

Motion Tracking at Bristol Zoo Gardens

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Bristol Zoo requires quantitative information on the movement and behaviour patterns of their pair of partially-nocturnal pygmy hippopotami. They approached the University of Bristol to design an autonomous system to measure their hippos' movements around the clock, with a view to obtaining statistically analysable data on the hippos' use of different areas of their enclosure and on their waking/sleeping hours.

A motion detection system was designed and built by university students comprising passive infra-red receivers and a computer-based data logging package.

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