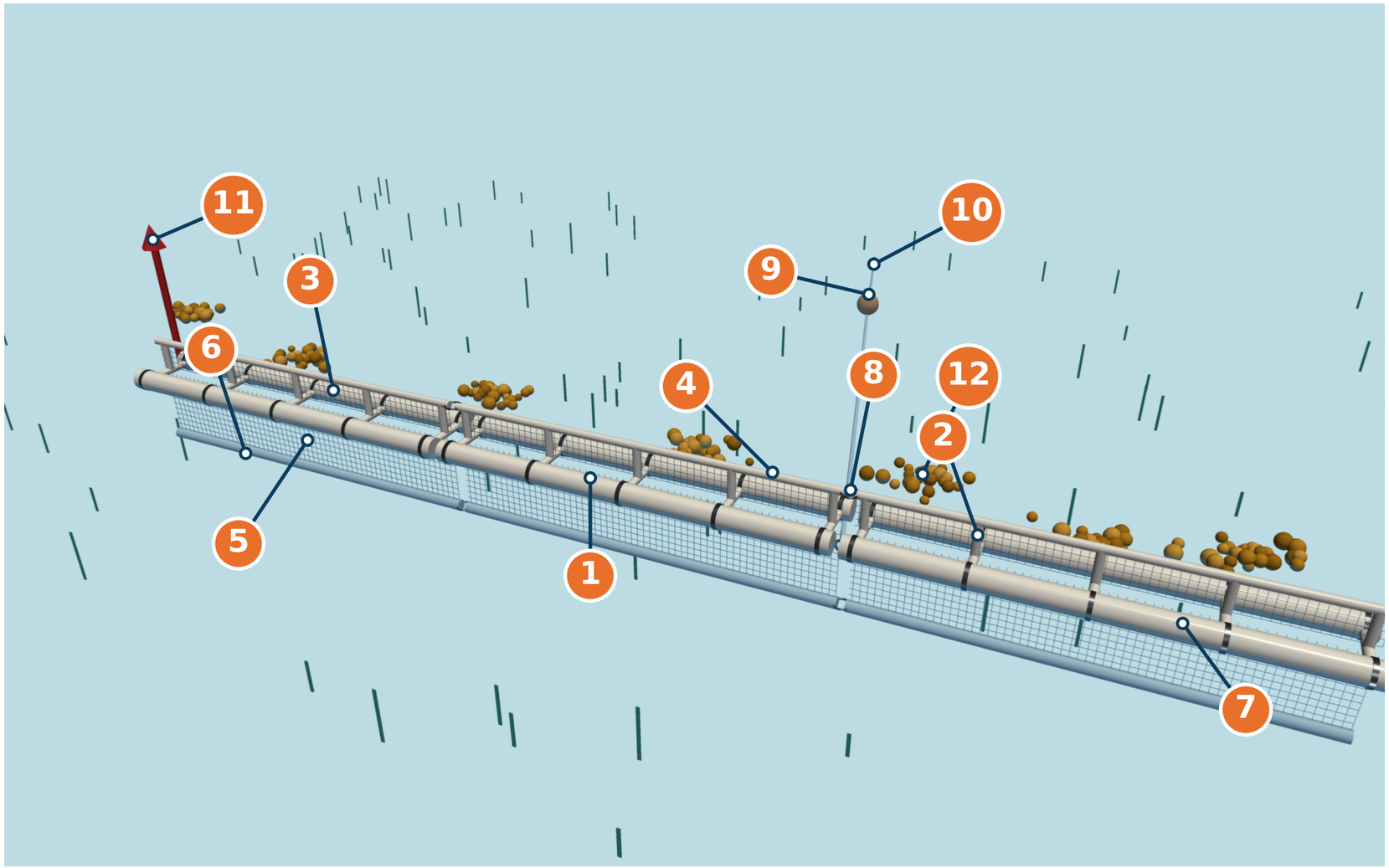
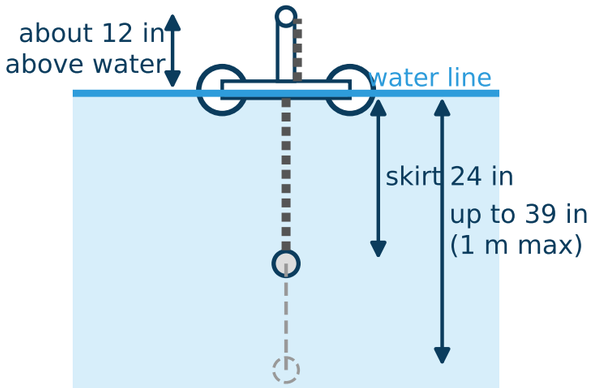
How the proposed Hopkins diversion boom works

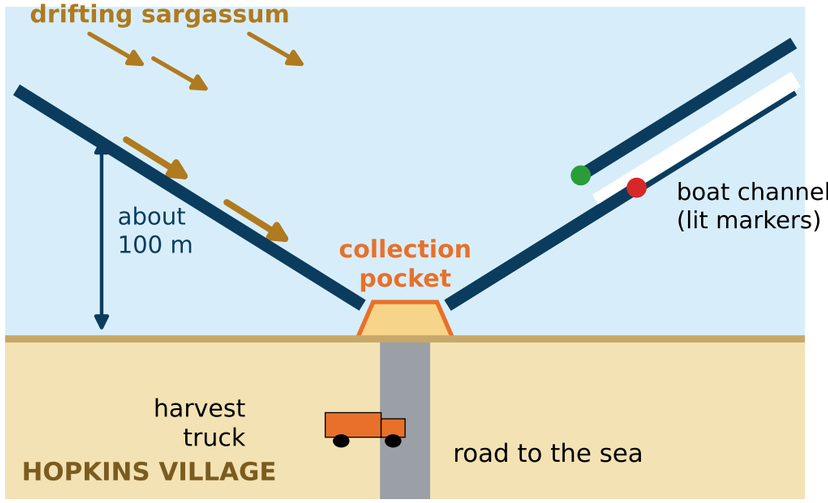
Hopkins Sargassum Defense - a floating diversion boom that guides sargassum to collection points at road ends



Cross-section (end view)



From above: one stretch of coast



1. **Twin floats**
   sealed PVC pipe
2. **Frame**
   light pipe frame joins the floats
3. **Barrier above the water**
   aims to reduce weed washing over
4. **Top rail**
   stiffens the top edge
5. **Mesh skirt below the water**
   aims to protect seagrass and turtles; needs review
6. **Weighted bottom sleeve**
   keeps the skirt hanging straight
7. **Steel tension cable**
   proposed load path; needs review
8. **Stainless joint shackle + alignment clips**
   modules flex with the waves
9. **Anchor line with float**
   aims to reduce seabed contact
10. **Screw anchor in the sand**
    no concrete, removable
11. **Lights and markers**
    at boat channels
12. **Sargassum drifting along the boom**
    toward a proposed collection point

Design goals

- 10 ft modules join into longer runs.
- Storm removal is a design goal.
- Local construction and upkeep proposed.
- Aims to protect seagrass; needs testing.
- A diversion, not a wall: some weed will pass.
- Prompt collection planned; capacity unresolved.

Concept only, not engineering-approved. Dimensions, habitat effects and operations need review.

Hopkins Sargassum Defense - Hopkins Village, Belize - Contact: Ted Mckoy, tedbelize@gmail.com