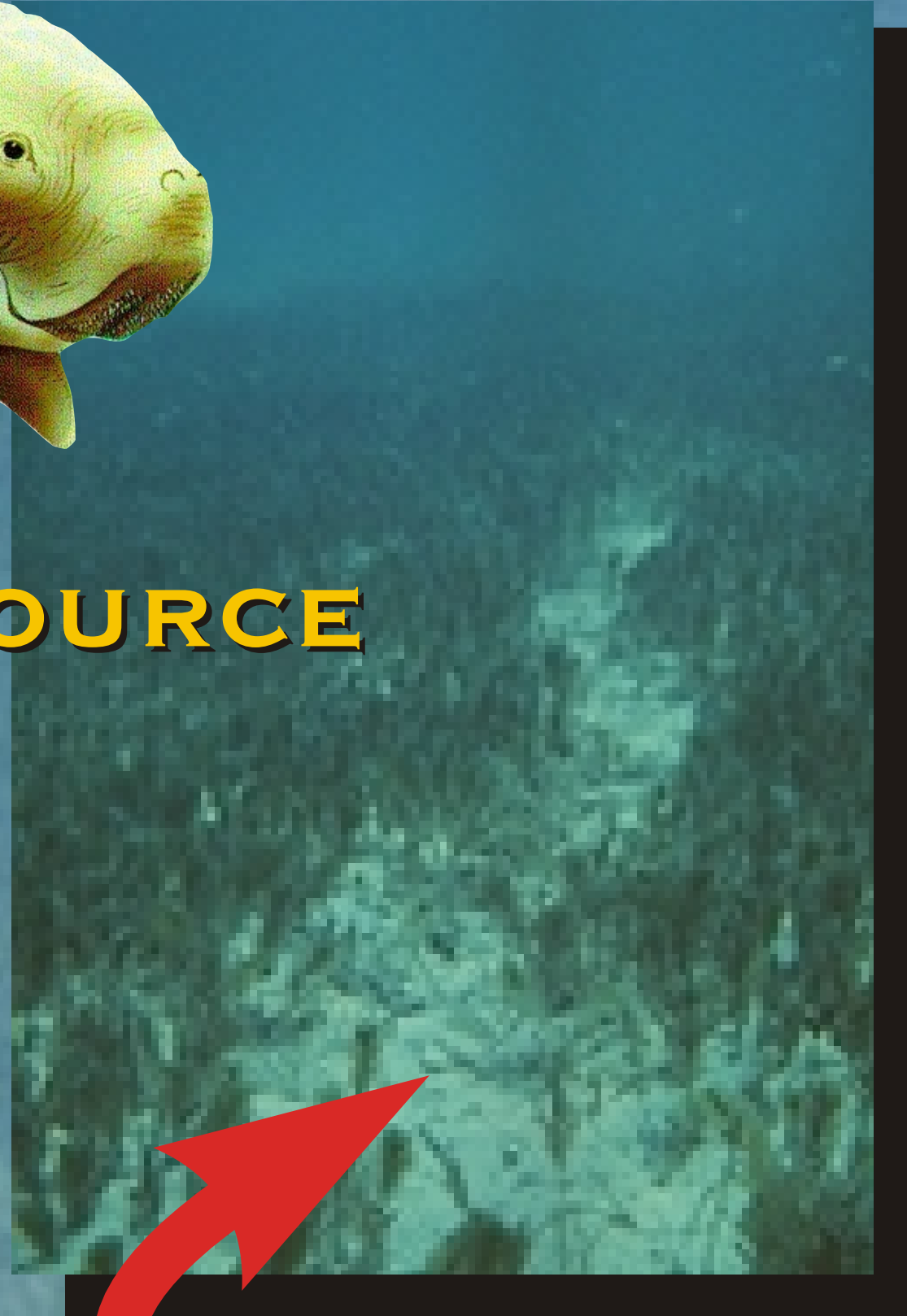


# TROPICAL SEAGRASSES OF QUEENSLAND

## ● DUGONG FOOD RESOURCE

