



Mapping seagrass

in the Torres Strait + Gulf of Carpentaria

Seagrass meadows

Seagrass meadows are found along our northern coastline and islands. They are important because they provide food and habitat for many species and are the main food of green turtles and dugongs.

40 years

For the past 40 years a lot of information about seagrass has been gathered in the Gulf of Carpentaria and Torres Strait. However much of this information has not been brought together and it is not accessible to community.

50 studies

The Project team's thorough detective work uncovered and compiled data from almost fifty separate seagrass research and monitoring studies from the period between 1983 and 2022.

What's in it?

The new dataset includes information on 13 seagrass species, 641 seagrass meadows, and nearly 50,000 individual map points (each linked to other information such as species, water depth, temperature, and seagrass cover).

What's next?

The Project found that there are big knowledge gaps and much more data is needed! For example, many of the Gulf's deeper seabeds haven't been surveyed because it's difficult to get to them. But now that we know this information is missing we can make a plan to fill-in the gaps.

Helpful tools for conservation

You and your community can now access this information to help manage sea country. The data is now available as a visual map on the eAtlas website.

If you would like help looking at and interpreting the data please email Dr Alex Carter at alexandra.carter@jcu.edu.au



eAtlas.org.au
Australia's Tropical Land And Seas



Scan the QR code and visit the NESP Marine and Coastal Hub website for more information.

