

Re: Action SCUFN 24/103

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September 21, 2012

1. Introduction

This is to reply to Action SCUFN 24/103, which is on reviewing the names proposed ad hoc at SCUFN 14 (Tokyo, 2001).

This time, JCUFN has reviewed 10 names relevant to the features on the Kyushu-Palau Ridge (see Fig .1 for index). Results are:

- (1) Hokusei-Ryusei Seamount → rejected**
- (2) Amanogawa Seamounts → rejected**
- (3) Kyosei Seamount → approved
- (4) Minami-Rensei Seamount → approved
- (5) Black Hole → approved as Sui-shin Hole**
- (6) Choshinsei Seamount → approved
- (7) Minami-Choshinsei Seamount → approved
- (8) Kaguyahime Seamount → approved
- (9) Tanabata Seamounts → rejected**
- (10) Ake-no-Myojo Seamount → approved

It is important to note that ad hoc proposals at SCUFN 14 were based on Japanese bathymetric maps #6722 and #6725, of which data were combination of single-beam and poor multi-beam soundings in early- to mid-90's.

During the review process, JCUFN used maps generated with the latest multi-beam soundings. We made comparison of new and old maps in Figs. 2 and 3.

2. Results

(1) Hokusei-Ryusei Seamount

This seamount is located to the northwest of Ryusei Seamount. Based on the new map, Ryusei Seamount turns out to consist of at least 5 individual seamounts. The ad-hoc-proposed Hokusei-Ryusei Seamount is located to the northwest of this seamounts cluster (note that "Hokusei" means northwest in Japanese). Because of this clustering, we considered that "Hokusei-Ryusei" is not an appropriate specific name for the seamount located to the northwest of this seamounts cluster. We decided to reject this name.

"Ryusei" is the Japanese term for a shooting star (Hokusei = north-west, in Japanese).

(2) Amanogawa Seamounts

This was proposed ad hoc to name the seamount group indicated by a dashed line in Fig. 2. The seamount group includes Kita-Ryusei, Ryusei, Kita-Rensei, Rensei, Minami-Rensei, Suisei, Higashi-Suisei, Kosei, and Nishi-Kosei Seamounts.

It is important to note that “Amanogawa” means the Milky Way in Japanese, but all of the specific names above are totally irrelevant to the Milky Way. Therefore we decided to reject this name. **This feature name is already erroneously registered in the Gazetteer, so JCFUN requests to the SCFUN secretary to remove the name from the Gazetteer.**

Although Kosei Seamount was accredited by JCFUN in 1988, it seems that discussion on this seamount was omitted for unknown reason at SCFUN-14 in 2001.

Furthermore, Junsei Seamount was discussed at SCFUN-14, concluded as “pending Japanese national approval”. However, this feature was already accredited by JCUFN in 1988 and therefore not necessary for “Japanese national approval”. **It should be however noted that this feature name is already erroneously registered in the Gazetteer, so JCUFN would accept this situation as it is.**

Note that:

“Ryusei” is the Japanese term for a shooting star.

“Rensei” is the Japanese term for a binary star.

“Suisei” is the Japanese term for a comet.

“Kosei” is the Japanese term for a fixed star.

“Junsei” is the Japanese term for a quasar.

(3) Kyosei Seamount

This seamount is located to the east of Ryusei Seamount. Since there are no reasons to reject this name, we approved it. **It should be noted that this feature name is already erroneously registered in the Gazetteer, so JCUFN would accept this situation as it is.**

“Kyosei” is the Japanese term for a giant star.

(4) Minami-Rensei Seamount

This seamount is located to the south of Rensei Seamount. Since there are no reasons to reject this name, we approved it. **It should be noted that this feature name is already erroneously registered in the Gazetteer, so JCUFN would accept this situation as it is.**

“Rensei” is the Japanese term for a binary star (Minami = south, in Japanese).

(5) Black Hole

Since Ohara et al. (1997) already named this feature “Sui-shin Depression”, before the ad-hoc proposal at SCUFN 14. Therefore we decided to employ “Sui-shin” as the appropriate specific name for the feature. As for the generic term, there is no official generic term “depression” in B-6; in stead, the bathymetric feature closely fits in the definition of “Hole”. In conclusion, we named this feature “Sui-shin Hole”. **This feature name is already erroneously registered in the Gazetteer, so JCFUN requests to the SCFUN secretary to remove the name from the Gazetteer.**

“Sui” comes from “Suisai Seamount”, and “shin” comes from “Shinsei Seamount”, both of which located to the northwest and southwest of the feature. In other words, “Sui-shin Hole” is located geographically in between “Suisai Seamount” and “Shinsei Seamount”.

