

Review Form 3

Journal Name:	International Journal of Environment and Climate Change
Manuscript Number:	Ms_IJECC_130189
Title of the Manuscript:	Assessment of Changes in Mangrove Cover in the Niger Delta Region of Nigeria
Type of the Article	Original Research Article

General guidelines for the Peer Review process:

This journal's peer review policy states that **NO** manuscript should be rejected only on the basis of '**lack of Novelty**', provided the manuscript is scientifically robust and technically sound. To know the complete guidelines for the Peer Review process, reviewers are requested to visit this link:

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PART 1: Comments

	Reviewer's comment	Author's Feedback <i>(Please correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)</i>
<b>Please write a few sentences regarding the importance of this manuscript for the scientific community. A minimum of 3-4 sentences may be required for this part.</b>	This manuscript holds significant importance for the scientific community as it provides a detailed, long-term assessment of mangrove cover changes in the Niger Delta, a critical ecosystem with global ecological and climate relevance. By utilizing remote sensing and GIS methodologies, the study contributes valuable spatial-temporal data, enabling a deeper understanding of the drivers of mangrove loss and their implications for biodiversity, climate regulation, and livelihoods. The findings offer actionable insights for conservation planning and policymaking, addressing the urgent need to mitigate mangrove deforestation and its associated climate impacts. This research also sets a benchmark for future studies on mangrove ecosystems in other regions facing similar challenge	
<b>Is the title of the article suitable? (If not please suggest an alternative title)</b>	The title is clear and conveys the focus of the study effectively.	
<b>Is the abstract of the article comprehensive? Do you suggest the addition (or deletion) of some points in this section? Please write your suggestions here.</b>	The abstract summarizes the objectives, methodology, results, and conclusion well, but it could benefit from specific implications for policy or conservation.	
<b>Is the manuscript scientifically, correct? Please write here.</b>	Yes	
<b>Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestions of additional references, please mention them in the review form.</b>	The references are relevant; however, adding more recent studies on global mangrove conservation efforts would enhance the article's relevance.	

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Is the language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications?	Language is suitable with some grammar corrections in the study.	
Optional/General comments	<p><b>Introduction:</b> The introduction provides a solid background on mangroves in the Niger Delta and the significance of studying their decline. It could incorporate more recent references or quantitative global comparisons for added context.</p> <p><b>Methodology:</b> The use of remote sensing and GIS is appropriate and well-detailed. However, the selection of specific time intervals for analysis (e.g., 1987, 2002, etc.) should be justified further. Ground truthing procedures and accuracy assessments of classifications could be elaborated to enhance reliability.</p> <p><b>Results:</b> The results are clearly presented with appropriate tables and figures. Trends are well-identified, but it might be beneficial to include statistical analyses or confidence levels to support the findings.</p> <p><b>Discussion:</b> The discussion effectively compares findings with existing literature. It could, however, explore deeper causative relationships between land-use changes and mangrove decline. Implications for local communities dependent on mangroves could be expanded.</p> <p><b>Conclusion and Recommendations:</b> The conclusions align with the results, but the recommendations might benefit from prioritizing actionable steps or identifying responsible stakeholders. Including potential socio-economic benefits of mangrove restoration could strengthen the policy argument.</p> <p><b>Figures and Tables:</b> The figures (e.g., LULC maps) are informative but could use consistent color schemes for better visual clarity. Tables are comprehensive but might be streamlined for ease of interpretation.</p>	

PART 2:

	Reviewer’s comment	Author’s comment (if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)
Are there ethical issues in this manuscript?	(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in details)	

Reviewer Details:

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