

Comments from the SCUFN Chair

Chac Seamount

The feature is very close to the Acapulco Seamounts and the Dowd Gyuot, which are surveyed by MBES ("RV Th. Washington"), cf. to GEBCO_08, and our Web Gazetteer. The proposer states under "Feature Description" that the feature is 85 m above (!) Sea Level, this is an island, name proposal is chac Island. We do not handle name of geographical features above Sea Level.

The structure below sea level belong to the island. SCUFN cannot apply another name (Chac Seamount) to the submarine part of this island.

I assume that the proposer Lee Daniels had surveyed the topography of the island. I could not find information in Google Ocean about this rock island. I am not sure that he was the discoverer. It would be surprising, since there were research activities nearby (SCRIPPS, MBES survey lines along the Acapulco Smts and also close to the "Chac Island"). One should look into the expedition data at SCRIPPS. But this is probably not our task.

Nares Seamount

I think, we appreciate very much the engagement of Mr. Daniels.

However, we cannot accept both proposals. They are based only on the GEBCO grid data which was derived (in the area) from predicted bathymetry. In particular, in the area of the two features, none or only very few soundings are available. I have attached the result of a small investigation regarding the proposed Nares Smt. Location is in the Southern Indian Ocean, so I looked into the Plotting sheets from Bob Fisher "Alliance Exotique" , and found that only one ship track crosses the seamount partly. The soundings on the plotting sheet 2711S show that the depths of the surrounding area are absolutely wrong. The differences are more than 1,000 m. This again proves that the predicted bathymetry definitely is not reliable in regions without real soundings. In addition, the submitted graphics are not acceptable, quality and content are not sufficient. There are no annotation, no coordinates, etc.

We have already two features (Bank, Abyssal Plain) in the Gazetteer named after Nares, but I do not know whether it's the same person.