

Warisa Danpongsakorn 2006: Tourists' Choice for Solid Waste Management in Phu Kradueng National Park. Master of Science (Resource Management), Major Field: Resource Management, Interdisciplinary Graduate Program. Thesis Advisor: Associate Professor Chuchee Piputsitee, Ph.D. 111 pages. ISBN 974-16-1985-5

The objectives of this research were to study tourists' factors affecting choices for solid waste management in Phu Kradueng National Park to estimate the implicit price for each manage attribute and to estimate tourists' willingness to pay for choices of solid waste management in Phu Kradueng National Park. The survey was undertaken with 344 visitors in Phu Kradueng National Park from November to December 2005. The study applied choice experiment to determine the willingness to pay for users' fee and the most preferable choice of solid waste management in Phu Kradueng National Park.

It was found that majority samples were male, aged between 15 – 25, single, student, education up to Bachelor degree level and income not greater than 10,000 baht/month. Most people visited Phu Kradueng National Park for first time, group of visitors was not greater than 15 and spent 2 nights in Phu Kradueng National Park. The results from choice experiments shown that the factors affected the amount in negative relationship are marital status and importance of solid waste problem in Phu Kradueng National Park, which are statistically significant at 0.05 and 0.1, respectively. All other factors are considered insignificant. Preferable attributes of solid waste management were attributes with regard to bins and their locations. The implicit price of this attribute is 15.44 baht/person/night. Attribute regarding the preferable disposal method ranks second with its implicit price of 3.15 baht/person/night. Choices of solid waste management provide maximum benefit to visitors in Phu Kradueng National Park, measured in terms of the compensating surplus comprise the following levels of attributes. These manage attributes include increase of bins around visitor center, view point cliff and nature trail, composting and incineration and users' fee is 10 baht/person/night. Its compensating surplus is highest at 66,642,400 baht/year compared with other choices.

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Thesis Advisor's signature

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