

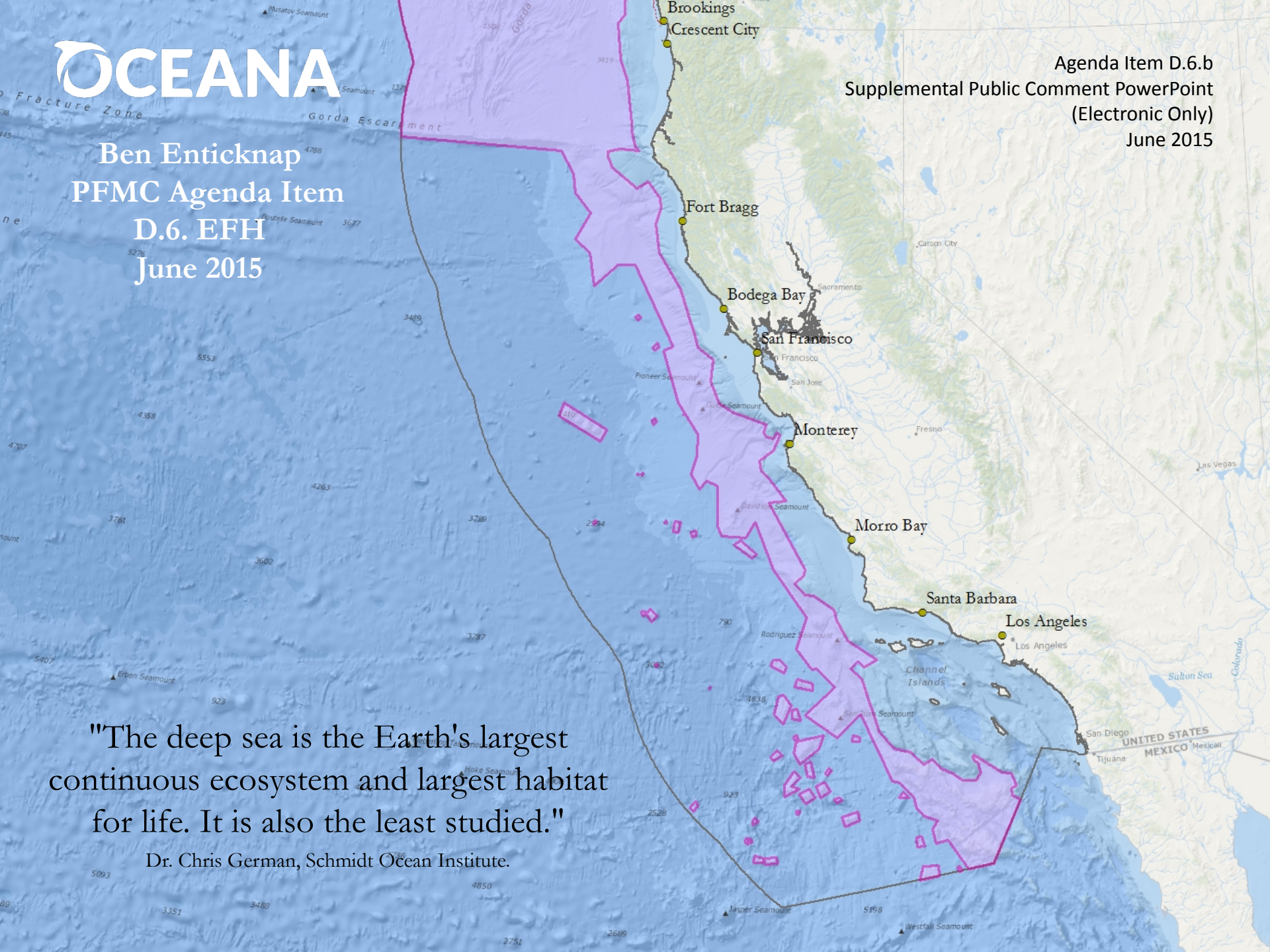


Ben Enticknap  
PFMC Agenda Item  
D.6. EFH  
June 2015

Agenda Item D.6.b  
Supplemental Public Comment PowerPoint  
(Electronic Only)  
June 2015

