



## Manatee Gathering at Florida Park

[Source: BBC](#)

**Blue Spring State Park, Florida, USA** reported a gathering of nearly 1,000 **manatees**. The gathering of manatees may be due to several reasons, like-

- **Drop in temperature** to 14.1°C, a decline in [seagrass](#) (manatees' primary food), due to **algae blooms on Florida coast**, and to seek protection from **watercraft collisions**.
- **Manatees (sea cows)** are typically **solitary animals**.
  - **Sea cows, comprising manatees and dugongs**, consist of four manatee species and one dugong species, belonging to the herbivorous ***Dugongidae* family**.
    - Manatees dwell in zones such as the Caribbean, Gulf of Mexico, Amazon, East and West Africa, while **dugongs inhabit coastal regions of the Indian and Pacific Oceans**.
    - **IUCN Status:** Manatees and dugongs are both are **Vulnerable**.
    - **Dugongs: Schedule 1** of the [Wild Life \(Protection\) Act, 1972](#).

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Read more: [Manatees](#)