

Kamolwan Montriwet 2009: Attitude of the Villagers at Tambon Khlong Ta Krao, Amphoe Tha Takiap, Changwat Chachoengsao Towards Conservation of Gaur at Khao Ang Rue Nai Wildlife Sanctuary. Master of Science (Forest Resource Administration), Major Field: Forest Resource Administration, Interdisciplinary Graduate Programe
Thesis Advisor: Associate Professor Naris Bhumpakphan, Ph.D. 125 pages.

The objectives of this research were (1) to study economic and social status, attitude of the people in Tambon Khlong Ta Krao, Amphoe Ta Takiap, Changwat Chachoengsao in regarding conservation of gaur (*Bos gaurus*); and (2) to observe ecological characteristics of the gaur. Data were collected by using 400 questionnaires for randomized populations and were analyzed by percentage, mean, standard deviation, and Chi-square. Some ecological data of gaur and crop raids by gaur were collected from directly observation in the field and interviewing the chief and staff of Khao Ang Rue Nai Wildlife Sanctuary.

The results from this study showed that the selected populations were mostly men with age older than 47 years old, education under grade I, agricultural occupation, mean outcome 210,546.75 baht/year. Most of them had their attitude trends for gaur conservation in high level even lack of their knowledge of this focal wildlife species.

Eight factors affecting to the gaur conservation were composed of sex, age, education level, family income, knowledge of gaur conservation, duration of people settlement, duration of crop raided by gaur, and distance between villages and the boundary of Khao Ang Rue Nai Wildlife Sanctuary.

Gaur moved outside sanctuary and did crop raid which caused people-gaur conflicts. Electric fence surround crop fields and illegal leg-snares were found along the park boundary. The knowledge gains from this research were helpful and could support to the management of this Wildlife Sanctuary in mitigating people-gaur conflict and as well as for gaur ecotourism and/or gaur conservation projects in the future.

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Thesis Advisor's signature

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