EXPLORER, PIONEER, and RANGER product demonstration prop building instructions

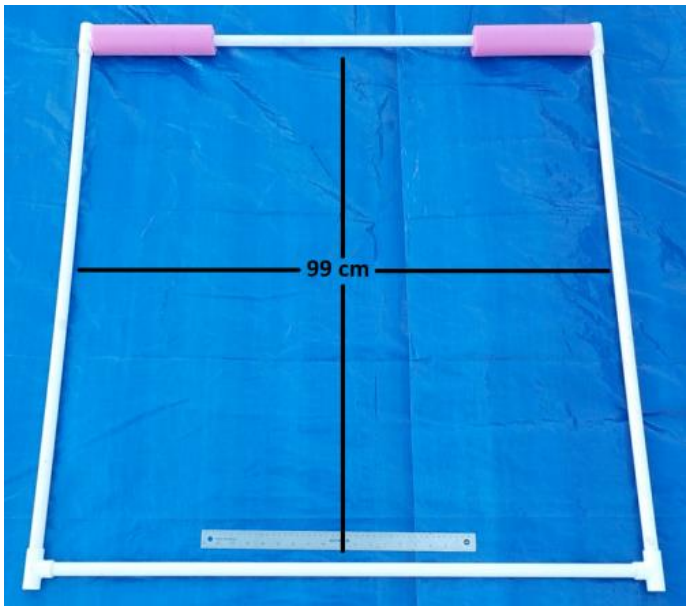
Regional competitions may build product demonstration props out of materials other than PVC pipe. Your regional coordinator will inform you of any changes to materials for your regional competition. NOTE: Look for a regional information document posted on your regional website. This document will list any changes to the product demonstration props.

Companies should be aware that tolerances in lengths of cut pipe and length of pipe inserted into joints can change the overall dimensions of product demonstration tasks. Except where noted, companies should expect tolerances in all product demonstration props and should build their ROVs and tools accordingly. In no case should the dimensions given in this document for a product demonstration prop be used to calibrate a measuring device.

Online links and Home Depot part numbers are given for certain construction items. However, some Home Depot stores may not carry the listed items or Home Depot may not be available in your area. MATE recommends checking other local hardware stores or online sources, such as those listed below, for the required component.
https://www.pvcfittingsonline.com/
https://pvcpipesupplies.com/pvc-fittings/schedule-40-pvc-fittings/

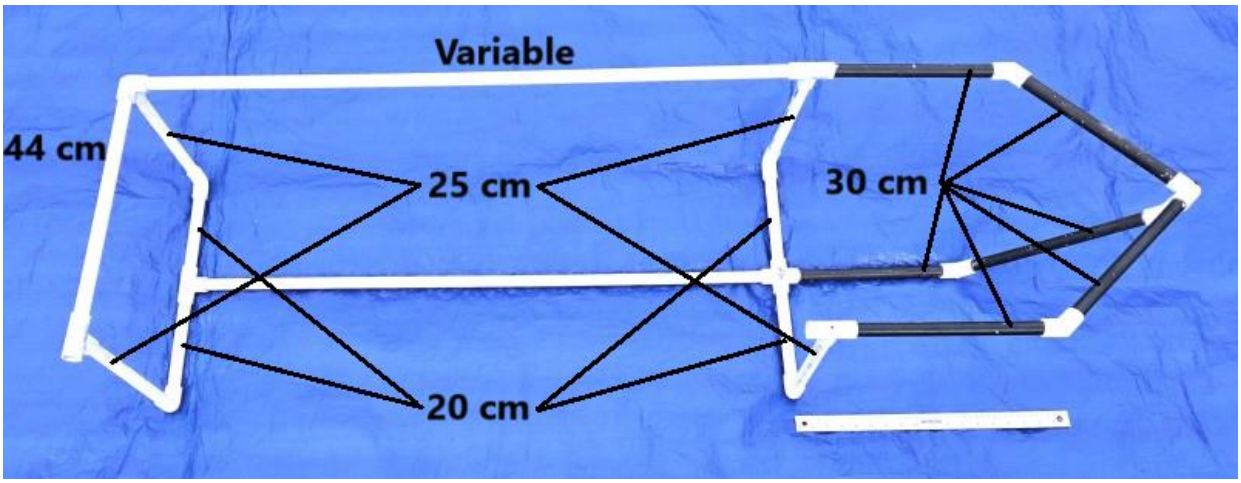
See last page for update notes (if any).

General

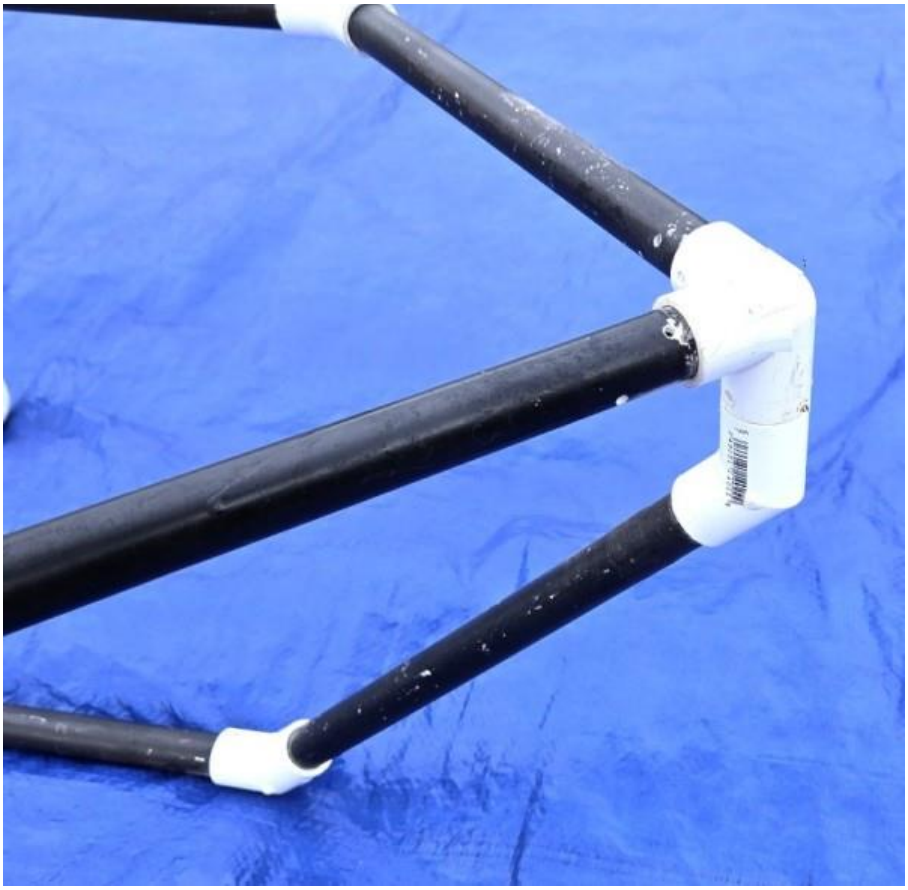


The 1-meter square. Companies must launch and return through a 1-meter square area on the surface, side of the pool.

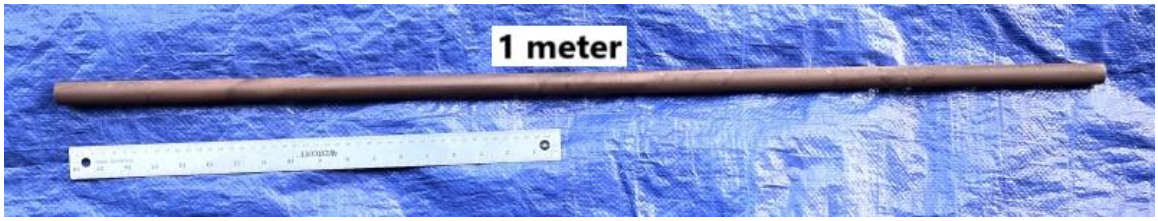
Task 1:
Task 1.1 Shipwrecks



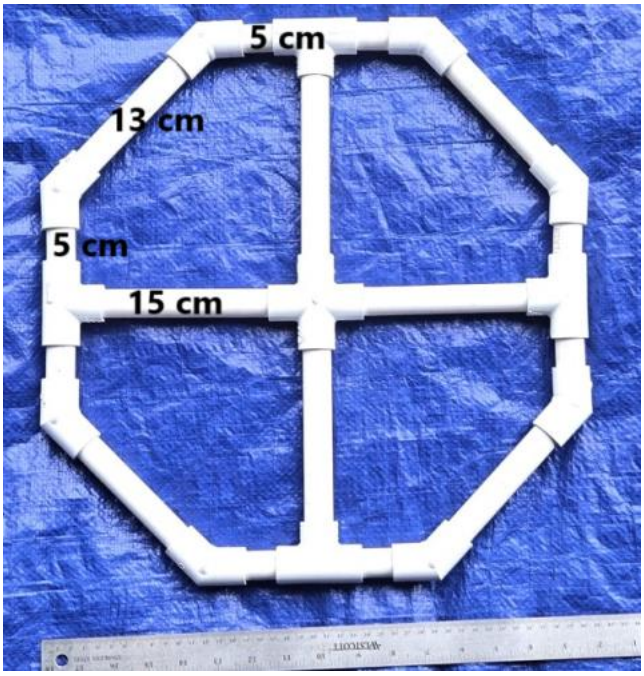
The shipwreck is constructed using variable lengths of ½-inch PVC pipe. The shipwreck will be between 1.25 meter and 2 meters in length.



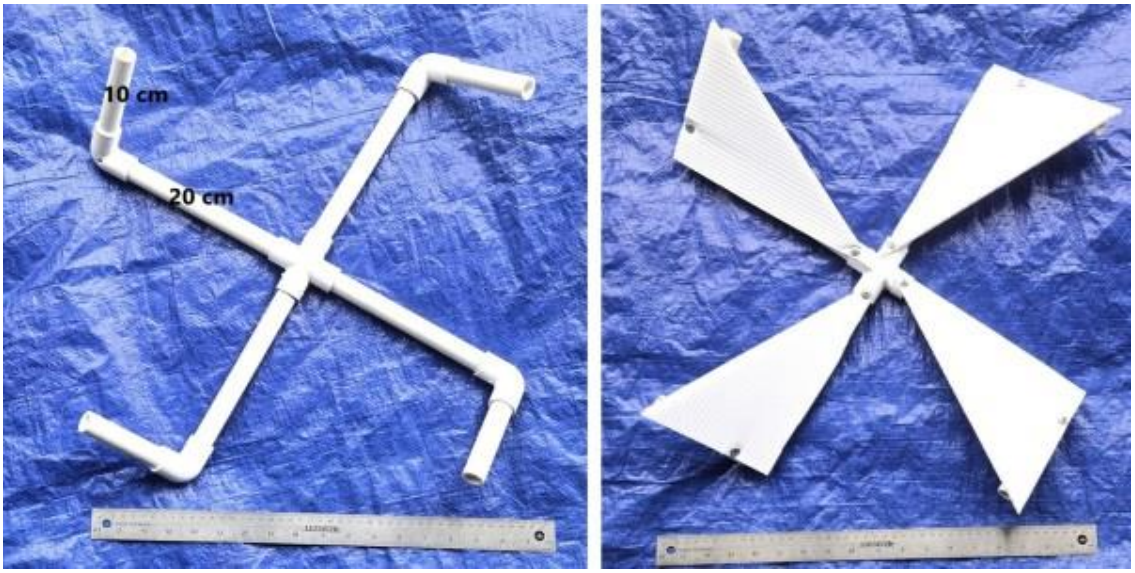
The bow of the shipwreck.



Sailing schooners have a mast constructed from ½-inch PVC pipe.

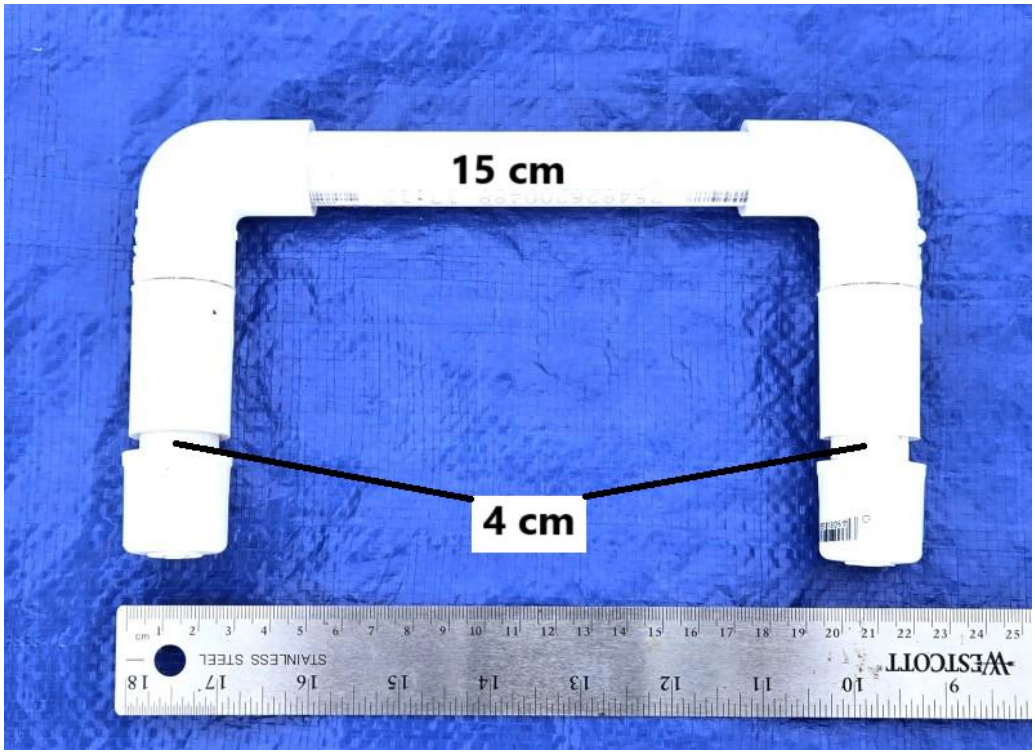


Steam driven paddlewheel ships have a paddlewheel constructed from ½-inch PVC pipe.

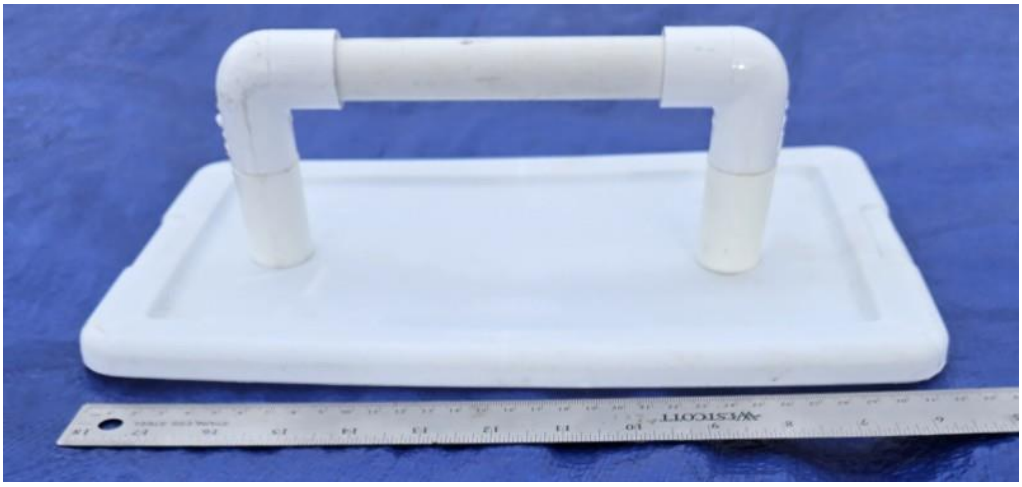


Bulk freighters have a propeller constructed from ½-inch PVC pipe and corrugated plastic sheeting.

