

Spatial Information Methods used at Southern Cross University's National Marine Science Centre

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ABSTRACT

Over the last two decades there has been increasing recognition that oceanography and fisheries sciences and related marine areas are nearly all manifested in the spatio-temporal domain. Geographic Information Systems (GIS), remote sensing and mapping, i.e. the natural framework for spatial data handling, are now recognised as powerful tools with useful applications in marine sciences, providing necessary information to decision makers to manage marine resources. This presentation will highlight some of the spatial information methods used at Southern Cross University's National Marine Science Centre to assist with marine science research. Delegates will visit the National Marine Science Centre and the accompanying Solitary Islands Aquarium to gain insight into the local marine environment and the research being conducted at the centre. Delegates will watch a short documentary, explore the aquarium and participate in a guided tour of the research facility. An additional presentation will provide particular insight into the spatial information methods utilised by marine researchers.

KEYWORDS: *GIS, remote sensing, mapping, marine science.*