**SCUFN34-07.2B Rev1**

## Paper for Consideration by SCUFN

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

**Updating the Gazetteer from all undersea feature naming decisions and actions taken at SCUFN-33**

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| ***Submitted by:*** | IHO Secretariat (as SCUFN Secretary) |
| ***Executive Summary:*** | This document reports on the updating of the on-line GEBCO Gazetteer database from all decisions and actions that were agreed at SCUFN-33. |
| ***Related Documents:*** | [Summary Report of SCUFN-33](https://iho.int/uploads/user/Inter-Regional%20Coordination/GEBCO/SCUFN/SCUFN33/SCUFN33_2020_P_EN_Final_Report_3Jan2021.pdf), Annex B |
| ***Related Projects:*** | N/A |

## Introduction / Background

1. Following the SCUFN33 meeting in November 2020, held via a video-teleconference (VTC), 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.

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Tasks** | **Objectives** | **Outcome reported in** |
| **1** | *Update the Gazetteer from all undersea feature naming decisions and actions taken at SCUFN-33, as well as at SCUFN-34VTC01 & SCUFN-34VTC 02, ensuring quality control and standardization of the documentation provided as part of the relevant proposals. Prepare a draft report as a submission document to the plenary session of SCUFN-34. Deadline:* ***31 July 2021****.* | Doc. SCUFN34-07.2B |
| **2** | *Monitor the list of pending names. Prepare a draft report as a submission document to SCUFN-34. Deadline:* ***31 July 2021****.* | Doc. SCUFN34-07.2D |
| **3** | *Monitor / upgrade the wish-list of improvements to the Gazetteer interface and test any new developments by NCEI, including the new version 4.2.0 of the Gazetteer. 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-34. Deadline:* ***31 July 2021****.* | Doc. SCUFN34-07.1A |
| **4** | *Launch, monitor and provide advice on the development by KHOA of the prototype UFN database and SCUFN Operations Web services (OWS), as well as the integration of the SCUFN OWS and the existing GEBCO Gazetteer. This will include testing the integrated system in operational mode for a couple of undersea feature names (Action SCUFN33/50). Prepare a draft status report as a submission document to SCUFN-33. Deadline:* ***31 August 2021****.* | Doc. SCUFN34-07.3A |
| **5** | *Preload in the Gazetteer tentatively through the SCUFN OWS all undersea feature names from the proposals that will be submitted to SCUFN-34, in advance of the meeting(s). 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-34. Deadline:* ***30 September 2021****.* | Doc. SCUFN34-04A |
| **6** | *As a complement to Task 4, monitor the development of the SCUFN OWS Repository and the transfer of the IHO SCUFN Digital Archive, the interface to move proposals (in restricted access mode before SCUFN meetings) to the Repository after SCUFN meetings (open access and links to GEBCO Gazetteer). Deadline:* ***30 September 2021****.* |  |

2. The objective of this submission paper is to report on Task 1.

**Analysis/Discussion**

3. Due to the pandemic, SCUFN-33 took place via a video-teleconference (VTC) that was organized by the IHO Secretariat (as SCUFN Secretary) on 9-10 November 2020. The reduced format of the meeting led to far less agreed decisions and actions than usual: 58 as opposed to 205 at SCUFN-32 in 2019. However, many of them impacted on the on-line GEBCO Gazetteer database. Acting on these require significant resource from the secretariat, thus competing with other important, often urgent, IHO matters.

4. Undersea feature name proposals which are submitted for SCUFN consideration vary considerably in terms of quality of the English language used as well as length of the texts included. There is therefore a need for quality check and standardization of the documentation provided, before validation of the names approved or pending in the Gazetteer.

5. From the above considerations, the Gazetteer has been updated by the contractor, as appropriate. As can be seen from the results provided in [Annex A](#AnnA), almost all actions have been completed.

6. Acting on these often requires going several times to the concerned proposer, until the additional information or data requested has been provided. This needs keeping an eye on all actions not yet completed.

