



# DEEP 5 COELACANTH

Often called a living fossil, coelacanths were thought to be extinct until one was discovered in 1938.

In recent years scientists using special deep diving submersibles have found many individuals living in the deep canyons in the iSimangaliso MPA.



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Photo: Peter Timm



**DEEP 5**

# **VOLCANO SPONGE (PHERONEMA)**

First seen in 2002 by scientists  
in a submersible,  
Pheronema sponges live in  
canyons at depths of 130-160m  
off the east coast of South Africa.

Providing shelter for fishes  
such as pineapple fish,  
bigeyes and swallowtails,  
these enormous sponges  
filter substantial volumes  
of water.



**2**

Photo; Kerry Sink



# DEEP 5 KINGKLIP

Although considered a delicacy on the plate, the kingklip is not an attractive fish. It is mottled pinkish-brown in colour and has a long body that tapers to a point.



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They live far offshore in depths of 50 – 100m and are caught by both bottom trawlers and demersal longline fishing vessels.



**DEEP 5**

# ORI SPIDER CRAB

This unusual crab was named after the Oceanographic Research Institute in Durban to honour the Institute's 70-year history of research.

Spider crabs have a relatively small body and 10 long legs.

This species lives in the deep waters off the east African coast.



**4**

Photo: SAAMBR



# DEEP 5 JOHN DORY

With a big black dot on either side of an oval-shaped body, this is a strange looking fish.

They live at depths of 50- 400m where they like to feed on small fish, crustaceans and squid.

Bottom trawl nets often catch these popular eating fish.



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