

April 25, 2012

R/PMEL

Executive Secretary  
US Board on Geographic Names  
National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency  
4600 Sangamore Road Mail Stop D-167  
Bethesda, MD 20816-5003

Dear Secretary,

Enclosed is a proposal package for naming an undersea feature in the NW Pacific, Mariana Arc. NW Rota-1 is an active, volcanic seamount located near the island of Rota. The seamount was mapped and named during the 2003 research expedition, Submarine Ring of Fire (funded by NOAA Office of Exploration/NOAA Vents Program), on the R/V Thomas Thompson using a EM300 multibeam mapping system and GPS navigation. At that time, no name was associated with this seamount. NW Rota-1 has subsequently been mapped using higher precision mapping systems (1-m accuracy) and directly observed using unmanned submersibles on numerous research expeditions.

This package includes maps, reprints and a reference list of published, peer-reviewed articles related to NW Rota-1.

Please contact me if you have any questions regarding this proposal.

Sincerely,

Robert W. Embley  
NOAA PMEL Vents Program

Enclosures

cc: Stephen Hammond  
Tim Arcano