



The Management of Natural Coastal Carbon Sinks

Edited by Dan Laffoley and Gabriel Grimsditch

November 2009





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Foreword

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Table of Contents

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Scale of Units used

Value	Symbol	Name
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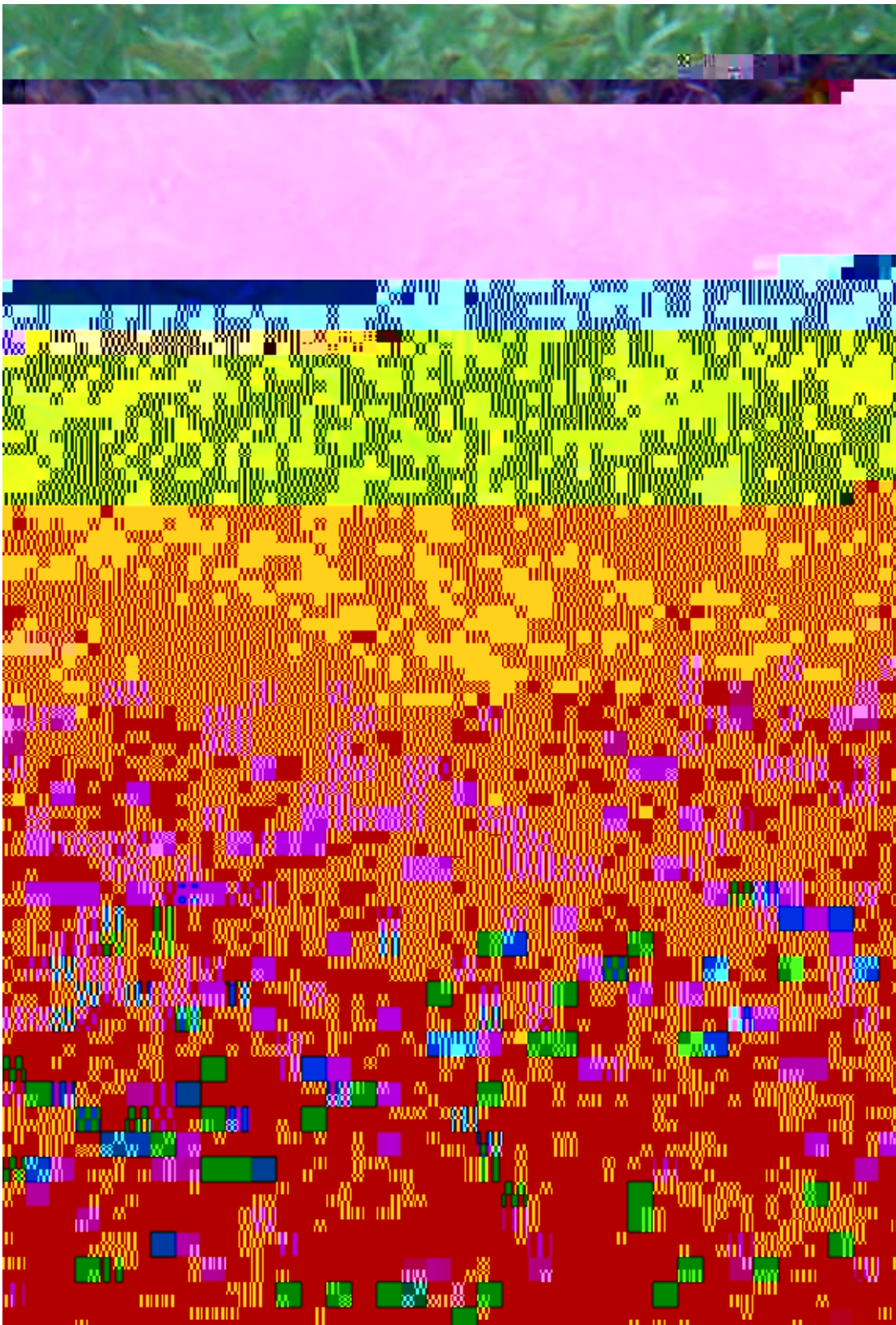
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Introduction

