

WETLANDS Awareness

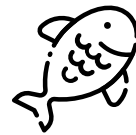


WETLANDS SUSTAIN HUMANITY AND NATURE. THEY ARE SIGNIFICANT FOR MANY ECOSYSTEM SERVICES THEY RENDER:



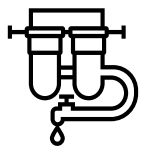
Control flooding

They act as a natural sponge against flooding & draughts. During floods they soak up excess water and in dry season they feed streams and rivers.



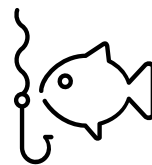
Home to many species

At least two-thirds of all the fish consumed worldwide are dependent on coastal wetlands, which provide spawning, nursery and feeding grounds.

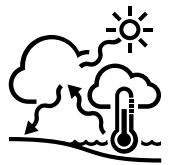


Purify water

Purify water by locking up pollutants in their sediments, vegetation & soil.



The Knysna Estuary is very important to South Africa's fishing industry – it **contributes 22% of the nation's estuarine value to commercial fishing**, and is the country's most important nursery to line fish like red stump nose, cob, white Steenbras and spotted grunter.



Absorb & store Carbon

Assist with mitigating climate change as wetlands absorb carbon dioxide during photosynthesis and store carbon through slow decomposition process.



Recreation

Used for recreational activities such as bird watching, nature walks, picnics and tourism attraction sites.

WETLANDS ARE THREATENED BY HUMAN ACTIONS. SAVE THEM SO THAT THEY CAN SAVE YOU.