



**AUS**  
SEABED

**News**

AusSeabed Newsletter No.9

November 2019

Hello all,

Apologies for a late newsletter this month. It's been a very busy time for the AusSeabed team but it's also been a very exciting time, with a great deal of travel and proposal writing. More information on that below. Hope you enjoy this month's newsletter.

## Updates

### **GEBCO Meeting update**

Aero Lepastrier (GA) and Johnathan Kool (AAD) travelled to the United States of America visiting the city of Portsmouth, New Hampshire to participate in the 36<sup>th</sup> GEBCO Guiding Committee (GGC), Joint Sub-Committee on Regional Undersea Mapping (SCRUM), Technical Sub-

### **WAMSI joins AusSeabed**

With the State introduction of Index of Biodiversity Surveys for Assessments (IBSA) <https://www.dwer.wa.gov.au/ibsa> and the proposed introduction of Index of Marine Surveys for Assessment in 2020, there will be meetings here in Perth WA with all major Government

Committee on Ocean Mapping (TSCOM), Sub-Committee on Communications, Outreach and Public Engagement (SCOPE) Meetings, and GEBCO Symposium. AusSeabed was acknowledged for contributing data to the IHO-DCDB and the Regional Seabed 2030 centres. Aero delivered a presentation on the progress of the AusSeabed program since the last GEBCO meeting. The presentation was well received and generated a lot of interest from the international seabed mapping community. The automated processing pipeline and the Data hub were both popular topics of discussion with a number of potential collaborators following the presentation.

agencies and Private enterprise representatives to discuss the potential supply of Bathymetric and associated Habitat data to AusSeabed. Discussions will also discuss establishing a test datahub in association with the AusSeabed Datahub Team.

## Program themes

### Data Hub

Geoscience Australia submitted a funding proposal on Nov 1 to the ARDC Software and Platform calls to assist in the development of the

### Tools, Guidelines

Following the testing of the Survey Planning and Request Tool at AMSA in July, the tool has been refined and has now been migrated to the AuSeabed GitHub organisation and made public:

<https://github.com/ausseabed/survey-request-and-planning-tool>. We are also happy to announce that

AusSeabed Data Hub Platform. The highlight of this effort is that once again a group of AusSeabed collaborators (national and international), came together, in the role of co-contributors or advisors, to make this possible. ARDC will provide us with their decision by early December, which we will share with you. Stay tuned! For information, contact [Kim.picard@ga.gov.au](mailto:Kim.picard@ga.gov.au)

the first release of QAX with bundled Mate checks developed in collaboration with Giuseppe Masetti (Centre for Coastal and Ocean Mapping), Tyanne Faulkes (National Ocean and Atmospheric Administration), Justy Siwabessy (Geoscience Australia), and Lachlan Hurst (FrontierSI) is also now on the AusSeabed GitHub organisation and available:

[https://github.com/ausseabed/hyo2\\_qax/releases/tag/v1.0.0](https://github.com/ausseabed/hyo2_qax/releases/tag/v1.0.0)

## Outreach, Training and Education

A group, led by Tim Ingleton, is putting together a workshop proposal for AMSA 2020, which will follow the conference theme: **Marine Science in the Anthropocene**. Preliminary discussions on the content of the AusSeabed workshop suggests that we will highlight progress, harvest feedbacks on tools and products developed throughout the year and invite speakers to prompt discussions relating to the conference theme. If you are interested in contributing ideas, helping convene or in sponsoring the workshop, please contact [ausseabed@ga.gov.au](mailto:ausseabed@ga.gov.au)

The WA branch of AusSeabed has been very active with outreach, with presentations this month to:

- a. State NRM & Coastal Conference - Joondalup

- b. Collaborative Research Workshop at Murdoch University: Epistemology of Ignorance – On the Challenges of Translating Science into Public Policy

And will soon be speaking at the Fremantle Sailing Club.

### Can you host a work experience surveyor?

There are a growing number of Graduate Surveyors and Survey students who have approached WA DoT to complete Work experience in the Hydrographic Survey stream.

We are Struggling to give all of these potentials a berth for the 2 week work experience program that we feel they require(on water). Are there surveyors in WA who can host a student? Please contact [Ralph Talbot-Smith](#) (email link), for more details.

## Upcoming Meetings

### *EGU General Assembly 2020 session “Advances in seabed mapping and classification”.*

The [EGU General Assembly 2020](#) will be held in Vienna, Austria from 3rd to 8th May 2020. It will bring together geoscientists from all over the world to one meeting covering all disciplines of the Earth, planetary and space sciences. The EGU aims to provide a forum where scientists, especially early career researchers, can present their work and discuss their ideas with experts in all fields of geoscience. The [seabed mapping session](#) aims to provide insights into new developments, methods, and results in the field of seabed mapping and classification; showcasing a range of applications.

Worth noting that this meeting takes place two weeks before **GeoHab 2020, Venice** (only 600 km apart), so you might want to take this great opportunity to combine both conferences into one trip.

[Read More](#)

## *American Geophysical Union (AGU) Fall Meeting (San Francisco, 10-15 December)*

*Abstract submissions for AGU 2019 have now closed. The seafloor mapping session 'Beyond Hydrography: Seafloor Mapping as Critical Data for Understanding Our Oceans' received 34 abstract submissions. These are now being reviewed, and assignment to poster or talk will be determine once the AGU organising committee provides the convener with the final ratio in early September. See website [here](#) for further information on the meeting.*

[Read More](#)

## *9th International Shallow Survey Conference, Wellington, New Zealand, 24-28 May 2021*

This international conference is recognised world-wide by experts as an important forum for presenting new scientific and technological advancements associated with surveying in shallow waters.

As a key component of the conference, survey challenges will be set with the aim of targeting specific research questions and/or areas of interest. The Challenges aim to encourage innovation and collaboration between research organisations, academia, the survey industry, and equipment manufacturers to address some of the difficulties faced when surveying in a shallow water coastal environment.

[Read More](#)

## **Share your work with the AusSeabed community**

Finally, a reminder as always that anyone with an interest in AusSeabed can sign up to the newsletter mailing list on our [website](#), where you can also check out past

issues. And please send any items for the next letter to [AusSeabedNews@ga.gov.au](mailto:AusSeabedNews@ga.gov.au).