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## **BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN LANDSCAPE THEORY AND PLANNING: THE GTP MODEL IN A PYRENEES MOUNTAIN AREA**

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### **Abstract**

The concept of landscape in Europe has moved from a scale analysis towards a holistic concept defined by laws and a European directive. In economically depressed mountain areas, the landscape represents both a resource and an opportunity for development, and the task facing managers of natural parks is not easy. The present study applied a geographic model that interprets landscape holistically using three subsystems (*G-T-P*): Geosystem or natural environment (*G*), Territory or socioeconomic environment (*T*) and Landscape or symbolic perceptions and values (*P*). We apply this methodology to possible rural development in a Pyrenean valley within a Natural Park. We showed that livestock and crop production activities have a significant role in the forest environment of the valley with no significant landscape impact. Overall, we show that *GTP* model enables to work within the legal definition of landscape and also identify landscape-friendly development strategies. Further research should focus on the interaction between these subsystems from the managers' perspectives.

*Key words:* *GTP* model, natural protected areas, landscape conservation, mountain areas, landscape valuation

*Received: December, 2011; Revised final: May, 2012; Accepted: June, 2012*

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