

## Paper for Consideration by SCUFN

## Report of the work made during the inter-sessional period

## Wish-List of Enhancements to the On-line Interface of the GEBCO Gazetteer

<b>Submitted by:</b>	IHO Secretariat (as SCUFN Secretary)
<b>Executive Summary:</b>	This document reports on the monitoring, since SCUFN-32, of the Wish-List of Enhancements to the On-line Interface of the GEBCO Gazetteer.
<b>Related Documents:</b>	<a href="#">SCUFN32-07.1A</a> , <a href="#">SCUFN32-07.1B</a> , <a href="#">SCUFN32-07.3A</a>
<b>Related Projects:</b>	Integration of SCUFN Operational Web Services (OWS) and the GEBCO Gazetteer.

## Introduction / Background

1. Following the SCUFN32 meeting in August 2019 and considering the limited resources available within its Sub-Committee, the Secretariat of the GEBCO Sub Committee on Undersea Feature Names (SCUFN) decided to contract several tasks in order to improve the content of the IHO-IOC online GEBCO Gazetteer of Undersea Feature Names (the Gazetteer) and support SCUFN activities managed by the IHO Secretariat. The following tasks were contracted to the former SCUFN Secretary.

Tasks	Objectives	Outcome reported in
<b>1</b>	<i>Update the Gazetteer from all undersea feature naming decisions and actions taken at SCUFN-32, ensuring modification of polygons delimiting features, as required, in liaison with the relevant proposers. Prepare a draft report as a submission document to SCUFN-32. Deadline: <b>30 April 2020</b>.</i>	Doc. SCUFN33-07.2B
<b>2</b>	<i>Monitor the list of pending names. Prepare a draft report as a submission document to SCUFN-33. Deadline: <b>31 May 2020</b>.</i>	Doc. SCUFN33-07.2D
<b>3</b>	<i>Monitor / upgrade the wish-list of improvements to the Gazetteer interface and test any new developments by NCEI. Monitor the relationships with NCEI to maintain the Gazetteer, as necessary and/or appropriate. Prepare a draft status report as a submission document to SCUFN-33. Deadline: <b>30 June 2020</b>.</i>	Doc. SCUFN33-07.1A
<b>4</b>	<i>Launch, monitor and provide advice on the development by KHOA of the prototype UFN database and web-based associated services (the Beta-Gazetteer). This will include</i>	Doc. SCUFN33-07.3A

	<i>testing the Beta-Gazetteer in operational mode for a couple of undersea feature names (Action SCUFN32/190). Prepare a draft status report as a submission document to SCUFN-33. Deadline: <b>30 June 2020.</b></i>	
<b>5</b>	Preload in the Gazetteer all undersea feature names from the proposals that will be submitted to SCUFN-33, in advance of the meeting. In doing so, quality control and standardization of the documentation provided will be ensured. All preloaded names to be put in Edit mode. Prepare a draft status report as a submission document to SCUFN-33. Deadline: <b>30 September 2020.</b>	Doc. SCUFN33-04A

2. The objective of this submission paper is to report on Task 3.

### Analysis/Discussion

3. A new version 4.2 of the Gazetteer interface was made available in July 2020 by NOAA's NCEI<sup>1</sup> Gazetteer Project Team, the responsible body for the maintenance of the Gazetteer. Remarkably, the new version incorporates ALL desirable enhancements as listed in [Annex B to Doc. SCUFN32-07.1A](#). This has resulted in a much improved version of the interface. The contractor and the SCUFN secretary actively participated in the testing of the draft new version prior its release.

4. Doc. [SCUFN32-07.1B](#) reported that an annual funding of ~45K/year for the maintenance and enhancements of the Gazetteer had been secured at NCEI, and that two new software developers had been hired by NCEI from mid-2019. Their efficient work in addressing Gazetteer issues and enhancement requests has resulted in this impressive new version 4.2.

5. As reflected in Doc. [SCUFN32-07.3A](#), NOAA, KHOA and the IHO Secretariat have agreed on a way forward for the integration of SCUFN Operations Web Services (OWS, operated by KHOA, formerly known as Beta-Gazetteer), to be used by SCUFN members only and also as a backup system, the IHO SCUFN webpages related to the naming proposals, and the GEBCO Gazetteer hosted and operated by NOAA/NCEI/IHO DCDB that would be dedicated to the public use. Accordingly, work is in progress at KHOA to hopefully complete the integration by 2021-22.

6. Several decisions or actions from SCUFN-32 related to the maintenance and/or improvement of the Gazetteer interface and the KHOA new integrated website. They are listed in [Annex A](#) with their respective status.

7. Allowing the use of diacritical characters, such as ā, ē, ī, ō or ū, in the new version 4.2 of the Gazetteer, paved the way for updating all concerned specific terms and associated texts in the Gazetteer database. Thus, some 50 Māori names have been updated, for example Pūkākī Bank.

8. From the brief experience gained through the use of the new version 4.2 of the Gazetteer Interface, an initial list of desirable enhancements has been prepared and is provided in [Annex B](#).

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<sup>1</sup> National Center for Environmental Information

## **Recommendations**

It is recommended that:

9. SCUFN Members consider and review the initial wish-list of enhancements in [Annex B](#) and, based on their own experience of the Gazetteer, propose any changes or improvements they deem appropriate.

