

Ubonrat Tiwongsa 2009: Circulation Management for Sustainable Tourism in Khao Yai National Park. Master of Science (Park, Recreation, and Tourism), Major Field: Park, Recreation, and Tourism, Department of Conservation. Thesis Advisor: Assistant Professor Dachanee Emphandhu, Ph.D. 152 pages.

The objectives of this research were to study physical characteristics of road circulation, the maximum carrying capacity of road and parking areas, the current usage of road and parking areas as well as visitors and park personnel's opinions toward circulation management of Khao Yai National Park. The physical characteristics and road use survey were done at main and secondary roads and nine parking areas during weekends and long holidays. Questionnaires were employed to collect visitors' and park personnel opinions on park circulation management.

The results revealed that most intensive road use was found on secondary road to Heaw Suwat waterfall and on main highway 1090 during the weekends and long holidays. The highest numbers of vehicle found during long holidays on those roads was 275 and 270 vehicles per hour respectively at which the heaviest usage was found during 12:01-13:00 hour. The maximum number of vehicles the national park can accommodate was limited by the number of car at parking areas totaling 1,216 vehicles at one time or 1,387 vehicles per hour. The highest use of parking was at Lam Ta Klong campground averagely 1,281 vehicles per day during long holidays. However, at only Pha Deaw Dai view point, the parking area was always found over capacity while the rest were found over capacity occasionally.

Most visitors and park personnel agreed that Khao Yai National Park should have regulations on the driving speed limit, vehicle size, and prohibit of road shoulder parking. The recommendations on road circulation management were providing shuttle minibus or tram service to popular tourism sites within the national park and public relation on road and car park regulation.

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Thesis Advisor's signature

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