

Full text open access online (Since 1990)

©  Kamla-Raj JHE 2023

PRINT: ISSN 0970-9274 ONLINE: ISSN 2456-6322

J Hum Ecol, 83(1-3): 1-16 (2023)
DOI: 10.31901/24566608.2023/83.1-3.3355

Land Change in Tirthan Valley: The Case of Great Himalayan National Park Conservation Area

Mohammad Irfan¹, Vivek Negi² and Aarti Vatsal³

¹*Department of Geography, Panjab University, Chandigarh 160014, India
Mobile: 8427304035, E-mail: irfan.geokmc@gmail.com*

²*Department of Geography, Panjab University, Chandigarh 160014, India
Mobile: 8837778587, E-mail: bonnynegi@gmail.com*

³*Department of Geography, Panjab University, Chandigarh 160014, India
Mobile: 7018633941, E-mail: aartivatsal@gmail.com*

KEYWORDS Conservation. Development. GHNP. LULC. Protected Area

ABSTRACT Humans are dominant agent of landscape change. Off lately, anthropogenic induced changes have visibly degraded environment around the world putting a serious question over the sustainability of both natural and man-made ecosystems. The sustainability of the ecosystems has found to be directly linked to changes in LULC. The present study aims to analyse long-term land use change in the Tirthan Valley of Himachal Pradesh; the region is a part of protected area collectively known as GHNP. With the help of multi-temporal satellite images of LANDSAT, this study reconstructs the trajectory of land changes over a period of five decades. The data shows an increase in forest cover (7.29%), rocky/barren land (45.35%), agriculture/horticulture land (28.94%) and settlement/built-up (190.48%) while decrease in pasture/open land (29.97%), snow cover (56.14%) and river/water body (54.52%). The results have shown significant land changes in post protected area status.