CEPF FINAL PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT

Organization Legal Name:	FISHBIO
Project Title:	Establishing co-managed Fish Conservation Zones to help communities protect endangered *Probarbus* fishes in the mainstem Mekong River of northern Lao PDR.
Date of Report:	1 July 2015
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CEPF Region: Indo-Burma Hotspot

Strategic Direction: Strategic Direction 4: Empower local communities to engage in conservation and management of priority key biodiversity areas

Grant Amount: $20,000

Project Dates: 1 March 2014–31 May 2015

Implementation Partners for this Project (please explain the level of involvement for each partner):
District Agriculture and Forestry (DAFO) staff from Nan District, Luang Prabang Province, and Xayabouri District, Xayabouri Province served as implementation partners by joining all project workshops and events. They helped facilitate community meetings, discussed problem resolution with communities related to Fish Conservation Zone (FCZ) regulations, and completed regular check-ins with village FCZ enforcement teams as part of FCZ co-management.

Community members in the three project villages of Ban Pakpee in Luang Prabang Province, and Ban Houaykhoualouang and Ban Korfak in Xayabouri Province actively participated in all stages of the project to establish and enforce the project's FCZs. Community members decided on FCZ regulations, installed FCZ signs, and patrolled FCZs in enforcement teams.

Conservation Impacts

Please explain/describe how your project has contributed to the implementation of the CEPF ecosystem profile.
This project focused on two CEPF priority species, *Probarbus jullieni* and *Probarbus labeamajor,* and relates to Strategic Direction 4 of the Indo-Burma Ecosystem Profile: Empower local communities to engage in conservation and management of priority key biodiversity areas. The established FCZs are located in Key Biodiversity Area (KBA) LAO15, the stretch of the Mekong River between Louangphabang and Vientiane. Specifically, the project addressed investment priority 4.2 (Pilot and amplify community forests, community fisheries, and community-managed protected areas) and investment priority 4.3 (Develop co-management mechanisms for formal protected areas that enable community participation in all levels of management). Community members actively participated in every step of the FCZ design and planning process, and currently oversee the management of these protected areas with government support.

As both species of *Probarbus* are endangered, this project is also directly linked to investment priority 1.2 (Develop best-practice approaches for conservation of highly threatened and endemic

freshwater species). The project aimed to protect reproducing fishes through the creation of protected areas that encompass critical *Probarbus* spawning habitat. Because the protected areas are closed to all fishing year round, other fish species will undoubtedly benefit from the FCZs as well.

Please summarize the overall results/impact of your project.

This project resulted in the establishment of three community-based, co-managed FCZs to protect endangered *Probarbus* fishes in northern Lao PDR, representing the first FCZs ever established on the mainstem Mekong River in Xayabouri and Luang Prabang provinces. As part of the FCZ establishment process, FCZ regulations were approved at the provincial, district, and village levels; informational signs were installed at all FCZs and project villages; FCZ management committees were established in all villages; enforcement teams were appointed and trained in all villages; and regular patrolling of the FCZs took place during the 2014-2015 Probarbus spawning season. These activities all served to strengthen sustainable fisheries management in the project area and increase public understanding of fisheries conservation and the national aquatic law. A participatory approach enabled local community groups to take part in the design, implementation, and management of the FCZs. This resulted in communities developing an increased feeling of pride for protecting their local natural resources, and a sense of authority to enforce FCZ regulations to prevent destructive fishing practices in their village areas.

Planned Long-term Impacts - 3+ years (as stated in the approved proposal):

- Improved conservation of the endangered fishes *Probarbus jullieni* and *Probarbus labeamajor.*
- A decline in destructive fishing practices through improved enforcement.

Actual Progress Toward Long-term Impacts at Completion:

- A network of three FCZs encompassing important fish habitats has been successfully established along a 13-km stretch of the Mekong River, and includes two deep pools and one purported *Probarbus* spawning site.
- Patrol teams have succeeded in apprehending a team of fishermen using illegal electrofishing gear, representing a tangible instance of effective local management and enforcement. The illegal fishers were required to pay penalties that were subsequently awarded to the local communities.

Planned Short-term Impacts - 1 to 3 years (as stated in the approved proposal):

- Improved awareness of fisheries laws and strengthened fisheries management in three communities.
- Improved collaboration between local officials and communities to address illegal fishing.

