

GCSE Geography Coursework

In this study I will investigate the impact of tourism on two honeypot sites in the North York Moors National Park. I will also investigate whether or not tourism in the area is sustainable.

National Parks are areas of beautiful and relatively wild countryside. In 1949 ten national parks were set up by an act of parliament. They were chosen because of their beauty and popularity. There are currently 12 National Parks in England and Wales. Each National Park is managed by its own National Park authority, however they don't own it. The National Parks have lots of different owners, mainly farmers. Also they are owned by National Trust, Forestry Commission, Water Companies, Ministry of Defence and County Councils. National Parks are not parks as the public are not allowed to wander where they like. Also they are not national as they are not owned



by the nation. There are many types of landscapes in the national parks, such as, coastal in Scarborough, upland areas in Brecon Beacons, woodlands in the New Forest and wetlands in the Norfolk Broads. There are many conflicts in the National Parks. An example is that if there are people that want to fish then they will be disturbed by water skiers.

Honeypots are places of attractive scenery, or of historic interest, to which tourists swarm in large numbers. Usually in Honeypots there are lots of problems caused by the tourists. Honeypots are usually busy because of good road access, also because people have more leisure time due to shorter working weeks part time jobs and earlier retirement. Another reason is that people have longer and paid holidays and there are usually lots of campsites and caravan parks near to the Honeypots.

Tourism can be good for the area but it can also be bad. Some advantages are that the tourists will bring in money to the local shops which in turn creates employment. On the other hand there are some disadvantages, such as; Traffic problems (congestion, speed, volume), path erosion, litter, pollution, vandalism, loss of privacy, tourists trespassing, dogs (not on lead, fouling) and parking problems. So it seems that tourism causes more problems than advantages. In Lealholm the car park is in terrible condition, all of the white lines have been worn away by the cars, because it is very popular. Some of the cars parked in the car park were from places a long distance away, such as, Glasgow, Chesterfield and Scunthorpe.

The North York Moors are in the North of Yorkshire which is in the North East of England. Danby and Lealholm are situated in the north of the North York Moors. The six

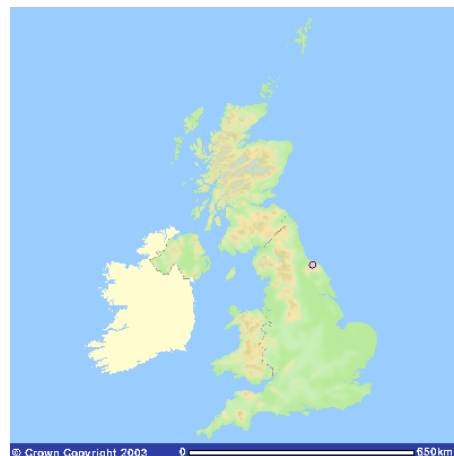


figure grid reference for Danby is (470500, 508500). The six figure grid reference for Lealholm is (476500, 507500).

Methodology

To carry out the investigation of tourism and sustainability in these sites I needed both primary and secondary data. I got my secondary data from a park warden who gave me annual figures on visitors, activities tourists do, surveys on the disadvantages, history of the park and other info.

I collected primary data in 3 ways, I did a survey of the car parks to find out where the cars were from and the facilities of the car park, I observed the facilities such as toilets and bins to see how good they were and if there were enough of them, I also made a questionnaire with which I approached tourists in the area to find things out. The questions I asked were things like, how often do you visit the North York Moors? Whether or not they were staying in a local Bed and Breakfast or hotel, I asked this to see if they were giving any money back to the local area. I also what do you dislike about the North York Moors? I asked this to see if the tourists were aware of the disadvantages of tourism.

I collected the data on Friday 20th June between 10am and 2pm. Some of the data would have been different according to the day and time. If it was about 12 in the afternoon on a Saturday in summer, then I could expect a lot more tourists and cars.