
ECOTOURISM POTENTIALS AT XUAN NHA NATURE RESERVE, SON LA PROVINCE

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SUMMARY

Xuan Nha nature reserve is one of three reserve centres in Son La province. Realizing the advantageous conditions for ecotourism, the research concentrated on assessing the natural and human resources and then, proposed some solutions to exploit ecotourism potentials at Xuan Nha nature reserve. Some main study methods include field investigation and observing, social investigation, natural resource appraisal, human resource appraisal, tourism capacity defining, and synthetic assessment of ecotourism resources. Research results show that the reserve possesses a high potential of resources such as topography, hydrology, climate, flora, fauna, ecosystem, and humanity that can be exploited for future ecotourism. Based on these findings, the study assessed tourism resources with some criteria such as attractiveness, position and accessing ability, utilizing time, and carrying capacity for two areas of Pha Luong mount and Con River – Kho Hong village. The appraisal results are 3.08 and 3.805 respectively. In addition, Cultural tourism, Nature tourism, and Community tourism are three categories of tourism products that are potential to be developed in the study area. Two tourism routes of Ha Noi – Moc Chau – Pha Luong mount and Ha Noi – Moc Chau – Suoi Con – Kho Hong village – Thin village were proposed.

Keywords: Ecotourism, human resources, nature reserve, natural resources, Xuan Nha.

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