

Sustainable Seas Trust



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PRESS RELEASE

Cape Town Hope Spot announced

On the 4th of December 2014, [Dr Sylvia Earle](#) will visit Cape Town and officially launch the False Bay Hope Spot. [Hope Spots](#) are internationally recognized conservation areas. There are none in South Africa, but by mid-December the Western Cape will have four, and the Eastern Cape and KwaZulu-Natal will have one each. Although the decision to launch the False Bay Hope Spot came after the others, it will be the first to be launched in South Africa as the Hope Spot tour will begin in Cape Town, then move to Hermanus to launch the [Cape Whale Coast Hope Spot](#), then to [Knysna](#) and from there to [Plettenberg Bay](#). The only Eastern Cape Hope Spot is [Algoa Bay](#). The Aliwal Shoal is the focus for KwaZulu-Natal.

The internationally renowned oceanographer, conservationist and film-maker, Dr Sylvia Earle, is the architect of the global Hope Spot initiative. She developed the [Mission Blue](#) organization to drive the Hope Spot programme. In South Africa, the Mission Blue partner, [Sustainable Seas Trust](#) (SST) is facilitating the development of Hope Spots. The South African Hope Spots have a special people orientated flavour, which reflects the socio-economic context of the country and so the Hope Spot initiative is known as the *Ikhaya Lethemba* (home of hope) programme.

[Dr Tony Ribbink](#), CEO of (SST) said the **False Bay Hope Spot** extends from Muizenberg to Cape Point. The actual dimensions - how far it stretches across the bay and how far it extends along the beach towards Gordon's Bay – will be guided by the Cape Town based Hope Spot committee who will release a map illustrating the extent of the Hope Spot and the principal points of interest by mid-October.

On the 4th of December 2014, Cape Town will host a gala event as the major launch of the Hope Spot expedition with the Minister Edna Molewa of the Department of Environmental Affairs, welcoming Dr Earle to South Africa and being the official hostess for the evening.

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Trustees: Robert Lowe (Chairman), Frederick Krohnert (Nedbank Trust representative), Richard Laing, Baldwin Ngubane, Frederick Oosthuizen, Anthony Ribbink, Michael Rodel, Louis van Vuren

The Sustainable Seas Trust is registered as a charitable, non-profit, public benefit institution
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