

43. Southern Coastal Grasslands (KZN 18)

Reference number	KZN 18
Listed under Criterion	F
Biome	Indian Ocean Coastal Belt and Forest
Province	KwaZulu-Natal
Municipalities	eThekweni MM, Vulamehlo LM, Umdoni LM Umzumbe LM and Hibiscus Coast LM
Original area of ecosystem	23 000 ha
Remaining natural area of ecosystem (%)	6%
Proportion of ecosystem protected	< 1% of original area
Known number of species of special concern	9 threatened or endemic plant and animal species including those listed below

Geographical location

Umkomaas (3030BB), Scottburgh (3030BC), Hibberdene (3030DA), Port Shepstone (3030CB), Margate (3030CD) and Port Edward (3130AA). Ecosystem delineated by the Indian Ocean in the east, inland to within 1 km of the coast and running parallel to the coast following an approximate altitude of up to 150m. It includes small coastal forest and shrub patches that encroach inland up the estuaries.

Description

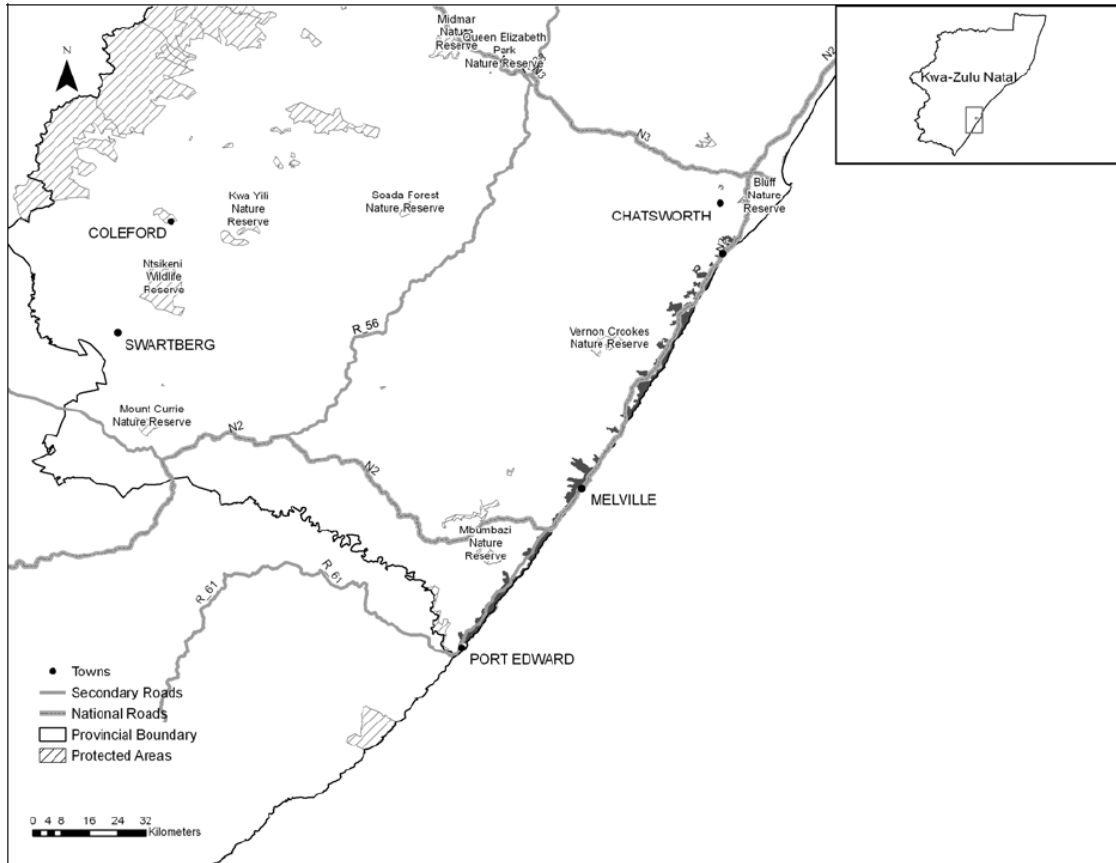
Key biodiversity features include one amphibian, *Hyperolius pickersgilli*; two millipede species including *Centrobolus anulatus* and *Doratogonus infragilis*; three plant species for example *Kniphofia rooperi* and *Phylica natalensis*; three reptile species for example *Bradypodion caeruleogula*, *Bradypodion melanocephalum* and *Bradypodion wezae*; and five vegetation types including KwaZulu-Natal Coastal Forest, KwaZulu-Natal Dune Forest, Pondoland Scarp Forest, Pondoland-Ugu Sandstone Coastal Sourveld, KwaZulu-Natal Coastal Belt.

Other information

Less than 1% of the ecosystem is protected in the Skyline Nature Reserve, Trafalgar Marine Reserve and Mpenjati Nature Reserve.

Reference

Goodman, P.S. 2007. KwaZulu-Natal Terrestrial Conservation Plan (C-Plan), Version 4.
Biodiversity Conservation Planning Division, Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife.



Location of Southern Coastal Grasslands showing original area of ecosystem (area of ecosystem enlarged for clarity)