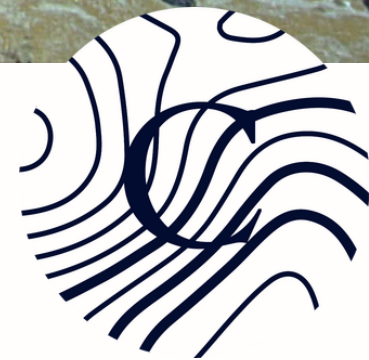


Image courtesy of the NOAA Office of Ocean Exploration and Research, 2019 Southeastern U.S. Deep-sea Exploration.

Deep-sea mining causes practically permanent damage to the seabed



- Species and ecosystems of the deep are highly localised and depend on substrates that take millions of years to form.
- Mining removes and destroys these substrates, and causes damage that is practically permanent, devastating biodiversity, ecosystem functioning, and climate regulation processes.
- Experiment sites from 25–30 years ago show poor recovery, even decades later.

Lessons from  **Deep Sea Academy**





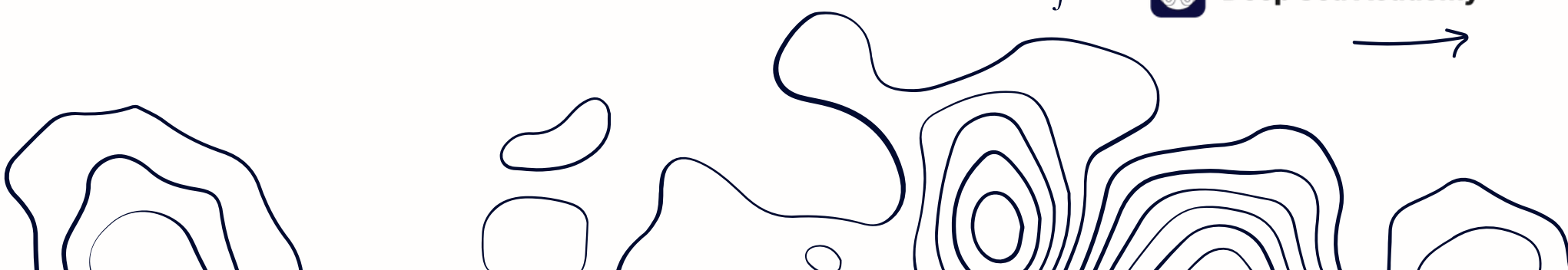
Image courtesy of the NOAA Office of Ocean Exploration and Research.

Deep-sea mining threatens more than just biodiversity and the climate



- For many Indigenous communities, the deep ocean is home to ancestors, spirits, and living cultural identity.
- Until recently, the ISA had no provisions for recognising Indigenous peoples' connection to the ocean and language around intangible cultural heritage wasn't understood.
- There has been hard-won progress: the ISA is now beginning to incorporate intangible cultural heritage into its regulations.