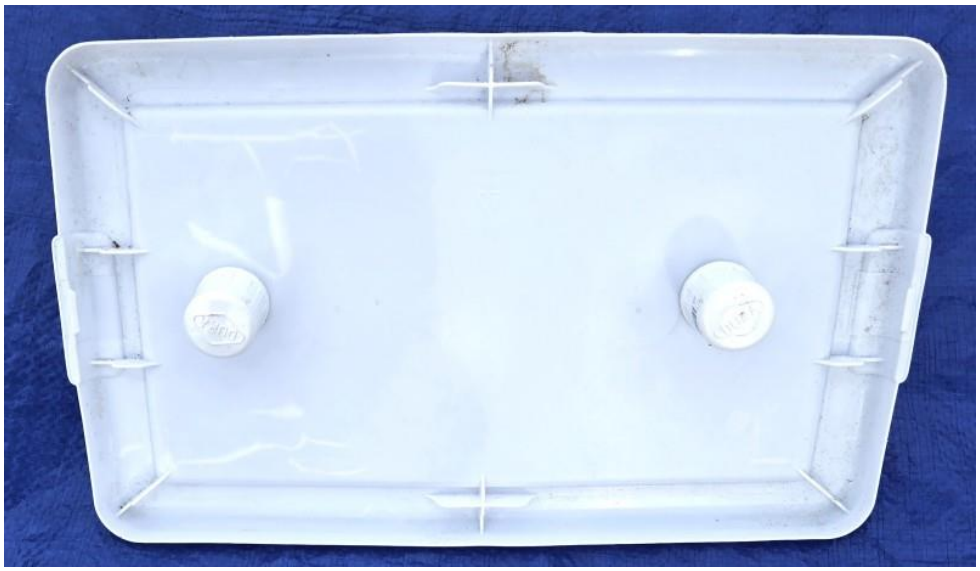
The cargo container is constructed from a Sterlite 6 qt plastic container.



The handle for the lid is constructed from ½-inch PVC pipe.



The cargo container lid (top view).

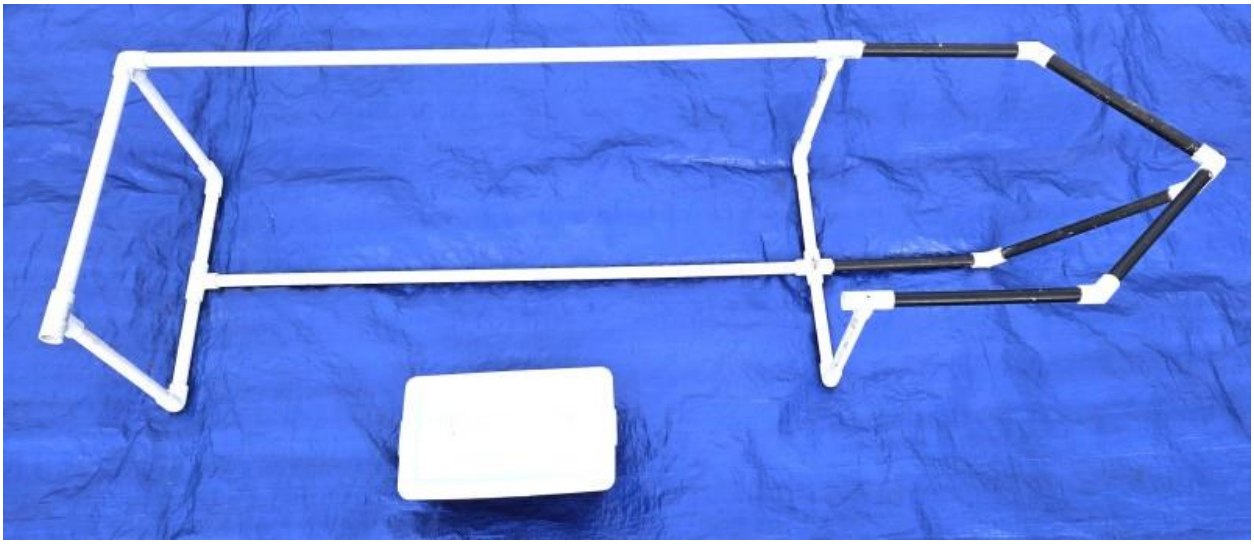


The cargo container lid (bottom view).

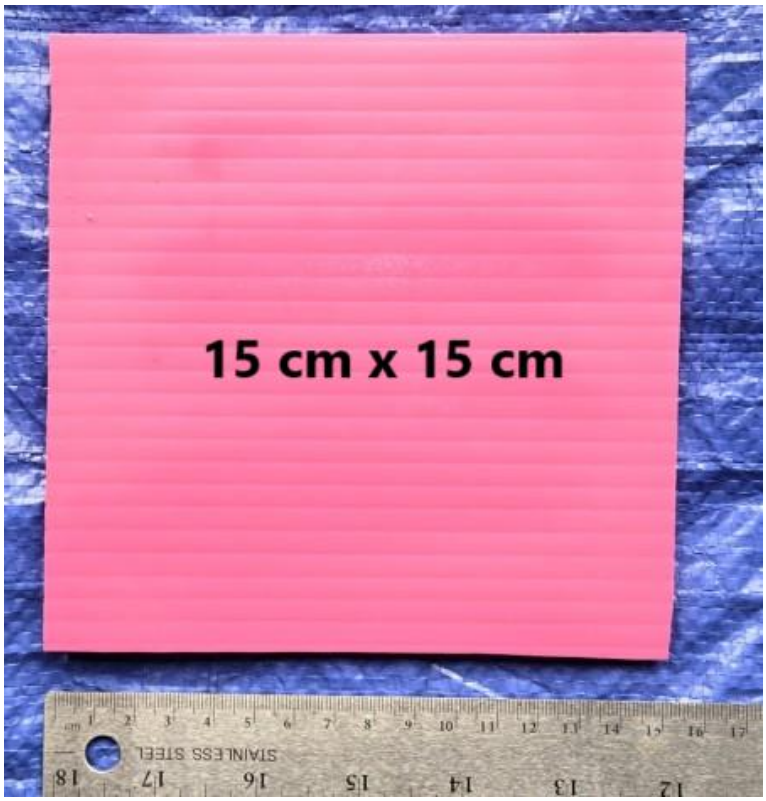
The lid on the cargo container.

The cargo container with a brick inside. Note the brick is used to weigh down the container and is not cargo.

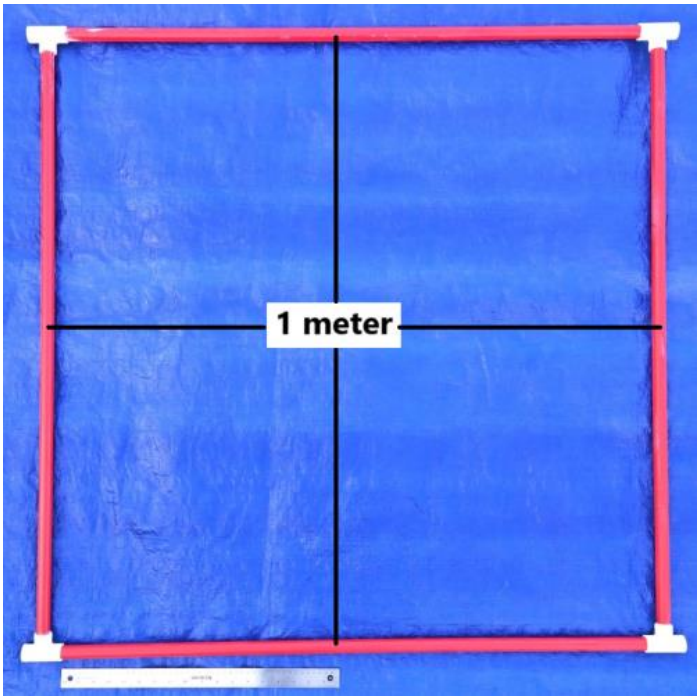
The cargo is constructed from ½-inch PVC tees and 90° elbows. Yellow tees and elbows represent wheat. Red tees and elbows represent bricks. Black tees and elbows represent coal. White tees and elbows represent furnace sand.



The cargo container next to the shipwreck.

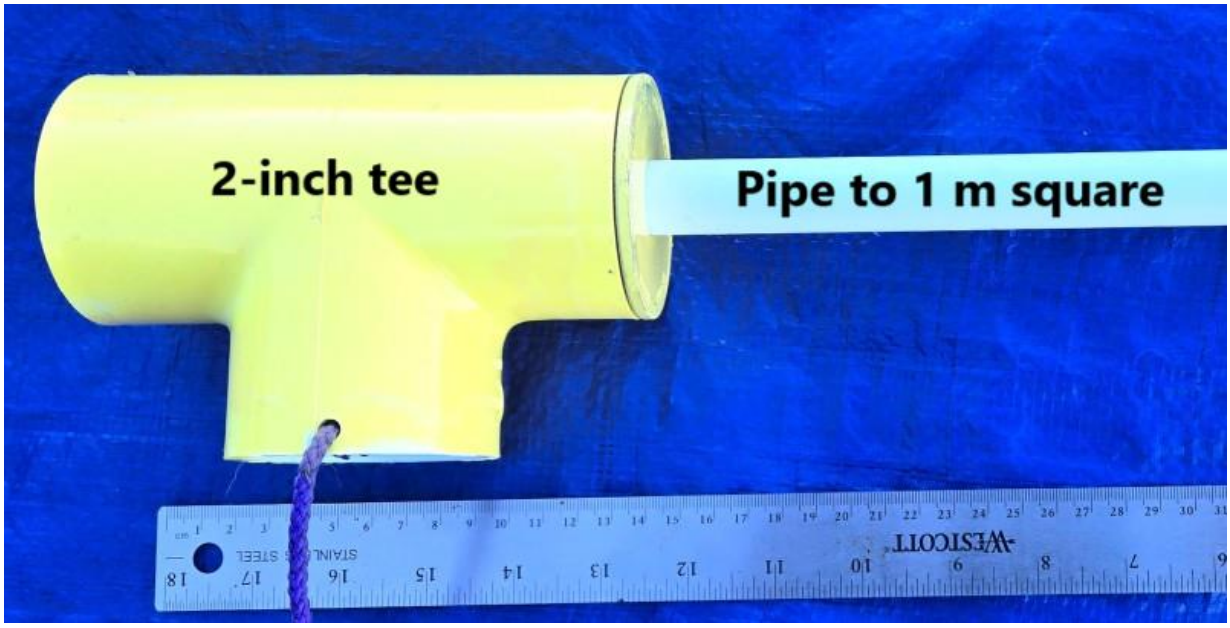


Targets are constructed from a 15 cm x 15 cm square of corrugated plastic. All targets at a mission station are painted the same color.

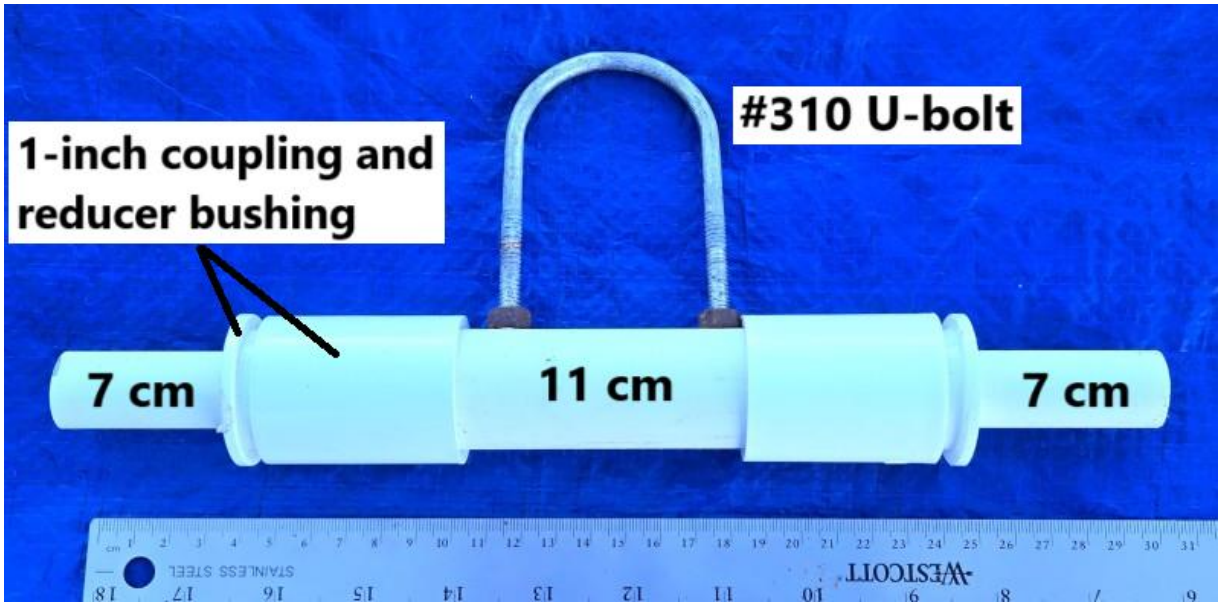


The center location of the 360° photosphere is a 1-meter square constructed from ½-inch PVC pipe and is painted red.

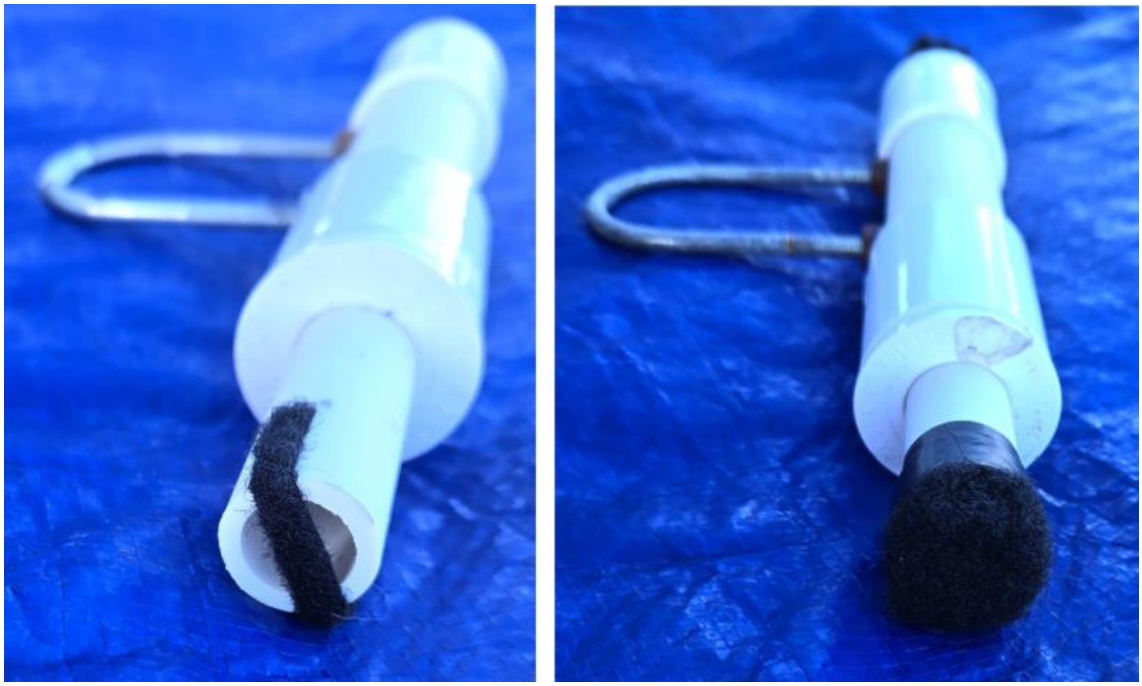
Task 1.2 Spotter Buoys



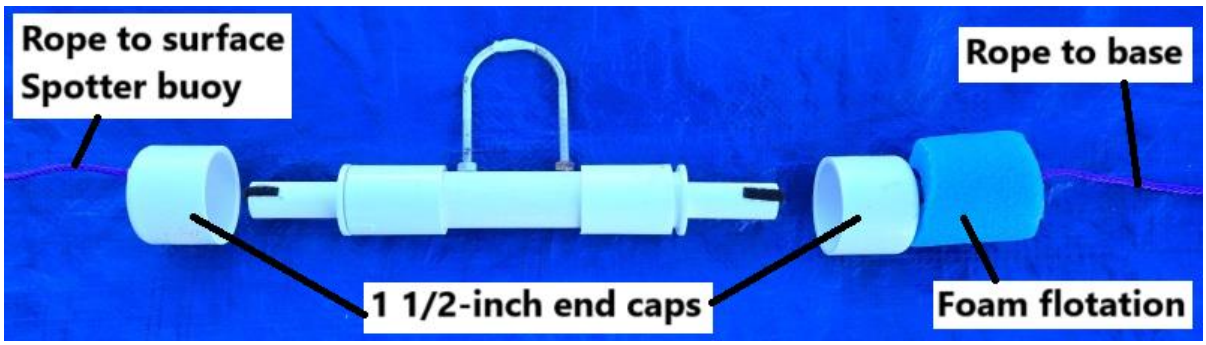
The Spotter buoy is constructed from a 2-inch tee and foam. The Spotter buoy is attached by ½-inch pipe to the 1-meter square that teams must launch through.



