

Is the tourism sector meeting its obligations...

A provocation ... or science check

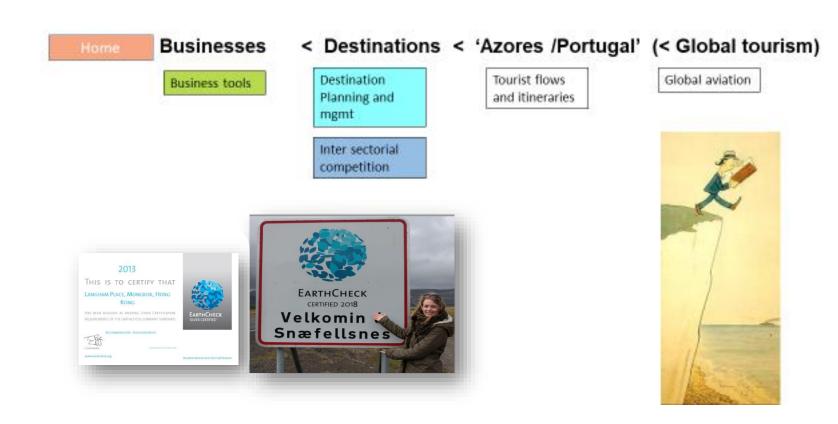
Professor David G Simmons
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Lincoln University, New Zealand





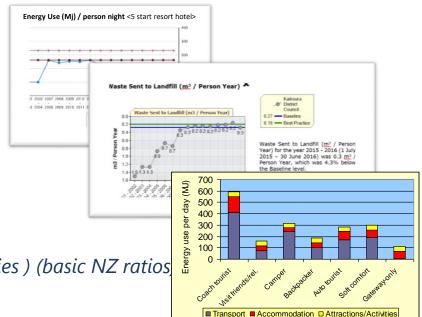
Where to focus





We know many lead indicators because of detailed measurements

- Tourist businesses
 - Business example (eg EC data base)
 - Water EC white paper
 - Destination : Kaikoura example
 - Tourist Behaviour (Becken (Simmons) studies) (basic NZ ratios



ENERGY USE BY VISITOR TYPE (nz)

International travel







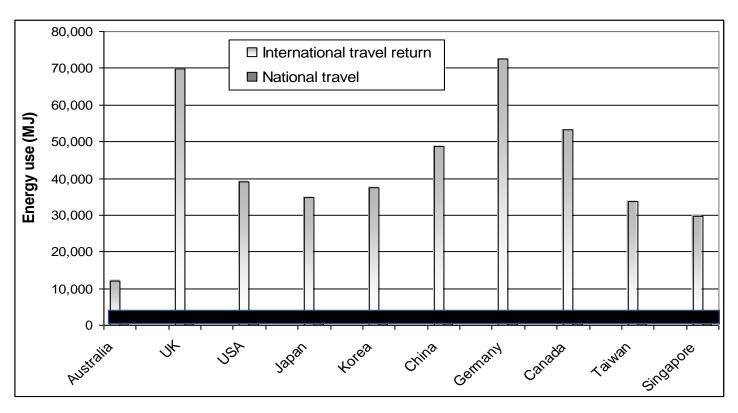




Addiction to oil!: Energy use in travel to and within NZ

91% of the emissions from tourism in NZ arise from transport

> 70% international, 21% (69% of internal emissions) internal distribution



Becken S., (2008) Developing indicators for managing tourism in the face of peak oil, Tourism Management 29, 4, 695 -705.





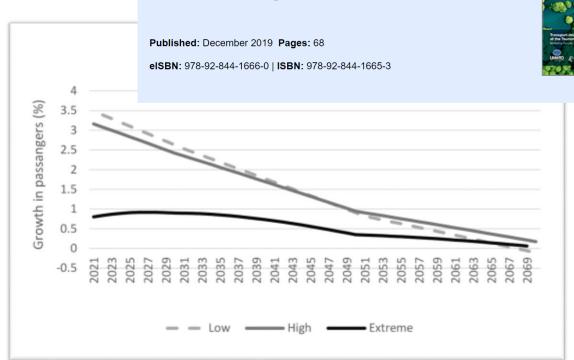
International travel (Aviation)

Author's personal note:

"Growth will slow down for all three scenarios

- (low mitigation, essentially no price on carbon but mounting climate impacts),
- high mitigation (increasing price on carbon and some climate damage), and
- extreme mitigation (very very high price on carbon, and relatively controlled climate impacts)... The best for the long term is actually to engage in mitigation"

Transport-related CO₂ Emissions of the Tourism Sector – Modelling Results



Becken and Carmignani (2019) *Are the current expectations for growing air travel demand realistic?* Annals of Tourism Research



Obligations — are we meeting ours?

- To sustainability
 - > best expressed in UN SDGs
 - > raise serious questions of just development and climate equity
- To a carbon constrained economy
 - > tourism "wine glass" conversations
 - > confusion about net verses gross measures
- To measure AND manage our key inputs AND outputs
 - > energy, water, waste, chemicals (legal and social)
 - > Where are our global tourism scientists!



In sum: Tourism is NOT doing its bit

- Conversations and science are isolated from other productive sectors and the SDGs
 - NZ tourism more emissions intensive than agriculture (GHC(mt) /\$mn Value Add)
- Greater than its proportional share of G GDP
 - (5% emissions, 3.9% G GDP)
- Tourist behaviour is turning against us individuals (rather than governments) are seeking out their own solutions

The situation is urgent, we must measure to manage, AND engage with the new environmental paradigm