Actual Progress Toward Short-term Impacts at Completion:

- Multiple meetings were held with community members to discuss FCZ regulations and review key aspects of the fisheries law. FCZ management committees were nominated and enforcement teams were appointed and trained in each community. At project completion, community members demonstrated strong knowledge of the fisheries laws related to illegal fishing practices, as well as familiarity with the local FCZ regulations. Enforcement teams demonstrated the ability to inform fishermen and community members about fishing gear restrictions in the FCZs.
- Progress towards building local understanding and support for aquatic resource conservation was measured through a Knowledge, Attitude, and Practice (KAP) survey,

which consisted of a multiple-choice questionnaire and short open-ended questions. In total, three surveys were carried out each with 60 participants, representing 20 community members from each project village. While random sampling was logistically prohibitive, we tried to allow for a diverse set of responses by selecting five participants from each of four groups in each village: fishers, women, elders, and village committee members. The first survey was carried out before the establishment of the FCZs to provide a baseline to which findings from subsequent surveys could be measured. These surveys were also conducted mid-project, and at the conclusion of the project.

- One measure of short-term progress revealed by these KAP surveys is an improved relationship between community members and local government officials regarding fishing management and enforcement:
    - *When there are problems with illegal fishers, does anyone from your community call the district government for help?*
        - First survey: 26% Yes; Final survey: 78% Yes
    - *"Does the district help with enforcement when it comes to illegal fishers?"*
        - First survey: 52% Yes; Final survey: 80% Yes
    - *"The last time someone was seen using electricity or explosives to fish your community waters, did the village authority take action to address this?"*
        - First survey: 78% Yes; Final survey: 95% Yes

Increased communication/collaboration is evidenced by several enforcement actions carried out with support and cooperation between the community enforcement teams and district police. While roles and procedures are still being finalized, increased cooperation between resource-dependent communities and the district government will greatly improve the effectiveness of the FCZs, and the improved relationship between the two groups could benefit a wide range of conservation and development projects in the future.

Please provide the following information where relevant:

Hectares Protected: 67 hectares of the Mekong River within 3 FCZs
Species Conserved: 2 target species: *Probarbus jullieni* and *Probarbus labeamajor*
Corridors Created: N/A

Describe the success or challenges of the project toward achieving its short-term and long-term impact objectives.

The major strength and success of this project was receiving strong endorsement and project support from the local communities. Local people repeatedly expressed that they want the FCZs in their communities because they recognize the benefits these protected areas can provide now and in the future. After several months of meetings, patrolling, and community outreach, community members in the three project villages are now very familiar with the FCZ regulations and the aquatic resources law. Challenges remain in educating people from outside communities that come to these areas to fish; however, continued community monitoring around the FCZs will serve to reinforce the regulations for outsiders.

As these FCZs are the first of their kind to be established in the mainstem Mekong River in the provinces of Xayabouri and Laung Prabang, they represented new territory for both government officials and local authorities. Some government officials were unfamiliar with the steps required for FCZ approval, as well as the roles and responsibilities of various involved parties. Extensive

discussion was required in some cases to move forward with government approval of FCZ regulations. The project received strong support from the district governor's office, which helped facilitate government approval. The project also received increased scrutiny because of its location in the same province as a large-scale water development project on the Mekong River. The location of the FCZs on the border between two provinces also required extensive coordination between two provincial and district governments, as well as coordination at the local level to share enforcement responsibilities among multiple villages. Ultimately, project staff were able to address these challenges for successful project implementation.

Uncertainties remain regarding the actual impact that the FCZs will have on increasing the abundance of *Probarbus* fishes over the long term. *Probarbus* fishes were observed a single time in the FCZs during the course of the project. Community members reported that during the dry season, gravel bars are usually exposed at the purported *Probarbus* spawning site in the southernmost FCZ near Korfak village, and fishermen typically observe *Probarbus* displaying at these sites sometime between the months of December and March. However, the gravel bars remained inundated at these sites between Dec 2014 and March 2015. *Probarbus* were only observed displaying on one day in 2015 (the evening of February 2 and the early morning of February 3) at the spawning site, then disappeared.

It is encouraging that *Probarbus* were reported to indeed use the habitat included in the FCZ site, which affirms the value of protecting this location. However many aspects of the species remain unknown, including the size of their population and the details of their behavior. While the FCZs were primarily established to address the threat of overfishing, other large-scale environmental factors may also pose threats to these species that are beyond the scope that FCZs can address.

Were there any unexpected impacts (positive or negative)?

