Paper for Consideration by SCUFN

Wish-List of Improvements to the On-line Interface of the GEBCO Gazetteer

Submitted by:	IHB (as SCUFN Secretary)
Executive Summary:	At SCUFN27, it was agreed to establish and maintain a wish-list of possible improvements to the on-line interface of the GEBCO Gazetteer (Action SCUFN27/84 refers). This list is to be prioritized by SCUFN Members and considered in terms of time and costs, in short in terms of feasibility, by the NOAA NGDC GEBCO Gazetteer Project Team.
Related Documents:	N/A
Related Projects:	N/A

Introduction / Background

1. In 2014, following the SCUFN27 meeting 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 Database and enhance the future SCUFN day-to-day operations. The following tasks were contracted to the former SCUFN Secretary.

Tasks	Objectives	Outcome reported in
1&2	*Major upgrade of the quality of the content of the database and consistency check by populating the fields ""Minimum depth", "Maximum depth", "Total relief", "Dimension/Size", "Associated meeting", "Proposal date" and "Discovery date"*	Doc. SCUFN28-07.2A
3	*Harmonization and standardization of the spelling of proposers and discoverers*	Doc. SCUFN28-07.2A
4	*Establishment of a wish-list of potential improvements to the interface of the on-line Gazetteer*	Doc. SCUFN28-07.1A
5	*Preparation of recommendations from the comprehensive use, in test mode, of the new interfaces www.scufnterm.org, www.scufn.submission.org, and www.scufnreview.org*	Doc. SCUFN28-07.2B
6	*Preparation of proposals for improving the procedure when assessing feature names lists proposed by national geographical names bodies*	Doc. SCUFN28-05.2B
7	*Monitoring of the PENDING names and management of the reserved-specific-list names*	Doc. SCUFN28-07.2C

2. The objective of this submission paper is to report on Task 4.

Analysis/Discussion

3. The wish-list of possible improvements is given in Annex.

Recommendations

It is recommended that:

4. Prior to SCUFN28, the NOAA NGDC Gazetteer Project Team makes an initial assessment of the work to be done in terms of time and costs, and provide provisional deadlines to achieve the work, if possible.

5. Considering time and costs estimates made available above, SCUFN Members complete the wish-list with the final decisions on the priority list, based on the initial proposals made by SCUFN Secretary.

6. In accordance with Action SCUFN27/84, SCUFN Secretary maintains this list, incorporates any additional technical item throughout the year on request of SCUFN Members and other users if deemed necessary, and makes this list available on the "Miscellaneous" section of the IHO SCUFN webpage.

Justificat**ion and Impacts**

7. 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.

8. Resource implications: impact on NOAA resources to be budgeted. Solutions through GEBCO funding to be considered.

Action required of SCUFN
9. SCUFN is invited to:

    a.   consider the list of possible improvements given in Annex and decide on the priority list.
    b.   submit the final list to NOAA NGDC for consideration and implementation.
    c.   agree on recommendations 4/, 5/ and 6/.

Wish-List of Improvements to the On-line Interface of the GEBCO Gazetteer

(*version 1.0.0 dated 4 August 2015*)

