

INDIVIDUAL PROJECT TITLE : THE FOREST RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
BY WAT : A CASE STUDY OF
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ABSTRACT

The objectives of this case study were : 1) to identify the component of Wat Thampapoo, 2) to explain the structure and social organization of Wat Thampapoo, 3) to explain the strategies for the forest resource management by the temple groups. Samples of the study consisted of Wat Thampapoo and the villagers in 4 villages around the temple, including Ban Nam Poo, Ban Na Aw, Ban Na Koak and Ban Nong Mag Pang. Data were collected by surveying in the forest, observing and interviewing the monks, novices, nuns, churchwarden, temple committee, villager leaders, key informants and the villagers who got the benefit from the forest of Wat Thampapoo. The semi-structured interviewing guide and the interview schedule were used for this study. The data were analyzed by means of frequency distribution, percentage, mean, grouping, sequencing in order to show correlations among identified factors.

The result of the study can be summarized as follows. Wat Thampapoo comprises of 3 factors : the forestry ecology, the villagers and the leaders. Wat Thampapoo controls the area of 937 rai with fertile forest. Because of the faith in Buddhism and the belief in

the sin, the villagers conserve the forest as a place for the monks to practice religious affairs. The villagers also believe that if they support the well-behaved monks in maintaining their peaceful place to practice their religious affairs, then they will get the result of good deeds. On the other hand, if they oppose the monk by means of deforestation, they would be sinful. Forest resource from Wat Thampapoo such as timber, fuel-wood, medicinal plants, mushroom, edible plants and red-ants' eggs are found useful for daily subsistence of the villagers. The villagers are permitted to consume those forest resources by the abbot of Wat Thampapoo who nominates and announces the rules for utilization of the forest resources to the public. The important strategies for forest resource management used by Wat Thampapoo are to construct regulations and enforce them. Those strategies are considered to be the collaborative strategies. Some factors affecting the strategy formulation include the faith in respected monks, disseminating good ideas and knowledges on forest resource conservation and have them transferred to the villagers.