

AN OVERVIEW OF THE EUROPEAN CHART OF SUSTAINABLE TOURISM IN PROTECTED AREAS

*Juan Carlos Muñoz Flores
Universidad de Almería - España*

Public use in protected areas is growing, while tourism has become one of the main economic activities in those places. Planning and regulating this uses is essential for guaranteeing that pressure over natural environment doesn't put at risk the sustainability of human activities. And the European Chart for Sustainable Tourism in Protected Areas, which is a EUROPARC Federation initiative, is a wonderful tool for achieving that goal. In this paper the author describes the Charter, from the origins to the present, nothing what its future can be.

KEY WORDS: *EUROPARC, sustainable tourism, protected areas, action plan.*