

Secondary Ecological Succession of Landscapes in Vietnam along Indochina T-Junction

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Abstract: Human activities can influence the transformation rules of natural landscapes. In Vietnam along the Indochina T-junction (in Province Kon Tum), human influences determine the transformation and succession of landscapes, especially their ecological succession. The landscape maps to determine natural components and human factors involved in the transformation and secondary ecological succession in this study area were prepared. Satellite images in different periods, applied rules of formation and development of plant communities in tropical monsoon conditions were used to determine the secondary ecological succession of the landscape in the studied area. The studied area consists of one system, one subsystem, three classes, five subclasses, 11 types and 67 kinds of landscapes. Much of the landscape is under strong human influence, especially herbicides in chemical war, industrial-scale logging, deforestation of indigenous peoples to grow agricultural and technical crops. During 2005 - 2015, 17 different landscape kinds have been lost and 12 have been established. From 1960s, under the influence of chemical war and other anthropogenic impacts, some kinds of landscapes have experienced three to four stages of secondary ecological succession. Human activities continue to be the main factor in the transformation and secondary ecology succession of landscapes in the Indochina T-junction.

Keywords: Anthropogenic factors, Landscape change, Landscape diversity, Secondary ecological succession, Vietnam