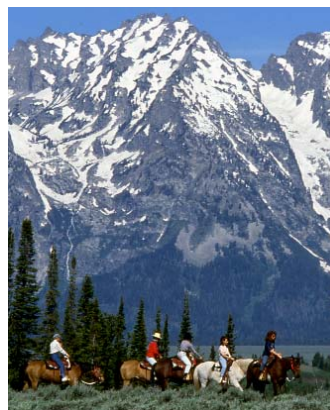


Agritourism Experience

Egret Communications has worked in sustainable tourism development, planning, and promotion for the last two decades. Much of our efforts have focused on rural regions often in association with protected areas. Much of that work has focused on developing tourism opportunities for the rural people who live in close proximity to protected areas or whose lifestyle itself is exciting for tourism.

Coffee tourism is a current focus in Central America, where Egret worked with the Organization of American States to develop community-based tourism that is engineered to augment declining income for coffee growers, to connect great regional coffees with consumers, to support local family and social structures, and to improve environmental performance of coffee production.



In Wyoming, we used ranch tourism to help rural families keep their ranches while helping visitors gain first hand knowledge of ranch life. We have worked on developing tourism products that provide jobs and business opportunities for rural families in the American West.



We have also worked to develop wine country tours, which generate great experiences and lead to ongoing direct sales of winery products. We have designed tourism experiences in Belize that included farm visits as a part of a larger nature/culture theme.



In the United States Pacific Northwest we worked for several years with funding from the Clinton administration to help rural communities that were losing a timber economy to build a new tourism economy to replace lost jobs and business opportunities.

We have also worked, in a number of locations from Latin America, to North America, to China on finding ways that rural agricultural communities can generate products (agricultural or handicraft) that can be sold to visitors or tourism businesses. In that regard, we have worked closely with many tourism economies to move local agricultural products into tourism menus, which helps local agriculture and prevents economic leakage of revenues.

