

Deep Sea Coral Restoration and Research Range of Alternatives

National Marine Fisheries Service and the National Ocean Service's Office of National Marine Sanctuaries would like to propose additional options for the Alternative 1 Año Nuevo and Ascension Canyon proposed closures. These options would create smaller Groundfish Exclusion Areas for commercial groundfish bottom contact gear that only close waters deeper than 400 fathoms, in response to concerns raised by the Groundfish Advisory Panel about fishing areas. The proposed revisions are shown below. We recommend these additional closure boundaries be analyzed and information brought forward for the June meeting.

