

GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY

Technical Report GBRMPA - TR-1

MANAGEMENT OF DUGONG: AN ENDANGERED MARINE
SPECIES OF TRADITIONAL SIGNIFICANCE

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SUMMARY

Because of its inherent value as a food item, the dugong has occupied a significant role in the life styles of north-east coast Queensland indigenous people. The need for management of dugong, an endangered species found within Great Barrier Reef waters, is established. The Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority has indicated its commitment to conservation of endangered species. Successful management must be based on sound research, developed in conjunction with relevant government agencies & "user" groups, and interpreted by effective education programs. Existing research programs in Australia and information needs related to dugongs are outlined. Only by "user" involvement in the development of an integrated research, management and education program will the dugong population of northeast Queensland be able to be conserved and used on a sustainable basis.

Keywords: Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, dugong, endangered species, traditional use, user involvement, research, management, education

Technical Reports are intended for detailed papers which represent the Authority's position

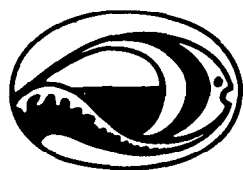
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