Lessons from  **Deep Sea Academy**



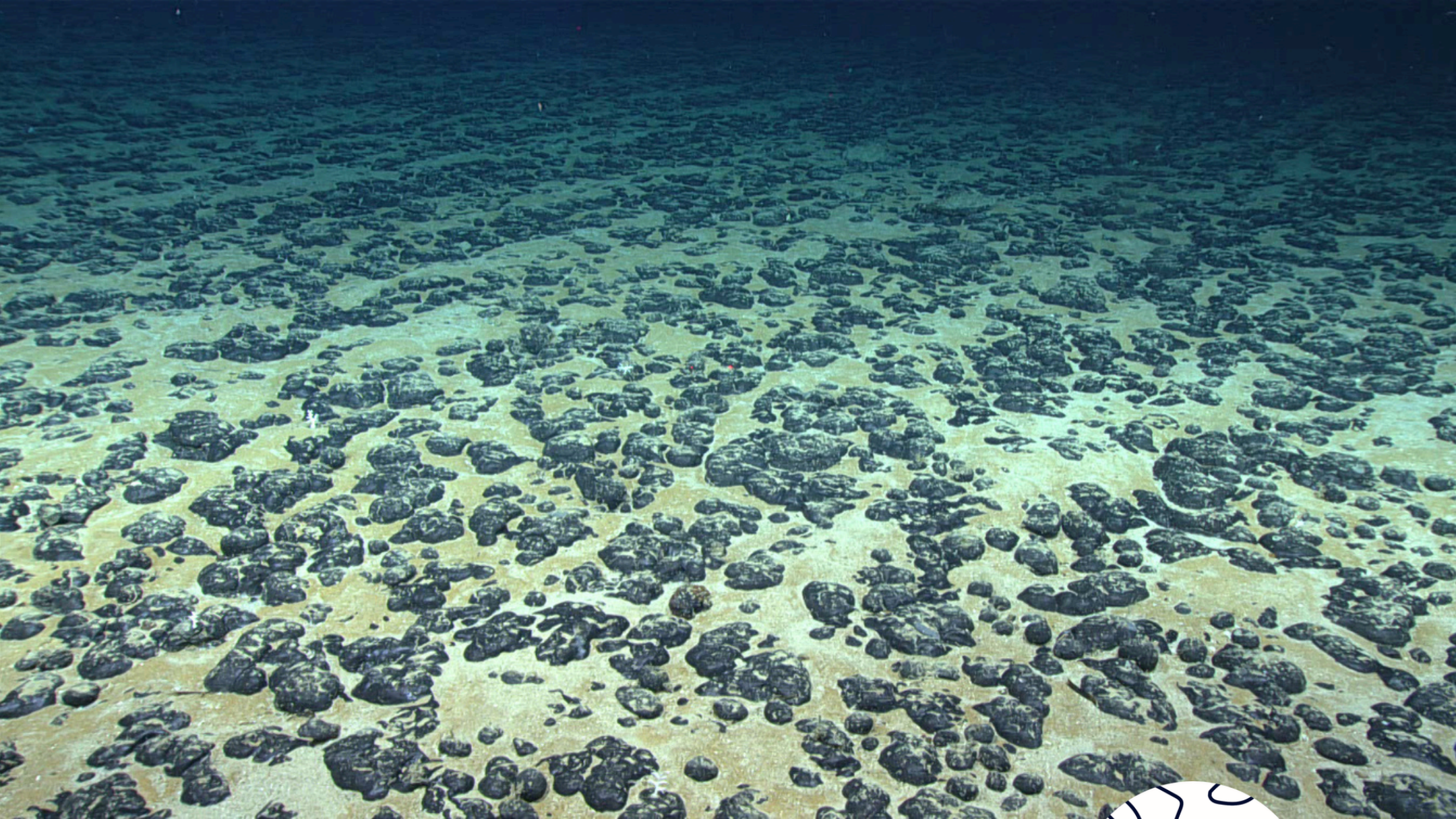


Image courtesy of the NOAA Office of Ocean Exploration and Research, 2019 Southeastern U.S. Deep-sea Exploration.



We don't need seabed minerals for the green transition

- The most targeted minerals in deep-sea mining (cobalt and nickel) are used in last-generation batteries.
- However, the industry is moving away from these technologies. Next-generation batteries focus on lithium iron phosphate and sodium-ion chemistries.

