

Ecological Restoration and Remediation of a Degraded Estuary: The Case of the Mvoti Estuary, KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa

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ABSTRACT This paper describes the current status of the Mvoti Estuary, outlines a plan for restoration, presents a set of strategies to redress the situation and proposes viable management initiatives. The latter include enforcing relevant environmental protection laws and building partnerships between the users and the authorities responsible for management; conserving a good health status; abating, controlling and monitoring pollution to improve water and sediment quality; re-introduction of indigenous instream and riparian vegetation and eliminating alien vegetation; measures for reducing the high sediment levels in the river and, improving water flow particularly during 'low-flow' periods.