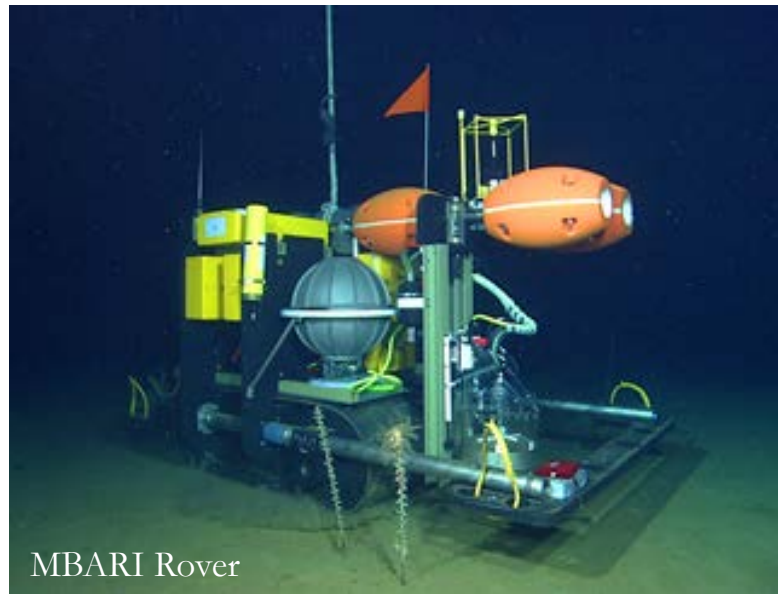
"The deep sea is the Earth's largest continuous ecosystem and largest habitat for life. It is also the least studied."

Dr. Chris German, Schmidt Ocean Institute.



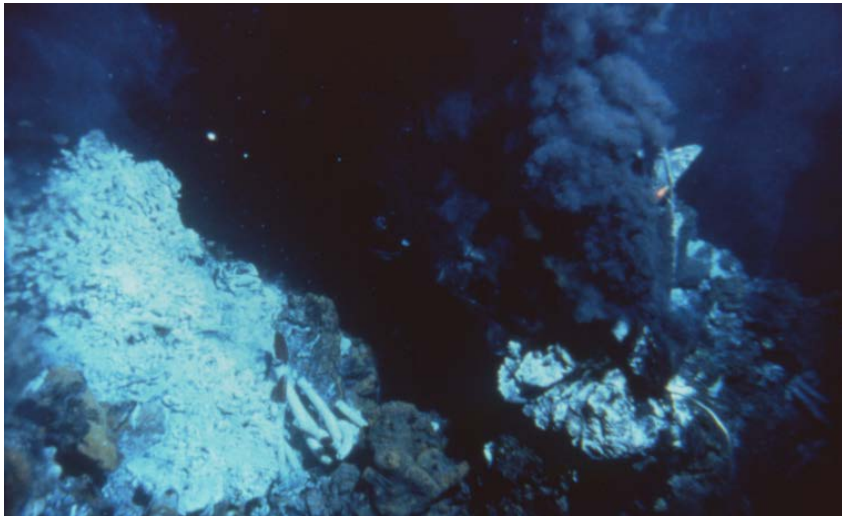
# Limited Research Suggests Presence of Sensitive Habitats

- 1,336 coral observations (including black corals, soft corals, stony corals and pennatulids sampled from research trawls and ROVs).
- Predictive coral models (Guinotte and Davies 2014)





Deep sea hydrothermal vents: Local high productivity. High biomass and high number of endemic species