Dan La oley

Gabriel Grimsditch

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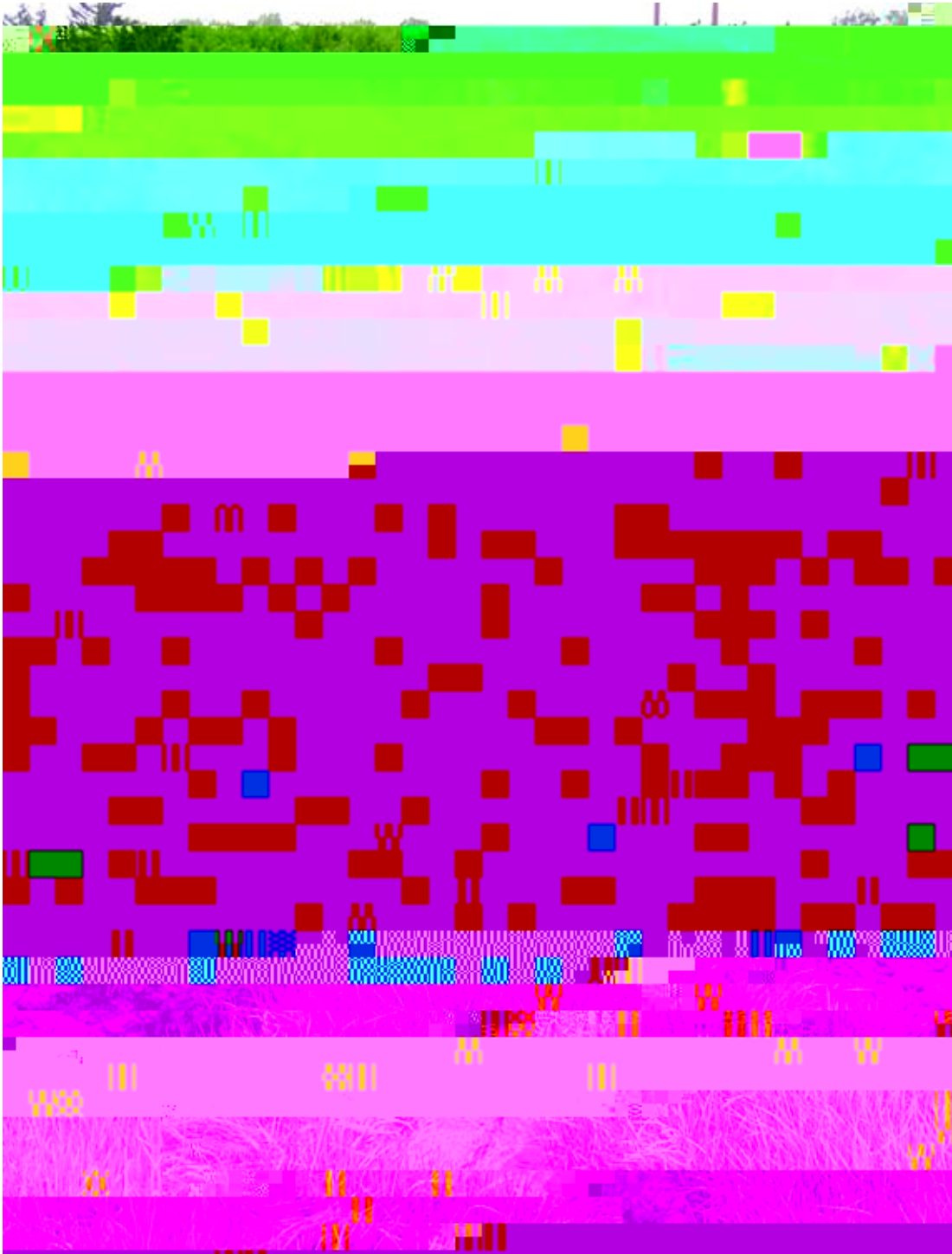
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Tidal Salt Marshes

Gail L Chmura

Fast facts

- *Spartina patens* is the dominant species in the eastern United States.
- *Spartina patens* is a C4 grass that is highly salt-tolerant.
- *Spartina patens* is a perennial grass that grows in dense stands.
- *Spartina patens* is a tall grass that can reach heights of up to 3 meters.
- *Spartina patens* is a grass that is highly salt-tolerant.
- *Spartina patens* is a grass that is highly salt-tolerant.
- *Spartina patens* is a grass that is highly salt-tolerant.
- *Spartina patens* is a grass that is highly salt-tolerant.

