

## **Socially Sustainable Tourism Development. An Investigation of Crowding at Four South Island Tourist Locations.**

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### **Abstract**

“...one issue which is possibly not so well understood is the issue of social carrying capacity. At places such as Mount Cook and Milford it is possible to provide extra facilities to accommodate significantly larger numbers with less impact on the environment. But we believe there will come a time when the numbers make the experience less than pleasurable and this may be the issue which eventually cause us most concern.”

*(Management of Our Natural Resources. Conference Background Paper No 1 Ia: Presented by Department of Conservation to Tourism 2000 Conference, Wellington, May 1989).*

“Indications are that globally, in the year 2000, tourism will revolve around two central factors - quality of the tourism product and interest in the environment. New Zealand is ideally positioned to take advantage of both of these.”

*(Presentation to South Pacific Tourism Conference By the Tourism Strategic Marketing Group, August 1990.)*

“It would however, be myopic to think that New Zealand is going to get 2 or 3 million international visitors and not do anything to ensure that the quality of the product is maintained.”

*(Sustainable Tourism Development. Paper prepared for the Tourism Strategic Marketing Group by Murray-North Ltd July 1990).*