Unexpected positive impacts included awareness raising and knowledge exchange about FCZs that resulted from project activities and communications. Representatives from the Xayabouri Power Company contacted FISHBIO after learning about this project from provincial government officials, and later paid a visit to the project site to learn about FCZ experiences. IUCN also turned one of FISHBIO's project updates into a web story, which was subsequently promoted on other websites and social media, covered by an article in the Vientiane Times newspaper, and distributed on the LaoFAB discussion group. This coverage raised the profile of our project and allowed FISHBIO to connect with other groups working on FCZ establishment that contacted us to exchange information about our experiences, such as the Environmental Management Support Programme and the Japanese International Volunteer Center (JVC). Increased attention on the use of FCZs as a conservation tool will hopefully lead to their incorporation in other freshwater conservation programs. Despite high levels of biodiversity, freshwater ecosystems have been slow to receive as comprehensive of a conservation focus as terrestrial or marine habitats. The growing attention on FCZs and their increased adoption by diverse organizations will hopefully be accompanied by collaboration and inter-project communications to improve FCZ management and expand research into their effectiveness.

Project Components

Project Components*: Please report on results by project component. Reporting should reference specific products/deliverables from the approved project design and other relevant information.*

Component 1 Planned: Finalize FCZ regulations approval for three FCZs in the villages of Ban Pakpee, Ban Houaykhoualouang, and Ban Korfak.

Component 1 Actual at Completion:

After a series of workshops, regulations were officially approved and signed by all three villages, and by relevant district and provincial government offices. Regulations include discussions of: FCZ boundaries, FCZs objectives and regulations, penalties for violating regulations; how collected fines from violators will be distributed; and the names and roles of FCZ management committee members.

Component 2 Planned: Designate boundaries and officially establish the three FCZs.

Component 2 Actual at Completion:

Informational signs have been installed at all FCZs and project villages, and display maps of the finalized FCZ boundaries. These signboards also summarize key FCZ regulations and penalties for violations, and display images of banned fishing gear. Smaller signs were placed on the riverbank to mark the FCZ boundaries. A district-level dissemination workshop was held to announce the district governor's decree officially approving the FCZs, and opening ceremonies were held in all three villages to raise awareness about the FCZs at the community level.

Component 3 Planned: Establish and train patrol teams and enforce FCZ regulations during the *Probarbus* spawning season.

Component 3 Actual at Completion:

Patrol teams were nominated in all three villages and consisted of representatives from key community groups, including fishermen, village soldiers, village police and village forestry officers. Training for all patrol teams was held in December 2015. Patrolling of the FCZs occurred nightly for three months between Dec 2014 and March 2015 to encompass the *Probarbus* spawning season. A single village enforcement team would patrol all three FCZs for two nights, then the responsibility would rotate to another village.

In March 2015, FISHBIO conducted a review of the enforcement team patrolling activities.

- In the first, northernmost FCZ, patrol teams removed 2 gill nets.
- In the second, middle FCZ, patrol removed gill nets on two instances: the first time, 6 nets were removed; the second time, 3 nets were removed. Nets ranged in size from 2.5–10 cm mesh.
- In the third, southernmost FCZ, patrol teams collected hook and line gear set on the riverbank.

These relatively few instances of rule violations indicate high local compliance with FCZ regulations. Patrol teams were also successful in pursuing and apprehending a team of fishermen who came to the region from Xayabouri town, and used illegal electrofishing gear on the evening of January 19, 2015. The enforcement team from Houaykhoualouang noticed three unfamiliar boats in the evening. When they approached the boats, the fishermen said they did not have electrofishing gear, just simple gear like cast nets and gill nets. The enforcement teams were suspicious, and called ahead to the enforcement team from neighboring Korkfak village downstream, and the two teams pursued the illegal fishers as they headed downstream. In the morning, the enforcement teams apprehended one of the boats when it reached shore, and found an ice box containing 60 kg of fish (no *Probarbus* were caught). The fish showed signs of being stunned by electrofishing gear. Four fishermen were subsequently arrested and sent first to the sub-district office, then to the Xayabouri district office for sentencing. Although the FCZ regulations stipulate that the fine for electrofishing is 5 million kip, the district government office issued a fine of 2.5 million kip. This money was divided among the three villages.

Were any components unrealized? If so, how has this affected the overall impact of the project?

N/A

Please describe and submit (electronically if possible) any tools, products, or methodologies that resulted from this project or contributed to the results.

