TEMPLATE FOR COMMENTS

Draft reviewed		
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General Comments		

The content of this guideline must be consistent with the draft exploitation regulation (hereafter, exploitation-DR)⁽¹⁾. In addition, since exploration activities and exploitation are continuous, the exploration regulation (hereinafter exploration-R)⁽²⁾ and related guidelines (hereinafter exploration env-G)⁽³⁾ should also be consistent. However, when comparing these documents, inconsistent descriptions are found in items, definitions, survey methods, and so on. If there are reasonable reasons for those differences, they should be included in the guideline.

(1) ISBA/25/C/WP1, (2) ISBA/19/C/17, (3) ISBA/25/LTC/6/Rev.1

Specific Comments		
Page	Line	Comment
		Comparison of exploitation-DR and this guideline (see Table 1)
		Comparison of exploitation-DR and this guideline (see table 2)
Additional rows can be added to this table by selecting "Table" followed by "insert" and "rows		
		below"

Table. 1 Comparison of exploitation-DR and this guideline

Description: Research items that are described in exploitation-DR but not in this draft	
P35, line1352	Item of Geochemistry is described in the Physicochemical environment section
	in exploitation-DR (on page 81, 4.7), but it is described in the Geological
	properties section in DBG (Line1352-1357).
Description: Research items that are described in this draft but not in exploitation-DR	
P20, line709	Item of Carbonate system is described in the Chemical oceanography and
	Biogeochemistry section in this draft (Line709-713), but not in exploitation-DR.
P20, line709	Item of Trace metals is described in the Chemical oceanography and
	Biogeochemistry section in this draft (Line714-717), but not in exploitation-DR.
P20, line725	Item of Radioactive isotope tracers is described in the Chemical oceanography
	and Biogeochemistry section in this draft (Line725-731), but not in exploitation-
	DR.
P39, line1515	Item of Ecotoxicology is described in the Biological communities section in this

	draft (Line1515-1517), but not in exploitation-DR.
P39, line1518	Turtles is described as a sensitive or protected species in this draft (Line1518-
	1521), but not in exploitation-DR.
Differences in definitions	
P39, line1540	Midwater is defined the depth from 200m to 50m above the seafloor in
	exploitation-DR(on page 82, 5.4.2), on the other hand, Mesopelagic or Twilight
	zone are defined the depth from 200m to 1,000m in this draft (Line1540-1541).
P39, line1541	Benthic is defined as a height of 50m above the seafloor in exploitation-DR (on
	page 82, 5.4.3), on the other hand, Dark deep sea is defined the depth above
	1,000m in this draft (Line1541-1542).

Table. 2 Comparison of exploitation-DR and this guideline

Description: Research items that are described in exploration env-G but not in this draft	
	A minimum of three years of survey is regarded an ideal survey period in
	exploration env-G (on page 28, 46.), but not in this draft.
Description:	Research items that are described in DBG but not in exploration env-G
P20, line714	Item of Radioactive isotope tracers is described in the Chemical oceanography
	and Biogeochemistry section in this draft (Line714-717), but not in exploration
	env-G.
P38, line1467	Item of Habitat Classifications is described in the Geological properties section
	in this draft (Line1467-1472), but not in exploration env-G.
P11, line352	Item of Tide and Waves is described in the Chemical oceanography and
	Biogeochemistry section in this draft (Line352-354), but not in exploration env-
	G.
P12, line384	The CTD sampling layer is specified in this draft (Line384-388), but not in
	exploration env-G.
Description: o	thers
P11, line362	Item of Noise is described in the Physical oceanography section in this draft
	(Line362-364), while it is described in the Biological communities section in
	exploration env-G (on page 6, (d)(iv)).
P20, line697	Item of Nutrients is described in the Chemical oceanography and
	Biogeochemistry section in this draft (Line697), while it is described in the
	Geological properties section in exploration env-G (on page 6, (d)(iv)).
P20, line714	Item of Trace metals is described in the Chemical oceanography and
	Biogeochemistry section in this draft (Line714-717), while it is described in the
	Biological communities section in exploration env-G (on page 28,45.).
P24, line905	Item of Oxygen is described in the Chemical oceanography and Biogeochemistry
	section in this draft (Line905-908), while it is handled in the Measure sediment
	community oxygen consumption section in exploration env-G (on page 6,15.(g)).
P39, line1512	Item of The food structure is described about benthic organisms in this draft
	(Line1512-1514), but it is described for both benthic organisms and pelagic in
	exploration env-G (on page 6, 15.(h)).
P5, line101	8 items (Physical oceanography, Chemical oceanography, Geological properties,
	Biological communities, bioturbation activity and mixing of sediments, linkages
	between pelagic and benthic habitats, measure sediment community oxygen
	consumption, food web structure) is described as the study covers in exploration

	env-G (on page 5 to 6,15.(a)-(h)), but 4 items (Physical oceanography, Chemical
	oceanography and biogeochemistry, Geological properties, Biological
	communities) is described the study covers in this draft (Line101-104).
P19, line671	Regarding this draft, the table of contents (Line24) refers to Biochemistry, but
	the text (Line671) refers to biogeochemistry.
Differences in definitions	
P42, line1648	The size of megafauna is larger than 1cm in this draft (Line1648), while it is
	larger than 2cm in exploration env-G (on page 23, 41.(a)).
Differences in methodology	
P44, line1754	The sampling layer of macrofauna are 0-3cm, 3-5cm, and 5-10cm in this draft
	(Line1754-1756), while they are 0-1cm, 1-5cm, and 5-10cm in exploration env-
	G (on page 24, 41.(b)).
P36, line1413	The sampling layer for the sediment characterization is the upper 30cm of the
	sediment in push corers and multiple corers, and the upper 50cm in box corers in
	this draft (Line1413-1415), while it is necessary to collect up to about 20cm in
	exploration env-R (on page 20, 28.).

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