

EFFECT OF THAI-MALAYSIA GAS PIPELINE PROJECT ON COASTAL FISHERIES IN SONGKHLA PROVINCE

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ABSTRACT

Study on the effect of Thai-Malaysia gas pipeline project on coastal fisheries was conducted in Chana and Thepha District, Songkhla Province during June- September 2004. The results showed that small-scale fishing ground in the area was changed during gas pipeline construction. Crab gill netters, cuttlefish trammel netters, pomfret gill netters, Indo Pacific mackerel gill netters, croacker gill netters, squid falling netters and baby trawlers moved to the fishing ground nearby. For whiting gill netters, crab traps, squid traps, squid trammel netters and anchovy falling netter still operated the old fishing ground but the fishing ground of squid traps, squid trammel netters were lesser. Species composition, catch rate and fishing income of small-scale fisheries in 2000 were compared with those in the period of gas pipeline construction in 2004. Species composition, catch rate and income of Indo Pacific mackerel gill netters and whiting gill netters during gas pipeline construction were higher than before. For cuttlefish trammel netters, results were the same except for the income which was found that fishermen got less income during gas pipeline construction period than before. For croacker gill netters species composition, catch rate and fishing income in the period of gas pipeline construction in 2004 were less than before in 2000.

By Bray-Curtis similarity, catch composition before and during the gas pipeline construction was less than 70% difference, that is 69.99% of Indo Pacific mackerel gill netters, 69.50% of cuttlefish trammel netters, 52.17% of croacker gill netters and 45.86% of whiting gill netters. So catch composition during gas pipeline construction were not more different than before.

Key words : Gas pipeline project, effect, coastal fisheries