

Sidescan Sonar—Starfish 450



Ports and Coastal Environmental Pty Ltd

2013

11° 45'

PaCE operates its own portable sidescan sonar, the Starfish 450. PaCE uses its sidescan sonar capability to provide cost effective inspection of the seabed for clients. Points of interest can be further examined in greater detail by additional sidescan tows or conduct of benthic video or benthic grab investigations. Data can be quickly overlaid on Google Earth or be further post processed to develop GIS mapping products.

The Starfish 450 delivers GPS integrated imagery allowing features to be relocated as part of future survey work. Recent projects on the Skardon River have utilized the Starfish 450 to locate habitat features such as rocks, snags, sandbars, coral reefs and seagrass beds. Video inspection of these features provided additional detail and greatly improved habitat mapping and interpretation.

The assessment of coastal processes and sediment mobilization pathways can also be captured. Similar data can be obtained around built structures or from spoil disposal grounds.

