Do not print this page.

### **Kure Atoll**

Kure Atoll lies about 100 km WNW of Midway at longitude 178 degrees 20 minutes W and latitude 28 degrees 25 minutes N. As with all the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands, Kure Atoll is all that remains of a 28 million-year-old shield volcano. The atoll is about 10 km across. Kure Atoll lies at about 28 degrees 25 minutes north latitude. This position puts Kure Atoll farther from the equator than any other shallow-water coral reef ecosystem on the earth.

Its geographic position also puts Kure Atoll at the so-called "Darwin Point," where erosion and coral growth are essentially the same. Over thousands of years, Kure has been slowly disappearing as it subsides, sea levels rise and erosion occurs. At the same time, the shallow-water coral reef ecosystems have been slowing growing. The average growth rate of coral on Kure is approximately 0.3 mm/year. The average subsidence of the Kure volcano is approximately 0.04 mm/year. As a result, Kure Atoll is growing at a meager 0.2 mm/year (Rauzon, 2001).

Further west, the Emperor Seamounts foretell the future of Kure Atoll and all the other islands in the Hawaiian Archipelago. These seamounts lie in water too cool for coral growth. As Kure Atoll continues its slow migration WNW atop the Pacific Plate, it too will eventually slip below the Pacific Ocean. However, because the Pacific Plate is moving at a leisurely 9 cm/year, Kure Atoll—and all the other Hawaiian Islands—will not disappear for sometime.

Kure Atoll currently is managed by the Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources as a state wildlife refuge. Kure Atoll also is considered part of the city of Honolulu and O'ahu County, both of which are over 2,200 kilometers away. It is believed that Kure Atoll was discovered in 1825 by B. Morrell, Jr., the captain of the schooner Tartar. Numerous ships have crashed into Kure Atoll's fringing reefs. Luckily, most of the survivors of these shipwrecks were rescued.

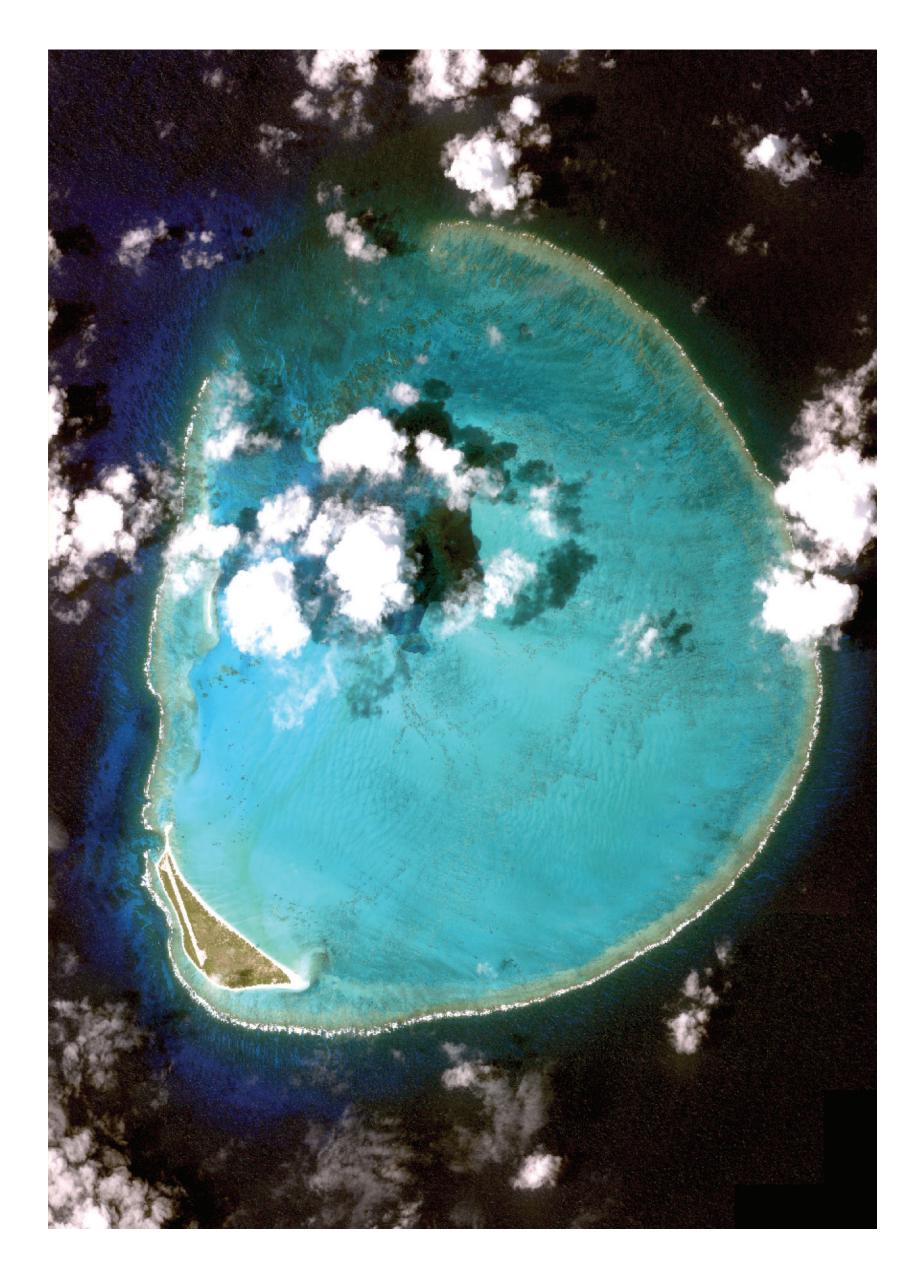
A true color IKONOS satellite image is provided for Kure Atoll. Due to its size, all additional maps of Kure Atoll fit on single map tile pages. Maps of 1:40,000 scale aggregated benthic habitats, 1:40,000 scale estimated bathymetry, and 1:40,000 scale detailed benthic habitats are provided for Kure Atoll. There is no map depicting any additional banks for Kure Atoll. A onesquare-kilometer grid is included with all maps of Kure Atoll.

The area in square kilometers of aggregated benthic habitat cover types found at Kure Atoll, Northwestern Hawaiian Islands.

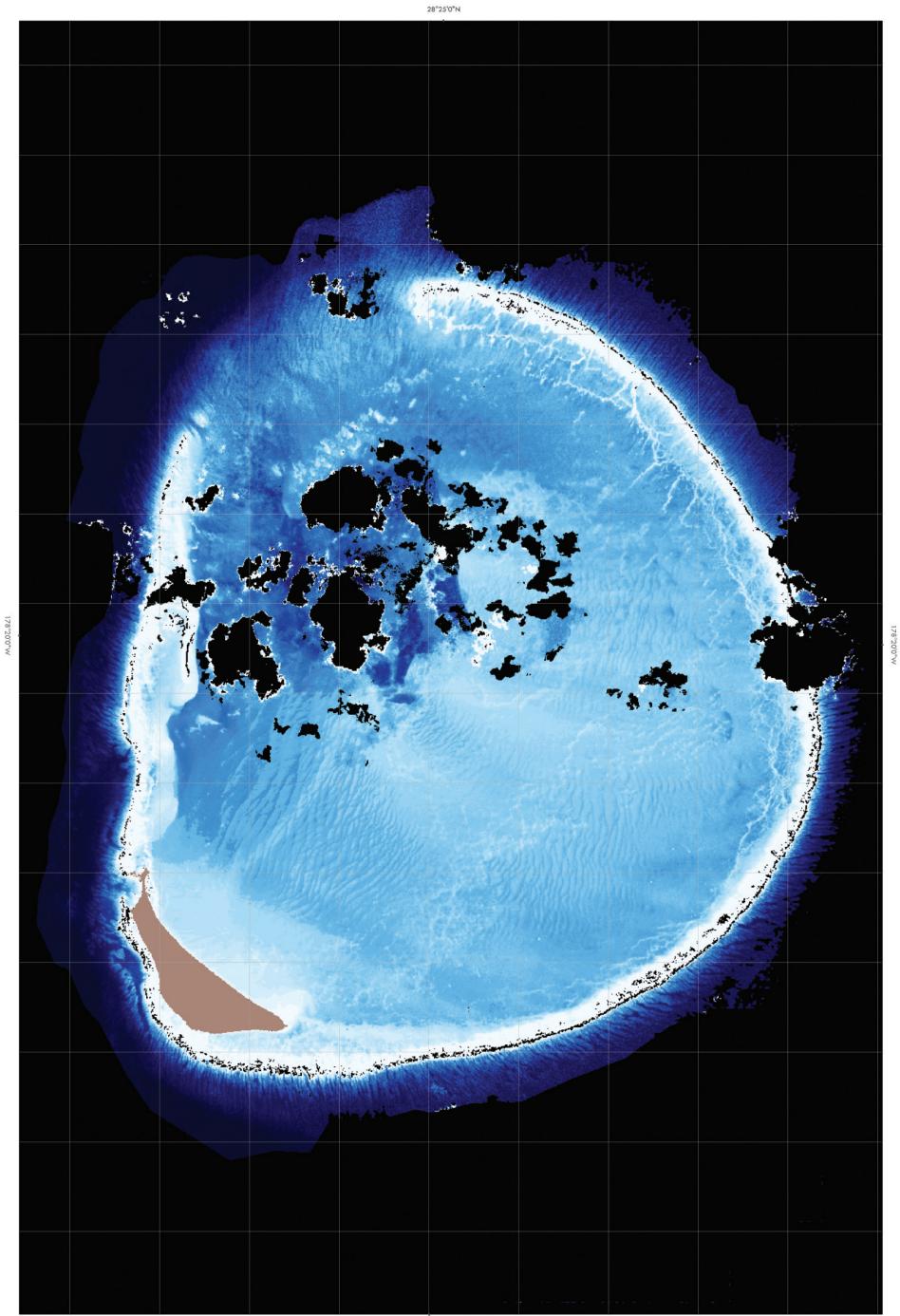
Hardbottom with >10% live coral Hardbottom with >10% crustose coralline algae Hardbottom (uncolonized) Hardbottom with >10% macroalgae Hardbottom with indeterminate cover	1.8 0.7 11.6 5.8 8.4
Hardbottom with indeterminate cover	8.4
Unconsolidated with 10% or less macroalgae or seagrass	38.8
Unconsolidated with >10% macroalgae or seagrass	2.7
Total Habitat Area Classif <sup>ed</sup>	69.8

Sand and Rubble (1400) Pavement with sand chani Scattered Coral/Rock in Sa Aggregated Patch Reef (25) Patch Reef with crustose co Spur and Groove (2300) Atoll, Northwestern Hawaiian Islands. Unclassified (3300) Cloud, Shadow, Surf, and Reef crest (3020) Deep water (3010) Volcanic Rock with live co Volcanic Rock with dense Volcanic Rock (2900) Pavement with sand chanr Pavement with live coral (> Pavement with dense (>50 Pavement with sparse (10-Aggregated Patch Reef wit Patch Reef, uncolonized w Aggregated Coral Heads v Linear Reef, uncolonized Hardbottom with crustose Hardbottom, uncolonized Hardbottom with live cora Hardbottom with sparse Groove (1500) Sand with patchy (10–50%) Sand with macroalgae (11) Unconsolidated (1000, refe TOTAL Area in IKONOS i Dredged channel (3030) Volcanic Rock, uncolonize Pavement with sand chan Pavement with crustose co Pavement, uncolonized wi Pavement, uncolonized (27 Pavement with live coral ( Pavement (2700) Patch Reef, uncolonized (24 Patch Reef with live coral Patch Reef (2400) Linear Reef with crustose Linear Reef (2100) Hardbottom (2000) Unconsolidated Rubble wi Unconsolidated Rubble wi Unconsolidated Rubble (13 Sand (1100) The area in square lotal Habitat Area Classiff \_and (3100) Linear Reef, uncolonized Linear Reef with live cora Dense (>50%) macroalgae (

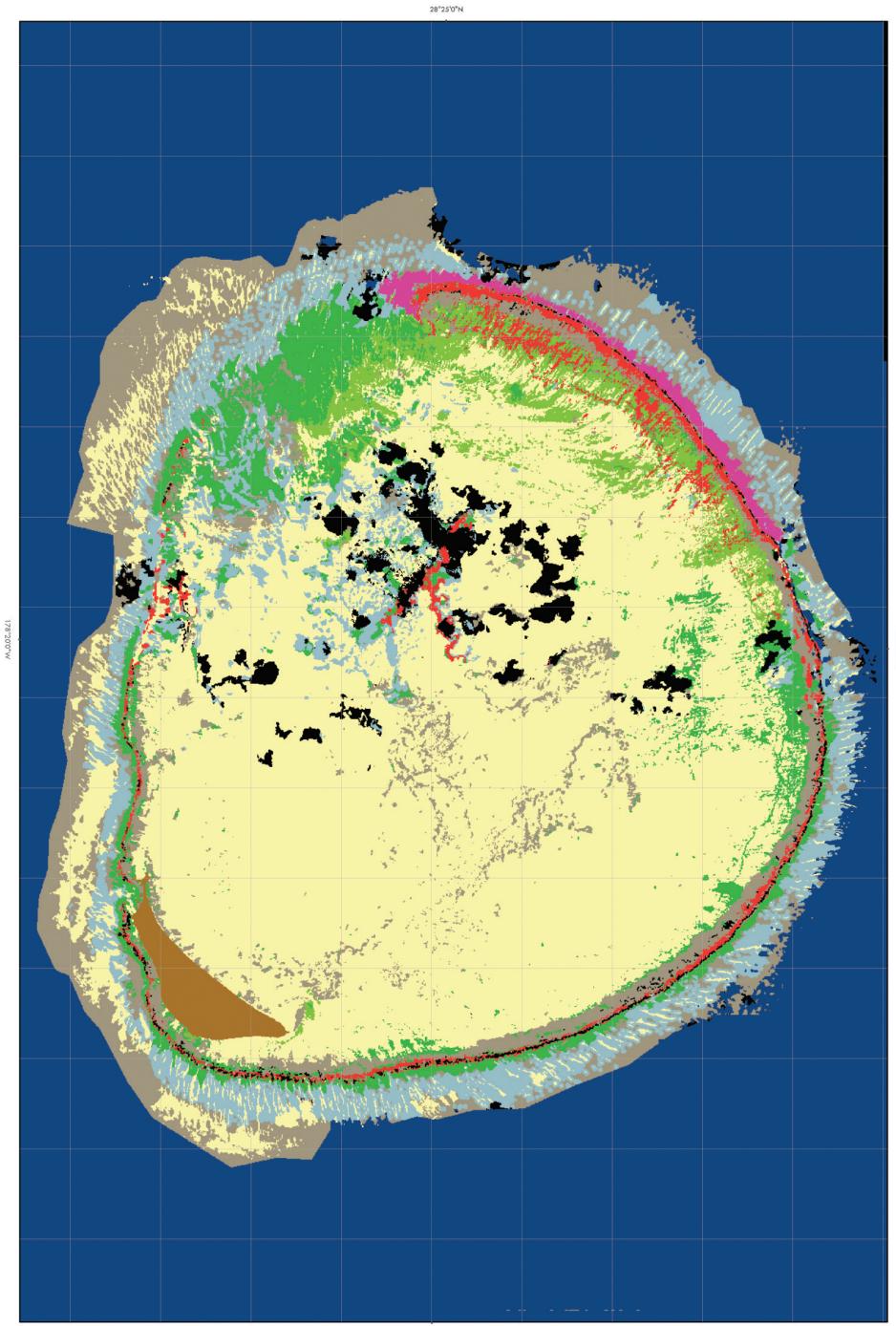
### kilometers of benthic habitats found at Kure n Hawaiian Islands.







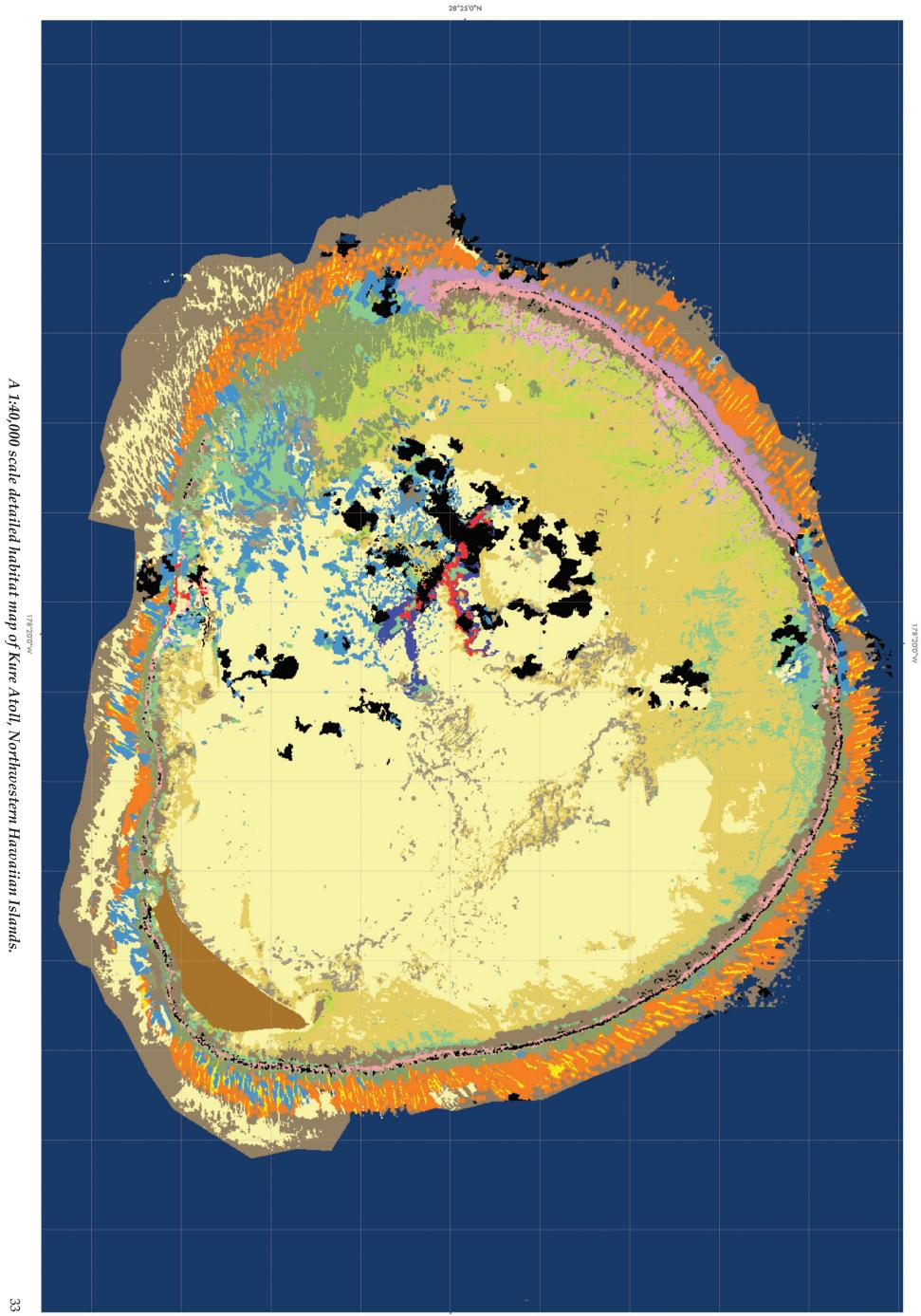
28°25'0"N



178°20'0"W

28°25'0"N

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28°25'0"N

## Midway Atoll

Lying at longitude 177 degrees 20 minutes W and latitude 28 degrees 15 minutes N, Midway Atoll is what remains of a large shield volcano that, 28 million years ago, may have been as large as Lana'i. What remains now is a shallow water atoll about 10 kilometers across. As the Pacific Ocean washed away the top of the volcano, coral reefs grew. These coral reefs are now over 400 m thick. Two islands–Sand Island and East Island–and several migrating sandbars rise above the ocean surface. They provide habitat for hundreds of thousands of birds.

Midway was discovered in 1859 by N.C. Brooks, captain of the sealing ship *Gambia*. By claiming Midway for the United States under the Guano Act of 1856, Midway became the only island in the entire Hawaiian archipelago that was not part of the State of Hawai'i.

Midway is the most frequently visited locale in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands. It lies nearly halfway between North America and Asia. It also lies almost halfway around the earth from Greenwich, England.

