

Project Update: March 2016

Raspiwhale (rW1) was attached to southern right whales at Península Valdés. RW1 was placed at the end of a 4.5 m-long pole of carbon fibre that had a system that released it, allowing the attachment of the tag on the whale by applying pressure. RW1 was deployed from a semi-rigid haul boat of 5.6 m powered by a 90 HP outboard engine in an area with depths between 80 and 120 m located at approximately 12 km ($42^{\circ}698611$ S – $64^{\circ}993889$ W) from Puerto Madryn city (Figure 1). The device-placement maneuver included the selection of the target whale, the approach to the whale at constant speed up to 3 or 4 m from it, and the positioning of rW1 on the whale's back. Once the tag was attached to the whale, the boat moved slowly away from the tagged individual and remained with the engine off until the tag was released and recovered by direct visualization.



