

Decisions Criteria to be used in Naming Proposals Reviews

(version 1.0, November 2021)

References: SCUFN-34 Summary Report (2021), Decision SCUFN34/VTC03/02, Doc. SCUFN34-03.2A.

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At SCUFN34 (VTC03) in November 2021, a clarification was agreed by SCUFN to amend the classification criteria to be used in proposals reviews. The proposal addressed the definitions of “NOT ACCEPTED” and “PENDING”. These consolidated definitions together with those for “ADOPTED”, “ACCEPTED” are as follows.

ACCEPTED: The proposed name, as approved, will be included in the GEBCO Gazetteer.

ADOPTED: The proposed name is mainly located in a territorial sea and has been approved by the relevant national naming authority. It is adopted for inclusion in the GEBCO Gazetteer due to its significance for GEBCO. Or the name has been proposed under the fast-track procedure.

NOT ACCEPTED: Both specific and generic terms are considered unsuitable. The proposed name will not be put in the reserve section of the GEBCO Gazetteer. The proposer may however be invited to re-formulate his/her proposal. If there are no actual survey data (multibeam preferably), the proposal will not be accepted. In that case, “actual” means effective (and not “recent” or “modern”) since data from an old dense survey using single beam echo-sounder compliant with the standards in force at the date of the survey can be accepted. Also, the proposer submits a single proposal for multi-features, the proposal will not be accepted, and all the other complementary criteria such as:

- If there are no actual survey data (multibeam preferably), the proposal will not be accepted. In that case, “actual” means effective (and not “recent” or “modern”) since data from an old dense survey using single beam echo-sounder compliant with the standards in force at the date of the survey can be accepted.
- If there are only single beam data with a wide line spacing, the proposal will not be accepted.
- The proposer submits a single proposal for multi-features, the proposal will not be accepted.
- If the feature is already named and registered in the GEBCO Gazetteer, the proposal will not be accepted.
- Both specific and generic terms are considered unsuitable, so the proposal will not be accepted. The proposed name will not be put in the reserve section of the GEBCO Gazetteer. The proposer may however be invited to re-formulate his/her proposal.

PENDING: Either the specific term or the generic term is considered unsuitable, or further clarification is needed. The proposed name will be put in the reserve section of

the GEBCO Gazetteer pending the provision of additional information, e.g. supporting bathymetry or biographic information. If the data are not sufficient to cover and identify the whole undersea feature, the proposal is put in the PENDING status. If the proposer fails to correct or supplement the part requested by SCUFN within two years, it will be automatically deleted from the pending list.