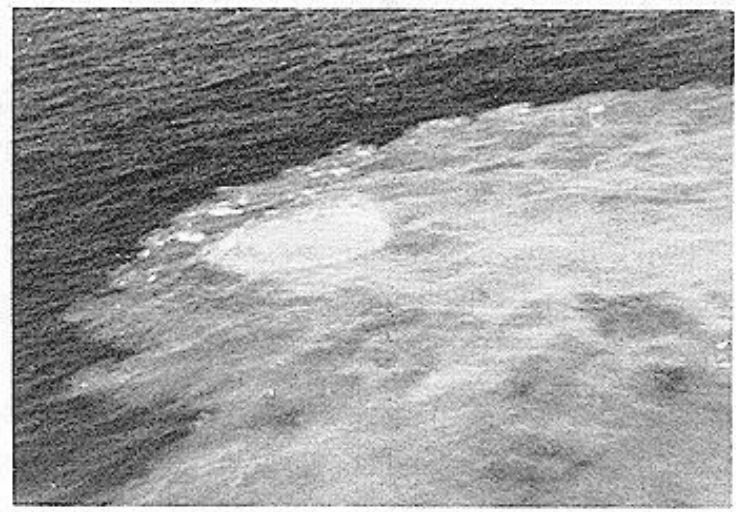
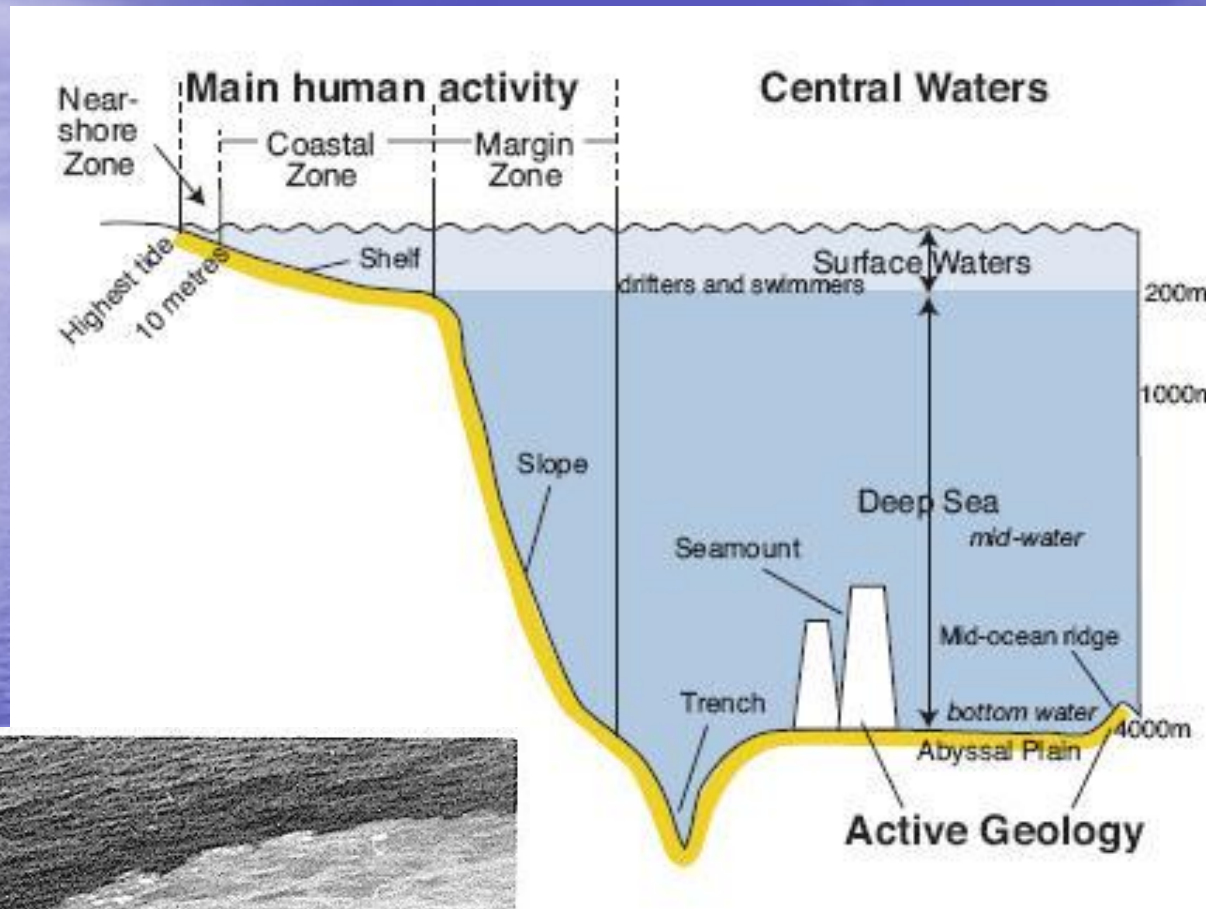