The islands of Midway Atoll have been extensively altered as a result of human habitation. Starting in 1869 with a project to blast the reefs and create a port on Sand Island, the ecology of Midway has been changing. Birds native to other NWHI islands, such as the Laysan Rail and Laysan Finch, were released at Midway. Ironwood trees from Australia were planted to act as windbreaks. Seventy-five percent of the 200 species of plants on Midway are introduced.

The location of Midway in the Pacific became important ff<sup>st</sup> to commercial airlines and, later, to the military. Midway was a convenient refueling stop on transpaciff flights. It also became an important stop for Navy ships. Around 1940, the channel was widened, and construction of a Naval Air Station was completed. Midway's importance to the U.S. was brought into focus on December 7, 1941. Six months later, on June 3, 1942, a naval battle near Midway resulted in the U.S. Navy exacting a devastating defeat of the Japanese Navy. This battle was, by some accounts, the beginning of the end of the Japanese Navy's control of the Pacific Ocean.

After many years of occupation, the Navy officially turned the island over to the Fish and Wildlife Service on May 20, 1996. Now, the island is home to hundreds of thousands of birds and other animals. The Fish and Wildlife Service now manages the atoll as Midway Atoll National Wildlife Refuge.

Due to its size, two tiles are required to depict the 1:40,000 scale

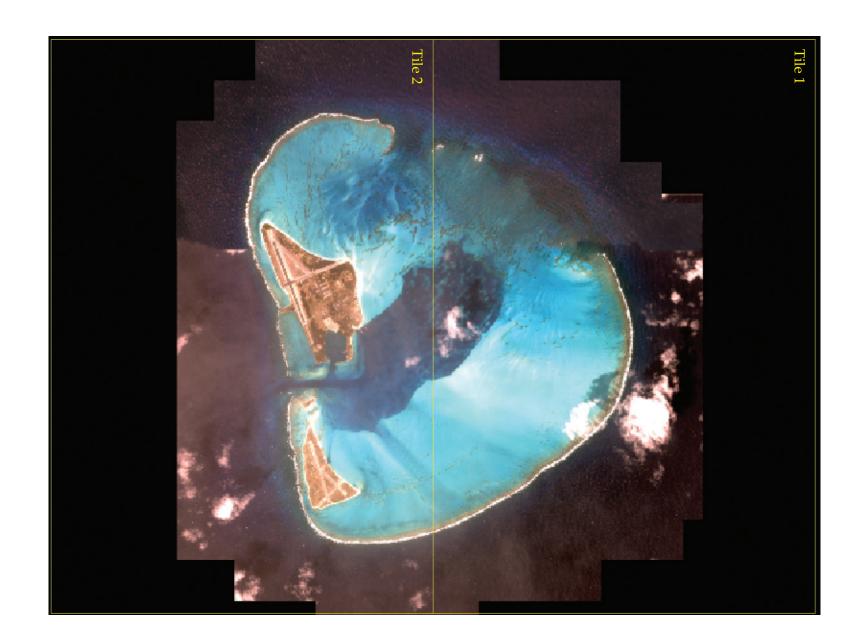
detailed benthic habitats of Midway Atoll. Maps of 1:80,000 scale aggregated benthic habitats and 1:80,000 scale estimated bathymetry provided for Midway Atoll fit on single map tile pages. There is no map depicting any additional banks for Midway Atoll. A one-square- kilometer grid is included with all maps of Midway Atoll.

The area in square kilometers of aggregated benthic habitat cover types found at Midway Atoll, Northwestern Hawaiian Islands.

Hardbottom with >10% live coral	1.4
Hardbottom with >10% crustose coralline algae	0.1
Hardbottom (uncolonized)	14.9
Hardbottom with >10% macroalgae	22.4
Hardbottom with indeterminate cover	6.7
Unconsolidated with 10% or less macroalgae or seagrass	49.9
Unconsolidated with >10% macroalgae or seagrass	0.2
Total Habitat Area Classiff <sup>ed</sup>	95.5

Pavement with sparse (10-Aggregated Patch Reef wit Sand and Rubble (1400) Sand with patchy (10–50%) Sand with macroalgae (11) Sand (1100) TOTAL Area in IKONOS i Deep water (3010) Volcanic Rock with live co Volcanic Rock with dense Pavement with sand chanr Pavement with crustose co Scattered Coral/Rock in Sa Patch Reef, uncolonized (24 Aggregated Coral Heads v Hardbottom, uncolonized Groove (1500) Unconsolidated (1000, refe The area in square Unclassified (3300) Cloud, Shadow, Surf, and Land (3100) Dredged channel (3030) Reef crest (3020) Volcanic Rock, uncolonize Volcanic Rock (2900) Pavement with sand chan Pavement with sand chann Pavement, uncolonized wi Pavement, uncolonized (27 Pavement with live coral (> Pavement with live coral ( Pavement with dense (>50 Pavement (2700) Aggregated Patch Reef (25) Patch Reef with crustose co Patch Reef, uncolonized wi Patch Reef with live coral Patch Reef (2400) Spur and Groove (2300) Linear Reef with crustose Hardbottom with crustose Hardbottom with live cora Hardbottom with sparse Unconsolidated Rubble wi Unconsolidated Rubble wi Unconsolidated Rubble (1. lotal Habitat Area Classiff Linear Reef, uncolonized v inear Reef, uncolonized inear Reef with live cora Linear Reef (2100) Hardbottom (2000) Dense (>50%) macroalgae (

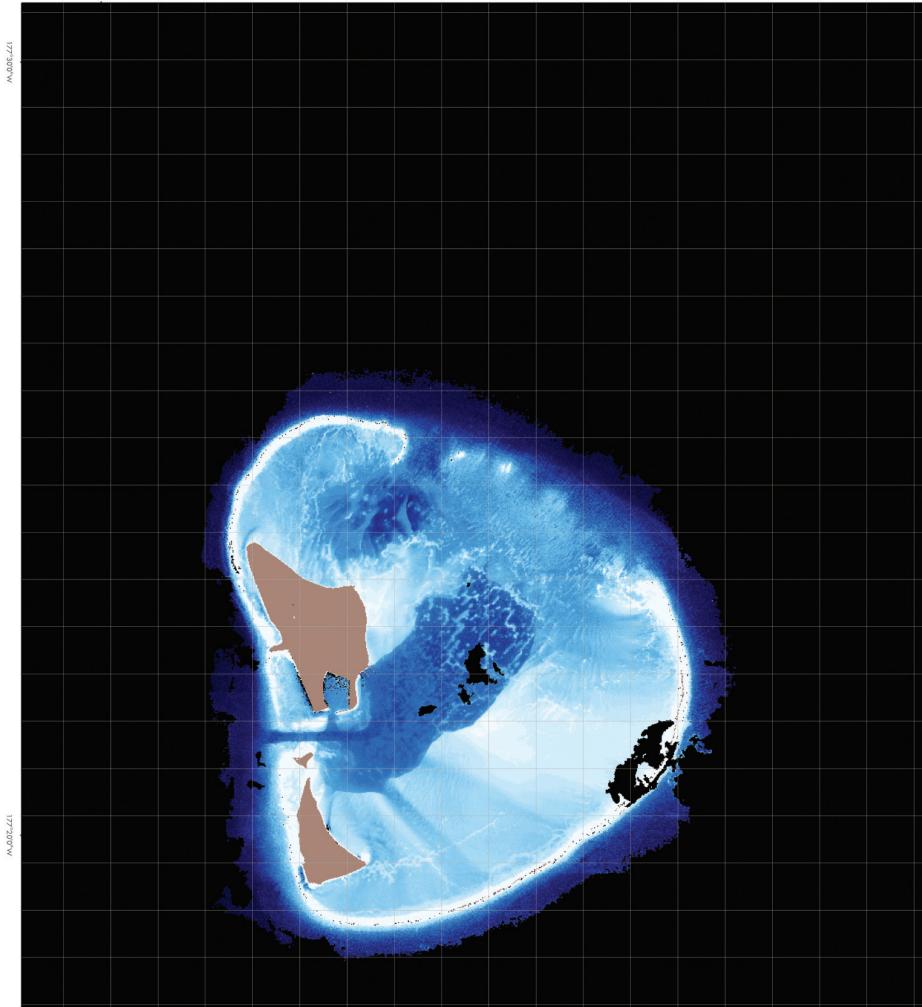
# The area in square kilometers of benthic habitats found at Midway Atoll, Northwestern Hawaiian Islands.





177°20'0"W

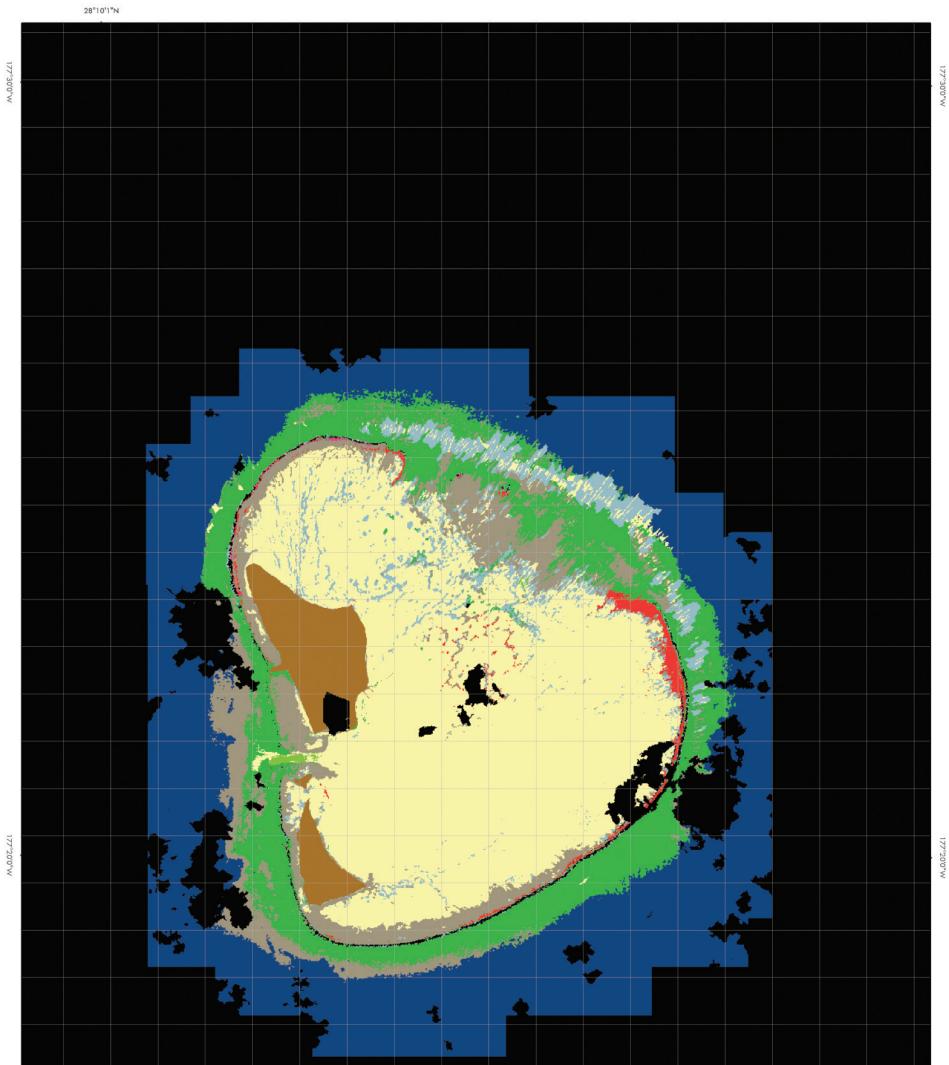
177°30'0"W



28°10'1"N

28°10'1"N

36



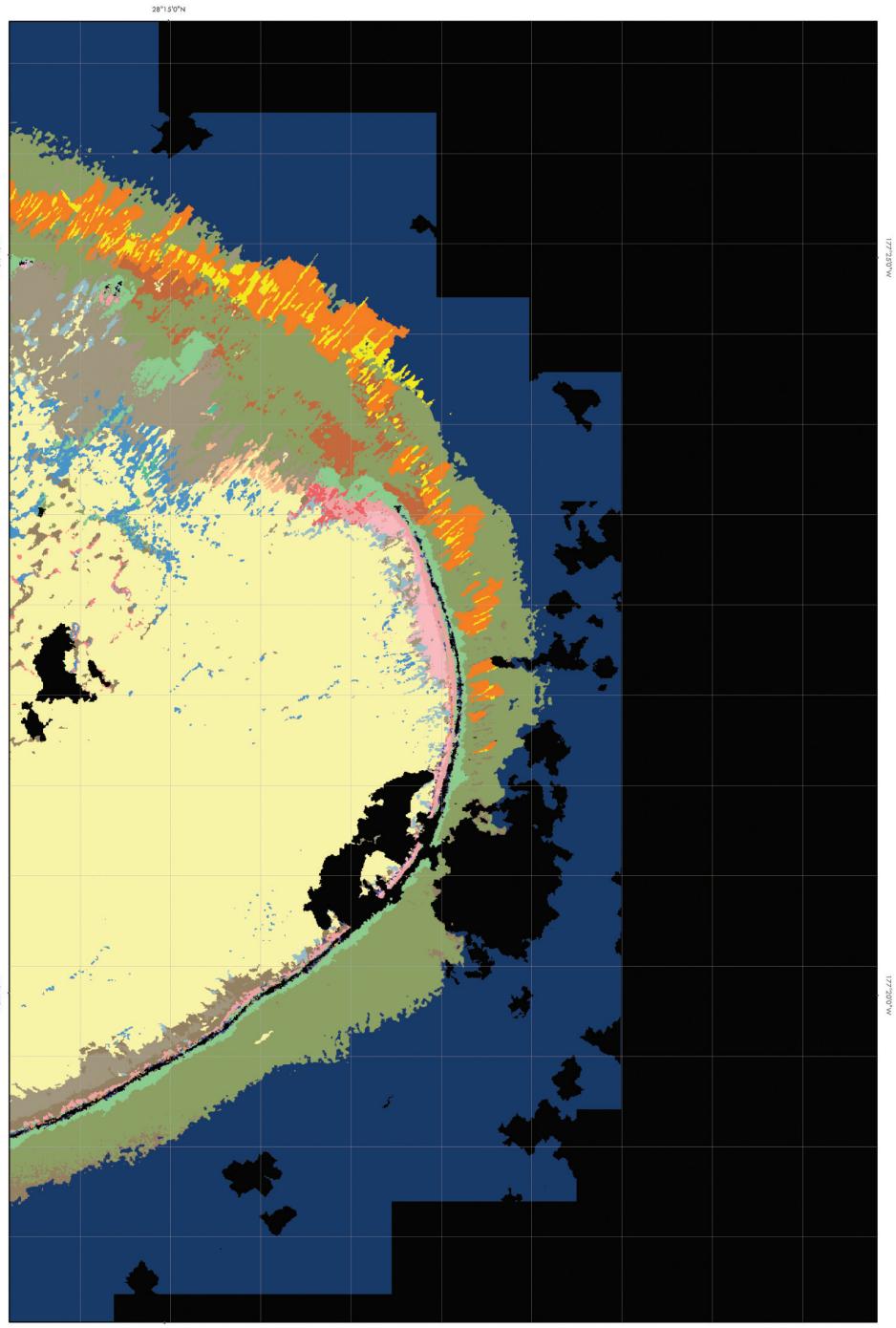
A 1:80,000 scale aggregated habitat cover map of Midway Atoll, Northwestern Hawaiian Islands.



37

28°10'1"N

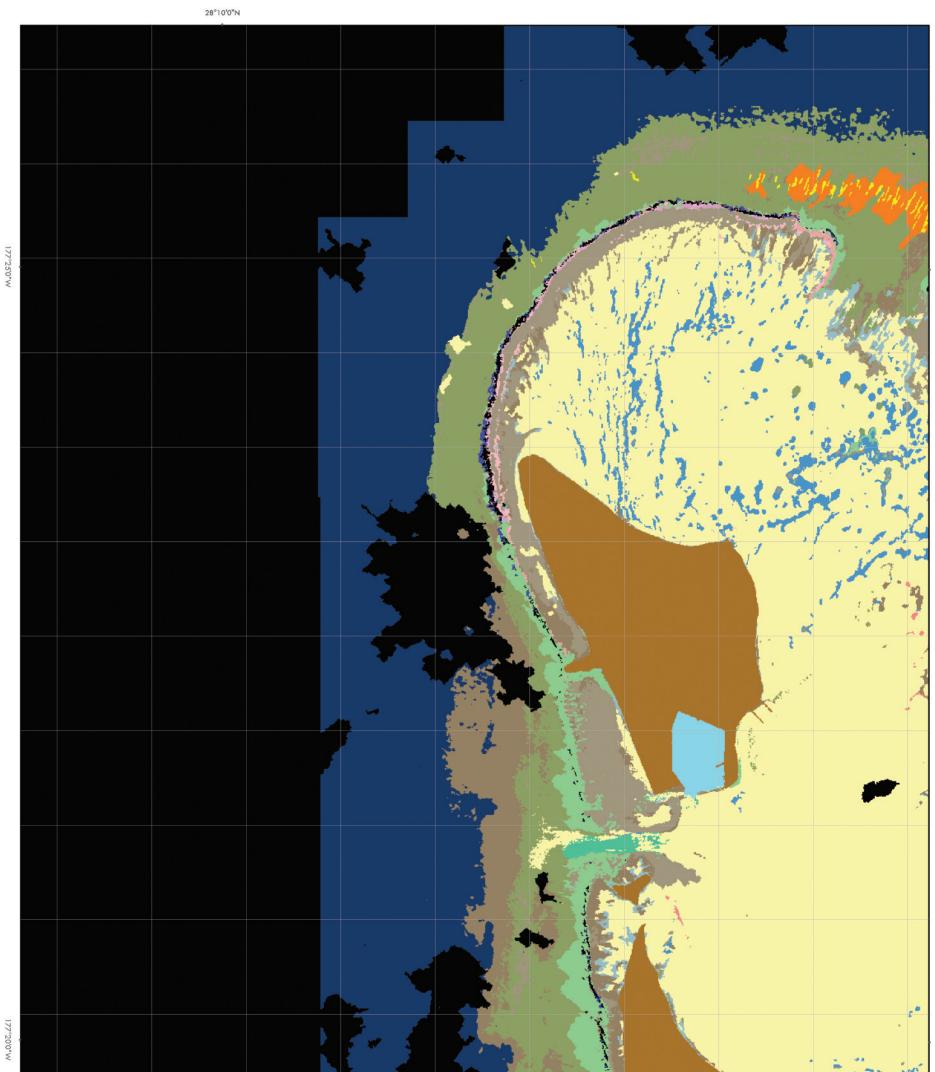




Tile 1. A 1:40,000 scale detailed habitat map of Midway Atoll, Northwestern Hawaiian Islands.

28°15'0"N







28°10'0"N

# Pearl and Hermes Atoll

Lying at longitude 175 degrees 50 minutes W and latitude 27 degrees 50 minutes N, Pearl and Hermes Atoll is found approximately 400 km SE of Midway. Pearl and Hermes Atoll is what remains of a large shield volcano that, approximately 22 million years ago, may have been nearly as large as Lana'i. What remains now is a shallow water atoll about 32 km long and 20 kilometers wide covering an estimated 447 sq. km There are several permanent and numerous ephemeral islets around the periphery and inside the atoll. The largest island is Southeast Island, which is 0.1 sq. km.

Pearl and Hermes Atoll was discovered when the whaling ship Pearl ran aground in 1822. Its sister ship, the Hermes, also ran aground while trying to help the Pearl. The crews of both ships were able to leave the atoll and return to Honolulu. Originally claimed by King Kamehameha III in 1854, Pearl and Hermes Atoll was later claimed for the U.S. by Captain N. C. Brooks of the Gambia in 1859.

The islands of Pearl and Hermes Atoll provide resting and nesting areas for an estimated 160,000 birds of 17 species. The Fish and Wildlife Service surveys indicate that up to 20 percent of the world's Black-footed Albatrosses nest at Pearl and Hermes. It also is an important nesting site for the Tristram's Storm-Petrels and has the only recorded nesting site of the Little Tern. Over the years, several of the NWHI's rare endemic birds have been introduced to Pearl and Hermes. The Laysan Finches brought to the Atoll appear to have survived; the same cannot be said for the Laysan Ducks and Laysan Rails.

