

**U.S. BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES**  
**DOMESTIC NAMES COMMITTEE**  
Eight Hundred and Forty-third Meeting  
June 9, 2022 – 9:30 a.m.  
(Virtual Meeting)

Members and Deputy Members in Attendance

Marcus Allsup	Department of Defense (National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency)
Marielle Pedro Black	Department of Agriculture (U.S. Forest Service)
Wendi-Starr Brown	Department of the Interior (Bureau of Indian Affairs)
Thad Ellerbe	Department of Commerce (Office of Coast Survey)
Andrew Flora	Department of Commerce (Census Bureau)
Andrew Griffin	Department of Defense (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers)
Elizabeth Kanalley	Department of Agriculture (U.S. Forest Service)
Sean Killen	Department of the Interior (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)
Susan Lyon	Department of Defense (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers) (Chair)
Patrick Mahoney	Department of the Interior (Bureau of Land Management)
Veronica Ranieri	Library of Congress
Mike Shelton	Department of the Interior (National Park Service)
Jeremy Smith	Department of the Interior (Bureau of Ocean and Energy Management)
Timothy St. Onge	Library of Congress (Vice chair) (voting)
Tara Wallace	Department of Commerce (Office of Coast Survey)

Ex-Officio

Glenn Guempel, Executive Secretary, U.S. Board on Geographic Names / Domestic Names Committee  
Trent Palmer, Executive Secretary, U.S. Board on Geographic Names / Foreign Names Committee

Staff

Josefa Baker, U.S. Geological Survey  
Julie-Ann Danfora, U.S. Geological Survey  
Matthew O'Donnell, U.S. Geological Survey  
Maria McCormick, U.S. Geological Survey  
Jennifer Runyon, U.S. Geological Survey

Guests

Alex Fries, National Park Service  
Hollie Lockhart, U.S. Geological Survey  
Deb Nordeen, National Park Service  
Alexie Rogers, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement  
Foreign Names Committee staff  
Council of Geographic Names Authorities members  
National Geographic Society representatives  
Observers

## 1. Opening

The chair opened Meeting 843 of the Domestic Names Committee (DNC) at 9:35 a.m. and requested a roll call of the members. She noted that motions would pass by a simple majority of votes.

The meeting was held virtually, due to ongoing concerns regarding the COVID-19 pandemic. The chair invited members to review the reports that were distributed previously and to email any questions or comments to the staff. (Please note the reports appended hereto may have been edited for length and/or clarity.)

## 2. Minutes of Meeting 842

The minutes of Meeting 842, held April 12, 2022, were approved as submitted with one minor correction.

## 3. Reports

### 3.1 BGN Chairman (Allsup)

See attached report.

As a result of ongoing Foundation GEOINT Modernization efforts at the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency, all GeoNET database updates are on hold. Initial delivery of the new production and dissemination system is expected in mid-June.

The next quarterly meeting of the Full Board is scheduled for Tuesday, July 19; it will be held virtually at 1:30 p.m.

### 3.2 BGN Executive Secretary (Palmer and Guempel)

There was no written report.

Guempel reported that a BGN Executive Committee meeting will be scheduled prior to the next full BGN meeting.

The Geographical Names Board of Canada (GNBC) will host a meeting of the representatives of the U.S. BGN and GNBC on June 22. All are invited to attend, and there will be presentations by both boards on policies and procedures; Tribal/First Nations engagement; and ongoing efforts to change derogatory names. The meeting is part of a broader effort to reinvigorate the U.S./Canada Division of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names.

Palmer referred to the new GeoNET production and dissemination system. He is working with Guempel to establish the GeoNET as a National Geospatial Data Asset, just as GNIS is; this will happen once the new system is live and URLs are assigned.

Palmer reported that the next virtual session with the British Permanent Committee on Geographical Names (PCGN) will take place in late September 2022. All members are welcome to attend, and it was noted that the PCGN is particularly interested in receiving a report on the efforts to change derogatory names.

Meeting 410 of the Foreign Names Committee will be held virtually on Tuesday, June 14.

Meeting 361 of the Advisory Committee on Undersea Features will be held virtually on July 7.

### 3.3 Special Committee on Communications (Lyon)

There was no report.

### 3.4 Executive Secretary (Guempel)

There was no report.

### 3.5 Staff (Runyon)

See attached report.

Marielle Pedro Black, an archaeologist with the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) Heritage Program, is joining the BGN as a new DNC deputy member for the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

The number of inquiries related to efforts to change derogatory names has decreased somewhat following the end of the public comment and Tribal consultation periods associated with Secretary's Order (S.O.) #3404.

After a lack of movement over the past few years, interest is increasing in the possible renaming of Negro Mountain, located in western Pennsylvania and western Maryland. The BGN staff provided an overview of the status to the State Names Authorities of the two States, and discussed next steps, noting in particular that there are two pending proposals to change the name, but also considerable local opposition.

