



"Our environment is our future"

RESEARCH COLLOQUIUM SERIES

Dennis Horwood

Sea Change Marine Conservation Society



Friday

Mar. 30, 2012

3:30 - 4:30

LECTURE THEATRE

7 - 152

THE EELGRASS GAMES.

THE REALITY OF LIFE AND DEATH ALONG THE SANDY SHORES OF DOUGLAS CHANNEL.

Since 2002, eelgrass sites have been investigated and subsequently mapped throughout the northern end of Douglas Channel. This presentation first aims to describe eelgrass as there is often confusion as to identifying the plant. Aspects of its biology such as habitat requirements and interdependency of many marine organisms will also be covered. Methods for mapping, laying a transect, plant density, and videography will be included featuring the site of the current LNG plant at Bish Bay.

Over a period of three years, a major transplant project was attempted in Minette Bay. An overview of how this was done, the results, and speculation as to its ultimate demise will be covered. In the last 25 years, eelgrass beds have apparently disappeared and a curious geographical distribution has been noted in the channel. These mysteries lay the groundwork for future eelgrass investigations.