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River Health Evaluation Based on the Environmental Value Theory

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One common method for river health assessment is the multi-indicator comprehensive evaluation method. When this method is applied on the river health evaluation, a multiple indicator system could be established and then the indicator weight and river health are calculated out with the AHP method. In this process, the indicator evaluation result is given only from the experience and some criteria by no unified standard. This method is empirical and different people will get different results when evaluating the same rive health. With this problem, and for the reason that the river health has much consistence with river environment values, the environmental value theory is applied on the river health evaluation. Because different indicator means different river environmental value, the indicators and their weights can be calculated out according to the river values. The Nanchang section of Ganjiang River is taken for example to explain and illustrate how the environmental value theory is applied on the river health the traditional method, the new method based on environmental value theory provides some useful ideas for researches of human restoration on rivers.