Pearl and Hermes Atoll has been extensively impacted by marine debris washing ashore and fouling the Atoll's reefs. The debris appears to be coming from the North Pacific Gyre, a slow-moving current that traps discarded nets and other waste. As it moves around the northern Pacific, the gyre interacts with the islands and atoll's of the NWHI. Marine debris carried by the gyre are captured by the NWHI atolls; Pearl and Hermes is the most affected. The debris damages reefs, entangles fish and marine mammals, and may be introducing alien marine organisms to the NWHI. In the last few years, thousands of kilograms of debris have been removed from Pearl and Hermes and other NWHI atolls.

Due to its size, two map tiles are required to depict the 1:80,000 scale estimated bathymetry. Two map tiles are required to depict the 1:80,000 scale aggregated habitat cover maps. Six map tiles are required to depict the 1:40,000 scale detailed benthic habitats of Pearl and Hermes Atoll. No map exists depicting any

additional banks for Pearl and Hermes Atoll. A one-square-kilometer grid is included with all maps of Pearl and Hermes Atoll.

The area in square kilometers of aggregated benthic habitat cover types found at Pearl and Hermes Atoll, Northwestern Hawaiian Islands.

Hardbottom with >10% live coral Hardbottom with >10% crustose coralline algae Hardbottom (uncolonized) Hardbottom with >10% macroalgae Hardbottom with indeterminate cover Unconsolidated with 10% or less macroalgae or seagrass	20.3 - 13.7 62.2 49.3 226.2
Hardbottom with >10% crustose coralline algae Hardbottom (uncolonized)	- 13.7
Hardbottom with >10% macroalgae	62.2
Hardbottom with indeterminate cover	49.3
Unconsolidated with 10% or less macroalgae or seagrass	226.2
Unconsolidated with >10% macroalgae or seagrass	19.9
Total Habitat Area Classiff <sup>ed</sup>	391.6

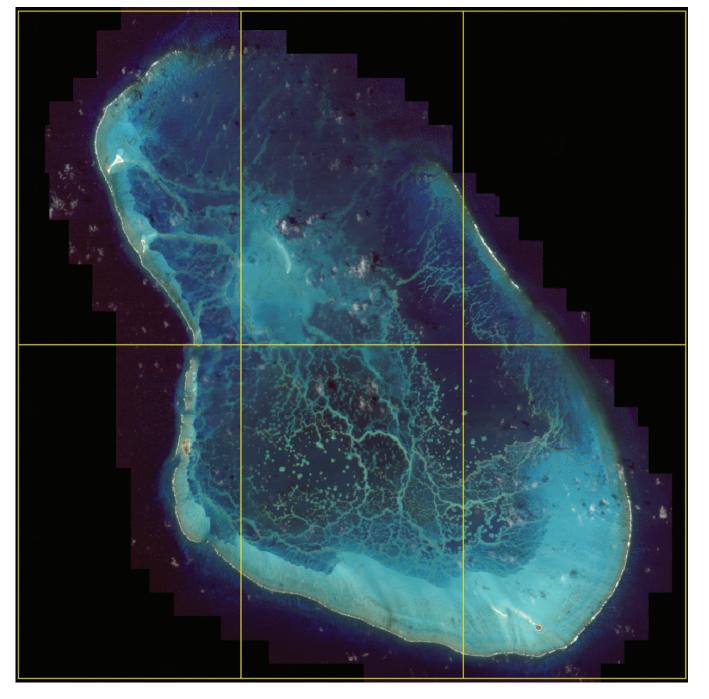
Pavement, uncolonized (27 Pavement with sparse (10and Hermes Atoll, Aggregated Patch Reef (25 Sand and Rubble (1400) Keet crest (3020) Deep water (3010) Pavement with sand chan Pavement with sand chan Pavement with sand chan Pavement with crustose co Pavement with live coral ( Pavement with dense (>50 Scattered Coral/Rock in Sa Aggregated Patch Reef wi Patch Reef with crustose c Aggregated Coral Heads Hardbottom with sparse Hardbottom (2000) Groove (1500) Unconsolidated Rubble w Unconsolidated Rubble (1. Sand with patchy (10–50% Sand with macroalgae (11 Sand (1100) The area in square **TOTAL** Area in IKONOS Unclassified (3300) Cloud, Shadow, Surf, and Dredged channel (3030) Volcanic Rock, uncolonize Volcanic Rock with live co Volcanic Rock with dense Volcanic Rock (2900) Pavement, uncolonized wi Pavement with live coral (> Pavement (2700) Patch Reef, uncolonized w Patch Reef, uncolonized (2 Patch Reef with live coral Patch Reef (2400) Spur and Groove (2300) Linear Reef with crustose Linear Reef, uncolonized Linear Reef (2100) Hardbottom with crustose Hardbottom, uncolonized Hardbottom with live cora Unconsolidated Rubble w Dense (>50%) macroalgae Unconsolidated (1000, refe Iotal Habitat Area Classifi Land (3100) Linear Reef, uncolonized Linear Reef with live cora

### kilometers of benthic habitats found at Pearl Northwestern Hawaiian Islands.

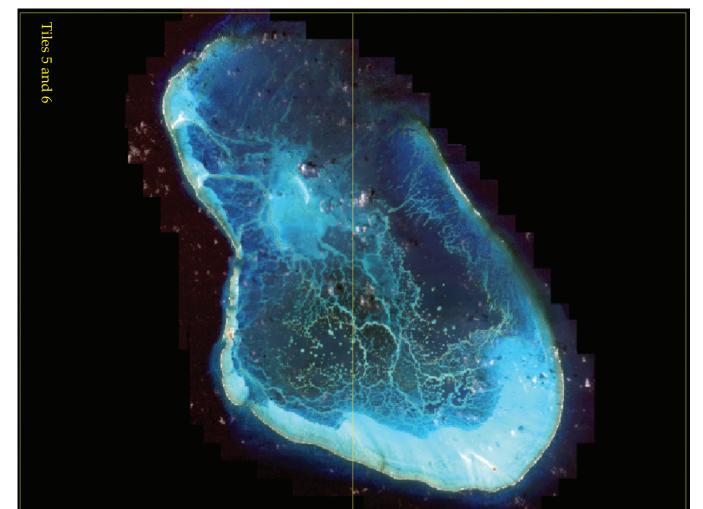
er to classification scheme for habitat description)	141.9 60.4
% cover) macroalgae (1121) on sand (1122)	1 1
1300) vith sparse (10–50% cover) algae (1301) vith dense (>50% cover) algae (1302)	14.2 5.6
	2.5
(10–50% cover) algae (2001) al (>10% cover) (2010)	8.3 52.3 -
1 (2020) e coralline algae (>10% cover) (2030)	
d (>10% cover) (2110) (>1>0)	6.7 -
coralline algae (>10% cover) algae (2121)	1 1
with live coral (>10% cover) (2210)	- 6.8 11 0
(>10% cover) (2410) 2420)	0.5
vith sparse (10–50% cover) algae (2421) coralline algae (>10% cover) (2430) 500)	6.2
ith live coral (>10% cover) (2510) and with live coral (>10% cover) (2610)	13 38 I I
–50% cover) algae (2701) 3% cover) algae (2702)	3.5 1.3
(>10% cover) (2710) (>10% cover) and dense (>50% cover) algae (2712) (220)	7.9 5.1 13.7
rith dense (>50% cover) algae (2722) oralline algae (>10% cover) (2730)	1 1
mels (2800) mels and live coral (>10% cover) (2810) mels, uncolonized (2820)	
: (>50% cover) algae (2902) oral (>10% cover) (2910) ed (2920)	1 1 1
	156.7 - - 0 5
No image data (3210, 3220, 3230, and 4000)	19.2 -
fed image	391.6 562.9

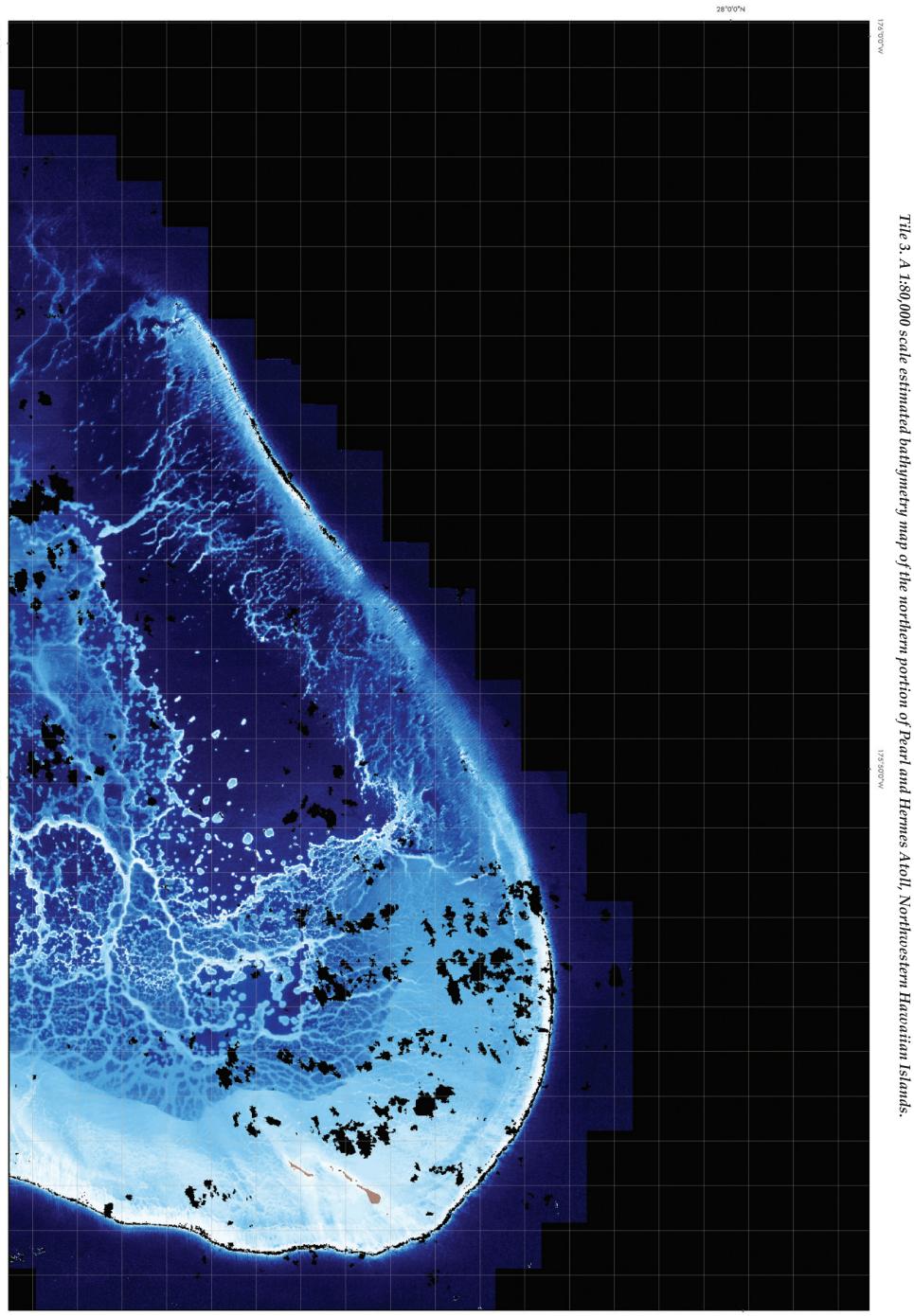
Index maps indicating the locations of map tiles for the 1:40,000 scale detailed habitat maps and the 1:80,000 scale aggregated cover, estimated bathymetry, and bank of Pearl and Hermes Atoll, Northwestern Hawaiian Islands.

Index of 1:40,000 tiles



Index of 1:80,000 tiles



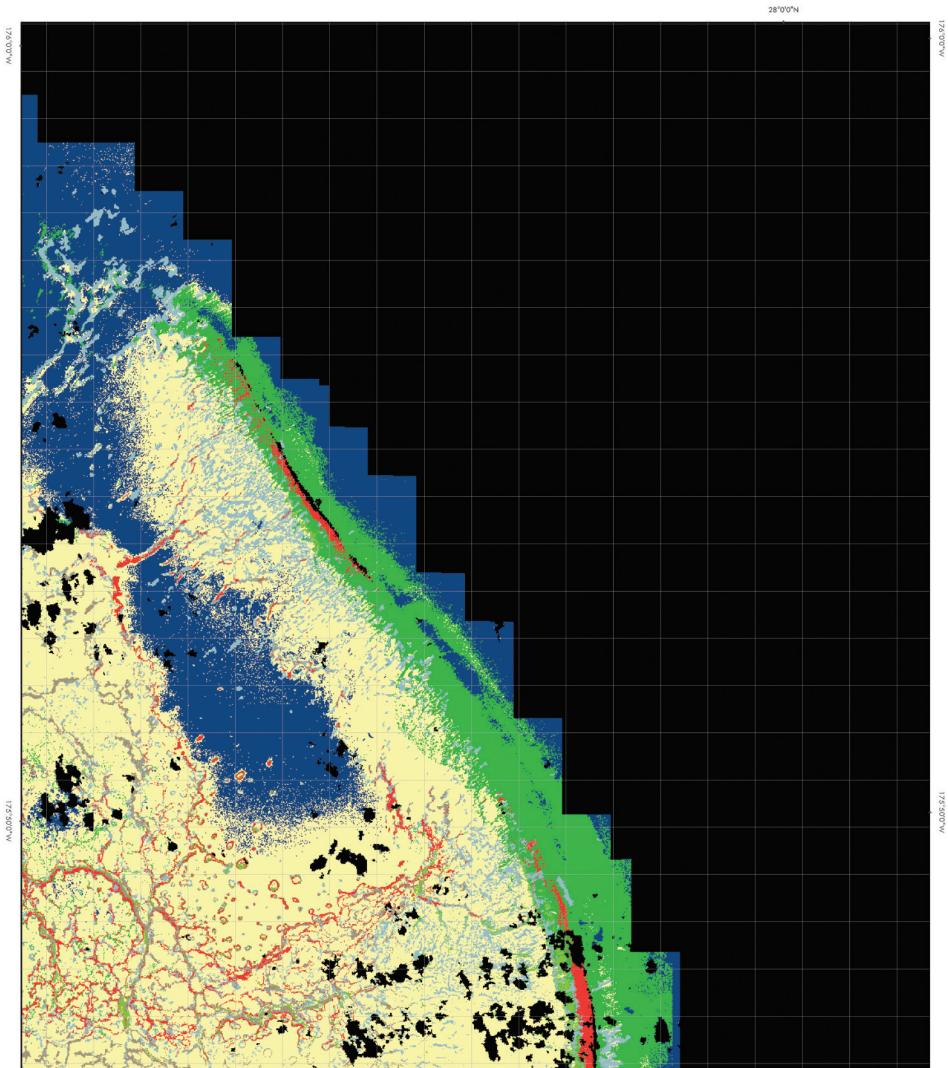


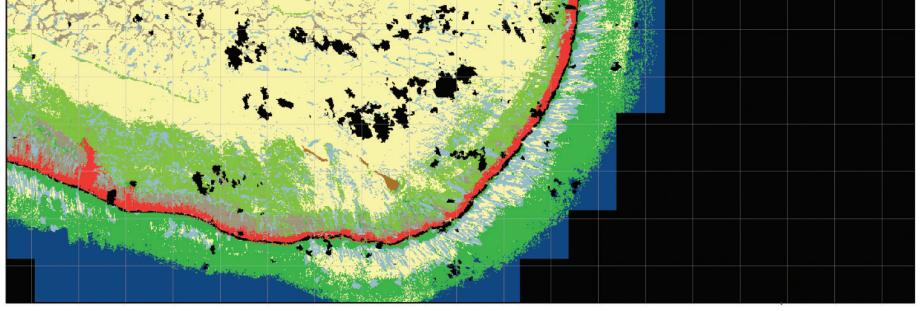
176°0'0"W

175°50'0"W

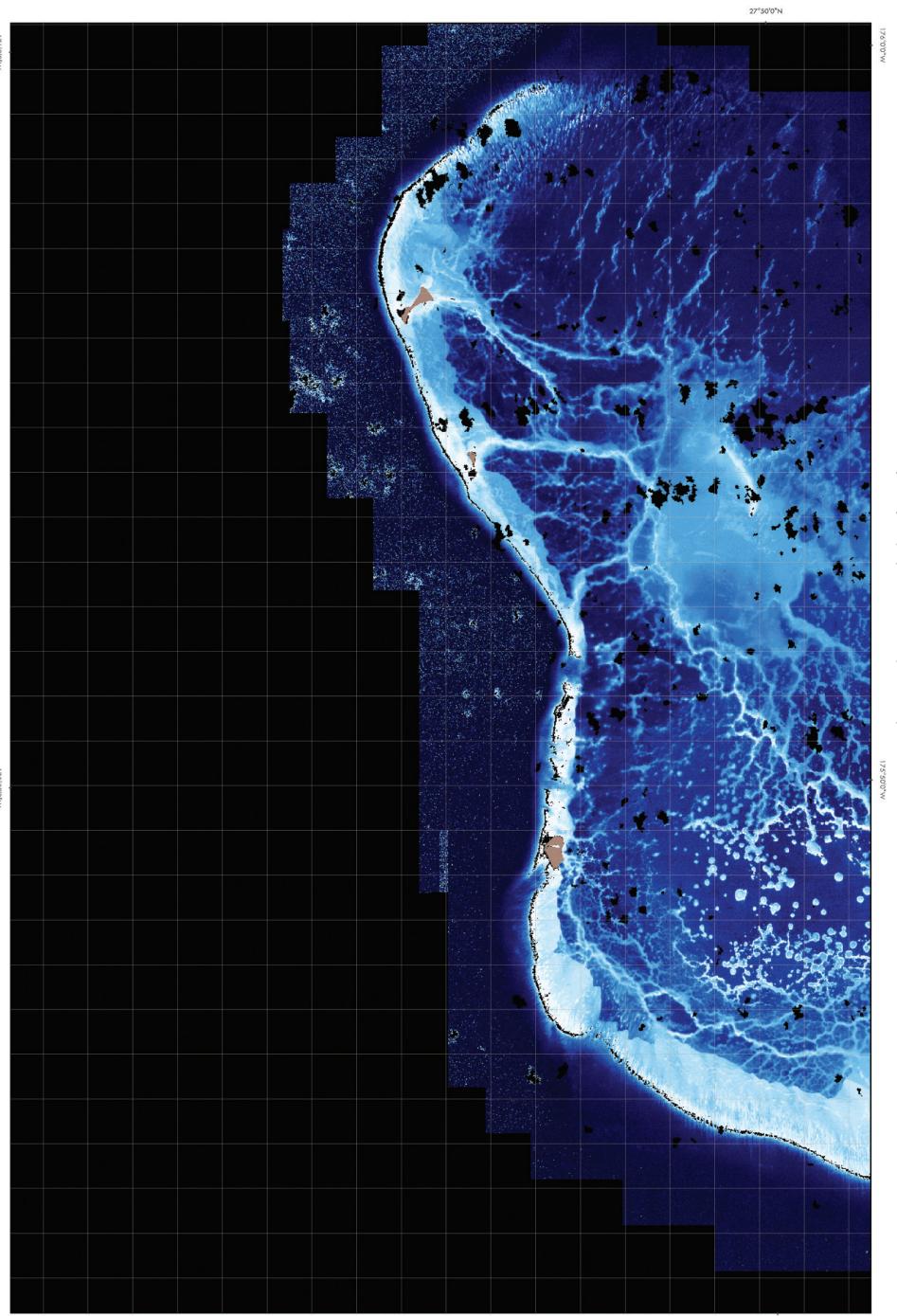
28°0'0"N







28°0'0"N

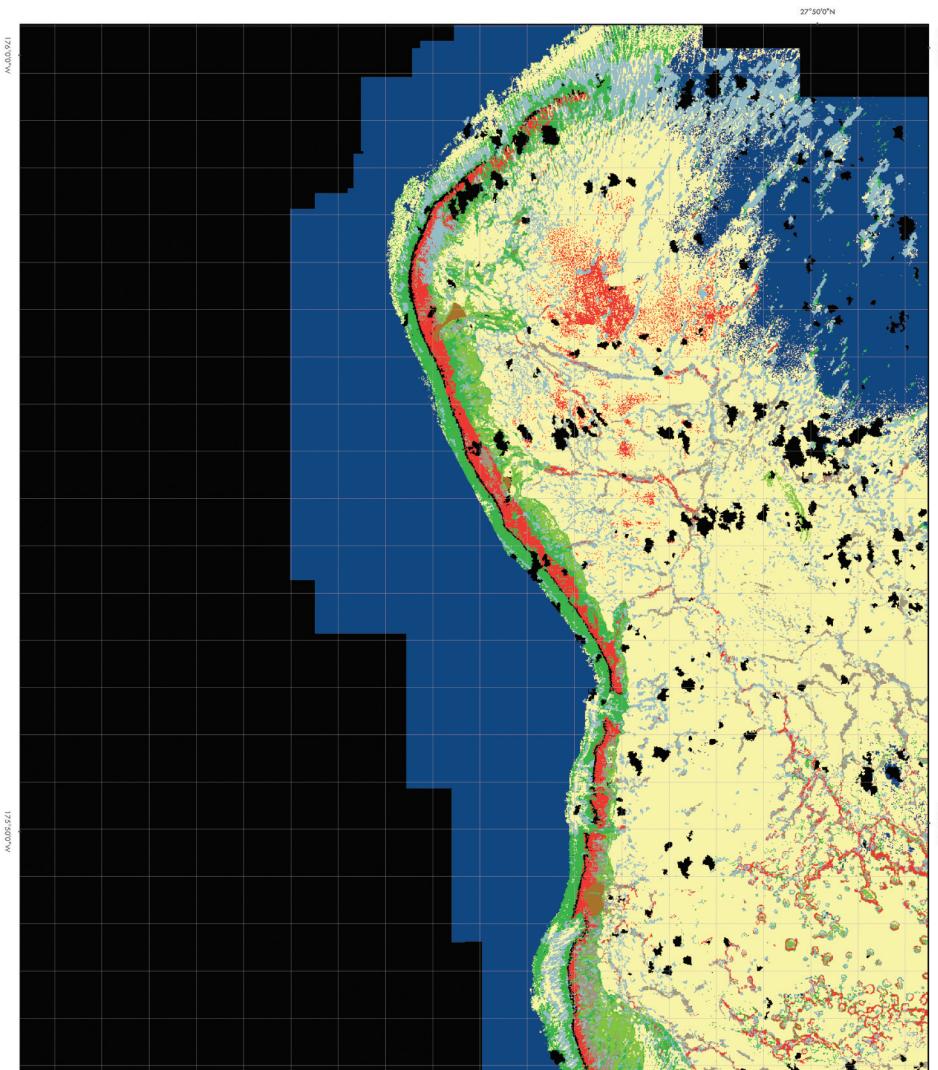


175°50'0"W

Tile 5. A 1:80,000 scale estimated bathymetry map of the southern portion of Pearl and Hermes Atoll, Northwestern Hawaiian Islands.