Lessons from  **Deep Sea Academy**



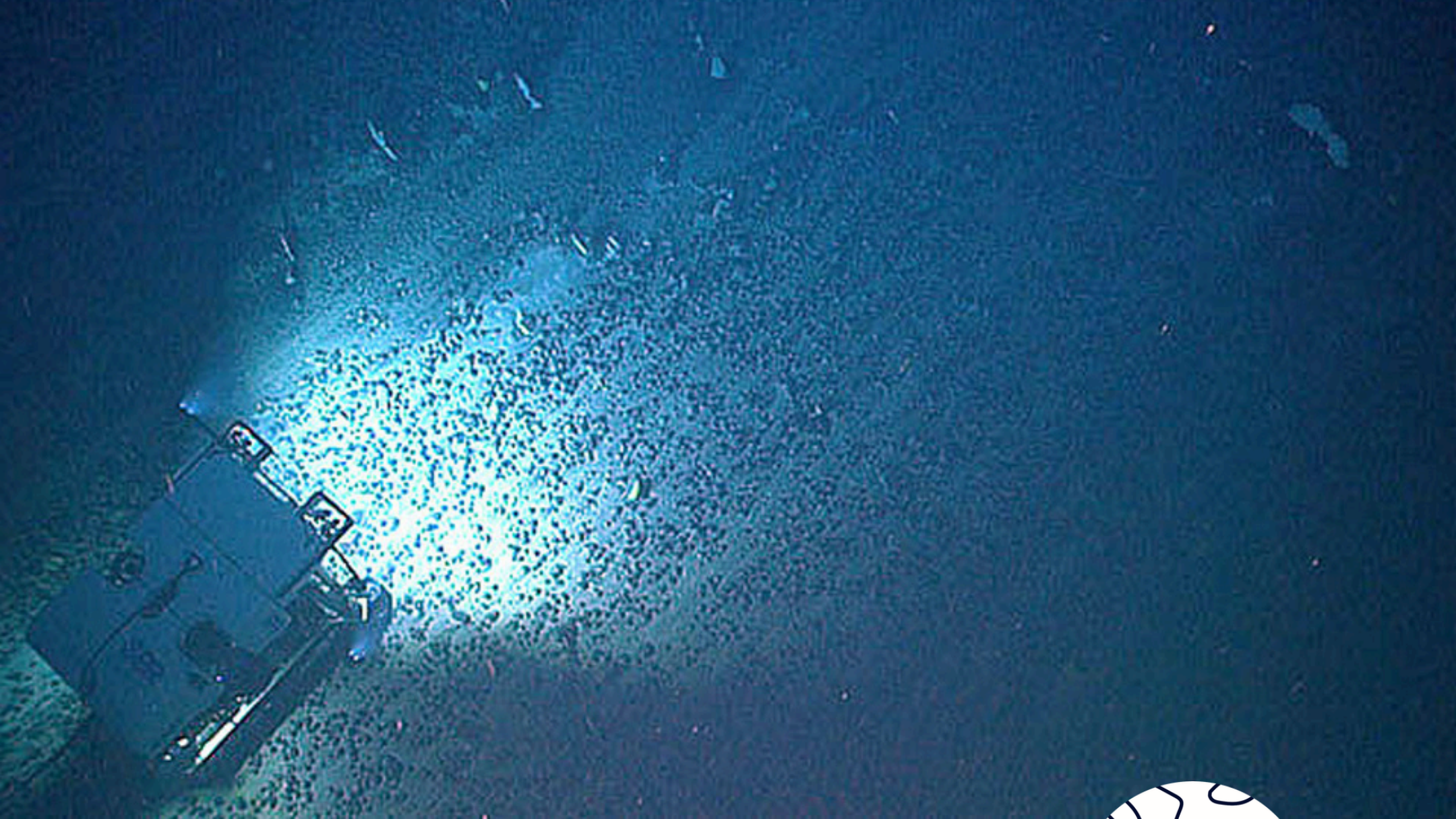


Image courtesy of NOAA.



The economic case for deep-sea mining doesn't hold up

- At full production, deep-sea mining could supply around 4% of global nickel demand. It barely makes a dent in terrestrial mining.
- Crucially, there has not been a single successful commercial-scale mining operation yet.
- The industry is driving forward permanent environmental damage without demonstrating economic viability.

Lessons from  **Deep Sea Academy**

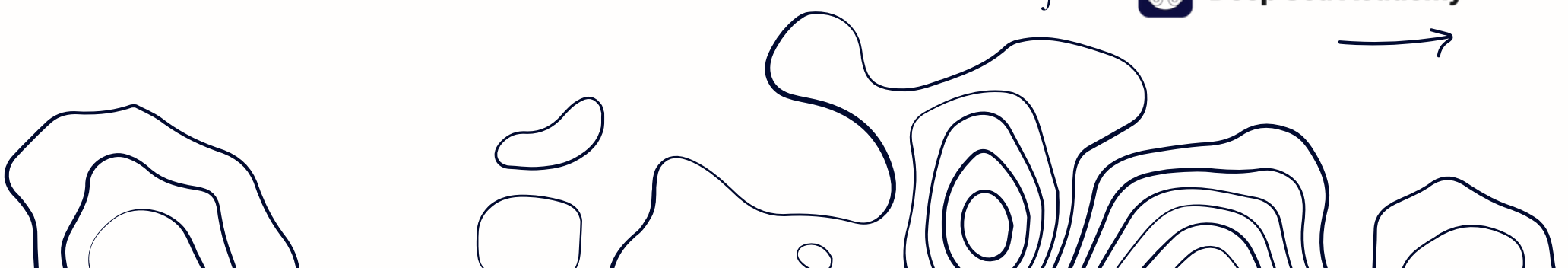




Image courtesy of the MBARI Creative Commons.



