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NATURAL RESOURCES USE AND WASTEWATER MANAGEMENT: A STUDY IN XUAN THUY NATIONAL PARK - VIETNAM

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This paper aims at describing the ways farmers use natural resources and how they manage effluent in shrimp production. The primary data are collected in 2016 through in-depth interviewing 30 farmers in the international important area namely Xuan Thuy National Park (Vietnam). The research results reveal that there are numbers of natural resources invested in shrimp farming including wetland, tidal water, lime, electricity and gasoline in total 56.5 million Vietnam Dong per ha per crop. There is a large amount of water is consumed (13,317 m³ water per hectare); nonetheless, this kind of resource is not included in the natural cost. So far shrimp farmers still have not paid fully for ecosystems. Plus, even though most reported negative environmental effects of shrimp ponds have been attributed to intensive cultural system, there are only 16.7% of 30 farmers apply technique to reduce pollution before discharging wastewater into rivers. There are 83 percent of respondents recognize shrimp aquaculture causes serious pollution for the environment. Nevertheless, they confront with some dilemma related to land and institutional management to apply standard discharge systems as well as follow other practices toward environmental orientation.

Keywords: shrimp, effluent management, natural resources, Xuan Thuy National park