## **ABSTRACT**

Title of Research Paper : Attitude of Government Officials Toward Pattani River

Conservation: A Study in Yarang and Muang

District, Pattani Province

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This study have two objectives: 1) to study government officials' attitude towards Pattani river conservation and 2) to study factors affecting on government officials' attitude towards Pattani river conservation.

Samples of the study are 150 government officials in Yarang and Muang District in Yala Province. Data was collected by questionnaires and analyzed by using frequency, percentage, mean, standard deviation. t-test and F-test are for hypothesis testing, The study found that samples are male more than female (57.3 and 42.7 percent). Most people have house located more than 500 meters far from Pattani River (86.7 percent). About 56.7 percent have income between 5,000-10,000 baht. 32.7 percent of samples are government officials on maintenance of peace and order. Most people are Buddhist (78.7 percent). About 52 percent have education at bachelor's degree and 40.7 percent are between 30-40 years old.

In overall picture, degree of government officials' attitude towards Pattani river conservation is at high level (mean score = 3.57). In particular issues, the study found mean scores on participation in Pattani River conservation management, knowledge and understanding on conservation of Pattani River and perception on the importance of conservation of Pattani River are 3.70, 3.58 and 3.42.

Findings from hypothesis testing showed that factor affecting government officials' attitude towards conservation of Pattani River is gender.

Recommendations from the study is campaign and provision of information on the following issues:

- 1. Knowledge and understandings in conservation of Pattani River. Campaign should be launched continuously in width and in depth. Knowledge such as besides pollution from industrial plants, fertilizer, pesticides and insecticide will affect the river. Therefore, people must aware on their roles on watching situations and prevention. Otherwise Pattani River would be damaged and polluted severely.
- 2. Perception on the importance of Pattani River. Campaign should raise awareness of people in conservation of Pattani River. Ideas and decision making of solving problems should be from people in Pattani and not monopolized by merely government agencies.
- 3. Participation in conservation of Pattani River. People's participation in prevention program for conservation of Pattani River is necessary. Government and people sector should be cooperate in preventive activities.
- 4. Campaign should involve of women group such as housewives group because they are cohesive and have roles in many social activities.