

# Deep water benthic fish communities of KwaZulu Natal shelf

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**Wilderness**

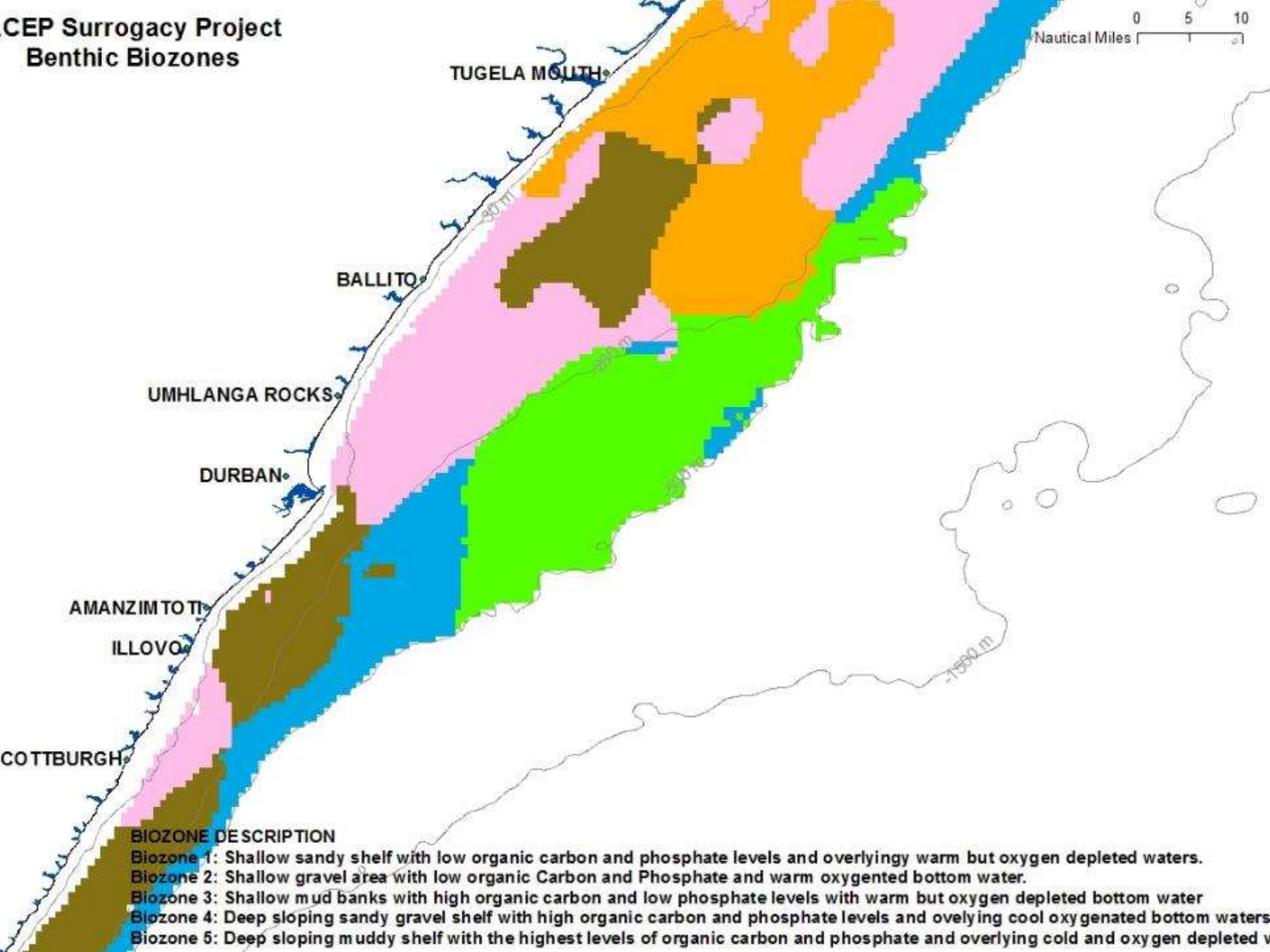
# Acknowledgements



INCORPORATING



# CEP Surrogacy Project Benthic Biozones



## BIOZONE DESCRIPTION

**Biozone 1:** Shallow sandy shelf with low organic carbon and phosphate levels and overlying warm but oxygen depleted waters.