27°50'0"N





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								international and a second			

27°50'0"N

			27°55'0"N		14			
176°C								
M.0,0°921								
	and the second sec	15e						
175								
°55'0"W	A.							
			are Recent	1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1				
		<u>2288</u>						
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M,0,0,921

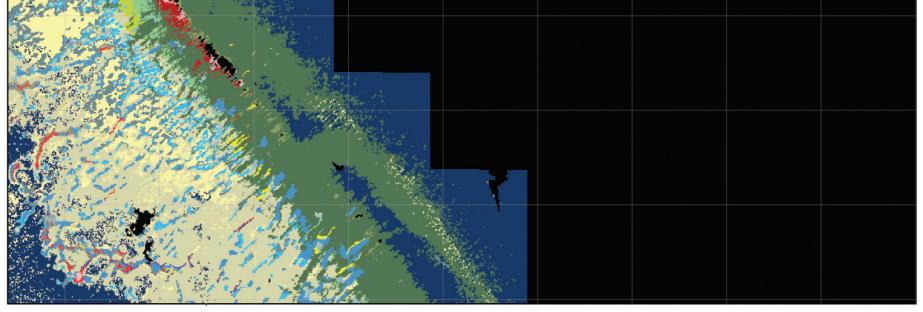
27°55'0"N

175°55'0"W

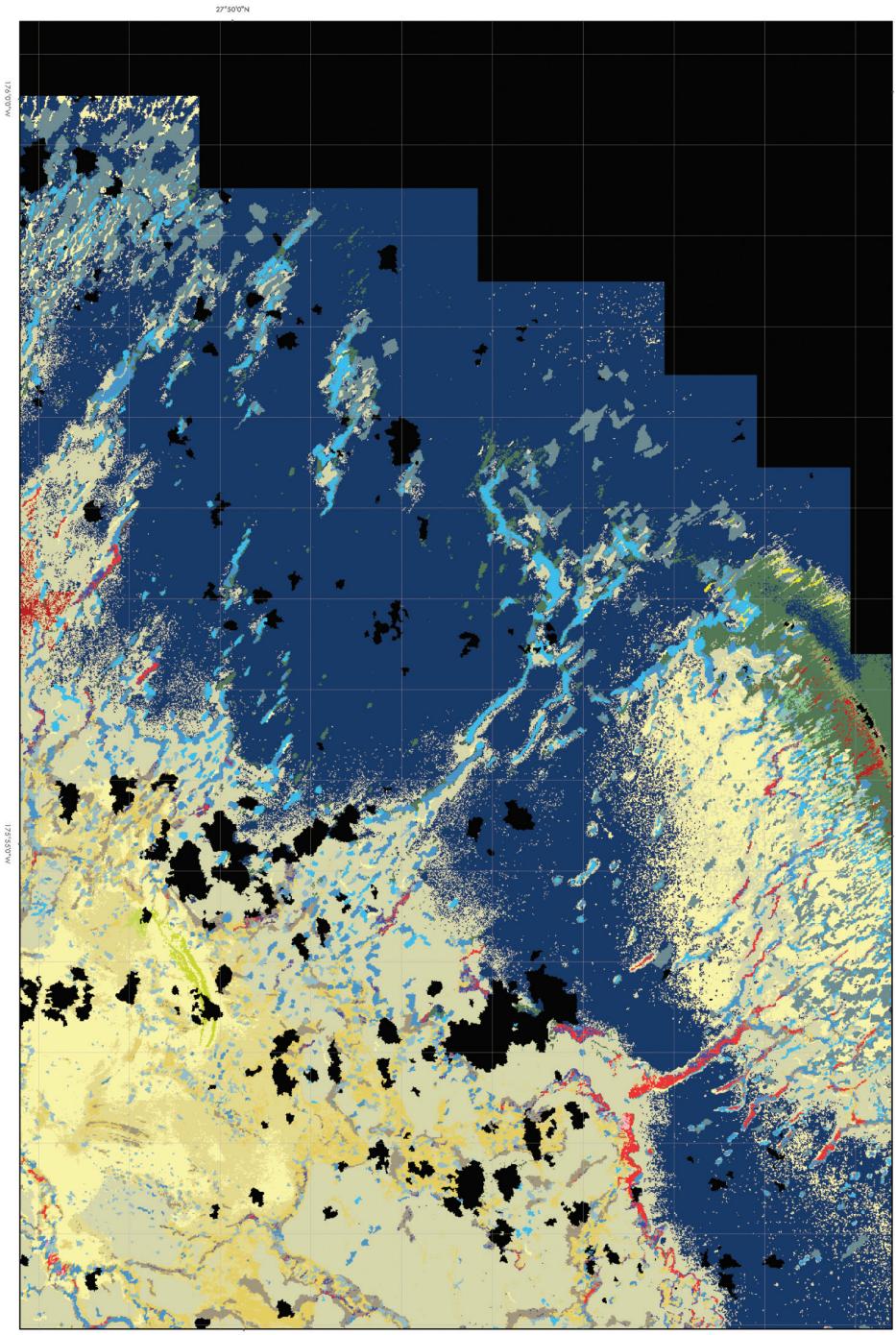
Tile 7. A 1:40,000 scale detailed benthic habitat map of the northwest corner of Pearl and Hermes Atoll, Northwestern Hawaiian Islands.

