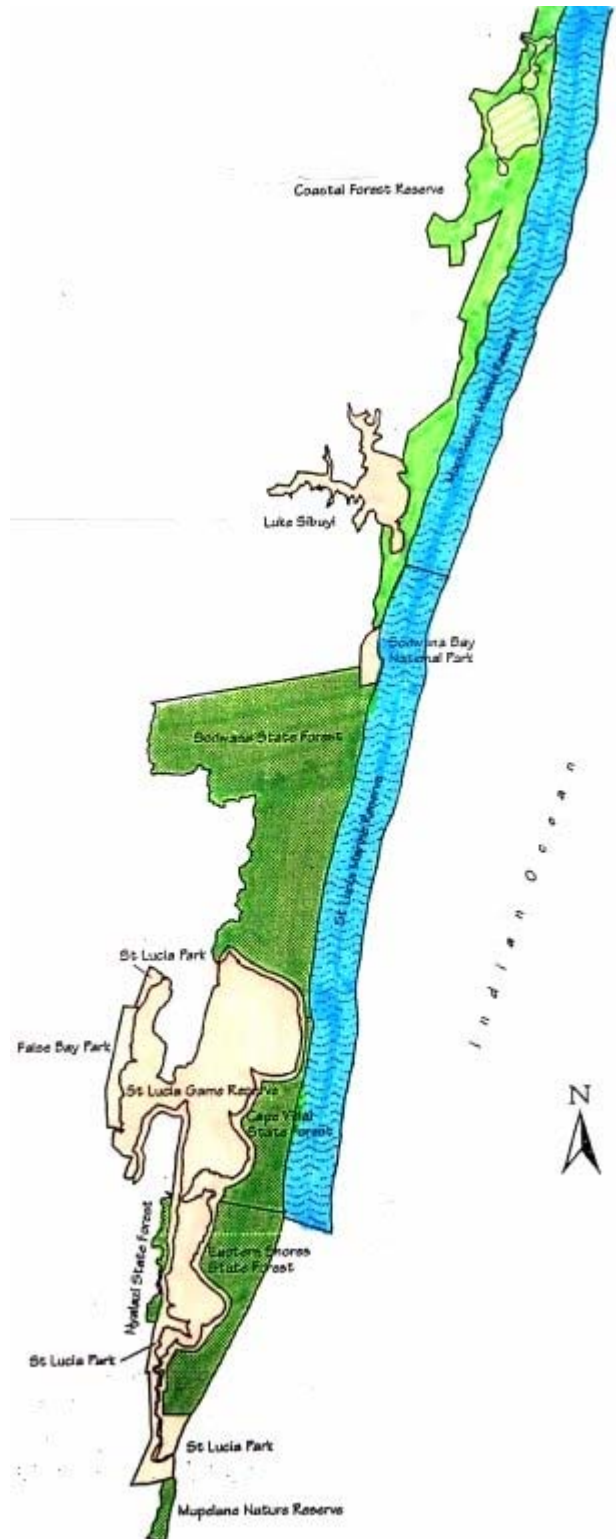


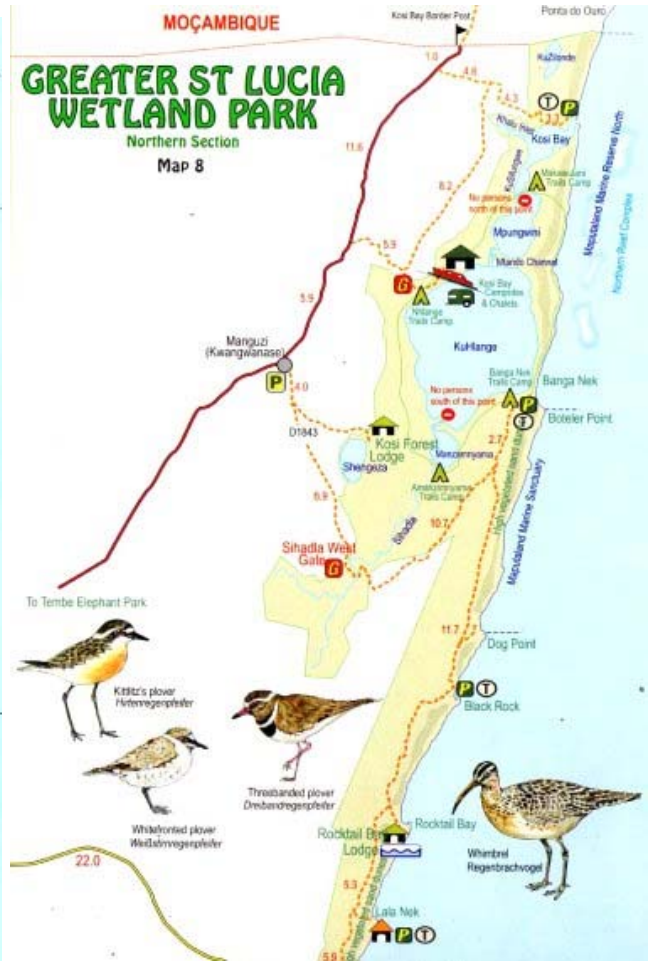
Maps and Satellite Images of the iSimangaliso Wetland Park



