Forest Resource Utilization of People

Living in the Vicinity of a Reserved

Forest Ratchaburi Province

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## ABSTRACT

The pupose of this thesis was to study the economics, Society and population issues and attitudes toward forest resource Utilization in Reserved Forest, Ratchaburi Province, by using qualitative approach with participation observation method. Results were summarized as follows:

- 1. Economically, most of households are rather poor.
- 2. Due to migration from all regions of people in this community, the relationships among kinships and the same original groups were strong but rather weak among those who belong to different kinships and original groups.
- 3. People's attitudes toward nature and forest were positive and they knew that the nature had been changed.

- 4. People still utilized forest resource by cutting woods for their ways of living.
- 5. Factors affecting Forest Resource utilization were as follows:
  - 5.1 Poverty
- 5.2 The (village headman's role encouraged more utilization of forest resource, such as acting as a middleman and persuaded villagers to sell their right over the land which was provided by the government.
- 5.3 Physical condition the village was located in the forest, made it convenience for forest resource utilization.