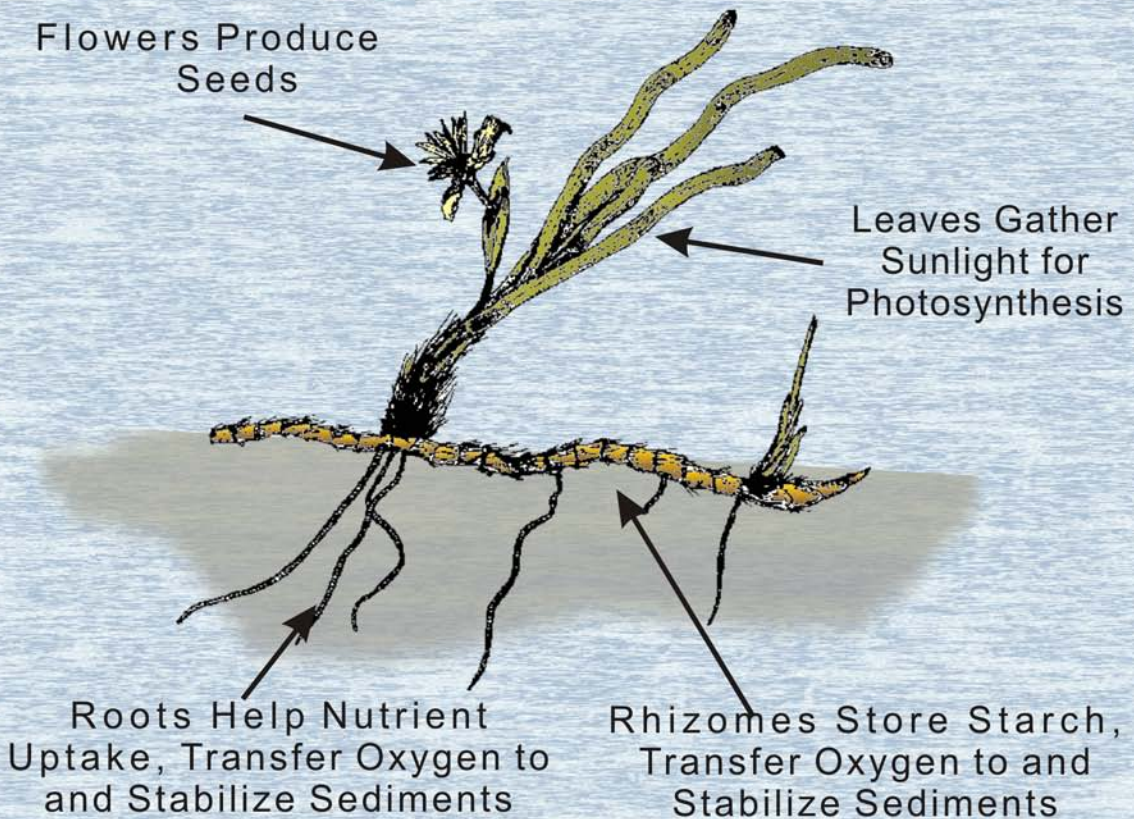


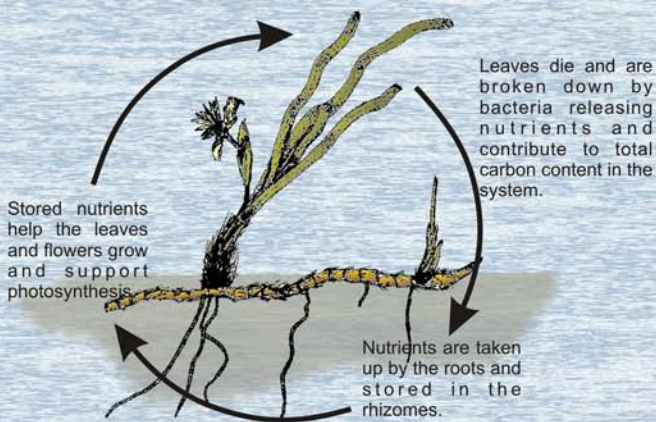
What Are Seagrasses?