Above: Location of the iSimangaliso Wetland Park (from: www.AfricanNaturalHeritage.org)

Right: The complex of protected areas making up the iSimangaliso Wetland Park World Heritage Site. Thirteen legally-distinct protected areas are included in the 2,396 km² world heritage site, including one National Park (Sodwana Bay, 11km²); two marine reserves (Maputoland, 397 km² and St Lucia, 443 km²); two provincial parks (St Lucia, 125 km² and False Bay, 22 km²); one provincial game reserve (St Lucia, 368 km²); one freshwater reserve (Lake Sibayi, 72 km²); one forest reserve (Coastal, 218 km²); one provincial Nature Reserve (Mapelane Nature Reserve, 11 km²); and four state forests (Cape Vidal, 113 km², Eastern Shores, 129 km², Nyalazi, 14 km² and Sodwana, 471 km²). The original nomination included 16 component areas, but three of these (Dukuduku State Forest, Mkuzi Game Reserve and Makasa Nature Reserve) were excluded from the area inscribed on the world heritage list as they were thought to contribute relatively little to the outstanding universal values of the estuarine, marine and coastal ecosystem.





Above, left: Principal roads, conservation areas and features in northern KwaZulu-Natal around the iSimangaliso Wetland Park (from the MapStudio 'South Africs Road Atlas, 2010); **Above, right:** Northern section of iSimangaliso Wetland Park (formerly known as the 'Greater St Lucia' park) (from Honeyguide Publication's 'Maps of the Zululand and Maputaland Reserves' in conjunction with KZN Wildlife, 2004)



Central section of iSimangaliso Wetland Park (from Honeyguide Publication's 'Maps of the Zululand and Maputaland Reserves' in conjunction with KZN Wildlife, 2004)



The Lake St Lucia section of iSimangaliso Wetland Park (from Honeyguide Publication's 'Maps of the Zululand and Maputaland Reserves' in conjunction with KZN Wildlife, 2004)



The southern (St Lucia estuary) section of iSimangaliso Wetland Park (from Honeyguide Publication's 'Maps of the Zululand and Mafutaland Reserves' in conjunction with KZN Wildlife, 2004)



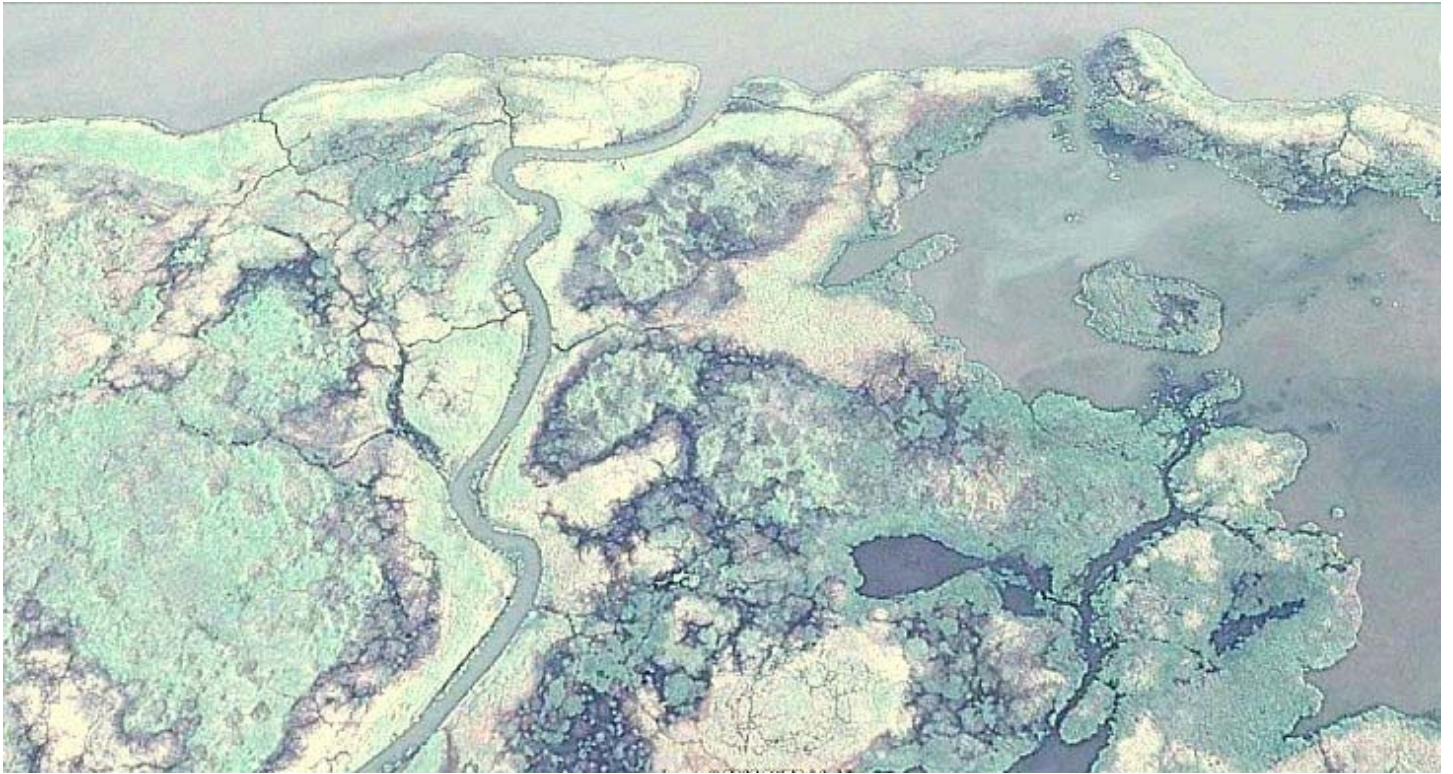
Top: Google Earth satellite image of the St Lucia estuary in July 2013 (during the dry season, after the dredging of the estuary to reconnect it to the ocean) and **Bottom:** the same scene in February 2010 when the estuary mouth was closed (even at the peak of the rains when water levels and silt loads were high)



