

of South African coastline
~ **2200 km**
St Helena Bay → Santa Maria

AIM | Provide a platform for researchers to understand movements and migrations of aquatic animals

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
			1 New Year's Day	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	



DECEMBER 2025

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

1 January	New Year's Day
21 March	Human Rights Day
3 April	Good Friday
6 April	Family Day
27 April	Freedom Day
1 May	Workers' Day

16 June	Youth Day
9 August	National Women's Day
10 August	'National Women's Day' observed
24 September	Heritage Day
16 December	Day of Reconciliation
25 December	Christmas Day
26 December	Day of Goodwill

FEBRUARY

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	



MAKES USE OF
A range of remote imagery technologies (e.g., stereo-BRUVs, ROV and Drop Camera)

AIMS | To advance marine biodiversity research and impact by:

- Providing globally-recognised and standardised tools and protocols to the research community
- Providing a comprehensive imagery data repository
- Building a complete biodiversity dataset from estuaries to the deep sea
- Building capacity for remote imagery research in the Western Indian Ocean

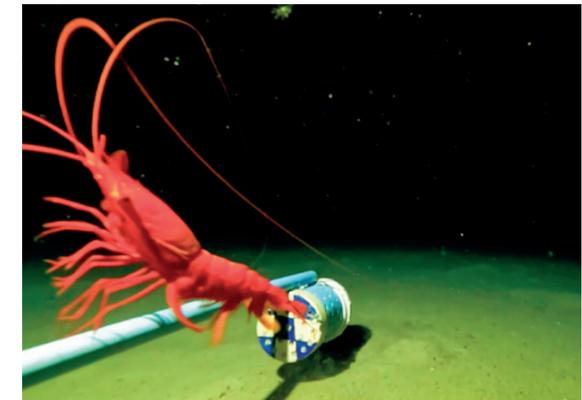
> **96** researchers
> **18** institutions



Over **22 000** biodiversity records



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2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	



JANUARY

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
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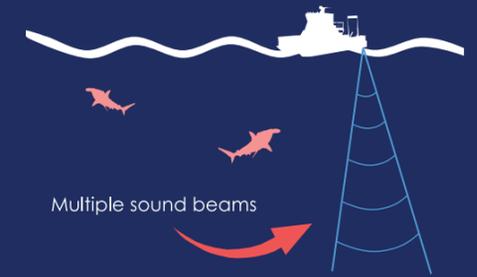
MARCH

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

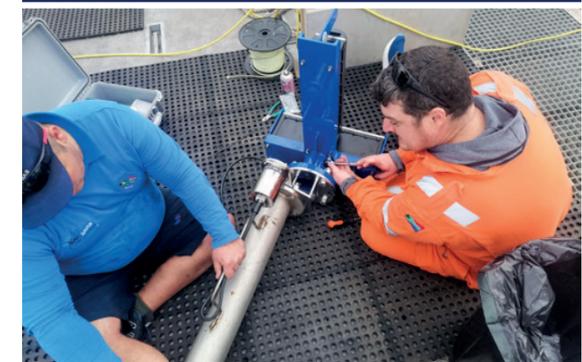


MAKES USE OF

Multibeam echosounders, advanced navigation systems and specialist software



AIM | Collect data to create high-resolution 3D terrain models in order to classify and quantify marine and estuarine habitats



FEBRUARY

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
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2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	

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APRIL

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			



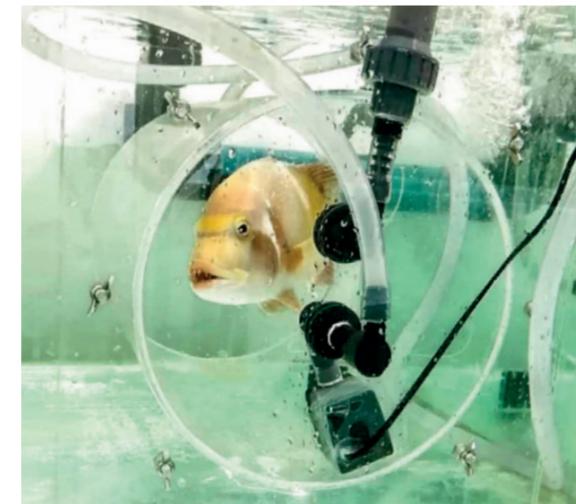
RESEARCH ON

Respirometry

Behaviour

AIM | Enables research on the physiology and behaviour of aquatic organisms using respirometric instruments

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
				1 Workers' Day	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31



APRIL

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
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20	21	22	23	24	25	26
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JUNE

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					



HOLDS FISHES FROM

Southern Africa | Western Indian Ocean | Southern Atlantic and Southern Oceans

AIM | Provide access to specimens and tissues, collection objects and data through loans and visits

