

Review of: "The Political Ecologies of the Tonle Sap: Global, Regional and National Framework for Conservation and Development"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

This is a quite interesting and novel study in the field of political ecology. The concept of political ecology is indeed not widely researched, and I myself encountered this term for the first time, finding it intriguing. The author introduces the concept of political ecology in the paper, and personally, I agree with the author on the connection between politics and ecology, especially in Southeast Asian countries where environmental legal frameworks are not strictly enforced, and environmental issues are significantly influenced by the political system.

The study focuses on a specific subject, Tonle Sap, which is a large freshwater lake in Southeast Asia that requires protection. The local ecosystem is highly sensitive to human impacts, making it essential to establish political structures to safeguard this ecosystem.

However, the research results do not fully illustrate the political impacts on the environmental ecology of the area. The political influences, institutional structures, and human activities' impacts seem to lack clear differentiation. The study content primarily lists the current environmental management systems without providing necessary actions to optimize the political system for protecting the environmental ecosystem. On the other hand, specific evidence, such as experimental models or input from various experts on establishing a political system to protect the regional freshwater ecosystem, is missing. Therefore, the conclusions of the paper are somewhat vague and impractical.

In general, this is a new and interesting research direction related to social issues. However, the research results are not entirely convincing.

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