

## ABSTRACT

Thesis Title : The Policy for Care of Elephant in Thailand

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The objective of this thesis is to study problem, policies and resolution measurements for the management of forestry and wildlife in Thailand with an emphasis on care of Thai elephants by both public and private sectors in the forms of legislation, measurements, and policies being implemented to resolve problems in connection with Thai elephants at present.

The result of the study found that the policies and resolution measurements for forestry and wildlife management in Thailand faced with the key problem of forestry cutting. The policies has been issued for the forestry protection and conservation efforts but the resolution measurements, are contrast to the issued policies with the effects that the number of forestry was decreasingly reduced more and more. There were a variety of country development projects aimed to industrialize the nation, thereby resulting in the cutting of natural forestry, dividing forestry into many small plots and in turn affecting the wildlife species to be homeless and in shortage of

feeding sources. The governmental policies on the conservation of wildlife species mostly were enacted in the form of legislation which are the acts or the ministerial regulations.

Thai elephants are also being impacted by the facts that the government paid more attention on the country development than on the elephants themselves. No consideration was given on the way of life of Thai elephants, leaving the problem of Thai elephants to become social problem and the elephants are unprotected. Most important problems on Thai elephants dealt with the capturing wild elephants to disguise them as domesticated ones, the inappropriate exploitation of the elephants e.g. using elephants to work with the unlawful logs or straying elephants in the cities. The resolution measurements which being jointly implemented by the public and private sectors are 'Setting Thai Elephants Free to Nature Project', because elephants could be the very effectively instruments for the rehabilitation forestry environments, and 'Bringing Thai Elephants Back to the Villages Project', so that the elephants care-taker could go back to live with their families, work, earn a living and have no need to stray elephants in the cities or do unlawful work. There is another important recommendation, which is to withdraw elephants out from the registration as carrier animals in accordance with the Carrier Animal Act B.E. 2482 so that the elephants would be more protected. The government must take the leading role for the responsibility of the maintenance of Thai elephants, both in the forms of law, measurements and policies which are implemented in order to solve the problems, so that the operation would be carried out toward the same direction or correspondingly.