

Chamchuree Yoomalai 2014: Willingness to Pay for Supporting Bamboo Fence Project for Coastal Protection, Bang Khun Thian Bangkok. Master of Science (Agricultural and Resource Economics), Major Field: Agricultural and Resource Economics, Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics. Thesis Advisor: Mr. Santi Sanglestsawai, Ph.D. 76 pages.

Land loss due to coastal erosion is the main problem in Bang Khun Thian's coastal area which also affects community's way of life. The bamboo fence project for coastal protection and rehabilitation finished in year 2013 and there is no plan by relevant government agency to continue. Therefore the purpose of this study is to evaluate the benefit gain from continuing the bamboo fence project for coastal protection Bang Khun Thian by investigating the willingness to pay (WTP) for supporting the project using Double Bounded Close-Ended Contingent Valuation Method (CVM) based on 214 random samples from coastal communities.

The results showed that mean WTP to support the bamboo fence project for coastal protection are 1,174 baht per person per year. The estimated total benefit from the project to the community is 1,652,992 baht per year. The main factors affect WTP include household income, coastal erosion problem recognition, amount of land loss by coastal erosion and being member of environmental organization. Most of people who are willing to support thought that it is their responsibility to protect their own community.

However, the estimated total benefit from the project for coastal communities is not the whole benefit from implementing the bamboo fence project since the project also have benefit for other areas and communities besides these specific coastal communities. In order to know the whole benefit of the project, the studies of benefit from other areas are needed. Department of Drainage and Sewerage Bangkok could use the estimated benefit in planning for sustainable protection and rehabilitation the coastal area in Bang Khun Thian.

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Thesis Advisor's signature