Number	Objective/Issue	SCUFN Sec. Initial Priority List	NOAA Assessment (yes/no, deadline, estimated costs)	SCUFN Members Priority List	Status
1	Baiju Guyot – Clicking on "Edit" results in the display of information pertaining to Galera Seamount ("pending" name). Therefore, the information on Baiju Guyot cannot be updated.	ASAP			
2	Fangzhang Guyot - Clicking on "Edit" results in the display of information pertaining to Saimei Seamount ("pending" name). Therefore, the information on Fangzhang Guyot cannot be updated.	ASAP			
3	Penglai Seamount - Clicking on "Edit" results in the display of information pertaining to São Paulo Seamount ("pending" name). Therefore, the information on Penglai Seamount cannot be updated.	ASAP			
4	Gazetteer Editor's Guide, Updating Geometry Information – There should be a reference to the WKT Converter.	Medium Term			
5	Gazetteer, display of information – Only the primary geometry is shown. There should be an additional line showing the secondary geometry.	Short Term			
6	Gazetteer administration, meeting list – When updating the details for a meeting, the field "Year" is reset to "1975". It should stay as it was.	ASAP			
7	Gazetteer, display of information – At present, one Associated Meeting only is allowed. In a number of cases, a name has been the subject of successive changes, relating to the generic term, the position(s) or even the specific term. These are reported in the relevant meetings. It would therefore be useful to be able to enter up to three associated meetings, in order to trace back the history of a name if needed.	Medium Term			
8	Gazetteer, display of geometry – A name with geometry crossing the date line (180°) has its geometry not displayed correctly or not displayed at all, e.g. Havre Trough, Hawaiian Ridge, Kermadec Ridge. Even when – in order to overcome the problem - a polygon has been divided into two lines that is, one on each side of the date line, that geometry is not shown on the basemap, e.g. Lomonosov Ridge, Pacific-Antarctic Ridge. Another interesting case is Pennel Bank. The geometry of the "approved" version is shown as follows: POLYGON ((174.3265381 -75.77142334, 176.3881836 -74.98693848, 181.5234375 -74.4395752, 180.0240001 -73.80207504, 178.4064331 -73.54724121, 173.8150635 -75.35498047, 173.6117554 -75.83148193, 174.3265381 -75.77142334)). Although it wrongly includes longitude values over 180, it is displayed correctly on the basemap. However, if the name is edited (no change on the geometry) and the results are	ASAP			

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	saved, then the geometry is changed to : MULTILINESTRING ((-179.999 -74.6182171463991, -179.999 -89.999, -0.001 -89.999, -0.001 89.999, -179.999 89.999, -179.999 -73.7985907294868), (-179.999 -74.6182171463991, -179.999 -89.999, -0.001 -89.999, -0.001 89.999, -179.999 89.999, -179.999 -73.7985907294868)). The new geometry includes values which are clearly wrong, e.g. -0.001 89.999 or -179.999 -89.999, and its display is therefore wrong. I have kept the edited Pennel Bank in the « edit » list.				
9	Gazetteer, display of geometry – The geometry of any name selected is shown in yellow on the basemap. When clicking on the geometry, it sometimes disappears, e.g. Kaiwhata Bank. In the case of Meihano Bank, no geometry is shown at all.	Short Term			
10	Gazetteer, display of information – In some rare cases, the Minimum Depth is a height, that is, above sea surface, e.g. Kikai Caldera or Oki-Daito Plateau. In order to cope with such cases, it must be possible to enter a negative value under Minimum Depth.	Short Term			
11	Gazetteer, editor mode – It should be possible to enter a third geometry.	Medium Term			
12	Gazetter, input and display of information. It should be possible to enter and display the following characters: ā, ē, ī, ō and ū, as part of a specific name, e.g. Pūkākī Rise, or as part of the information in the fields "Origin of Name" and/or "Additional Information".	Short Term			
13	Gazetter, display of position – At present, the coordinates associated with the cursor's position on the basemap are expressed as *Long, Lat* with format ±LLL.DDD, ±lll.ddd, e.g. –119.833, 13.475. There should be an option to express them as *Lat, Long* with format ll°mm.m'N/S, LLL°MM.M'E/W, e.g. 13°27.1'N, 119°50.5'W. The latter presentation and format for geographical coordinates are more familiar to the average user of the Gazetteer.	Short Term			
14	Gazetteer, Administration, Contact List – It should be possible to enter more than one e-mail addresses in the "Email" field. At present one address only can be included.	Medium Term			
15	Gazetteer program – After editing Oki-Daito Trough and leaving it as "Ready", I discovered from the relevant report (SCUFN24, 2011) that this name must be removed from the Gazetteer. I could delete the "Approved" name, but not its "Ready" version. To do that, I had to first "approve" the latter version, then to "delete" the newly approved name. It would be better if both versions "approved" and "ready" be deleted at the same time. Similarly, an "Edit" name cannot be deleted as such. It must be submitted and approved first, then deleted. It should be possible to delete an "Edit" name directly.	Medium Term			
16	Gazetteer program – Any value which has been entered under "Minimum Depth", "Maximum Depth" or "Total Relief" cannot be removed. It can only be changed.	ASAP			
17	Gazetteer program – Similarly, any value which has been entered under "Year of proposal" and "Year of discovery" cannot be removed. It can only be changed. The only way to have the year not shown in the "saved" version is to set it to 0 (zero).	ASAP			
18	Gazetteer program – If you click on "Edit" for an "APPROVED" name, then on "Cancel" (for example because you have realized that, eventually, there is no need for change on that name), you don't return to the previous "APPROVED" status, but to a new "EDIT" status.	ASAP			

