

Norway pauses deep-sea mining plans

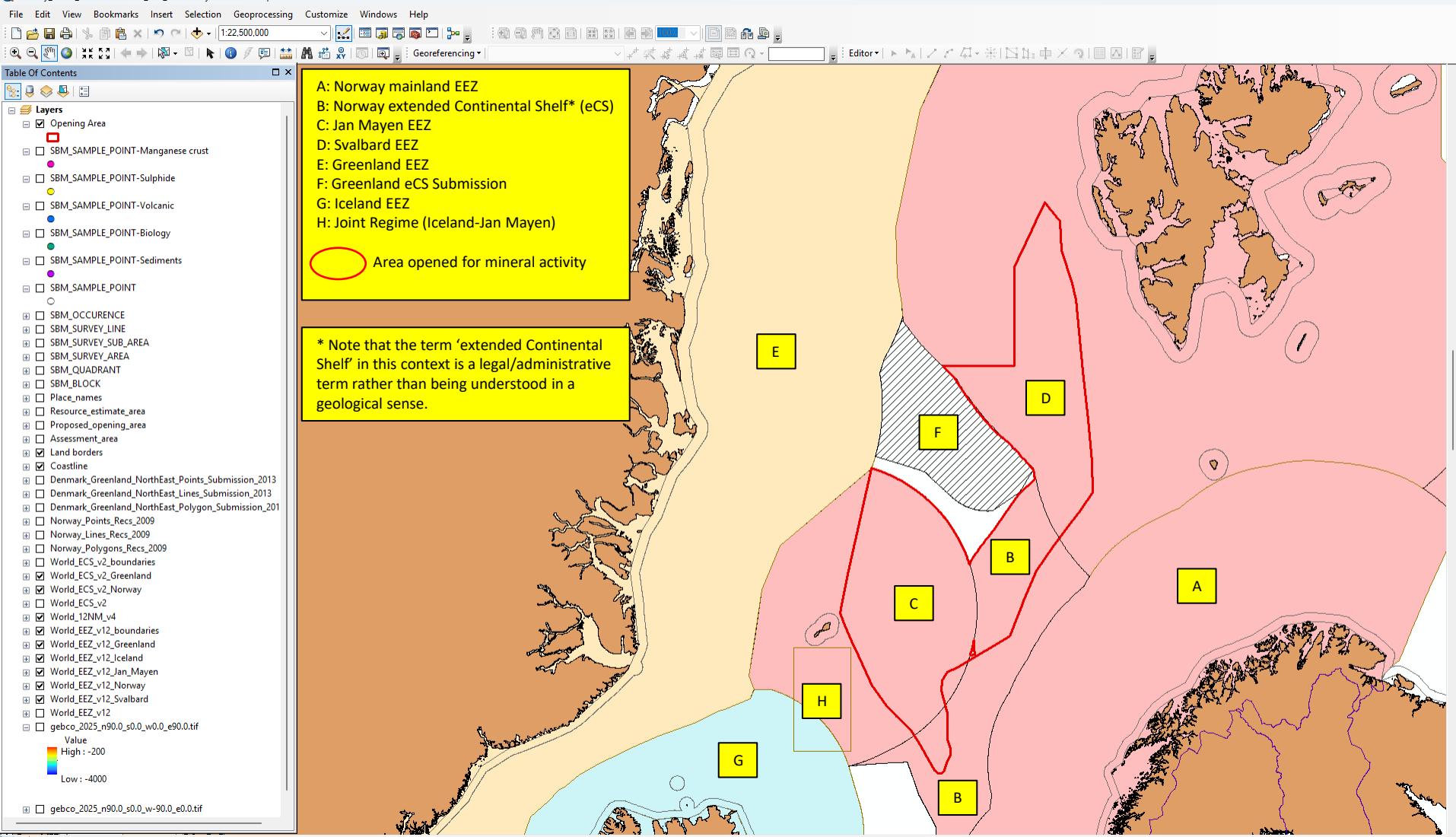
Peter Croker, The M Horizon (UK) Limited, January 2026

Sources and references

Deep-sea mineral sample and survey GIS data courtesy of Norwegian Offshore Directorate (NOD)