Google Earth satellite image of Lake St Lucia from the east, showing the narrow strip of coastal forest on the dunes, the forest-savanna mosaic on the eastern shores and the complex wetland communities around the fringes of the lake (especially at the northern end (bottom right))



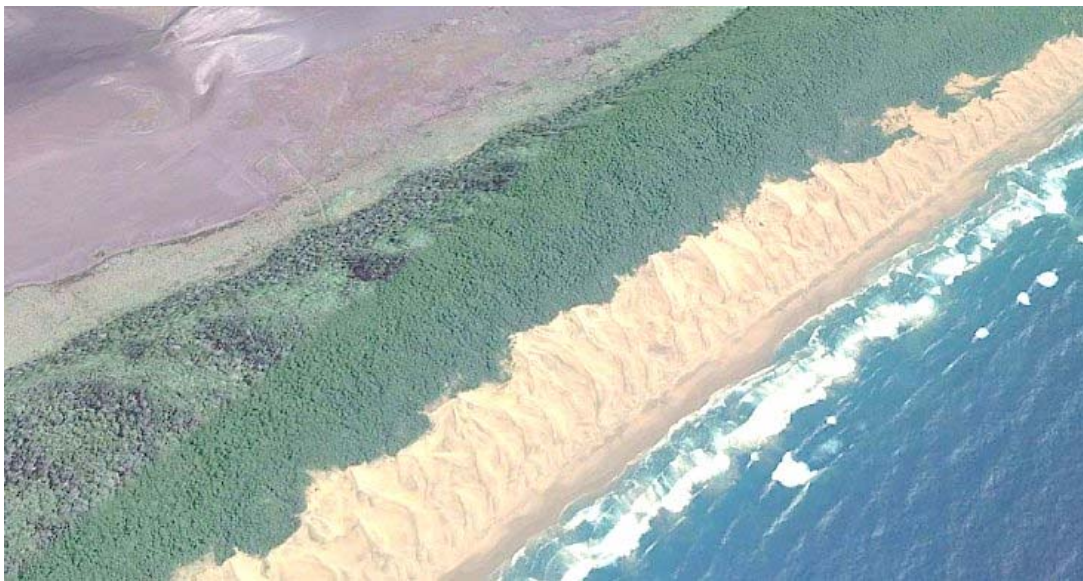
Google Earth satellite image of the Lake St Lucia shoreline opposite Fanie's Island (bottom right) including the extensive areas of commercial forestry plantation nearby in Nyalazi State Forest



Google Earth satellite image of part of Fanie's Island, showing the complex of swamps and channels which provide crucial habitat for nesting waterfowl and other wetland wildlife.



Google Earth satellite image of False Bay, showing the whole of False Bay Park, adjacent areas under cultivation (top) and the informal settlements of the Nibela Peninsula (which lies outside the world heritage site, right of image)



Google Earth satellite images of sections of the shoreline, where dynamic ecological processes of dune formation and vegetation succession are most in evidence. Ocean currents drive sand on-shore where it forms a high ridge, colonised by low coastal forest (top and centre), while the interaction of waters mixing at Kosi Bay estuary create an ever-changing complex of sand bars and channels (bottom)



Satellite view of Jesser Point at Sodwana Bay National Park, a popular resort for fishing and water sports



Google Earth satellite images of Lake Sibaya which is cut off from the ocean by high vegetated sand dunes.



Satellite images illustrating the range of potential human impacts on the iSimangaliso Wetland Park. Traditional fish traps in the Kosi estuary system are still in use, but local people have started using (illegal) gill nets as well, thus depleting fish stocks (top); Irrigated sugar cane fields in the lowlands of the uMfolzi river are reducing the flow of water into the St Lucia estuary (middle) and; mining activities at Richard's Bay (outside, and to the south of the world heritage site) results in the stripping of coastal forest to extract minerals from the sands below (bottom)