



The following is a selection of feedback from participants who attended the Broome Seagrass-Watch training workshop, August 23 -24 2009.

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

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

- ..informative, enjoyable, educational*
- ..very benefiting to our ranger group*
- ..highly informative*
- ..good experience with other groups and enjoying it*
- ..professional, well structured, enjoyable, informative*
- ..great presentation, lots of info., learnt heaps*
- ..highly informative and well presented*
- ..very educational and fun*
- ..useful and informative, although the sessions seemed abit long*
- ..very interesting about a very important subject*
- ..interesting and informative, however the powerpoint presentation a bit too long for my liking*
- ..informative and enjoyable*
- ..educational*
- ..interesting, educational and motivating*

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

- ..practical*
- ..hands on stuff - IDing grass, making pressed sample and monitoring on Roebuck Bay*
- ..acquiring knowledge that can be used to help the local ecosystems*
- ..the practical bit*
- ..enforcing previous knowledge*
- ..learning something new, working with other Broome locals, the work in the field*
- ..the hands on at Roebuck Bay*
- ..walking out to the mudflats and doing the hands on stuff*
- ..the interaction between plants and sea animals*
- ..overview on seagrass biology*
- ..species ID*
- ..learning to identify the 2 types of seagrass in Broome, also the field work out on the bay*

- ..the presentation was very easily understood and inclusive of all who attended
- ..practical exercises, identifying field work
- ..contextualising seagrass in historical sense, working alongside rangers, seeing so much enthusiasm
- ..all of it
- ..hands on training
- ..the presentation
- ..Both = class work and field work - excellent

It could have been better if...

- ..was more time and a lot slower
- ..it excellent
- ..the workshop was held on a weekday and practical- the weekend
- ..more aboriginal women would join in
- ..you had given praise to the Bardi ranger group publicly for their good work and involvement
- ..you had more questions during the program
- ..seagrass health was better related to local threats
- ..there was some more science - basic not too indepth
- ..ran on time. Did not spend so long on examples of other programs at the end of day one. Split into guided groups at the start of prac -not so useful having all participants around one quadrat
- ..we could dive
- ..the lecture was broken up a bit more and there was more interaction
- ..can't think of anything
- ..more equipment for the actual monitoring (pegs/quadrats/compasses)
- ..

I did not realize that

- ..seagrass was such an indicator of conditions
- ..seagrass will indicate when there is a 20% in things - so an early warning tool to enviro changes
- ..it could be so interesting
- ..so little data on seagrass available as yet
- ..there were some many types of seagrass
- ..dugong ate so much and were very selective
- ..we weren't suppose to measure canopy height of ovalis
- ..seagrass was so important
- ..dugong feeding was so common on town beach
- ..seagrass and algae was not in the same family

- ..seagrass was of such importance
- ..seagrass was such a bioindicator
- ..you had to mark ends of transects at pre-stated GPS points
- ..it was so interesting mixing up with people all from other places
- ..seagrass is a nursery for prawns
- ..we had so many types of seagrass
- ..alot more was to be learnt about the sea/grass

Now I understand that....

..a whole of education has to happen and our research needs to make this a successful project

the importance of seagrass

seagrass is vital for the health of Roebuck Bay

I will go back to my home and look after my country

animals can take people to court! Also, that the core/seed sampling is something the project can do

as an interested local participating in Seagrass-Watch, our data collected is of significant importance and referred to when management decisions are being made

the seagrass play a major part in the underwater ecosystem

Seagrass-Watch has international monitoring sites

Seagrass plays an important role in the food chain

Seagrass are a measure of the health of the bay

..the importance of seagrass and the need to collect data

..seagrasses are totally different to sea weeds and that is very important to monitor to identify changes in the environment

..there are so many functions that seagrass fulfills

..dugongs only eat the little tender parts of grass- rhizomes and leaves have not much nutritional value

..dugongs are greedy

In my area the types of seagrasses and habitats include

..H0 and H1

..coastal, estuarine and reefs. The coastal tidal zone is easier to access

..mudflats. 2 seagrasses

..Halophila ovalis and Halodule uninervis

..H0, H1, and H2

..Intertidal systems

..Mudflats/coastal. H0/H1

..creek/estuarine and reef habitats (one/chillie creek). Halophila ovalis and Halodule uninervis

When I go back to my area, I will

- ..be more careful
- ..spread the news about the two trips here about Seagrass-Watch
- ..work with the Bardí Jawa rangers in monitoring our seagrass and put in work program
- ..continue seagrass monitoring and try to get mangrove monitoring underway
- ..conduct more scientifically robust monitoring sessions
- ..get involved in seagrass monitoring
- ..encourage others to participate in the seagrass monitoring and be involved in coastal management
- ..return for the next seagrass monitoring stage
- ..implement a seagrass monitoring program
- ..continue monitoring
- ..remain involved in surveys
- .. hopefully continue with this work
- ..try and improve data in the different areas

Other comments

- ..it will be interesting to see what happens in a few years
- ..well done guys!
- ..thanks for providing the course and the great food
- ..Fantastic effort for tea/lunch etc. Thanks
- ..excellent workshop and I hope to continue monitoring seagrass and continue with marine ecology involvement
- ..there should be more public educated on the types of seagrass here in Broome and what we can do to help preserve and encourage growth for future generations to monitor
- ..great model of training inform and disemenation
- ..completely wonderful. I value your knowledge, guidance and professionalism so much and would like to thank you both for all the great work you do
- ..the presentation was benefiting to our group and that is why we as Rangers should protect and look after something that is very important to us
- ..
- ..
- ..



Thank you