NOD Resource Assessment Summary (2023) <https://www.sodir.no/490543/globalassets/1-sodir/fakta/havbunnsmineraler/publikasjoner/2023/resource-assessment-summary.pdf>

Stubseid et al. (2025) Construction of Ultraslow-Spreading Oceanic Crust: New Insights on Volcanic Processes and Deposits From High-Resolution Mapping at the Mohns Ridge. *Geochemistry, Geophysics, Geosystems*, 26





Molloy Deep

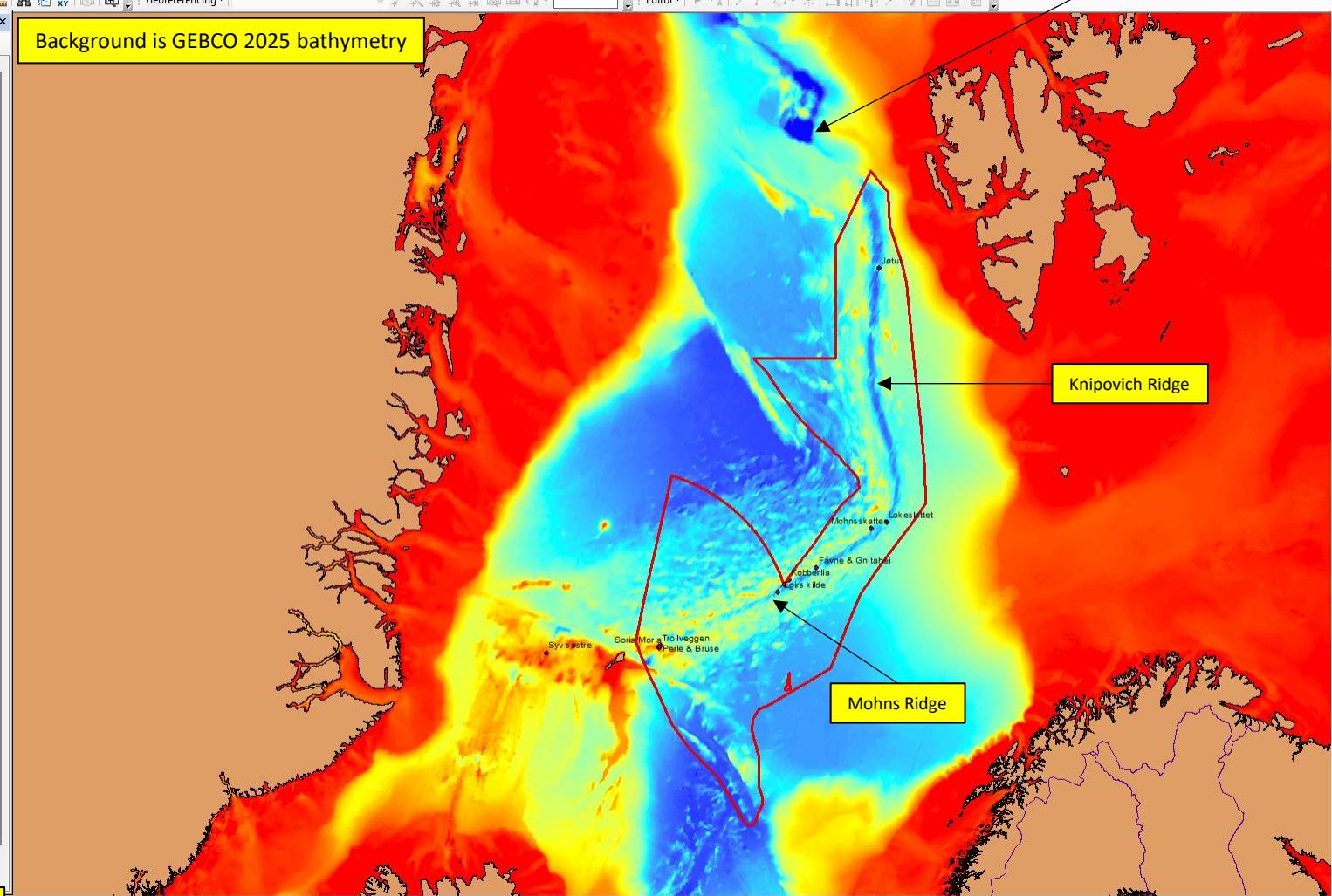
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Value
■ High : -200
■ Low : -4000

gebco_2025_n90.0_s0.0_w-90.0_e0.0.tif

Background is GEBCO 2025 bathymetry



Major seabed features and place-names

Note that both labelled mid-oceanic ridges (Knipovich and Mohns) display the typical axial valley morphology.



