

## “The Banks” Reserve Preservation Area

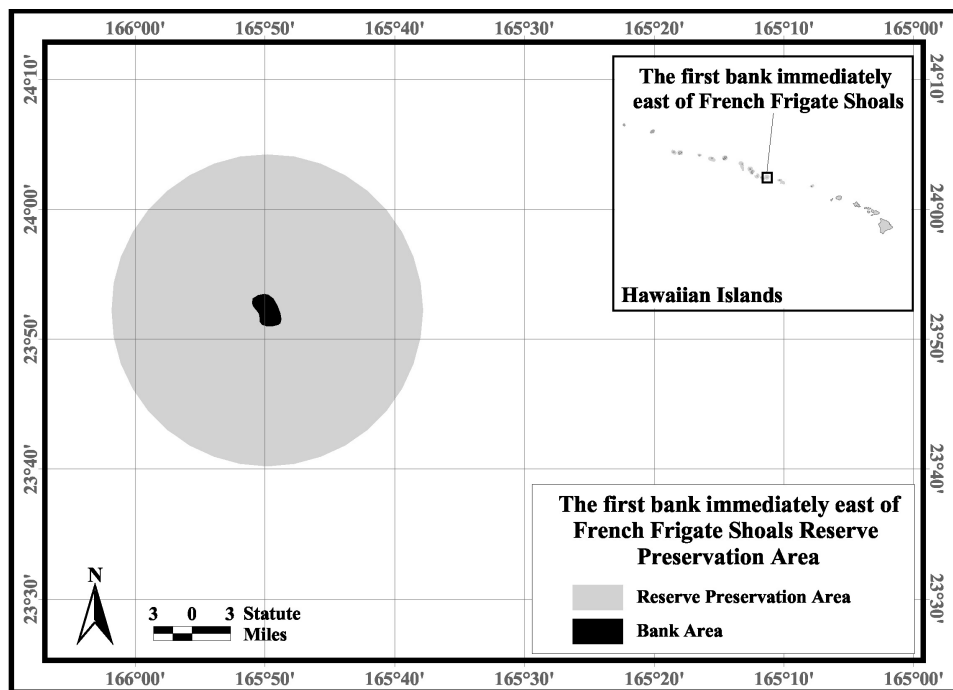
### ENVIRONMENT

The NWHI area contains several seamounts that are commonly referred to as “the Banks.” For present purposes, the Banks consist of Raita Bank; St. Rogatien Bank; the first bank west of St. Rogatien Bank and east of Gardner Pinnacles (Bank Number 7, which remains unnamed); Pioneer Bank; Southeast Brooks Bank, which is the first bank immediately west of French Frigate Shoals; and the first bank immediately east of French Frigate Shoals.

On Raita Bank the approximate minimum depth is 9 fathoms (18 meters). It is oval shaped and extends approximately 20 km NE-SW and 10 km NW-SE. The bank west of St. Rogatien lies at about 30 fathoms (60 meters) and is approximately 5 km in diameter. Pioneer Bank is another oval seamount that sits at about 17 fathoms (34 meters) and extends 20 km E-W and 11 km N-S. At St. Rogatien Bank, the top of the seamount is covered by about 12 fathoms (24 meters) of water. It too is a large oval seamount and extends approximately 7 km E-W and 10 km N-S.

In general, all of the banks have very rough bottoms with numerous outcroppings, protuberances, and rock areas. Endangered Hawaiian monk seals have been observed to forage in the areas around the banks, probably travelling from breeding populations at French Frigate Shoals.

