



United States Board on Geographic Names

Advisory Committee on Undersea Features

304th Meeting
May 26, 2004
National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency
Bethesda, Maryland

Minutes

1. OPENING

Mr. WALTER called the meeting to order at 9:45 am.

Attendance

Members:

Norm CHERKIS, Naval Research Lab (retired)
Jim ROBB, United States Geological Survey
Sandy SHOR, National Science Foundation
Skip THEBERGE, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Gerry WALTER, National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency

Ex Officio:

Trent PALMER, US BGN ACUF Secretary

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Committee approved the agenda. It was noted that Mr. PALMER has included bulleted items for his communication items. This practice was well received. The Members were invited to provide any communication items they were aware of for inclusion on the next meeting agenda.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF ACUF 303

The Committee approved the minutes of the 303rd meeting.

4. COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. PALMER reported the following items:

- Mr. Marcus ALLSUP, former ACUF Secretary, will be returning to NGA's Political Geography Branch (formerly Geographic Names and Boundaries) to work as the Deputy NGA Geographer.

- Correspondence with Ms. Tracy GILL, NOAA was mentioned. Ms. Gill is involved in a research project off the coast of central California and is searching for 2D coordinate data for undersea features in that area.
- An e-mail exchange between Mr. PALMER and Dr. MONMONIER, Syracuse University, was circulated. Dr. MONMONIER is interested in ACUF's standardization policies and its relationship with SCUFN.
- Mr. Palmer responded to an inquiry from Ms. Amy NEVALA, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute (WHOI).
- The MBLWHOI Workshop web site has been activated (<http://www.mblwhoilibrary.org/ugio/>)
- The US Ocean Commission Report was released (www.oceancommission.gov)
- A biography of the renowned Geographer Louis AGASSIZ was circulated.
- An ACUF directory has been created on a NGA ftp server to allow the sharing of data with SCUFN.

Mr. THEBERGE reported the following items:

- There has been no progress on the naming of features for CARPINE, CARPINE-LANCRE, DAYMAN or BERRYMAN.
- He has found the specifications for the first GEBCO Series (in French).
- Is interested in making several historical documents available for inclusion on the ACUF web site (when operational).
- He is involved in the planning discussions for the new Ocean Hall in the Smithsonian Institution's Museum of Natural History. The hall is scheduled to open in 2008. It is hoped that a large wall-sized graphic of the Smith and Sandwell data will be included in the exhibit.

Mr. WALTER mentioned the following:

- A report on NPR discussed the discovery of a naturally formed elongated asphalt surface near the Sigsbee Escarpment in the Gulf of Mexico. Dr. SHOR commented that this had also been reported in "Science News."
- The United Nations Atlas of the Oceans web site (<http://www.oceansatlas.com>) includes a graphic of worldwide maritime boundaries and limits.

Mr. ROBB informed the group that the GLORIA data is available at <http://coastalmap.er.usgs.gov>.

5. REPORT ON UNGEGN MEETING

Mr. Palmer briefly reported on the recent 22nd Session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (UNGEGN) Meeting held 20-29 April 2004 in New York City. Several nations mentioned their interest in becoming involved in undersea feature naming activities (e.g. Indonesia, Iran and the Republic of Korea). The Indonesian representative expressed interest in receiving a copy of the ACUF standardization guidelines.

6. PREPARATION FOR SCUFN MEETING

Five proposals to be considered at the upcoming 17th SCUFN Meeting were examined. Secretary will communicate ACUF comments during the SCUFN Meeting.

7. RECONSIDERATION OF NAMES

<i>Proposed Name</i>	<i>Designation</i>	<i>Latitude</i>	<i>Longitude</i>	<i>ACUF Recommendation/Remarks</i>
Hall Hole	HOLU	43°22'N	069°37'W	deferred

Mr. Theberge to follow-up on the research for this proposed feature name.

Smith Escarpment	ESCU	58°45'N	146°24'W	APPROVED
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This name is in honor of the work done by the late Rear Admiral Paul A. Smith, United States Coast and Geodetic Survey in the northern Gulf of Alaska.

8. CLOSING

The Committee adjourned at 11:30 a.m. The next ACUF meeting is scheduled for 9:30 am Thursday 8 July 2004.