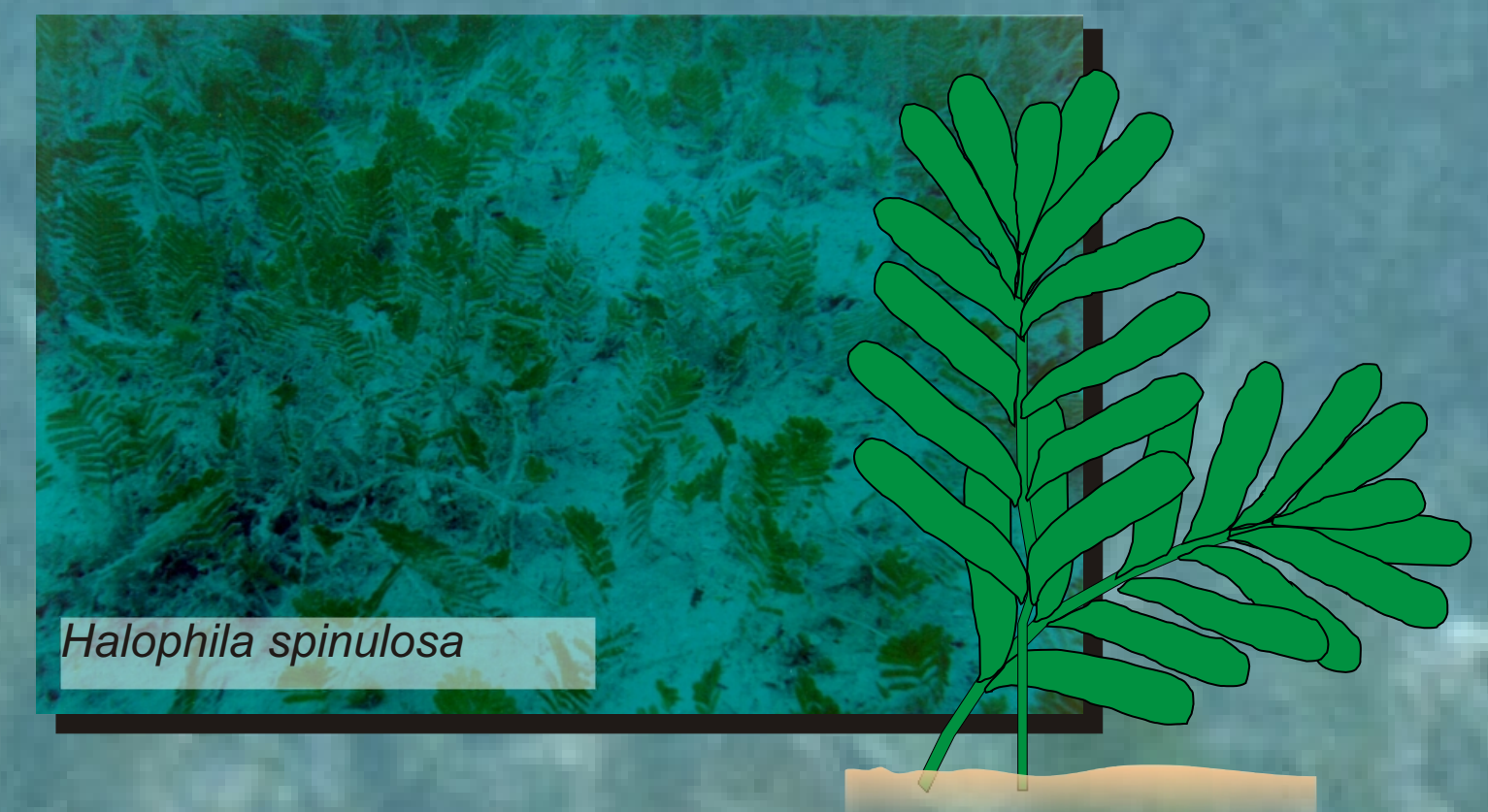
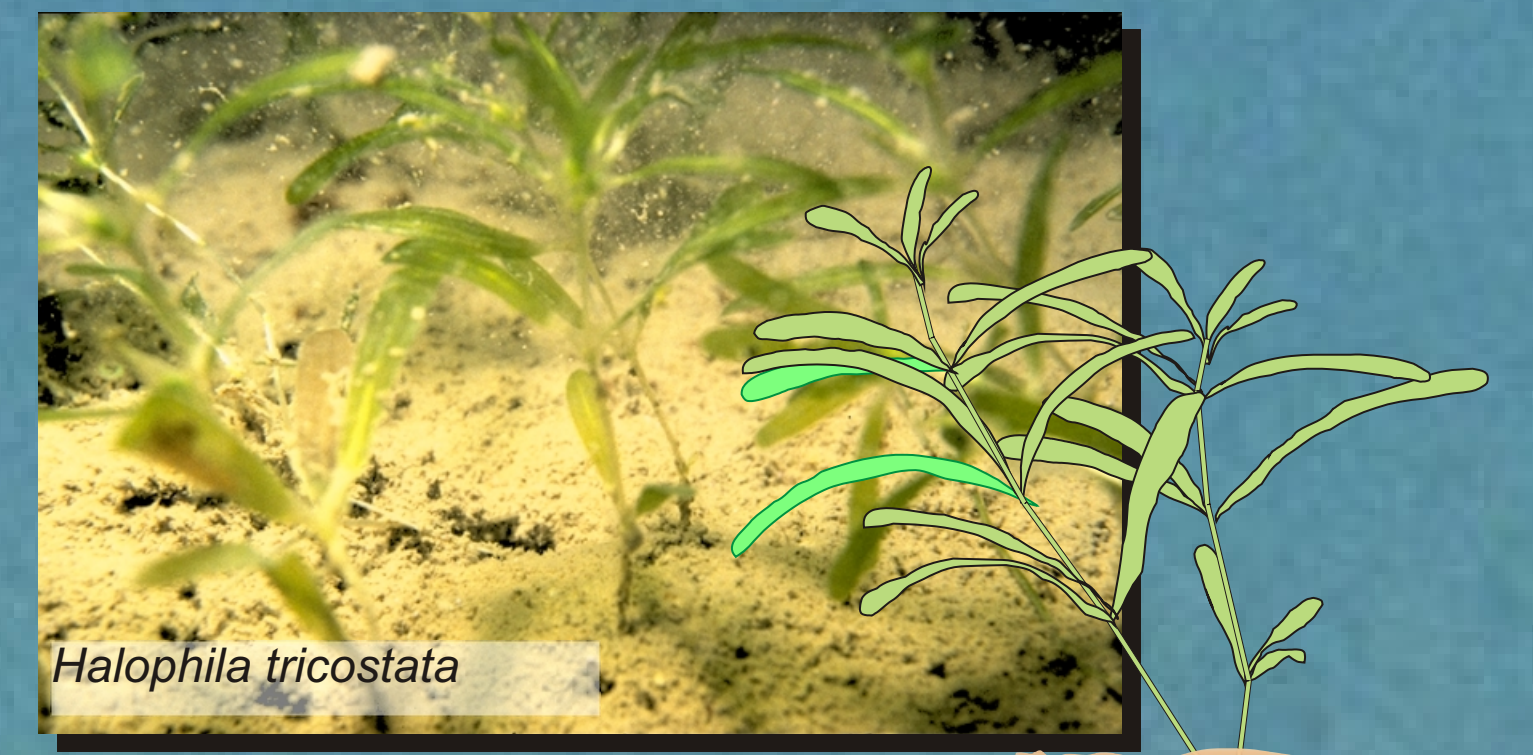
Seagrass provides a food resource for dugongs. The deepest dugong feeding trails have been found at 33m, and the furthest trails recorded were approximately 18km from the coast.



