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# Media Release

Chiefs of Staff, News Directors

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## Major IMAS *Investigator* voyage to study impact of submarine volcanoes on ocean ecosystems

CSIRO's Marine National Facility research vessel *Investigator* will depart Fremantle tomorrow (Friday 8 January) on its longest voyage to date to research the link between active volcanoes on the seafloor and the mobilisation of iron which enriches and supports life in the Southern Ocean.

IMAS Professor Mike Coffin, a marine geophysicist and global expert on large igneous provinces including the Kerguelen Plateau, is Chief Scientist for the 58-day Southern Ocean voyage he



2014 by the Minister for Industry and Science, Ian Macfarlane, and supports atmospheric, oceanographic, biological and geoscience research.

The Marine National Facility is a blue-water research capability, funded by the Australian Government and managed by CSIRO on behalf of the nation. It is available to all Australian scientists and their international collaborators, with access granted on the basis of proposals that are internationally peer reviewed, and independently assessed for science quality and contribution to the national interest.

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