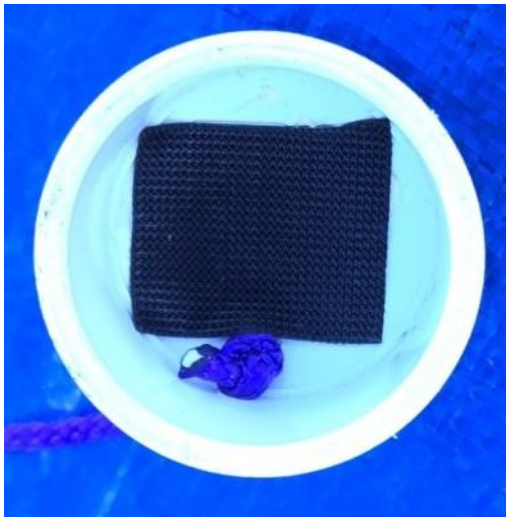
Both the damaged and new thermistor are constructed from 1-inch and ½-inch PVC. A #310 U-bolt acts as a carrying mechanism for the thermistors.



Left: The damaged thermistor has a thin 3 mm strip of Velcro loops on each end. Right: Each end of the new thermistor is completely covered with Velcro loops.

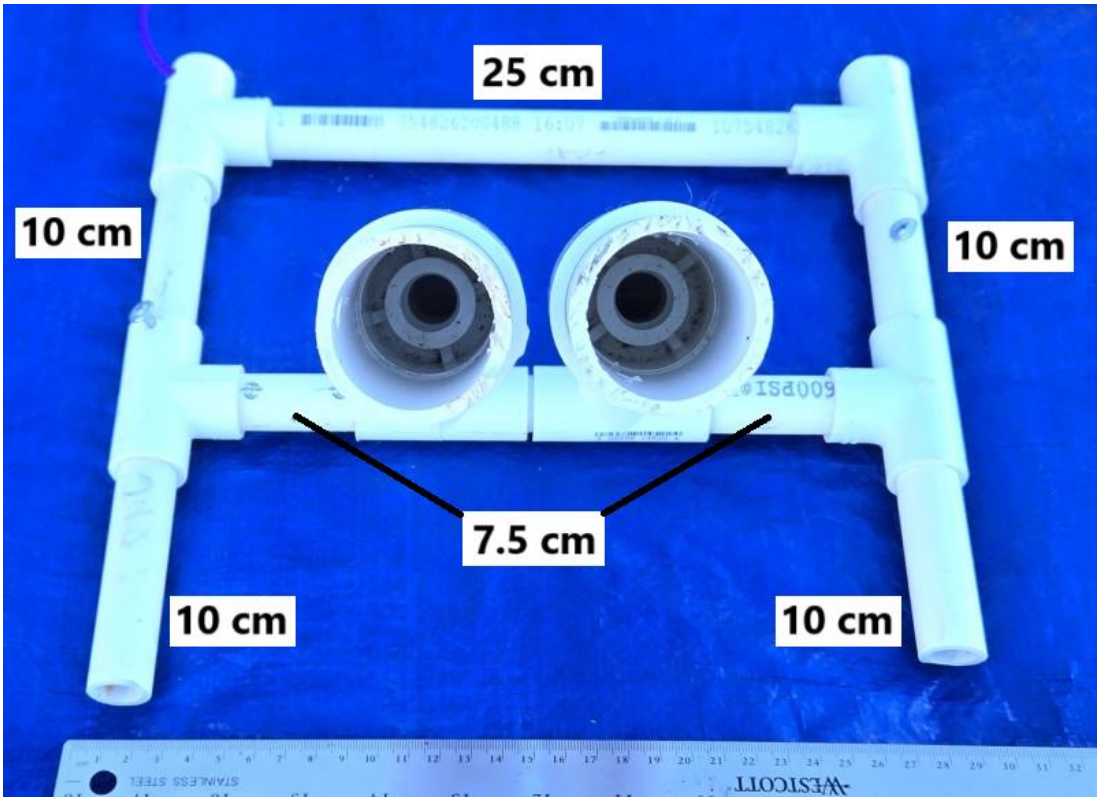


The thermistor is connected by Velcro to two 1 ½-inch end caps, one of which hangs down below the surface Spotter buoy, the other of which has flotation attached and floats up from the base of the Spotter buoy.

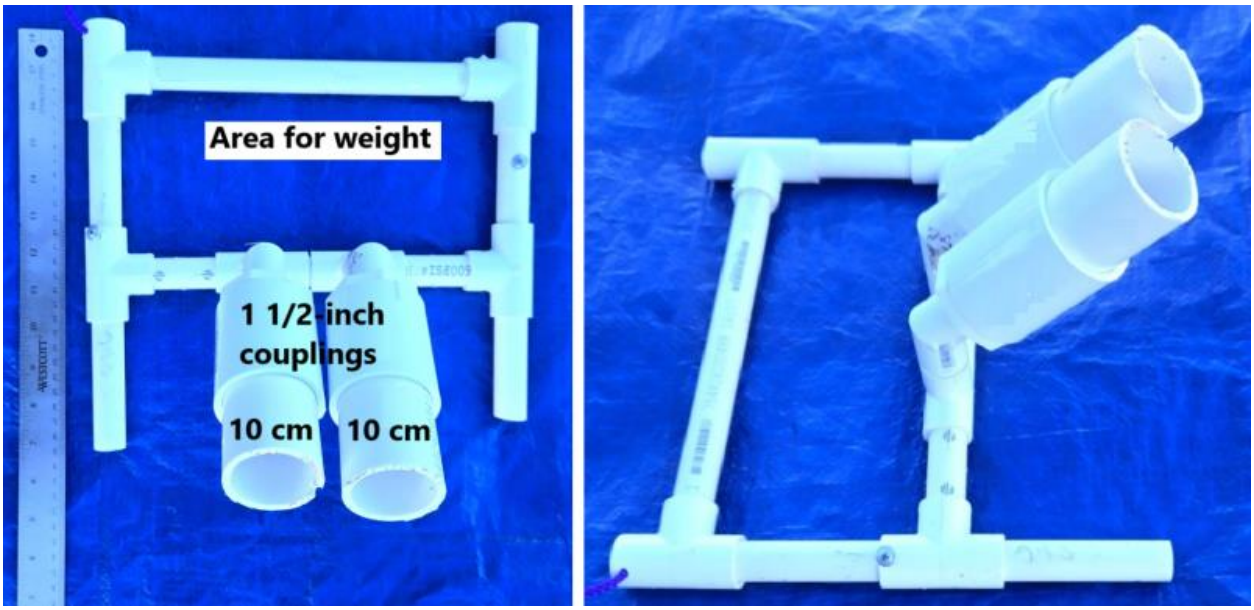


Both end caps have a 4 cm x 4 cm square of Velcro hooks on the inside.

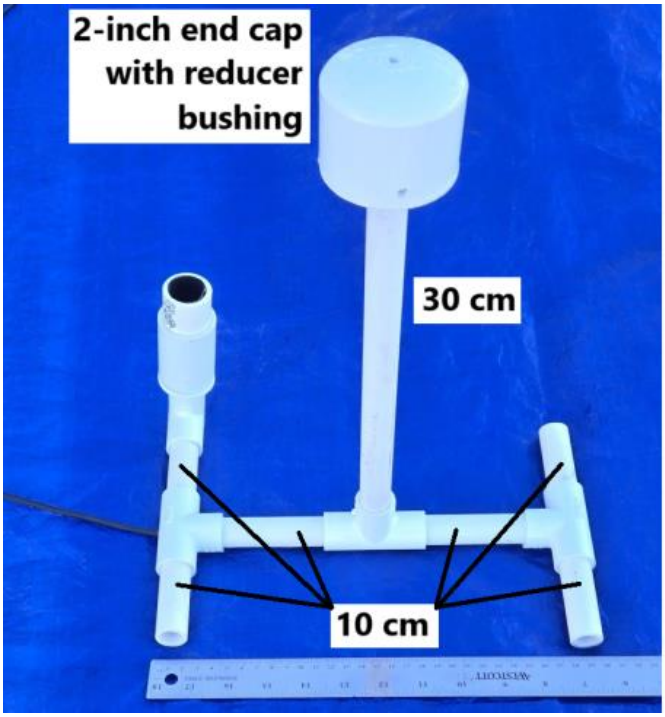
The thermistor connected to the Spotter buoy.



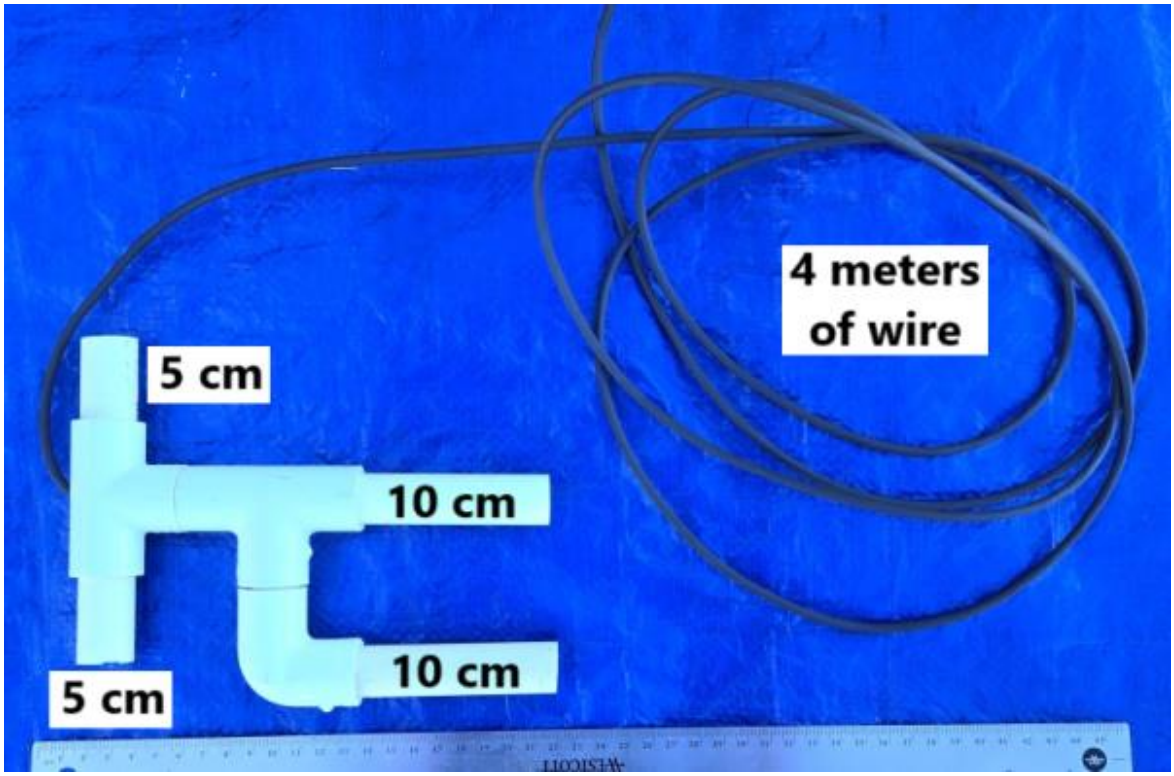
The base of the Spotter buoy is constructed from 1 ½-inch and ½-inch PVC pipe.



Weights can be added to the base of the Spotter buoy.

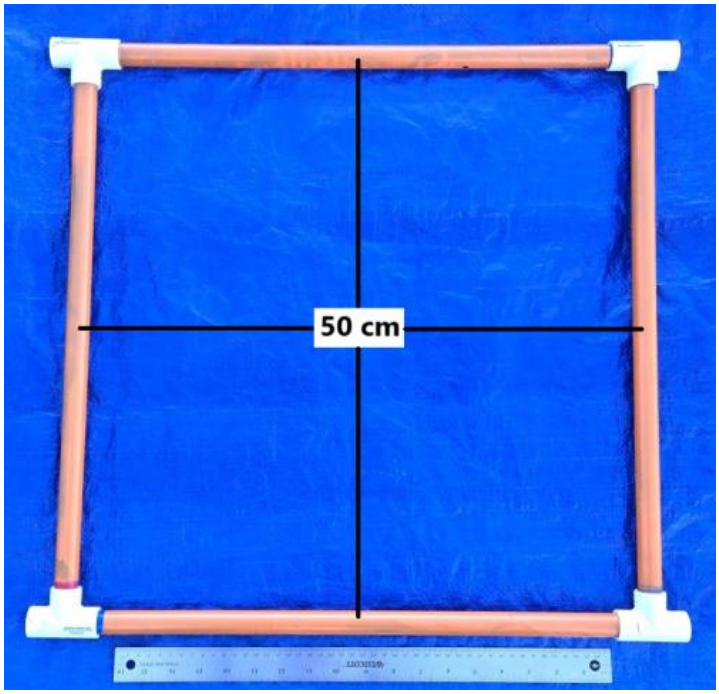


Left: The pC02 sensor is constructed from ½-inch, 1-inch, and 2-inch PVC pipe. Right: The holder for pCO2 connector. Velcro inside the 1-inch pipe holds the connector inside.

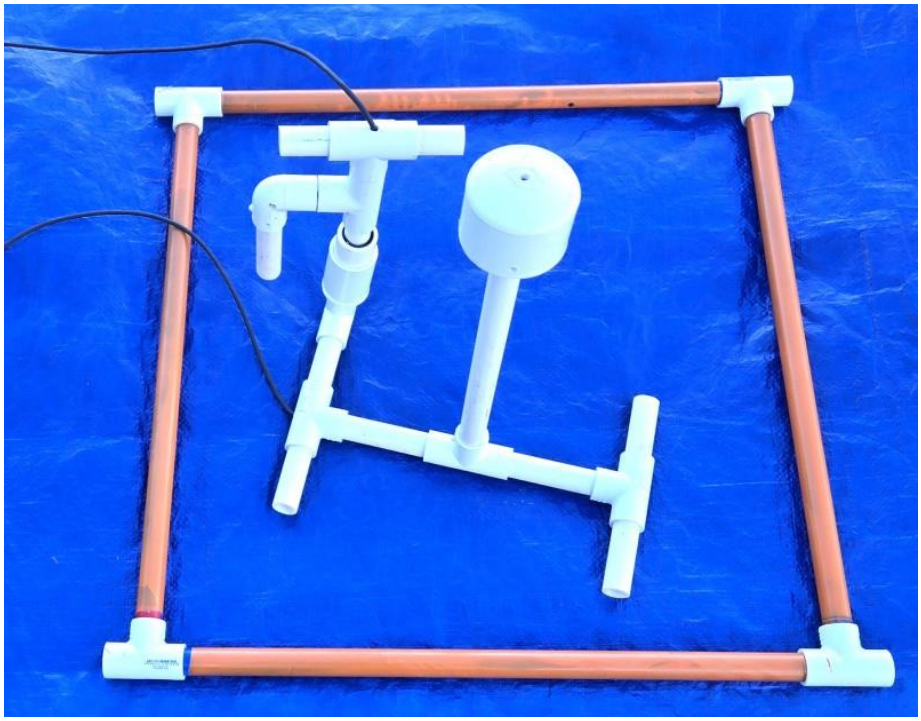


The pC02 sensor connector is constructed from ½-inch PVC pipe. 4 meters of wire connect the pCO2 sensor to the connector.