Building coalitions to campaign against deep-sea mining

- Strong coalitions rest on three things: clarity of shared purpose, genuine trust between partners, and taking time to celebrate wins and the people behind them.
- Ownership matters. Each partner should feel real ownership over their distinct role in the coalition.
- Crucially, fostering a positive, inclusive, and empowering environment is key to strengthening and growing your coalition. Build a space that nurtures collaboration and the resilience needed to continue the work.

Lessons from  **Deep Sea Academy**





Image courtesy of the Galeria de Arte Urbana.

Grassroots campaigning



- When engaging local communities, always lead with what matters to them. Know your audience and be patient when building relationships.
- Don't just preach to the choir: digital campaigns and activism can help to reach people who aren't already engaged in the cause.

Lessons from  **Deep Sea Academy**

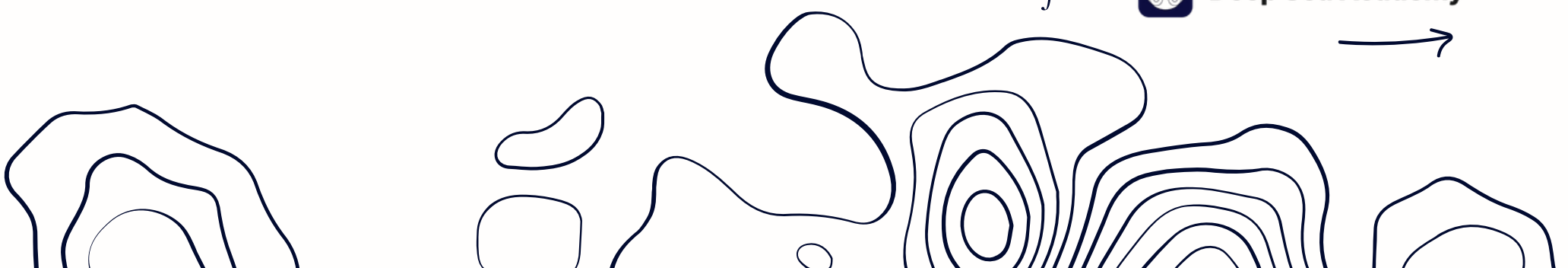




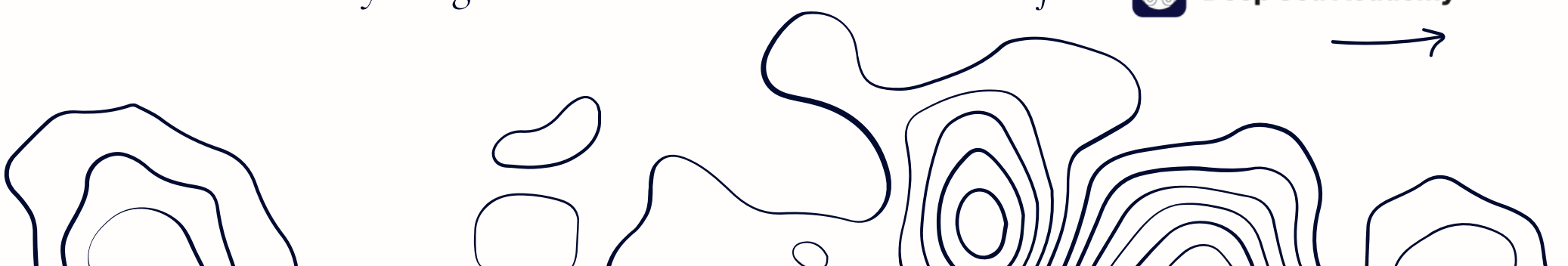
Image courtesy of the Deep Sea Conservation Coalition.

Political Advocacy & International Negotiations



- For accredited observers at the ISA, making formal interventions, it's important to be concise, leave space for others, and coordinate so contributions are coherent and not redundant.
- Understand who the decision-makers are, the advisors who inform them, and when it is most appropriate to act.
- Be patient but opportunistic. Relationships and influence take time to build, but be ready to move when an opportunity appears.
- It's not all or nothing. Every small, incremental change gets you closer towards your goal.