Definition and global occurrence

Spartina patens is a tall, perennial grass that is highly salt-tolerant. It is native to the eastern United States and is found in tidal salt marshes. *Atriplex portuloides* is a shrub that is also highly salt-tolerant and is found in coastal salt marshes. *Salicornia*, *Sarcocornia*, and *Arthrocnemum* are other species that are found in tidal salt marshes. *Spartina alterniflora* is another species that is found in tidal salt marshes.

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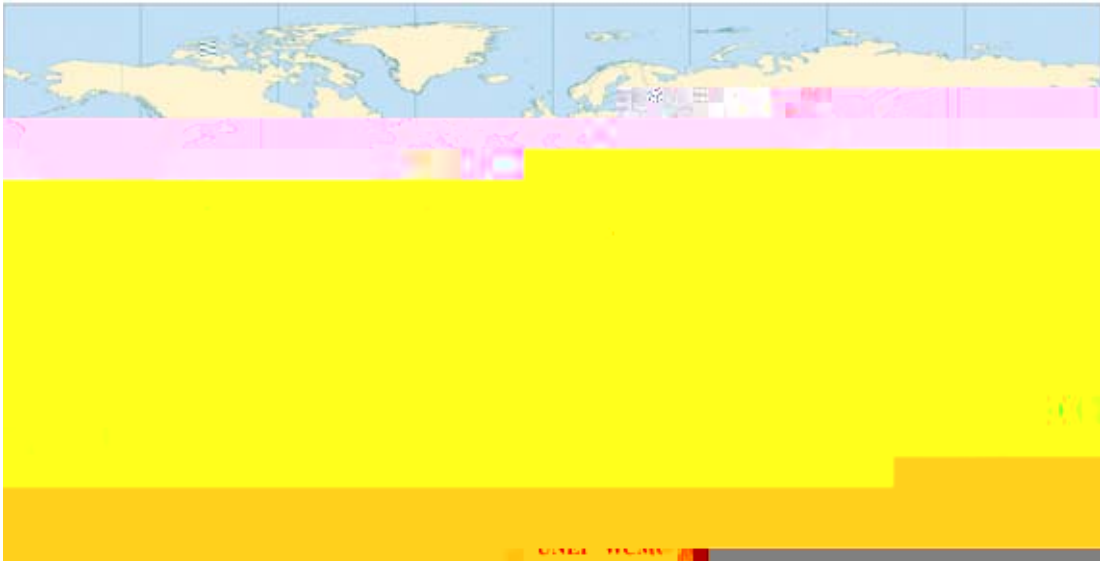
References

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Estuaries
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Wetlands
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Ecology *Concepts and Controversies in Tidal Marsh*

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Mangroves

Steve Bouillon

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Definition and global occurrence

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Avicennia
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Mangrove goods & services