The pC02 connector installed into the base of the Spotter buoy.



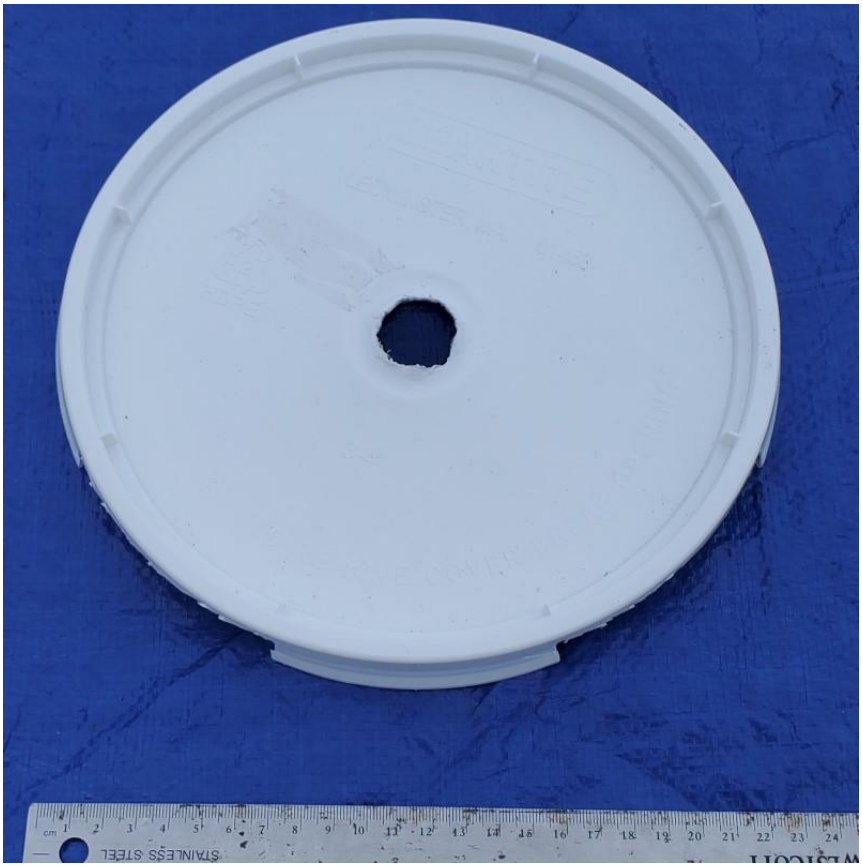
The designated area for the pCO2 sensor is constructed from ½-inch PVC pipe and is painted orange.



The pC02 sensor with connector inside the designated area.

Task 1.3 Lake Acidification and Invasive Carp

A 1 liter soft water bottle. Epoxy secures a ¾-inch male adapter to the mouth of the bottle.



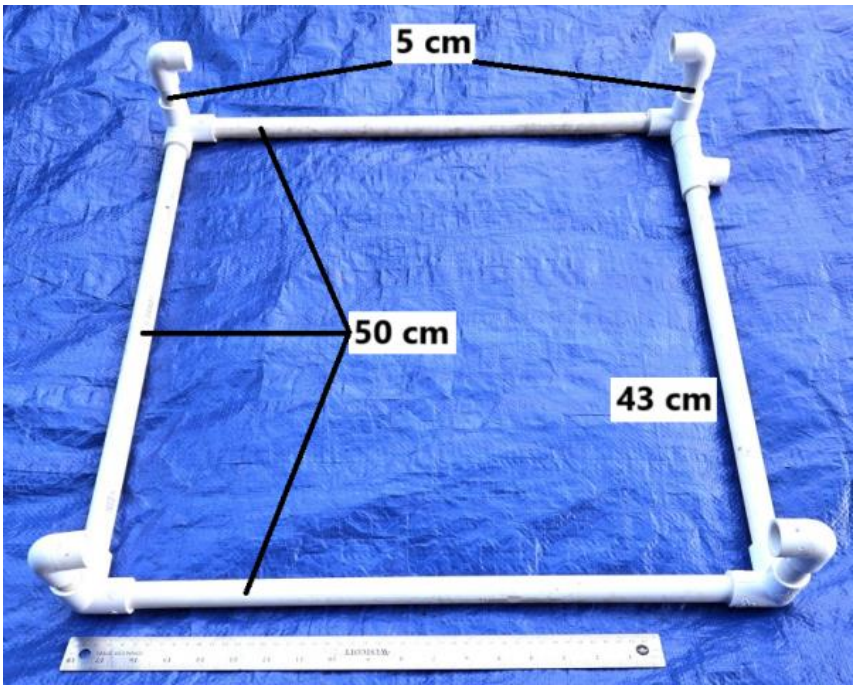
A 2-gallon bucket lid. The hole in the center is large enough for the threaded end of the ¾-inch male adapter to fit through.

The ¾-inch male adapter inserted through the hole in the 2-gallon bucket lid. Left: Top view. Right: Bottom view.

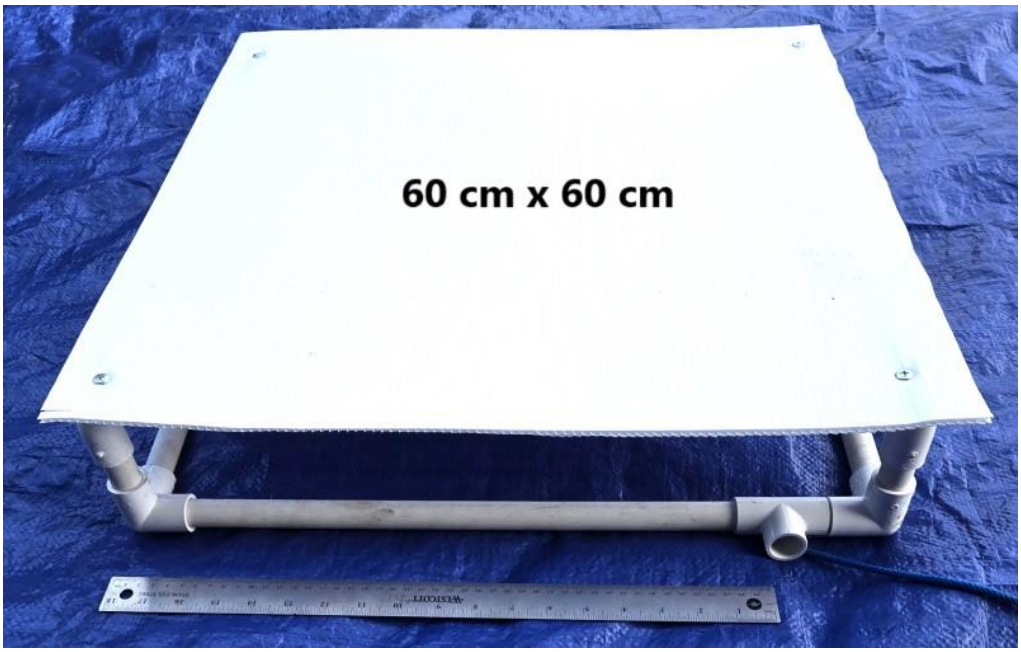

Left: The ¾-inch female adapter attached. Right: Plastic cling wrap secured over the top of the ¾-inch female adapter.

2-gallon bucket with lid attached. Weights are added inside the bucket.

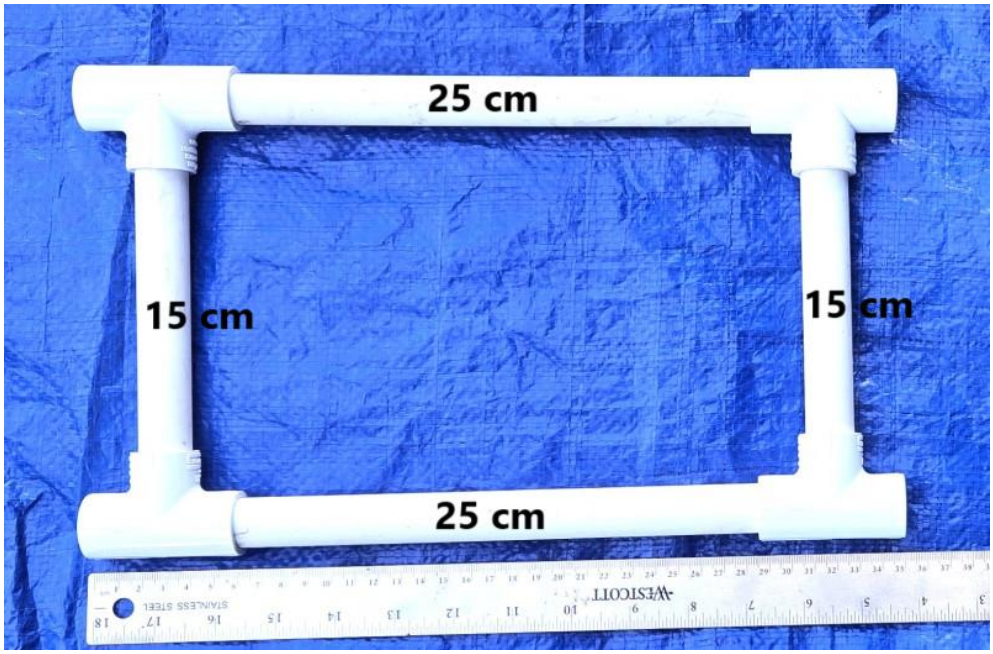
Task 2:
Task 2.1 Produce Power



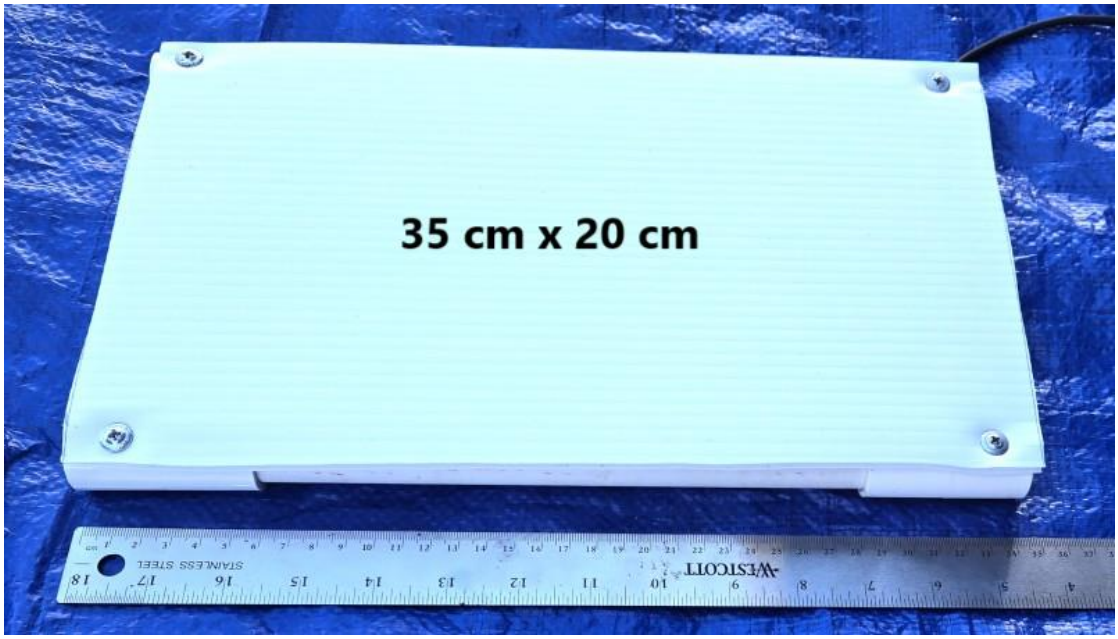
The floating solar panel array surface structure is constructed from ½-inch PVC pipe and corrugated plastic sheeting. A rope connects this to the solar panel array sub-surface structure on the bottom of the pool.



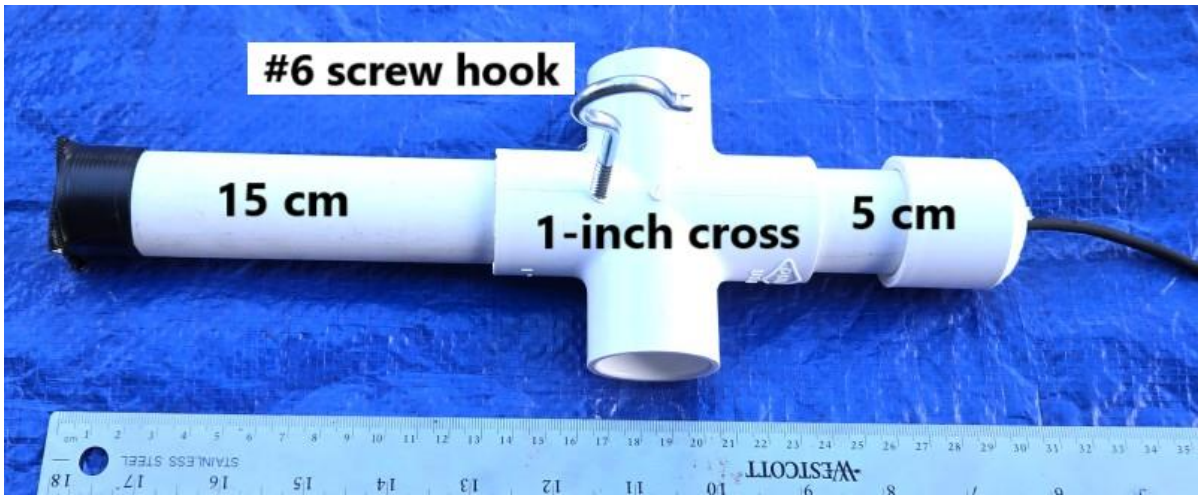
A 60 cm x 60 cm square of corrugated plastic sheeting covers the top of the solar panel array framework. Flotation keeps the solar panel array on the surface.



The floating solar panel array subsurface structure is constructed from ½-inch PVC pipe and corrugated plastic sheeting. A rope connects this to the solar panel array surface structure.

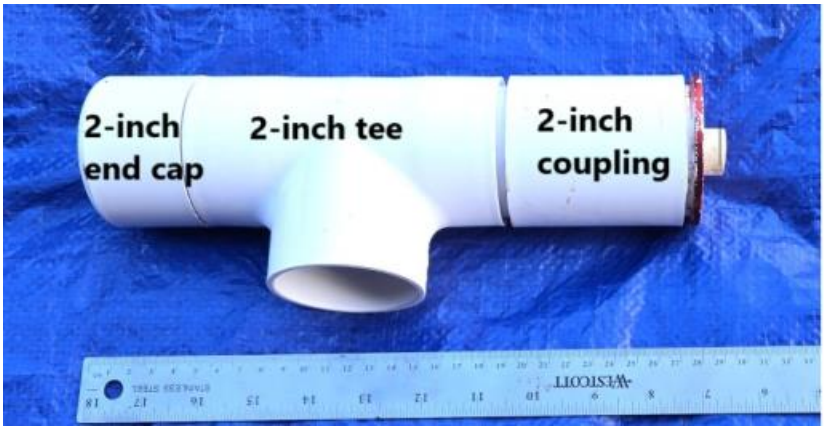


A 35 cm x 20 cm sheet of corrugated plastic tops the connector platform.

