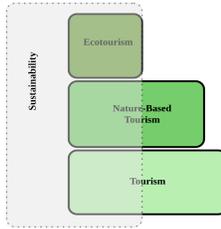




Understanding Ecotourism

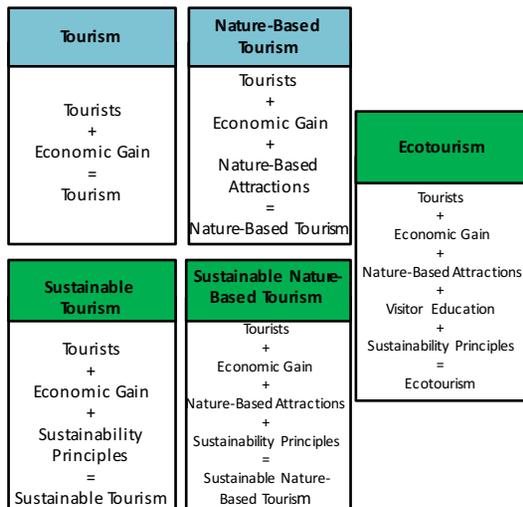
The Southeast Regional Sustainable Development Partnership Capstone

In spring, 2015 the University of Minnesota Southeast Regional Sustainable Development Partnership (SE RSDP) Capstone team partnered with Eagle Bluff Environmental Learning Center to complete a project focused on rural ecotourism in Fillmore County MN. This project had three phases



- Phase 1:** The capstone team developed a framework for understanding ecotourism in relation to other forms of tourism
- Phase 2:** The capstone team facilitated a community meeting in Fillmore County. During the meeting community members participated in a SWOT diagnostic exercise related to ecotourism in Fillmore County.
- Phase 3:** The results of the SWOT analysis were used to develop a final tool for community members interested in engaging in ecotourism activities. The tool can be used by tourism organizations, businesses and communities to facilitate changes in practices and move closer towards practicing ecotourism.

A Framework for Understanding Ecotourism



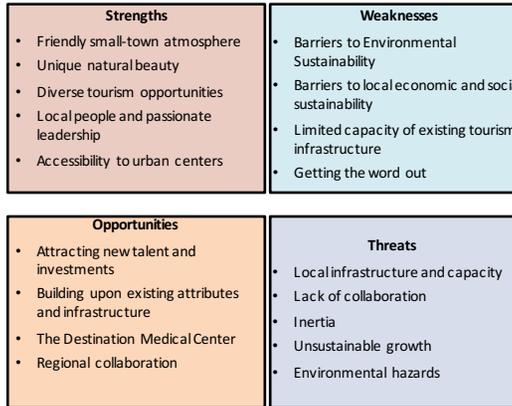
Ecotourism in Fillmore County

Community SWOT Analysis

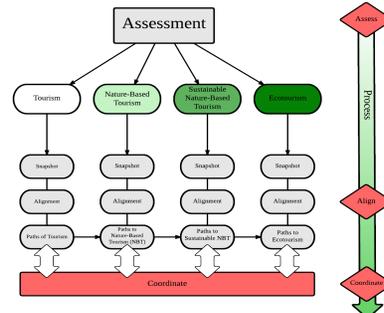
The Capstone Team provided a presentation of the five distinct types of tourism occurring in the region and participants were then split into groups to conduct a SWOT analysis where they listed and discussed the Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Challenges related to ecotourism in the region.



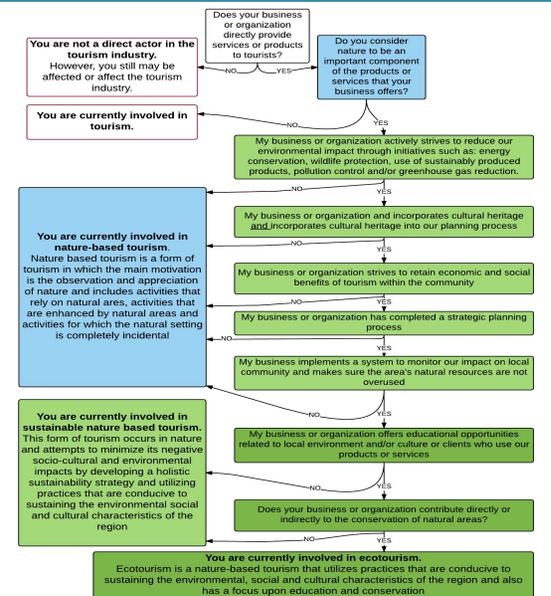
SWOT Results



Development of Interactive Assessment+ Learning & Coordination Tool



Self-Assessment Tool



Acknowledgements

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