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SUB-DISTRICT MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE

MONTRI DUANGPRUKSA : THE OPINIONS OF A SUB-DISTRICT MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE REGARDING THEIR PARTICIPATION IN FORESTRY RESOURCE MANAGEMENT : A CASE STUDY IN SUANPEUNG DISTRICT RATCHABURI PROVINCE. THESIS ADVISOR : JIRAPORN CHUCKPAIWONG M.A. (ENVIRONMENT), WILASINEE ARNOMASIRI M.A. (ENVIRONMENT), PANNIPA BURAPACHEEP LL.M. 101 p. ISBN 974-589-862-7

The purpose of this study is to explore the opinions of a sub-district management organization committee regarding their willingness to participate in forestry resource management and the factors which affect their willingness including problems and obstacles concerning their participation. The data was collected by administering questionnaires to 189 sub-district management organization committee members in Suanpeung district Ratchaburi province. Indepth interviewing was also used to collect data from concerned authorities. The questionnaire data were analyzed by using SPSS (Statistical Package for Social Sciences) computer program and other statistical techniques, including the calculation of percentages, means, standard deviations, and one-way analysis of variance.

The study results indicate that the willingness of the majority of sub-district management organization committee members regarding their participation in forestry resource management in the steps of formulation, planning, performance, monitoring and evaluation, and use are at the "moderate" level on a three point scale developed by the researcher. Attitudes regarding forestry resource management could account for a difference in their willingness significantly at 0.001, and knowledge about forestry resource could account for a difference in their willingness significantly at 0.05. The obstacles to willingness to participate were found to be : some sub-district management organization committee members have insufficient knowledge and ignore the need for forestry resource management. From this study, it is suggested that the concerned authorities should give more knowledge about forestry resource management and the need for forestry resource management by training, meeting or seminar, should arrange trips to learn about the forestry resource management activities of others, should give more opportunities to sub-district management organization committee members to participate in offering their opinions, planning, and decisions regarding forestry resource management project, should give more knowledge about local communities' participation and should clarify the responsibility of the sub-district management organization committee in forestry resource management.