This study evaluates whether ecotourism principles are being

achieved in their ecological and social dimensions in two cases

studied in Nicaragua. Minimization of ecological impacts and

conservation of biodiversity are in some way achievable goals with

appropriate technical support for tourist management. On the other

hand, there is a trade-off between local participation and the ability to

succeed as a business, because the local stakeholders do not usually

have the economic and political power required to develop this

enterprise.

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