

Orrawan Inkhaw 2009: Water Resources Utilization of Local Community in Huai Mae Tho Sub-watershed, Tak Province. Master of Science (Watershed and Environmental Management), Major Field: Watershed and Environmental Management, Department of Conservation. Thesis Advisor: Mr. Kitichai Rattana, Ph.D. 175 pages.

The objectives of this research were to study socio-economic condition and pattern of water resources utilization of community, to find the relationships between socio-economic factors of water resources utilization of community, and to give the suggestion guideline for sustainable management of water resources utilization. Questionnaires were designed for data collection and were distributed to about 400 households from totally 3,399 households that covered headwater, middlewater and downstream areas during August to October 2008 in the Huai Mae Tho Sub-watershed. The collective data was analyzed by using a correlation method through Chi-square by assigning a significance value of 0.05.

The result found that majority of samples are female and most of them are aging between 40-49 years old, 41.80% are primary school education level, 52.00% are illegal registered land holding status, 33.00% have own area size 1-5 rai, 60.75% are agriculture. The average household incomes were 7,704.01 bath/month, average expenditure were 6,621.48 bath/month and 56.20% have debt condition. The 53.00% of them are group membership, 51.00% of the community physical are setting at downstream area and 61.30% can access to information on water resources. Level of knowledge on water resources, problems condition and basic need factors among samples is medium level. The pattern of water resources utilization of community was 4 patterns: 1) for the necessities of life, 2) for crop growing, 3) for livestock and 4) for industrial and service.

The result of relationship analysis found that the correlation factors for crop growing were main occupation, land holding status, own area size, group membership and community physical setting. The correlation factors for livestock were main occupation, land holding status, own area size, debt condition, group membership, access to information on water resources, knowledge of water resources and community physical setting. The correlation factors for industrial and service were main occupation and own area size. The guideline for sustainable water utilization management, is to promote the knowledge of water utilization to the farmers and promote them to involve in the water resources management system.

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Student's signature

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Thesis Advisor's signature