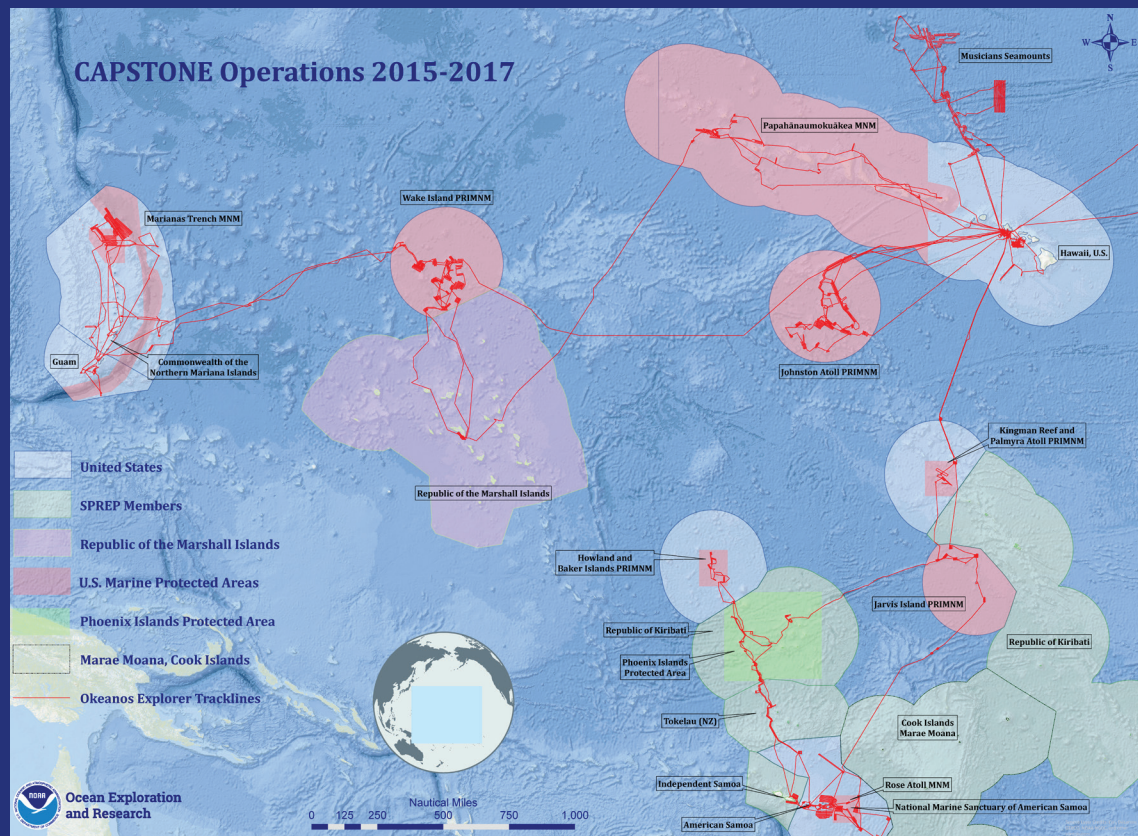


NOAA's Campaign to Address Pacific monument Science, Technology, and Ocean NEEDS (CAPSTONE)

NOAA Ship *Okeanos Explorer*, July 2015 - September 2017



over 635,000 km² of seafloor mapped



333 primary biological & 278 geological samples collected



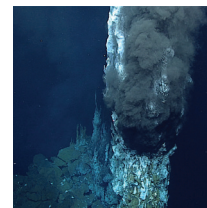
187 ROV dives at a depth range of 250 - 6,000 meters



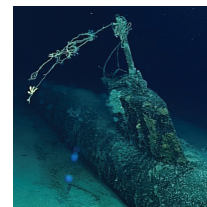
over 260 participating scientists, students, and managers



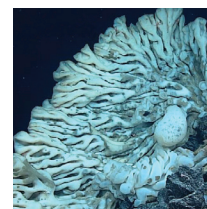
8.4 million live video views via YouTube and over 8 million additional live video views via other outlets such as Facebook



This gushing hydrothermal vent was videoed during the Deepwater Exploration of the Marianas. The 30-meter high underwater vent was spewing high-temperature liquid thick with metal particulates. The area around it is home to exotic species, including shrimp, squat lobsters, crabs, limpets, mussels, and snails.



On December 7, 2016, the 75th anniversary of the attack on Pearl Harbor, the NOAA Ship *Okeanos Explorer* team, in partnership with the NOAA Office of National Marine Sanctuaries, explored a Japanese mini submarine, five miles from the entrance to Pearl Harbor. Navy destroyer USS *Ward* sunk the sub on the morning of December 7, 1941, 90 minutes before Pearl Harbor was bombed by air.



The team aboard NOAA Ship *Okeanos Explorer* observed the largest sponge known in the world, found at a depth of 2,134 meters within the Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument. The sponge was close to 12 feet long and 7 feet wide, comparable in size to a minivan.



Ocean Exploration and Research

For more information about CAPSTONE and other NOAA ocean exploration work, please visit: <http://oceanexplorer.noaa.gov>