Reference:

Ohara Y., T. Ishii, K. Fujioka, Y. Kato, S. Haraguchi, S. Kasuga, T. Sasaki, T. Kanamatsu, and I. Sakamoto, 1997, Report of multi-channel seismic reflection and submersible Shinkai 6500 studies at Kyushu-Palau Ridge, Report of Hydrographic Researches, 33, 85-93.

(6) Choshinsei Seamount

This seamount is located to the west of Shinsei Seamount. Since there are no reasons to reject this name, we approved it. **It should be noted that this feature name is already erroneously registered in the Gazetteer, so JCUFN would accept this situation as it is.**

“Choshinsei” is the Japanese term for a supernova.

(7) Minami-Choshinsei Seamount

This seamount is located to the southwest of Choshinsei Seamount. Since there are no reasons to reject this name, we approved it. **It should be noted that this feature name is already erroneously registered in the Gazetteer, so JCUFN would accept this situation as it is.**

“Choshinsei” is the Japanese term for a supernova (Minami = south, in Japanese).

(8) Kaguyahime Seamount

This seamount is located to the east of Hokuto Seamount. Based on the new map, there are at least 4 individual seamounts, and Kaguyahime Seamount is one of these. We were willing to approve it. **It should be noted that this feature name is already erroneously registered in the Gazetteer, so JCUFN would accept this situation as it is.**

“Kaguyahime” means Story Teller in Japanese.

(9) Tanabata Seamounts

This was proposed ad hoc to name the seamount group indicated by a dashed line in Fig. 3. The seamount group includes Kaguyahime, Hokuto, Yusei, Nishi-Yusei, Shokujo, and Kengyu Seamounts (although the longitude of Nishi-Yusei Seamount is wrongly registered as 136°03.6'E; it is correctly 136°23.6'E).

It is important to note that “Tanabata” means Festival of Weaver in Japanese, but only two of the specific names above (Shokujo and Kengyu Seamounts) are relevant to Festival of Weaver. This is not appropriate, and we decided to reject this name, Tanabata Seamounts. **This feature name is already erroneously registered in the Gazetteer, so JCFUN requests to the SCFUN secretary to remove the name from the Gazetteer.**

Note that:

“Hokuto” is the Japanese term for the Great Bear constellation.

“Yusei” is the Japanese term for a planet.

“Shokujo” is the Japanese term for the star Vega.

“Kengyu” is the Japanese term for the star Altair.

(10) Ake-no-Myojo Seamount

This seamount is located to the south of Myojo Seamount. Since there are no reasons to reject this name, we approved it. **It should be noted that this feature name is already erroneously registered in the Gazetteer, so JCUFN would accept this situation as it is.**

“Myojo” is the Japanese term for the Venus seen before sunrise or after sunset. “Ake-no” means, in Japanese, before sunrise.