# A Brief Introduction ...





# Seamounts



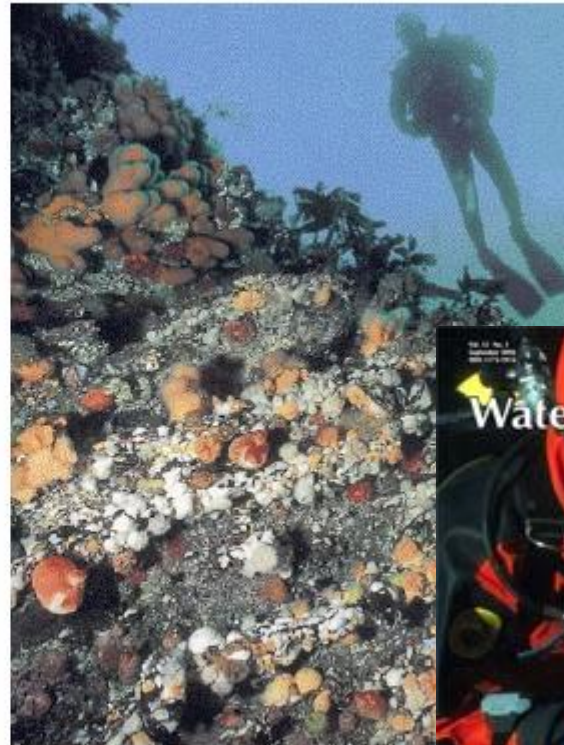
bank as a result of the North Atlantic Current impinging on the southern edge of the bank (Martin *et al.*, 1998).

## 2.2 Benthic biodiversity

The practical difficulties and limited attention given to sampling the benthic fauna of seamounts in the last century means there is a paucity of information on the benthos. Those data that are available also tend to be from a limited number of locations. The scale of the task ahead is put in perspective by noting that a century



vigorous currents flowing around the seamount (Wilson, 1979; Frederiksen *et al.*, 1992).



n of just 596 explored up to 1987). This mega faunal mounts in the Forges *et al.*, of species : region are ially endemic iversity of new , even in this 2000).

around the provide ideal is these that

Figure 8: Suspension feeders such as different scleractinian coral species on Banco Goringe. © Eri



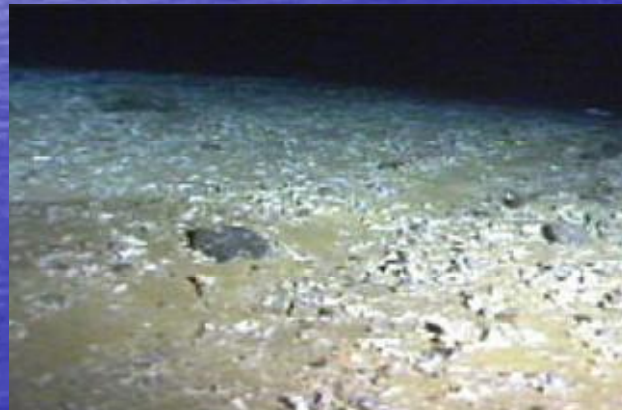
Before  
Trawling



Before  
Trawling



After  
Trawling



# Growing Concerns

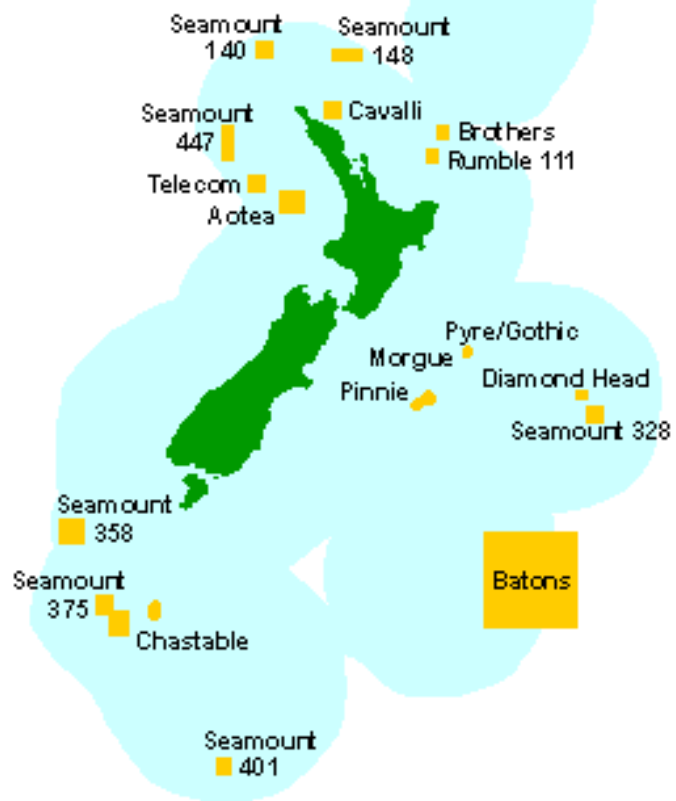
- High Seas Marine Protected Areas  
Action Plan WWF-ICUN
- UN General Assembly
- Deep Sea Fishing Conference 2003,  
Queenstown

# National Difficulties and Response

- Statutory gaps particularly beyond the territorial sea
- No overall strategy with MPAs
- Fisheries Act fishing focus e.g. seamount strategy



## Protected seamounts within the EEZ of New Zealand



# Challenges

- Invisibility
- Scientific uncertainty
- Complex jurisdictional and legislative environment and delays in designating areas or implementing activity-based measures
- Lack of binding instruments beyond the territorial sea
- Patchy coverage of activities
- Enforcement

# Opportunities

- Restrictions on high seas activities at a national level
- Join with like-minded states for action, including RFMOs
- International Seabed Authority?
- Precaution and ecosystem based management approach in RFMOs

A blue-tinted photograph of a vast ocean under a cloudy sky. The text "Thank you" is centered in white.

Thank you