

## GUIDE FOR

# KAYAKING, CANOEING, DINGY SAILING, STAND UP PADDLEBOARDING AND SURFING CLOSE TO DUGONGS.



Please help keep Vanuatu dugongs friendly.  
Make sure every encounter with a dugong is a positive experience *for the dugong* as well as for you.

- Stay at least 5 metres away from a dugong. This is for your safety as well as the dugongs.
- Approach dugongs from the side and travel parallel with their bodies. Try not to approach from the front or behind.
- Never chase a dugong.
- Never corner or harass a dugong trying to swim away from you.
- There should never be more than 3 watercraft within 10 meters of a dugong. If you come across a dugong and there are already 3 watercraft within 10 meters, stay back, at least 50 meters away.
- Make sure no watercraft gets between a mother and her calf at any point.
- If a dugong shows any signs of distress or disturbance (such as repeatedly swimming away from you) stop and move at least 50 meters away from the dugong.

Remember dugongs  
are protected by law  
in Vanuatu.



The full guideline and information about dugongs are available on the VESS website:  
[www.vanuatuconservation.org](http://www.vanuatuconservation.org)



Fisheries Department of Vanuatu