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ECOSEMIOTIC LANDSCAPE

A Novel Perspective for the Toolbox of Environmental Humanities

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Ecosemiotic Landscape

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Flements in Environmental Humanities

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Abstract: The distinction between humans and the natural world is an artifact and more a matter of linguistic communication than a conceptual separation. This Element proposes ecosemiotics as an epistemological tool to understand better the relationship between human and natural processes. Ecosemiotics, with its affinity to the humanities, is presented here as the best disciplinary approach for interpreting complex environmental conditions for a broad audience, across a multitude of temporal and spatial scales. It is proposed as an intellectual bridge between divergent sciences to incorporate different paradigms within a unique framework. The ecosemiotic paradigm helps to explain how organisms interact with their external environments using mechanisms common to all living beings that capture external information and matter for internal usage. This paradigm can be applied in all the circumstances where a living being (human, animal, plant, fungi, etc.) performs processes to stay alive.

Keywords: complexity, uncertainty, information, ecosemiotics, landscape

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Contents

1	Introduction	1
2	Environmental Complexity: An Ecosemiotic Vision	4
3	Environmental Uncertainty: Contrasting Strategies and Species Adaptation	6
4	Information Theory and Meaning	9
5	The Role of Ecology in the Ecosemiotic Arena	14
6	Landscape Dimension: Some Relevant Characteristics of Landscape	18
7	Resources: A General Theory	25
8	An Ecosemiotic Approach to Landscape Description and Interpretation: From Zoosemiotics to an Eco-field Model	32
9	Fundamentals of Ecoacoustics: A New Quantitative Contribution to the Ecosemiotic Narrative	45
10	Cultural Landscapes	55
11	Conclusions	67
	References	70