175°55'0\*W

M<sub>a</sub>0,0,921



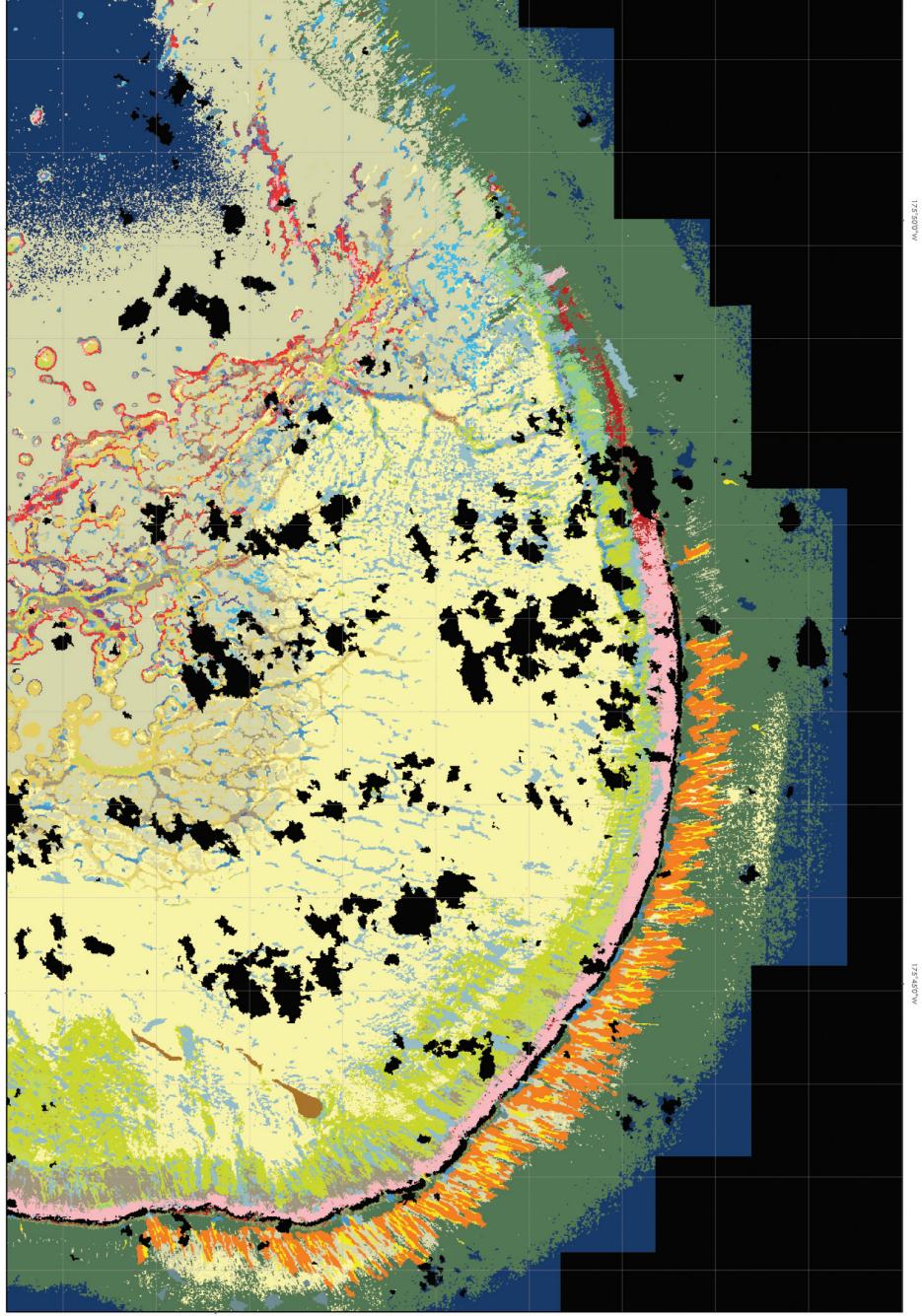
27°55'0"N



175°55'0"W

27°50'0"N

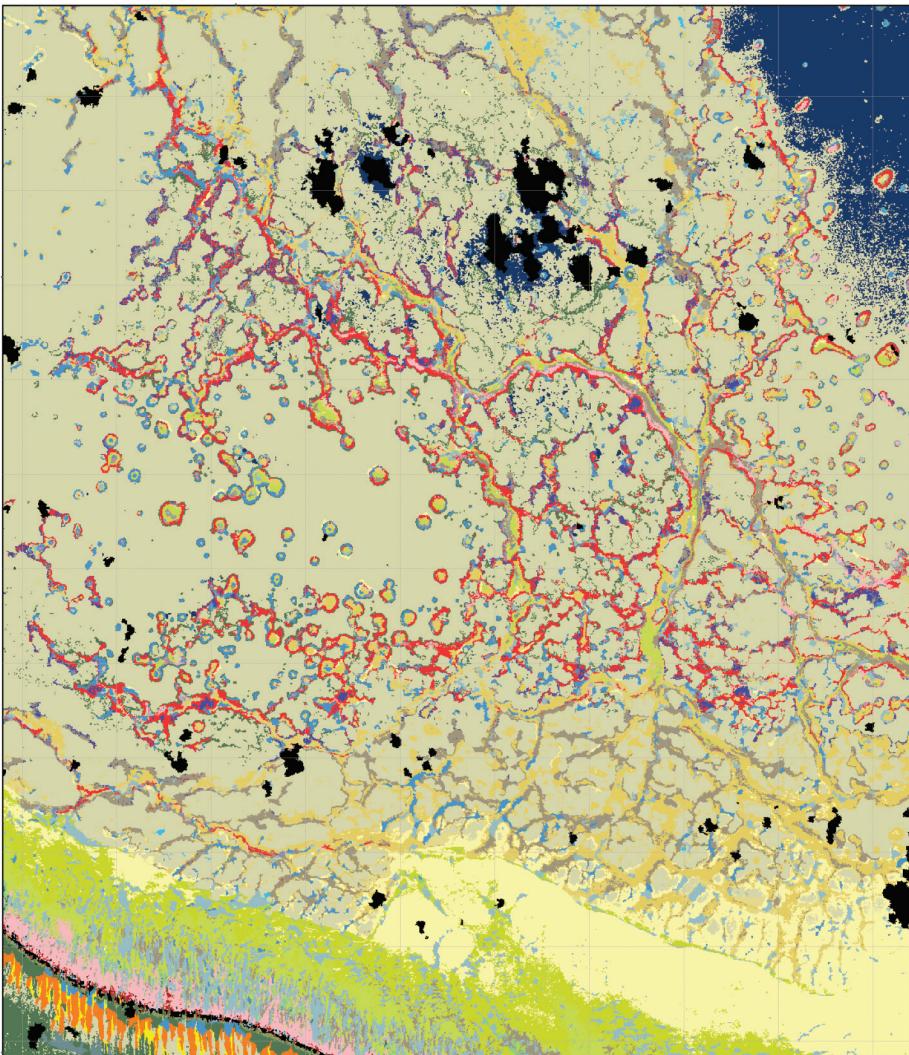




27°55'0"N

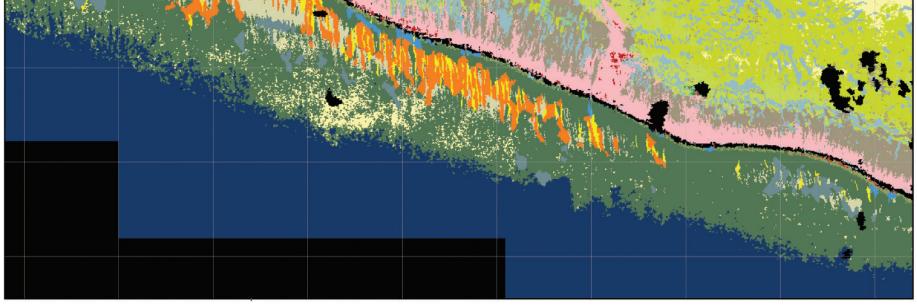
27°55'0"N



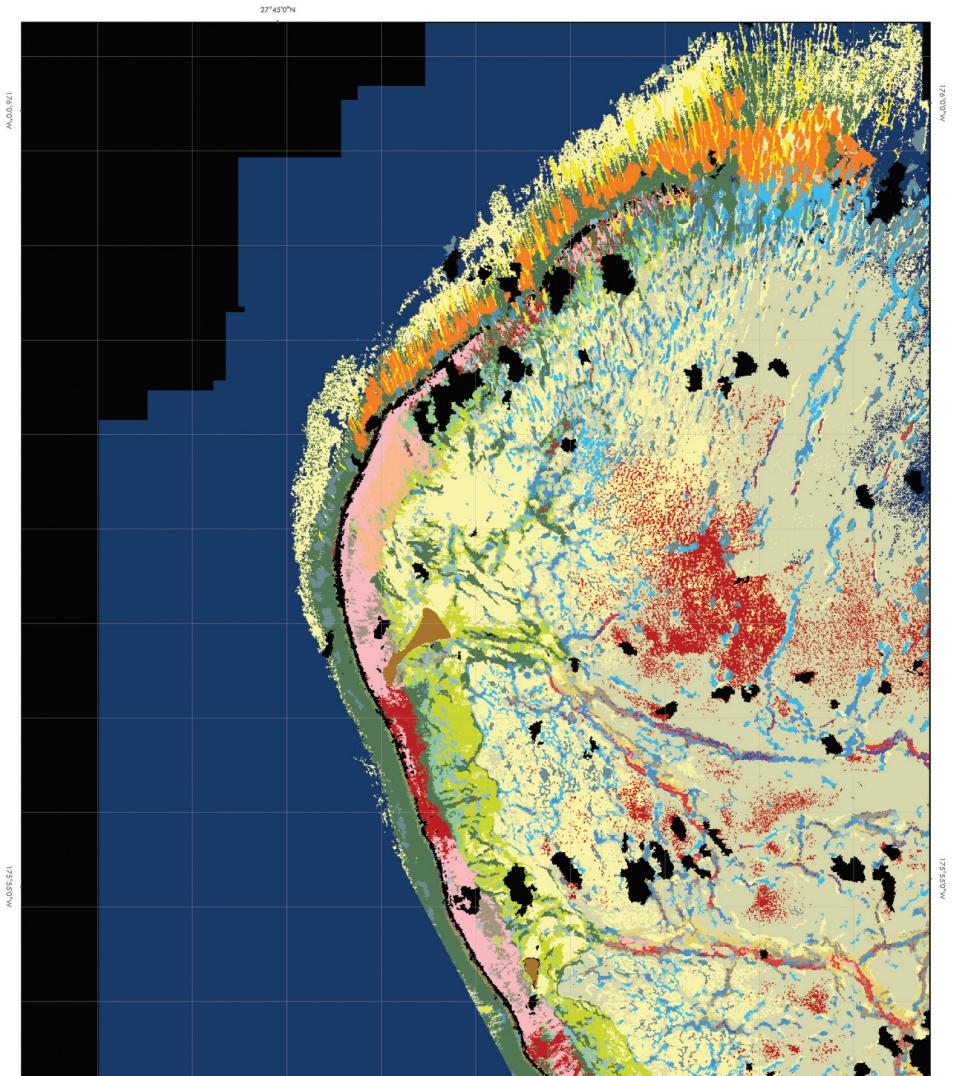


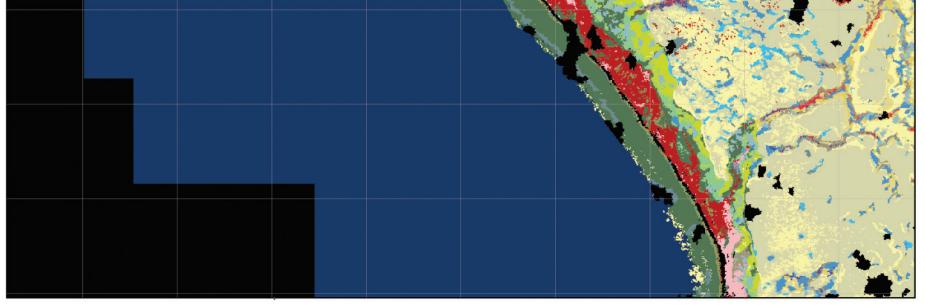
175°50'0"W

175°45'0"W

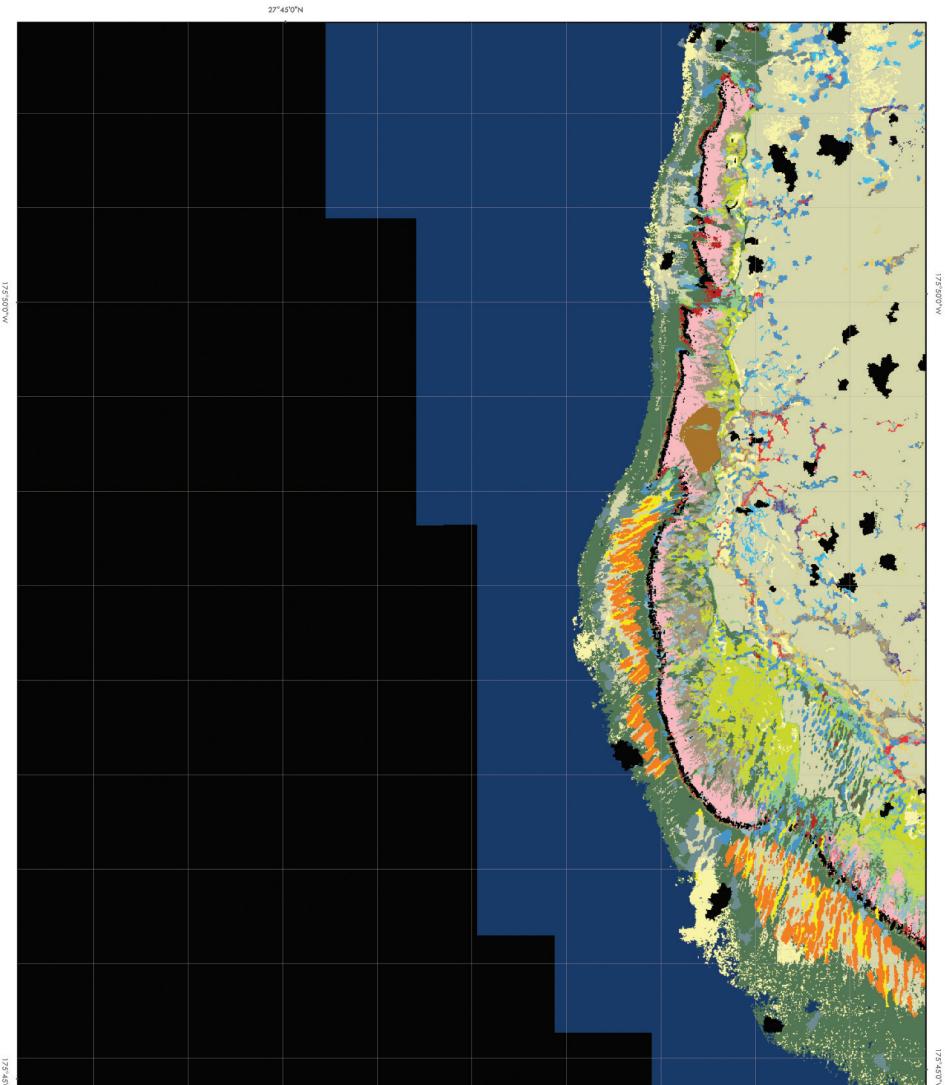


27°50'0"N





27°45'0"N



175°500°W Tile 12. A 1:40,000 scale detailed benthic habitat map of the southeast portion of Pearl and Hermes Atoll, Northwestern Hawaiian Islands.

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27°45'0"N

# Lisianski Island

Lying at longitude 173 degrees 58 minutes W and latitude 26 degrees 4 minutes N, Lisianski is found approximately 675 km ESE of Midway and 1,540 kilometers from Kaua'i. Lisianski Island is about 1.6 sq. km in size and is surrounded by a vast shallowwater coral reef ecosystem called Neva Shoal. Neva Shoal is estimated to be 1,158 sq. km in size. Lisianski Island and Neva Shoal were formed approximately 20 million years ago when the underlying shield volcano and a portion of the associated coral reef bank were lifted above sea level.

Neva Shoal was discovered by and is named after the Russian ship Neva–captained by Urey Lisianski–that ran aground on the reef in 1805. Numerous other ships ran argound the reefs at Lisianski over the years. Survivors reported that bird guano and feathers were available on Lisianski in quantities large enough to harvest. While guano mining never became profitable, harvesting bird wings and feathers did. Within a few years, starting in 1904, it is estimated that over 1 million birds were killed on Lisianski alone for feathers, meat, and wings. The public outcry was so loud that President Theodore Roosevelt signed an Executive Order in 1909 to establish the Hawaiian Island Bird Sanctuary. This bird sanctuary would later become the Hawaiian Islands National Wildlife Refuge. Today, the island also hosts the largest breeding colony of Bonin Petrels in Hawai'i. Threefourths of all breeding pairs in the entire state breed here.

Due to its size, two map tiles are required to depict the 1:80,000 scale estimated bathymetry. Two map tiles are required to depict the 1:80,000 scale aggregated habitat cover maps. Eight map tiles are required to depict the 1:40,000 scale detailed benthic habitats of Lisianski Island. Two 1:80,000 scale map tiles are included to depict the extensive shallow-water bank area around Lisianski Island. A one-square-kilometer grid is included with all maps of Lisianski Island.

> The area in square kilometers of aggregated benthic habitat cover types found at Lisianski Island, Northwestern Hawaiian Islands.

Hardbottom with >10% live coral	16.4	
Hardbottom with >10% crustose coralline algae	I	
Hardbottom (uncolonized)	0.9	
Hardbottom with >10% macroalgae	6.1	
Hardbottom with indeterminate cover	183.5	
Unconsolidated with 10% or less macroalgae or seagrass	231.8	
Unconsolidated with >10% macroalgae or seagrass	I	
Total Habitat Area Classif <sup>ed</sup>	438.7	

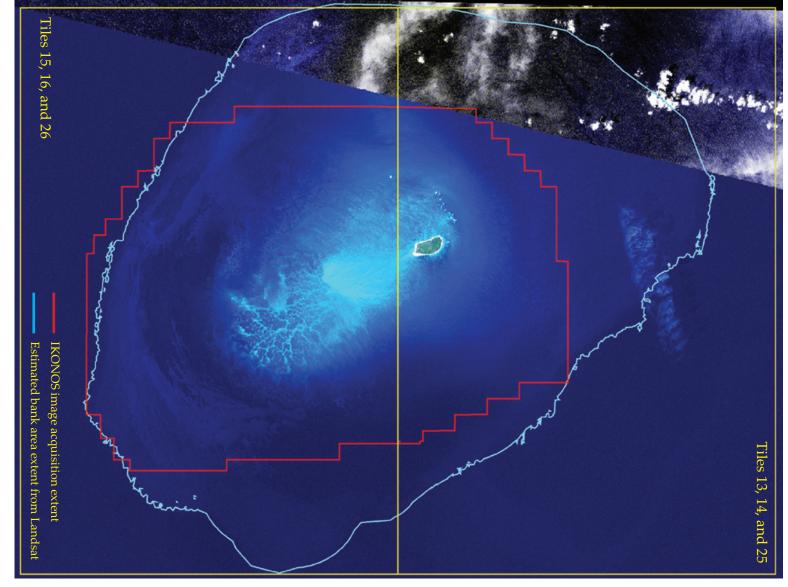
Pavement, uncolonized (2) Pavement with sparse (10-Aggregated Patch Reef (25 Sand and Rubble (1400) Unconsolidated (1000, refe Dredged channel (3030) Deep water (3010) Pavement with crustose co Pavement, uncolonized wi Pavement with dense (>50 Aggregated Patch Reef wi Aggregated Coral Heads Hardbottom with crustose Groove (1500) Unconsolidated Rubble w Unconsolidated Rubble (1) Dense (>50%) macroalgae Sand with macroalgae (11 Unclassified (3300) Cloud, Shadow, Surf, and Reef crest (3020) Volcanic Rock, uncolonize Volcanic Rock with dense Volcanic Rock (2900) Pavement with sand chan: Pavement with sand chan Pavement with sand chani Pavement with live coral ( Pavement with live coral ( Scattered Coral/Rock in Sa Patch Reef (2400) Spur and Groove (2300) Linear Reef, uncolonized Linear Reef with live cora Hardbottom with sparse Hardbottom (2000) Unconsolidated Rubble wi Sand with patchy (10–50%) Sand (1100) The area in square **TOTAL** Area in IKONOS Total Habitat Area Classif Volcanic Rock with live co Pavement (2700) Patch Reef with crustose co Patch Reef, uncolonized w Patch Reef, uncolonized (2 Patch Reef with live coral Linear Reef with crustose Linear Reef, uncolonized Linear Reef (2100) Hardbottom, uncolonized Hardbottom with live cora \_and (3100)

# The area in square kilometers of benthic habitats found at Lisianski Island, Northwestern Hawaiian Islands.

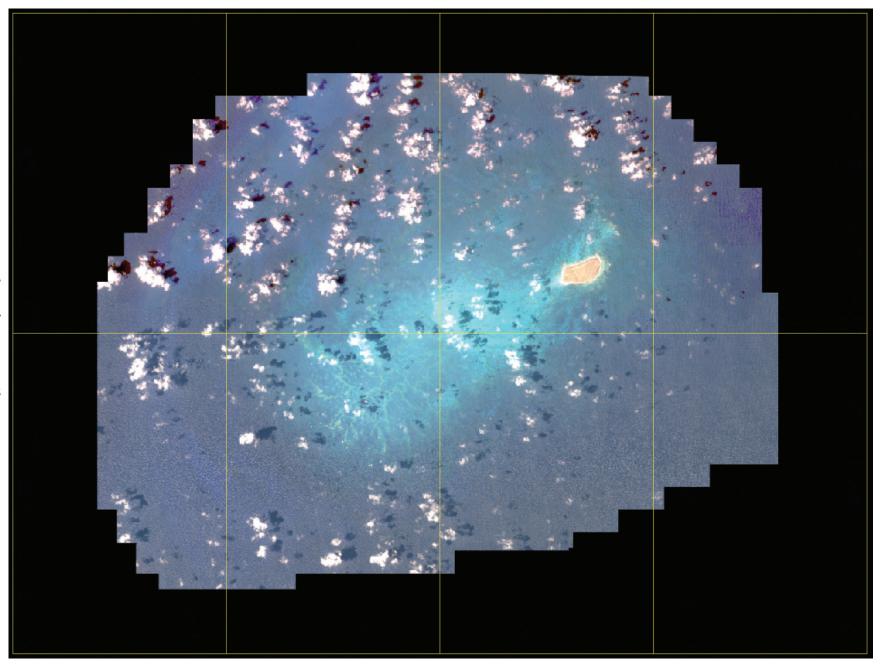
	ier to classification scheme for habitat description) 75.4   [20] 72.3   6 cover) macroalgae (1121) -   9 on sand (1122) -   1300) 16.9   14 sparse (10–50% cover) (1302) -   16.9 -   11th sparse (10–50% cover) (1302) -   11 (2020) -   12 (200) -   13 (200) -   14 (2020) -   15 (2120) -   12 (210) -   13 (200) -   14 (2020) -   15 (2120) -   14 (210% cover) (2110) -   12 (>10% cover) (2110) -   13 (>10% cover) (2110) -   14 (>10% cover) (2110) -   15 (> -   12 (>10% cover) (2110) -   - - -   - - -   - - -   - - -   - - -   - - -   - -
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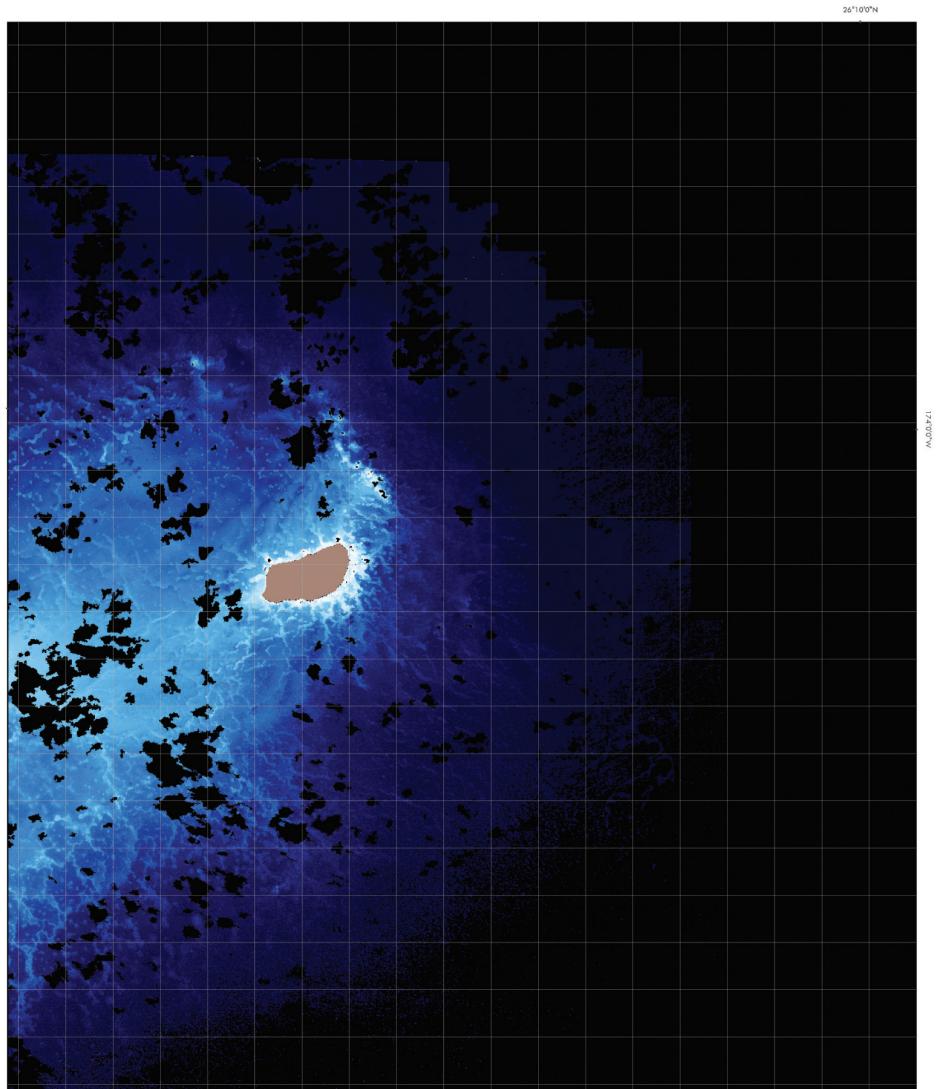
Index maps indicating the locations of map tiles for the 1:40,000 scale detailed habitat maps and the 1:80,000 scale aggregated cover, estimated bathymetry, and bank of Lisianski Island, Northwestern Hawaiian Islands.

Index of 1:80,000 tiles



Index of 1:40,000 tiles





174°0'0"W

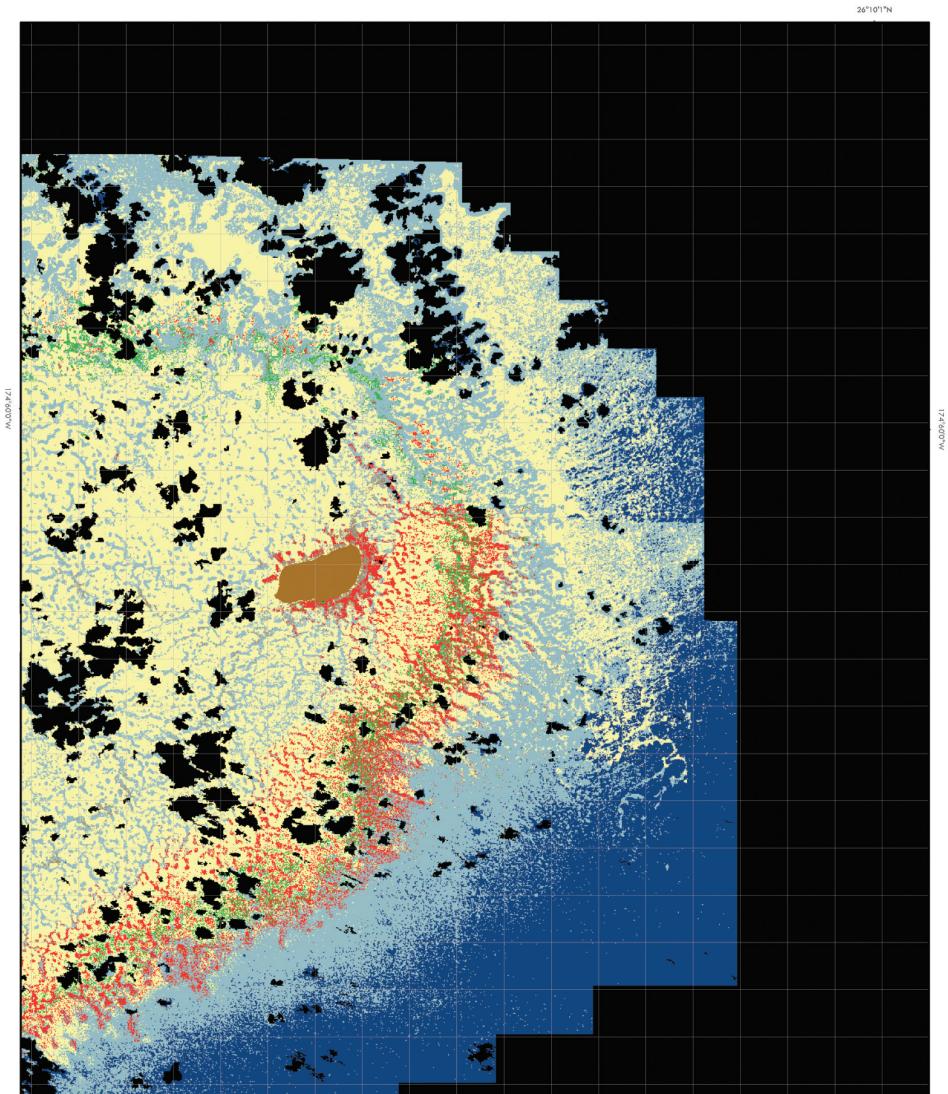
Tile 13. A 1:80,000 scale estimated bathymetry map of the northern portion of Lisianski Island, Northwestern Hawaiian Islands.