## **Justification and Impacts**

10. Benefits: incremental improvements of the Gazetteer, and correction of anomalies when they exist. Better monitoring and management of the actions to be done. Better visibility on resources needed and better efficiency.

11. Resource implications: impact on NCEI resources to be budgeted. Solutions through GEBCO funding to possibly be considered.

## **Action required of SCUFN**

12. SCUFN is invited to:

- a. note this report.
- b. consider / agree on the recommendations made in section 9.
- c. commend NOAA/NCEI (USA) for their effective support in the upgrade of the GEBCO Gazetteer.

## DECISIONS AND ACTIONS FROM SCUFN-31 RELATING TO TASK 3

Decision/ Action	Details	Status (Jul 2019)	Comments & Suggestions
	<b>Liaison with Other Geographical Name Bodies</b>		
	<b>Activities of Marine Regions of interest to SCUFN</b>		
SCUFN32/179	<b>KHOA</b> to consider the possibility of implementing the automated duplication check of submitted proposals against the <b>Marine Regions UFN</b> database, into scufn.ops-webservices.kr.	In progress	
	<b>Gazetteer of Undersea Feature Names</b>		
	<b>Maintenance of the on-line interface to GEBCO Gazetteer database</b>		
SCUFN32/186	<b>SCUFN Members</b> to report to the <b>Secretary</b> if some items/issues need to be added/changed/deleted in the wish-list of improvements of the GEBCO Gazetteer (See Doc. SCUFN32-07.1A)	In progress	
SCUFN32/187	<b>SCUFN Members</b> to test the SCUFN32-07.1A improvements made to date and notify the <b>Secretary</b> Cc <b>Chris Slater, Jennifer Jencks</b> (NOAA) of any issues. <i><a href="https://ccog.colorado.edu/gazetteer">https://ccog.colorado.edu/gazetteer</a></i>	Complete	Version 4.2 of the Gazetteer is up and running since July 2020.
	<b>Interoperability and Prototyping</b>		
SCUFN32/190	<b>SCUFN Members</b> approved the general strategy proposed in Doc. SCUFN32-07.3A on the development of the integration of SCUFN Operations Web Services (operated by KHOA) and the GEBCO Gazetteer (operated by NOAA). This includes the progressive discontinuation of the upload of submission proposals on the IHO SCUFN webpage.	Complete	

Decision/ Action	Details	Status (Jul 2019)	Comments & Suggestions
SCUFN32/191 (former SCUFN31/208)	<p><b>KHOA</b> to develop a transition plan (tasks - what, who, when?, including continuity of services offered to current users of the GEBCO Gazetteer, liaison with NOAA) preparing to the commissioning of the Beta-Gazetteer (target date 2021-22) and to submit it to SCUFN at the next meeting for further consideration.</p> <p>This should include the identification of critical tasks to be undertaken and the go –no go criteria before the official commissioning and the amendments to be made to B-6 / Proposal Form.</p>	In progress	
SCUFN32/192	<p><b>JCUFN/NZGB/CCUFN/KCUFN/IHO Sec.</b> to test <u>in operational mode</u>, the integrated system developed scuf.ops-webservices.kr by KHOA (submission / review...), for a couple of undersea feature names prior to the next meeting and report on the lessons learned.</p>	In progress	
SCUFN32/193	<p><b>KHOA</b> to consider the possibility of implementing https protocol to the SCUFN Operations Web Services.</p>	In progress	

## Wish-List of Enhancements to the On-line Interface of the GEBCO Gazetteer

(Updated to August 2020)

No.	Improvement	Suggested Priority	NCEI Assessment (yes/no, deadline, estimated costs)
<b>A.</b>	<b>GAZETTEER INTERFACE MANAGEMENT</b>		
A.1	<i>Elevation associated with the cursor's position on the chart background.</i> In the lower right corner, the legend should be Depth instead of Elevation and no minus sign, as it is written in the database for attributes min depth and max depth. Hydrographers, mariners and ocean scientists use positive depths towards nadir, and not elevation with a minus sign. By contrast, land elevations should appear with a minus sign. Further, the depths shown after "Depth:" should always be rounded to the nearest metre.	Medium Term	
A.2	<i>Display of min depth as in the database.</i> When the head of the cursor's arrow enters the small orange circle representing the summit of, for example, a seamount, the min depth as in the database, when it exists, should be shown instead of the underlying bathymetric grid. This will however be limited to those names accepted at a SCUFN meeting subsequent to 2000, to avoid insufficient accuracy in depth and/or position of the summit. This rule will apply to those features likely to have a summit / min depth clearly located, that is, to the following generic terms: Guyot(s), Hill(s), Knoll(s), Mound(s), Mud Volcano, Peak, Pinnacle, Reef(s), Ridge(s), Rise, Salt Dome, Sand Ridge, Seamount(s), Seamount Chain, and Shoal(s). It is assumed that obsolete generic terms, such as Abyssal Hill or Tablemount, are not concerned since they are not used anymore since well before 2000.	Medium Term	
A.3			
<b>B.</b>	<b>GAZETTEER ADMINISTRATION</b>		
B.1			
B.2			