Project products included three signed FCZ village agreements (an English-language example is provided in Appendix 1), and signboards displaying FCZ regulations and maps (Appendix 2).

A variety of communications products were completed for this project. FISHBIO produced a video containing a description of the project for the Pushing Boundaries Challenge, sponsored by the IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas. The video was selected as a top winner in the contest, and is viewable on YouTube: http://youtu.be/X_772uqCWGI

A number of articles about the project have been published on the FISHBIO website:

- Fish Conservation Zones for Endangered Mekong Fishes (http://bit.ly/1C775oM)
- New Project will Establish Protected Areas for Endangered Fish (http://bit.ly/1HtlHz0)
- Breaking Ground on Fish Conservation Zones (http://bit.ly/1Kp1Sdb)
- Village Surveys (http://bit.ly/1KrwLza)
- The Enforcers (http://bit.ly/1R36oUc)
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An album of project photos is available on Flickr: (http://bit.ly/1GNg9eW)

Lessons Learned

Describe any lessons learned during the design and implementation of the project, as well as any related to organizational development and capacity building. Consider lessons that would inform projects designed or implemented by your organization or others, as well as lessons that might be considered by the global conservation community.

Project Design Process: (aspects of the project design that contributed to its success/shortcomings)

Perhaps the single most important factor contributing to the success of this project was that fact that it represented a continuation of a multi-phase conservation effort carried out over several years (all funded by the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund). The foundation and continuity established with the project communities over repeated visits served to bolster local support and understanding of the project goals. This was crucial because the FCZ co-management and enforcement process is participatory and community driven. Starting with initial biodiversity surveys lead by IUCN, followed by community consultations lead by IUCN with FISHBIO participation, and completed with the current FISHBIO-lead phase of FCZ establishment, community members got to know project staff and develop a strong understanding and desire for the benefits of FCZs.

Project Implementation: (aspects of the project execution that contributed to its success/shortcomings)

A novel aspect of this project was that the FCZs spanned the border of two provinces, with different villages on either side, and represented the first such FCZs in this section of the Mekong River. This arrangement both presented logistical challenges and lead to creative solutions. FISHBIO had originally envisioned that each village would be responsible for patrolling its own FCZs. However, the communities decided that a more effective and efficient use of project funding would be for the three villages to share the patrolling of all three FCZs on a rotating basis:

one village would patrol all three FCZs for two days, then the responsibility would shift to the next village for another two days, and so on. This saved on the cost of boat fuel, and required a smaller commitment of each community's time. The communities also shared one log-book to record enforcement activities, but this was not updated regularly when it was passed from team to team. The communities also learned that vegetation can quickly regrow to cover the signs at the FCZ sites, and needs to be regularly cleared.

As this is the first time FCZs have been established in the project area, their management and enforcement will be a continued learning process. The enforcement teams were successful in apprehending fishermen using illegal fishing gear on one occasion, demonstrating that community-level enforcement can indeed be effective. However, the communities expressed that the enforcement team boats provided by the community are large and slow in comparison with the faster boats with more powerful motors used by the illegal fishers, and this makes it hard to catch them. Community members are still learning the most effective way to confront illegal fishers as part of FCZ enforcement. While in pursuit of the illegal electrofishers, a security guard on one of the enforcement teams fired a gun into the sky as a warning; however, this also scared many community members who thought fighting would break out. Challenges also remain regarding how fines are decided. When determining the fines for the electrofishers apprehended during this project, the district government only issued half of the amount called for in the community's FCZ regulations. This demonstrates that continued outreach and follow-up is required with government counterparts. FISHBIO staff advised that the staff from both provinces should be involved in the determining of fines in the future.

Additionally, challenges arise in equitably distributing fine amounts to satisfy all parties. During this project, greater weight was given to the community at the location where the illegal fishers were apprehended, based on the assumption that the violators had been fishing in that area. However, this left members of the other communities dissatisfied, as a different community had actually been on patrol at the time, and had pursued illegal fishers from a different location, where the illegal fishing may have actually taken place. Additional discussion and coordination among community members and government officials is required to address these implementation challenges moving forwarded.