**Biozone 2:** Shallow gravel area with low organic Carbon and Phosphate and warm oxygenated bottom water.

**Biozone 3:** Shallow mud banks with high organic carbon and low phosphate levels with warm but oxygen depleted bottom water

**Biozone 4:** Deep sloping sandy gravel shelf with high organic carbon and phosphate levels and overlying cool oxygenated bottom waters

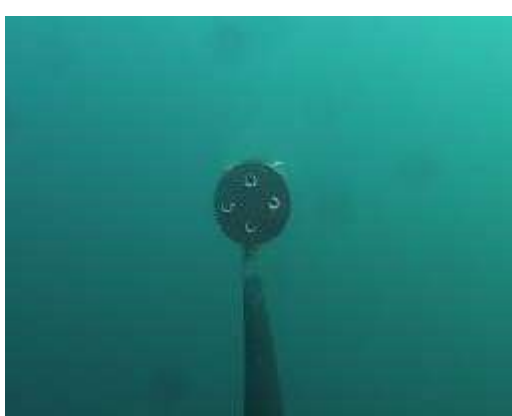
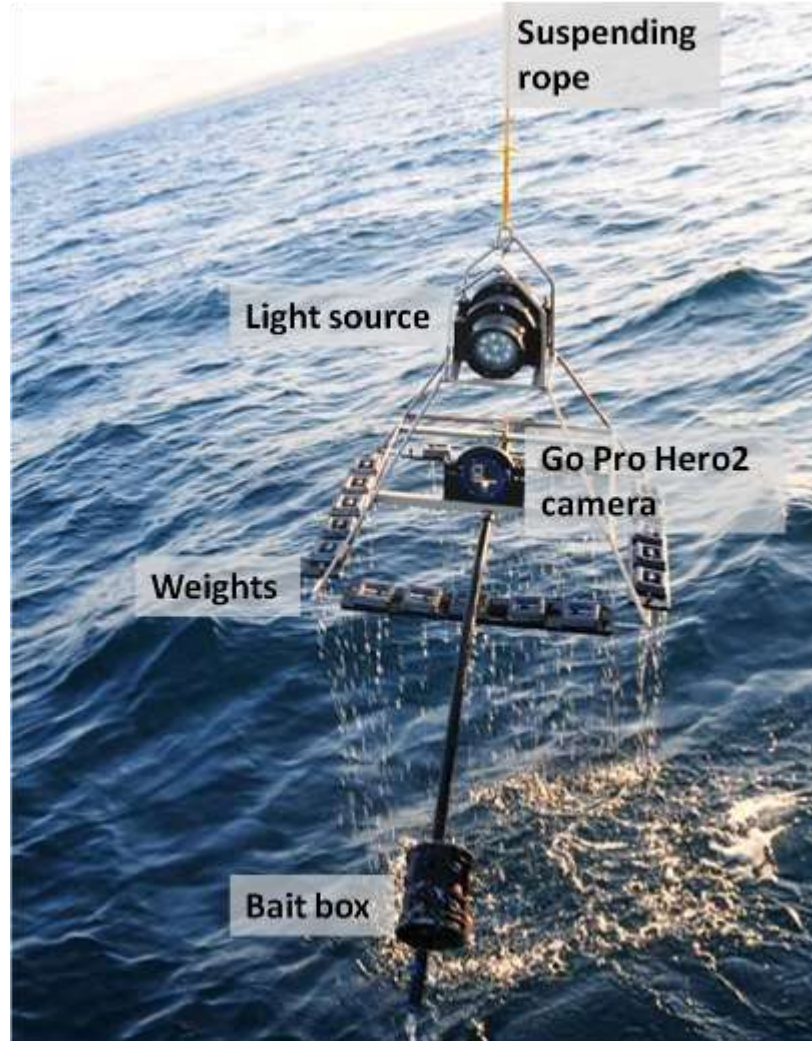
**Biozone 5:** Deep sloping muddy shelf with the highest levels of organic carbon and phosphate and overlying cold and oxygen depleted waters



