

The Lake District National Park - Management Case Studies

HAWKSHEAD - traffic

Pretty little village.
William Wordsworth
(poet) and Beatrix Potter
(writer) lived there.
Really busy honeypot.

Traffic congestion and parking were major problems due to large numbers of visitors and narrow streets. Old houses built before people had cars have no garages so people need to park on the street meaning there's even less space for cars on the roads. Traffic also causes air and noise pollution and is dangerous.

A bypass was built to take cars out of the village centre which was pedestrianised to make it safer and to stop any traffic being able to drive through the village. A large car park was built at the edge of the village just off the bypass to provide plenty of space for tourists to park in. Charges mean that people can park cheaply for 2 hours so that spaces keep on becoming available. Residents only parking badges mean that local people are allowed to park near their houses in the village. Traffic wardens and fines enforce parking management.

HELVELLYN - footpath erosion

Famous mountain with
major cliffs etc.
Frequently climbed.

Major footpath erosion which looks ugly (an "eyesore") and is dangerous because the rock gets loose. Plants are trampled by walkers killing them. This leads to muddy paths and people walk on the edges to avoid the mud, making the paths wider again.

Paths resurfaced using rock which is taken up the mountain by helicopter. Some paths can also be diverted, either permanently or for a short time to allow them to recover. Information boards tell people what's being done - if you educate them they are more likely to understand and not ignore diversions. Sometimes paths are fenced off, although this means people can't get any access to some areas which is unpopular.

WINDERMERE- speed boats

Large lake, very popular
with tourists (walking,
boat trips, swimming,
fishing etc)

Speed boats on the lake cause noise, water pollution from oil leaks and lots of conflicts with other users. Waterskiers and other speed boat users need large, long lakes to build up enough speed so Windermere is ideal.

A 10mph speed limit has been brought in. This effectively means that speed boats are banned which please everyone apart from speed boat users! The lake could also be zoned. This means that part of it could be used for speed boats with another part for other users. It could also be zoned by time - speed boats could be allowed on certain days or between certain days only. This is quite a good way of resolving conflicts between different users.

HAWKSHEAD - second homes

See above!

Because the Lake District is so popular with tourists it becomes attractive as a place to buy a holiday home. This makes house prices too expensive for local young people who have to leave if they want their own home.

Houses built by the local council for rent, particularly for young people and young families. Some areas use a system where you have to have lived in the area for a certain length of time to be able to buy a house, but this is hard to organise so that it works properly.