Other lessons learned relevant to conservation community:

Having a legal framework for community co-management of FCZs included in the national fisheries law is an important component for government support and project success. Additionally, communities wanted to ensure that the FCZ enforcement process included a warning system for first-time rule violators (except in instances of using destructive fishing gear). This helps minimize conflict and makes it easier for community members to enforce each other's actions in relatively small communities. Community members also shared that they have many laws to follow and remember – on everything from family to trade to natural resources – which can lead to confusion. This emphasized the importance of doing repeated outreach related to the specific fishery regulations at the heart of this project. Such outreach was important to help community members realize that effective conservation and sustainable fisheries management requires everyone to follow the same legal framework, respect the rules, and not just fish everywhere. This helped people understand the value of protecting their local natural resources, and enforcing the regulations to make sure everyone does the same.

Additional Funding

Provide details of any additional funding that supported this project and any funding secured for the project, organization, or the region, as a result of the CEPF investment in this project.

Donor	Type of Funding*	Amount	Notes
FISHBIO	A: Project co-financing	$1,650 —	Direct project costs (not including staff salary) All staff salaries for the project were also contributed in-kind.

Additional funding should be reported using the following categories:

- ***A*** *Project co-financing (Other donors or your organization contribute to the direct costs of this project)*
- ***B*** *Grantee and Partner leveraging (Other donors contribute to your organization or a partner organization as a direct result of successes with this CEPF funded project.)*
- ***C*** *Regional/Portfolio leveraging (Other donors make large investments in a region because of CEPF investment or successes related to this project.)*

Sustainability/Replicability

Summarize the success or challenge in achieving planned sustainability or replicability of project components or results.

Continued enforcement will be the largest challenge for project sustainability. With the end of project funding for supporting targeted village patrolling, the FCZ enforcement system is transitioning from a nightly patrol to a more diffuse community reporting system. Most community members are now familiar with the FCZ regulations, and can watch for and report violations while working in their fields near the river or while traveling the river to go to school or for other purposes. Fishermen are also on the river every morning and evening, and know very well where the FCZ boundaries are, so will be able to report on suspicious activities. Village security already do evening patrols as part of their work to investigate illegal logging or drug activities, and can also watch for illegal nighttime fishing activity. Villagers may choose to use contributions from the village fund to support targeted patrolling. Government staff from the district and sub-district Agriculture and Forestry offices also have the responsibility to follow up with local communities to ensure proper FCZ enforcement, particularly during the *Probarbus* spawning season.

FISHBIO staff plan to replicate the components and results of this project in an upcoming CEPF-funded project to establish a community-managed FCZ in the Kengmai Rapids area of Xayabouri and Vientiane provinces. This will represent the completion of the FCZ establishment process initiated by IUCN's biodiversity assessment on the Mekong River in northern Lao PDR. Lessons learned from the current project will be applied to this upcoming project to the extent possible.

Summarize any unplanned sustainability or replicability achieved.

Based on our experience with this project, FISHBIO was hired as a consultant for Fauna & Flora International to advise the establishment of FCZs in Indawgyi Lake, Myanmar, as part of a CEPF-funded project related to biodiversity conservation in the upper Ayeyarwaddy Basin. As part of our role, FISHBIO shared products from our own FCZ project with FFI, such as village FCZ agreements and FCZ regulation signboards, which will directly inform the FCZ establishment process in Indawgyi Lake.

Safeguard Policy Assessment

Provide a summary of the implementation of any required action toward the environmental and social safeguard policies within the project.

FISHBIO made every effort to ensure that the establishment of these FCZs was a voluntary and participatory process. Communities were actively engaged in FCZ design, approval, and enforcement, and had opportunities to voice their opinions at several points throughout the project implementation process. This included Ban Pakpee, a village of ethnic minorities (Khmu), who were also fully engaged in the FCZ decision-making process. Communities were provided with project staff phone numbers, and did contact project staff between project visits to discuss challenges related to the distribution of collected fines from government officials. FISHBIO staff then made a trip to resolve the issue in person.

FISHBIO staff used the project KAP surveys to assess potential impacts of resource restrictions imposed by the FCZ on livelihoods and access to food sources. During the initial project KAP survey, no respondents reported fishing as their primary livelihood, and 22% reported fishing as a secondary income source. Similarly, at the end of the project, one respondent (2%) listed fishing as a primary income source, and 18% listed fishing as a secondary income source. At the end of the project, FISHBIO also asked survey participants whether the FCZ had positively or negatively affected incomes or the ability to collect food. Of the respondents, 78% reported no effect; 12% reported an increase in income due to focusing on livestock and agriculture; 7% reported some negative effects of having to travel further to access fishing grounds, but also expressed that they recognized the long-term benefits of such closures; 2% (1 respondent) reported a negative effect but did not elaborate further; and 2% (1 respondent) did not provide an answer. Throughout the project, the majority of community members voiced a strong positive desire to implement the FCZ regulations to protect their local resources for future generations. Should communities wish to make changes to the regulations in the future, they have the ability to do so.