7. A number of corrections have been made to the Gazetteer, following pertinent comments expressed by M. Andrey Isakov, a Russian UFN enthusiast. They are described at [Annex B](#AnnB).

**Recommendation**

8. It is recommended that SCUFN takes note of the changes made into the Gazetteer database, as reflected in [Annex A](#AnnA) and [Annex B](#AnnB).

**Justifica**t**ion and Impacts**

9. Almost all decisions and actions from SCUFN-33 relevant to the Gazetteer have coherently been implemented in the intersessional period.

**Action required of SCUFN**

10. SCUFN is invited to:

a. note this report

b. consider the recommendation made in section 8.

**Annex A to SCUFN34-07.2B Rev1**

**DECISIONS and ACTIONS FROM SCUFN-33 relating to Task 1**

| **Decision/ Action** | **Details** | **Status**  **(Oct 2021)** | **Comments** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Matters remaining from Previous Meetings** |  |  |
|  | **Review of Actions from SCUFN-32 and transfer to the relevant agenda items** |  |  |
| SCUFN33/10  (Former SCUFN32/05 SCUFN31/09, SCUFN30/121) | **SCUFN Members** to consider the possibility of upgrading the quality of the geometry of existing major undersea features of the GEBCO Gazetteer during intersessional period (10 features/year/member).  [How to proceed? Identify features in your domain and/or geographical area of expertise, make concise proposal on the geometry and provide evidence and supporting documents if available, and corresponding shp files to the Secretary for being quickly reviewed at SCUFN meeting.  Compilation to be reported at every SCUFN meeting for decision then implementation by Secretary] | In progress | SCUFN-34 |
|  | **Proposals Submitted during Intersessional Period** |  |  |
| SCUFN33/11  (former SCUFN32/06) | **SCUFN Members** and **SCUFN Secretary** should remind Proposers that naming proposals be accompanied by shape files,  with characteristics as follows:  • WGS84 geographical coordinates Long Lat in signed degrees and decimal degrees, e.g. -119.707 13.928 (no UTM projection).  • Up to 50 pairs of coordinates for any geometry (polygon or line string).  • Up to 5 decimals for each coordinate, e.g. 156.20562 -36.65896. | Complete | Permanent |
|  | **From Australia, Australian Antarctic Division** |  |  |
| SCUFN33/13 | Proposal for Minang-a Canyon is ACCEPTED with number of polygon coordinates to be reduced. | Complete | Gazetteer updated 20 Nov 2020. Revised geometry provided (e-mail from M. Clarke 19 Nov 2200). |
| SCUFN33/14 | Proposal for Morka Valley is ACCEPTED with number of polygon coordinates to be reduced. | Complete | Gazetteer updated 20 Nov 2020. Revised geometry provided (e-mail from M. Clarke 19 Nov 2200). |
| SCUFN33/15 | Proposal for Jeffrey [~~Canyon~~] is ACCEPTED with the generic term changed to [Canyons] and the geometry of the feature to be revised and simplified to encompass all the branches. | Complete | Gazetteer updated 20 Nov 2020. Revised geometry provided (e-mail from M. Clarke 19 Nov 2200). |
| SCUFN33/16 | Proposal for Maadjit [~~Canyon~~] is ACCEPTED with the generic term changed to [Canyons] and the geometry of the feature to be revised and simplified to encompass all the branches. | Complete | Gazetteer updated 20 Nov 2020. Revised geometry provided (e-mail from M. Clarke 19 Nov 2200). |
| SCUFN33/17 | Proposal for Manang [~~Canyon~~] is ACCEPTED with the generic term changed to [Canyons] and the geometry of the feature to be revised and simplified to encompass all the branches. | Complete | Gazetteer updated 20 Nov 2020. Revised geometry provided (e-mail from M. Clarke 19 Nov 2200). |
| SCUFN33/18 | Proposal for Boongorang [~~Canyon~~] is ACCEPTED with the generic term changed to [Canyons] and the geometry of the feature to be revised and simplified to encompass all the branches. | Complete | Gazetteer updated 20 Nov 2020. Revised geometry provided (e-mail from M. Clarke 19 Nov 2200). |
