Tracing history

1st coined by tour operator in Costa Rica – 70s

Defined by IUCN – 1996

Became popular with industry

Lucrative

Cover up

Boost after IYE 2002
Fall out

- Tourism in ecologically sensitive regions is being qualified as ecotourism
- Opening up more and newer areas
- New forms added – rural, adventure etc.
- Entry of new players – Forest Dept.
- Tourism industry claims on a few eco-friendly practices
Critical areas being targeted

- Andaman Islands
- Tamil Nadu
- Numerous PA’s
- Other ecologically rich & sensitive areas
Areas

- **Andamans**
  - 7 studies & master plans
  - Tourism vision: MoT-WTO-UNDP
  - Linked with Phuket
  - 40 islands for ecotourism
- **Tamil Nadu**
  - 3 mangrove rich areas
Andamans – corals exposed
Impacts

- Conflicts
  - Dislocation
  - Conflicts with jurisdiction
  - Access & resource use

- Benefits
  - Marginal
  - Few cases to prove
Thank You
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