

**THE U.S. BOARD ON
GEOGRAPHIC NAMES (USBGN)
ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON
UNDERSEA FEATURES (ACUF)**



REPORT TO GEBCO/ SCUFN 29TH MEETING; 19-23 SEP, 2016

I. The United States Board on Geographic Names (USBGN):

The U.S. BGN is the authority for geographic names used by the U.S. Federal Government. Its members represent Federal departments and agencies, and they standardize names for geographic features in the United States and around the world to be used on U.S. products.

II. Updates to Undersea Features for 2015-2016:

During this year, 72 new feature names were approved and added to the Geographic Names Database (GNDB). The GNDB data can be accessed by the NGA GEOnet Names Server (GNS) located here: <http://geonames.nga.mil/gns/html/index.html>

III. ACUF and GEBCO/SCUFN Coordination

II. Updates to Undersea Features for 2015-2016:

- 1. (69) Features in the Gulf of Mexico**
- 2. Falkor Seamount**
- 3. Engineer Ridge**
- 4. White Seamount**

**1. (69) Features in the Gulf of Mexico;
Proposed by Texas A&M University, Dept. of Oceanography**

<i>NAME OF FEATURE</i>	<i>LAT</i>	<i>LONG</i>
Harte Bank	26 39.2N	96 34.4W
Reveille Basin	26 30N	92 05W
Acadiana Canyon	26 34N	93 18W
Alaminos Fan	26 05N	94 30W
Heezen Basin	27 14N	90 29W
Heezen Knoll	27 08N	90 29W
Hydrographer Canyon	26 41N	90 41W
Hydrographer Knoll	26 40N	90 36W
Oceanographer Basin	26 32N	90 59W
Researcher Knoll	26 32N	90 47W
West Farnella Canyon	26 29N	90 54W
Bowie Mound	27 41N	94 15W
Crockett Plateau	26 48N	94 25W
East De Soto Basin	26 21N	91 07W
Houston Mound	27 06N	95 16W
Lafitte Mound	27 40N	92 39W
San Antonio Dome	27 07N	96 01W
South Estavanico Basin	26 09N	91 31W
Lafayette Basin	27 00N	93 03W
Dunn Bank	27 48.5N	96 05.5W
Braunstein Basin	26 59N	93 51W
Gartner Mound	27 43N	93 18W
Meyerhoff Basin	27 38N	89 58W
Morse Ridge	27 48N	92 40W
South Shepard Basin	27 01N	93 20W
Martin Knoll	27 27N	89 41W
Martin Valley	27 30N	89 53W
Nettleton Knoll	25 58N	92 27W
Ray Basin	26 29N	92 25W
Salvador Mound	27 31N	94 30W
Shepard Bank	28 58.5N	94 19W
Treadwell Mound	27 00N	93 56W
Amery Knoll	25 54N	91 39W
Anderson Basin	26 11N	92 26W
Armstrong Basin	27 48N	94 53W
Baker Bank	27 45N	96 14W
Brooks Fan	27 11N	92 17W
Bryant Fan	25 35N	92 00W

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Buffler Basin	27 50N	91 37W
Chapman Basin	27 51N	92 08W
DiMarco Basin	26 15N	92 29W
Feeley Basin	27 49N	92 43W
Floyd Basin	27 41N	90 45W
Gittings Mound	27 49N	92 30W
Harrison Basin	26 35N	94 00W
Henderson Basin	28 06N	90 06W
Holcombe Mound	27 37N	94 47W
Holcombe Valley	27 46N	94 34W
Jeanjean Basin	26 08N	92 37W
Kenedy Dome	27 14N	95 58W
Matsushige Basin	26 49N	93 03W
McBride Basin	27 23N	91 25W
North Stickney Basin	26 56N	92 33W
Nowlin Basin	27 23N	90 31W
Roberts Basin	26 56N	94 00W
Rowe Basin	26 29N	92 53W
Sager Mound	27 50N	92 46W
Shephard Mound	27 48N	91 33W
Slowey Basin	27 36N	90 32W
Slowey Valley	27 46N	90 38W
Stickney Basin	26 50N	92 28W
Theberge Basin	26 30N	93 11W
Trabant Knoll	28 28N	89 51W
Tunnell Mound	27 48N	90 51W
Walker Knoll	26 06N	91 10W
West Frazier Basin	27 11N	93 03W
West Payne Basin	27 27N	93 06W
Wormuth Mound	27 41N	93 30W
Young Knoll	26 08N	93 01W

2. Falkor Seamount **11° 51.359"N, 144° 52.415"E**

The feature is located in the *North* Pacific Ocean, south of the Northern Mariana Islands, and Mariana Trench.

Proposed by the Schmidt Ocean Institute.

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3. Engineer Ridge 11.27083 (N), 144.46944 (E); center point coordinate

The feature is located in the North Pacific Ocean, south of the Mariana Trench. It is located within the vicinity of Falkor Seamount.

Proposed by the Schmidt Ocean Institute.

4. White Seamount 47° 12' 49.76" N, 136° 24' 34.26" W

The proposed feature is located in the Northern Pacific Ocean, about 600 miles west of the U.S. state of Washington. Proposed by the U.S. Navy.

III. ACUF and GEBCO/SCUFN Coordination**1. Adoption of GEBCO/SCUFN features and names into the NGA Geographic Names Database (GNDB) to continue.**

The ACUF discussed the interest in adopting additional SCUFN-approved features and names into the GNDB, recognizing that SCUFN-approved features and names are already rigorously vetted by the SCUFN committee.

However, the ACUF would perform reasonable research of SCUFN feature/names, only adopting into the GNDB those features not in conflict with current USBGN-approved names or policies. The ACUF would proceed in this process as time and resources allow.

2. ACUF Submissions to GEBCO/SCUFN

As explained in the introductory statement of the USBGN in this Report, the "USBGN, is the authority for geographic names used by the U.S. Federal Government. Its members... standardize names for geographic features in the United States and around the world to be used on U.S. products."

This, simply, is the U.S. policy that defines to whom the USBGN and ACUF primarily serve.

However, it is in the interest of the U.S. (USBGN/ACUF) to coordinate with other organizations involved with undersea feature naming, so each other's products are enhanced. Both ACUF and SCUFN have a long history of sharing data with one another for this coordination effort.

While the USBGN/ ACUF shares data with other organizations for coordination purposes, it does so as a '*courtesy*' only, not a requirement. ACUF will continue to provide an annual report that informs SCUFN on recent activities and new features in the database.

Although, in regard to SCUFN's recent interest in accepting/approving large datasets of feature names through a 'fast-track' process, 'submitting' names through this process would be an interest of the ACUF. Using this method would simplify the human effort by ACUF in supplying the data for SCUFN examination and adoption.