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Layers

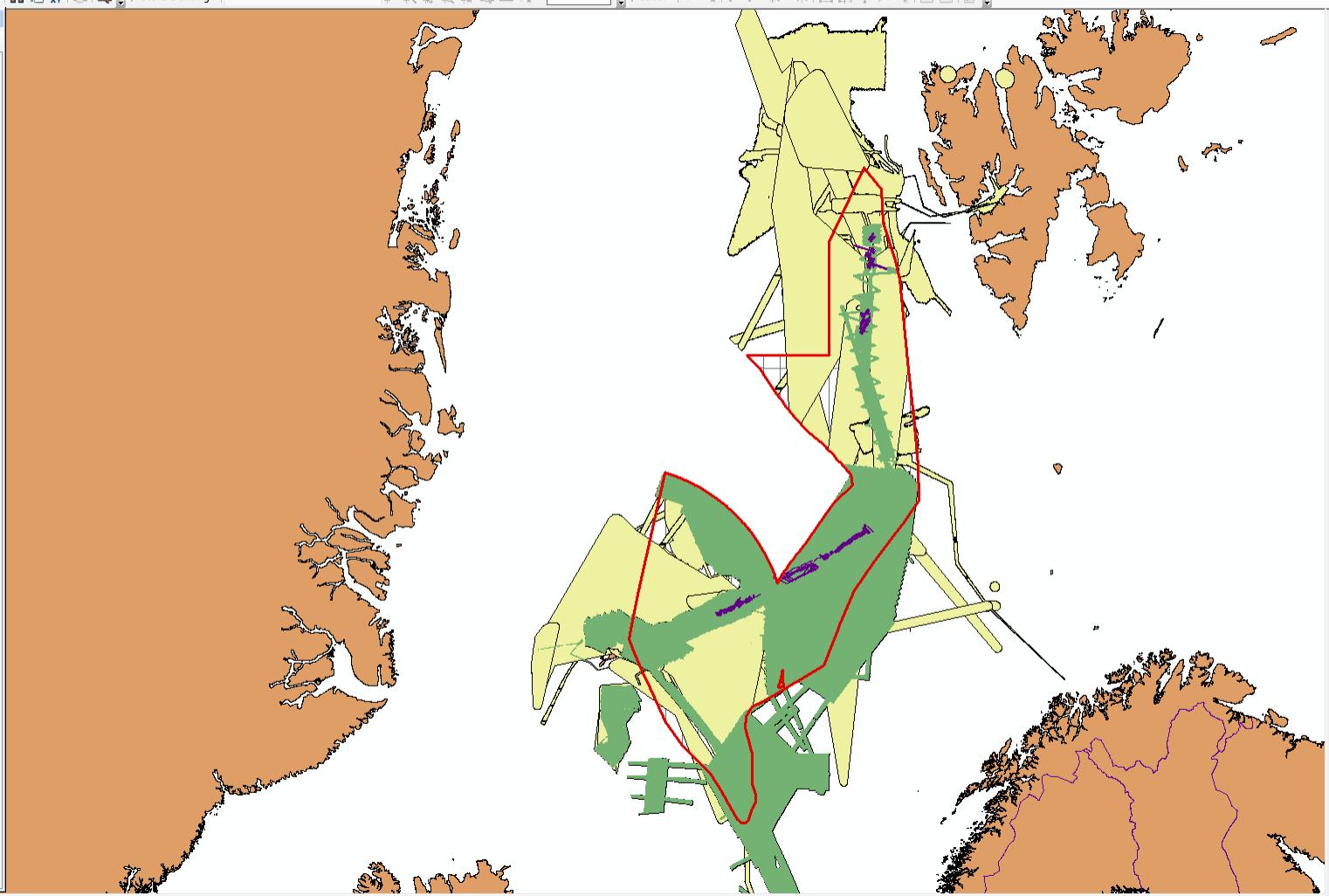
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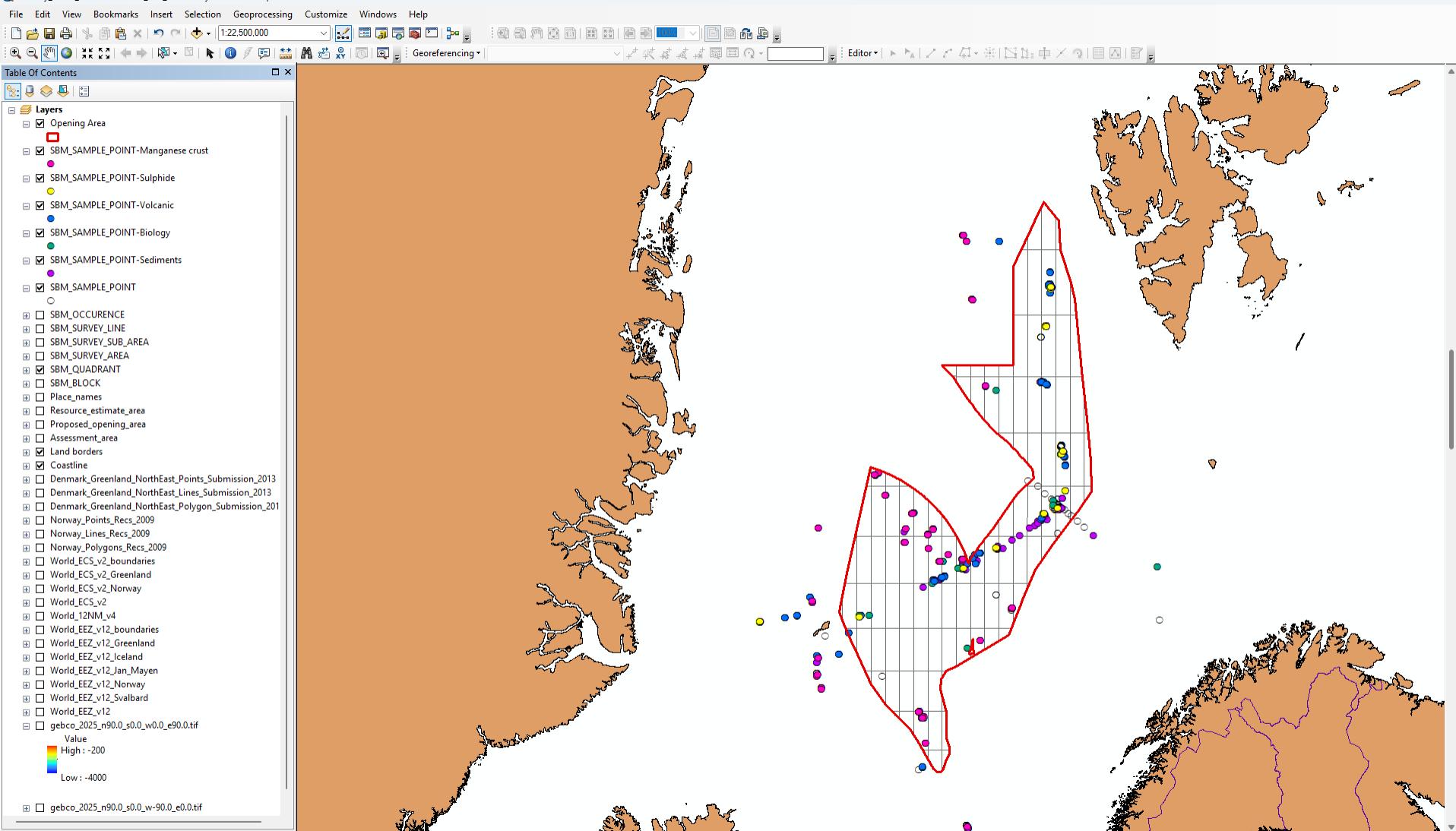
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Yellow colour indicates all surveyed areas.
 Green colour indicates MBES data.
 Purple colour indicates AUV/ROV track lines.



Survey data available



Yellow dots are sulphides and magenta dots are manganese crusts.

Sample data available

In December 2025, following a change of government in Oslo, it was agreed that Norway's plans for deep-sea mining would be deferred or put on hold until at least 2029.