Jennifer Engels
University of Hawaii
Department of Geology and Geophysics
1680 East-West Road
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822
engels@hawaii.edu

---

Chris R. Stokes
Earth Surface Processes and Landforms
Special Issue: "Reconstructing ice sheet dynamics from subglacial sediments and landforms"

August 30, 2006

Dear Chris,

My co-authors Leonid Polyak, Margo Edwards, Paul Johnson and I would like to submit a manuscript entitled "Seafloor evidence for ice shelf flow across the Alaska/Beaufort margin of the Arctic Ocean" for consideration of publication in the ESPL special issue "Reconstructing ice sheet dynamics from subglacial sediments and landforms."

In this article we discuss recently discovered bedforms on the seafloor of the Alaska/Beaufort margin of North America. These bedforms are interpreted to have been created by the flow of 600-700 m thick, grounded ice parallel to the continental slope. These results may provide the missing link between glacial-geological studies of the northwestern Laurentide margin and investigations of seafloor in the central Arctic Ocean. We think this manuscript would make an excellent companion paper to the submission planned by Martin Jakobsson.

This manuscript was previously reviewed and revised by the Journal of Geophysical Research, Earth Surface (please see attached reviews). Despite substantial improvements to the manuscript and divided assessments by the reviewers, the manuscript was rejected primarily based on the perceived insufficient quality of our imagery. Though the bedform imagery we present is not as spectacular as examples from Antarctica, this does not refute that the bedforms are real and need to be explained. (We think this difference in image quality could result from a much thicker sediment drape on the Alaskan margin.) We believe that the material and arguments we present make a convincing case for glacigenic impacts on the Alaskan margin.

We would be grateful for your frank assessment of this manuscript, especially since you are an expert in the glacial geomorphology of the adjacent areas, and we would be honored to have the opportunity to make a contribution to this special issue. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Engels
Corresponding Author