

The Effect of Place Attachment, Experience-Use History, and Sensitivity Regarding the Perception of Environmental Impacts

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【Abstract】 Previous studies have focused on the relationship between recreational impacts and place attachment. However, there is still no consensus of their causal relationship. Previous studies further indicated that experience-use history (EUH) has a positive effect on place attachment. Individuals who have longer EUH will be more sensitive to changes in the environment. Therefore, based on the previous literature, the current study proposes that EUH will positively influence place attachment and environment sensitivity. This is positively related to environmental impact.

A photo-based experiment was conducted for the purposes of this study. Respondents' place attachment, EUH, environment sensitivity, and environmental impact were measured and compared. Pictures with various amounts of litter were used to determine respondents' sensitivity to the environment. The results indicated that EUH positively affects place attachment and environmental sensitivity, and place attachment is positively related to environmental impact. However, no significant relationship was found between sensitivity and environmental impact. The current results confirmed the relationships proposed in previous literature, which will help to understand the relationship between emotional place attachment and environmental impact.

【Keywords】 Place attachment, Experience of use history (EUH), Environmental impact