



PEOPLE IN PARKS: Beyond the Debate

Achieving Conservation in Human-Inhabited Protected Areas

Spring 2004 Conference: April 2 – 3

International Society of Tropical Foresters
Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies



Call for Papers

The debate over people in parks has been a fiery one, yet one thing has become clear: Human Inhabited Protected Areas (HIPAs) are a reality of the conservation landscape. Protected area managers and policy-makers acknowledge that areas of high conservation value are already a home and subsistence base for local communities, and are attempting to incorporate these communities in conservation planning. The challenge that remains is how to achieve conservation in HIPAs.

Although formally HIPAs are a relatively new phenomenon, some preliminary conclusions about what works and what does not can now be drawn. Major efforts to integrate communities within protected areas have been underway for the last decade, providing time for reflection and analysis of empirical data. Other protected areas that incorporate local community participation may also prove highly instructive for identifying the effective elements to conservation in HIPAs.

The Yale Chapter of the International Society of Tropical Foresters will convene all sides of the debate to identify constructive lessons in the effort to create Human-Inhabited Protected Areas of lasting conservation value. Social and natural scientists, resource managers, policy-makers, community leaders and other interested parties will come together to share their experiences dealing with this challenge. We hope the conference will stimulate debate on a range of topics, including but not limited to such questions as:

- What policy elements make for effective conservation in HIPAs?
- How and when do local people conserve nature? Is there a formula for effective local organization? Under what conditions and institutional frameworks?
- How do differing values amongst stakeholders affect reserve viability? How can conflicts between state and communities in HIPAs be transformed?
- How can humans and wildlife co-exist in protected areas? Are maximum sustainable yields for forest products and wildlife useful, viable instruments for community-based conservation?
- How do HIPAs play into regional conservation strategies and sustainable development programs?
- Can communities achieve meaningful quality of life improvements in a conservation-driven regulatory context?
- How should property rights be allocated between the state and communities, and among communities in HIPAs? How do these allocations affect reserve viability?
- Are there some conservation objectives that cannot be achieved through HIPAs?
- What constitutes success and how is it measured?

We encourage the submission of abstracts based upon primary research, or personal or institutional experience. Persons selected will present full papers at the conference, and typically have the opportunity to publish their work in a peer reviewed journal as part of the proceedings. Although the focus of the conference will be on the tropics, we welcome relevant experiences from around the world. Abstracts should be a maximum of 500 words. All correspondence will be addressed to the principal author.

In your response, please include the following:

Name(s) of the author(s)

Title and abstract of the paper to be presented

Institution(s) or organization(s) of author(s)' affiliation(s)

Address, telephone, fax and e-mail of the principal author

Please mail or email abstracts to the following

Early deadline for abstracts: 23 December 2003

Final deadline for abstracts: 9 January 2004

Yale ISTF Conference c/o Tropical Resource Institute

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