**Dugong Feeding trail**

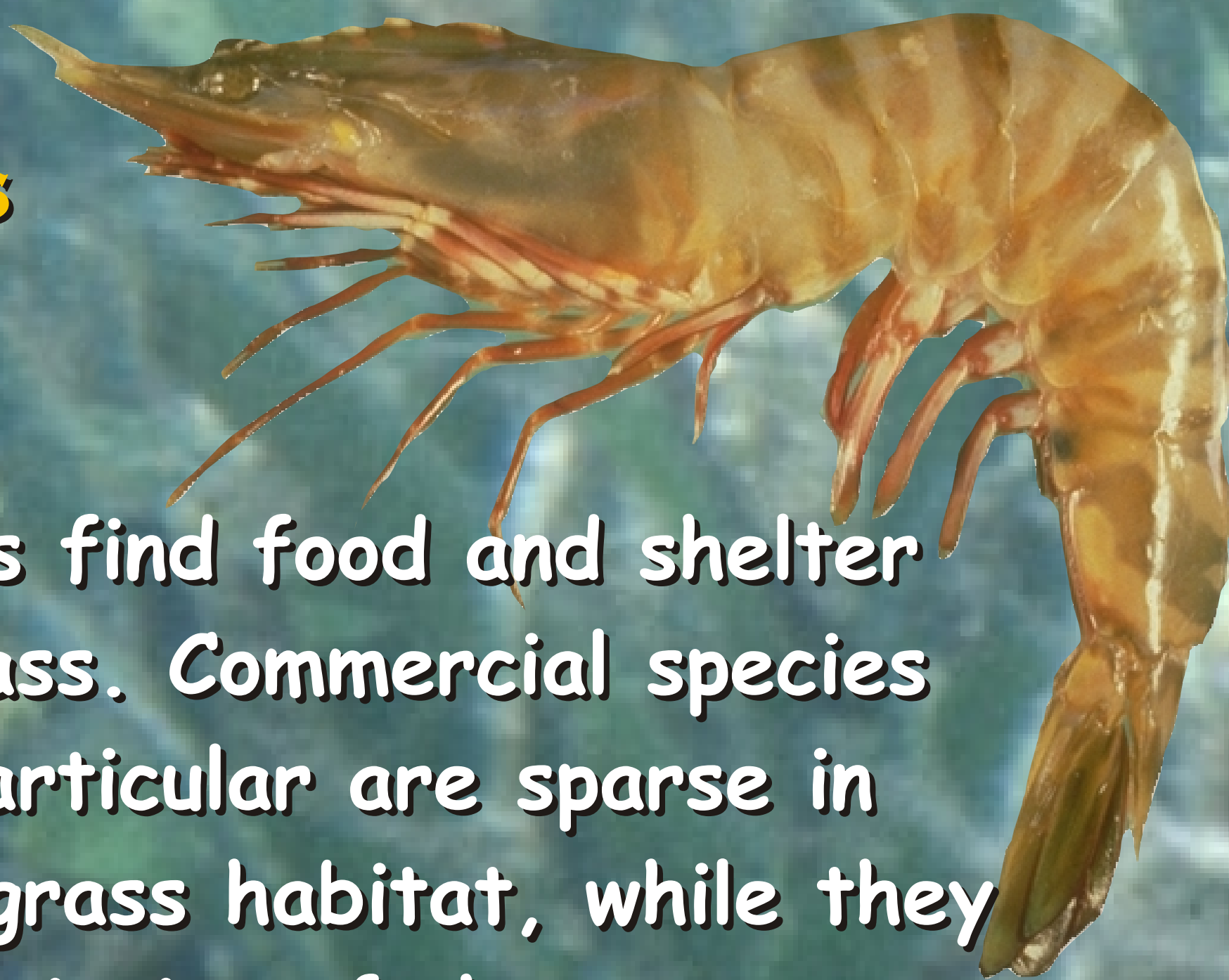
## ● BIODIVERSITY

A diverse array of seagrass species are found in Queensland waters. 16 seagrass species are found along the coast - in bays, inlets and channels and in deep-water between the coral reefs in the Great Barrier Reef lagoon.



## ● FISHERIES NURSERY HABITAT

Juvenile prawns find food and shelter amongst seagrass. Commercial species of prawns in particular are sparse in deepwater seagrass habitat, while they make up the majority of the prawns found in inshore seagrass habitats.



## ● TURTLE FOOD RESOURCE

Green sea turtles (*Chelonia mydas*) feed primarily on the seagrasses *Halophila ovalis*, *Halodule uninervis*, *Zostera capricorni* and *Halophila spinulosa*. They also feed on the algae *Hypnea cervicornis* and jellyfish.



## PEOPLE INVOLVED IN CONSERVING OUR SEAGRASSES



The Seagrass-Watch is a program being developed by the Seagrass Ecology Group (Queensland Department of Primary Industries, Northern Fisheries Centre, Cairns). The ultimate aim of the Seagrass-Watch program is to involve volunteers and community groups in the collection of information on the condition and trend of seagrass meadow characteristics (eg., area, position & depth of habitat, seagrass species and composition, percent cover, presence of dugong feeding trails, notes on other fauna and possible impacts). The program is being developed with the assistance of community groups, volunteers and other government departments.

If you would like to forward any comments or require additional information on any aspect of the Seagrass-Watch, please contact us

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