

Nongkran Wongtawan 2006: Socio - Economic Factors Effecting Land Use Change: A Case Study of Villages Around Dong Payayen - Khao Yai Forest Complex. Master of Science (Social Forestry), Major Field: Social Forestry, Interdisciplinary Graduate Program. Thesis Advisor: Mr. Komon Pragtong, D.Agr. 97 pages.  
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The study was carried on the villages around Dong Phayayen - Khao Yai Forest Complex. Objectives of this study were: 1) to assess the situation and trend of land use changes, 2) to determine extensively Socio - Economic factors affecting land use changes and 3) to assess the priority of people's basic needs. Sattelite imageries ( LANDSAT), taken two different years, 2000 and 2004 with scale of 1: 50,000 were interpreted to analyze the change in forest area. Field data on community, context, socio – economic, land use, problems and needs were collected by applying Rapid Rural Appraisal (RRA) tools and techniques. Interview schedules were used in data collection and chi – square test was statistical technique used in data analysis

The results of study showed the depletion of forest areas from the sattelite imageries year 2000 and year 2004 in all protected areas except Pang Srida National Park. It showed that the rate of deforestation in Tub Lan National Park was highest of about 21,718 rais compared with other areas. The decrease in forest area could be also recognized in other study areas, except in Pang Sida National Park where the forest area was restoration of about 1,252 rai. No relation between the socio – economic factor and frequency of cropping change. Regarding basic needs assessment, the most five important basic needs which the government should addressed, are: income, market and price of agricultural products, communication, land for farming, and transportation

The research lead to the suggestion that the planning to land use management in protected area should study socio – economic factor and land use change of people around area. To asesse the impats on conservation forest and find the appropriate direction to land use managment and reduce conflict which leading to the collaboration local community in natural resource and sustainable land use

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