## FERTILISER FACTORIES

- Dugongs are marine mammals, they live in the water but breathe air. They are closely related to elephants.
- Dugongs are the only species in their group of animals truly one of a kind!
- The average lifespan of a dugong is 70 years.
- They are also referred to as sea cows because they eat seagrass.

## Go slow for those below

"I keep an eye out for

in shallow water."

dugongs and slow down



- Watch out for signs and slow down near dugongs.
- Pick up litter to stop it entering the ocean.

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- Collect all and dispose of all fishing equipment responsibly.
  - Share these tips with others.

**Dr Chloe Schauble** Reef scientist, Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority

**GO SLOW FOR** 

**THOSE BELOW** 

**Boat strikes can kill dugongs.** By slowing down, dugongs will have time to swim away.

## **Poo that grows grass**

Dugongs play an important role in seagrass habitats. Their poo spreads nutrients and seagrass plants from place to place! Seagrass is an important source of food for turtles and dugongs. It is also an important nursery ground for growing fish.



## Australian Government

**Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority**  The 2019 Outlook Report states the dugong population is in poor condition. Dugongs face many threats through their life. Threats include boat strikes, marine debris and nets. We have decreased many of these risks with the correct management and education. We can continue to help reduce risks to dugongs and improve their outlook for the future.

JUNIOR

OUTLOOK

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