

**INTERVIEW TO
JOHN BAXTER
(SNH)**

Q: What are challenges and perspectives about ecology and conservation of river mouth ecosystems and coastal lagoons?

R: It is important that there is a good understanding of the physical, chemical and biological parameters of the environment.

The challenge is identifying that is sufficient knowledge to be able to act and putting in place a programme to gather more.

The key is : knowing what is there, its significance (always remembering that high biodiversity itself is not necessarily a good measure of value).

- developing clear aims and objectives of protection (management – seeking widespread OWNERSHIP

- developing management groups and associated management plan – TRUST

- biggest challenge is implementation and monitoring at the management plan – this has to be regarded as a dynamic process.