

# Changes of landscape structure for the recent 20 years in the river basin around Seoul, the capital of Korea

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Landscape changes for 20 years between 1981 and 2001 in two areas around Seoul, the Wangsuk and the Gyungan river watersheds were investigated on the bases of physiognomic vegetation maps made from the aerial photograph interpretation and field check. Changes of landscape structure were remarkable in agricultural field and forest landscape elements. Changes in the agricultural fields due to transformation of agricultural pattern into the institutional agriculture, although urbanization also dominated such change. The former change due to change of food production structure originated from socio-economic growth during this period and the latter to the overpopulation of Seoul. As energy sources for heating and cooking, fertilizer, and food for livestock transform from plant material to fossil fuel, manufactured one, and grain, forest escaped from direct human disturbance and natural succession originated from it led to change of landscape structure in forest.