



**The following is feedback from participants who attended the workshop for monitoring seagrass habitats on the Gold Coast (QLD), held at Gecko House, Currumbin, 25th November 2007.**

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

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

- ..informative and educational*
- ..interesting, indepth, covering different, helpful to the monitoring part*
- ..very interesting and informative, with a very clear presentation of species identification procedures*
- ..excellent, comprehensive, well organised, clear and informative*

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

- ..the indepth knowledge received on seagrass*
- ..to learn extra bits of knowledge I didn't know. Such as some figures eg Dugongs eat 40 kg per day etc*
- ..the small group atmosphere and the friendly people*
- ..the fieldwork as well as the assessments which kept me on my toes and helped to absorb all the info*
- ..ample opportunity to ask questions*
- ..all the information*
- ..the field component and the people I met*
- ..learning about the wider applications of the data, and the importance of compliance with HQ standards.*

***It could have been better if....***

- ..it was condensed to a half day (4 hour) program*
- ..we could spend a week with Len and Rudi*
- ..I don't know that it needs anything else!*
- ..started on time*
- ..we had a copy of the slides with notes*
- ..we'd had more time. Discussions and questions were great but \_\_\_ we ran overtime but they should not be curtailed*

### ***I did not realize that***

- ..we had so many (7) species and that there are a good number of dugong (900-1000)
- ..there was so much information to cover. How extensive it is. How much material is available and the resources
- ..so much work is being done to study and monitor seagrasses throughout QLD and Australia
- ..(there was so much to learn) That I could contact HQ anytime
- ..seagrasses could be so varied and interesting
- ..there was so much to learn
- ..we would be tested!
- ..*H. minor* existed; epibionts = animals growing/attached to seagrass ; turtles can eat up to 60kg of seagrass/day.

### ***Now I understand that...***

- ..the seagrass conservation is occurring in QLD and other parts of the world. Keep up the good work
- ..the role of Seagrass-Watch HQ and where the other stake holders fit (eg QPWS, EPA). That it is important and informative for many people in the community.
- ..I can contribute to seagrass monitoring in my area
- ..we must be diligent to educate, save and conserve
- ..these areas need more protection and monitoring
- ..it can be very useful to monitor the health of the ecosystems
- ..seagrasses grow in deep water as well as intertidally
- ..data compliance is very important. We need to be more specific about comments on other organisms. Measuring the start and end times are important

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

- ..help out Seagrass-Watch if I can
- ..inform everyone how valuable it is to conserve seagrass in C'bin creek and Tallebugera creek
- ..continue to monitor with the few changes that we have learnt to make through the workshop
- ..organise more training
- ..try to establish Seagrass-Watch sites
- ..certainly do the best I can to save nature

## **Other comments**

..Great information and training kit. Well Done!

..I am pleased to find out how well set up the whole system /monitoring techniques/scientific support etc is. There seems to be flexibility and open communication

..Thanks so much to Len/Rudi/Paul/Keira. We'll be organising more field days

..Thanks! Really enjoyed the workshop!

..Great training day

..It would be great to someone from Seagrass-Watch as a guest speaker at Gecko general meeting and at my work



**Thank you**