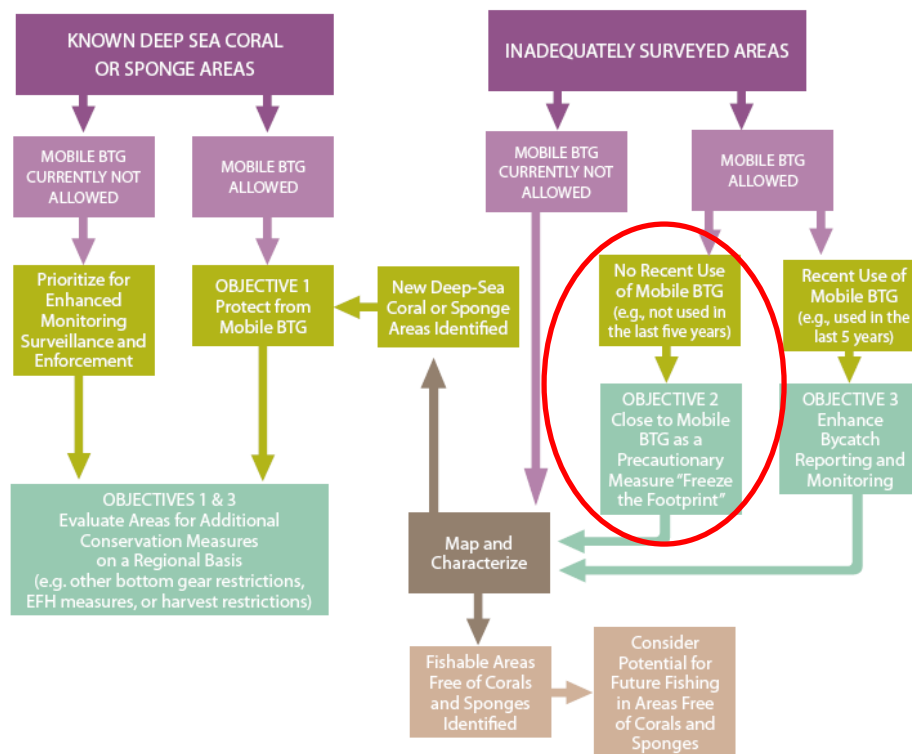


# NOAA Strategic Plan for Deep-Sea Coral and Sponge Ecosystems

Research, Management, and International Cooperation

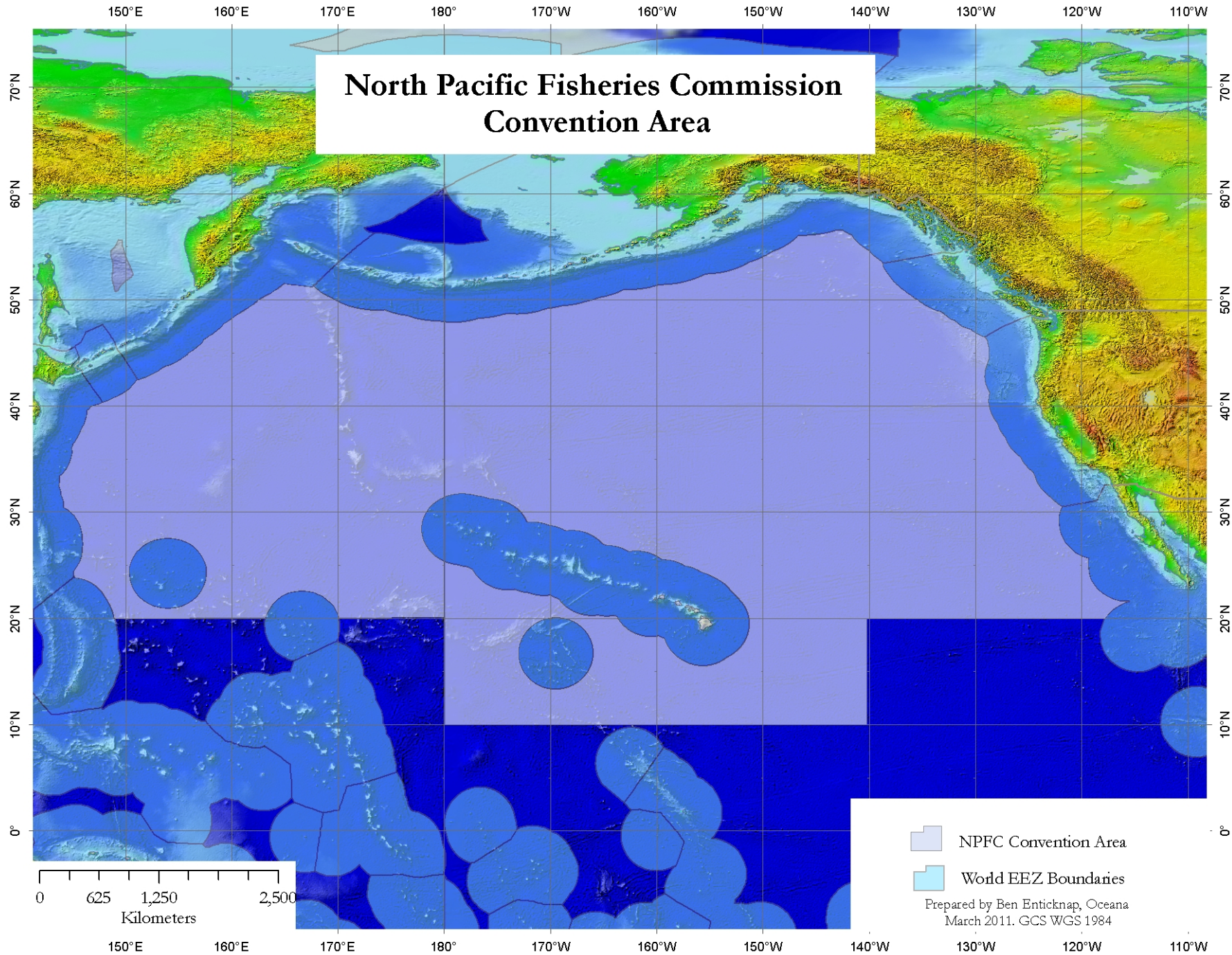


Figure 1. NOAA's precautionary approach to manage bottom-tending gear (BTG), especially mobile BTG and other adverse impacts of