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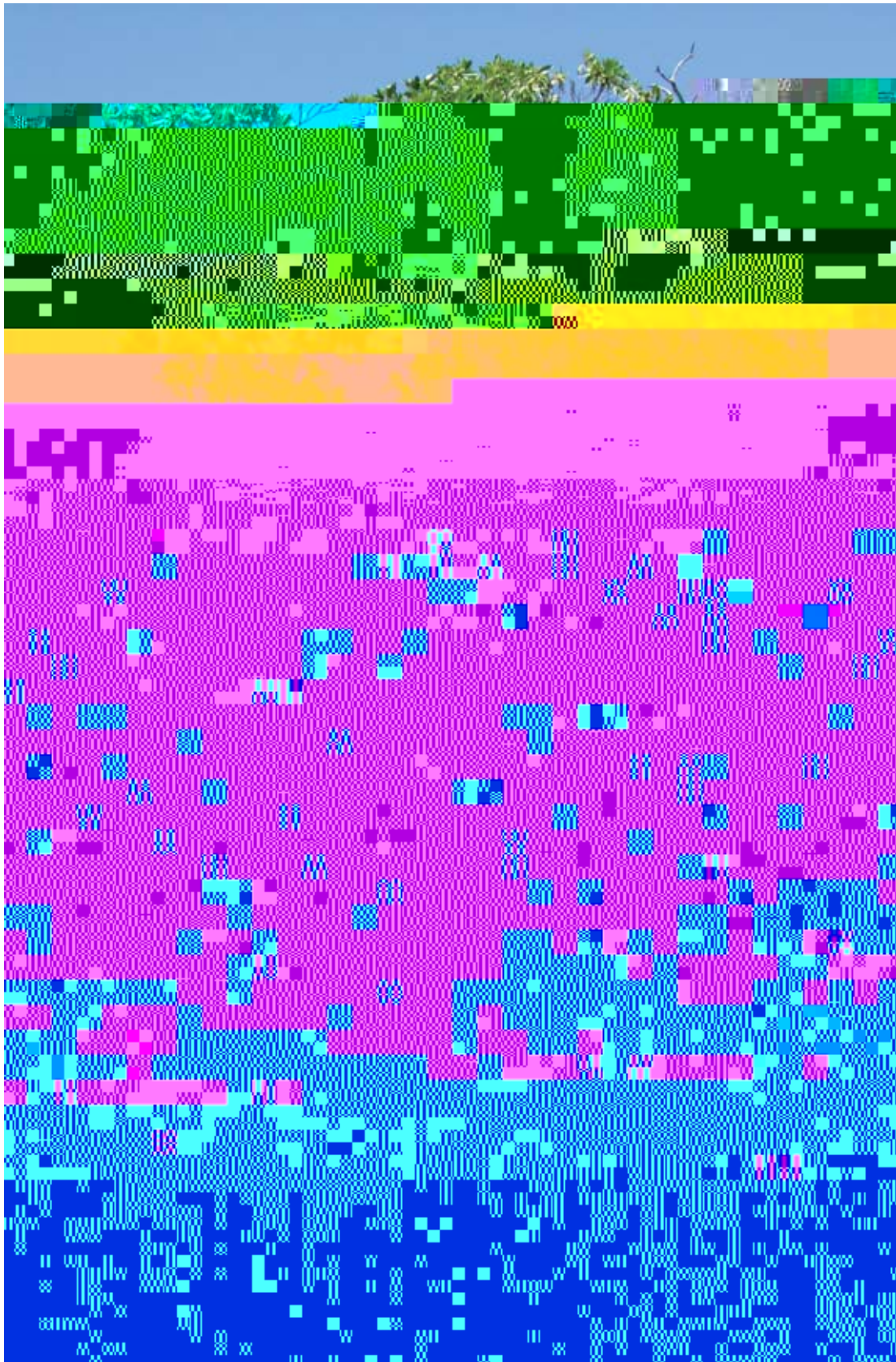
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References

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Global distribution of Seagrasses



Seagrass Meadows

Hilary Kennedy

Mats Björk

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Fast facts

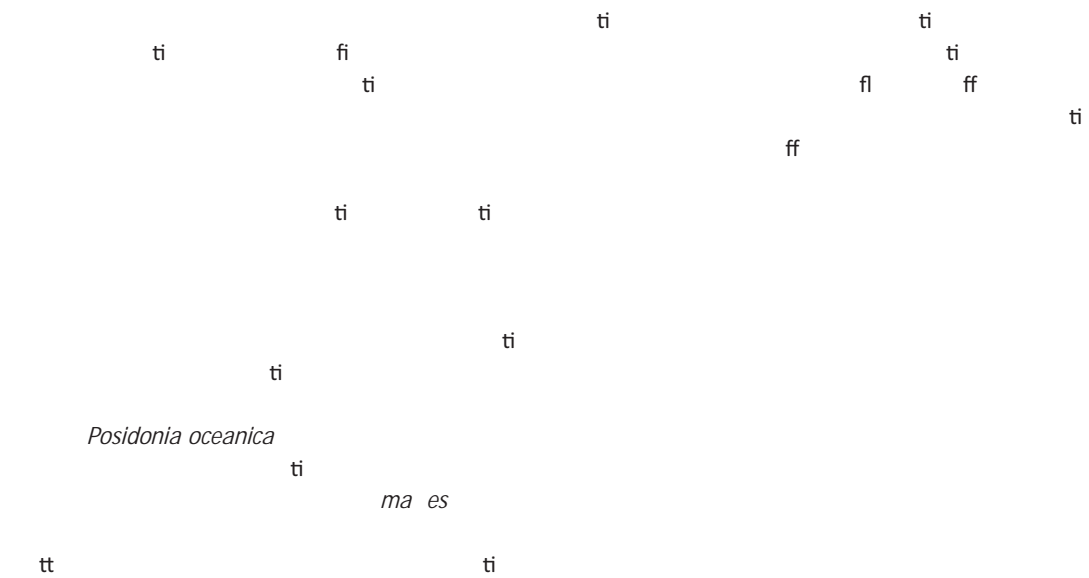
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2. Carbon cycling in the ecosystem and its importance as a carbon sink
Fate of carbon

