

# Stakeholders' perceptions of the Cairngorms' multiple benefits

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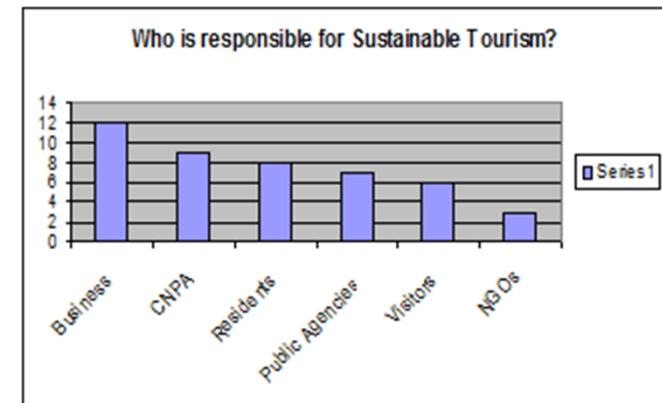


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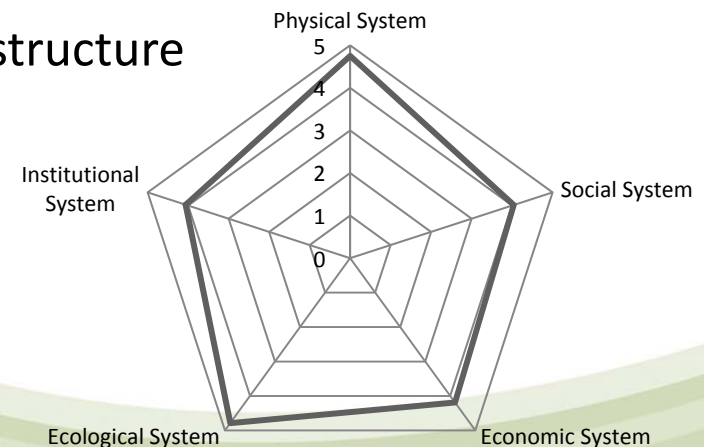
# Practicing Sustainable Tourism

- Recreation and tourism a major land use for CNP
  - Multiple benefits: from economic development to health and environmental education
- National Park Act about encouraging responsible access
- *Europarc* award required indicators to ensure protecting the assets
- Sustainability through responsibility
  - Collective and individual choices
  - Partnership delivery



# Challenges for Park Management

- Longitudinal ethnographic research: implementation of 1<sup>st</sup> CNPP suggested three main challenges:
  - Understanding the Park's 'special qualities'
    - ▶ Multiple views, not self-evident
  - Integrating policy objectives
    - ▶ CNPP form of spatial planning
  - Achieving Sustainable Development
    - ▶ Natural setting mediated by infrastructure



Blackstock et al., 2011

FP7 SMILE project

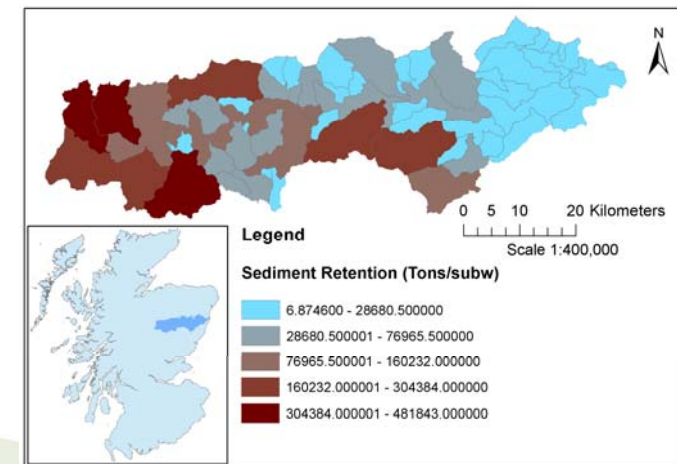
# Delivering Multiple Benefits

## ■ Supporting Regional Land Use Pilots

- Tool to guide Land Use Change decision making
- Local Focus Area – Upper Dee catchment to NP boundary

## ■ Stakeholders' views on benefits from land

## ■ Link to ecosystem services and natural capital



# How, not what, we research

- Research community as ‘missing partners’ in delivery of CNPP
- Doing research ‘with’ not ‘in’ or ‘on’ the Park’s institutions and stakeholders
- Action research – not just describing but resolving problems
- Co-construction of the research question and co-production of the analysis

	Problem Agreed	Problem Not Agreed
Solution Agreed	Easy!	Avoid!
Solution Not Agreed	Deliberate over options	Deliberate over problem

# Reflections on socio-ecological research

- What does 'social' include?
- Two branches of social research
  - Realist: who does, what, where – causality to explain why
  - Constructivist: what things mean, where and to whom – understanding motivations to explain why
- Socio-ecological systems
  - Inductive not reductionist approaches
  - Different data sets and data integration processes
- Beyond Ecology to the Anthropocene
  - Role of geology
  - Mediating impacts of technologies, markets, governance