1+ million specimens
7402 species



Money invested
R30+ million

But this collection is: **PRICELESS**

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16 Youth Day	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					



MAY

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
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JULY

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
1	2	3	4	5		
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		



Research on INLAND FISHERIES and FRESHWATER ECOLOGY

Makes use of specialised sampling equipment including electrofishers, boats and off-road vehicles

AIM | To develop expertise and leadership in freshwater aquatic biodiversity to support evidence-based decision-making

>100 users

25 institutions



Money invested
> R5 million



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9 National Women's Day
10 'National Women's Day' observed	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 / 31	25	26	27	28	29	30

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© Jeremy Shelton



© Jeremy Shelton



JULY

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
	1	2	3	4	5	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

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SEPTEMBER

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
1	2	3	4	5	6	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

SEPTEMBER 2026



REMOTELY OPERATED VEHICLE

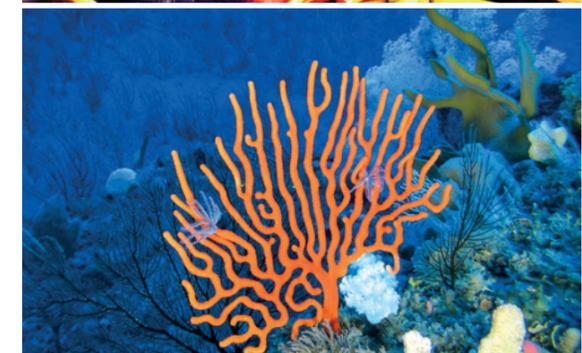
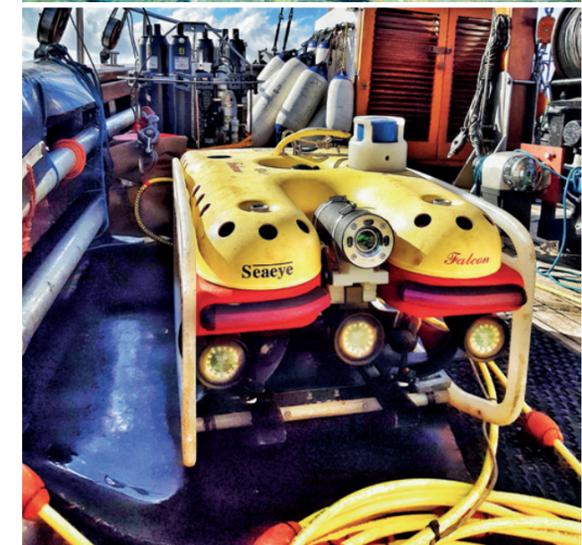
Part of the
MARINE REMOTE IMAGERY PLATFORM

AIM | Used for benthic survey and exploration work, allowing researchers to glimpse previously inaccessible areas

The ROV has been involved in the discovery of new species:



And recorded the first *in-situ* sighting of:
armoured gurnard



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24 Heritage Day	25	26	27
28	29	30				

AUGUST

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
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10	11	12	13	14	15	16
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31						

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OCTOBER

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			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	



Library named in honour of
PROFESSOR MARGARET SMITH

building on a heritage of



research and teaching in aquatic sciences

AIM | Be a key reference source for the ichthyological community in South Africa

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			1	2	3	4
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NOVEMBER

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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
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NOVEMBER 2026



COASTAL CRAFT

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
						1
2	3	4 PHAKISA Home base: Durban	5	6	7 uKWABELANA Home base: Durban	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17 OBSERVER Home base: Port Elizabeth	18	19	20	21 HISPIDUS Home base: Mobile along the coastline Exclusive to the MARIP platform	22
23 / 30	24	25	26	27	28	29

Coastal craft fleet consists of **THREE VESSELS**



and is a shared platform

Vessels can do trips of up to **36 – 48 hours** & accommodate **12 researchers**



AIM | Serve the South African research community to support sustainable growth of the **Blue Economy** by providing sound research outputs



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			1	2	3	4
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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			



11 WORLD-CLASS PLATFORMS

- ATAP
- Coastal craft
- GeMaP
- NFC
- MaRIP
- Biobank
- AERP
- FFU
- AGRP
- MSL
- Bioprospecting

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
	1 Coastal Craft <i>R40 million</i>	2	3	4	5 Aquatic Ecophysiology Research Platform <i>R7 million</i>	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15 Marine Remote Imagery Platform <i>R30 million</i>	16 Acoustic Tracking Array Platform <i>R15 million</i>	17 Day of Reconciliation	18	19	20 Aquatic Genomics Research Platform <i>R10 million</i>
21	22	23	24	25 Christmas Day	26 Day of Goodwill	27
28	29	30	31	Geophysical Mapping Platform <i>R6.5 million</i>		
					Biobank <i>R1 million</i>	



NOVEMBER

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
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2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
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30						

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