Paper for Consideration by SCUFN

Report of ACUF

Submitted by:	Bobby Jovanovski (ACUF Secretary)
Executive Summary:	This document reports on the activities of the Advisory Committee on Undersea Features (ACUF) of the U.S. Board on Geographic Names since SCUFN-32
Related Documents:	SCUFN33-05.3A
Related Projects:	N/A

Introduction

1. The U.S. Board on Geographic Names (BGN) is the interagency organization authorized by the U.S. Congress to maintain uniform geographic name usage throughout the Federal Government. It provides the official place names required by law for use in Federal Government publications, including maps, websites, and documents.

The BGN established the Advisory Committee on Undersea Features (ACUF) in 1963 as a committee of experts in the ocean sciences, to advise the BGN on matters related to undersea features. As an advisory committee, ACUF does not have approval authority, but rather recommends actions for approval by the BGN. Currently, ACUF has eight members representing the Department of Commerce, the Department of Defense, the Department of the Interior, the Department of State, and the University of Hawaii.

ACUF is pleased to contribute to the annual meeting of the General Bathymetric Chart of the Oceans Sub-Committee on Undersea Features (SCUFN) and submits this report on its recent activities. This report covers the period since SCUFN-32. ACUF is committed to maintaining and strengthening its close working-relationship with SCUFN.

Mr. Trent Palmer serves as the Executive Secretary of ACUF; with Mr. Bobby Jovanovski is the Secretary of ACUF. Mr. Ryan Moore continues to serves as ACUF Assistant, and Mr. Gerard "Gerry" Walter is the ACUF Chair.

A database modernization activity that began last summer (2019) is tentatively scheduled for completion in early summer 2021. The undersea feature names is part of the larger Geographic Names Database (GNDB), which is the official repository of the BGN's foreign geographic names standardization program. One of the items on the wish list is to enable the creation of polylines and polygons for the named features in the database.

The BGN Undersea Features "gazetteer" includes approximately 10,240 names for 5,330 features. More information about ACUF, access to the undersea feature names database, and additional resources are available at https://geonames.nga.mil/gns/html/acuf.html. More information about the BGN is available at https://geonames.usgs.gov/.

Discussion

2. Since SCUFN-32, ACUF has met three times (ACUF 352, ACUF 353, ACUF 354). A list of names recommended by ACUF and subsequently approved by the BGN is provided below. Of note are several names that were jointly approved by the Japanese Committee on Undersea Features (JCUFN) and ACUF.

In addition, ACUF has adopted a "fast-track" recommendation process for names approved by SCUFN. In most cases, these names are adopted as is, though some exceptions do exist, for example, when names approved by SCUFN require modification to align with BGN romanization and word segmentation policies (most notably for Japanese names), or if alternative names for the same feature have already been approved by the BGN. Thus far, ACUF has addressed names approved at SCUFN-23 (handled in 2014), SCUFN-31, and SCUFN-32.

Action Required of SCUFN

4. SCUFN is invited to:

a. Note this report

Undersea Feature Names Approved by the U.S. Board on Geographic Names
Since SCUFN 32 (2019-2020)

	Feature Name	Position	Location	Proposer	Approval	GEBCO Gazetteer
1.	AMMEN Seamount	20°30'14"N, 157°23'49"E	North Pacific Ocean	JCUFN/ACUF	ACUF 352 (Jan. 29, 2020); BGN 278 (Apr. 21, 2020)	YES
2.	ARRHENIUS Seamount	24°15'47"N, 159°15'00"E	North Pacific Ocean	JCUFN/ACUF	ACUF 352 (Jan. 29, 2020); BGN 278 (Apr. 21, 2020)	YES
3.	BELKNAP Guyot	21°10'10"N, 157°38'49"E	North Pacific Ocean	JCUFN/ACUF	ACUF 352 (Jan. 29, 2020); BGN 278 (Apr. 21, 2020)	YES
4.	ISAACS Guyot	24°00'16"N, 159°32'10"E	North Pacific Ocean	JCUFN/ACUF	ACUF 352 (Jan. 29, 2020); BGN 278 (Apr. 21, 2020)	YES
5.	SHIPEK Seamount	24°01'06"N, 158°57'58"E	North Pacific Ocean	JCUFN/ACUF	ACUF 352 (Jan. 29, 2020); BGN 278 (Apr. 21, 2020)	YES
6.	THOMSON Seamounts	20°43'36"N, 156°57'47"E	North Pacific Ocean	JCUFN/ACUF	ACUF 352 (Jan. 29, 2020); BGN 278 (Apr. 21, 2020)	YES
7.	TUSCARORA Seamount	20°36'34"N, 157°06'47"E	North Pacific Ocean	JCUFN/ACUF	ACUF (Apr. 3, 2020); BGN 278 (Apr. 21, 2020)	YES
8.	TUSCARORA Bank	11°50'00"S, 178°15'00"W	South Pacific Ocean	ACUF	ACUF (Apr.3, 2020); BGN 278 (Apr. 21, 2020)	NO
9.	CASCADIA Slope	45°36'15"N, 124°44'40"W	North Pacific Ocean	U.S. Extended Continental Shelf Project (NOAA)	ACUF 353 (Jun. 30, 2020); BGN 279 (Jul. 21, 2020)	NO

	Feature Name	Position	Location	Proposer	Approval	GEBCO Gazetteer
10.	EEL Fan	40°39’52”N, 125°15’00”W	North Pacific Ocean	U.S. Extended Continental Shelf Project (NOAA)	ACUF 353 (Jun. 30, 2020); BGN 279 (Jul. 21, 2020)	NO
11.	VIZCAINO Slope	39°50’00”N, 124°36’41”W	North Pacific Ocean	U.S. Extended Continental Shelf Project (NOAA)	ACUF 353 (Jun. 30, 2020); BGN 279 (Jul. 21, 2020)	NO
12.	SOUTH Bank	14°53'00"S, 170°38'00"W	South Pacific Ocean	ACUF	ACUF 353 (Jun. 30, 2020); BGN 280 (Oct. 20, 2020)	NO