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Reimagining International Environmental Law

This thesis will undertake a jurisprudential inquiry into the meaning of aesthetic value in international environmental law. It will consider how international environmental lawyers might construct legal images of environmental aesthetics. The thesis will examine three elements of jurisprudence: legal forms of aesthetic value, legal techniques of interpretation, and applications of those techniques to legal forms of aesthetic value in the context of three treaties (the World Heritage Convention, the Biodiversity Convention and the Whaling Convention). It will be argued that visual image is integral to an understanding of aesthetic value of the environment and that jurists in the field of international environmental law should have the tools necessary to integrate the visual into legal constructions of environmental aesthetics.