

Wanida Chancharoen 2006: Economic Growth and Deforestation of Mangrove Area in Coastal Zone 1 of Thailand. Master of Science (Agricultural Economics), Major Field: Agricultural Economics, Department of Agricultural and Resource Economic. Thesis Advisor: Ms. Nuchanata Mungkung, Ph.D. 150 pages.
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There were three objectives of the study: 1) to review the law of mangrove, 2) to assess opinions from community leaders and coastal aquaculturists about mangrove, and 3) to investigate the relationship between deforestation and gross provincial product (GPP) per capita in coastal zone 1 using environmental kuznets curve (EKC). The econometric techniques used are secondary data between year 1982 – 2003 of regression methods in least square model.

The results found that there was one specific mangrove law in coastal zone 1. It was a Cabinet resolution on 6 February 1990. The results from the review indicated that the people acknowledged it. The results from statistical test indicated that form of relationship between deforestation and GPP per capita in Rayong Province, Chanthaburi Province and all Coastal Zone 1 was N shape. It was found that the turning point of EKC at GPP per capita increased to 2,692.86 bahts, 411.11 bahts and 4,66546 bahts, respectively. The form of relationship between deforestation and GPP per capita in Trad Province was increased line shape and with no turning point of EKC.

Additionally, the results found that form of relationship between deforestation and GPP per capita in Coastal Zone 1 was N shape and increased line shape in spite of growing GPP. The suggestion is the need for effective policies and measures with regard to those particular agenda in this area. Raising awareness and enhancing people participation through the use of economic incentives together with regulations would also help the mangrove measures become more effective.

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Thesis Advisor's signature

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