The Council of Geographic Names Authorities (CoGNA) will hold its annual meeting in Frederick, Maryland, September 13-16, during which the DNC will conduct its monthly meeting. More details are available at the CoGNA website, [Conferences \(cogna50usa.org\)](https://cogna50usa.org).

Runyon extended her appreciation to the State Names Authorities attending today's meeting.

New proposals are being processed and Quarterly Review List 448 should be ready for release around the end of the month.

### 3.6 GNIS and Data Compilation Program (McCormick)

There was no written report.

McCormick noted that the past month was not very productive due to ongoing and delayed GNIS development issues and unexpected data cleanup. The GNIS maintenance tool (for additions and edits) has also been unavailable for some time, and as such, it is expected that there will be some delay in adding today's decisions.

The GNIS team is working with Staged Products to deliver current data, delimited text files, and a geodatabase.

### 3.7 Special Committee on Native American Names and Tribal Communication (Kanalley)

There was no written report. The committee will not be meeting this month.

Joe Younkle of the Department of the Interior (DOI) will join a future meeting of the committee to share the Department's experiences related to Tribal outreach efforts for S.O. 3404. He will also discuss what the BGN can do help Tribes learn more about the BGN and its policies and procedures.

Kanalley reported that the USFS is reviewing the ongoing efforts to change derogatory names and is hoping to build on the process for features on its managed lands.

### 3.8 Secretary's Order #3404 / Task Force Update (Guempel for Tischler)

In accordance with the timeline set forth by S.O. 3404, the Derogatory Names Task Force will submit its list of selected replacement names (for sq\_\_ names) to the DNC no later than July 25. The Task Force working groups are hoping to meet soon to review any outstanding issues and to prepare their lists for submission to Tischler as the Task Force chair.

## 4. Docket

Please refer to the attached Docket for a description of each proposal.

### I. Staff-Processed New Names, and Name and Application Changes agreed to by all interested parties

Change **Chinaman Gulch** (FID 196664) to **Yansing Gulch**, Colorado (Bureau of Land Management) (Review List 446)

A motion was made and seconded to approve the change.

Vote: 15 in favor  
0 against  
0 abstentions

Change **Alcohol and Drug Abuse Lake** (FID 1239107) to **Village Lake**, South Carolina (not review listed)

A motion was made and seconded to approve the change.

Vote: 15 in favor  
0 against  
0 abstentions

## II. Disagreement on Docketed Names

**Ridgewood Run**, Pennsylvania (Review List 443) (FID 2830637)

A motion was made and seconded to approve the name.

Vote: 15 in favor  
0 against  
0 abstentions

**Cedar Glen Creek** and **West Fork Cedar Glen Creek**, Washington (Review List 445)

A motion was made and seconded to approve the names. Members discussed the negative recommendation of the Washington State Committee on Geographic Names and the fact that no local outreach was done. The members suggested that the DNC should refrain from voting until local opinions are known. The motion was withdrawn. A motion was then made and seconded to defer the proposals until staff has conducted further outreach. The motion passed by assent.

**Moonlight Creek**, Washington (Review List 445)

Members noted the same concerns as with the previous proposal. A motion was made and seconded to defer the proposal until staff has conducted further outreach. The motion passed by assent.

**Mount Jackson Pollock**, Wyoming (Review List 446)

A motion was made and seconded not to approve the name, citing the objections of the county government and the Wyoming Board of Geographic Names.

Vote: 15 in favor  
0 against  
0 abstentions

III. New Commemorative Names and Changes agreed to by all interested parties

**Samar Brook** and **Samar Pond**, Connecticut (Review List 442) (FIDs 2830631, 2830632)

A motion was made and seconded to approve the names.

Vote: 15 in favor  
0 against  
0 abstentions

**Creighton Run**, Pennsylvania (Review List 444) (FID 2830638)

A motion was made and seconded to approve the name.

Vote: 15 in favor  
0 against  
0 abstentions

IV. Revised Decisions

Change **Redskin Lake** (BGN 1959) (FID 658008) to **Memegwesi Lake** or **Ojibwe Lake**, Minnesota (Superior National Forest) (Review Lists 439, 437)

A motion was made and seconded to approve the change to Memegwesi Lake.

Vote: 15 in favor  
0 against  
0 abstentions

Change **Mount Doane** (BGN 1930) (FID 1599277) to **First Peoples Mountain**, Wyoming (Yellowstone National Park) (Review List 430)

A motion was made and seconded to approve the change.

Vote: 15 in favor  
0 against  
0 abstentions

V. New Names agreed to by all interested parties

**Little Pine Run**, Georgia (Review List 446) (FID 2830633)

A motion was made and seconded to approve the name.

Vote: 15 in favor  
0 against  
0 abstentions

**Powers Branch**, Georgia (Review List 446) (FID 2830634)

A motion was made and seconded to approve the name.