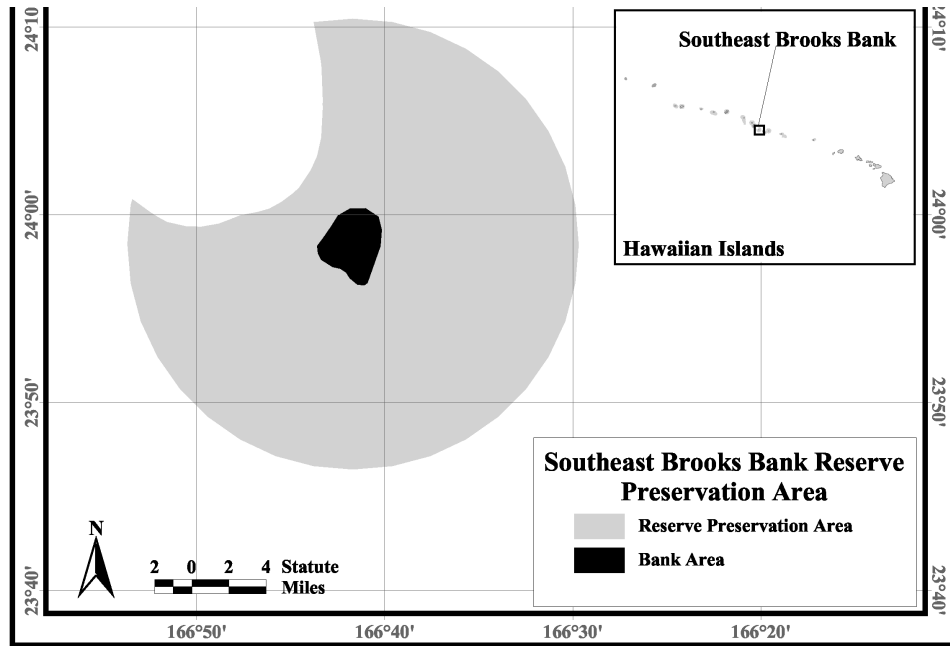
### MAPS



This reserve preservation area is approximated using fathoms (fm) but shall be represented in future maps by the Secretary using straight-line boundaries in longitude and latitude coordinates to clearly encompass the reserve preservation area and to provide clarity and ease of identification.

### RESERVE PRESERVATION AREA

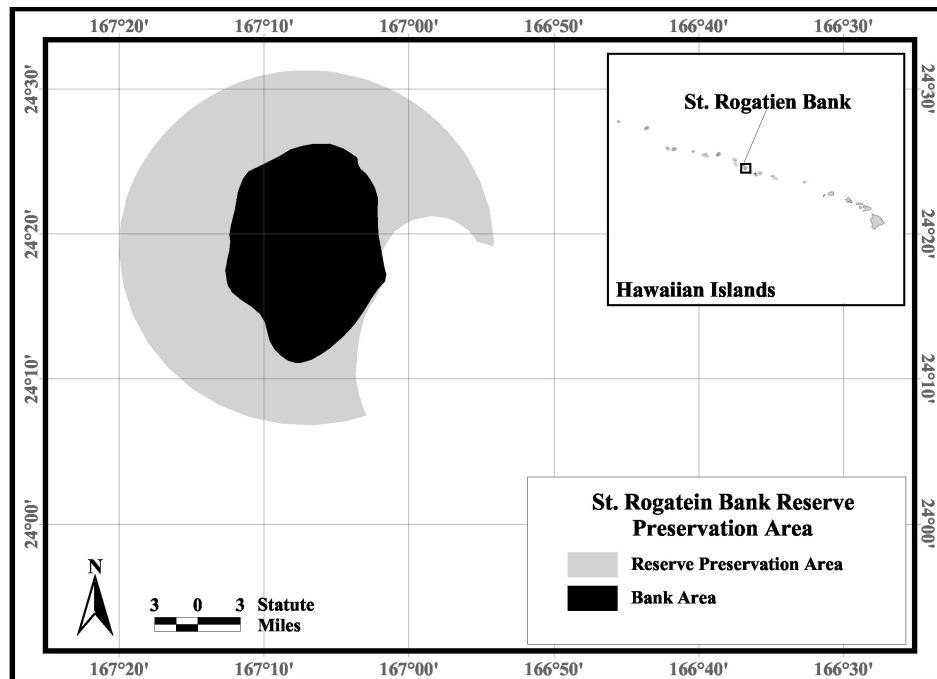
The Reserve Preservation Area for the first bank immediately east of French Frigate Shoals will extend 12 nautical miles around its approximate center.



