

ACTIVE COASTAL CLIFFS IN THE SOUTH COAST OF THE STATE OF BAHIA, BRAZIL.

SILVA, I. R.; BITTENCOURT, A. C. S. P.; DOMINGUEZ, J. M. L.; MARTIN, L.
IGEO - Universidade Federal da Bahia.

The coastal zone between the cities of Porto Seguro and Prado, in south Bahia, Eastern Brazil (between 16° 00'S and 17° 20'S) is characterized by the presence of muddy-sand tablelands from the so-called Barreiras Formation, which form active cliffs along the coastline. Retreat of the cliffs is the result of sub-aerial degradation processes mostly due to infiltration of meteoric waters and marine erosion. Wave energy and the type of cliff's sediments respond for the differences found in the intensity of the erosion along the coast. Construction of wave climate model and estimate of potential intensity of the coastal drift, indicate the presence of two divergence zones, originated as a result of the presence of coral reefs off the coast that cause dispersion of waves coming from SE and SSE, and a local negative sediment budget, which may have been contributing to the occurrence of the active cliffs.