

BATHONIAN WORKING GROUP

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The Global Boundary Stratotype Section and Point (GSSP) for the base of the Bathonian Stage has been formally proposed and ratified at the base of the Zigzag Zone in the Ravin du Bès Section, Bas-Auran area, around 25 km at the South-Southeast of Digne-les-Bains, in the “Alpes de Haute Provence” Department (France). The Cabo Mondego Section (Portugal), providing complementary data on the ammonite succession in the Sub-Mediterranean Parvum Subzone and its chronocorrelation with the Northwest European Convergens Subzone, is suggested as the Bathonian auxiliary section and point (ASSP) within this GSSP proposal.

Several specialists and members of the Bathonian Working Group developed a dossier proposing the formal selection of the Bathonian GSSP at the base of the Zigzag Zone (base of limestone bed RB071) in the Ravin du Bès Section (Fernández-López *et al.* 2007b). The formal proposal to all members of the Bathonian Working Group was submitted for voting during November-December 2007. The members of the Bathonian Working Group are: Alméras Y. (France), Bardhan S. (India), Bodergat A.M. (France), Callomon J.H. (UK), Cresta S. (Italy), Dietl G. (Germany), Dietze V. (Germany), Enay R. (France), Fernández-López S.R. (Spain), Galácz A. (Hungary), Hall R.L. (Canada), Henriques M.H. (Portugal), Hillebrandt A. von (Germany), Lanza R. (Italy), Mangold C. (France), Matyja B. (Poland), Meléndez G. (Spain), Mitta, V. (Russia), Mönnig, E. (Germany), Morton N. (France), Page K. (UK), Pandey D.K. (India), Pavia G. (Italy), Poulsen N. (Denmark), Poulton T.P. (Canada), Riccardi A.C. (Argentina), Rogov M.A. (Russia), Sandoval J. (Spain), Schlögl J. (Slovak Republic), Schweigert G. (Germany), Seyed-Emami K. (Iran), Wierzbowski A. (Poland), Yin J.-R. (China). The results of the vote were as follows: Total BtWG members = 33, YES votes = 31 (93.94%), NO votes = 1 (3.03%), ABSTAIN = 1 (3.03%), NO RESPONSE = 0.

In order to achieve the formal ballot on the proposal of the Bathonian GSSP within the

Voting Members of the International Subcommittee on Jurassic Stratigraphy during February-March 2008, an upgraded version of the dossier incorporating comments and responses of the BtWG ballot 2007 was presented (Fernández-López *et al.* 2008). The results of the Subcommittee votes were as follows: Of the 22 members, 21 (95.5%) returned a vote; of the 21 votes received YES 20 (95.2%), NO 1 (4.8%).

The approved proposal, together with the dossier and a preface by the ISJS Chairman (N. Morton), were sent to the Secretary of the International Commission on Stratigraphy (J. Ogg), who forwarded it together with a voting form to all the members of the Commission, during May-June 2008. After approval by the Commission on Stratigraphy, the ICS Secretary has submitted the proposal to the Executive Committee of IUGS to ratify the Bathonian GSSP. The proposal has been ratified by the IUGS in July 2008.

References and new literature relevant to the Bathonian Working Group are listed below:

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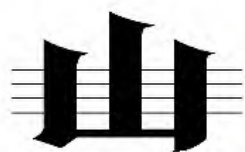
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Prospective GSSP for base Toarcian, Peniche, Portugal (photo: S. P. Hesselbo)



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