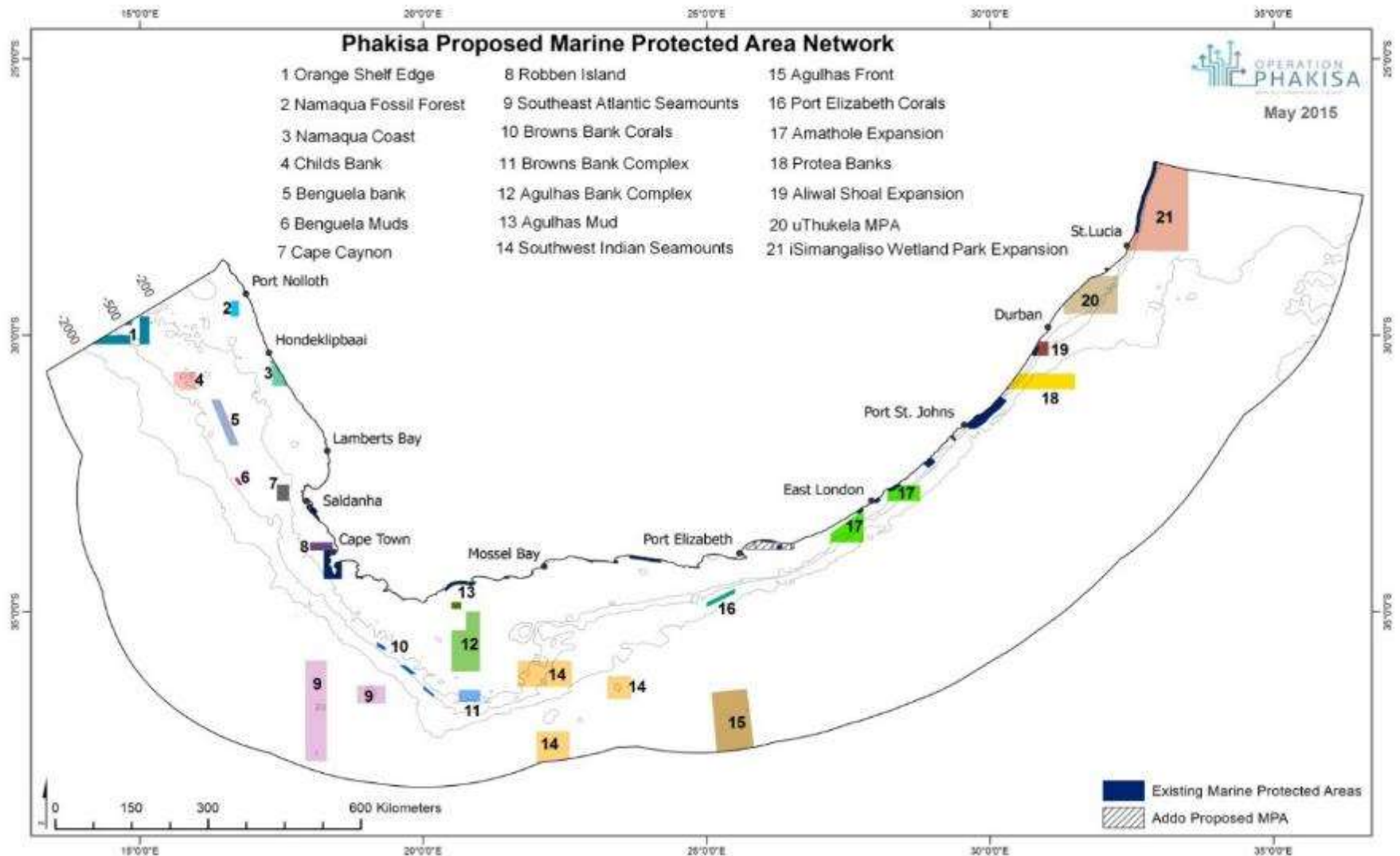
# Key Questions

1. What are the distribution patterns in the fish assemblages in the study area.
2. Do the fish distributions support the biozonal classification
3. What are the potential drivers of fish communities in soft and hard sediment ecosystems