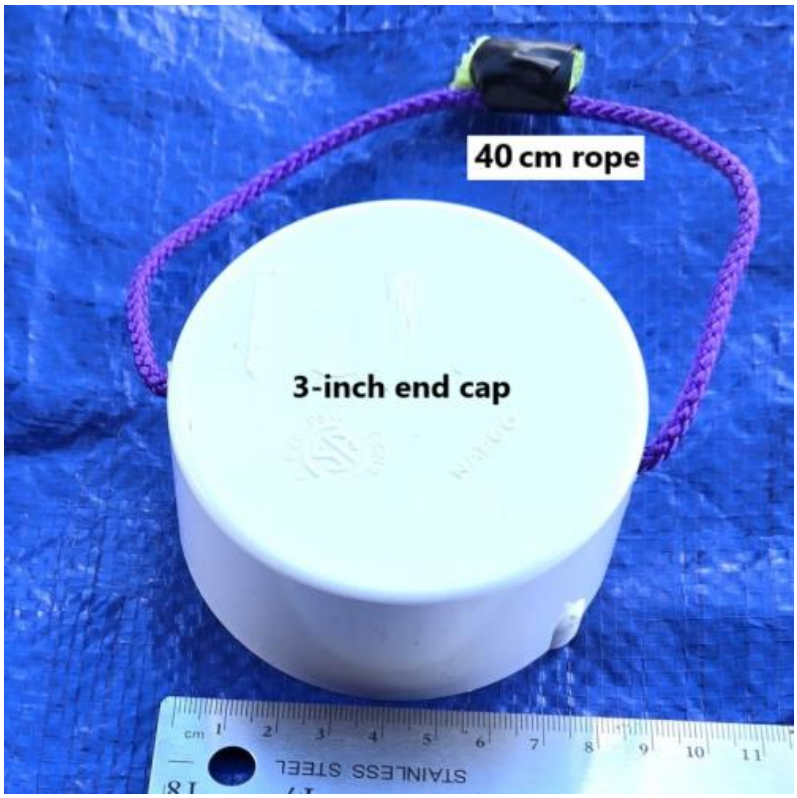


The power connector is constructed from 1-inch PVC pipe. A #6 screw hook can be used to carry the connector. A 4-meter length of wire connects the power connector to the array's sub-surface structure. A 6 cm x 2.5 cm rectangle of Velcro hooks covers the open end of the 15 cm length of pipe.

The power connector resting on its platform.

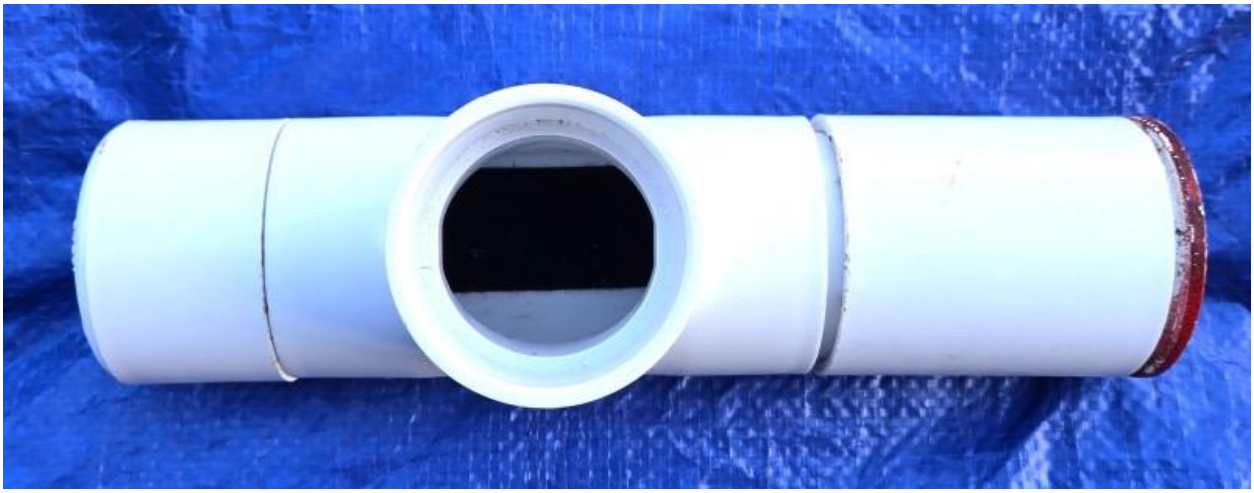


The connection port is constructed from 2-inch PVC pipe. Left: Top view. Right: Side view with a 2-inch to ½-inch reducer bushing. ½-inch pipe connects the port to the floating wind farm bottom structures.

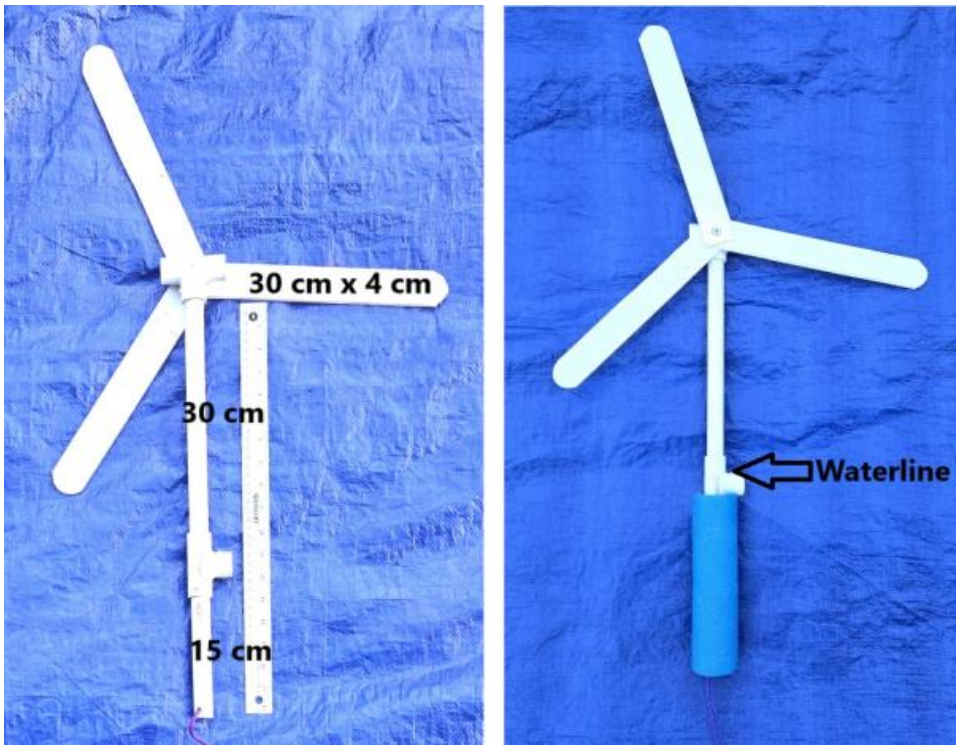


The cover of the connection port is constructed from a 3-inch PVC end cap. A 40 cm length of rope acts as a carrying mechanism for the cover. The connection cover is considered debris; companies must return the cover to the surface, side of the pool or it must be under control of their ROV at the end of the product demonstration run.

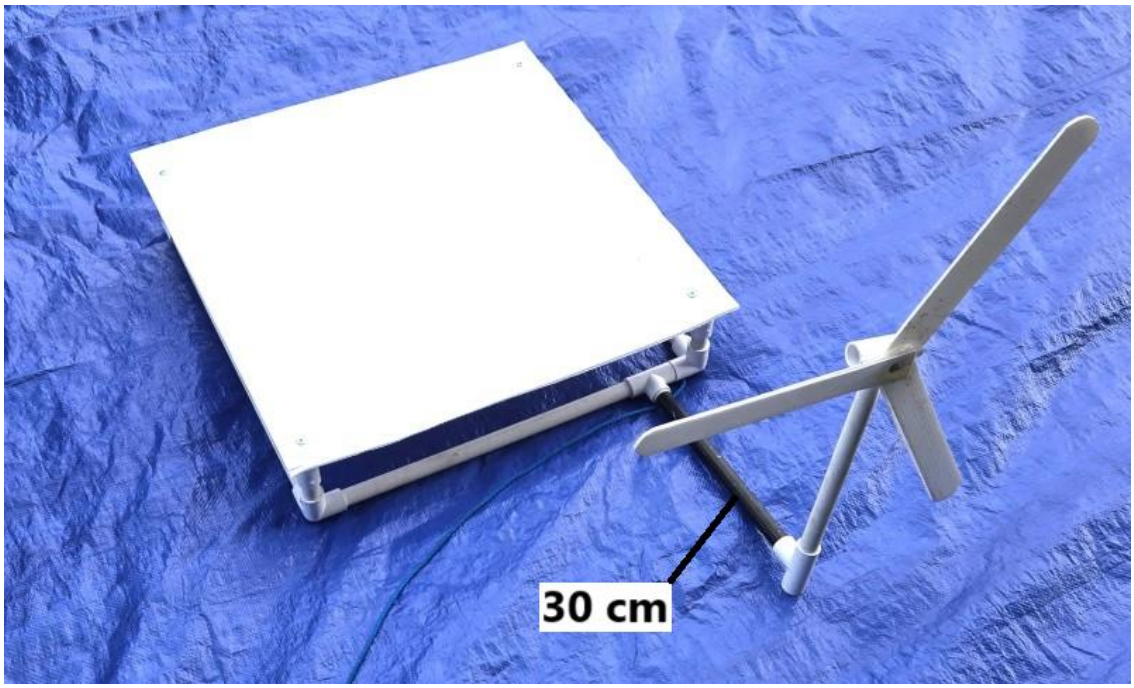
The cover over the connection port.


The inside of the connection port is covered with Velcro loops.

The solar panel array connector inserted into the port.

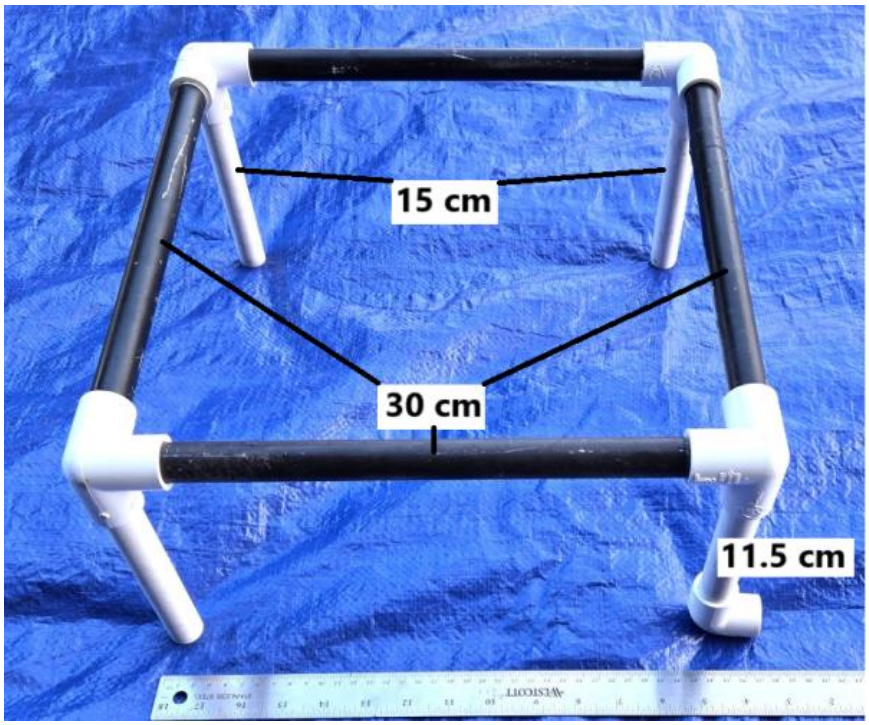


Left: The offshore wind farm surface turbine is constructed from ½-inch PVC pipe and corrugated plastic sheeting. Right: Note the indicated water line. Flotation is used to hold the wind turbine upright in the water. Additional flotation may need to be added around the base to keep the turbine upright. A length of rope connects the turbine on the surface to the wind farm structure on the bottom of the pool.

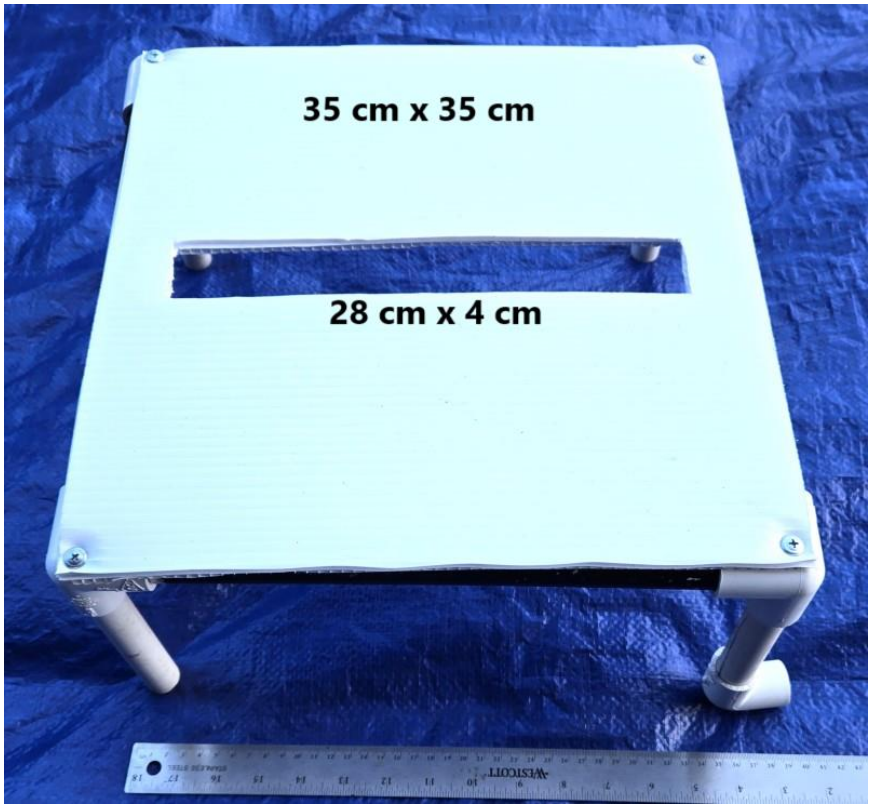


The wind farm turbine is attached to the floating solar panel array with ½-inch pipe. This serves to stabilize both the wind farm and the solar panel array.

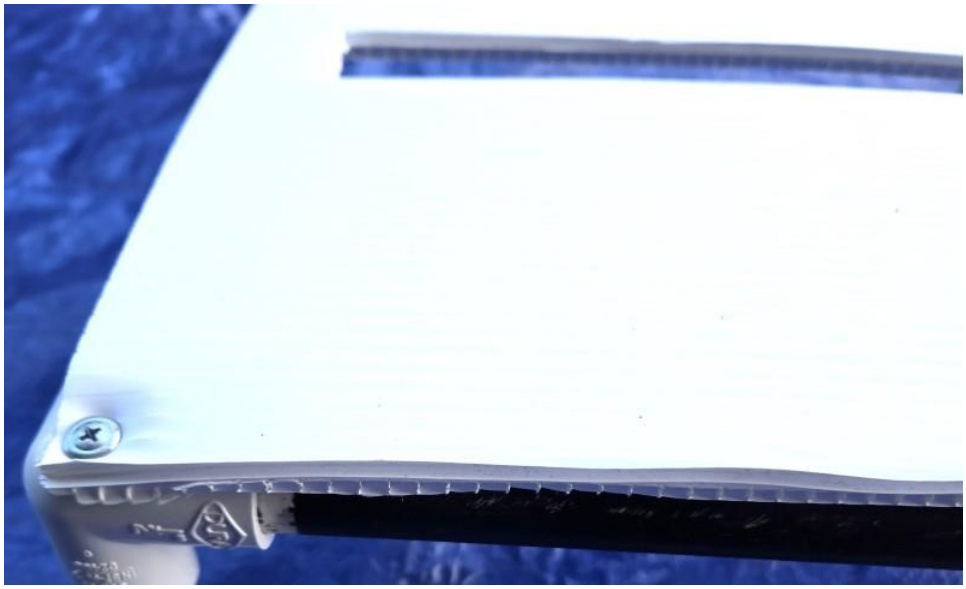
The subsurface structure of the offshore wind turbine is constructed from 1 ½-inch PVC pipe. The subsurface structure is connected to the surface structure by a rope. Velcro hooks wrap around each "leg" at the top and bottom. Left: Isometric view. Right: Top view.



