

Nattheera Nikompetch 2010: People's Participation in Conservation of Mangrove Forest in Ban Pred Nai, Trat Province. Master of Science (Resource Management), Major Field: Resource Management, Interdisciplinary Graduate Program. Thesis Advisor: Associate Professor Apiwan Kamlang-Ek, M.A. 92 pages.

The mangrove resources are significant importance for economy system of this country, including the well being of coastal community. The government have policy to encourages participatory conservation. Aims to supported local community that into the role of participation. Which is important to support the development and rehabilitation of natural resources and environment in their local, conservation and sustainable use. This study aims to analyze the participation of local community in conservation the mangrove resources in Ban Pred Nai village, Huang Nam Khao, Muang District, Trat Province. The second objective is covered, to study the level of public participation and factors associated with participation in mangrove conservation and development. Questionnaire data collected from local people, 148 sampled were gathered, and then analyzed by descriptive statistics and Chi-square. According to the statistical significance at the 0.05 level.

The result show that, the sampling were male and female in a similar amount. Most of sample was qualified in primary school education. The major occupation was integrated farming and rubber plantation. However, the study found that people was aquaculture more than past. The average annual income was 67,945 baht. Local communities are taking advantage of mangroves for household consumption is mostly, by 1,668,780 baht per year. For knowledge of the community about mangrove conservation, historical development and changes of Ban Pred Nai's mangrove forest remained high level.

Mostly, the participation of local community in mangrove conservation in moderately. For factors related to the participation included samples were male, farmer, land tenure over 8 rai, take advantage of mangroves and high level knowledge about historical development and changes of Ban Pred Nai's mangrove forest. The results show that local community still lacked awareness of the importance of participation in mangrove conservation and development as they should. So, it should be organized mangrove development by chance local community to participate, including training to enhance understanding of conservation and development of mangrove resources. To promote and develop the level of participation for better.

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Student's signature

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Thesis Advisor's signature