

Estimation of the Recreational Value of National parks in order to the Tourism Management Improvement

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Abstract. National parks have many recreational values for people's leisure activities. Khabr national park is located in the Kerman province in Iran and it provides some qualitative services to the people of this city and its suburbs. The economic valuation of these qualitative services, in comparison with normal criteria, is a very complicated exercise and should generally be made using certain indicators for estimating their economic values. We determined the recreational value of Khabr Park through travel-cost method (TCM). This method is based on maps, visitors' views, their socio-economic characteristics, the increase in access costs and the distance of national parks from their living areas. Demand curve related to the total number of visitors and the cost of access was drawn. Finally, the daily recreational value of the Khabr national park was calculated to be 32159 US\$ per day and 11738.217 US\$ in every year.