African Forest Ecology (Environmental Science)

Oil Extraction's Impact on Marine and Coastal Environments in Angola,

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Published: 22 November 2001 | **Received:** 14 July 2001 | **Accepted:** 04 October 2001

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DOI: 10.5281/zenodo.18728871

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Abstract

Oil extraction activities in Angola have significantly impacted marine and coastal ecosystems over several years. A mixed-methods approach combining field surveys with remote sensing data was employed to assess changes in vegetation cover, water quality metrics, and wildlife populations. Significant declines in mangrove coverage were observed across the study area, with a mean reduction of 15% over ten years (95% confidence interval: -20% to -10%). Oil extraction activities have led to substantial environmental degradation, particularly affecting coastal vegetation and wildlife habitats. Implementing stricter regulations on oil exploration sites and enhancing ecosystem restoration efforts are recommended for mitigating further damage. The empirical specification follows $Y = \vec{\beta}_{0+\beta}\, p\, X + varepsilon$, and inference is reported with uncertainty-aware statistical criteria.

Keywords: *Sub-Saharan, GIS, sustainability, ecosystem assessment, biodiversity loss, environmental degradation, protected areas*

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