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### RESERVE PRESERVATION AREA

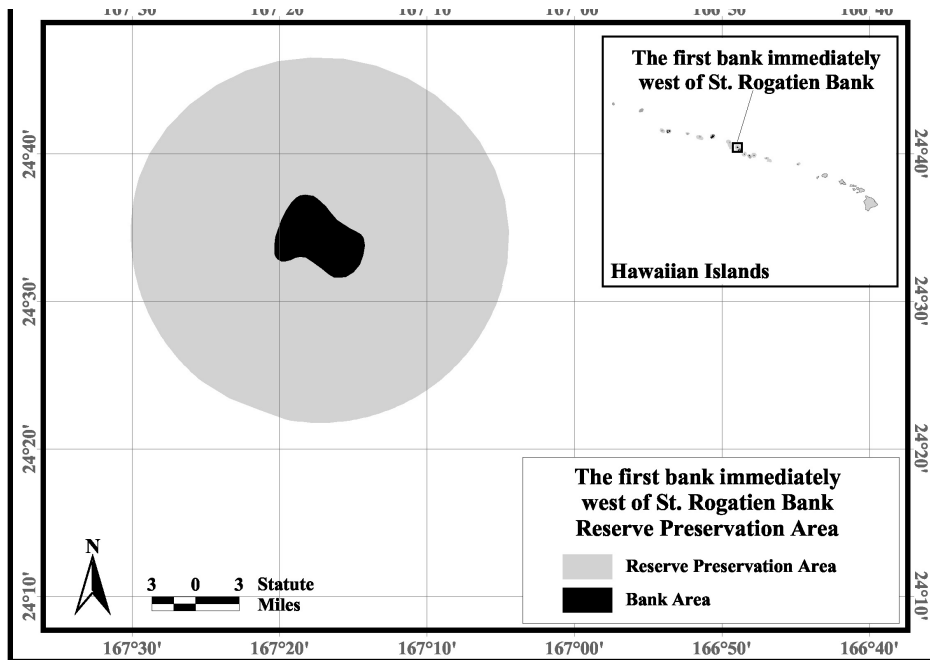
The reserve preservation area for Southeast Brooks Bank will extend 12 nautical miles around its approximate center, provided that the closure area shall not be closer than approximately 3 nautical miles of the next bank immediately west.



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### RESERVE PRESERVATION AREA

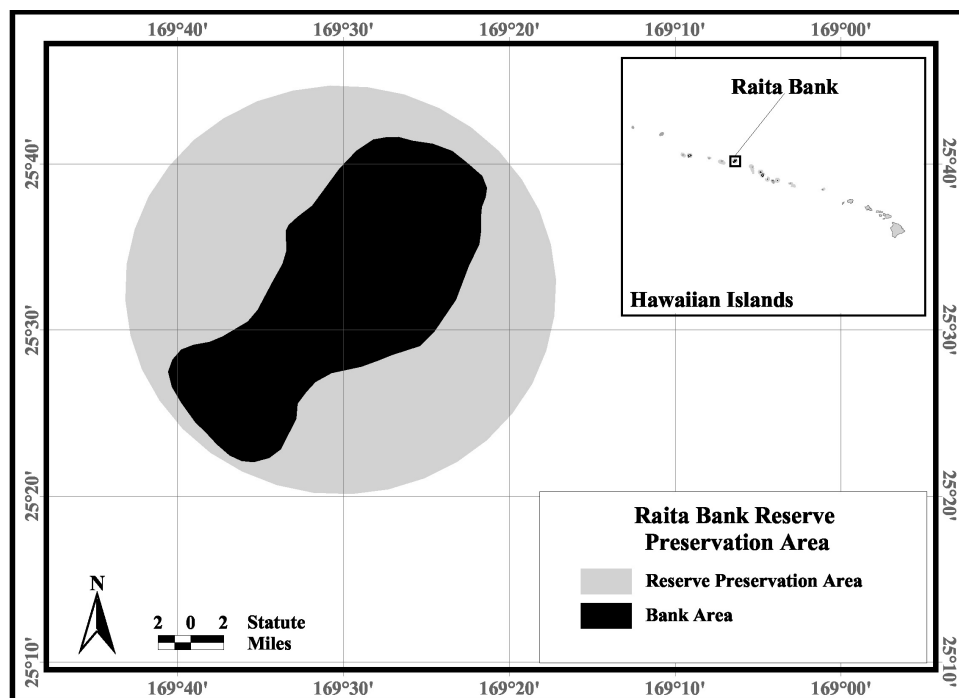
The Reserve Preservation Area for St. Rogatein Bank will extend 12 nautical miles around its approximate center, *provided that* the closure area shall not be closer than approximately 3 nautical miles of the next bank immediately east and *provided further that* bottomfishing, in accordance with other conservation measures described in the Executive Order, shall be allowed to continue, unless and until the Secretary determines otherwise after adequate public review and comment.



