

2015 New Zealand SCAGI Report

Submitted by New Zealand to the SCAR-SCAGI
Intercessional Meeting

Brussels, Belgium

15 June 2015

1 New Zealand SCAGI Members

Graeme Blick
Wendy Shaw

New Zealand National Representative
New Zealand Geographic Names

2 LINZ National Geodetic Office Survey Activities

LINZ has continued with its geodetic activities in the Ross Sea Region of Antarctica undertaking the following activities:

- Continuing support of the POLENET project, by operating GNSS CORS stations at Cape Roberts and Scott Base, and support to the Butchers Ridge site.
- Maintenance, calibration and operation of tide gauges at Cape Roberts and Scott Base.
- Locating a site for a new absolute gravity mark at Scott Base to replace the mark adjacent to the Scott Base flag pole. This is planned for installation in 2015/16.
- Deformation surveys of:
 - Scott's Discovery Hut at Hut Point
 - Hillary's TAE Hut at Scott Base; and
 - Wind turbines at Crater Hill, Scott Base
- Monitoring surveys of:
 - Beach profile survey in front of Scott's hut at Cape Evans; and
 - Beach profile survey in front of Scott Base

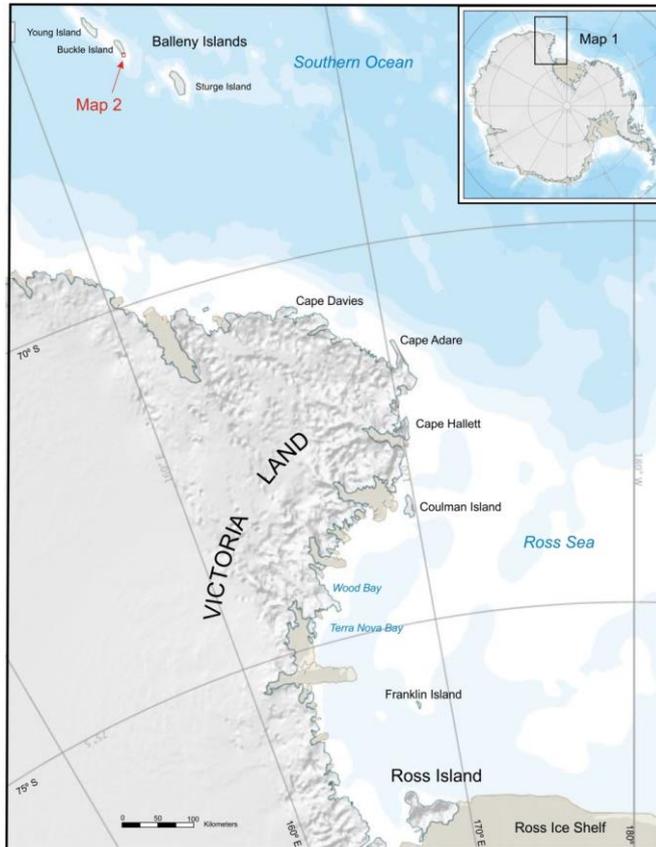
3 LINZ National Hydrographic Authority Charting

LINZ is looking to extend its hydrographic activities in Antarctica by:

- Reviewing and incorporating into existing charting of the Ross Sea Region bathometric data from scientific voyages in the Ross Sea provided by GNS Science.
- Investigating ships that may provide an opportunity to acquire bathometric data collected during scientific or tourist voyages to the Ross Sea.
- Including Antarctic charting and hydrographic surveys in future LINZ national hydrographic survey and charting programmes.