173°50'0"W

54

173°50'0"W

26°10'0"N





173°50'0"W

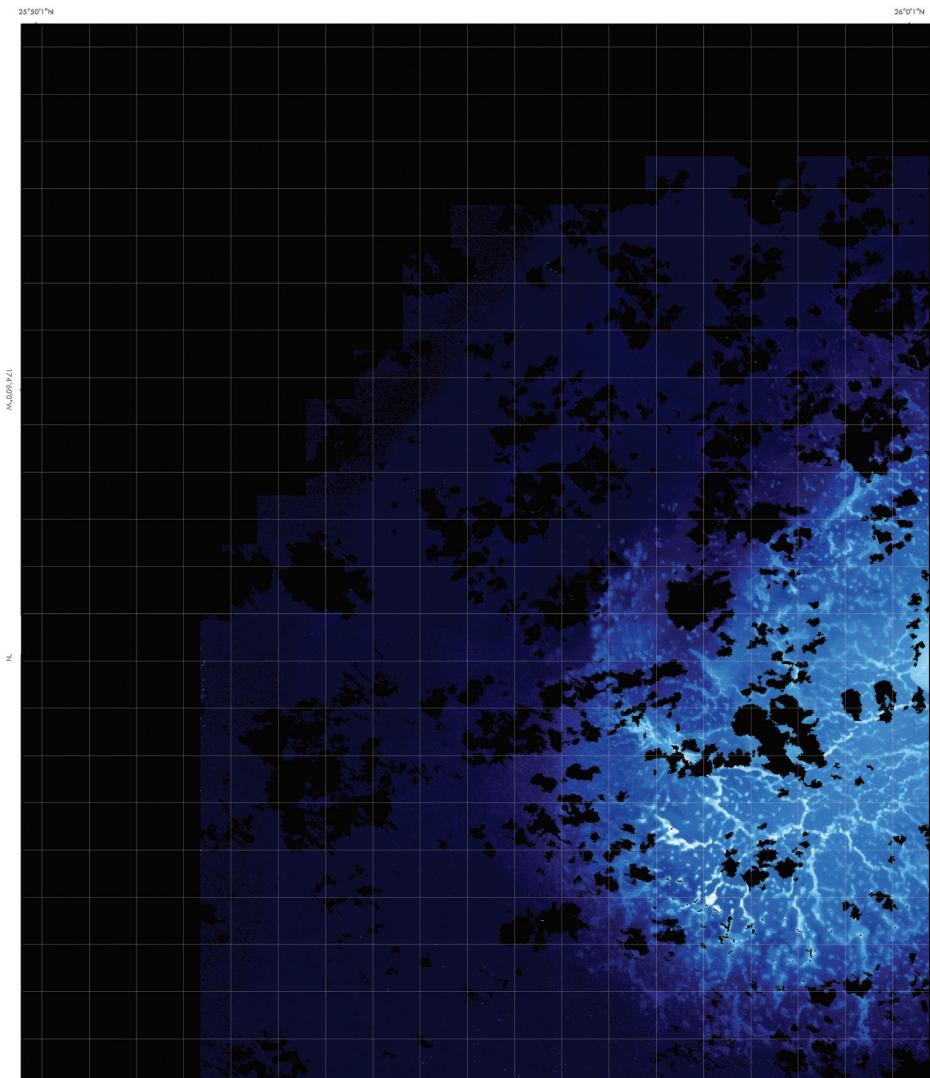
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26°10'1"N

173°50'0"W



174°60'0"W

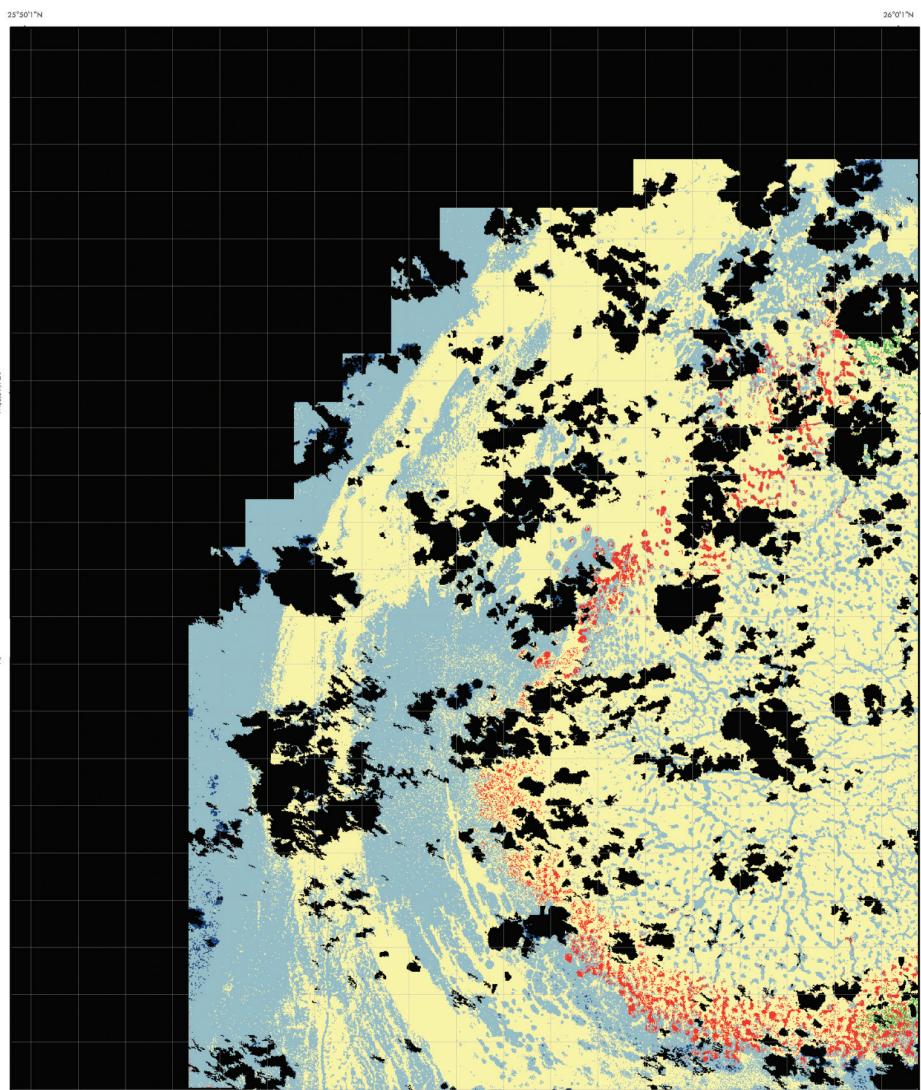


173°50'0"W

173°50'0"W

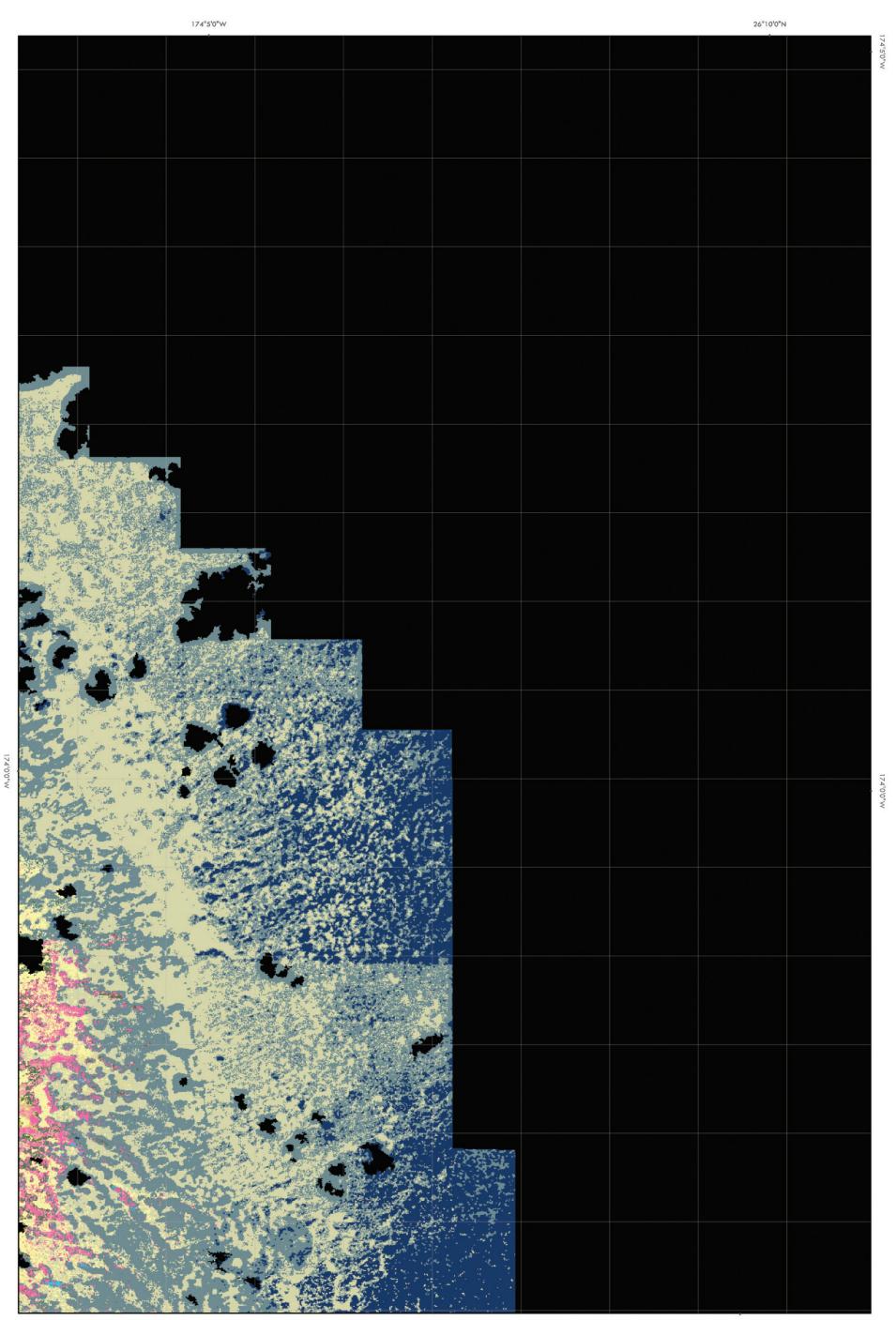
26°0'1"N





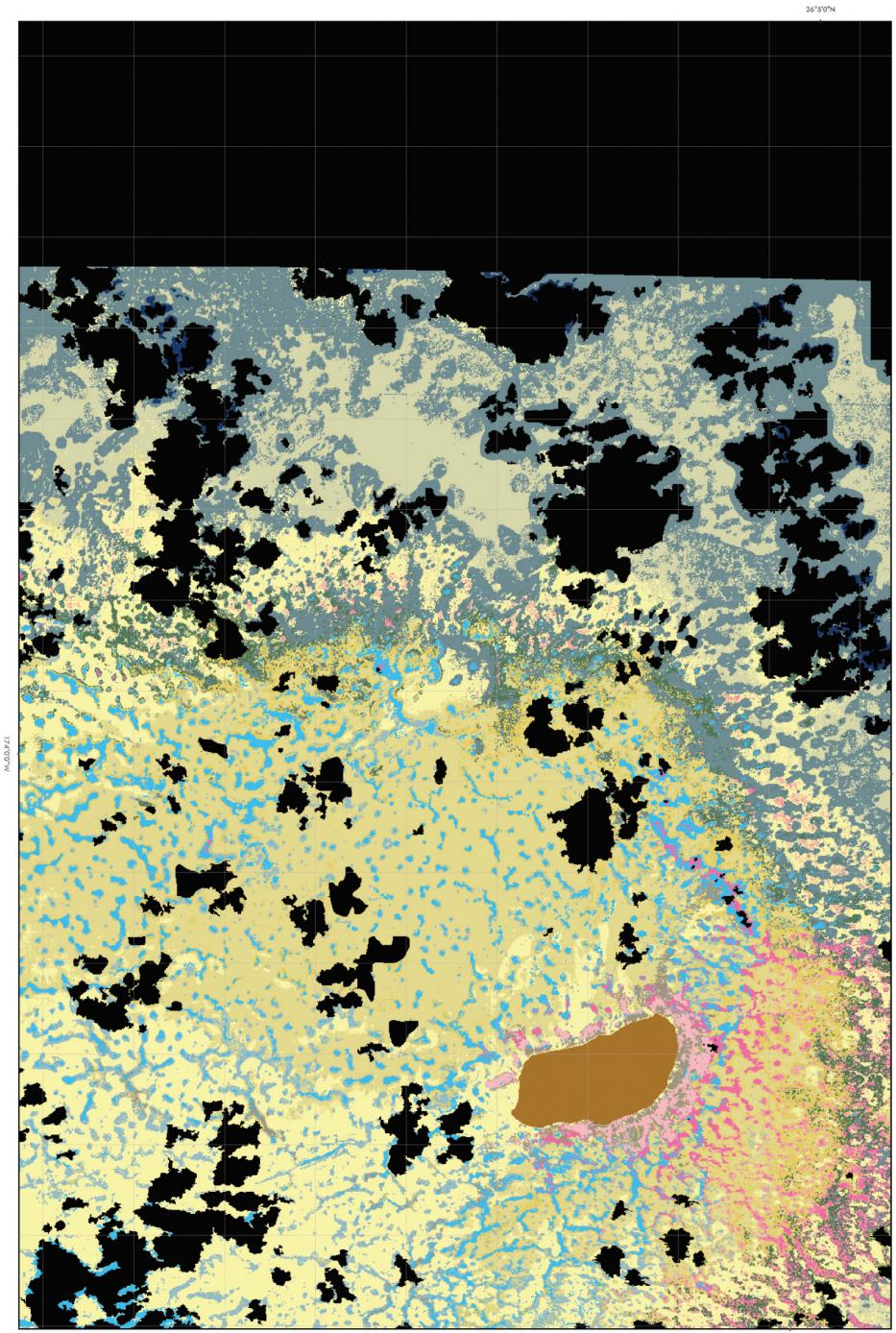
26°0'1"N

173°50'0"W



Tile 17. A 1:40,000 scale detailed benthic habitat map of the northwest portion of Lisianski Island, Northwestern Hawaiian Islands.

26°10'0"N



174°0'0"W

26°5'0"N

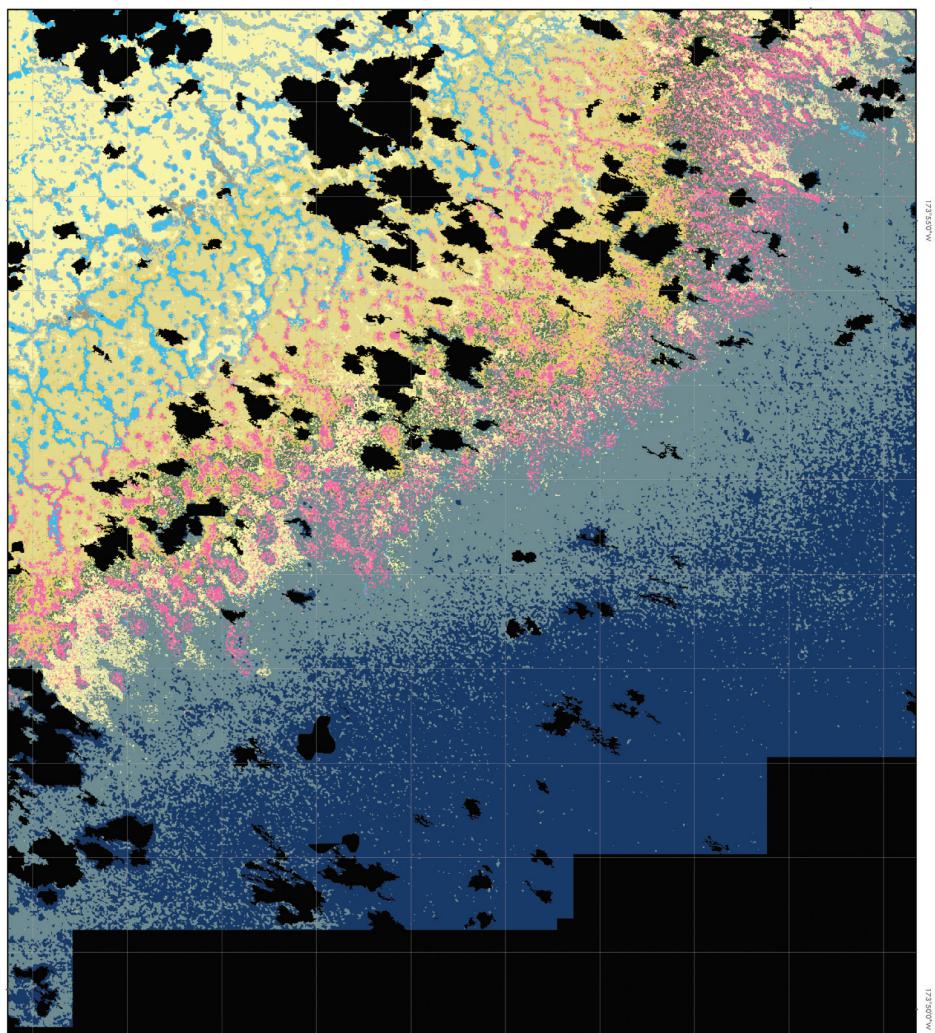
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Tile 19. A 1:40,000 scale detailed benthic habitat map of the northeast portion of l	
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			173°55'0"W
م م			
			173°50'0"W
			-

26°10'0"N

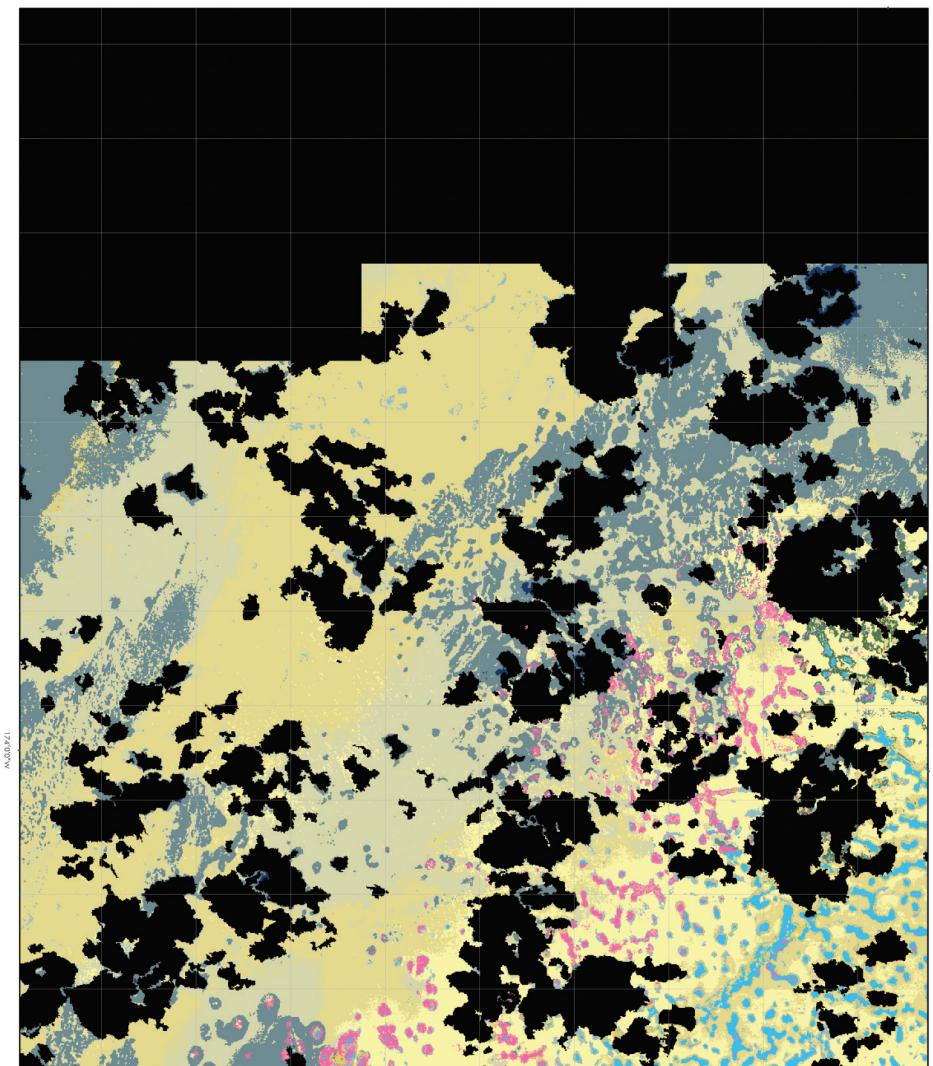
173°50'0\*W

26°10'0"N

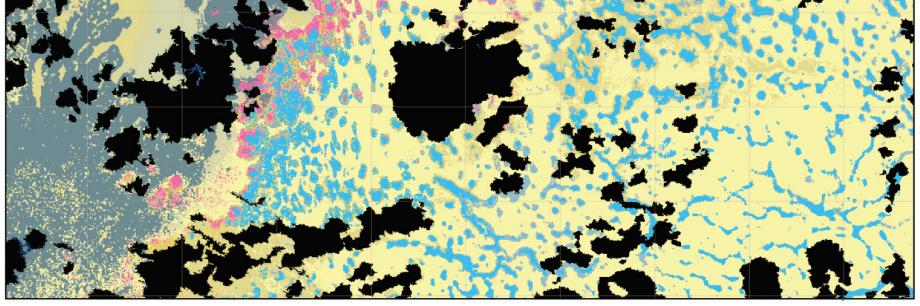


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26°5'0"N



174°0'0"W



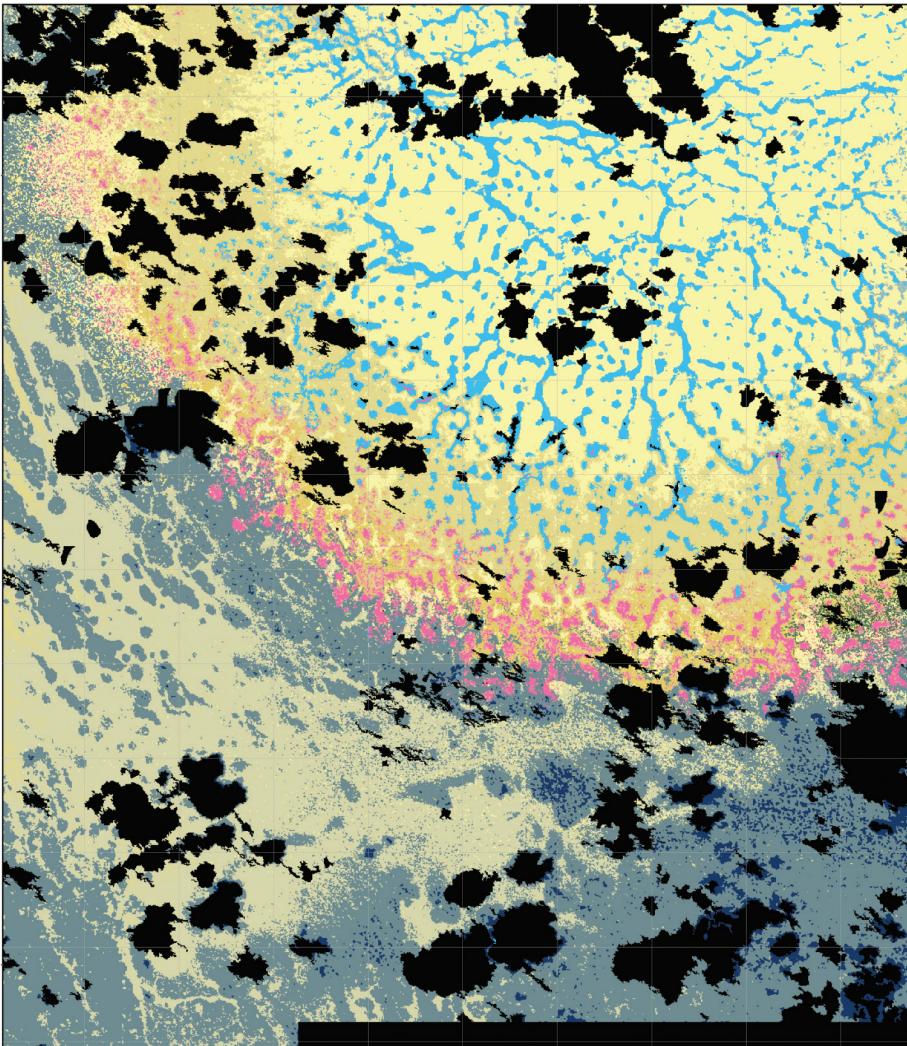
26°60'0"N

25°50'0"	N		I				25°55'0"N
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Tile 22. A 1:40,000 scale detailed benthic habitat map of the southwest corner of Lisianski Island, Northwestern Hawaiian Islands. 174°0'0"W

