Abstract

The rural is a concept continually being redefined. In recent decades what some have referred to as rural restructuring has contributed to this. This restructuring is a comprehensive process which consists in a series of dynamics transforming the material uses and the symbolic meanings attributed to rural space and is based on fostering the diversification of economic activities and the introduction of new regional planning strategies in rural areas. In this article we will analyze some of the elements that are a part of the process of rural restructuring taking place in Andalusia. To do this we have focused on a single area of activity, nature sports and active tourism, of relative social significance today, and of importance in understanding the existing conflicts between different groups for the symbolic and material appropriation of rural space, as well as other broader problems related to regional planning.

Keywords