

## **USING MULTIPLE-USE CRITERIA FOR COASTAL ZONE PLANNING FOR MARINE SHRIMP CULTURE IN THAILAND**

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### **AR5TRACT**

Seventeen coastal zone characteristics were selected as criteria in a compatibility analysis used to evaluate sites suitable for marine shrimp culture in the Gulf of Thailand and along the Andaman coast. Suitability of sites for shrimp culture was judged on a scale of 1-4 related to degree of compatibility. Results showed that the most suitable area for marine shrimp culture was in the southern Gulf of Thailand with an area of 39,809 ha. The second most suitable area was on the south-west coast of Thailand with an area of 6,195 ha. And the third most suitable area was on the north eastern Gulf of Thailand with an area of 16,111 ha. The central Gulf of Thailand, especially in Samutpakam, Samutsakom, Samutsongkarm and some parts of Petburi provinces are not suitable for marine shrimp culture. It has been estimated that suitable areas for shrimp farms can be found in 17 coastal provinces with a total area of 62,894 ha.