



Report
“Mobile Seminar on Planning and Managing Tourism in Protected Areas”
Colorado State University, United States.

General Description: With the auspicious help of AIPS, University of Oregon, Colorado State University, I got this wonderful opportunity to participate in 18 days mobile seminar about “Planning and Managing Tourism in Protected Areas” in Colorado, South Dakota, Wyoming and Montana, which remained contributing into my teaching and research understanding. This 18 days’ wishful orientation ended on September 26, 2014. Following academic and professional input was realized:

1. My Exposure to New Teaching-Learning Environment
2. Learning from the Field Exposure
3. Contribution into my Research Area
4. Recreational Flavor in the journey

1. Exposure to new environment and new knowledge

A total of 160 rigorous contact hours lecture and field based classes attended on “Planning and Managing Tourism in Protected Areas” was carried out under the supervision of highly qualified and experienced professors and field experts at Colorado State University. Scope of lectures and field work covered in length are “Planning and managing protected area infrastructure with tourism and recreation, Use of heritage interpretation as a tool for protected area management and for creating meaningful, long-lasting experiences, Visitor Management / Public use planning: overview of approaches and collective experiences, Linking tourism with sustainability and the millennium development goals, Challenges and opportunities for tourism in protected areas, analysis of gateway community or park drive to observer and discuss visitor points of interest, Search and Rescue operations as part of visitor management, New challenges for the future of tourism in protected areas and Action planning.

2. Learning from field work

During the course intensive field work was also carried out in Colorado, South Dakota, Wyoming and Montana. These field visits helped me to differentiate the tourism management practices in different national parks of United States.

Field work, meetings with interpreters, rangers, park managers, concessionaires, community representatives and tourists interactions were carried out in the following parks and tourism spots:

1. Lee Martinez Park
2. Estes Park
3. Rocky Mountain National Park
4. Moraine Park
5. Fort Laramie
6. Hot Springs, South Dakota
7. Pine Ridge Reservation
8. Badlands National Park
9. Lakota Prairie Ranch Resort
10. Custer State Park
11. Mount Rushmore
12. Jewel Cave National Monument
13. Devil's Tower
14. Little Bighorn Battlefield National Monument
15. Yellowstone Nature Association
16. Mammoth Springs
17. Grand Teton National Park

3. Contribution to My Research Area

My field of research is about tourism management in the Central Karakoram National Park Area. This course helped to incorporate different dimensions of research in my research work specially focusing on tourism management and practices in protected areas.

4. Recreational Flavor in the Journey

In addition to academic and professional exposure this course offered me a wonderful journey to different states in United States of America. I got an amazing opportunity to experience different food, meeting nice local community, meeting tourism experts from around the world and explore world class touristic spots in the United States.

Acknowledgment:

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