

Re: Action SCUFN 27/04

Generic Terms Group (Y. Ohara, H-C. Han and V. Stagpoole)

October 1, 2015

This action item is to reconsider the definitions of BANK, REEF and SHOAL.

In B-6 Edition 4.1 (2013), the terms are defined as follows:

- BANK: “An elevation of the seafloor at depths generally less than 200 m, but sufficient for safe surface navigation commonly found on the continental shelf or near an island”.
- REEF: “A shallow elevation composed of consolidated material that may constitute a hazard to surface navigation”.
- SHOAL: “A shallow elevation composed of unconsolidated material that may constitute a hazard to surface navigation”.

We conclude that the definitions are clear as-is. It may be hard to distinguish between a SHOAL and a REEF without data on the material make up. *In this regard, REEF and SHOAL should be categorized as “genetic term”, shown with asterisk marks.* The two terms clearly have genetic implications, having words “unconsolidated” and “consolidated”. As for BANK, the definition can totally be based on bathymetry; so stay as is.

With regards to “Nachtigaller SHOAL”, originally proposed as “Nachtigaller HILL”, the accompanying paper with the proposal (Dorschel et al., 2014) shows that the plateau at the summit of the feature is consisted of “consolidated” sediments (see page 14, 3.1.2, Substrate of Dorshel et al., 2014) that range from 20 to 50 m depth (see 3.1.1 of Dorschel 2014). It therefore suggests that the feature should be named “REFF”, instead of “SHOAL”.

End of the file