

SEMINAR PRESENTATION- LOPER

Investigating the sustainability of the cruise tourism industry.

Cruise tourism is the fastest growing segment of the leisure travel industry, and current trends are expected to continue. With the Caribbean region supporting 50% of worldwide cruise tourism in addition to diverse biological resources and cultural richness, cruise tourism in this region should be investigated for sustainability. Cruise ships produce large amounts of waste in the form of garbage, sewage, hazardous chemicals, ballast water, and oily bilge water, and enforcement of proper handling of this waste is inconsistent, particularly in international waters. In addition, the cruise tourism industry must be looked at critically in terms of economic benefits to port cities and working conditions of cruise line employees. This paper investigates the cruise industry and suggests potential research projects to quantify effects of cruise tourism.