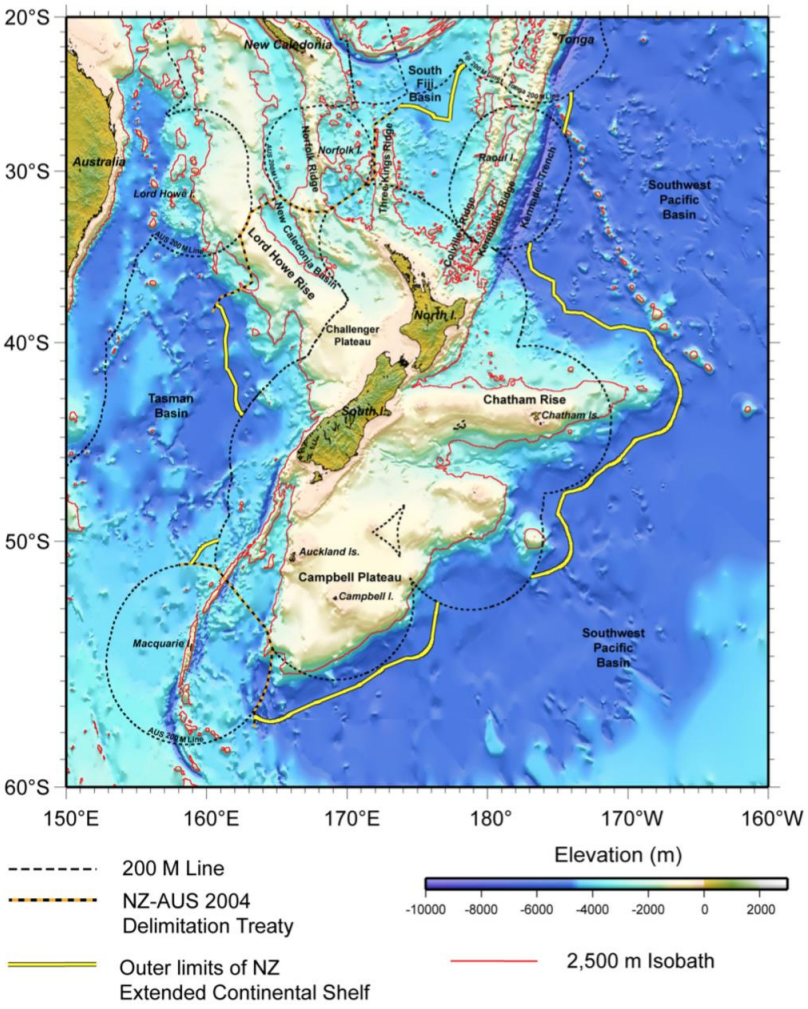
New Zealand Recommendations (ECS ID-500)

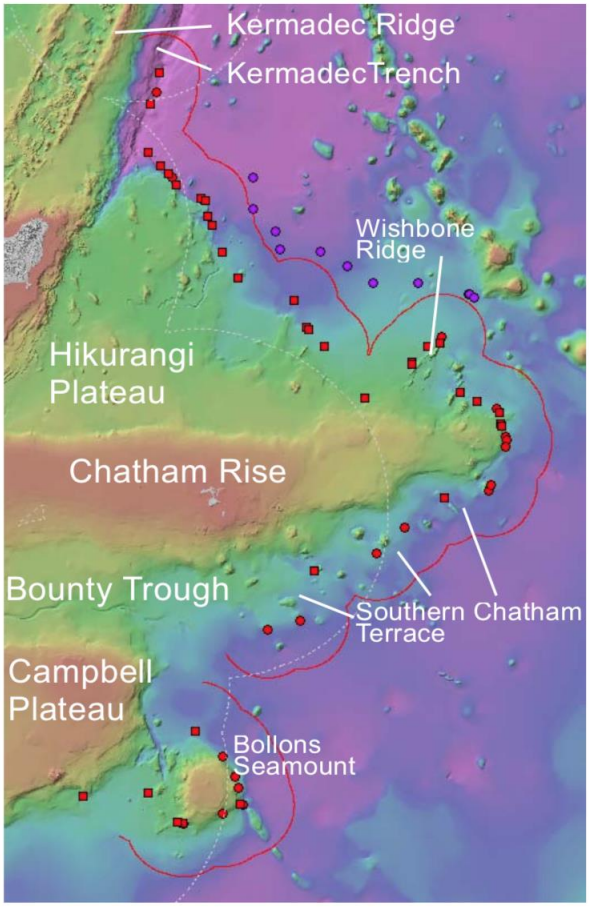
The Geographic region considered in this submission is comprised of four regions (Northern, Eastern, Southern, Western). New Zealand is located in a complex area where the Pacific Plate is subducting beneath the Australian Plate. This produces a variety of trenches, submarine ridges, plateaus, and seamounts among other features. Due to its complex nature and the early entry of its submission New Zealand and its sub-commission set important precedence's on how features were to be dealt with in relation to the outer limits of the continental shelf.