Seagrasses are NOT true grasses, but are marine flowering plants that grow rooted and submersed in the higher salinity waters of most Texas bays and estuaries.



Seagrasses are Important

Seagrasses Perform Many Critical Functions in the Marine Environment



Seagrasses Recycle
Nutrients & Filter
Contaminants



Seagrasses Provide Food
& Shelter for Young Fish
& Invertebrates which are
Fed on by Adult Gamefish



Seagrasses are a Food
Source for Sea Turtles
and Migratory Waterfowl

Seagrasses of Texas



Widgeon Grass
Ruppia maritima

- Found interspersed in shoal grass beds
- Tolerates low salinities



Shoal Grass
Halodule beaudettei

- Early colonizer species
- Primary food for redhead ducks



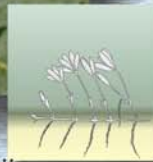
Manatee Grass
Cymodocea filiformis

- Typically found in deeper waters
- Found at higher salinities
- Climax species



Turtle Grass
Thalassia testudinum

- Can be found in deeper waters
- Climax species



Star Grass
Halophila engelmannii

- Found interspersed in shoal grass beds
- Occurs in higher salinity waters

Seagrasses Need Protection



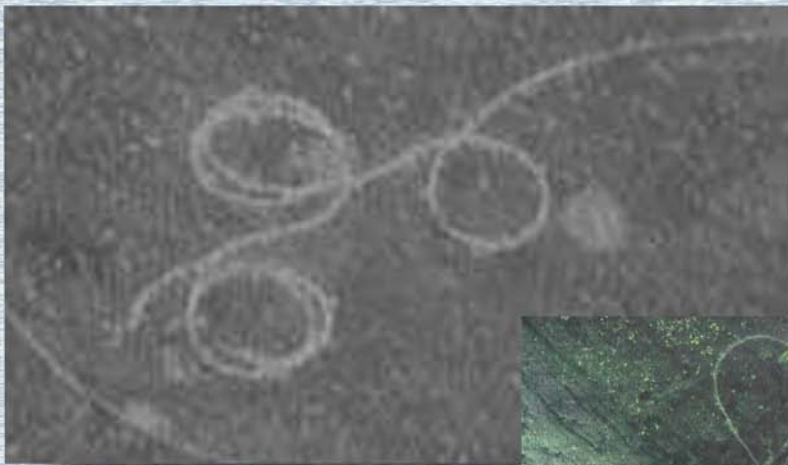
**SEAGRASS
PROTECTED BY LAW**

**No Prop Scarring or
Uprooting of Seagrass**



Boat Propellers Damage Seagrasses

Prop Scars Heal Slowly

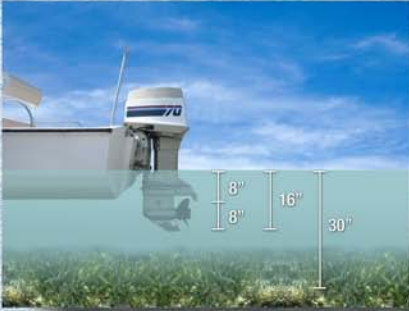


**Aerial of Prop Scar
Damage**



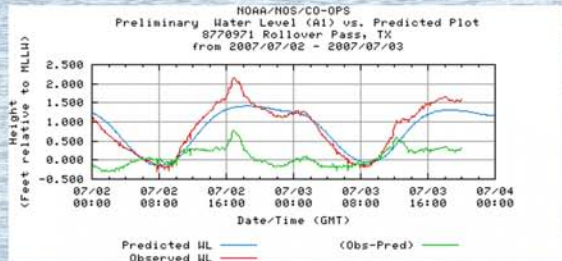
**Clueless Boaters
= Lost Seagrass**

Boat Smart— Protect Seagrasses



Know the running and
takeoff depth limitations
of your boat

Check the Tide
Charts, Wind and
Weather



Prop Wash Should
Be White



Prop Wash Should
NOT Be Brown

Help Protect Seagrasses

Lift, Drift, Pole or Troll



LIFT your
outboard when in
shallow areas



DRIFT across the
flats while fishing---
try a drift anchor



POLE

—OR—



TROLL

to reach the right spot