1

25°50'0"N



173°55'0"W

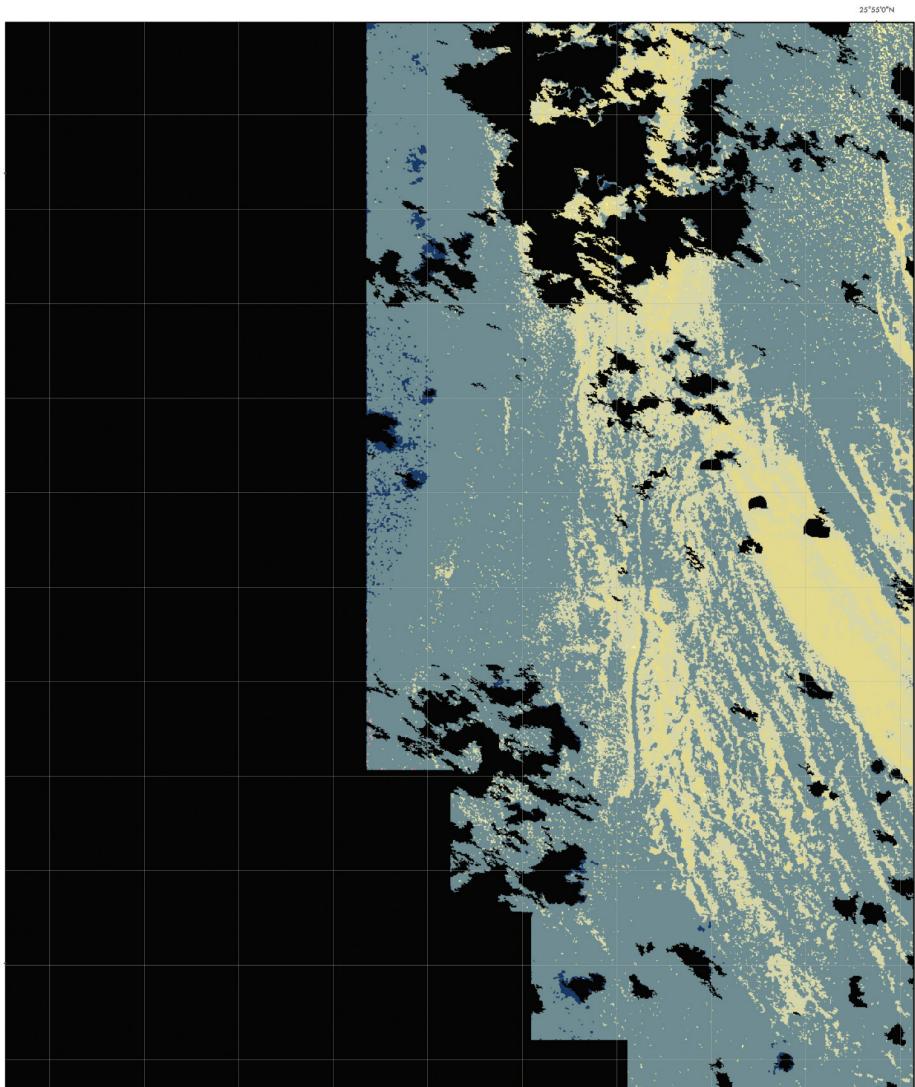
173°50'0"W

*					

26°60'0"N

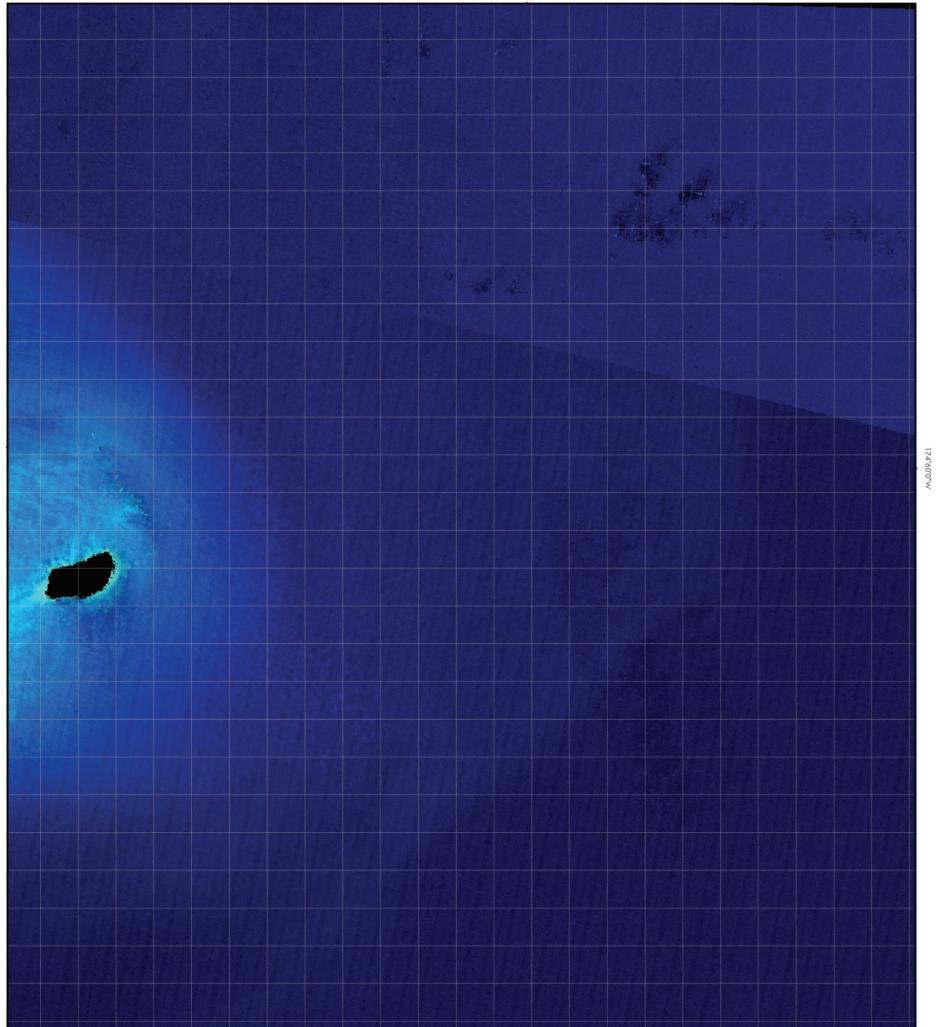


173°55'0"W



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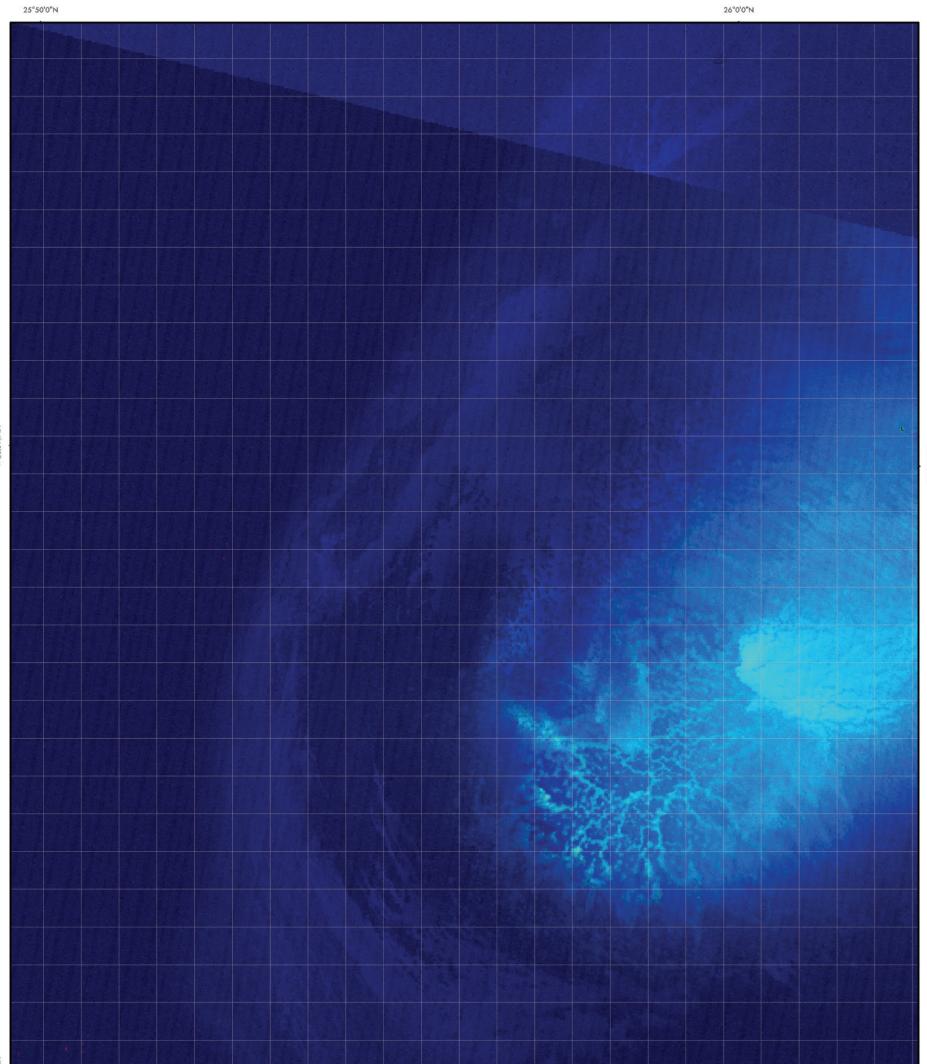
65



26°10'0"N



26°10'0"N



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26°0'0"N

## Laysan Island

Approximately 1300 km WNW from Kaua'i and 900 kilometers ESE from Midway lies Laysan Island at longitude 171 degrees 45 minutes W and latitude 25 degrees 46 minutes N. Laysan Island is about 3.7 sq. km in size, which makes it the largest island in the NWHI. Laysan Island is surrounded by a vast 4,530 sq. km shallow-water coral reef ecosystem.

Laysan Island and its surrounding shallow-water coral reefs were formed approximately 17 million years ago when the underlying shield volcano and a portion of the associated coral reef bank were lifted above sea level.

Of all the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands, Laysan and Midway are the islands that have seen the most extensive alterations to their ecosystems as a result of human habitation. The ecology of Laysan has been extensively modified by humans. Although it was first discovered in 1828, it was not until the 1890s that Laysan began to suffer. Guano mining, the introduction of rabbits, and the harvesting of bird feathers and wings devastated the island and its fauna. By 1923, Laysan was essentially a wasteland.

After 1923, conditions on Laysan slowly improved. Laysan finches and ducks survived the destruction. Native plants slowly began to return. Visitors introduced other plants. In 1961, it is believed that, while establishing an astronomical monument, the military introduced sandbur, an invasive plant from Central America, to Laysan. By the end of the 1980s, sandbur had expanded considerably, but it does not provide a suitable habitat for the thousands of burrowing seabirds that nest on Laysan. Starting in 1991, the FWS began a sandbur eradication eff<sup>ort</sup> that successfully removed the weed from the island. However, constant vigilance is required, and every visitor is subject to a quarantine procedure. Before stepping foot on Laysan, every visitor must put on brand new clothes that have been held in a freezer for at least 48 hours. Special quarantine procedures exist for every island in the NWHI.

A hypersaline lake (0.7 sq. km) lies in the middle of Laysan Island. The island is home to an estimated 2 million birds, including thousands of boobies, frigatebirds, terns, shearwaters, and Laysan Ducks.

Due to its size, two map tiles are required to depict the 1:40,000 scale detailed benthic habitats of Laysan Island. One 1:80,000 scale map is included to depict the estimated bathymetry and aggregated cover derived from IKONOS. Two 1:80,000 scale map tiles are included to depict the extensive shallow-water bank area around Laysan Island. A one-square-kilometer grid is included with all maps of Laysan Island.

> The area in square kilometers of aggregated benthic habitat cover types found at Laysan Island, Northwestern Hawaiian Islands.

Total Habitat Area Classiff <sup>ed</sup>	Unconsolidated with >10% macroalgae or seagrass	Unconsolidated with 10% or less macroalgae or seagrass	Hardbottom with indeterminate cover	Hardbottom with >10% macroalgae	Hardbottom (uncolonized)	Hardbottom with >10% crustose coralline algae	Hardbottom with >10% live coral
127.2	I	36.2	81.7	0.1	2.9	0.5	5.8

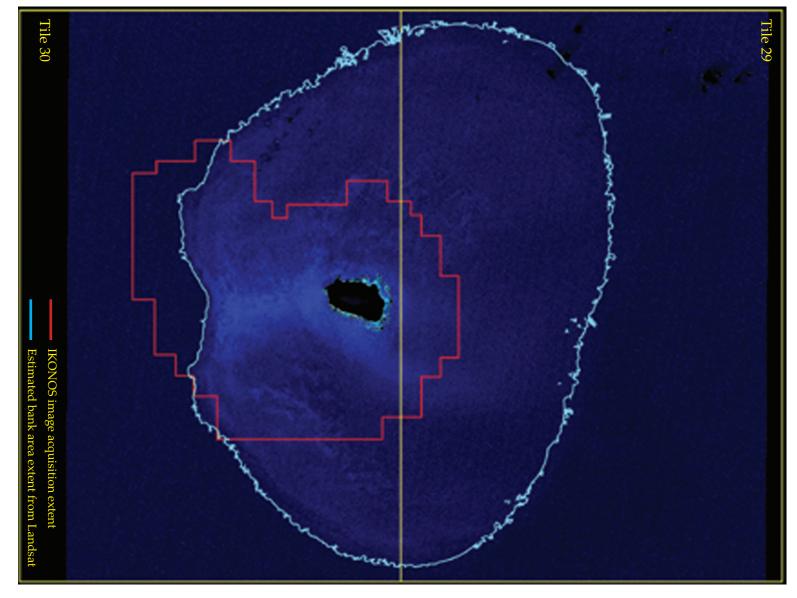
Hypersaline Lake (3000) Aggregated Patch Reef (25) Sand and Rubble (1400) Cloud, Shadow, Surf, and Deep water (3010) Volcanic Rock with live co Pavement with sand chan Pavement with sand chann Pavement, uncolonized wi Pavement, uncolonized (27 Pavement with dense (>50 Pavement with sparse (10-Pavement (2700) Scattered Coral/Rock in Sa Aggregated Patch Reef wit Patch Reef with crustose co Patch Reef, uncolonized w Spur and Groove (2300) Aggregated Coral Heads v Linear Reef, uncolonized Linear Reef, uncolonized Hardbottom with crustose Hardbottom, uncolonized Hardbottom with live cor-Groove (1500) Unconsolidated Rubble wi Sand with macroalgae (11) Sand (1100) The area in square TOTAL Area in IKONOS ir Land (3100) Dredged channel (3030) Reef crest (3020) Volcanic Rock, uncolonize Volcanic Rock with dense Volcanic Rock (2900) Pavement with sand chan Pavement with crustose co Pavement with live coral (> Pavement with live coral ( Patch Reef, uncolonized (24 Patch Reef with live coral Patch Reef (2400) Linear Reef with crustose Linear Reef (2100) Hardbottom with sparse Hardbottom (2000) Unconsolidated Rubble wi Dense (>50%) macroalgae Sand with patchy (10–50% Unconsolidated (1000, refe **Total Habitat Area Classifi** Unclassified (3300) Linear Reef with live cora Unconsolidated Rubble (13

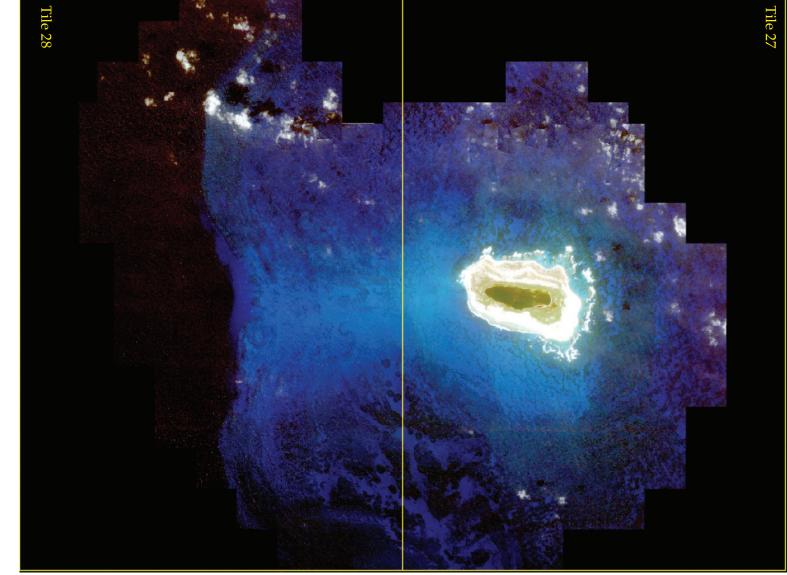
## The area in square kilometers of benthic habitats found at Laysan Island, Northwestern Hawaiian Islands.

er to classification scheme for habitat description) (20) 6 cover) macroalgae (1121) 6 on sand (1122) (300) (10–50% cover) algae (1301) (10–50% cover) algae (1302) (10–50% cover) algae (2001) al (>10% cover) (2010)	35.0  1.1 - 1.1  81.7
(10-50% cover) algae (2001) al (>10% cover) (2010) I (2020) e coralline algae (>10% cover) (2030)	81.7 0.5
l (>10% cover) (2110) (2120) with sparse (10–50% cover) algae (2121) coralline algae (>10% cover) (2130) with live coral (>10% cover) (2210)	
(>10% cover) (2410) 2420) vith sparse (10–50% cover) algae (2421) coralline algae (>10% cover) (2430) 500) ith live coral (>10% cover) (2510) and with live coral (>10% cover) (2610)	0.4
-50% cover) algae (2701) )% cover) algae (2702) (>10% cover) (2710) (>10% cover) and dense (>50% cover) algae (2712) (>720)	- 0.1 5.4 - 2.9
rith dense (>50% cover) algae (2722) oralline algae (>10% cover) (2730) mels (2800) nnels and live coral (>10% cover) (2810) mels, uncolonized (2820)	1111
(>50% cover) algae (2902) oral (>10% cover) (2910) ed (2920)	а 0.7 г. г. г 3.5 г. г. 0.7 7 г. г. г. г.
No image data (3210, 3220, 3230, and 4000) ¥d image	7.6 0.2 127.2 172.2

