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JUTHAMANEE SANGSAWANG : FACTORS INFLUNCING THE RESOURCE USE BEHAVIORS IN TOHDANG PEAT SWAMP FOREST AT NARATHIWAS PROVINCE
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The objective of the study was to analyze the behavioral factors influencing the use of natural resources of local people who live in the area around Tohdang peat swamp forest at Amphae Sungaipadi , Sungaigolok and Takbai Narathiwat Province , towards finding better methods of conservation of this area.

There were 240 respondents who were household heads living in developed and non-developed areas of Tohdang peat swamp forest. The residential areas were about 2 kilometers from the conservation zone of Tohdang peat swamp forest. Analysis of Covariance (ANCOVA) and Multiple Classification Analysis (MCA) were used by the Statistical Package for the Social Science of Windows.

The results revealed that factors influencing use of natural resources were age, religion, education, period of settlement, settlement zone, size of owned land, occupation, income and attitude towards conservation. The study showed that the respondents' mean age was 47 years. Most of them were Muslim. Most of them had completed the primary level of formal schooling. The average family had 5 members. The average period of settlement was 41 years. Most of them were natives of this area. The average cultivated land per household was 7.4 rai. The majority of respondents were employed and average annual income was 34,782.50 Bath. Most of them obtained Environment conservation information at the low level of classification. The knowledge level of respondents on peat swamp forest conservation, attitude towards it were classified at the medium level. Natural resources used in conservation of agricultural land and water use were at medium. Wood use, wild animal use, aquatic resources use, vegetation use, minor products of the forest use were on the high level of classification. Although most of the respondents show a high level of behavioral use of natural resources, their life style had a low impact of damage on the forest. In reality, they maintained forest conservation in several ways.