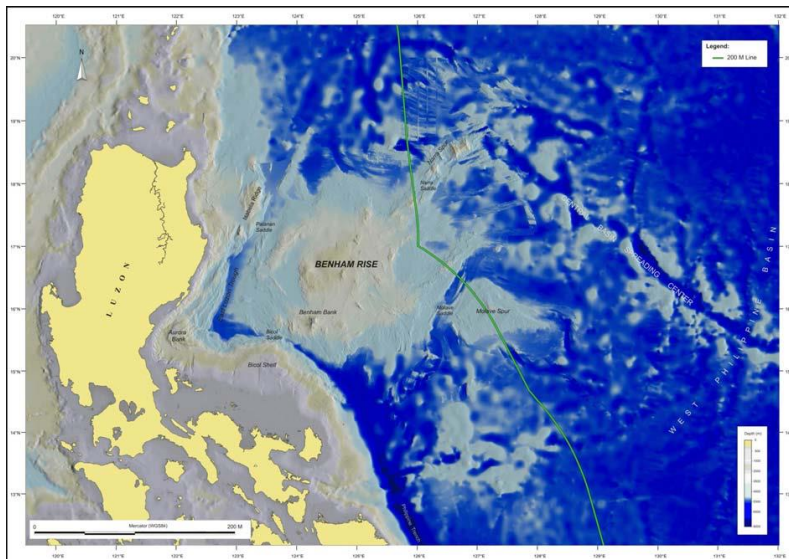


Philippines recommendations (ECS ID-2200)

The region is located east of Luzon, the main Island of the Philippines in the western Philippines Sea. East of Luzon lies the Benham Rise which is connected to the continental shelf by the Palanan and Bicol Saddles. Extending from the Benham rise northeast and southeast respectively are the Narra and Nonoy Spurs, connected by the Narra and Nonoy Saddles.

The Benham Rise, Molave Spur and Narra Spur constitute a volcanic plateau which stands about 3,500 m above the surrounding seafloor at its crest and about 500 m above the surrounding seafloor along its northern and eastern margins. The Benham Rise was formed about 37 Ma by intraplate igneous activity resulting in significantly thicker crust than that of the deep ocean floor of the West Philippine Basin. The Benham Rise was accreted to Luzon about 20 Ma along a fossil subduction zone at the East Luzon margin.

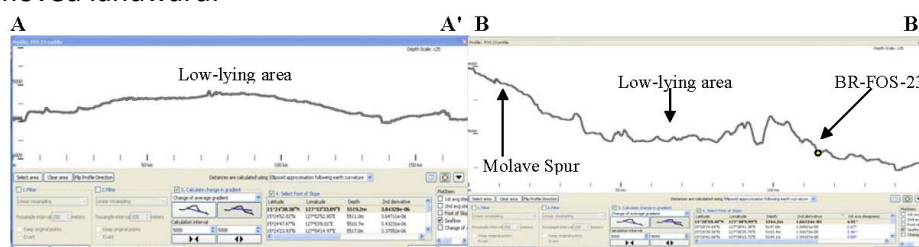


Benhan Rise region

The sub-commission agreed that the Benham Rise including the spurs constitute the submarine prolongation of the Philippine islands including Luzon island. The sub-commission agreed with all FOS points except one, which was moved landward by the state following the suggestion of the sub-commission.

Issues

The profile along the Molave spur crossed a low-lying saddle which was considered to be part of the deep ocean floor by the sub-commission. The FOS in this area was consequently moved landward.



Profile along low-lying area, left. Profile from Molave Spur along crest of low-lying area and through BR-FOS-23, right (from the Philippine recommendations).