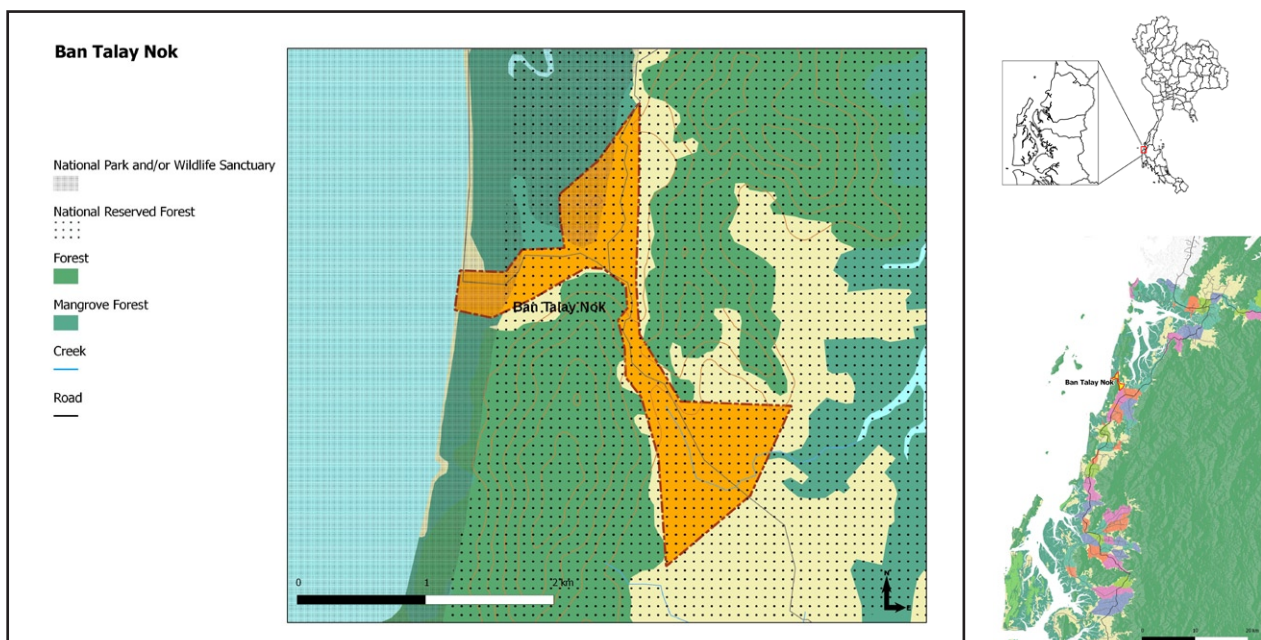


Ban Talay Nok

Conserving community mangroves

March 2010



The Ban Talay Nok community access and use a mangrove area of about 2000 rai in the Kapoe estuary. This mangrove area is adjacent to Laem Son National Park (see Map 1). They share this area with villages of Ban Bang Baen, Na Ca, Ban Bang Hin, and Ban Bang Kluay Nok.

The resources that Ban Talay Nok use from the mangroves are mainly trees for household use, fish, and crabs. They also take educational ecotourism tours into the mangroves.

Twenty years ago, Ban Talay Nok started to actively manage a smaller 5 rai area of mangrove for their community. They could, and still can, access the whole 2000 rai, and have permission from the Department of Marine and Coastal Resources DMCR to do so). However, they reasoned that since they are such a small village, they would self-restrict the area that they use to just 5 rai and manage it sustainably. In this 5 rai area fish are only caught for household con-

Map 1. shows the village area of Ban Talay Nok, as well as protected areas under the National Park Act 1961, Wildlife Preservation and Protection Act 1992, and National Reserved Forest Act 1964.

sumption not for sale, so fish resources aren't overstressed. There is greater pressure on crab resources because crabs are sold in the market.

In 2005, the tsunami destroyed a large part of the mangrove area of Ban Talay Nok. So the villagers decided to take action and replant the mangroves. Since the tsunami destroyed their old pier forcing them to relocate the pier further upstream, they decided to use the soil from the old pier to replant mangroves along the canal - between the old pier and the new pier.

Community rules

Ban Talay Nok have developed several community rules, which apply to the 5 rai area:

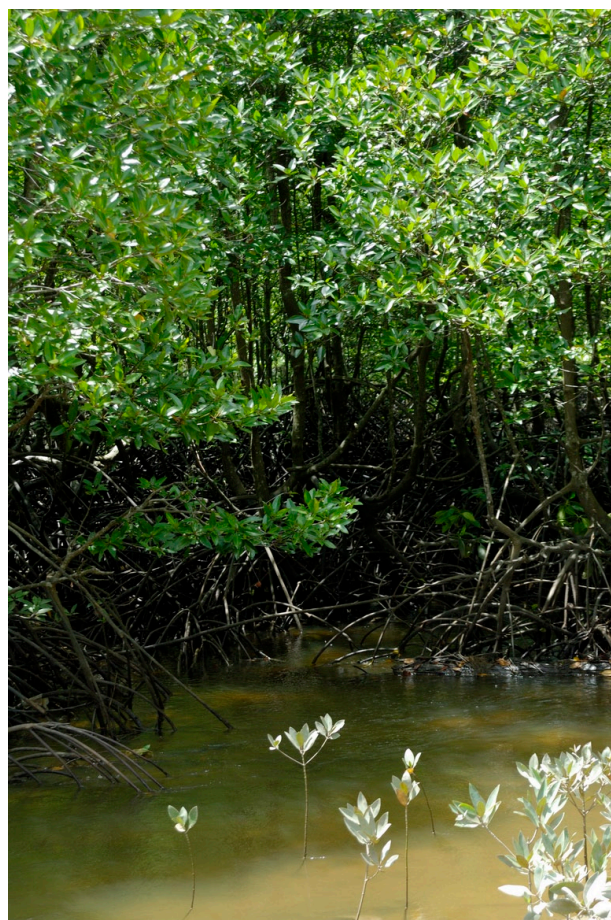
- 1. Trees can only be cut for household use, not for sale.**
- 2. Before cutting down any trees, villagers have to ask permission from the Village Committee.**
- 3. For each tree cut down, you have to replant 10 around it.**

The Ban Talay Nok Village Committee has responsibility for making decisions about the management of the community mangrove area, supported by all villagers through meetings. There are 6-8 members on the Village Committee, and meetings are held once a month, and usually 40-50 participants from Ban Talay Nok attend.

It is the responsibility of all villagers to ensure that the rules are not broken. If a villager sees trees that have been cut, but no new seedlings planted around the cut tree, they will tell the Village Committee.

If this happens, the Committee will give them a warning the first time, and the second time, they will call the Royal Forest Department. However, no one has broken the rules in the last year.

Ban Talay Nok is planning future economic initiatives in their community. In particular, they would like to build a walkway into the mangroves so that they can develop ecotourism further, including taking student tours into the mangroves. With help from IUCN they are developing a new *Nypa* initiative, as well as starting to work with Mangrove Action Project and Andaman Discoveries.



Mangroves in Ban Talay Nok.
© IUCN/Sayan CHENUDOMSAVAD