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Posidonia oceanica

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Posidonia oceanica

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Management aimed at preserving especially high carbon storage capacity:

Posidonia oceanica

Thalassia testudinum

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References

Posidonia oceanica

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Posidonia oceanica

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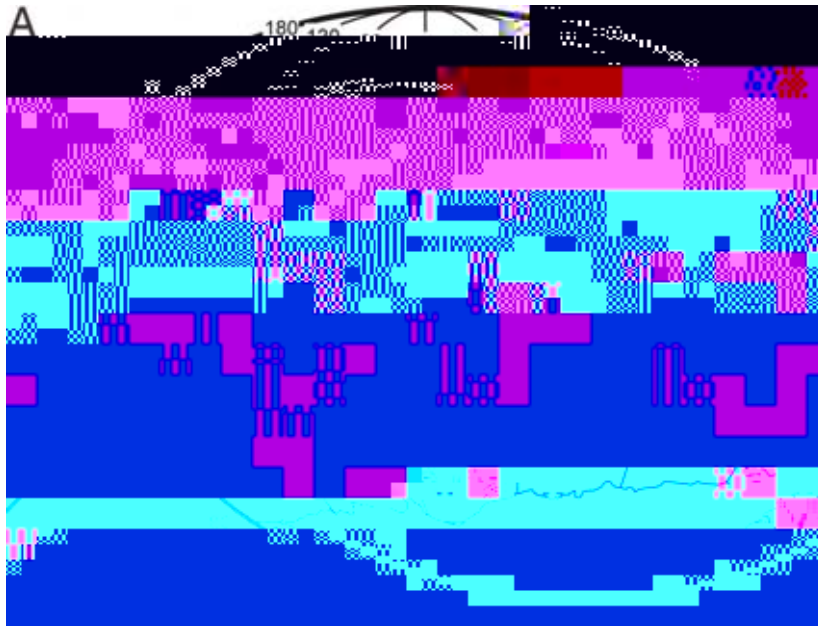
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Posidonia oceanica

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Geographic distribution of kelp forests in surface (green line) and deep (red line) waters, reproduced from Santelices - Santelices, B., 2007. The discovery of kelp forests in deep-water habitats of tropical regions, *PNAS*, 104 (49), 19163 – 19164 by kind permission of Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS).



De ni on and global occurrence

	Wet g / m ²	g C / m ²	Reference
<i>Laminaria</i>			
<i>Ecklonia</i>			
<i>Macrocystis</i>			
Understory algae within <i>Macrocystis</i> forests			

	Wet g / m ²	g C / m ²	Reference
<i>Laminaria</i>			
<i>Ecklonia</i>			
<i>Macrocystis</i>			
Understory algae within <i>Macrocystis</i> forests			

Table 1. Estimates of standing biomass for three common kelp genera and for understory algae within forests (other than *Macrocystis*). Dry wt was assumed to be 15% of wet wt for *Laminaria* and *Ecklonia* and 10% for *Macrocystis* and its associated understory; carbon wt was assumed to be 30% of dry wt for all species (Mann 1972, Rassweiler et al. 2008).