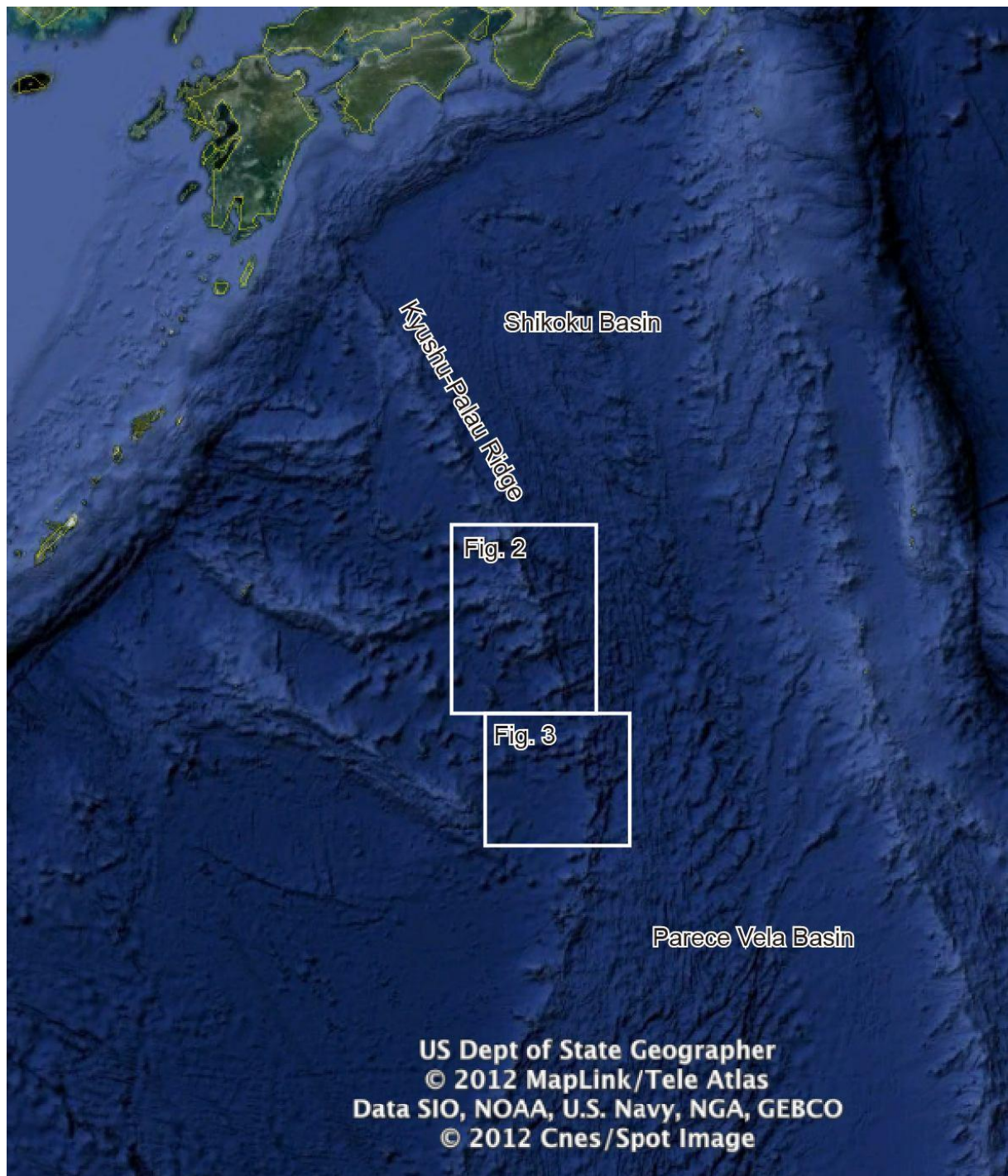


Fig 1. Index map showing the locations of the Kyushu-Palau Ridge based on captured Google Earth image. Two white boxes are for Figs 2 and 3.

