part of the theory of sustainable development, also is an important meeting point of the theory of sustainable development in industrial development, and its core ideas still follow sustainable development concept, developing tourism industry in certain areas, ensure that protecting local natural resources, social culture and ecological environment form being destroyed should be considered, and strive for coordinated development. “Sustainable Tourism Charter” in 1995 states: The essence of sustainable tourism development is to require tourism, nature, culture and human survival environment as a whole. Therefore, the protection of resources and environment has become the basic starting point of the sustainable tourism development[1]. Because once the environment is destroyed, the development of tourism industry will be restricted and then decline.

2.3 The guidance of sustainable development theory on the study on the impact on grassland tourism environment

Grassland tourist areas tend to be concentrated in the excellent area boasting the prairie landscape resources and the environment, but also is very fragile area of ecological environment, whether desert steppe area is on the basis of brown soil as matrix soil, or typical grassland area is based on chestnut soil as matrix soil, and even the meadow steppe is on the basis of black soil as matrix soil, all are extremely sensitive to interference of human activities, once the vegetation is destroyed and the soil is strongly trampled, the desertification will rapidly worsen, which will not only bring grassland tourism a heavy blow, meantime, it will threaten neighboring regions. Since grassland tourism and its management are intensive human activities, those activities have a critical impact on the grassland ecological environment. In order to achieve healthy and orderly development of grassland tourism, the basic concepts and ideas of sustainable development theory must be adhered to, to explore main factors and impact mechanism of influencing its ecological environment, to explore grassland tourism sustainable use of resources and ecological sustainability of the environment and ways of optimizing of the steady development of the local community and grassland tourism industry, and ultimately achieve sustainable ecology in the prairie tourist area of, sustainable society as well as sustainable development of tourism industry.

3. The theory of ecotourism

3.1 The basic idea of ecotourism theory

With the rapid growth of tourism and the continuous development of tourist resources, and the traditional tourism way that only focuses on the economic benefits while ignoring the sustainable use of resources and environmental protection has begun to restrict the further development of tourism, social and ecological problems followed by it has been showing up. How to overcome these drawbacks, how to guide tourism by means of the theory of sustainable development and how to achieve sustainable development of tourism have become the common concern of people in the industry and tourism researchers. Under such circumstances, people began looking for a new pattern of development and form of tourism in order to achieve the purpose of solving these problems. Eco-tourism guided by ecological principles, orientated by the ecological environment and natural resources, are marginal ecological projects and tourism activities which have an access to both social and economic benefits and contribute to ecological and environmental protection[4]. Eco-tourism as a new form of tourism is the best interpretation for the goal of sustainable development of tourism, it will not only help managers effectively utilize natural resources and minimize the negative impact on the environment[5], and also can help consumers to achieve
high-quality travel experiences and ultimately boost local economic development. The core idea of the theory of eco-tourism is the minimization of tourism activities or facilities impact on the local environment, emphasizing environment-friendly tourism. While protection, nurturing the tourists’ understanding of the environment, culture, nature as well as history, can maintain the integrity of ecosystem, and create opportunities of economic development and protect the interests of the proceeds[6].

3.2 The guidance of Ecotourism theory on the study on the impact on grassland tourism environment

Eco-tourism ideas must be put into practice. With regards to this, a number of theoretical experts and practitioners in the field of tourism have established many indicators and research methods to achieve the goal of changing idealism into a sustainable eco-tourism, including some research work etc., such as the overall relationship between tourism and the environment, some environmental factors impact on tourism, and tourism impact on the environment. By some method of determination, and then identify the problems, the implementation of prevention and mitigation measures; identify the various impacts, and to take action before problems as they arise; support sustainable tourism development, and identify limitations and opportunities; managers responsible the formation of responsible decision-making based on knowledge. This coincides with the purposes for grassland tourism environmental impact study, grassland tourism environmental impact study must be the development of tourism to a certain stage of grassland tourist area of research, and then identify the impact of grassland tourism development of grassland environment, identify grassland the ecological effects of the environment affected, identifying the main factors to have an environmental impact, identify the development constraints and opportunities, and provide a basis for decision making for managers, and grassland tourist areas will be developed to provide experience with the program of action to promote the tourism in the area of grassland tourism sustainable development.