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Management

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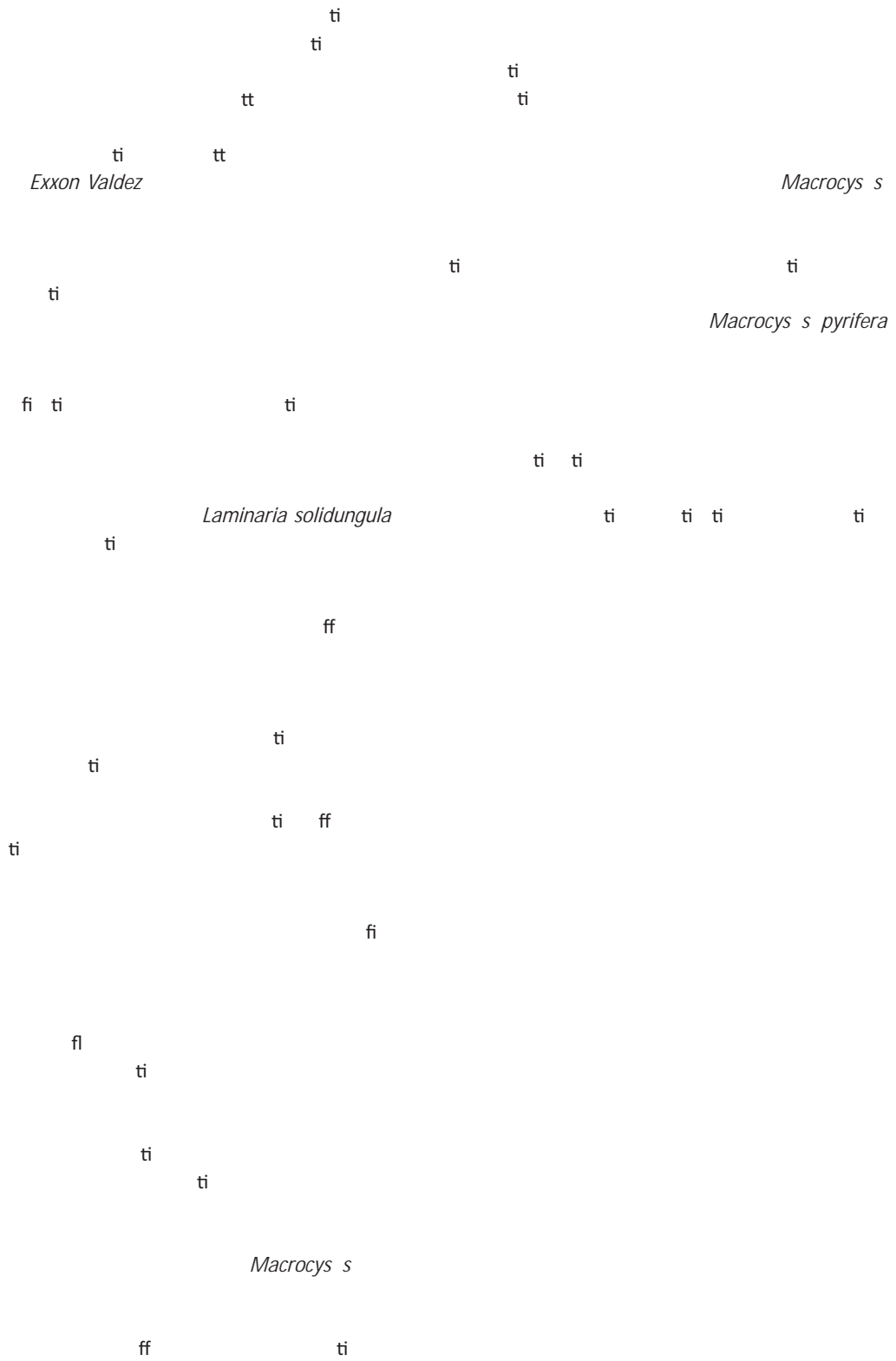
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Global distribution of Coral Reefs



Smith and Gassmann show from ocean chemistry that coral reefs are not a sink for the greenhouse gas carbon dioxide. The point is we cannot count on reefs to clean the atmosphere of our carbon dioxide emissions. We have to act decisively and do it right now, before it is too late.» –

