

PUBLIC POLICIES RELATED TO WATER USE AND ITS CHARGING FROM WATER AND SEWAGE COMPANIES IN THE NORTH COAST OF THE STATE OF SÃO PAULO

THE CASE OF THE RIOGRANDE BASIN

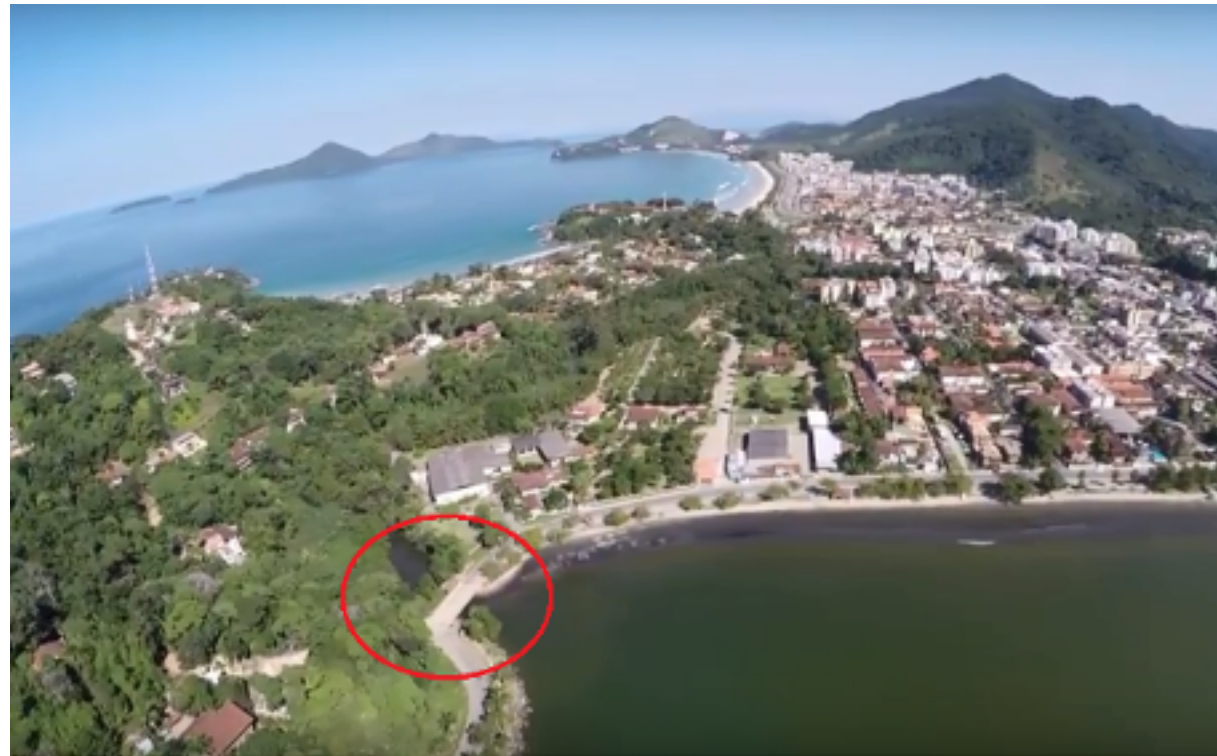
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1 Introduction

In this study, we will evaluate the N7 Basin, called Rio Grande Basin, with 103 km² of area, and more specifically the Acaraú River, belonging to the Municipality of Ubatuba (IBGE, 2000). Acaraú River, along with Tavares (or Barra da Lagoa) and Grande de Ubatuba rivers compose the Rio Grande watershed, one of the 34 basins of São Paulo's North Coast. The river is born in the State Park of Serra do Mar, passes through the neighborhoods of Sesmária, Estufa II, Praia Grande, Itagua, Acaraú and Tenório and flows into the right corner of Itaguá beach, in Ubatuba's center shore. It has a drainage area of 36,200 m² (SOS Mata Atlântica, 2013). Due to the sewage contamination of the Acaraú river and its direct drainage on Itaguá beach, this has been classified as improper to bathing for years, including causing, at certain times of the year (according to the volume of rainfall and quantity of tourists), an odor quite unpleasant on the downtown beach of Ubatuba.



Rio Grande River Basin and location of the Acaraú River. Source: NGO Costa Brasilis and Google Earth.



Acaraú river. Souce: vídeo from ONG APPRU e Itaguá Azuk.

2 Goal

The objective of the study is to verify if the water resources governance in Ubatuba, in the Rio Grande Basin, and especially the associated Ecosystem Services (SEs), promotes the maintenance of the quality and quantity of these services. Public policies related to SEs will be evaluated, as well as their implementation in the region.

3 Methodology

Documentary analysis of policies related to water use, policy instruments, meetings minutes of CBH-LN (North Coast Watershed Committee) and business plans of water and sewage companies (SABESP and Coambiental),

Group dynamics in workshops with diverse actors, both governmental and civil society who participate in CBH-LN with application of Participatory GIS tool (Maptionnaire - <https://mationnaire.com>)

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