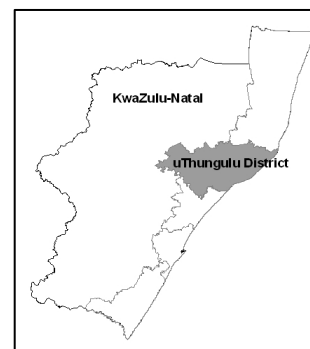




CVI FACT SHEET UTHUNGULU DISTRICT

The uThungulu District is located in the north-eastern region of KwaZulu-Natal and covers an area of approximately 8213km², from the Border of the iLembe District in the south, to the Umfolozi River and border of the uMkhanyakude District in the north. It has a population of 907,519 (Statistics South Africa, 2011). uThungulu has a good climate and rainfall levels making it highly favourable for agricultural activities. The agricultural sector is a dual economy, consisting of commercial agriculture on the one hand and traditional agriculture on the other. The District has a coastline of 101 kilometres which boasts the largest deepwater port on the African continent, and which imports the most bulk cargo of all African ports.



The local municipalities of uMhlathuze, uMlalazi and uMfolozi are found in the uThungulu District Municipality.



Coastal Vulnerability Index (CVI)

The mean CVI score for the uThungulu coast is 15 meaning that it is at *Moderate Risk*. Vulnerability to erosion and sea-level rise is moderate for this section of coast, largely due to the fact that it has good physical properties in terms of beach width (mean 70m), dune width (mean 34m) and distance to the 20m isobath (mean 3217m). A breakdown shows that 42% of this section of coast is at *Risk*, 53% at *Moderate Risk* and 4% at *High Risk*.

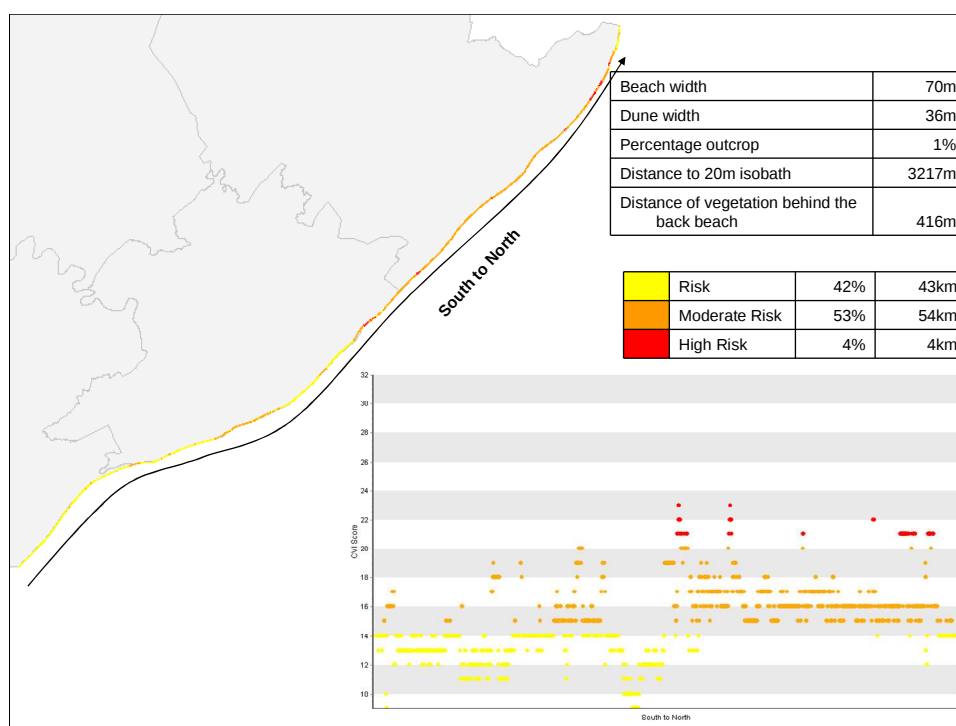


Figure 1: Physical vulnerability of the uThungulu District

CVI FACT SHEET UTHUNGULU DISTRICT

Figure 2 shows the relative risk of the local municipalities in uThungulu District. The uMhlathuze and uMlalazi local municipalities are dominated by *Risk*, 56% and 95% respectively. The uMfolozi Local Municipality is dominated by *Moderate Risk* (86%).

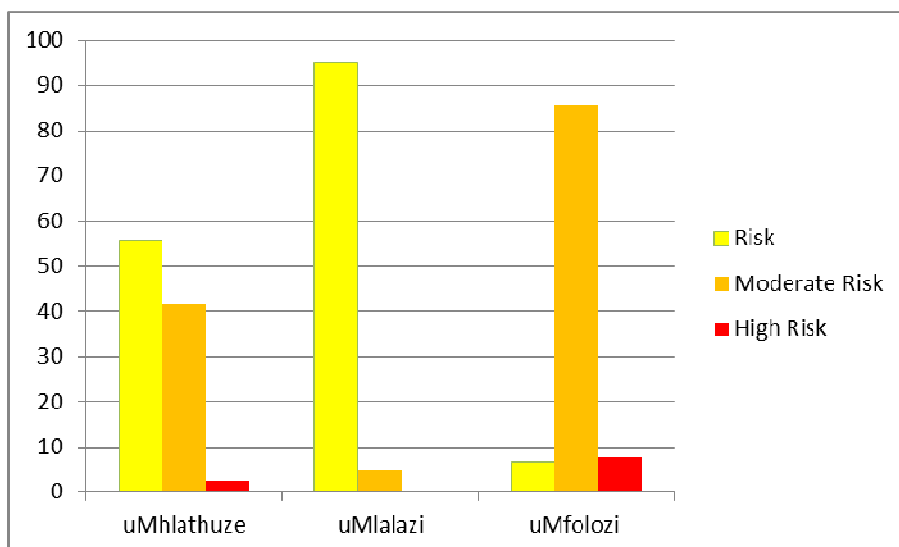


Figure 2: Percentage of each local municipality that falls into each of the risk categories (*High Risk*, *Moderate Risk* and *Risk*)

Social, Economic and Ecological Resources

Figure 3 shows the percentage of indicator resources located within the uThungulu District - it also shows the proportion of these which are located within or adjacent to cells of *High Risk*. There are a high proportion of economic activities taking place, with 100% of KZN's dune mining and 57% of forestry plantations located here.

