



The following is feedback from participants who attended the Great Sandy Region Level 1 Seagrass-Watch training workshop, April 2-3, 2011.

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

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

- ..educational and informative. Very worthwhile
- thorough
- ..very informative, well prepared, kept you awake by the short tests following each section
- ..informative and helpful
- very informative and interesting
- very interesting and worth doing
- ..very educational
- informative, reassuring
- very informative and inspiring
- very interesting

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

- ..clearing up many questions about the monitoring process. Understanding more about seagrass and Seagrass-Watch. Hands on was great.
- ..I learnt new information regarding seagrass
- the tests (kept me on my toes)
- ..the hands on ID session
- ..not the rain. Seeing how the transects were done.
- ..social friendly group and learning more about how our foreshores and rivers are developing.
- ..the partnerships between so many organisations for the one purpose.
- ..learning to identify seagrass species – being provided with info booklet
- ..all the news on seagrass that is going on around the world
- ..

It could have been better if...

- ..the afternoon session had also had a hands on component to break up the theoretical or some of the theoretical was added to Day 2
- ..more time for Day 1 – a lot of Topics covered in a short time
- ..maybe the technical or practical information be just before the practical session
- ..it didn't rain on Sunday (and we had done our transects)
- ..the weather permitted the monitoring
- ..the weather was a little better, less rain
- ..the weather was more accommodating
- ..it didn't rain on the day we were scheduled to do sampling

I did not realise that

- ..so many were involved in it
- ..dugongs eat the rhizomes
- ..there was so many different types of seagrass and life in our rivers
- ..it would be so difficult to distinguish between species
- ..there were so many species of seagrass in the GSS, and that seagrass was so widespread (worldwide)
- ..i always realised the importance of seagrass, but it is good to see all the other countries participating in Seagrass-Watch
- ..global importance and widespread assessment being carries out
- ..there are month groupings for monitoring

Now I understand that....

- ..replicate sites are used in a location to verify the data collected
- ..the bigger picture
- ..the bigger picture –as well as the importance to turtles, dugong, but the benefits seagrass is to environment and the connection to other environmental issues
- ..it's a global resource which impacts lives and livelihoods of potentially millions of people
- ..lots
- ..how the 50x50 transects work
- ..i have to read and study more about our seagrass, just to learn more about the structures and terminology of seagrass, and I can now have a better understanding of seagrass
- ..it is very difficult to monitor seagrass in heavy rain
- ..that there is much to learn about the animal grazers, turtles and climate

In my area the types of seagrasses and habitats include

- ..zostera capricornii, Halophila ovalis and Halodule uninervis
- ..Zc, Ho, Hu
- ..dugongs, turtles, and a strong mix of different sediment
- ..Hu, Zc, Ho, Hs
- ..not sure but will find out and let you know
- ..Halophila ovalis, halodule uninervis, zostera. Coastal estuarine

When I go back to my area, I will

- ..establish monitoring schedule for our sites. Develop additional site at Teedar which is an area of special interest to us.
- ..go through my notes and brush up on id
- ..formulate a schedule of dates in which to monitor our sites
- ..stay involved with my local coast care group
- ..try to establish a few community groups
- ..work with others on the sites
- ..use the training to monitor seagrass and to support other seagrass-watchers
- ..organise a schedule for tinnanbar
- ..find out what monitoring is going on closest to where I live and keep in contact with seagrass-watch HQ re monitoring activity I can take part in

Other comments

- ..thank you
- ..well worth doing with other commercial fishers
- ..the presentation was very professional and well done
- ..error of photographs not matching with quadrat data can be largely overcome if taking photos while taking data is standardised in the methodology
- ..thank you for your cooperation and encouragement



Thank you