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## RESERVE PRESERVATION AREA

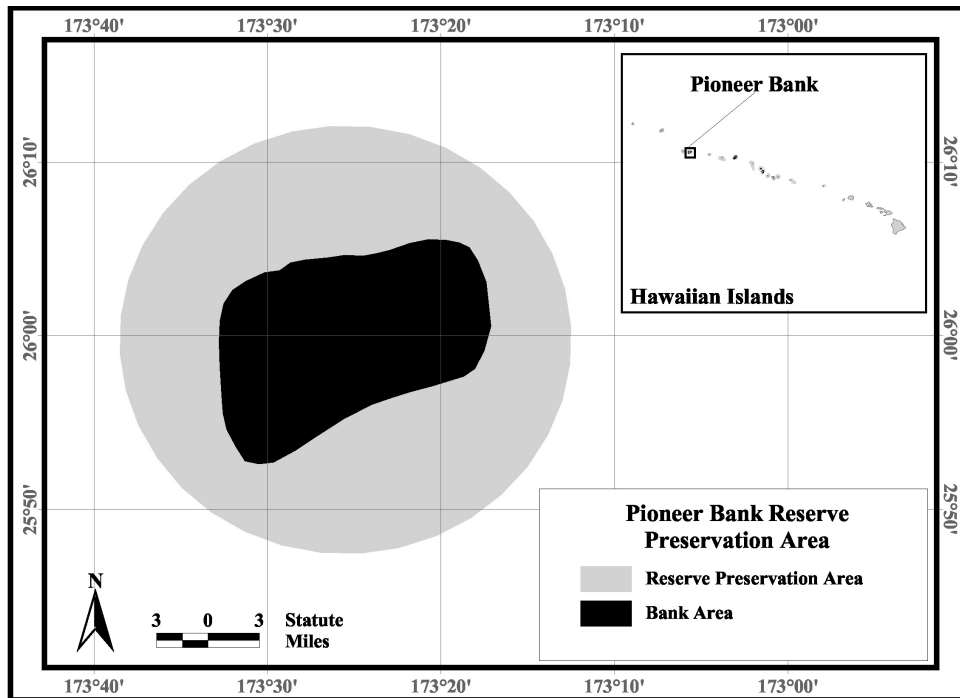
The Reserve Preservation Area for the first bank immediately west of St. Rogatien Bank will extend 12 nautical miles around its approximate center.



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## RESERVE PRESERVATION AREA

The Reserve Preservation Area for Raita Bank will extend 12 nautical miles around its approximate center.



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## RESERVE PRESERVATION AREA

The Reserve Preservation Area for Pioneer Bank will extend 12 nautical miles around its approximate center, *provided that* bottomfishing in accordance with other conservation measures described in the Executive Order shall be allowed to continue, unless and until the Secretary determines otherwise after adequate public review and comment.