

Sasithorn Utishchawengsak 2012: People Participation in Watershed Conservation under the Extension and Development Project of Community Participation in Conservation Forest at Huai Samran Watershed Management Unit, Changwat Surin and Changwat Si Sa Ket. Master of Science (Forest Resource and Environmental Administration), Major Field: Forest Resource and Environmental Administration, Faculty of Forestry. Thesis Advisor: Associate Professor Wuthipol Hoamuangkaew, Ph.D. 194 pages.

The objectives of this research were to determine the socio-economic condition, the level of the participation of people, and socio-economic factors affecting people's participation in watershed conservation. The data were collected from interviewing 269 samples using the designed questionnaires. The using statistical analysis method were frequency, percentage, mean, minimum, maximum, standard deviation, t-test and F-test with the given significance level of 0.5.

Results of the study revealed that the most respondents were female with their average age of 45.57 years. Ethnicity of the most was Thai-Cambodian people. Primary school was the educational level of the most. Agriculture was their main occupation. The most respondents were the social group member and they haven't social position in the community. The average size of land holding was 12.35 rais. Their average annual household income and expenditure were 96,377.23 and 75,432.90 baht, respectively. The most respondents received the information about natural resource conservation, having a good knowledge and understanding of the natural resource conservation and they also having a high level of participation in natural resource conservation. The activity that having the highest participation level was benefit sharing. Futhermore factors affecting people participation in watershed conservation were ethnicity, social position, household income from dependency on forest resources, the duration of employing the rules and regulations for control the forest resource conservation and the performance of the operations for increasing in the efficiency of forest protection under the Project According to His Majesty the King's Royal Initiative and preparing the community data base. On the other hand, factors weren't significantly affecting people participation in watershed conservation were gender, age, educational level, position in the household, social group membership being, main occupation, household income, size of land holding, the perception of the information about natural resource conservation, attending to the training course in natural resource conservation and the knowledge in the conservation natural resource.

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Student's signature

Thesis Advisor's signature