

Summary of carboNZero certification: Ecotourism NZ conference 2008



Ecotourism NZ 2008 Conference organised for Tai Poutini Polytechnic by Ecotourism NZ meets the requirements of carboNZero^{Cert™} certification having measured and reduced the greenhouse gas emissions and neutralised the remaining unavoidable emissions in respect of the event held 12-14 August 2008 at Shantytown, Greymouth.



Introduction – The Ecotourism NZ conference 2008 was held on 12-14 August 2008 at Shantytown, Greymouth. The conference was organised by Ecotourism NZ for the Tai Poutini Polytechnic.

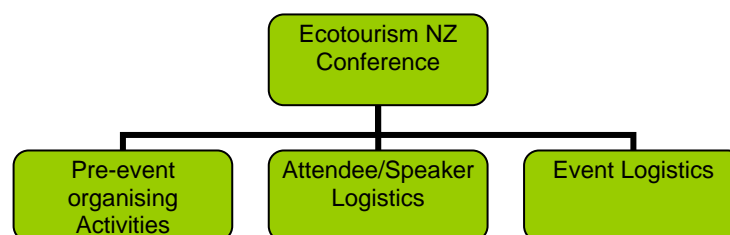
There were four conference objectives:

1. Establish certification requirements for ecotourism operators in New Zealand
2. Develop strategies for working with the Department of Conservation on issues that impact the future of ecotourism in New Zealand
3. Give ecotourism operators skills to grow and develop their businesses
4. Create an atmosphere of collaboration and communication between operators and industry participants.

The conference included business development workshops from industry leaders, case studies of successful ecotourism businesses and day trips to West Coast attractions.

More information is available at www.ecotourismnz.com

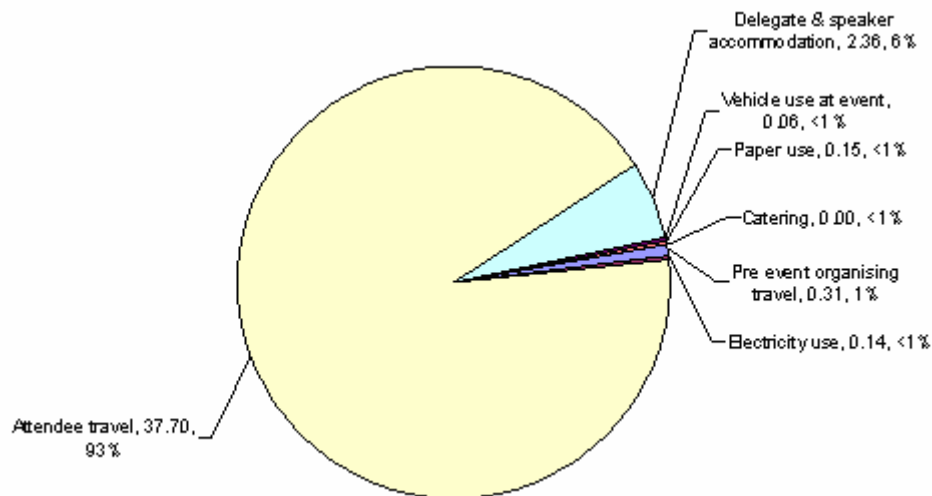
Boundary – the diagram below shows the organisational structure used for describing the Ecotourism NZ conference greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions inventory, and what business units were included in the carboNZero certification. Yellow business units were excluded from the certification.



Consolidation approach – Operational control

GHG emissions source inclusions – the diagram below shows the operational GHG emissions for the event by emissions source. The total emissions were 40.73 tonnes carbon dioxide equivalents (CO₂e).

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GHG emissions source exclusions – The activities undertaken on the field trips (e.g. rafting, train trips) were not included in the inventory due to data collection difficulties. It is likely that these sources of emission would have been insignificant in the context of the total inventory.

GHG emissions reduction commitments – The Ecotourism NZ conference developed a GHG emissions reduction plan. Some projects in this plan included:

- Facilitating car pooling for event attendees
- Providing buses for attendees to get to/from accommodation to the event
- Providing recycling facilities and diverting food waste from the landfill

Offset – 41 CO₂e. VERs¹ from EBEX21². Serial numbers 107918-107958 have been cancelled on the carboNZero programme registry.

Verified by – Prescott Horn Ltd

Level of assurance – Reasonable assurance

Threshold of materiality – excluded emissions do not exceed 5% of the total footprint for the event boundary stated.

Measurement period – 12/08/2008 to 14/08/2008.

Certification status – carboNZero certified “conference” covering all activities involved in organising and running the conference.

Certificate number – 2009009

Certification valid until – N/A

¹ VERs are created by eligible projects for emissions reductions achieved up to the end of 2007.

² EBEX21 – Emissions Biodiversity Exchange in the 21st Century project creates carbon credits through the regeneration of native forest on private land – see www.ebex21.co.nz