fishing on deep-sea coral and sponge ecosystems.



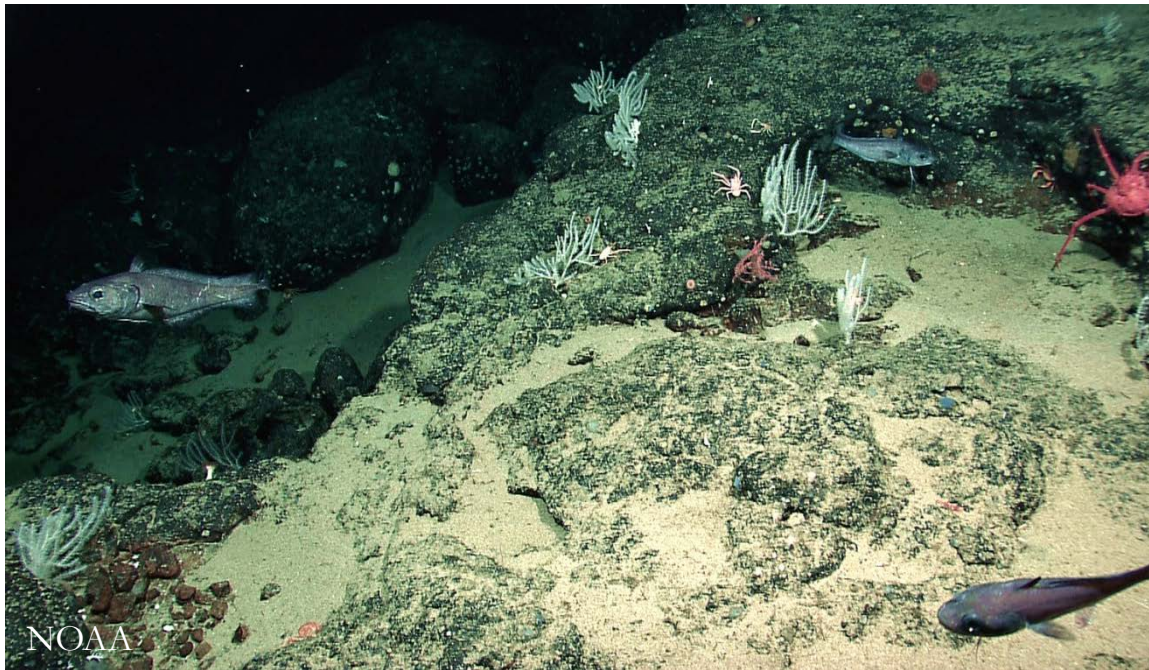


# North Pacific Fisheries Commission Convention Area





“The diversity on the deep sea floor rivals that of a tropical rainforest or coral reef.”



The Council has broad discretionary authority under the MSA to protect marine ecosystems