4. The theory of landscape ecology

4.1 Research content and methods of landscape ecology

In the development process of Landscape ecology, it works around the core areas of spatial relationships and spatial effects in ecology, and provides an effective method for quantitative pattern and inspection of estimation, but also offers a strong support for research objects and content of landscape ecology and study.

The research objects of landscape ecology are the landscape with spatial properties, the type, the diversity and their spatial relationships of landscape composition unit. Specifically reflected in the three structural units, they are respectively: patch, which are some spatial units different from the surrounding environment in appearance or nature, with certain internal homogeneity, such as plant communities, lakes, grasslands, settlements, etc. Corridor, which is linear or banded adjacent to both sides of the environment structure, such as windbreaks, rivers, roads, etc. the matrix, which is background structure widely distributed in a certain area and the maximum continuity, such as forest base, grassland base, etc., the research on the interaction between landscape structure and ecological processes or landscape features interaction, mainly reflected in the interaction of movement of energy, material and organisms in the landscape mosaic; the research of landscape dynamics followed by time in the aspect of structure and function, mainly embodied in the change of composition, diversity and shapes and spatial patterns of the landscape structure unit as well as resulting in differences of energy, material and biology in the aspect of distribution and movement followed by[8]. Whose research priorities and core themes are: the landscape spatial pattern, the relationship between landscape pattern and ecological process, the impact on pattern, process and change from human activities, the effect on the landscape from the scale and interference[9].

The research methods of landscape ecology with the characteristic of integrated use of multi-disciple, the early methods of landscape ecology are researching the dynamic and structure of
the landscape by means of aerial photos, all kinds of photos and map data[10], which scale and scope is obviously restricted. With the continuous progress of science and technology, especially the application of remote sensing (RS) and geographic information system (GIS), the research of landscape ecology arrives at a higher level. Remote sensing image interpretation is closely linked to landscape ecological surveys, by the interpretation of remote sensing images and data digitization as well as automatic map; computer is fully integrated with remote sensing technology. And then through powerful function of geographic information system for data processing and analysis, mathematical quantitative and simulation techniques, knowledge engineering of artificial intelligence can be applied in the spatial structure, interactions and optimization of utilization of the landscape ecosystem, and thus make scientific research more efficient, accurate and practical.

4.2 The guidance of landscape theory on the study on the impact on grassland tourism environment

Landscape ecology together researches two aspects of ecological landscape and visual landscape, which not only attaches importance to the basic problems of formation, evolution, pattern, process of ecological landscape, but also pays much attention to the effectiveness of visual landscape in human perception, specifically reflected in awareness and development of tourist areas. The study of Landscape ecology and landscape spatial structure of tourist areas is a cross-field of contemporary landscape ecology and tourism, the forefront of international research. Going on quantitative description and explanation of landscape pattern in grassland tourist area will provide theoretical guidance for grassland tourism space planning and protection of grassland tourism environment and management of grassland eco-tourism. So the impact on grassland tourism environment should be based on the basic idea of landscape ecology, to expand the evolution and effect of landscape pattern in the grassland tourist area from a large scale.

An important aspect of landscape ecology is the role of interference on the landscape. The interference refers to non-continuous physical effects or events occurred in a certain geographic location, which cause direct damage to the ecosystem structure [8]. Among the influencing factors of leading to landscape pattern change in the grassland tourist area, the role of interference is very obvious. Therefore, landscape ecology theory can be used to support the study of interference process and results of tourist activities in the grassland.

5. Conclusion

It is essential to carry out research on the impact on grassland tourism environment and countermeasures to achieve the development of the grassland tourism healthily and orderly. The research on the impact on grassland tourism environment relies on relevant theories of sustainable development and ecotourism and landscape ecology, and exerts their advantages in the theoretical system together with research content and methods. To Profoundly grasp basic concepts and ideas of sustainable resources and the environment of the theory of sustainable development, and harmonized development, to take full advantage of identification methods of the overall relationship between grassland tourism environment of the theory of grassland ecotourism and the development of grassland tourism, to examine the condition and mechanism of impact on grassland tourism environment by means of the basic principles of landscape ecology and analysis methods of landscape structure, and remote sensing technology means of modern science, to analyze the ecological effects of prairie tourism environment from tourism development and tourism activities, and thus we will propose specific measures of regulating interference and ecological environment protection, and provide guidance for grassland ecological environment protection and sustainable development of grassland tourism.

References