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	You then have no choice but to follow the approval procedure, that is, "Submit" then "Approve", in order to get back to the initial "APPROVED" status, meaning that the previously "APPROVED" name has been "deleted" although no change has occurred. Selecting "Cancel" should result in reverting to the display of the previous status, in this case "APPROVED".				
19	Gazetteer, Administration, Feature Type List – If, during the editing of a feature type, you click on the "return" key to start a new line, this change is not reflected in the updated text, although it is shown if the feature type is edited again. This should be corrected.	Medium Term			
20	Gazetteer, Administration, Feature Type List – It should be possible to reach a given feature type, for example "Seamount", directly by entering some initial letters (e.g. "sea") in an additional small window "Filter by name" somewhere at the top of the page, similarly to what has been done to search through the contact list.	Short Term			
21	Gazetteer, Administration, Feature Type List – The feature type "Arrugado" appears in the list with description: "not a recognized Feature Type". This feature type is not used anywhere in the Gazetteer and should therefore be excluded from the list. However, it cannot be deleted. An error message is generated when attempting to delete it. Similarly, the following generic terms appearing in the list with no description, and which are not listed in B-6 and not used in the Gazetteer, should be deleted: "Mountains", "Unknown" and "Zone" (the latter term when Diamantina (East) Zone has been removed from the Gazetteer, as suggested to SCUFN).	Medium Term			
22	Gazetteer, Administration, Contact List - The contacts "German R/V Meteor" and "German R/V Meteor (Dr. R. Werner, GEOMAR)" are not linked to any name (Search results: 0 features found). However, they cannot be deleted from the Contact List. Same for "NMOC, USA", "Soviet Northern Fleet Hydrographic Expedition", "R/V Melville, SIO, USA".	Medium Term			
23	Gazetteer, Administration, Feature Type List – For consistency purpose, it is recommended that the expression "Feature Type" be replaced with "Generic Term", which is the accepted wording as reflected in B-6. Similarly, the words "Name" and "Description" at the top of each page should be replaced with "Term" and "Definition", respectively.	Medium Term			
24	Gazetteer, Administration, Feature Type List – Wherever the description of a feature type is not provided because reference is made to another feature type, e.g. Cap: see BANK, there should be a hyperlink from the relevant word – here, BANK – to the actual description for that feature type.	Medium Term			
25	Gazetteer, Administration, Feature Type List – The following "Note" should be included at the top of each page, preferably in the line "Feature Type List" (to become "Generic Term List"): "NOTE: Terms written in CAPITALS in the definitions are themselves defined elsewhere in the list."	Medium Term			
26	Gazetteer program – Importing geometry from shape files results in coordinates with an unnecessary great number of decimals, e.g. -35.79992945866667 -21.76742849571431. It is	Medium Term			

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	suggested to limit to five the number of decimals (the fifth decimal being rounded), which corresponds to an accuracy of the order of 1 metre on the ground (the sea in fact). Thus, the above coordinates would become -35.79993 -21.76743. The other additional decimals are meaningless.				
27	Make sure that when POLYGONS cross either the date line or the equador, there is no artefact	Short term			
28	When flying through the Gazetteer with the mouse, it would be great to have the possibility of displaying LAT, LONG, + **DEPTH** (in m) using the GEBCO gridded bathymetry database	Long term			