

An observation of dugong behaviors from aerial surveys and feeding trails of a cow-calf pair in seagrass habitat

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An observation of dugong behaviors from aerial survey using a microlight was carried out at Cham, Pu and Sriboya Islands, Krabi province in November 2002. The feeding trails of a cow-calf pair were studied at Sriboya Island. From a total of 56 individuals observed over 10-day period, 69.6% of dugongs was feeding on seagrasses and 30.4% was swimming in or out of the seagrass areas. Most of the feeding trails were not in a straight line. The feeding trail of the mother dugong was 5.35 ± 1.85 (SD) m. long, 0.174 ± 0.0198 (SD) m. wide and 2-4 cm. deep. While the feeding trail of the calf was 1.00 ± 0.66 (SD) m. in length, 0.09 ± 0.0143 (SD) m. in width and 1-2 cm. in depth. The feeding trail of the mother-calf pair was 1.05 ± 0.20 (SD) m. apart. They fed only on *Halophila ovalis*.