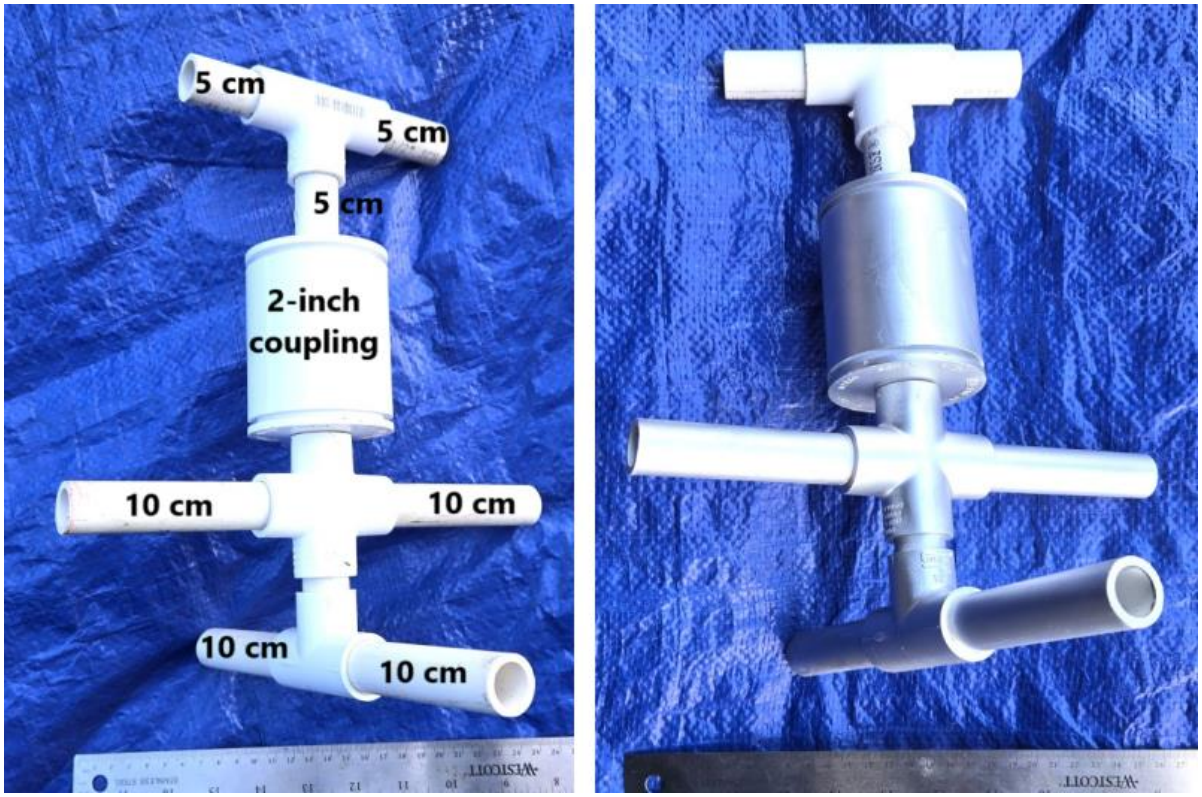
The area to place the sacrificial anode is constructed from ½-inch PVC and corrugated plastic sheeting.



A double layer of corrugated plastic sheeting with a slot covers the top of the area to place the sacrificial anode.

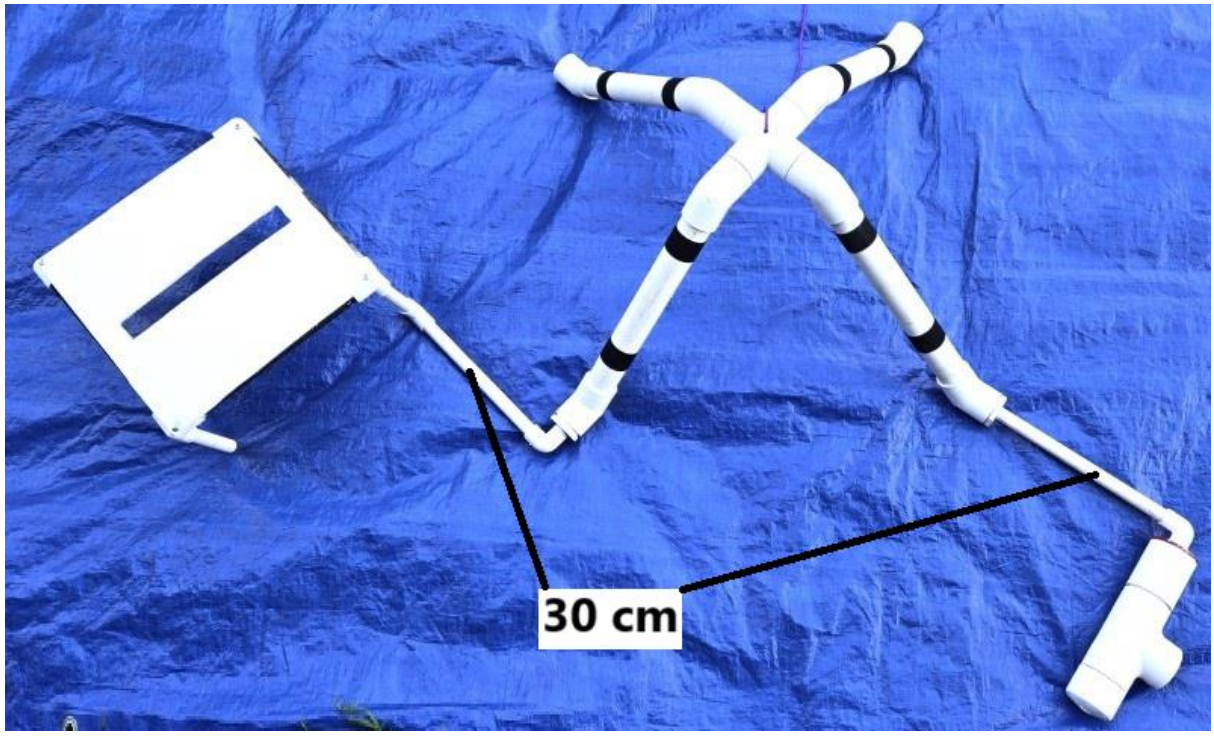


The double layer of corrugated plastic sheeting. The ribbing of the two sheets are offset to provide additional strength.



Both the old and the new sacrificial anode are constructed from 2-inch and ½-inch PVC pipe. Left: The anode. Right: The anode painted silver.

The sacrificial anode installed. Left: Top view. Right: Bottom view.



The wind farm sub-surface structure. ½-inch PVC pipe connects the various missions. A 1 ½-inch to ½-inch reducer bushing inserts into the sub-surface structure.

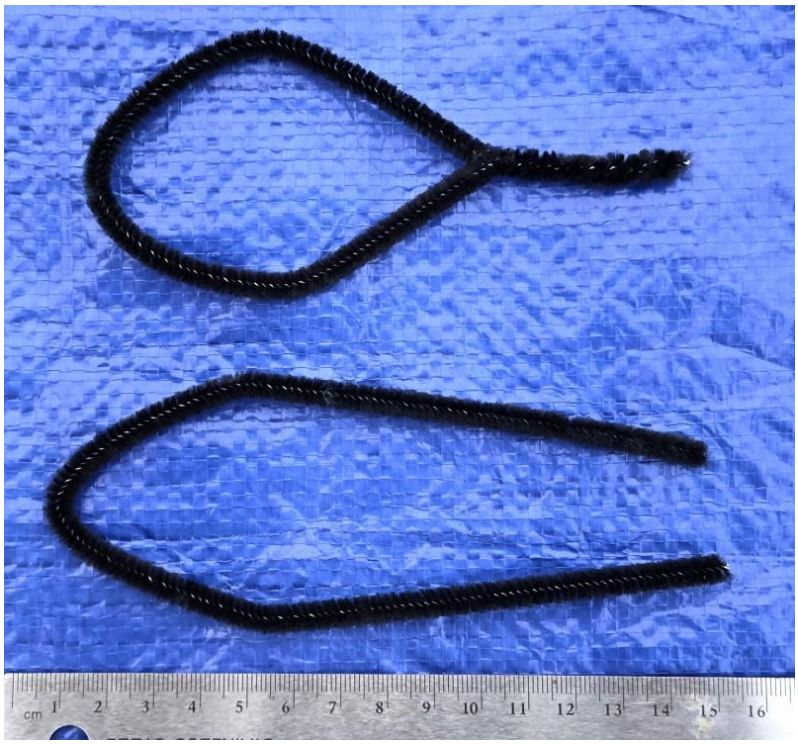
Corrosion is simulated by a spot of orange paint at least 1.5 cm in diameter.

The epoxy patch is constructed from a 30 cm x 30 cm washcloth cut in four segments (30 cm x 7.5 cm). 6 cm lengths of Velcro loops are attached to each side of the epoxy patch (4 Velcro loops total, 2 on each side).

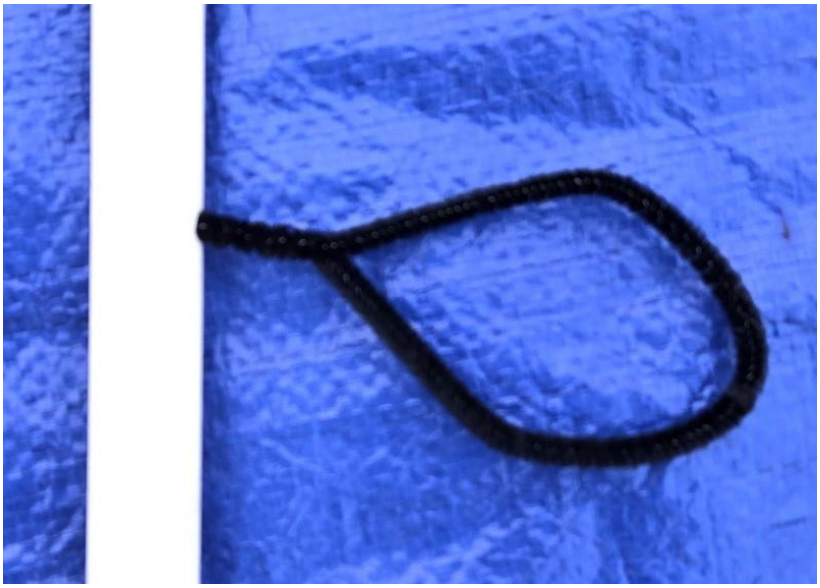
Cutting two 2 cm x 1 cm holes in each side of the washcloth helps to secure the Velcro strips onto the washcloth. Connect the glue side of the Velcro loops through these holes.

The epoxy patch applied over the corrosion on the base of the wind farm.

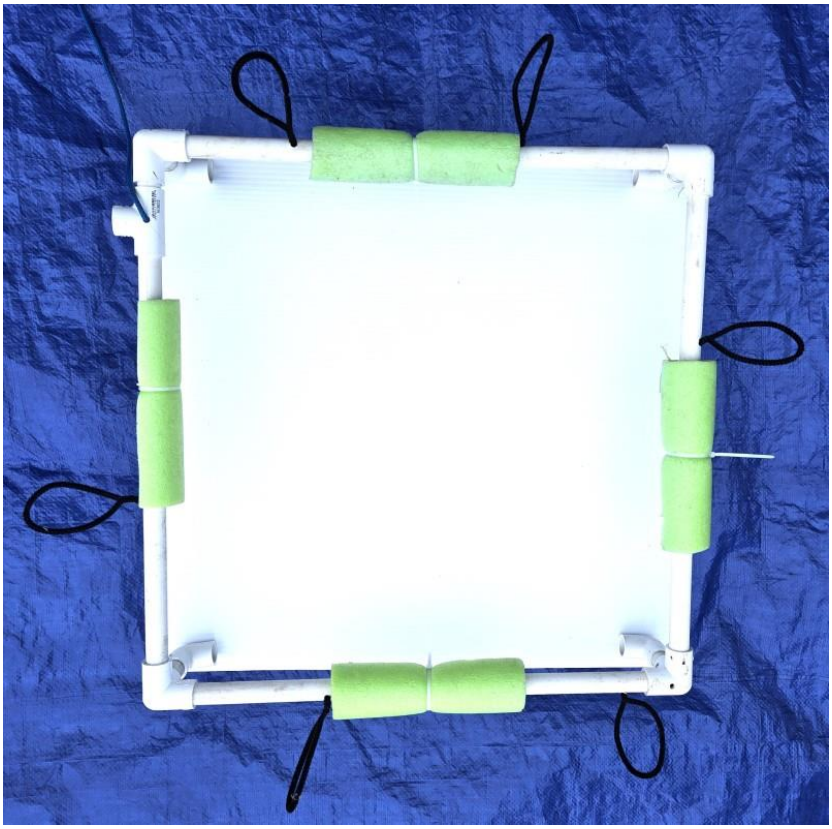
Task 2.2 Monitoring Environmental Impact



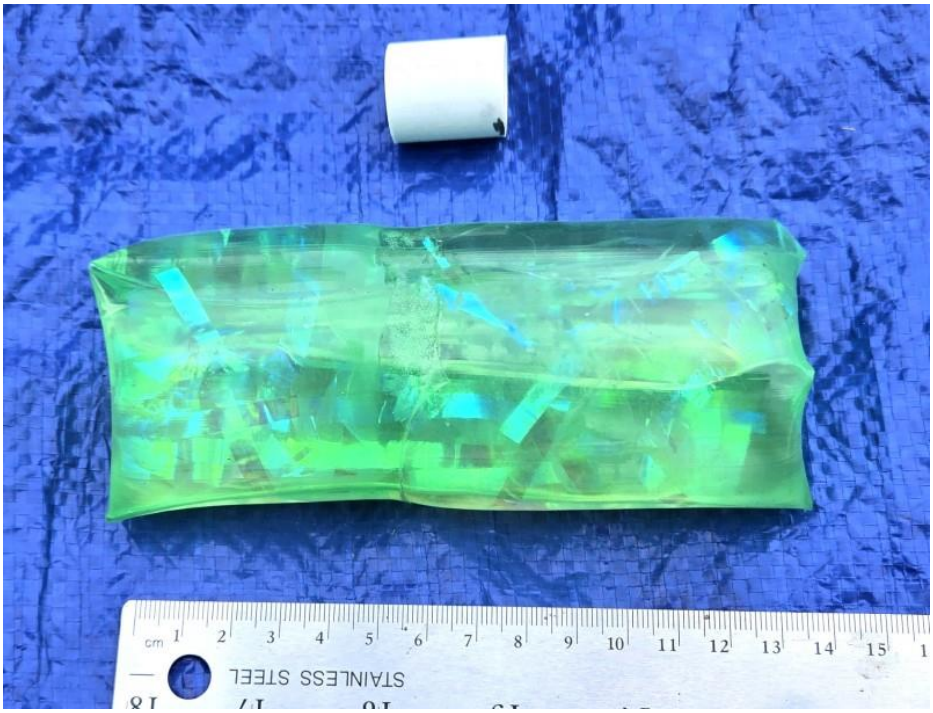
A jellyfish polyp stage. Four cm of the two ends of the chenille strip (pipe cleaner) are twisted together to create the jellyfish polyp.



