



**The following is feedback from participants who attended the workshop for monitoring seagrass habitats in Hervey Bay and the Great Sandy Strait (Queensland), held at Urangan Community Centre, Urangan, Hervey Bay, 17th – 18th May 2008.**

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

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

- ..very informative*
- ..interesting and informative*
- ..excellent and good fun*
- ..excellent*
- ..long...yet interesting. What else can I say??*
- ..excellent, informative, fun and comprehensive*
- ..extremely interesting – there is so much to learn*
- ..extremely helpful, learnt a lot*

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

- ..the practical session*
- ..hands on field training*
- ..being able to pick Len's brain on many issue's I didn't understand*
- ..the field work transects – getting back to the science and data collection/planning*
- ..learning new information and of course the food!*
- ..learning more about seagrass with great facilitators and great participants*
- ..hands on in the field*
- ..material was easy to understand - friendly*

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

- .. some more time was spent on the lab id exercise – I felt I didn't come out of this exercise confident I could id the species included*
- ..I have no additions*
- ..could not be better!!*
- ..on Saturday – maybe start earlier and finish a little earlier*
- ..there was beer at end of course*
- ..we started earlier on Saturday, I lost concentration*
- ..maybe 2 hours morning and 2hr afternoon*

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

- ..dugongs were so close at Burrum Heads!
- ..rhizomes were the main diet of the dugong and that low biomass beds are valuable.
- ..seagrass monitoring was being conducted on such a large scale.
- ..seagrass was so important.
- ..seagrass were not seaweed!
- ..pigs have shelters over water (referring to Pig pens in the South Pacific)
- ..I had to put in water depth, ripples or seeds, to make sure correct measurements and photos = tape measure eg 25m etc

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

- ..this is a very well developed program with excellent quality control
- ..we need to preserve the seagrass as best we can
- ..seagrass plays such an important role in the health of our oceans which in turn makes for healthy a environment
- ..unfortunately the seagrass at urangan will be impacted by the proposed marina expansion unless we do something about it.
- ..seagrass in the Sandy Strait is even in worse state than I thought
- ..seagrass recovery can take some considerable time.
- ..everyone has to be on the 'watch' to look after the environment esp seagrass
- ..just how important to complete everything thoroughly
- ..how important seagrass monitoring is

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

- ..go and find some dugongs
- ..check out the seagrass behind the reefs a bit more
- ..be more aware of the monitoring data and contacts for knowledge
- ..be more aware of the value of seagrass
- ..certainly take more notice and care of the seagrass and encourage others to do likewise
- ..do my reports very diligently
- ..be more diligent

### ***Other comments***

- ..do my best to convince the council to introduce more stringent environmental controls and employ staff to enforce compliance! Lobby other (higher) of govt. to do likewise
- ..thanks really enjoyed the weekend!
- ..thanks for your time and effort, keep up the great work



**Thank you**