|  | **From UK, Newcastle University** |  |  |
| SCUFN33/19 | Proposal for Aquariids Deep is ACCEPTED with number of polygon coordinates to be reduced.  **SCUFN Secretary** to ask whether the proposer may submit a proposal for Meteor Deep if data are available. | Complete | Gazetteer updated 12 Dec 2020. Revised geometry provided; plus proposal and shape files for Meteor Deep (e-mail from C. Bongiovanni 11 Dec 2020). |
| SCUFN33/20 | Proposal for Bitter Deep is ACCEPTED with number of polygon coordinates to be reduced. | Complete | Gazetteer updated 12 Dec 2020. Revised geometry provided (e-mail from C. Bongiovanni 11 Dec 2020). |
| SCUFN33/21 | Proposal for Factorian Deep is ACCEPTED with number of polygon coordinates to be reduced. | Complete | Gazetteer updated 14 Dec 2020. Revised geometry provided (e-mail from C. Bongiovanni 13 Dec 2020). |
| SCUFN33/22 | Proposal for Frozen [~~Ridge~~] is ACCEPTED with the generic term changed to [Hill] and number of polygon coordinates to be reduced. | Complete | Gazetteer updated 12 Dec 2020. Revised geometry provided (e-mail from C. Bongiovanni 11 Dec 2020). |
| SCUFN33/23 | Proposal for Hydris Deep is ACCEPTED with number of polygon coordinates to be reduced. | Complete | Gazetteer updated 12 Dec 2020. Revised geometry provided (e-mail from C. Bongiovanni 11 Dec 2020). |
| SCUFN33/24 | Proposal for Leonids Deep is ACCEPTED with the polygon cut in the West. | Complete | Gazetteer updated 12 Dec 2020. Revised geometry provided (e-mail from C. Bongiovanni 11 Dec 2020). |
| SCUFN33/25 | Proposal for Limiting Deep is ACCEPTED with size of polygon reduced. | Complete | Gazetteer updated 12 Dec 2020. Revised geometry provided (e-mail from C. Bongiovanni 11 Dec 2020). |
| SCUFN33/27 | Proposal for Orionids [~~Seamounts~~] is ACCEPTED with the generic term changed to [Seamount]. | Complete | Gazetteer updated 13 Dec 2020. |
| SCUFN33/28 | Proposal for Pegasus Ridge is ACCEPTED with number of polygon coordinates to be reduced. | Complete | Gazetteer updated 13 Dec 2020. Revised geometry provided (e-mail from C. Bongiovanni 11 Dec 2020). |
| SCUFN33/29 | Proposal for Perseids Deep is ACCEPTED, with size of polygon to be reduced. | Complete | Gazetteer updated 13 Dec 2020. Revised geometry provided (e-mail from C. Bongiovanni 11 Dec 2020). |
|  | **From Germany, University of Bremen** |  |  |
| SCUFN33/34 | Proposal for Tropiquito [Seamount](https://www.iho.int/iho_pubs/scufn/Brazil_DHN/01_Alpha_Crucis_Seamount.pdf) is NOT ACCEPTED (already named in the GEBCO Gazetteer as *Le Gouic Seamount*). | Complete | Name removed from Gazetteer. |
|  | **Liaison with Other Geographical Name Bodies** |  |  |
|  | **Activities of Marine Regions of interest to SCUFN** |  |  |
| SCUFN33/39 (former SCUFN32/181) | **Marine Regions** to consider the possibility of providing SCUFN Sec. with the list of possible issues (anomalies, discrepancies…) once a year (February) for quality assurance purposes. | Done for SCUFN-33. |  |
|  | **Gazetteer of Undersea Feature Names** |  |  |
|  | **Maintenance of the on-line interface to GEBCO Gazetteer database** |  |  |
| SCUFN33/44 | **SCUFN** commended NOAA/NCEI for their hard work and professional commitment in the upgrade of the GEBCO Gazetteer. | Complete |  |
| SCUFN33/45 | **SCUFN** Members to report to the Secretary 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) | Permanent |  |
| SCUFN33/46 | **SCUFN Members** to use the GEBCO Gazetteer (improvements made to date) and notify the **Secretary** Cc **Chris Slater, Jennifer Jencks** (NOAA) of any issues. | Permanent |  |
|  | **Maintenance of the GEBCO Gazetteer database (including PENDING names)** |  |  |
| SCUFN33/48 (former SCUFN33/189) | **Vice-Chair/Kimeli** to examine the list of issues and recommendations reported in Doc. SCUFN33-07.2B and provide to SCUFN Members by correspondence recommendations on the decision to be made (or way forward) as appropriate. | In progress |  |

