

Impact of sand mining on local ecology

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GEC (global environmental change) studies normally focus on the impact of climate change on several aspects of environmental changes occurring globally. However, there are several other factors affecting and causing these environmental changes, which deserve attention. LUCC (land use and cover change) is an issue, which merits immediate attention in the GEC studies. Several studies have documented impacts of climate change on LUCC, particularly on agricultural land degradation. Apart from the impacts of climate change on land use, a number of factors significantly contribute to LUCC and call for an independent space on GEC agenda for LUCC. Sand mining is one such activity, which affects local ecology directly, but nevertheless has wide implications for GEC. This paper presents a review of sand mining activity, rules and regulations, and the resulting environmental issues related to sand mining primarily affecting coastal erosion, river bank, land-use change, water, and biodiversity.