

Prapas Inkaew 2006: Recreational Values of Khlong Wang Chao National Park,
Kamphaeng Phet – Tak Provinces. Master of Science (Forest Resource Administration), Major
Field: Forest Resource Administration, Interdisciplinary Graduate Program. Thesis Advisor:
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ISBN 974-16-1034-3

The main objective of this study was to evaluate the recreational values of Khlong Wang Chao National Park, Kampaeng Phet – Tak Provinces, by using Delphi Technique. Opinions from 21 qualified forestry experts in evaluating recreational values of Khlong Wang Chao National Park were collected through questionnaires. All 21 experts were asked to response to questionnaires 3 rounds, the first round, experts were allowed to evaluate freely the recreational values of 24 important areas of 8 locations in Khlong Wang Chao National Park. For the second round each expert was asked to give opinion on the comparison of evaluated recreational values and the average value from the group using 5 standard levels. In the third round to review or to reconfirm the answer of the second round and compared each expert's evaluation to median, mode and quartile range. From study it was found that the total recreational value of Khlong Wang Chao National Park was 136.1 million bahts. Sixteen areas where the recreational values ranged from 1 – 5 million bahts; Wildlife Resource Areas in Khlong Pong Waterfall location, in Bamboo Collection Stand location, in Khlong Samoh Kluay Waterfall location, in Kratae Tai Mai Waterfall location, in Nalika Sai Waterfall location, and Watershed Class 2 in Bamboo Collection Stand location, Watershed Class 1A in Kratae Tai Mai Waterfall location and in Nalika Sai Waterfall location. Four areas where the recreational values ranged from 5 – 10 million bahts; Mixed Deciduous Forest and Dry Dipterocarp Forest areas of Khlong Wang Chao Waterfall location, Watershed Class 2 in Khlong Wang Chao Waterfall location, Hill Evergreen Forest area in Khao Yen Waterfall location and Watershed Class 1A in Khao Yen Waterfall location. Four areas where recreational values exceeded 10 – 20 million bahts, Watershed Class 1A in Khlong Pong Waterfall location and in Tao Dam Waterfall location, Mixed Deciduous Forest area in Khlong Pong Waterfall location, and Mixed Deciduous Forest and Hill Evergreen Forest areas in Tao Dam Waterfall location. Four recreational areas where all forestry experts coincidentally agreed on recreational values at the highest level were rich and fertile in ecosystem areas, Watershed Class 1A in Khao Yen Waterfall location and in Tao Dam Waterfall location, Hill Evergreen Forest area in Khao Yen Waterfall location and Wildlife Resource Area in Khao Yen location. For 17 disturbed or changed condition areas, the forestry experts coincidentally agreed on recreational values at moderately level.

In developing the recreational areas of Khlong Wang Chao National Park, the high value and in good condition recreational areas should be carefully protected from natural threatening factors such as forest fires in dry season and soil erosion in rainy season. For threatening factors from recreation, Khlong Wang Chao National Park should provide adequate information and ask for cooperation from visitors to follow the park regulation. For lower value recreational areas, improvement and development of area is needed in order to increase their natural values and facilitate the visitors without destroying or impacting natural conditions and recreational area ecosystem.

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4 / April / 2006