



Nature and the Environment in the News

Source UNDP Environmental Discussion Group

Issue:

Date: 30/1/2007

Dugong appeared in Con Dao

About from 15h00,, to 18h00, On January 31 to February 3 2007 when the tide was high, Dugong appeared at Con Son beach in front of Sai Gon Tourist hotel, attracted many local citizens and tourists.

Dugong (local people call bowfish) - Mermaids of the sea! There are 10.000 individuals over the world. Con Dao archipelago with 11 species seagrass is important habitat of Vietnam Dugong. Said conservation staffs of Con Dao national park Dugong frequently appear during the final period of year when the sea grass beds are better developed. If you are lucky you can see them!

Some information Con Dao Dugong:

* Van Bree and Gallagher (1977) published information on seven specimens from the Con Dao Islands, which are housed in the Museum of Bordeaux, France.

* During an expedition to the Con Dao Islands by scientists from the Haiphong Institute of Oceanology in March-April 1996, informed that a dugong had been caught in a fishing net in Con Son Bay in July 1993.

* Fishermen from Hong Kong who were culturing coral reef fishes in Con Son Bay informed that they often saw a group of 7-10 dugong there during the period June-October, when the sea grass beds are better developed.

* in 1998s Dr Vo Sy Tuan captured a picture of Dugong at Con Son Gulf in near distance. The photo was publishes widely

* Con Dao national park recorded that a Dugong dead in July and one dead in November 2000 in Con Dao.

* Nick cox captured picture of Dugong at Con Son gulf in 2001