

We are interested in your input regarding the eventual purchase of a second Simrad echosounder transducer for the RHIB fleet. This is an expensive purchase, so we cannot guarantee when we will have available funds, but we want to first find out what would most benefit your research program.

We currently have one EK80 system with a 120kHz transducer hull mounted in Hadar. We have two alternatives for how we could utilize a second transducer.

- 1) Purchase a 38kHz transducer and mount it with the 120kHz transducer allowing us to collect multi-frequency data.
- 2) Purchase a second 120kHz transducer and mount it in the other RHIB Rigil. This would allow two different groups to collect echosounder data at the same time, or for one research group to collect data from multiple locations concurrently. It also gives us an immediate backup in the case of RHIB or echosounder system failure.

Would one of these two options make more sense for your work? If you have other thoughts, please pass them along.