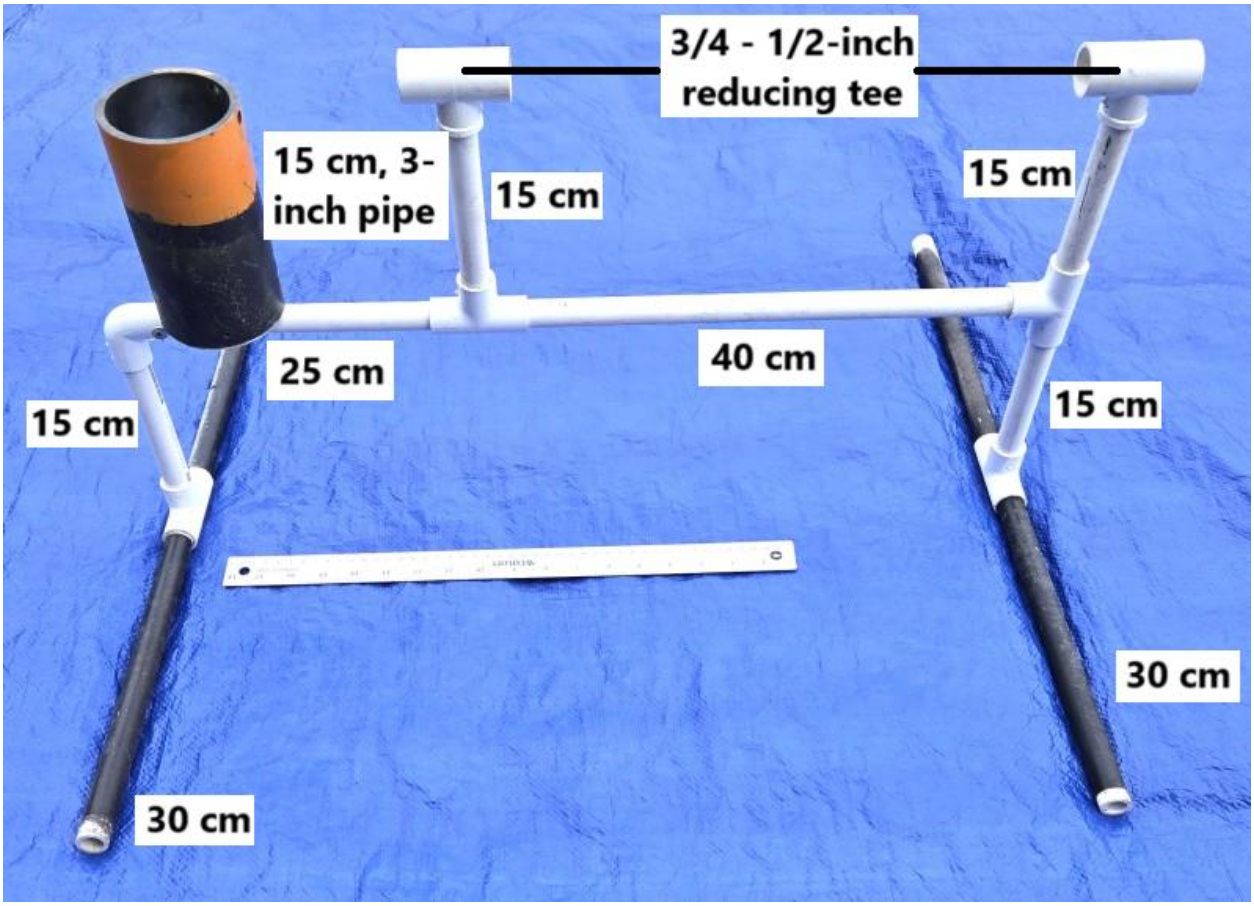
The Jellyfish polyp inserted into a 3/16-inch hole.



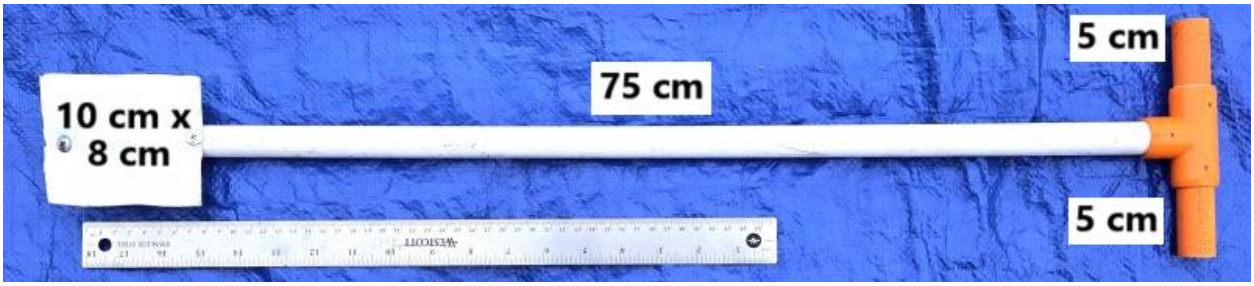
Six polyp stage jellyfish inserted into the solar panel array surface structure.



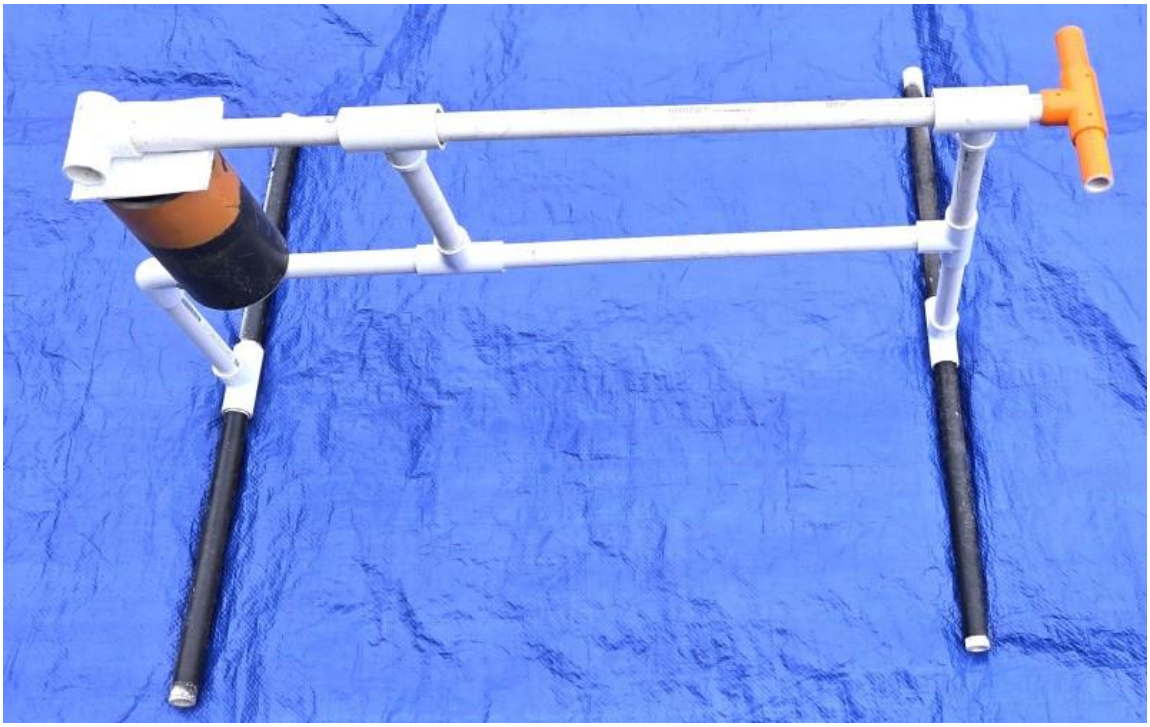
The medusa stage jelly is simulated by a water wiggler. A 1.5 cm to 2 cm section of ½-inch PVC pipe is inserted into the water wiggler to make it slightly positively buoyant.



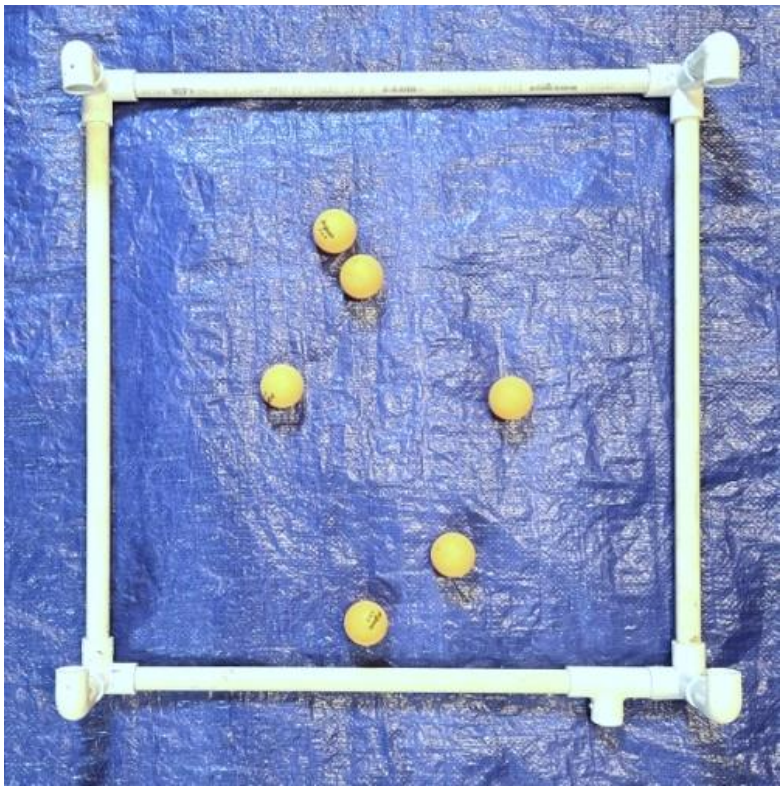
The medusa jellyfish holder is constructed from 3-inch PVC. A ½-inch PVC framework positions the holder off the bottom.



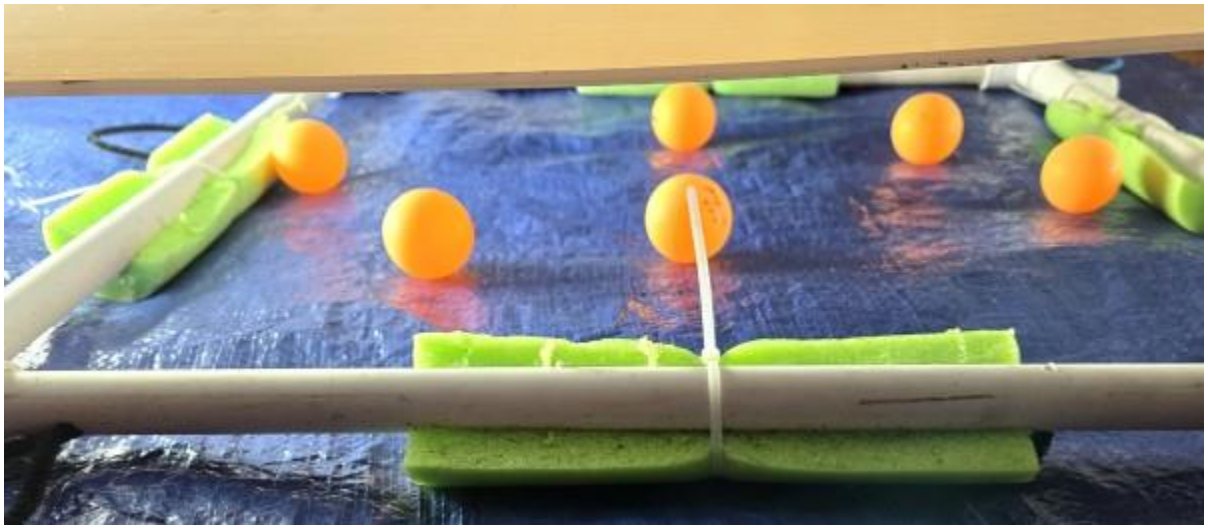
A PVC pin, constructed from ½-inch PVC pipe and corrugated plastic sheeting, keeps the medusa jelly in its holder.



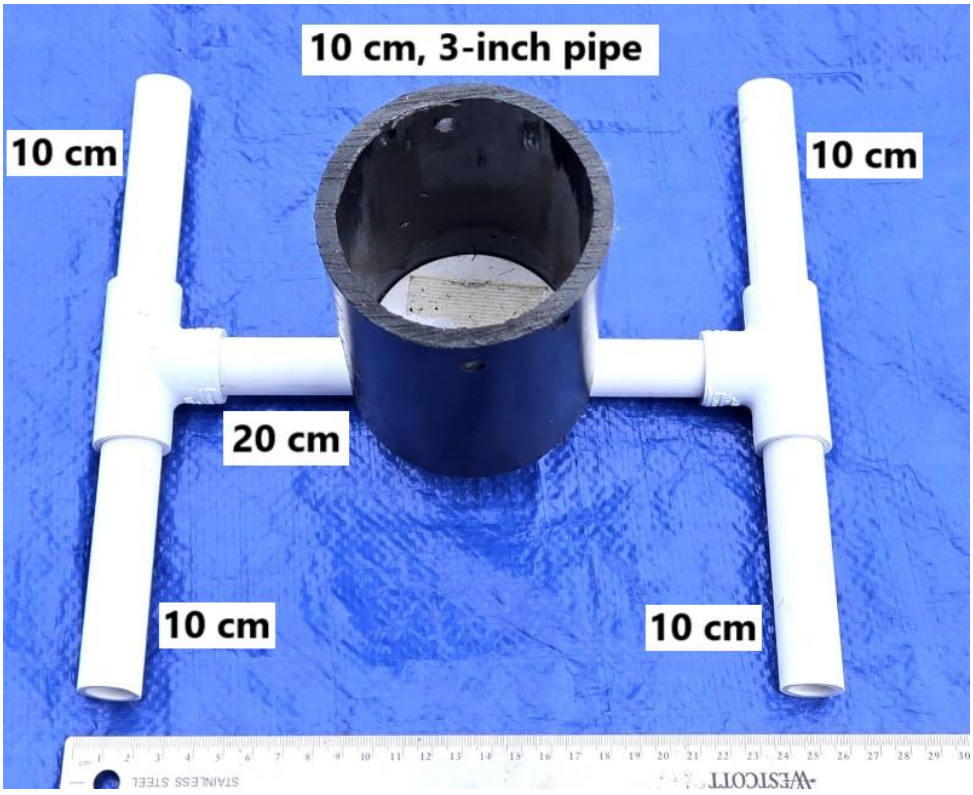
The pin contains the medusa stage jelly in the holder until companies release it into the water column.



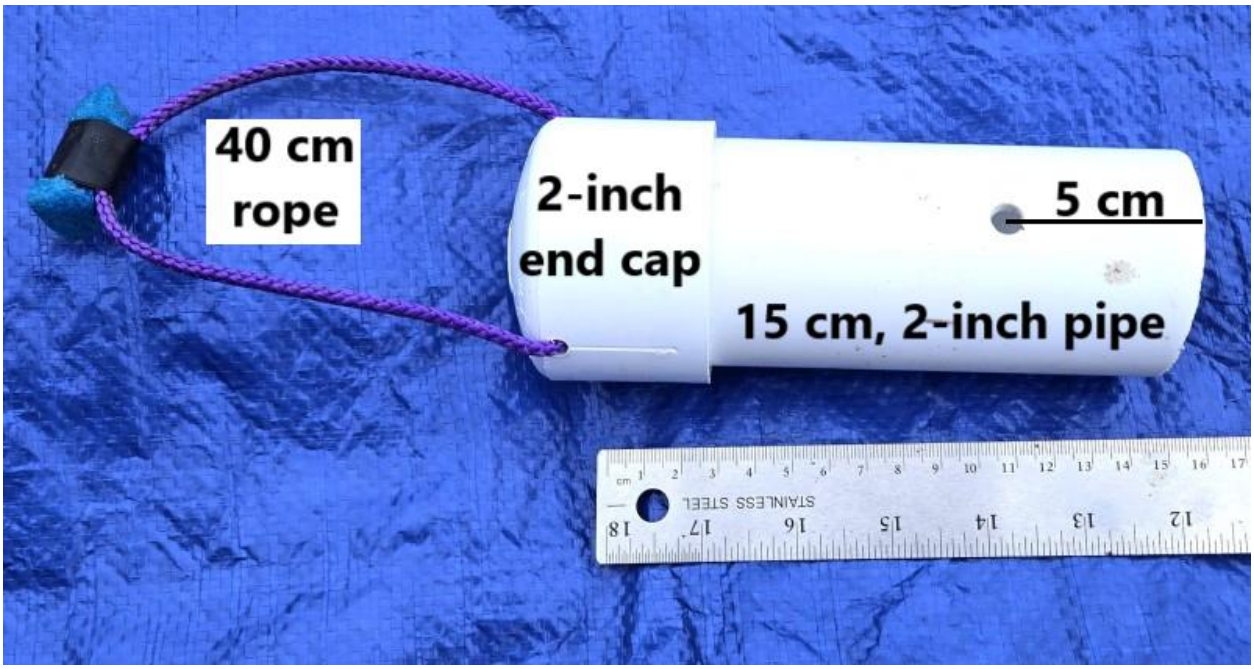
Six ping pong balls, simulating fish, are located inside the PVC framework of the solar panel surface structure. The top corrugated plastic sheeting is not shown.