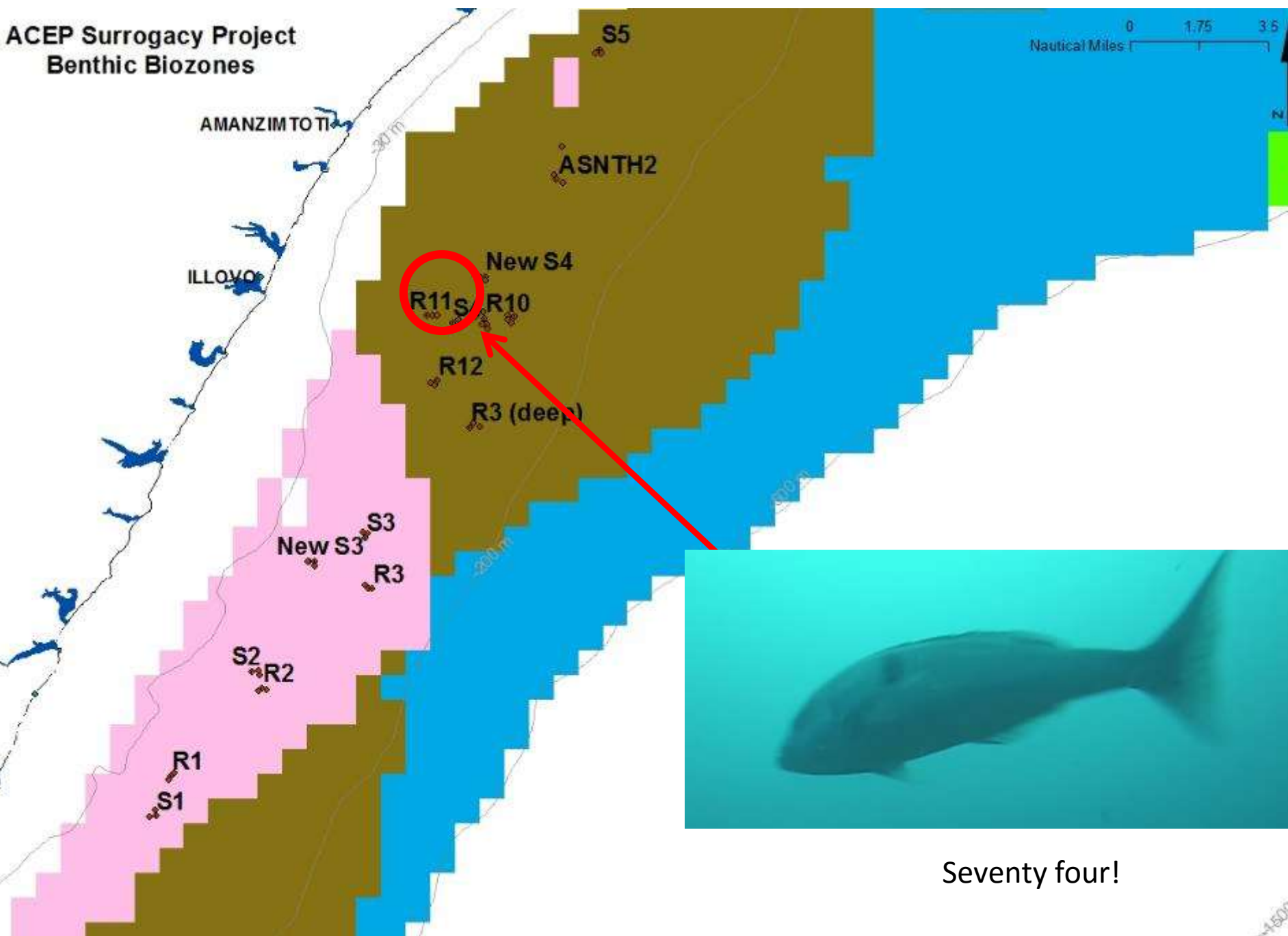
# BRUV System



# Phakisa MPA network



# ACEP Surrogacy Project Benthic Biozones



Seventy four!

# Protea Banks

- video