Paper for Consideration by SCUFN

Update on the progress to the GEBCO Gazetteer made with Actions and Decisions from SCUFN30

Submitted by:	Director of the IHO Data Centre for Digital Bathymetry
Executive Summary:	This document reports on the maintenance and enhancements made to the GEBCO Gazetteer application (including interface and underlying database) from all decisions and actions that were agreed at SCUFN-30, as well as on progressing other actions from SCUFN-30
Related Documents:	SCUFN30-07.1B, SCUFN29-07.1A Rev 1
Related Projects:	N/A

Introduction / Background

1. An updated and enhanced Gazetteer application was fully migrated from a testing to a production environment and made "live" on May 17, 2018. The Gazetteer is usable for consultation and editing. The updates made to the Gazetteer addressed most of the issues described in SCUFN30-07.1B.

Analysis/Discussion

2. Three outstanding issues, classified as "high priority" will be addressed in 2019.
   a. The names that pop up when moving the cursor on the map are wrong. For example, moving the cursor on the polygon depicting Bollons Gap (SW Pacific) results in the names Maurice Ewing Bank popping up, while the latter feature is actually located in the S. Atlantic.
   b. When clicking on a feature with its geometry spanning the international date line (180°), for example Bounty Trough, the chart is relocated to be centered around the 0° Meridian and at about same latitude as the selected feature. Keeping the example of Bounty Trough, if one moves the map manually towards the area of this feature, one can see the geometry of Bounty Trough being highlighted as two polygons adjacent along the 180° Meridian, that is, at the right place. If one clicks on that geometry again, the chart is again relocated to be centered on the 0° Meridian.
   c. Some letters, part of a specific term and bearing a macron on their top, such as in some Maori names (Ōmakere, Pōrangahau, Raukūmara, etc.), are not accepted by the Gazetteer app.

3. The software developer, who addressed last year's issues and hardened the Gazetteer, resigned in May, 2018. A new software developer will begin October 1. Work on the Gazetteer is expected in early 2019.

4. Annual funding of ~50K/year for the maintenance and enhancements of the Gazetteer has been secured. This funding will be used to
   a. Perform annual maintenance and upgrades (when necessary)
   b. Implement a limited number of requested enhancements

Recommendations

It is recommended that:

5. SCUFN Members review the wish-list of improvements (SCUFN28-07.1A), including the suggested priorities, and propose any changes as deemed necessary.

6. A discussion take place seeking clarity of the role of the IHO DCDB-hosted Gazetteer and the KHOA Beta-Gazetteer Project. What are SCUFN's expectations of each?

Justification and Impacts

7. It should be understood that continued improvements and enhancements of the Gazetteer will remain incremental.

8. Without clarity on the role of the GEBCO Gazetteer and the Beta-Gazetteer, there remains concern that redundant efforts are taking place.

Action required of SCUFN

9. SCUFN is invited to:
    a. note this paper;
    b. consider the recommendations made in sections 4, 5, and 6 and the impacts in section 7.