

Open Source Okavango14: The Heartbeat of the Delta

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We can hear this heartbeat by listening to what the environment tells us through sensors and testing. I proposed that we build low cost sensors using open source hardware and software. In recent years there has been quite a disruption in computing ability as a result of the prevalence of smartphones. Increasingly small and powerful components and processors have created an opportunities that we would have never thought possible. One of the results of that is the single-board Raspberry Pi computer. Originally, the Raspberry Pi was created to enable students to learn hardware and software development. For the Okavango Wilderness Project, we are using them to take environmental readings and send those to us for inclusion into the Into The Okavango website. Jer will cover this more in his expedition post. We are using them to measure water temperature, pH, conductivity, total dissolved solids, salinity, and specific gravity.

[4]

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[1] <http://www.tuxmachines.org/taxonomy/term/63>

[2] <http://www.tuxmachines.org/taxonomy/term/72>

[3] <http://www.tuxmachines.org/taxonomy/term/78>

[4] <http://newswatch.nationalgeographic.com/2014/08/20/open-source-okavango14-the-heartbeat-of-the-delta/>