

***Ecological Capability of Ecotourism in Isfahan Province
(Case Study: Eshkavand Village and Conurbations)***

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Abstract

Achieving sustainable development depends on different factors and criteria which should also be harmonized in order to reach targets. In this research “Ecological Capability Evaluation Method” is used to recognize land capability. According to outdoor recreation land use map, there is no land suitability in our study area for “class one of intensive outdoor recreation land use”, also it is suitable for “class two of intensive outdoor recreation land use” and “class one and two of extensive outdoor recreation land use”. “Environmental Impact Assessment Method (checklist)” was used to analyze the environmental impacts of the project. According to the results, the maximum rate of beneficial impacts was related to long term benefits and the range of unbeneficial impacts was at local scale related to long term and reversible impacts. The applied method to gathering the needed social information was “Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA)”. Finally local people were enabled to analyze the circumstance of the area and expressed their problems and presented their suggestion to solve the problems of their village. Finally, to codify the plan, the comprehensive analysis of existent situation was completed using “SWOT” matrix.

Key words: Ecotourism, Ecological capability evaluation, Environmental Impact Assessment, Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA), SWOT analysis

The Assessment of Master Students' Training in Environmental Impact Assessment

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Abstract

In an attempt to enhance the quality of academic education, the training needs of Master students of Environmental Impact Assessment were assessed. We asked 20 Master students of Environmental planning, management and education in Tehran University to evaluate the EIA course at the end of the fall semester of 2009. We designed questionnaires and after statistical analysis of the results, the students' training needs were determined. An approximate 85 percent of students evaluated the course as good level and 15% scored it as medium. In total, 85 percents of students required the practical course in order to complete the theoretical course of EIA. Around 50 percent preferred PowerPoint presentation of the course by software and 40 percent by blackboard or whiteboard and 10% required both of them. Around 70 percent of students declared the needs for electronic tutorial, E-book and knowledge web for updating and permanent access to EIA knowledge.

Key Words: Environmental impact assessment, Academic education, Training needs assessment

Site Selection of Saveh Sanitary Landfill Using Multi Criteria Decision Making Methods

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Abstract

In regard to increasing rate of urbanization and waste production per person in our country, the accurate planning and control of waste management circle from production to disposal point is inescapable. In this regard, this research is focused on the first step of last stage of the waste management circle and its aim is to get Environmental and Socio- Economic criteria into account with the aid of modern global tools and standards and use of GIS in site selection of sanitary landfills. With this aim, authors have selected 10 criteria from the most important rubrics in this topic from the global standards. These criteria are: geology and soil, hydrology, environmental aspects, archaeology, population, land use, transportation, capacity of landfill, paths and aesthetics. Also for testing the proposed model, Saveh city in the central province of Iran was selected as the case study and the mentioned criteria were implemented on its 1:25000 topographic map. The results show that 4 regions in the North, North East and East of this city achieved the following scores: Site 1 = 376, Site 2 = 351, Site 4 = 341 and Site 3 = 326. These regions are capable for sanitary land filling and have all the traits for this purpose.

Keywords:

Sanitary land fill, Multi criteria decision making methods, Waste management circle

AHP: A Technique for Decision Making at Watershed Level

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Abstract

Nowadays, watersheds are considered as a suitable unit of planning particularly in natural resources management. In watershed management; selection of the best alternative is the most important step. In order to do so, decision making is based on different factors such as climate, geology, hydrology, geomorphology, socio economic issues and vegetation cover. Therefore, planners normally resort to multi criteria decision making. This study uses Analytical Hierarchy Process (AHP) method and for decision making in watershed and therefore some concepts of decision making were considered such as planning and decision making framework, multi criteria decision analysis, categorizing of multi criteria decision, spatial multi criteria decision making framework and multi criteria decision making methods. The results showed that AHP is a suitable method to compare alternatives and criteria and to choose the optimum alternative regarding the effective characteristics and suitable frameworks in order to make the team work is happening. AHP is identified as a good device for decision making to choose the best plan and for watershed management because of its flexibility, inexpensive cost and quick access to result.

Keywords: Decision making, Watershed, AHP, Criteria, Alternative.

Relationships Between Human Resource Dimensions and Environmental Management in Companies

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Abstract

Although today the need to develop environmental management in organizations is a significant issue to be considered, but still the gap between human resource dimensions and environmental management in organizations is felt. Therefore, this study tries to review a wide field for the coherent and integrated human resource management and the influence of the effectiveness of these dimensions in relation to environmental management. In addition, this study introduces Jabbour and Santos (2008) model on the relations between human resource dimensions and environmental management within a perspective of application for academics and managers as well.

Keywords: Human resource management, Environmental management, Environmental management system