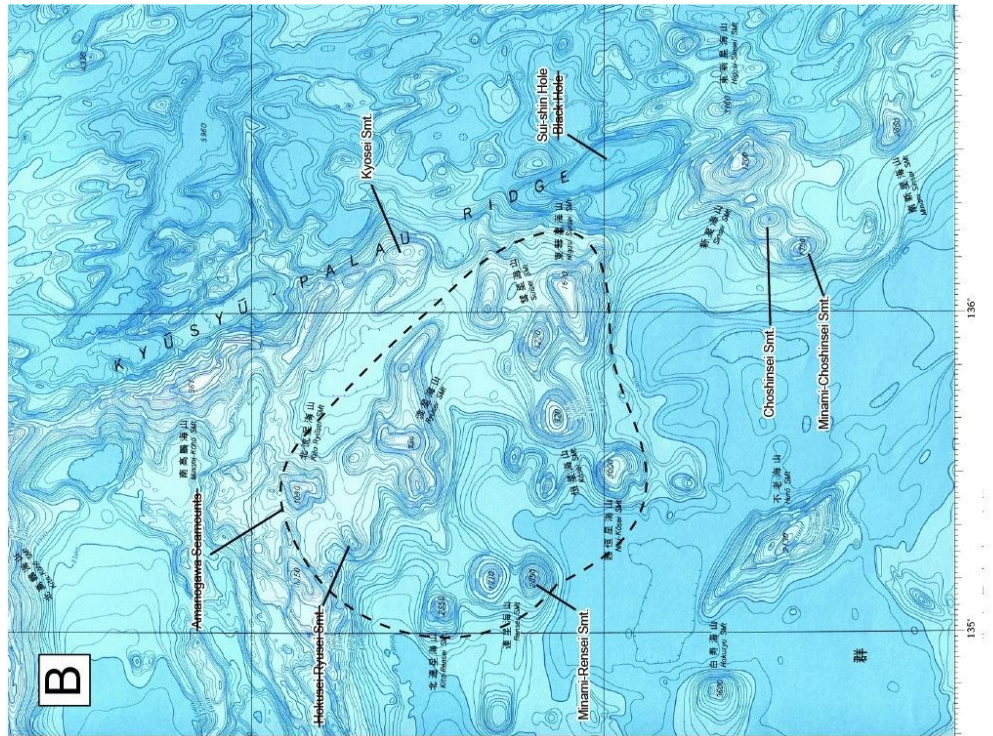
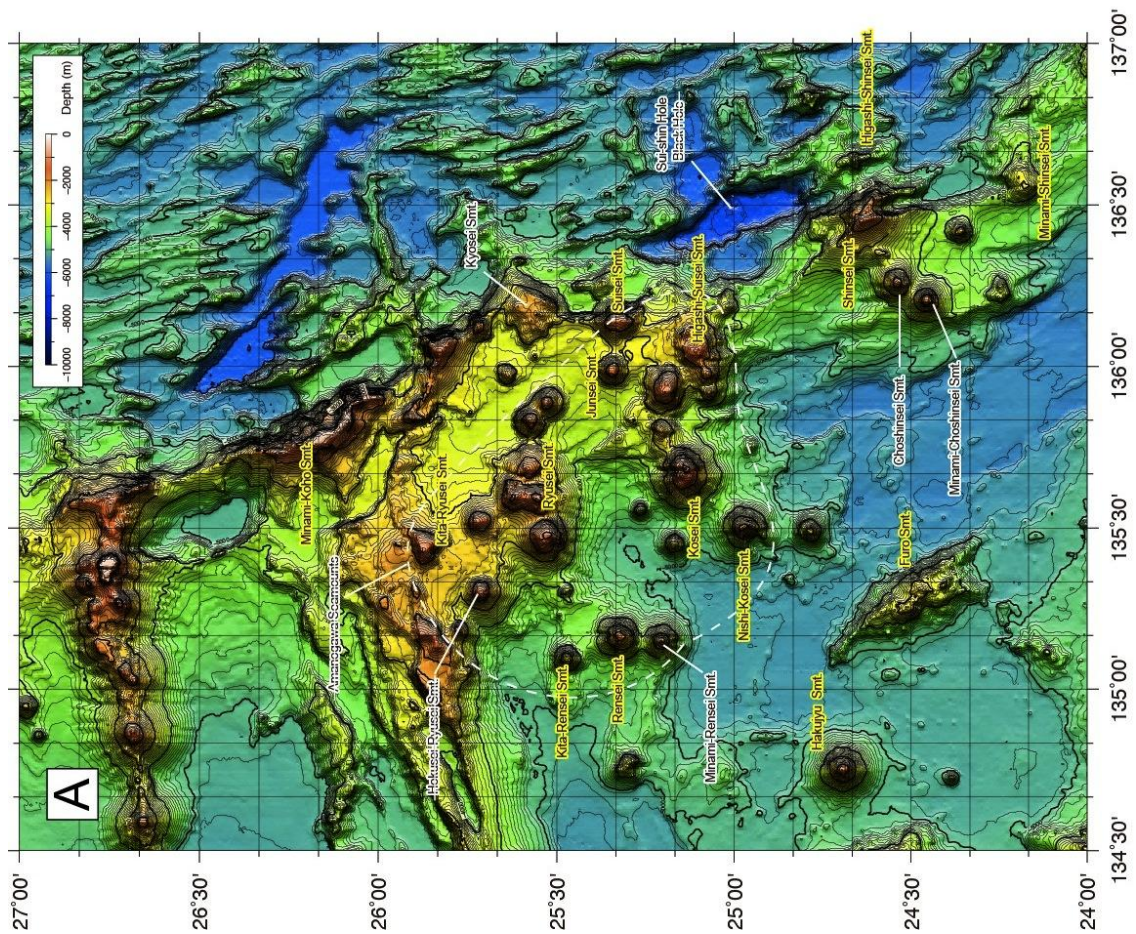


Fig. 2. (A) Bathymetric map using the latest multi-beam soundings. The undersea feature names shown in black-white are the names in question, whereas in black-yellow are the names already included in the SCUFN Gazetteer. (B) Scanned image of Japanese bathymetric map #6725.

