

Feb 2009

Going green on Valentines Day

VALENTINE'S DAY this year was a special one for twenty-four Grade 7 International School students after spending it on the sandy mud-flats at Nasese surveying the seagrass beds. The sunny afternoon barely cooled by a light sea breeze necessitated the donning of wide-brim hats, caps and a generous slopping of sun-lotion. The survey kicked off just after 2 pm guided by four teachers. Tagging along was one of the parent and me. Despite the afternoon heat, it felt great to finally kick-start seagrass surveys in Fiji. The infective enthusiasm of the students really made the day enjoyable and time just whizzed by fast. Snails, hermit crabs, shrimps and fishes made each group squealed with delight. A few 'ewws' were heard as unidentified globs and blobs were seen near the quadrats.

A report of the survey will be prepared by the school and we are eager to see the students description of the day. This is a good time to get our other sites survey. I am extremely grateful to the teachers for inviting me to take part in their survey, and I look forward to continue to assist when and where needed. I also would like to invite our other site coordinators to get in touch and provide us with some survey dates for your site.

On a related matter, our SeagrassWatch training planned for next month is now postponed to around June/July. You will be advised of the date as soon as possible.



International School students are all 'seagrass smiles' after putting in the long hours for their community service program.



Ominous clouds loomed as the transect was laid out



Mr Hauduk seeding



Mrs Toru on hand to help



Spotting critters in the quadrat



Home-made quadrat gets the job done



Its all business for these young ladies

For more information on SeagrassWatch Fiji - please contact:
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