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FOREST RESOURCES CONSERVATION

CHATURATHEP KHOWINTHAWONG : THE ROLE OF DISTRICT ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE ON FOREST RESOURCES CONSERVATION IN RANONG PROVINCE. THESIS ADVISORS : TIPPAN NAWAWONGS, M.A. , C.A.S., SIRICHA CHINATANGUL, Ph.D., WASIN PLUMCHAROEN, M.Ed. 134p. ISBN 974-664-576-5.

The objective of this study was to investigate the role of the district organization committee on the conservation of forest resources in Ranong province. The subjects were 124 members of district organization committee from the total of 170. Data was collected by using questionnaires and by interviewing 26 executive members.

Result of this study revealed that the most active roles taken by members of the district organization committee on the conservation of forest resources in Ranong province was in the campaigning for raising public awareness and forest conservation. The least active role was taken in promoting public participation. Considering the association between the roles and related factors, results showed that their knowledge and perception on the conservation of forest resources as well as their participation were significantly associated with their roles at 0.05 level of significance. The other factors, i.e., age, marital status, occupation, education attainment, family income, period of living in the area, type of being selected as members, membership in other local organization, experience on forest resources conservation training were not significantly associated with their roles on forest resources conservation. The biggest problem that obstructed their roles was the lack of knowledge and understanding about conservation of forest resources; the second was the small budget and the lack of officers for promoting the conservation of forest resources.

As a result of this research, it can be recommended that : (1) More training courses and public relation exercises are needed to raise peoples awareness and appreciation of the value of forest resources; (2) Public relation officers should co-ordinate between people and governmental organizations more frequently; (3) A larger budget and increased personals should be provided for conservation work; (4) National park and protected area borders should be defined clearly.