Additional Comments/Recommendations

Information Sharing and CEPF Policy

CEPF is committed to transparent operations and to helping civil society groups share experiences, lessons learned, and results. Final project completion reports are made available on our Web site, www.cepf.net, and publicized in our newsletter and other communications.

Please include your full contact details below:

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Performance Tracking Report Addendum

CEPF Global Targets

(Enter Grant Term)

Provide a numerical amount and brief description of the results achieved by your grant.
Please respond to only those questions that are relevant to your project.

Project Results	Is this question relevant?	If yes, provide your numerical response for results achieved during the annual period.	Provide your numerical response for project from inception of CEPF support to date.	Describe the principal results achieved during the grant term (Attach annexes if necessary)
1. Did your project strengthen management of a protected area guided by a sustainable management plan? Please indicate number of hectares improved.	No			Please also include name of the protected area(s). If more than one, please include the number of hectares strengthened for each one.
2. How many hectares of new and/or expanded protected areas did your project help establish through a legal declaration or community agreement?	67			Please also include name of the protected area. If more than one, please include the number of hectares strengthened for each one. Three Three Fish Conservation Zones (FCZs) were established with sizes of 30, 14, and 23 hectares, respectively.
3. Did your project strengthen biodiversity conservation and/or natural resources management inside a key biodiversity area identified in the CEPF ecosystem profile? If so, please indicate how many hectares.	Yes			Biodiversity conservation through sustainable fisheries management practices was strengthened in 67 hectares of Fish Conservation Zones located in the key biodiversity area of the Mekong River between Luang Prabang and Vientiane.
4. Did your project effectively introduce or strengthen biodiversity conservation in management practices outside protected areas? If so, please indicate how many hectares.	No			
5. If your project promotes the sustainable use of natural resources, how many local communities accrued tangible socioeconomic benefits? Please complete Table 1below.	Yes			3 communities accrued socioeconomic benefits: Ban Pakpee, Ban Houaykhoualouang, and Ban Korkfak.

If you answered yes to question 5, please complete the following table

Table 1. Socioeconomic Benefits to Target Communities

Please complete this table if your project provided concrete socioeconomic benefits to local communities. List the name of each community in column one. In the subsequent columns under Community Characteristics and Nature of Socioeconomic Benefit, place an X in all relevant boxes. In the bottom row, provide the totals of the Xs for each column.

Name of Community	Community Characteristics								Nature of Socioeconomic Benefit												
									Increased Income due to:												
	Small landowners	Subsistence economy	Indigenous/ ethnic peoples	Pastoralists/nomadic peoples	Recent migrants	Urban communities	Communities falling below the poverty rate	Other	Adoption of sustainable natural resources management practices	Ecotourism revenues	Park management activities	Payment for environmental services	Increased food security due to the adoption of sustainable fishing, hunting, or agricultural practices	More secure access to water resources	Improved tenure in land or other natural resource due to titling, reduction of colonization, etc.	Reduced risk of natural disasters (fires, landslides, flooding, etc)	More secure sources of energy	Increased access to public services, such as education, health, or credit	Improved use of traditional knowledge for environmental management	More participatory decision-making due to strengthened civil society and governance.	Other
Ban Pakpee	X	X	X										X							X	
Ban Houaykhoualouang	X	X											X							X	
Ban Korkfak	X	X											X							X	
Total	**3**	**3**	**1**										**3**							**3**	

If you marked "Other", please provide detail on the nature of the Community Characteristic and Socioeconomic Benefit:

Appendix 1: Example FCZ Regulations

The Lao People's Democratic Republic

Peace Independence Democracy Unity and Prosperity

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XXXXX District No: …….

XXXXX village Ban XXXX, Dated: DD/MM/YYYY

Regulations on The establishment and management of Fish Conservation zone in XXXXX, XXXXXX District, XXXXXXX Province.

I. Objective, location and size of conservation area

1. Objectives

1. To ensure successful spawning of *Probarbus jullieni* and *Probarbus labeamajor* as well as other species of aquatic life.
2. To end destructive fishing techniques such as electro-fishing and the use of explosives.
3. To improve the spawning success of multiple fish species.

