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## CALL FOR PAPERS - SPECIAL ISSUE

### Seafloor backscatter from swath echosounders: technology and applications

Guest Editors: Geoffroy Lamarche<sup>1</sup> & Xavier Lurton<sup>2</sup>

1- NIWA - [Geoffroy.lamarche@niwa.co.nz](mailto:Geoffroy.lamarche@niwa.co.nz)

2 - FREMER - [Xavier.lurton@ifremer.fr](mailto:Xavier.lurton@ifremer.fr)

#### Scope

Exploration, mapping and monitoring of the seafloor have vastly evolved over the last few decades since the introduction of multibeam sonars. In particular, backscatter data are used qualitatively and quantitatively for an increasingly wide variety of applications. However, engineers, operators, and scientists working on backscatter data recognize the need for better coherence and agreement on data acquisition, processing and interpretation.

In 2015 the Backscatter Working Group (BSWG) proposed the first set of guidelines for acquisition, processing and use of backscatter data (see <http://geohab.org/publications/>), and provided recommendations for further development of backscatter acquisition systems and processing software. This special issue follows on that work.

We welcome papers that discuss issues encountered by manufacturers, software developers, operators, scientists and end-users working with backscatter data acquired from swath-mapping echosounders. In particular, we are seeking papers on the latest developments on:

- Technological achievements in sonar measurement of backscatter;
- Acquisition procedures, with a particular interest on sonar calibration;
- Data processing and interpretation;
- User requirement and novel applications;
- Applications such as habitat mapping, environment monitoring, or engineering.

We would particularly value contributions that test the recommendations of the BSWG and strongly encourage co-authorship from industry, software developers, scientists and end-users alike, to provide consensual research papers on the full potential of backscatter data.

#### Timeline for submission

Feel free to contact the Guest Editors with title and brief outline of the paper content, to assess whether it would fit within the scope of this special issue. The submission/publication process will be led by the Guest Editors and the MGR editorial team. Importantly, manuscripts will be published online upon acceptance for publication.

Please follow the journal submission procedure available on [MGR Editorial Manager \(EM\)](#).

<https://www.editorialmanager.com/mari/default.aspx?>

The Special Issue will be available in the drop-down menu in MGR's EM **until 31/03/2017**.