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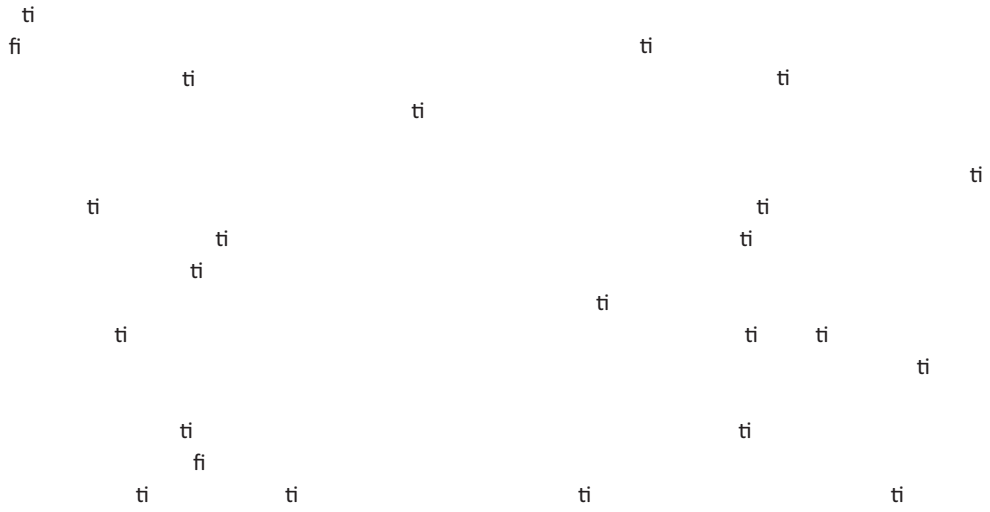
Reef Area and Metabolism Area

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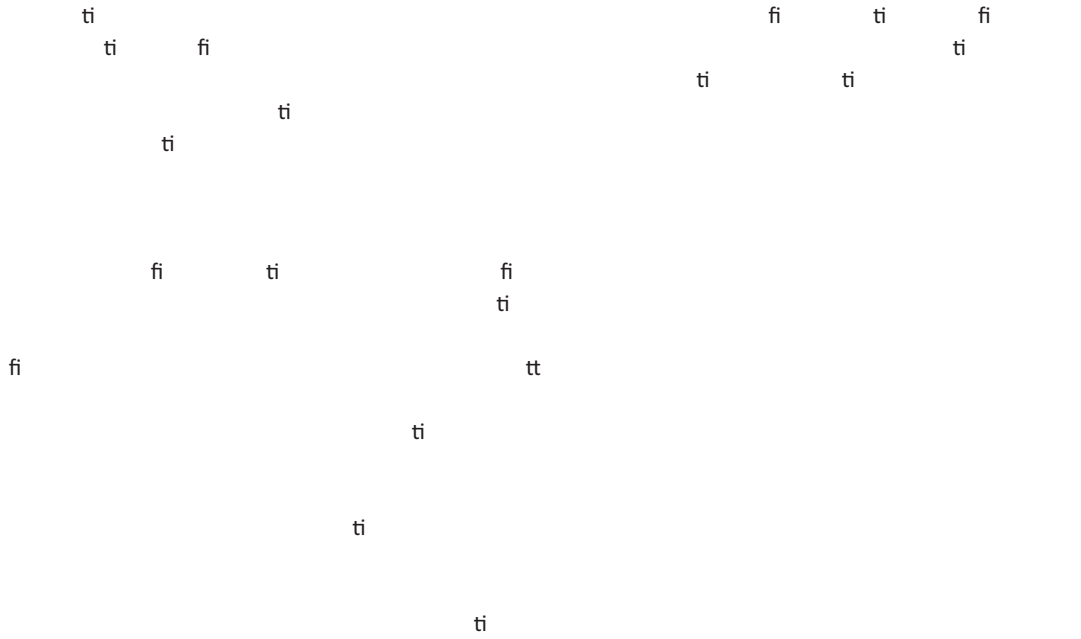
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Area





Multiple Benefits of Coastal Habitat Protection and Restoration





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