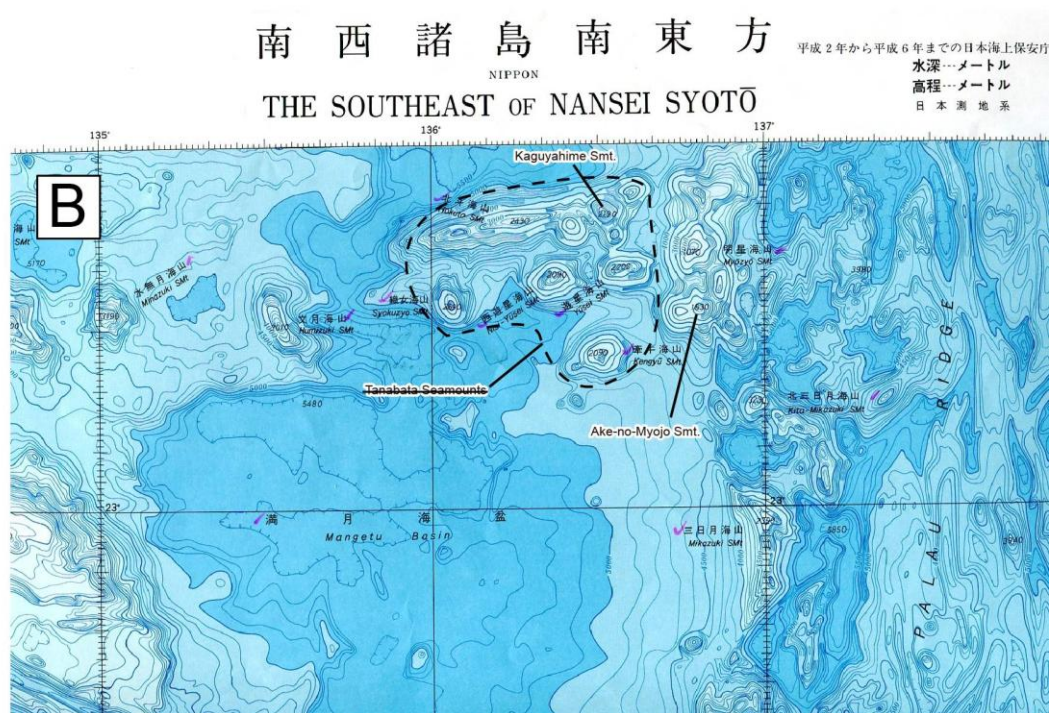
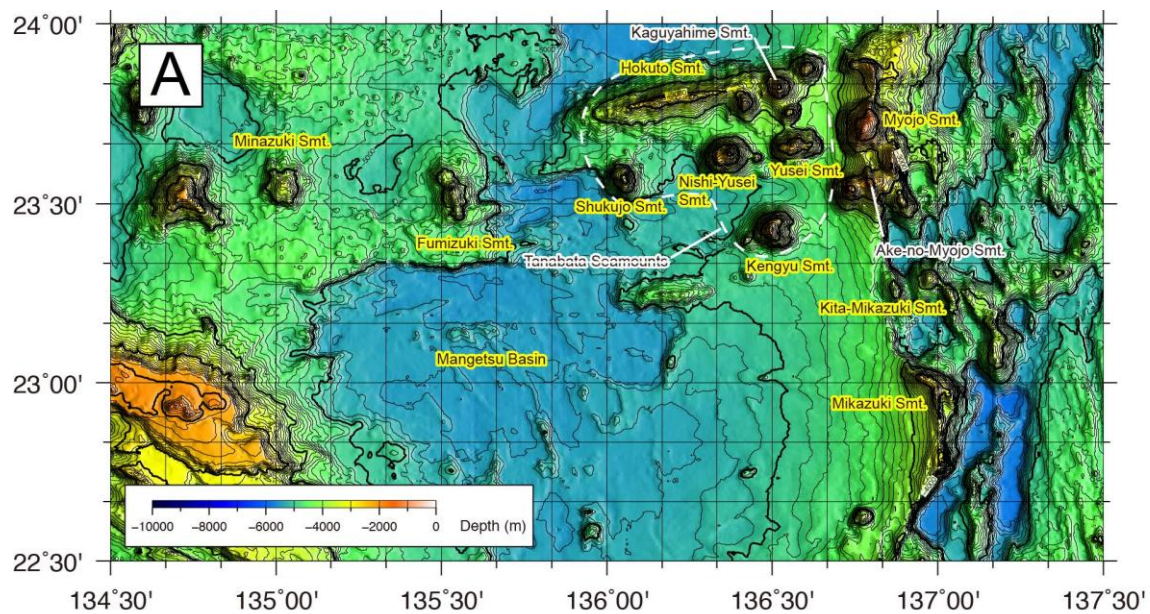


Fig 3. (A) Bathymetric map using the latest multi-beam soundings. The undersea feature names shown in black-white are the names in question, whereas in black-yellow are the names already included in the SCUFN Gazetteer. (B) Scanned image of Japanese bathymetric map #6722.