Overview of the area of extended continental shelf submitted by New Zealand (from NZ Executive Summary).

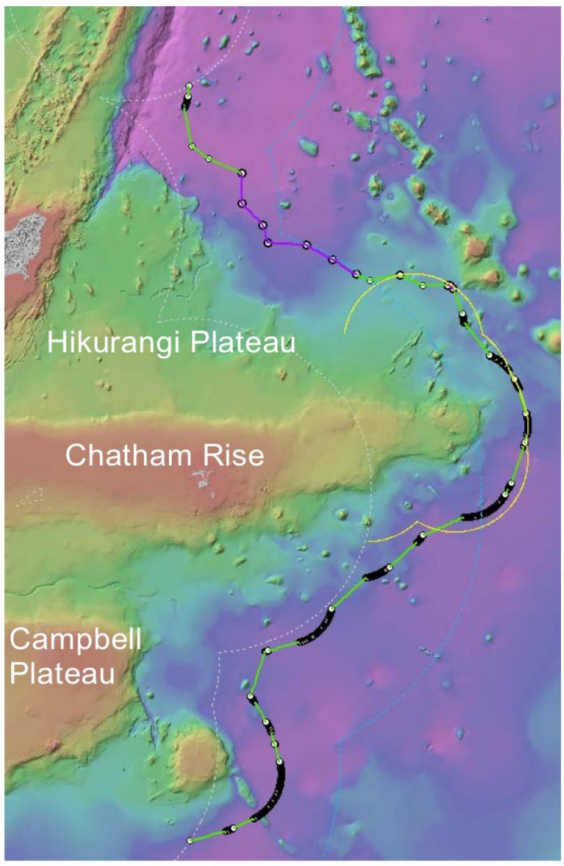
2. Eastern Region

The Eastern Region includes the Hikurangi Plateau, the Chatham Rise including Chatham Island, and the Northern most portion of the Campbell Plateau. The Chatham Rise and Campbell Plateau extend from the South Island while the Hikurangi Plateau, which is shallower extends from the Eastern side of the North Island. Between the Chatham Rise and Campbell Plateau lies the Bounty Trough. A prominent seamount (Bollons Seamount) is separated by a saddle from the Campbell Plateau. The Northeast-Southwest trending Louisville Ridge spans the Northern part of the Eastern Region and the Southern part of the Northern Region. This ridge is morphologically separated from the main islands of New Zealand.



Overview of the FOS points and the associated formula points that are the basis for demonstrating the submerged prolongation of the landmass of New Zealand and establishing the outer edge of its continental margin in the Eastern Region. White line (stippled) is the 200 M line from the territorial sea baseline of New Zealand, Red circles and squares are critical and relevant FOS points, red line is arc of Hedberg points, purple circles are Gardiner points (from the NZ Recommendations).

The sub-commission agreed with FOS points in all locations besides the eastern end of the Chatham Rise and the southeast Chatham Terrace. The eastern end of the Chatham rise is dominated by the Weta Seamount where FOS CH-262 was not accepted as it was placed at the foot of a feature not associated with the continental slope. The sub-commission disagreed with FOS CH-80, 160, 247, 251, 262, and CH_G-3 in the area of the southeast Cheatham Terrace. The outer limit was determined based on the remaining FOS points in the area.



Final outer limit of the continental shelf in the Eastern Region as submitted by New Zealand as at 27 March 2008. The outer limit fixed points are shown as white circles with black rims, the continental shelf outer limit line where based on Hedberg points is shown in green, the continental shelf outer limit line where based on Gardiner points is shown in purple, the 350 M constraint line in blue (stippled), the 2500 m isobath + 100 M constraint in yellow, and the 200 M lines of New Zealand in white (from the NZ Recommendations).

The outer edge of the continental margin was determined using both the FOS+60M and sediment thickness formulas. Sediment thickness points were only used along the Hikurangi Plateau north of the Chatham Rise. Both constraint formulas were used in the delineation of the outer constraint limit. In no location was either constraint formula used in the extended continental shelf outer limit.