WATERLOOF PRIMARY SCHOOL

Natural Science & Technology Grade 6 Term 2 2020

NOTES ON WETLANDS, SWAMPS, MANGROVE SWAMPS, VLEIS, MARSHES p96

Name	Description	Examples
Wetland	An area covered with shallow	#St Lucia Wetlands in
	water most of year, supports	KwaZulu Natal
	wide variety of animal- and plant-	Orange River Mouth,
	life	Namibia
		Everglades in Florida USA
Swamp	A low-lying, forested,	Okavango Swamp,
	uncultivated area where water	Botswana. Amazon River
	collects	floodplain, South America
Mangrove	A coastal swamp (salty water)	Beachwood Mangrove,
swamp	where mangrove trees grow, lots	Durban, KZN
	of entangled roots that grow	Kosi Estuary, KwaZulu Natal
	above the ground. Sometimes	
	called a tidal swamp. Protect the	
	environment from high-energy	
	wave action	
Vlei	Low-lying , marshy ground,	Makuleke Vlei, KNP,
	covered with water during the	Mpumalanga
	rainy season, shallow lake	Nylsvlei, Waterberg,
		Limpopo
Marsh	Land that is covered in shallow	Okavango Delta, Botswana
	water but has grasses, reeds etc	Mekong, Vietnam
	growing in / around it. Found at	
	edges of lakes and streams	
Bog /	A wetland that accumulates peat	Northwest Province &
peatland bog	(dead plant material esp mosses)	Gauteng
/ mire/		
quagmire		
/fen /moor	a promo chango to iCimangolico Watland	

St Lucia has a name change to iSimangaliso Wetland

• You will have noticed that **all** the above are wetlands and in most instances there is one special feature- eg is found only in coastal areas, or has certain type of plants – eg mangroves, or grasses and reeds or forest trees. Mangrove swamps have salty water.