**Annex B to SCUFN34-07.2B Rev1**

**Corrections to the Gazetteer following A. Isakov’s comments**

Andrey Isakov, a Russian UFN enthusiast (already known from SCUFN) has made a number of comments on the GEBCO Gazetteer, several of them reveling anomalies or errors on existing names. As a result, corrections have been made to those names as described below:

1. **Cermeno Seamount**. Isakov’s comment: should be Cermeño according to most sources.

Comment and action. This is correct. The names around are Spanish from same period (16th-17th centuries). **The name has been changed to** **Cermeño Seamount** with following text in Origin of Name (derived from Wikipedia): “Named after Sebastião Rodrigues Soromenho (c. 1560–1602) (Sebastián Rodríguez Cermeño in Spanish), a Portuguese explorer, born in Sesimbra (Portugal), and appointed by the king of Spain Philip II to sail along the shores of California, in the years 1595 and 1596, in order to map the American west coast line and define the maritime routes of the Pacific Ocean in the 16th century.”

1. **MacKenzie Trough**. Isakov’s comments: a) GNBC CGNDB (Canada): Mackenzie Trough <http://www4.rncan.gc.ca/search-place-names/unique/MAFLF>; b) ACUF: Mackenzie Trough.

Comment and action. Clearly, the specific term should be spelt Mackenzie since it was "Adopted from the ACUF Gazetteer" where it is thus written. **The name has been changed to** **Mackenzie Trough**.

1. **Shalovich Seamount**. Isakov’s comment: ACUF: Shalowitz Seamount; Note: A seamount in the North Pacific Ocean discovered during the 1971 SEAMAP operation; Named for Aaron L. Shalowitz of the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey who wrote the classic work “Shore and Sea Boundaries” in 1964.

Comment and action. It is indeed the same feature, named after Aaron L. Shalowitz. **The name has been changed to Shalowitz Seamount** with following text in Origin of Name (ACUF Gazetteer):  
“Named after Aaron L. Shalowitz (1892-1975) of the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey, who wrote the classic work ‘Shore and Sea Boundaries’ in 1964.”  
Also, following text in Additional Information: “This feature was discovered during the 1971 SEAMAP operation. Formerly, Shalovich Seamount. Adopted from the ACUF Gazetteer.”

1. **Soga Guyot.** Isakov’s comment: ACUF: Saga Guyot; Note: Saga is the name of an era (809-823).

Comment and action. The specific term is indeed Saga, not Soga (Wikipedia and other sources). Also Saga in the ACUF Gazetteer. Confirmed by Yas Ohara. **The name has been changed to** **Saga Guyot** with following text in Origin of Name: “Saga is the name of a Japanese era, that of Saga Tenno, the 52nd emperor of Japan, who reigned from 809 to 823.”

1. **Thor Iverson Bank.** Isakov’s comments: a) ACUF: Thor Iversen Bank; Note: Named for an early 20th century Norwegian whaling expert/author. b) Thor Iversen Bank in Gazetteer of Geographical Names of Undersea Features Shown (or which Might be Added) on the GEBCO and on the IHO Small-Scale International Chart Series, Monaco, 1988.

Comment and action. The specific term was indeed Thor Iversen in the first GEBCO Gazetteer in 1988, published as a book. It will have been mistranscribed when it was digitized. **The name has been changed to Thor Iversen Bank** with following text in Origin of Name: “Named after Thor Iversen (1873–1953), an early 20th century Norwegian whaling expert and author.”

