

Creating Targets in Side Scan Targeting and Mosaicking

by Jocelyn Kane

Marking targets in your data is a large part of using Side Scan Targeting and Mosaicking (SSTM), which is why the new SSTM program now incorporates this action more easily into your workflow. Since this new version of SSTM is officially out of the beta phase, I thought it would be a good time to cover these changes and show a bit of the process of creating targets.

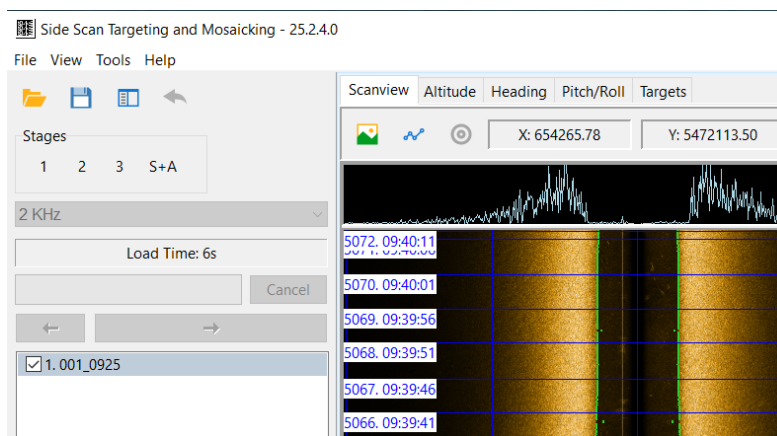


Figure 1: Default Side Scan Targeting and Mosaicking window with docked display windows

If you have been using the Side Scan Targeting and Mosaicking Beta, you will know that most of the data display windows, such as Scanview, Altitude, and Heading, are available as dockable windows. By default, a few of these data display windows are visible, and the rest are grouped together as tabs. The orientation changes based on what stage of Targeting and Mosaicking you are working in, automatically making the most relevant windows visible, but you are free to adjust them. In the previous version of SSTM, creating new targets was done in a separate window that had to be closed to continue working in the program, and viewing the targets again required opening the window from the Tools menu, which is no longer the case.

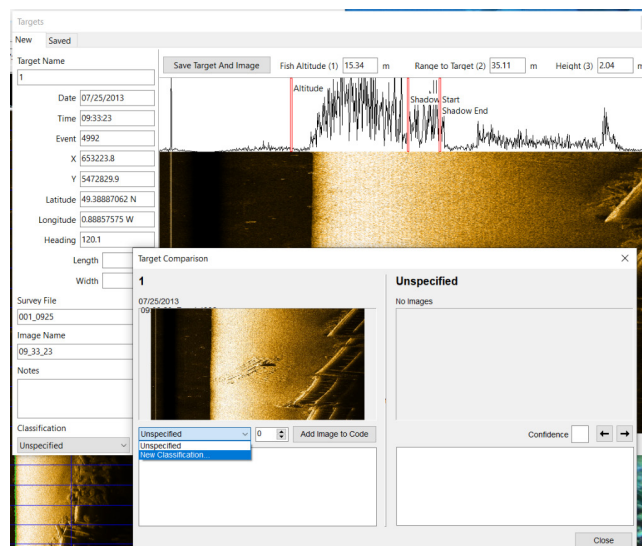


Figure 2: The Targets window automatically opens to the New tab where you can create a new classification

Upon opening SSTM, Altitude, Heading, and Map are displayed, and the Targets window is one of the tabs docked behind Altitude. When you click the Stage 2 button, the layout switches to Scanview, Map, and Spreadsheet, and here is where you will likely be marking targets.

See something noteworthy while scrolling through Scanview? Double click it and the Targets tab pops out into a separate window with the image and information on it. Here you can name the target, see its position, write notes, and choose a classification. Also, adjust the sliders in the amplitude window by clicking and dragging them to the correct Shadow Start, Shadow End, and Altitude spots in order to get the range, height, and altitude. Lines will extend over the image from the sliders once they are selected, helping you get an accurate measurement.

Find a feature that is the first of its kind? In the classification drop down, select New Classification to create a new label, this way you can assign it to the target and any future matching ones.

Once you have finished, click [Save Target And Image], and it will be added to the target database for your project. And of course, if you decide the object is irrelevant, simply move on and continue marking other features, or progress onto the next step of editing your data.

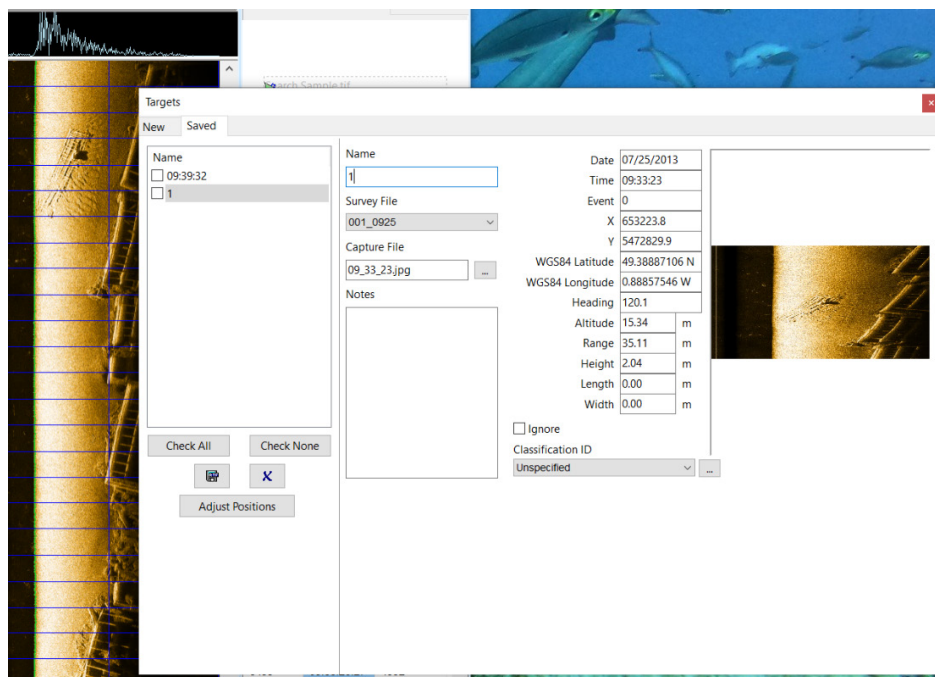


Figure 3: Targets window with saved targets listed

When you want to look at all the targets you have created for the data, select the Saved tab in the top left of the Targets form. Listed by name on the left-hand side, all targets are available to view, edit, and add any information to that was not included before saving. Additional options include exporting specific targets as well as deleting targets deemed unnecessary.

At any time, you can dock the Targets window back to the main form or hide it back as a tab to suit your current working conditions. Finally, the entire layout is saved so you can pick up right where you left off the next time you open Side Scan Targeting and Mosaicking.