

Report on Marine Regions activities

Report for SCUFN-35.2 meeting, Monaco, November 2022

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Undersea features

GEBCO-SCUFN and ACUF gazetteers were both integrated in Marine Regions in 2014. Both gazetteers are regularly updated and the issues found are reported yearly to SCUFN. The main facts about the 2022 updates are explained in the following sections below.

1. GEBCO update

114 new features added to Marine Regions, mainly from SCUFN-34 and SCUFN-35 but also from SCUFN-29, SCUFN-31 and SCUFN-33.

Issues found:

- a. For some features from the ACUF gazetteer, it is not entirely clear if the placetype of the given feature can be considered similar to the placetype in the GEBCO gazetteer, and if the features are the same. For now, we have integrated them under the same MRGID. Could you please have a look at the list in the file SCUFN35_2 - placetype_tocheck.xlsx?

2. ACUF update

2 new features added to Marine Regions.

Issues found:

- a. Features Le Trou sans Fond (UFI -2123603) and Stimen (UFI -1306370) are no longer listed under the undersea features. What could be the reason for this?
- b. The feature with UFI 14988298 has two names: Monowai Caldera and Monowai Seamount. The GEBCO gazetteer contains two separate features with different generic terms for these names at a distance of 10 km. Could it be that these names should be listed under separate UFIs?

- c. For several features, there are now two instances in the ACUF gazetteer in close proximity of each other (see table below). Are these indeed separate features?

feature	UFI (original)	UFI (new)
Broughton Gap	-152716	15236917
Rumble Four Seamount	9092752	15237317
Saunders Canyon	-155353 (no longer listed under undersea features)	15237321
Campbell Seachannel	-152779	15236920
Te Punga Hill		9092882 & 15175540 (both new features)
Taranui Seamount		9092613 & 15175539 (both new features)

- d. The feature Cavalli Valleys (UFI = 15236921) has the same description as the feature Cavalli Valleys in the GEBCO gazetteer, but significantly different coordinates. Could the coordinates be erroneous for this feature?
- e. The feature Waitaki Sea Channel (UFI = 15237342) has the same description as the feature Waitaki Sea Channel in the GEBCO gazetteer, but significantly different coordinates. Could the coordinates be erroneous for this feature?
- f. See issue 1.a.

General overview Undersea Features in Marine Regions

There are in total 11742 undersea features records in Marine Regions. The main sources for these features are the GEBCO, ACUF, SCAR, New Zealand and Canada gazetteers. Some features belong into more than one context.

Gazetteer - context	Total
ACUF Gazetteer	5904
GEBCO Gazetteer	4755
Canada Gazetteer	2258
New Zealand Gazetteer	821
SCAR-MarBIN	773
Other	680

Data products updates

Extended Continental Shelves v1: Marine Regions released the first version of the Extended Continental Shelves. This dataset represents the portion of the continental shelf that extends

beyond 200 Nautical Miles, as submitted by a State to or recommended by the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf (CLCS), or deposited with the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea (DOALOS).

Short-term future activities

Update of mregions R package: The mregions R package, which combines Marine Regions gazetteer and data product functions, will be reviewed and updated. The updated package will – among others – include all (new) RESTful services provided for the gazetteer.

Maritime Boundaries v12: In this new release, Marine Regions will tackle known issues for version 11.

Ocean Decade endorsement: Marine Regions submitted a proposal to the Call for Decade Actions No. 03/2022. Through the proposed Decade Action, Marine Regions seeks to increasingly adopt a demand-driven approach by involving various existing and new stakeholders.

Contact with JCUFN for integration: Following contacts during SCUFN35.1, Marine Regions is now in contact with JCUFN for the possible integration of the JCUFN gazetteer into the Marine Regions database.