1. **Wrecks Reefs.** Isakov’s comments: a) AHO: Wreck Reefs (Composite Gazetteer of Australia); b) GEBCO 5th edition, sheet 5.10: Wreck Reefs.

Comment and action. This name was taken from GEBCO sheet 5.10, where it was shown as Wreck Reefs, when creating the first GEBCO Gazetteer in 1988. Therefore, it was mistranscribed. **The name has been changed to Wreck Reefs**.

1. **Alba Guyot**. Isakov’s comment: Should be Albo according to most sources. Proposer’s mistake?

Comment and action. The correct specific term is Albo, after the Spanish navigator Francisco Albo (Wikipedia). **The name has been changed to** **Albo Guyot**.

1. **Chirikov Seamount**. Isakov’s comment: Not Galina Agapova proposal (as in “proposer/name”), should be changed to Chirikof; named after Chirikof Island (ACUF). Reference: Gibson 1960; Menard 1964 according to Undersea Features History: <https://geonames.nga.mil/gns/html/history.html>

Comment and action. It is probable that this feature was named by Gibson and/or Menard in 1960-64. However, it was submitted by G. Agapova to SCGN-6 in 1985, hence her name as proposer in the Gazetteer. It is correct that this feature was named from the nearby U.S. Island which is spelt Chirikof, not Chirikov. As a result, **the name has been changed to** **Chirikof Seamount**.

1. **Moroz Seamount**. Isakov’s comment: Appeared in the Gazetteer, but in SCUFN-20 Report this proposal with status ‘Not Accepted’.

Comment and action. It is correct that Moroz Seamount was never approved by SCUFN. Following SCUFN-20 in 2007, the proposer (Russian HO - DNO) was invited to submit another proposal with a more appropriate specific term. This never happened. **The name Moroz Seamount has therefore be removed from the Gazetteer**.

1. **Churov Seamount**. Isakov’s comment: ‘Origin of Name’ is empty. I think relevant information should be in the proposal. But if it’s not, then I suggest using the following information: Named after the Russian Hydrographer, Captain Ye. P. Churov (1918-1981), Doctor of Technical Sciences, Professor, one of the creators of the Soviet naval navigation satellite system "Tsikada".

Comment and action. **The name Churov Seamount**, accepted by SCGN-7 in 1987, **has been completed with the above underlined text in Origin of Name**.

1. **Gudauta Bank**. Isakov’s comment: Named from nearby city of Gudauta; Gudautskaja Bank in the Dictionary\*

Comment and action: **The following text has been included** in Origin of Name for Gudauta Bank: “Named from the nearby town of Gudauta”.

1. **Kumani Canyon**. Isakov’s comment: GEBCO Gazetteer: ‘Origin of name’ is empty. Most likely named after Captain Lieutenant F.N. Kumani, who performed the first deep-water measurement in the Black Sea in 1868 on the "L'vitsa" corvette.

Comment and action: Due to the location of this feature in the North of the Black Sea, A. Isakov is most probably right. **The following text has been included** in Origin of Name for Kumani Canyon: “Named after Captain Lieutenant F.N. Kumani, who performed the first deep-water measurements in the Black Sea in 1868 on the Russian corvette ‘L'vitsa’.”

1. **Ribatschi Bank**. Isakov’s comment: German(?) spelling; Named from the nearby Rybachiy Peninsula; possibly should be renamed to Rybač'ja depending on the origin of the name in the Gazetteer; Rybač'ja Bank in the Dictionary\*

Comment and action: Clearly, this feature has been named from the nearby Russian peninsula (Rybachiy / Rybač'ja). As suggested by A. Isakov, Ribatschi is probably a German spelling (Wikipedia). **The following text has been included** in Origin of Name for Ribatschi Bank: “Named from the nearby Rybachiy (Rybač'ja) Peninsula, Russia.”

1. **Chorokh Canyon**. Isakov’s comment: Named from the nearby Chorokh (Čoroh) River.

Comment and action: **The above text has been included** in Origin of Name for Chorokh Canyon.