Nuttakan Prakobtieng 2009: Participation in Forest Resources Conservation of People in Upper Ping Watershed Part 1 Chiang Dao District Chiang Mai Province. Master of Science (Resource Management), Major Field: Resource Management, Interdisciplinary Graduate Program.

Thesis Advisor: Assistant Professor Nuchanata Mungkung, Ph.D. 121 pages.

The research is study on socio-economic characteristics, the level of participation in forest protection, and factors affecting for participation in natural management of ethnic groups living in upper-Ping watershed area 1, Chiang Dao district, Chiang Mai. The study focused on the level and factors of participation in forest protection. The statistical analysis methods used were percentage, mean, maximum, minimum and Chi-Square with the given significance level of 0.05.

The results of the study showed that the ethnic groups, for example, Northern Thai, Karen, Lisu, Lahu, Mhong and Shan, had moderate level of participation in forest protection, and factors that significantly affected participation were sex of household head, education, number of household members, occupation, income, land ownership and, forest utilization.

This study provides some suggestions to related government offices and private sectors in that they should implement and promote for participation in forest protection and natural resources management, provide more information in forest protection in the area including educating through media, training, study trips and establishing a local information center in order to disseminate the information widely in the local community. Also, they should distribute more budget for implementing activities and coordinate with government offices and private sectors in a sustainable way.

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