tourism. As yet, the tourism potential of the water resources is untapped (Phra-atikan Sawat Suttojitto, personal communication, 2014). Like all of the other water resources covered by this investigation, Huai Yang reservoir is surrounded by extremely fertile land. The communities surrounding Huai Yang Reservoir have grown in size over the years as migrant workers come to exploit the fertility of the surrounding environment. However, the communications networks, public services and amenities have not developed in tandem with population growth.

Figure 5. Huai Yang Reservoir

As with other communities investigated, the settlements around Nong La Han Sai Reservoir benefit from a full water resource during the rainy season. Residents use the plentiful water supply for agricultural pursuits. However, as is the problem elsewhere, the water level is insufficient during the dry season and water management is not efficient enough to ensure a steady yearlong supply (Phra Sangat Mahamongkulo, personal communication, 2014).

To summarize the results of surveys, observations and interviews, residents of communities surrounding water resources in Northeastern Thailand live their lives in harmony with their surroundings. They benefit from the fertility that the swamps and reservoirs encourage and live a live of agriculture, which is supported by the water supply. However, there are big problems with the management of local water resources. While there is an abundance of water during the rainy season, the dry season is a time of hardship. Water resource management is inefficient, meaning that there is not enough supply to meet demand during the dry season. There is considerable potential for the development of tourism but this has not yet been realised. The people in the local communities believe strongly in the higher spiritual power of the water and their local customs and festivals reflect this. Despite local respect for the water, local industries do not manage their industrial