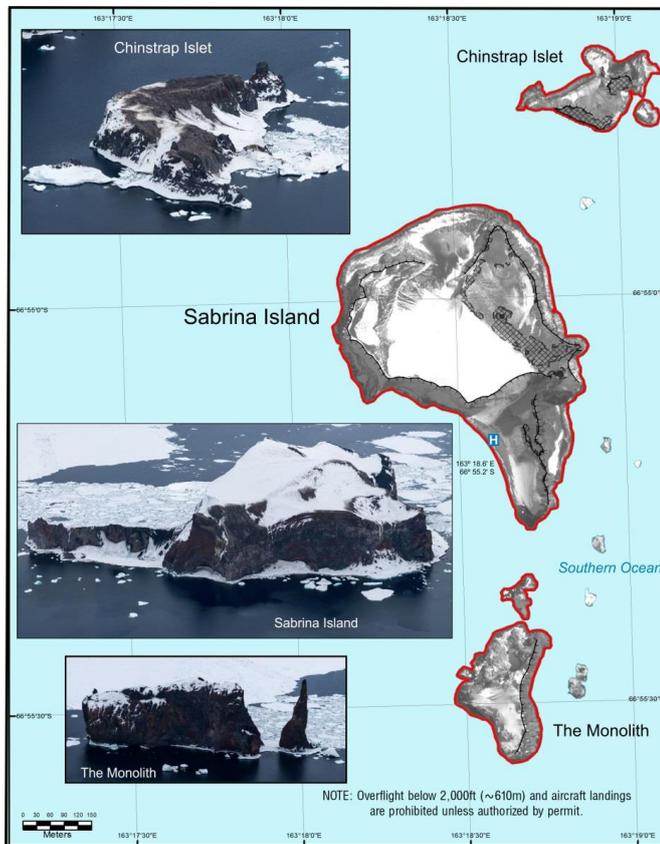
4 LINZ Topographic Mapping

Mapping has been undertaken of Sabrina Island in the Balleny Island Group to define ASPA 104 (see maps following).



Map Information
 Source: SCAR Antarctic Digital Database
 Projection: Antarctic Polar Stereographic
 Datum: WGS84
 True north is coincident with the lines of longitude

Map 1 - ASPA 104: Sabrina Island
 Northern Ross Sea, Antarctica.
 Regional Map



Map Information
 Projection: UTM Zone 58 Sth
 Datum: WGS 84
 True north is coincident with the lines of longitude
Data Source
 Imagery: Digital Globe, WorldView-1 Satellite
 Acquired on: 14 January 2011, 50cm res
 Features: Captured by Land Information New Zealand
 Oblique Photography: Taken in Dec 2014 by RNZAF

Map 2 - ASPA 104: Sabrina Island
 Northern Ross Sea, Antarctica.
 Boundary, Access and Features

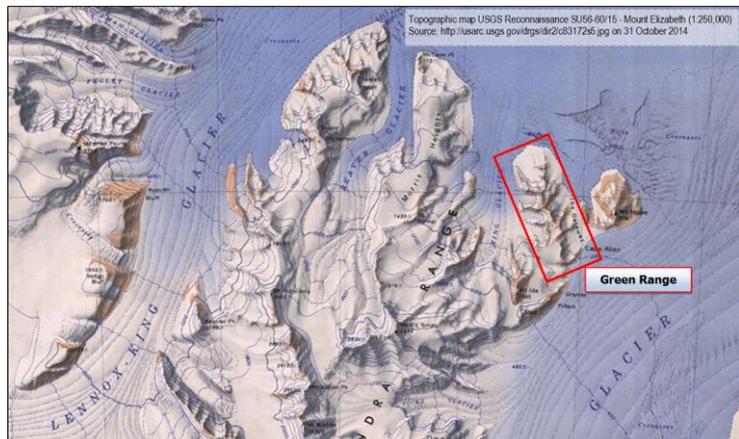
Legend
 ▬▬▬▬ Chinstrap penguin colonies (extent approximate as at Dec 2005)
 ▬▬▬▬ Sabrina penguin colonies (extent approximate as at Dec 2005)
 ▬▬▬▬ ASPA Boundary
 H Preferred Landing Site (helicopter & small boat)

5 New Zealand Geographic Board Ngā Pou Taunaha o Aotearoa (NZGB)

5.1 Gazetted official NZ Antarctic names

Two geographic names within New Zealand's area of interest in Antarctica have been made official by the NZGB since the last SCAGI meeting in Auckland (August 2014). The proposals were from Antarctica NZ and an Associate Professor at University of Waikato:

Official Geographic Name	Geographic Feature Type	Description
Green Range	Range	A distinct range trending generally north-south for approximately 12km. Midpoint is approximately 600m high descending to approximately 200m at its northern and southern ends. Located at the northern-most end of Queen Alexandra Range between King Glacier and The Gateway near Mount Hope. Northern-most position: 83°27'30"S latitude, 170°40'E longitude; midpoint position: 83°31'S latitude, 170°43'E longitude; southern-most position: 83°34'S latitude, 170°50'E longitude. USGS reconnaissance map 1:250K SU56-60/15. New name for a feature not named.