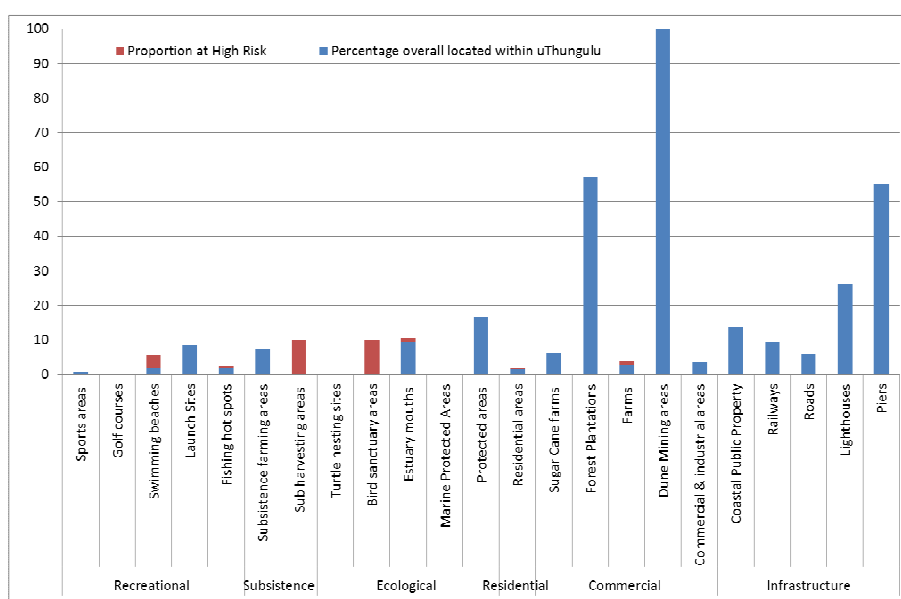


Figure 3: Social and Ecological Resources in the uThungulu District and percentage at *High Risk*



CVI FACT SHEET UTHUNGULU DISTRICT

In terms of potential risk, this district is in a better position than others as its physical properties (such as distance of vegetation behind the back beach) are better. However it should be concerned about subsistence areas, with 100% of harvesting sites being in *High Risk* areas. Swimming beaches are also of concern, with more than half of these being located in *High Risk* areas. **In uMhlathuze Municipality, urgent attention must be given to the receding coastline north of the Port of Richards Bay.** New developments should also be set-back sufficiently to ensure that they are not damaged.

Figure 4 shows the proportion of indicator resources for the province located within each local municipality. It is evident that all the dune mining for the province occurs in the uMfolozi Local Municipality, with other activities distributed more evenly throughout.

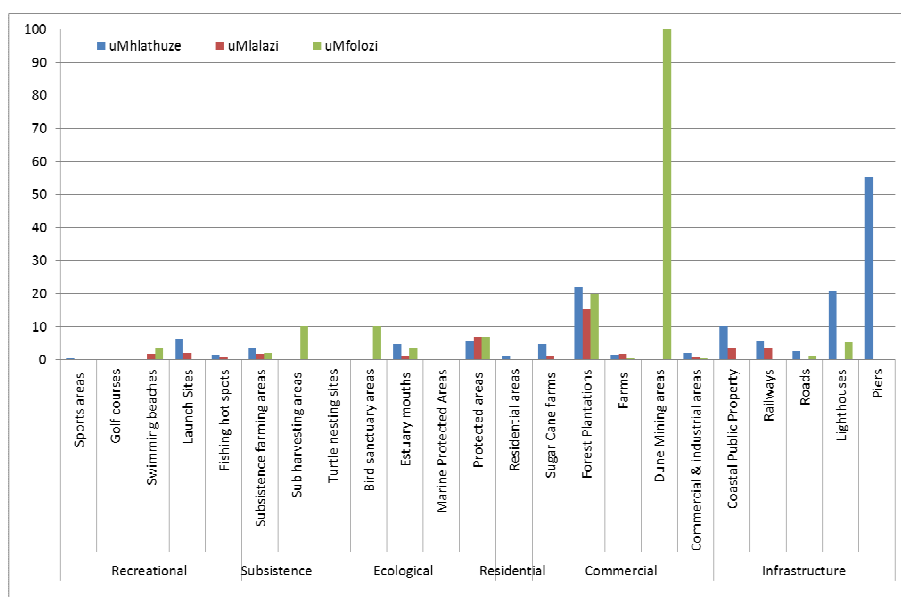


Figure 4: Social and Ecological Resources per local municipality in uThungulu

For more information contact:

The Coastal and Biodiversity Management Unit
KwaZulu-Natal Department of Agriculture and Environmental Affairs
Private Bag X9059
Pietermaritzburg 3200
SOUTH AFRICA
Tel: +27 (0)33 355 9434/8

Email: alfred.matsheke@kzndae.gov.za or omar.parak@kzndae.gov.za