Lessons from  **Deep Sea Academy**



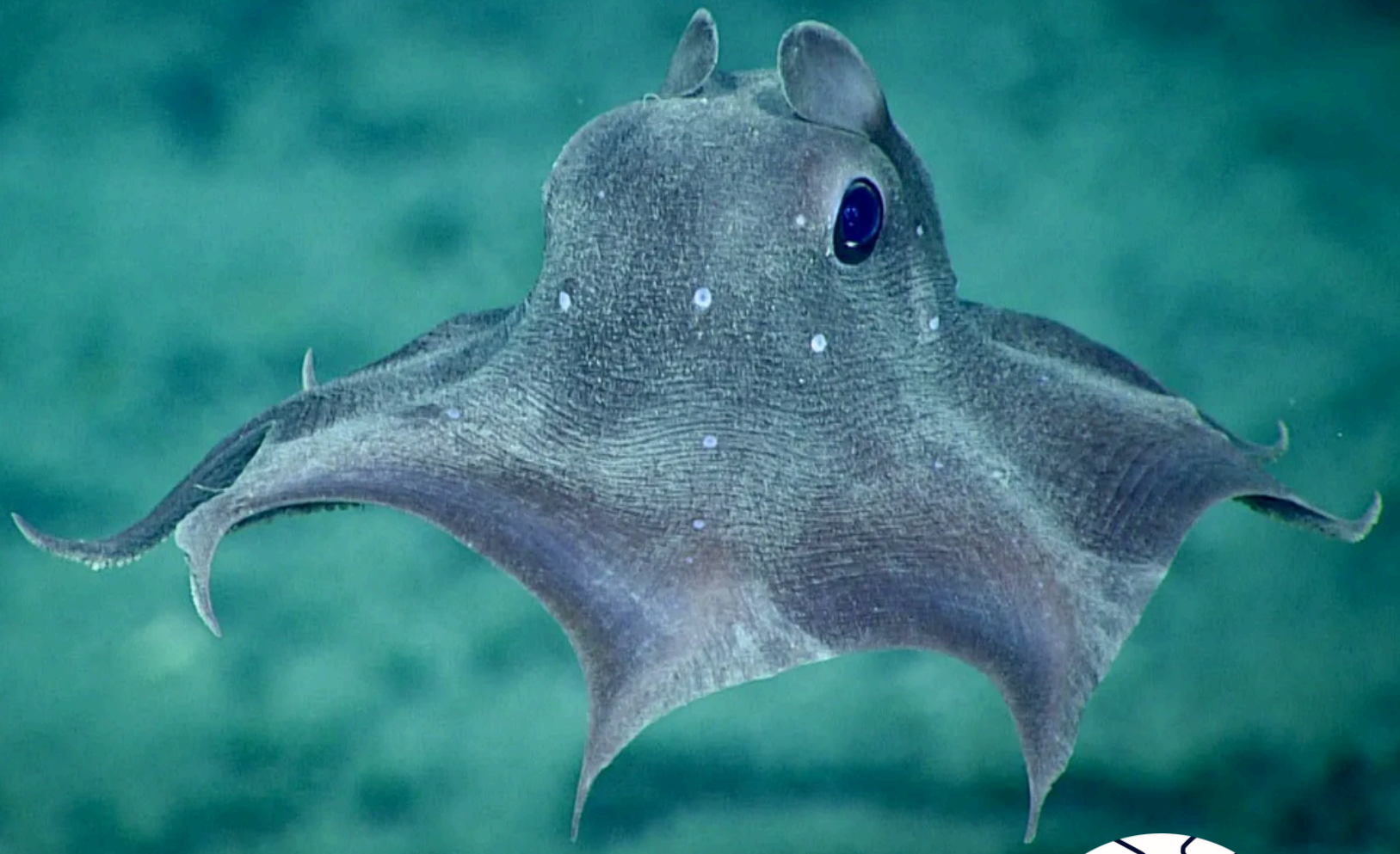


Image courtesy of the NOAA Office of Ocean Exploration and Research.



**Learning new things to support
our collective mission for a healthy
ocean.**

**Get in touch to see how I can
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