RE-LOCATION OF INTER-TIDAL MARINE LIFE AT LABRADOR NATURE PARK

The aim of the inter-tidal marine life relocation exercise is to move marine life from the impact zone and relocate them to either side of the impact zone.

The strategy is aimed at moving the sedentary (slow-moving) or sessile (attached) organisms. The fast moving and more active animals (like fish and large crabs) will find their way out of the impact zone as construction begins.

It is not possible to move every organism out of the impact zone and the aim is to move whatever can be feasibly moved.

Most of the marine life (worms, crustaceans, molluscs) are attached to rocks or hidden within their crevices. It is therefore useful to move these rocks out of the impact zone. Do not attempt to move rocks which are firmly embedded in the substrate. Move only those that can be lifted by hand.

Other marine life which are free-living but slow-moving (e.g. snails) can be moved and placed close to rocks.

When moving rocks or marine life to either side of the impact zone, keep to the same inter-tidal level, .i.e., move them to the left or right along a line that remains parallel to the shore-line.

Wear gloves and proper footwear. Exercise caution when handling venomous or dangerous creatures e.g. cone snails and bristleworms (fireworms). Avoid moving the highly venomous stonefish and scorpion fish even if they appear easy to collect – they will be able to find their way out from the impact zone without causing unnecessary risk to the harvester.

Appropriate apparel for intertidal marine life relocation exercise

a. Protective apparel – long-sleeved shirts, long pants
b. Hats/caps

Examples of marine life that can be targeted to relocation out of the impact zone:

Loose rocks and dead coral pieces can be collected and moved if they have marine life associated with them.

Bare rocks need not be moved.

Marine life can be found growing on rocks and dead coral, and they can be harvested together with the substrate they are associated with.

Marine worms are usually found in crevices or under rocks. Be careful when handling them as they may possess sharp hair-like spines. Use tweezers if possible to handle them.

Loose or easily harvestable hard corals, soft corals and sponges should be collected and relocated.

Mollusc such as this cowrie should be collected and relocated.

Worms like this scaleworm are associated with the substrate and should be moved together with the substrate.

Crabs such as this crab that are associated with sandy substrates can be harvested by scooping up the sand they are hiding in.