Leitch Ridge	Ridge	A small, distinct ridge above Scott Base on Hut Point Peninsula. Starting south of the saddle below Crater Hill, the ridge descends along a low gradient generally south for approximately 400m to a point where it meets the vehicle track that provides access to the wind turbines. Northern-most position: 77°50'34"S latitude, 166°43'21"E longitude; midpoint position: 77°50'37"S latitude, 166°43'30"E longitude; southern-most position: 77°50'46"S latitude, 166°43'44"E longitude. NZ Ant50-MF13 and USGS reconnaissance map 1:250K ST57-60/6. New name for a feature not named.
------------------------------	-------	---



5.2 Upcoming NZ Antarctic name proposals

The NZGB currently has two proposals recently received from Antarctica NZ for Mount Rittman and Chinstrap Islet. They both emerged from the creation of two new ASPAs; noting that neither are in the NZGB's [Gazetteer](#). They will be considered by the Antarctic Names Committee (ANC) in June/July 2015 and then the NZGB will consider the ANC's recommendations at its 23 September 2015 meeting.

5.3 NZ Antarctic Names Committee (ANC)

The meeting held on 25 August 2014 included observers from SCAGI: Dr Antonie Haas, Mr Jean-Yves Pirlot, Professor Carlo Baroni and Dr Roberto Cervellati. Minutes are available on request. The meeting covered:

- Recommendations for new names 'Leitch Ridge' and 'Green Range'
- Updated Terms of Reference for the ANC to include new members
- Delegation to the Chairperson of the NZGB to make final decisions on Antarctic names recommended by the ANC
- Developing a programme to ensure a share of features to be given Māori names in new mapping areas
- Updating the NZGB's [Frameworks](#) document
- Proactively naming in certain areas of Australia's territory, that are of operational importance to New Zealand
- Undersea naming within the Ross Dependency area
- The need for international liaison and cooperation in respect to geographic naming by multiple nations
- Raising awareness through Antarctica NZ of the need for official geographic naming by scientists and field support staff
- Seeking to possibly post messages on the SCAR CGA and GEBSCO SCUFN Gazetteer, to encourage naming proposals to be made through national naming authorities
- Opportunities for naming of undersea Antarctic features resulting from shallow survey swath mapping
- The NZGB's Strategic Plan 2015-2020 (available on request), with the possibility of developing wording for another separate NZGB goal on international relations in particular for Antarctic and undersea feature naming, eg 'In Antarctic and undersea regions encourage establishment of Māori and other names that reflect New Zealand's unique culture and environment.'
- Seeking information on the German base at Terra Nova Bay (subsequently provided by Dr Antonie Haas).
- Italian geological maps to be checked for any names that were added and are not in the SCAR CGA. Any new names identified would preferably be submitted as proposals to the NZGB.
- Reconsider whether a formal naming agreement should be developed between Italy and NZ, much the same as the Relationship Protocol with the USBGN and US-ACAN
- SCAGI to consider developing a protocol for each member nation of SCAGI to adhere to, which includes the main and secondary delegates and also sets out some of the collaboration commitments to be followed with shared naming
- Combining the Italian, USA and NZ descriptions for Silverfish Bay, then ANC to endorse the revised description (via email), then seek agreement from Italy and USA, then SCAR CGA to be updated, then NZGB to publish an amending gazette, then document the process for similar issues to follow in the future
- Take account of the US-ACAN list of generic features and what must be taken into account in terms of exact geomorphological definitions, with a view to consistent capture of geometry by nations and systematic capturing of spatial extents of named features
- Reserve list of descriptive Māori names for use in Antarctica circulated to ANC

Progress with the above items has been slow, mainly due to staff resources and other work priorities of the NZGB Secretariat, who look after all NZ names, not only those in the Ross Dependency of Antarctica.

5.4 Differences between the SCAR CGA and the NZGB Gazetteer

Outstanding investigations by the NZGB Secretariat for Antarctic names remain with significant inconsistencies between the SCAR CGA and the NZGB Gazetteer. Statistics mentioned in NZ's 2014 SCAGI report refer:

- Over 3800 Antarctic names in the NZGB's Gazetteer and only 2596 NZ Antarctic names in the SCAR CGA
- Over 1250 Antarctic names in the NZGB's Gazetteer have been identified as not being in SCAR's Gazetteer, which need to be investigated and advised to Italy for inclusion in the SCAR CGA.

5.5 SCAR Liaison Officer for UNGEGN

SCAGI is requested to consider nominating an Antarctic Liaison Officer to report on and participate/contribute to the work of [UNGEEN](#). Most recently the Antarctic Liaison Officer was Henk Brolsma. A suggestion is that whoever is the current Chair of SCAGI should also be the Antarctic Liaison Officer for UNGEGN