

# Special Oceanography Seminar

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“Abyssal benthic communities shaped by  
seamounts and hills – implications for spatial  
management of deep-sea mining”

The abyssal plains cover ~70% of the global seabed, and are of increasing interest to the deep-sea mining industry for the polymetallic nodules found there. However, abyssal plains are not solely flat, but are punctuated by hills and seamounts. The seabed environment on seamounts is altered by the winnowing of sediment and increased detrital inputs, altering the benthic community. I applied seabed imagery to the study of benthic ecology on abyssal hills, and