



Namibia Nature Foundation

REQUEST FOR QUOTATION (RFQ) Vessel Charter for Marine Research Expedition

Issued by: Namibia Nature Foundation (NNF)

RFQ Number: RFQ-NNF-BBP-01-2026

Date of Issue: 16 April 2026

Closing Date: 30 April 2026

1. Introduction

The Namibia Nature Foundation (NNF) hereby invites suitably qualified and experienced vessel operators to submit quotations for the charter of a vessel to support a marine biodiversity survey using Baited Remote Underwater Video Systems (BRUVS).

The research will be conducted along the remote northern coastline of Namibia, specifically at Cape Fria and within the Namibe Ecologically or Biologically Significant Marine Area (EBSA) near the Kunene River Mouth. The expedition will involve both inshore and offshore sampling and will require a vessel capable of operating safely in exposed ocean conditions.

2. Scope of Work

The selected service provider will be required to:

- Provide a fully operational, seaworthy vessel for the duration of the expedition
- Transport research personnel and equipment from Walvis Bay to the Kunene River Mouth area and return
- Support daily deployment and retrieval of BRUVS units at designated sampling sites
- Ensure safe onboard working conditions for scientific operations
- Provide qualified skipper and crew for the duration of the charter

3. Vessel Requirements

The vessel must meet the following minimum specifications:

3.1 Capacity and Seaworthiness

- Capable of safely undertaking offshore travel between Walvis Bay and the Kunene River Mouth area (~800 nautical miles round trip)
- Suitable for operations in both inshore (10–15 m depth) and offshore environments
- Accommodation for a minimum of five (5) persons, including crew:
 - Sleeping quarters
 - Basic washing/sanitation facilities



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3.2 Deck and Operational Space

- Adequate open deck space (minimum 3–4 m²) for safe deployment of BRUVS equipment, including:
 - Multiple BRUVS units
 - Bait preparation area
 - Ropes, weights, and associated gear
 - Safe movement and coordination during deployment/retrieval

3.3 Equipment and Storage

- Freezer capacity sufficient to store approximately 75-100 kg of bait
- Reliable onboard power supply with charging facilities for:
 - Cameras (e.g. GoPro batteries)
 - Laptops and scientific equipment
- Wheelhouse or enclosed dry space for storage and operation of sensitive electronic equipment

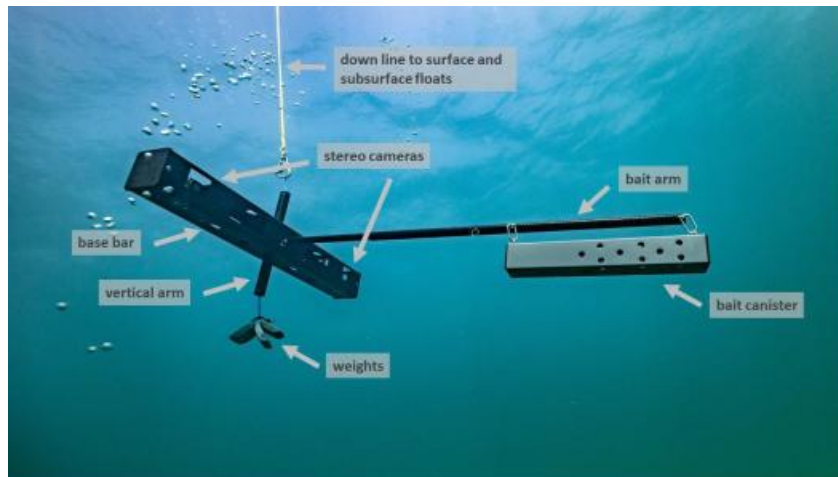
3.4 Safety Requirements

- Fully compliant with all Namibian maritime safety regulations
- Equipped with all required safety gear (life rafts, life jackets, communication systems, emergency equipment, etc.)

4. BRUVS Equipment Overview

The vessel will be used to deploy Baited Remote Underwater Video Systems (BRUVS), which are lightweight, modular carbon fibre rigs consisting of:

- Camera base bar (approx. 102 cm) with stereo camera setup
- Inner and outer bait arms (approx. 96 cm each) supporting bait canister
- Vertical arm (approx. 40 cm) connecting rig to drop line and weights



These systems are deployed vertically in the water column and require careful handling during deployment and retrieval.

5. Duration and Timing

- Preferred survey window: September – October 2026
- Total charter duration: Approximately 10–12 days, including:
 - 6–8 days dedicated to BRUVS sampling
 - Transit time between Walvis Bay and survey areas

6. Operational Considerations

- Total estimated distance:
 - Walvis Bay – Kunene River Mouth – Walvis Bay: **~800 nautical miles**
- Additional fuel capacity required for:
 - Movement between sampling sites
 - Contingency/weather-related deviations
- Final sampling plan and exact deployment locations will be confirmed prior to mobilisation.

7. Submission Requirements

Interested service providers are requested to submit the following:

- Vessel specifications (size, range, fuel capacity, deck layout, equipment onboard)
- Crew details and relevant certifications



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- Proof of vessel seaworthiness and safety compliance
- Experience with similar offshore or research charters (if applicable)
- Detailed cost breakdown, including:
 - Daily charter rate
 - Fuel costs (or fuel consumption estimates)
 - Crew costs
 - Any additional operational costs

8. Evaluation Criteria

Quotations will be evaluated based on:

- Compliance with technical requirements
- Vessel suitability and safety standards
- Relevant experience
- Cost-effectiveness
- Availability within the proposed timeframe

9. Enquiries and Submission

For any technical related questions, please direct them to joachim@nnf.org.na and cc Naftal@nnf.org.na

The deadline for submission is Thursday, 30 April 2026 at 17:00, submitted via email to: Procurement@nnf.org.na.

Please address your quotation to:

Namibia Nature Foundation

BBP Project

P. O. Box 245

Windhoek



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10. Additional Notes

NNF reserves the right to:

- Request additional information from bidders
- Modify or cancel this RFQ at any stage
- Not necessarily accept the lowest quotation

Yours sincerely,

Sharon Kahunda

Marine Coordinator & Project Lead