The following is feedback from participants who attended the Broome Level 1 Seagrass-Watch training workshop, September 10 – 11, 2010.

(no text has been edited by Seagrass-Watch HQ)

I found the Seagrass-Watch training to be....

..really fun & exciting. I enjoyed the work as much as my ranger work
..completely fascinating and extremely helpful
..very useful and knowledgeable
..really interesting, full of information that I could easily understand
..excellent. Very impressed.
..informative and enlightening
..well structured, informative and comprehensive
..extremely interesting, except for the last hour of the first day. It was very hard to concentrate due to the brain overload.
..very thorough, practical, well suited to a wide variety of people (audience). The intermediate tests are a great way to ensure people pay attention
..very good experience. I learnt alot
..a great enjoyment and learning for me

What I enjoyed most about the training was....

..looking for the seeds
..the depth of information in the classroom lesson – so interesting!
..field exercise and identifying seagrass
..learning something new and doing the hands on in Roebuck Bay
..the quality of the program
..hands on and relevance to the area
..the practical aspect
..interesting with different people. Learning something I have never acknowledged before
..learning about seagrass biology
..the muffins
..meeting great people, meeting Len and learning how to ID seagrass
..going out and doing the field work
..the actual measuring of the seagrass, and being on site
It could have been better if....
..i didn't have to get up and speak
..Seagrass-Watch HQ was relocated to Broome - we don't want you to go!
..maybe more hands on but well balanced really
..we had started and finished earlier on the Friday
..the last hour of the first day was eliminated as most of that info is in the training manuals anyway
..we started a little earlier on the first day, because of the temp. But I understand some people had to travel far, so not a big deal
..we would be able to do more out on the field (that was fun)
..more time on the field, to do more seagrass monitoring

I did not realise that
..you can find and collect seeds
..seagrass and seaweed were different
..so many of our systems and sea life depend on seagrass. That it is a more important area than coral reefs
..dugongs come so close to town beach and that the hover craft was not supposed to go over the seagrass
..Halodule uninervis has a 1-2 year resilient seed bank. Also that invasive species can harm seagrass
..there is such an extensive seagrass meadow around broome
..seagrass was so important in the biodiversity of not only sea life, but land mammals and humans
..we can measure seed banks and make seagrass cookies
..seagrasses are such an integral part of the recycling mechanism
..seagrass is one of our major carbon sinks or that there development proposals to reclaim huge areas of important seagrass
..you can learn a lot, like different types of seagrass, major threats and protecting it and manage things
..it has a lot of things to go towards seagrass monitoring and different species of seagrass

Now I understand that....
..seagrass is really important to marine life
..it is important that seagrass is monitored and protected
..the importance of monitoring and caring for our seagrass meadows
..I have a new respect for the benthos in Roebuck Bay
..regional guidelines can be developed for each region allowing for report cards to be produced (after 15-20 sampling events are completed)
Seagrass plays such an important role in inshore ecology. Seagrass needs to be preserved to keep the coastal marine life and also the coastal structure. Seagrasses are cool. Wrack is a rich source of nutrients and more research should be done to find ways of using it. Referring to the percent cover photos is very important to ensure consistency and accuracy. It is very important to the marine ecosystem. Seagrass plays a big role in the ecosystem, it plays a big part in our marine life.

**In my area the types of seagrasses and habitats include**

- All shell fish and more mangroves
- Ho, Hu species that cover the mudflats of Town beach
- Ho, Hu, dugong habitats, dolphin, whales
- Halophila ovalis and Halodule uninveris
- I have no idea
- Coastal seagrass, access at low tide
- Intertidal coastal, Halophila ovalis and Halodule uninveris
- Halophila and not sure? Will make sure I find out when I get back to Victoria

**When I go back to my area, I will**

- Understand more about seagrass and the animals that live in it
- Get involved with Seagrass-Watch
- Be more careful with my coastal management (ie passing on this info to others, being involved myself)
- Look to see what changes have taken place
- Continue participating in seagrass monitoring as a volunteer under the guidance of a great new coordinator
- Become involved in monitoring
- Learn the types of seagrasses and habitats in my area
- Know more about seagrass
- I am in my area
- Identify the seagrass species and start to develop a seagrass program in affiliation with others currently doing studies in my area
- Present the knowledge that I have learnt over the last 2 days and let my workmate and others know
- Try and do more monitoring
Other comments

..Thank you for teaching me more about seagrass
..Great course/training. Some very important messages to be noted
..loved it! Would like to do more!
..enjoyed it. Hope I can stick with it!
..Just brilliant, thank you so much.
..a well run course
..thank you to the presenters and also Fiona for including me in this workshop. I have enjoyed myself and look forward to furthering my knowledge of seagrass
..I would recommend this course to my friends
..I think that the quality of the power point presentation was excellent. Len’s ability to stay on the ball and consistently provided good info and motivation for the whole day is commendable. I thoroughly enjoyed the course. Thank you for the opportunity Len and Rudi