

The objectives of this study were to investigate the perception of tourists to the physical carrying capacity of the facilities provided in Doi Inthanon National Park and to present appropriate methods of management of the facilities.

The sample group of the study were Thai as well as the foreign visitors who had visited the Park during the study period at the target areas, which were the National Park Head Quarter site (K.M.31), the summit of the park and the Ang-ka Nature trail.

The data was analyzed base on the methodological framework of the study and by gathering all the data from books, documents, a survey method, participant observation and structure interviews.

The study showed that at the Head Quarter site (K.M.31) most Thai and foreign visitors perceived that the “toilet” had the lowest physical carrying capacity, “restaurant and litter” had only a low physical carrying capacity while “lodging, rest area and parking” had a fair physical carry capacity. At the summit, they perceived the “toilets” as the lowest physical carrying capacity, “litter” as a low physical carrying capacity while “rest area, parking, restaurant and Ang-ka Nature trail” had only a fair physical carrying capacity. None of the studied facilities had a high physical carrying capacity.

Suggests for appropriate methods for management improvement were to revise the landscape and to re-design the physical structure of all the facilities in response to the tourist's behavior. Furthermore, the "Ang-ka Nature trial" should be emphasized as a Restricted Area to properly conserve the ecology, visitors should be rotated by a "turn-over method" and the quality of the pathway and the information signs should be continuously improved.