

Sethapoom Buathong 2014: Assessing Farmers' Willingness to Pay for Irrigation Management, Khundanprakanchon Dam Operation and Maintenance Project, Nakhon Nayok Province. Master of Science (Resource Management), Major Field: Resource Management, Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics. Thesis Advisor: Mr. Santi Sanglestsawai, Ph.D. 108 pages.

This study aimed to evaluating Farmers' Willingness to Pay (WTP) for Irrigation Management under Khundanprakanchon Dam operation and maintenance project by Joint Management Committee for irrigation and analysis factors that affect to the payment Double Bounded Close-Ended Contingent Valuation Method (CVM) was used to estimate farmers' WTP based on 95 random samples.

The results showed that the major factors affecting the willingness to pay were type of crop, location of agricultural areas and farm size. Downstream farmers have the highest WTP in the amount of 20.87 baht per rai per year for non-rice crop, willingness to pay of farmers in midstream areas are 9.61 baht per rai per year and upstream area are 8.02 baht per rai per year. For paddy field, farmers willing to pay 14.81 baht per rai per year more. The average WTP to support the irrigation management by Joint Management Committee are 17.11 baht per rai per year, the total benefit from the project is 167,010 baht per year

The study shows that the farmers' willingness to pay for irrigation management. Khundanprakanchon Dam Operation and Maintenance Project, Nakhon Nayok Province is higher than the maximum fee enforced by law, therefore it is suggested that the government should revise the law and regulation by increase the maximum fee limits to suit with the current situation. The Irrigation Department could use the results from this study in planning process for sustainable irrigation management.

---

Student's signature

---

Thesis Advisor's signature