2. Location and size of the conservation area

A. **Location**

II. Regulation, management and wise use of the conservation area

A. The regulations regarding Fish Conservation Zones.

1. During the *Probarbus sp.* Spawning period (usually January to March but if fish come early or late the ban will be put in place whenever *Probarbus* are observed spawning) all fishing gear will be forbidden from use within the FCZ.
2. Electro-fishing and the use of explosives or poison is forbidden year round.
3. The habitat in the FCZ should not to be disturbed or destroyed.
4. Destroying the FCZ signs or boundaries is forbidden.

B. Penalties for violators

- If any individuals or a group of people violate regulation **No. 1**, they will be penalized as follows:

1st offence: A fine of XXX,000 kip/person, seizure of evidence, mandatory education on FCZ regulations and benefits of FCZ and an official warning will be recorded.

2nd offence: A fine of X,XXX,000 kip/person, seizure of evidence and record of a final warning.

3rd offence: Seizure of evidence, detention of offenders and recommendation to send violator to the district authorities for further action regarding the case based on the regulations. This would mean a fine of more than X,XXX,000 or jail time depending on the case.

- If any individuals or a group of people violate regulation **No. 2**, they will be penalized as follows:

1st offence: A fine of XXX,000 kip/person, seizure of evidence, mandatory education for the violators as to the laws regarding the use of explosives and electro-fishing techniques and their negative effects and an official final warning will be recorded

2nd offence: A fine of X,XXX,000 kip/person, seize the evidence, detain the offenders and make a case report to send to the district authorities to take further action regarding the case based on the regulations

- If any individuals or a group of people violate regulation **No, 3**, they will be penalized as follows:

1st offence: A fine of XXX,000 kip/person, seizure of evidence, mandatory education on FCZ regulations and benefits of FCZ and an official warning will be recorded.

2nd offence: A fine of X,XXX,000 kip/person, seizure of evidence and record of a final warning.

III. Awards/Policy for the working group

1. Provide for the village coffers XX%
2. Enforcement group XX%
3. Any individuals who report the wrong doers: XX%
4. Management committee (who work in the field): XX %
5. In cases where there is other income generated from the conservation areas, the income should be used for village development

IV. Responsible committee for the management of conservation areas

1. Village head	President
2. Vice Village head	Vice President
3. 2 members of FCZ enforcement group	Committee
4. Village women's union	Committee
5. Village youth union	Committee

V. Rights and responsibilities of the committee for Fish Conservation Zone management

A. Village head

- Will act as first liaison between local fishermen, enforcement group, field officer, district and provincial level government. They will be in charge of disseminating any new information from these agencies and organizations to village residents.
- Will select the members of the FCZ enforcement group.
- Will act as first envoy should any disputes over FCZ boundaries arise with neighboring villages.

  -Will collect all fines after reviewing evidence gathered by the enforcement group. While this decision should be made after discussion with the rest of the committee, it is the final authority of the village head as to who receives fines.
- Will contact district officials in cases regarding repeat offenders or offenders who are unable to be caught.

B. Village's youth and women' unions

- Will provide information for the young people in the village, making sure that youth understand the regulations as well as the reasons behind them, to ensure future generations are ready to take on the management of the FCZ.

C. FCZ Enforcement group

- Regularly guard the areas by organizing a schedule and recording the work-shifts.
- Will receive training and equipment from Field Officer, project staff, and provincial and district level officials.
- Have the right to seize fishing equipment including but not limited to gill nets, electro-fishing devices (including attractants), fish poison, and explosives from offenders to be used as evidence
- Will keep detailed notes on any offences encountered, and photograph any offenders or evidence of possible offences. This data is to be regularly shared with the district level officials and Field Officer.
- If an offense is deemed too large or too dangerous for the local enforcement group, district-level law enforcement will be brought in to assist with enforcement.

VI. Final Provisions

The regulations on the management and wise use of aquatic animal resources of Ban XXXXX are made up with consent and agreement of all authorities and villagers in the villages and other authorities in the XXXXX district. They shall be effective from the date this regulation is announced.

XXXXX official	XXXXXX Village head
Stamped and signed	Stamped and signed

Certified and witness by:

XXXXXXX district head	Head of Livestock and Fisheries Office, XXXXXX district

Appendix 2: Example FCZ Regulation Sign