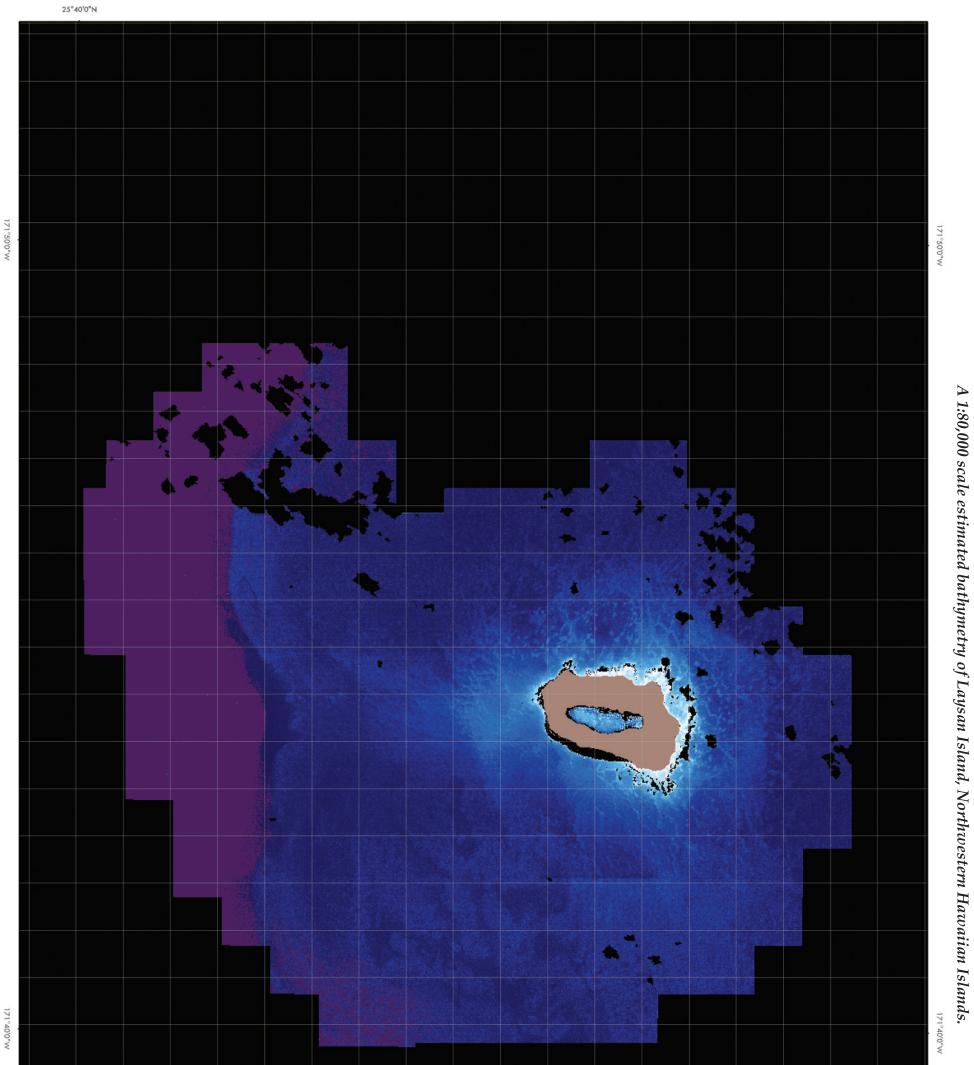
Index maps indicating the locations of map tiles for the 1:40,000 scale detailed habitat maps and the 1:80,000 scale bank of Laysan Island, Northwestern Hawaiian Islands.

Index of 1:40,000 tiles





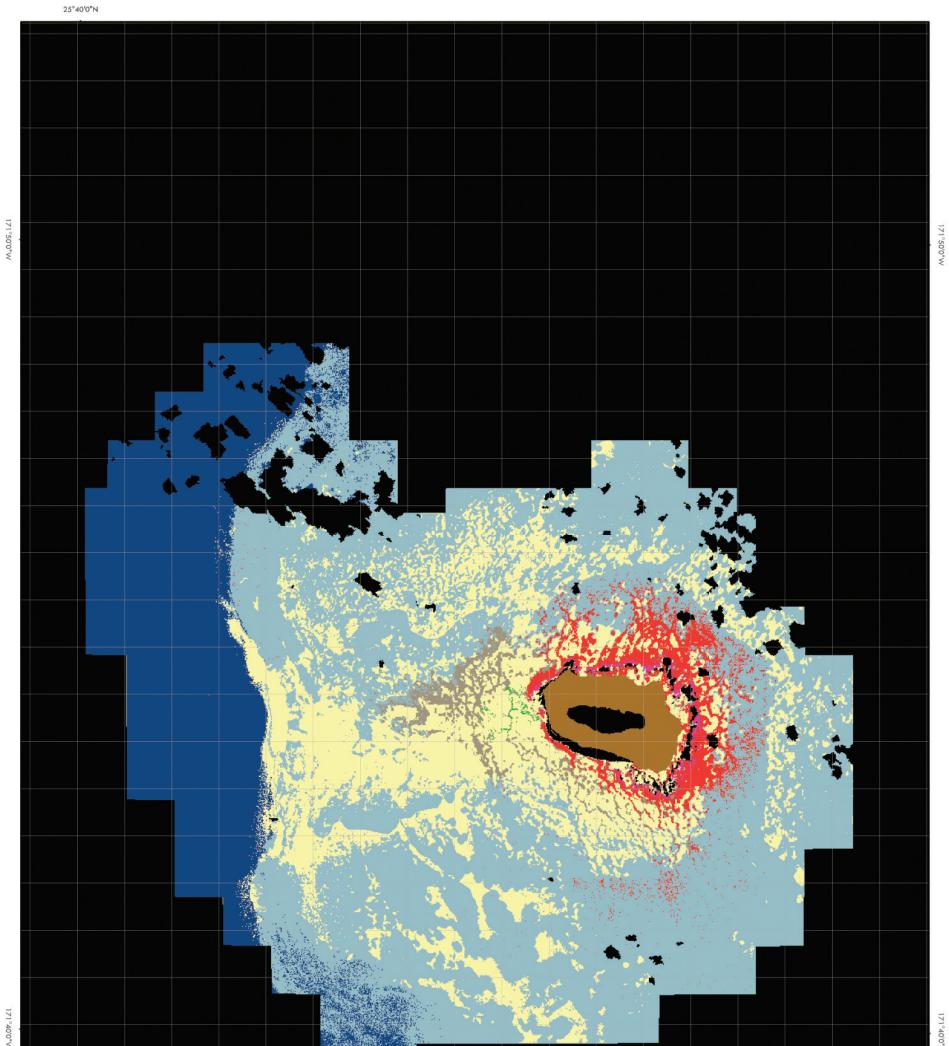






25°40'0"N

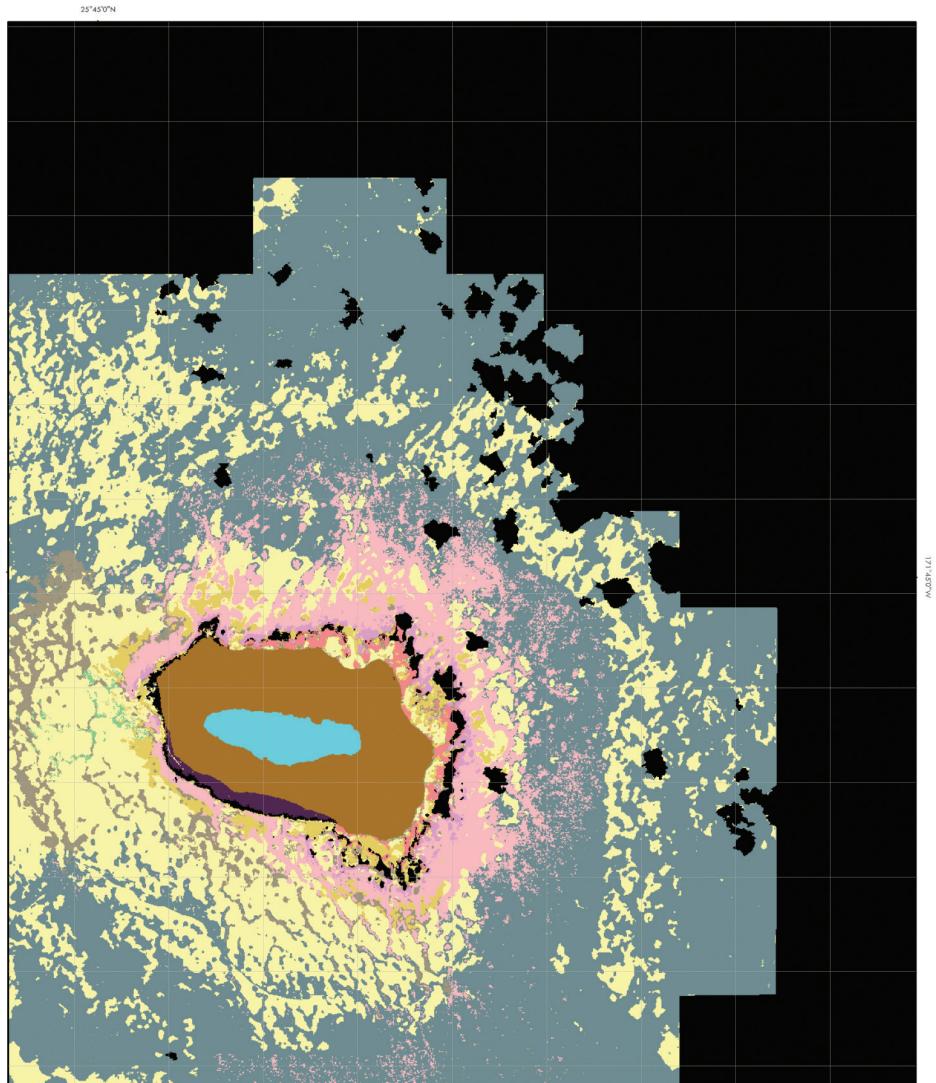




171°40'0"W

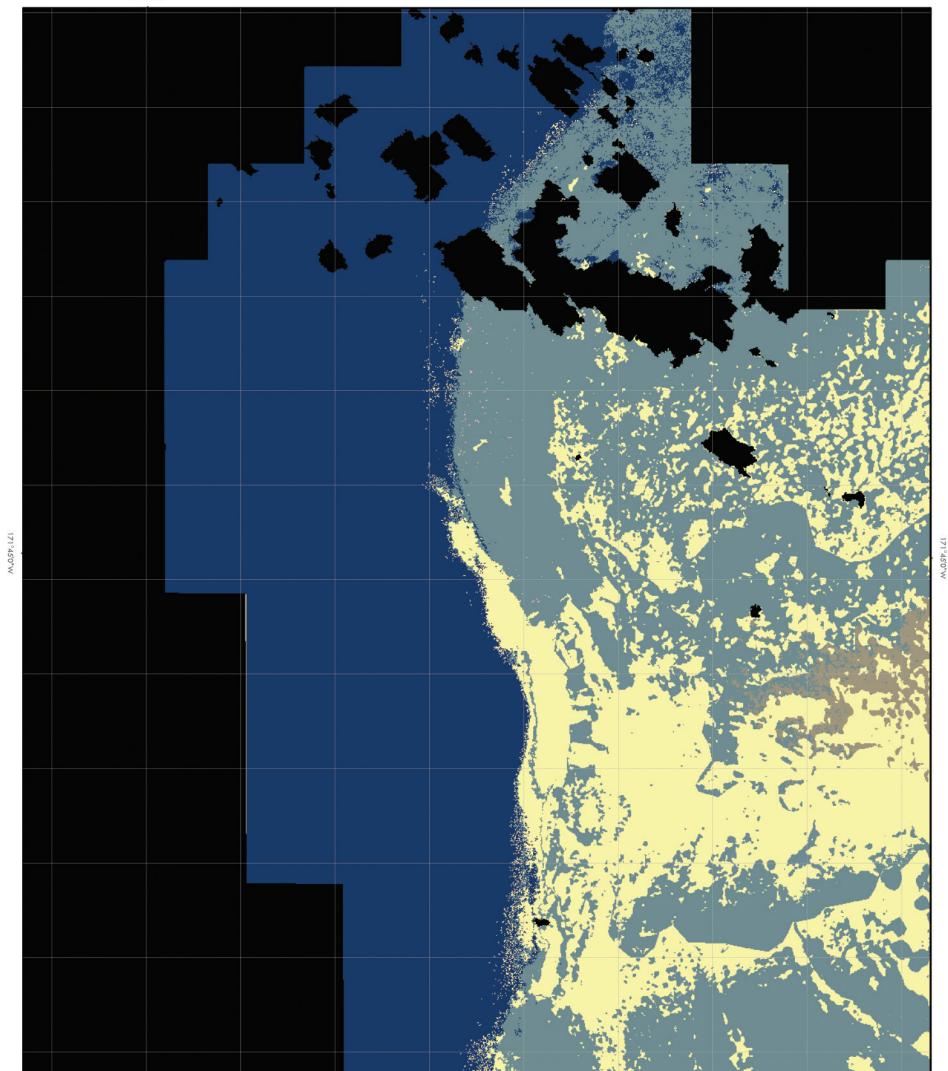


25°40'0"N



171°45'0"W

171°40'0"W 72 25°45'0"N

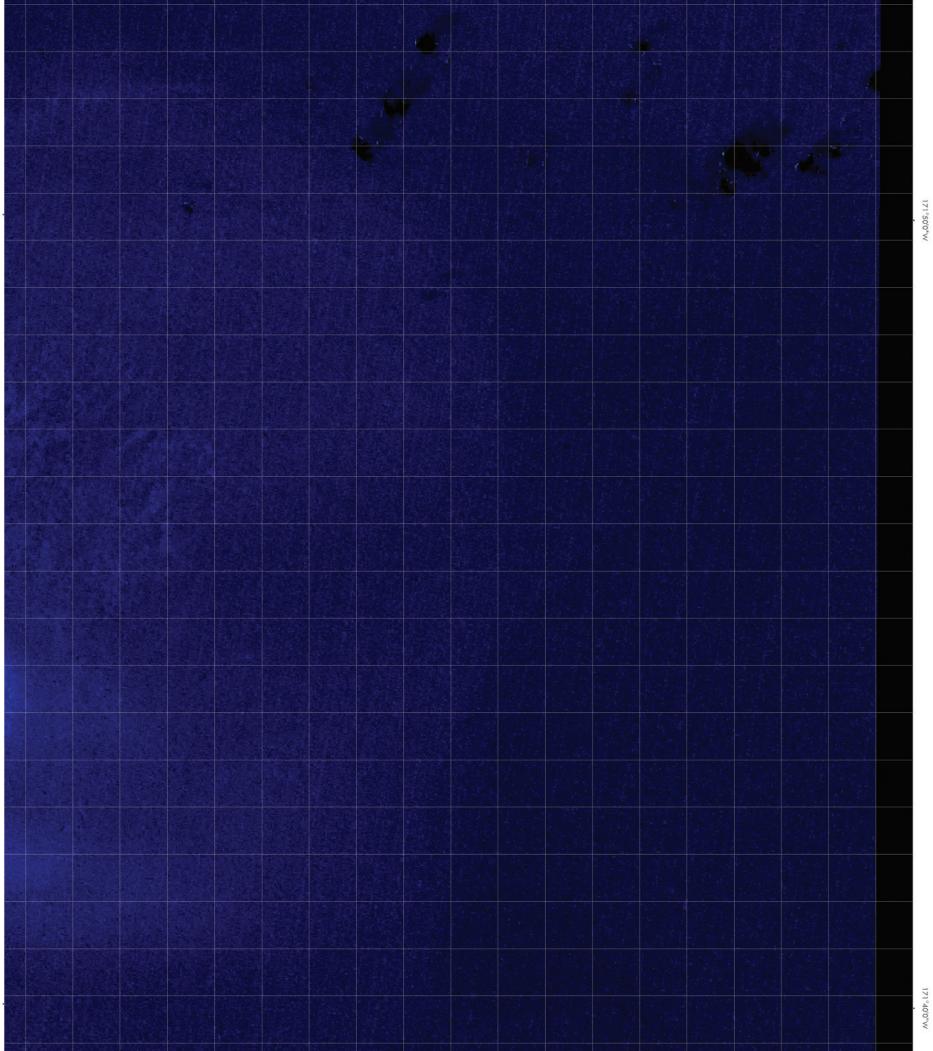


25°40'0"N

171°40'0"W 73

25°40'0"N





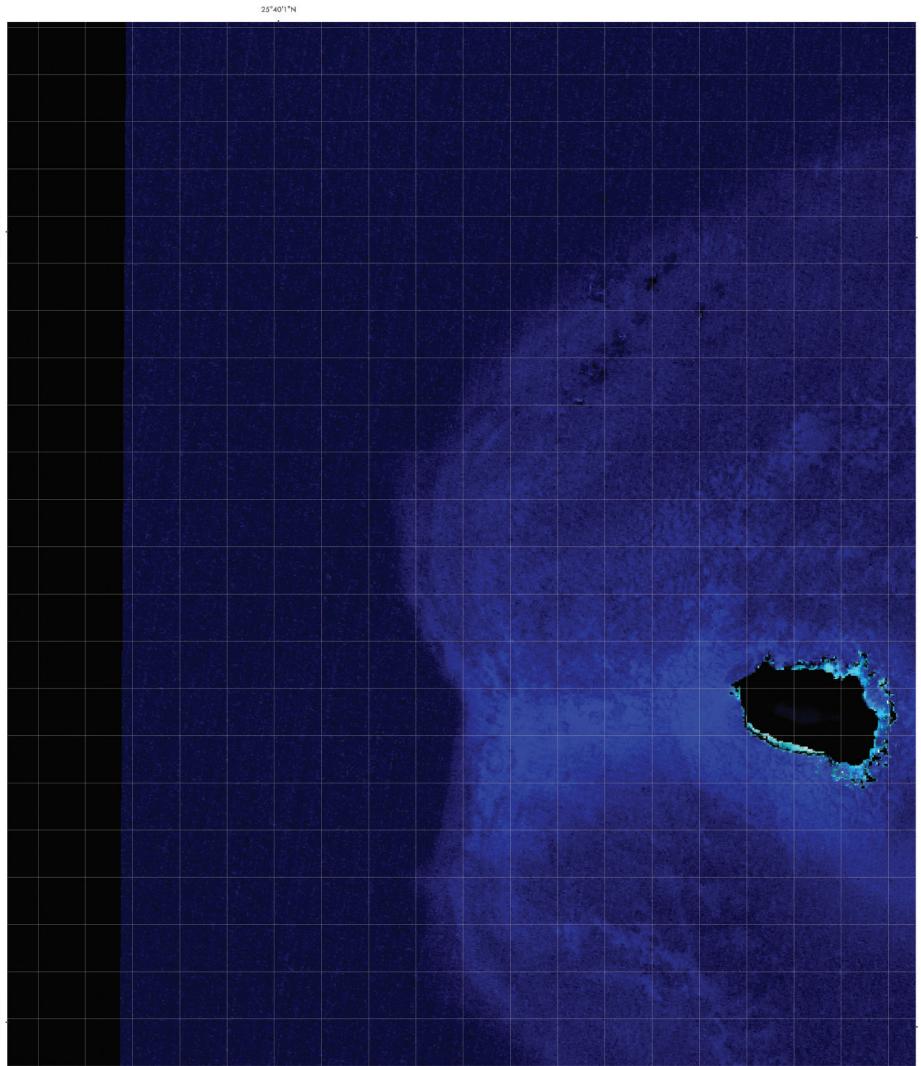
171°40'0"W



25°50'1"N

25°50'1"N





171°50'0"W





25°40'1"N