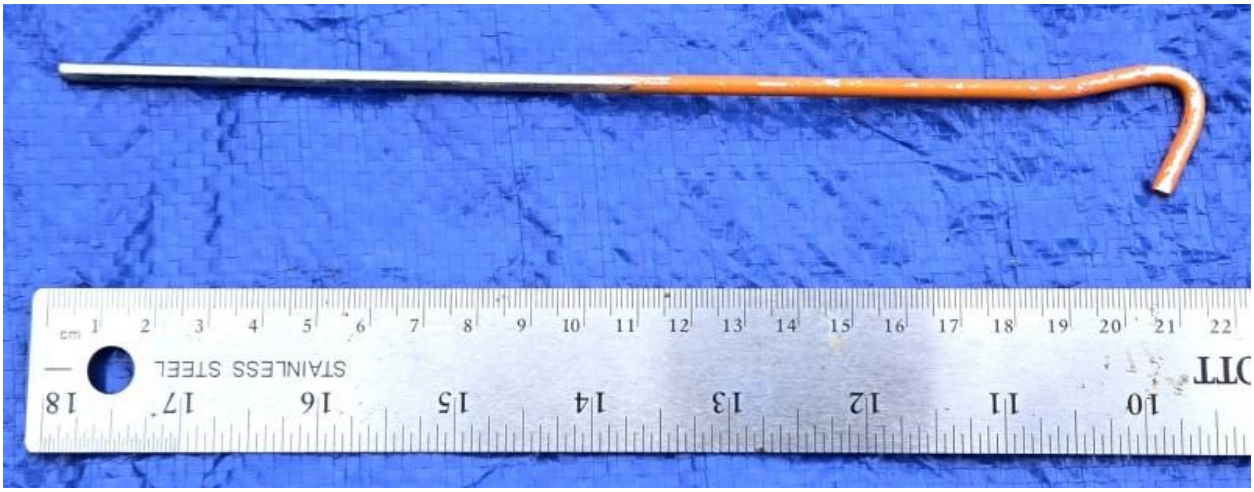
Ping pong balls, simulating fish, underneath the solar panel array surface structure. Flotation on the pipes keeps the structure on the surface. .

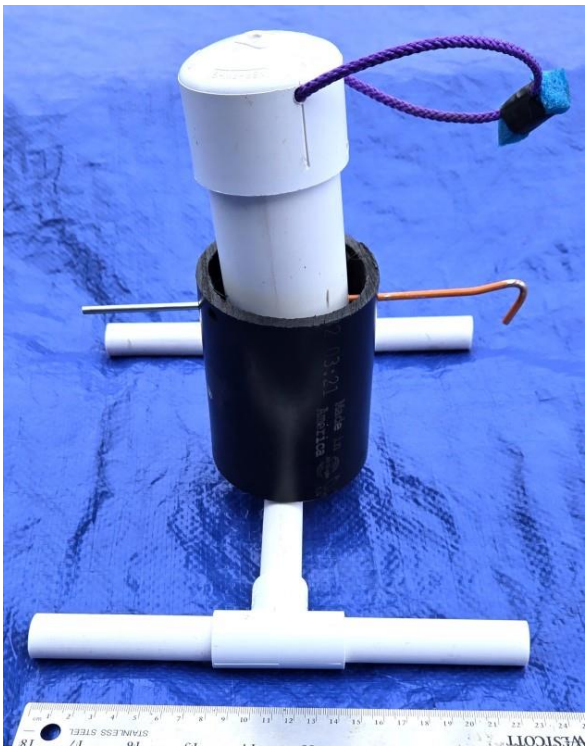


The base of the hydrophone is constructed from ½-inch PVC and 3-inch pipe. Two ¼-inch holes are drilled across from each other in the 3-inch pipe, 1 cm from the top edge.

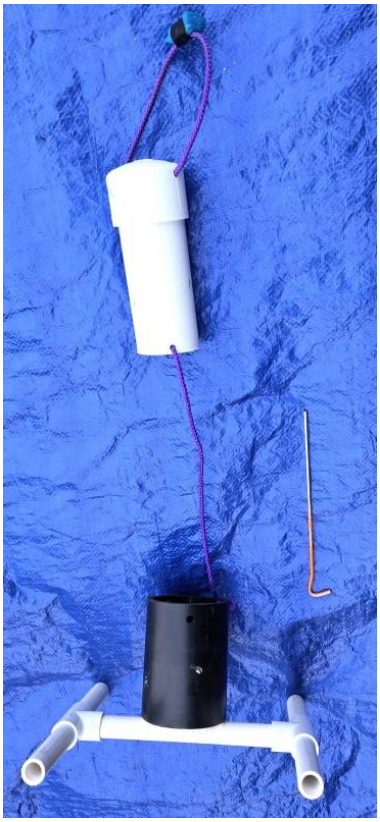


The hydrophone is constructed from 2-inch PVC pipe. A 40 cm length of rope acts as a carrying mechanism for the hydrophone.

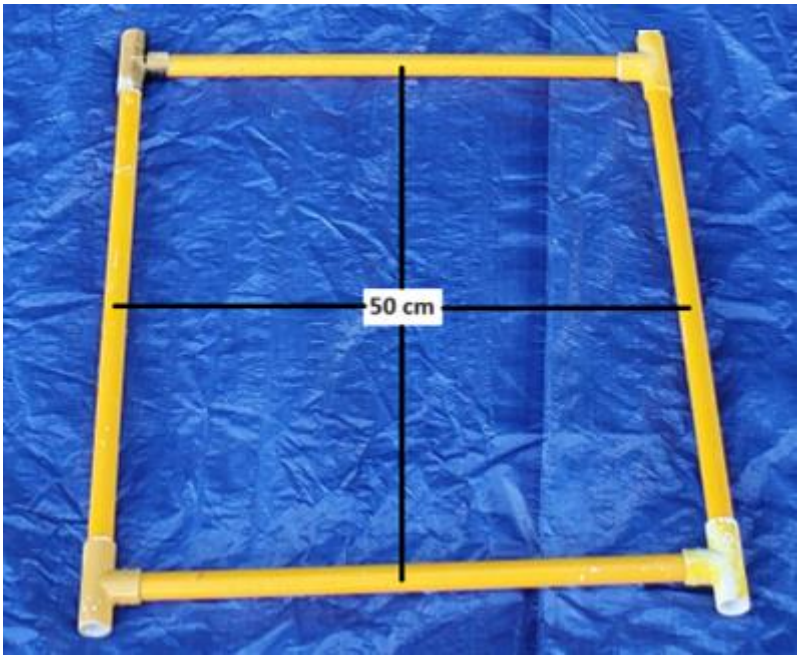

The hydrophone pin.



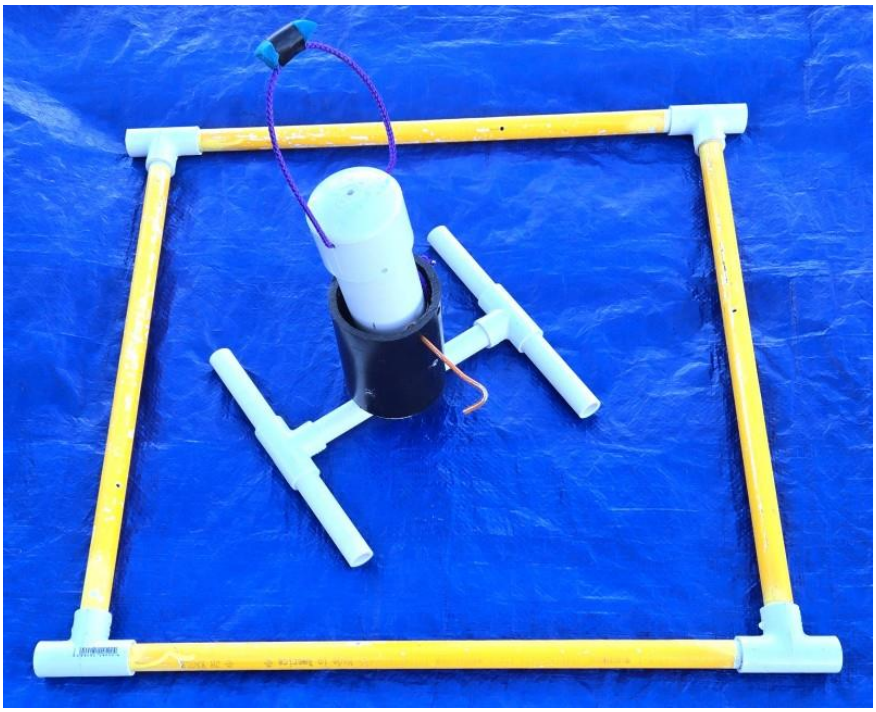
The pin inserted, holding the hydrophone into the base.



A 40 cm length of rope holds the hydrophone in the water column above the base structure when the pin is pulled.



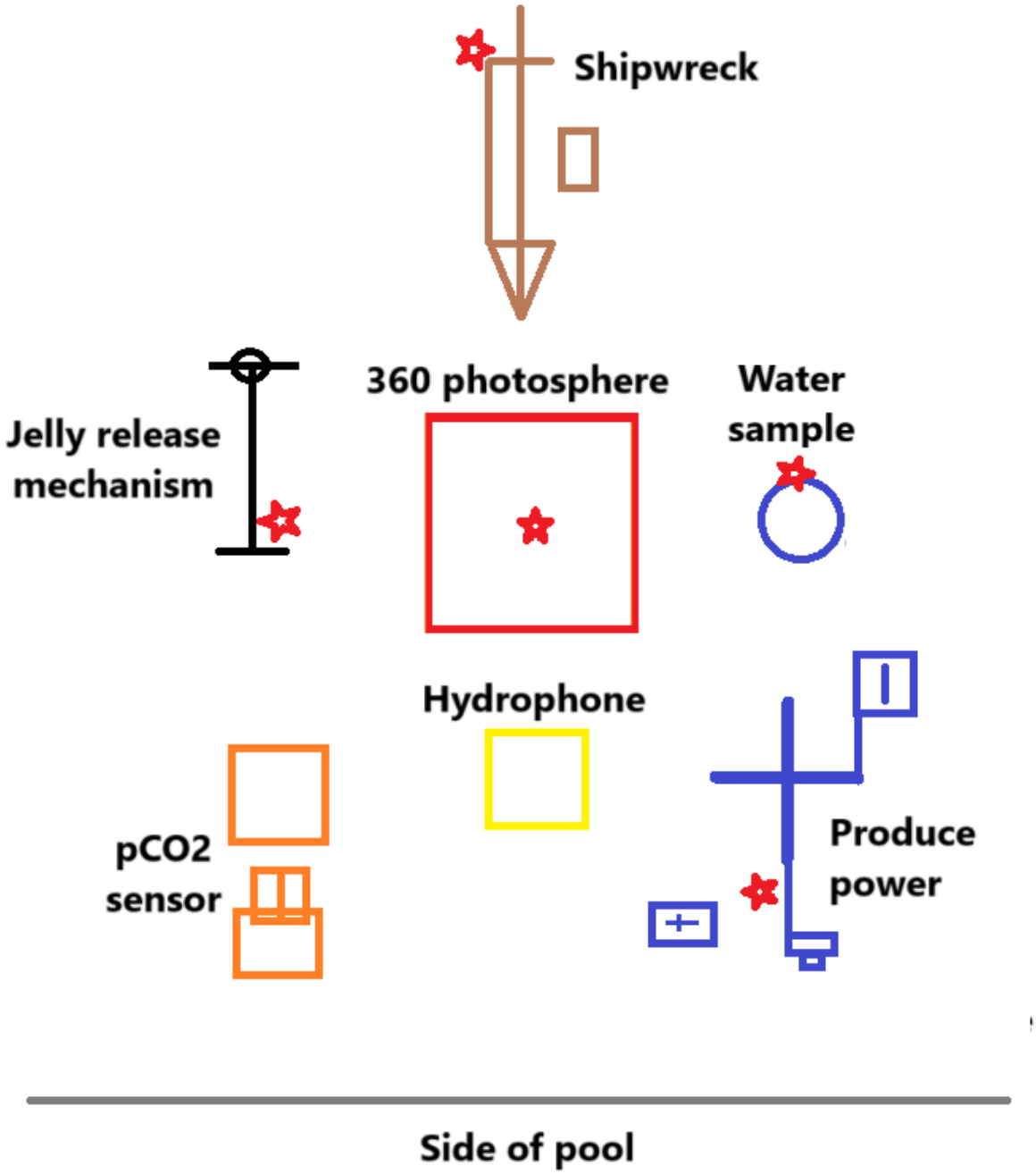
The hydrophone designated area is constructed from ½-inch PVC pipe and is painted yellow.



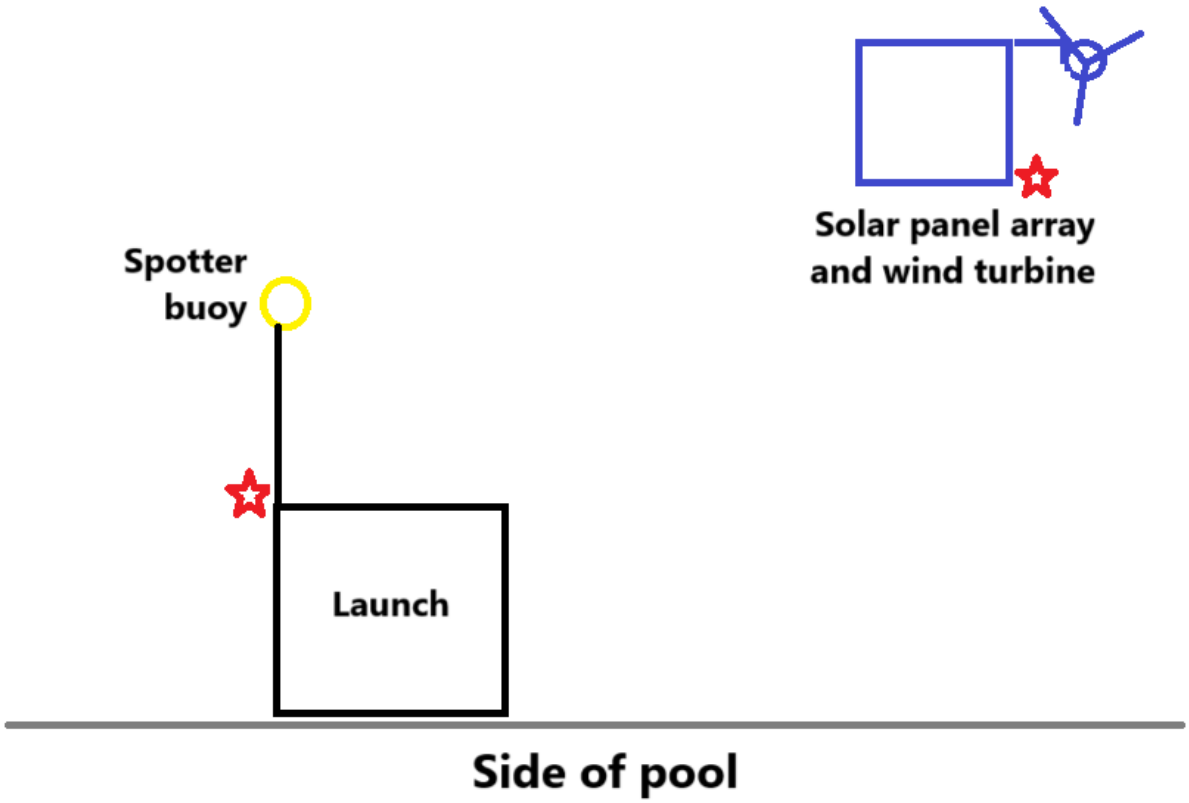
The hydrophone deployed in the designated area.

EXPLORER, PIONEER, and RANGER class product demonstration set up:

The following is a possible underwater set up for the EXPLORER, PIONEER, and RANGER class product demonstration. The set up at regional events and/or the World Championship may vary. Red stars indicate target locations for the 360° photosphere.



The following is a possible surface set up for the EXPLORER, PIONEER, and RANGER class product demonstration. The set up at regional events and/or the World Championship may vary. Red stars indicate target locations for the 360° photosphere.



Update Notes:
Updates are highlighted in yellow.

EXPLORER, PIONEER, and RANGER prop building instructions.
None