CONSIDERATION FOR LOCATION FACILITIES IN NATIONAL PARK/GAME RESERVE SETTINGS IN NIGERIA

S. A. Onadeko

Forestry Research Institute of Nigeria Federal School of Wildlife Management New Bussa.

Abstract

Drawing from the emergent situation at Yankari Game Reserve, the implications of locating social facilities within natural resource settings are discussed. Sitting of visitor facilities and services within a protected natural resources area could result in the destruction of scenic areas, alterations of ecological and physical characteristics of the site. It is important for ecological considerations to influence a park planning and development process, as much as do social and economic considerations. Protected natural resources areas can exist without a visiting public but there will be no attractions for visitors (tourists) if environmental degradents are allowed within the site. The recent rise of interest for tourism development in Nigeria makes this paper timely.