Vote: 15 in favor  
0 against  
0 abstentions

**Urchin Key**, Florida (Review List 446) (FID 2830650)

A motion was made and seconded to approve the name.

Vote: 15 in favor  
0 against  
0 abstentions

**Plummers Channel**, Maryland (Chesapeake & Ohio Canal National Historical Park) (Review List 446) (FID 2830635)

A motion was made and seconded to approve the name.

Vote: 15 in favor  
0 against  
0 abstentions

**Dead Moose Swamp**, New Hampshire (Review List 445) (FID 2830636)

A motion was made and seconded not to approve the name, citing its “unpleasant” nature.

Vote: 2 in favor  
13 against  
0 abstentions

The motion failed. The votes against the motion cited local use and support of the name. A motion was made and seconded to approve the name.

Vote: 13 in favor  
2 against  
0 abstentions

The votes against the motion cited the perceived unpleasantness of the name.

**Whiskey Creek**, Pennsylvania (Review List 446) (FID 2830639)

A motion was made and seconded to approve the name.

Vote: 14 in favor  
0 against  
1 abstention

**Meadows Place Bayou, East Meadows Place Bayou, West Meadows Place Bayou**, Texas (Review List 441) (FIDs 2830640, 2830641, 2830642)

A motion was made and seconded to approve the names.

Vote: 15 in favor  
0 against  
0 abstentions

**Rabbit Chase Creek**, Washington (Review List 446) (FID 2830643)

A motion was made and seconded to approve the name.

Vote: 15 in favor  
0 against  
0 abstentions

**Silver Stream**, Wisconsin (Review List 444) (FID 2830644)

A motion was made and seconded to approve the name.

Vote: 14 in favor  
0 against  
1 abstention

## 5. Other Business

Guempel reported that DOI legal counsel is expected to attend an upcoming DNC meeting to address any questions regarding the DNC's revisit of its To Kalon Creek decision (DNC approved, September 2017).

Runyon thanked the members for their thorough review of the dockets ahead of the monthly meetings and for being prepared to vote on proposals in a timely manner. She reiterated the importance of local input and detailed reports from the State Names Authorities, which enable DNC members to render sound decisions. The staff was thanked for its detailed case summaries.

## 6. Closing

The meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

The next Domestic Names Committee meeting is scheduled to be held virtually on July 14, 2022, at 9:30 a.m.

(signed)

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Glenn Guempel, Executive Secretary  
Domestic Names Committee

APPROVED  
(signed)

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Susan Lyon, Chair  
Domestic Names Committee

**U.S. BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES  
DOMESTIC NAMES COMMITTEE  
DOCKET  
June 2022**

Unless otherwise specified, in accordance with the BGN’s Policy X: Tribal Geographic Names, a link to the Quarterly Review List containing each proposal was sent to all federally recognized Tribes, and to Tribal Historic Preservation Officers for which an email address was available. The Tribal authorities were given 60 days to comment on any proposal.

The Otoe-Missouria Tribal Historic Preservation Office responded to the Review List 443 notice, stating it has “no objection to the proposed name changes on Review List 443.” The Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation, California Director of Cultural Resources responded to the Review List 446 notice, stating that “the Cultural Resources Department has reviewed the project and concluded that it is not within the aboriginal territories of the Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation. Therefore, we respectfully decline any comment on this project. However, based on the information provided, please defer correspondence to the. . . Mishewal Wappo Tribe of Alexander Valley [not federally recognized]. . . [and the] Middletown Rancheria.”

If no response(s) were received from Tribal Governments regarding a proposal on this docket, it is presumed to indicate a lack of opinion.

**I. Staff-Processed New Names, and Name and Application Changes agreed to by all interested Parties**

Change **Chinaman Gulch** (FID 196664) to **Yansing Gulch**, Colorado  
(Bureau of Land Management)  
(Review List 446)

<https://edits.nationalmap.gov/apps/gaz-domestic/public/summary/196664>

Local government	Chaffee County Commissioners	Support
State Names Authority	Colorado	Support
Federal Agency	BLM	Support
Tribes		No response
Other	Friends of Fourmile, Chaffee County	Support

This proposal is to change the name of Chinaman Gulch, a 1.5-mile-long valley in Chaffee County and on land managed by the Bureau of Land Management, to Yansing Gulch. It was submitted by representatives of Colorado Asian Pacific United (CAPU) as a counterproposal to Trout Creek Gulch (BGN Review List 437). The latter name referred to the fact that the valley opens onto the unnamed valley of Trout Creek.

During ongoing discussions between the Colorado Geographic Names Advisory Board (CGNAB), the Chaffee County government, and the area’s Asian American Pacific Islander community, it was

noted that the county commissioners did not initially support the change to Trout Creek Gulch, citing the historical relevance of the existing name, a belief that “Chinaman” was not derogatory “especially in historical context,” and the name was not suitable because Trout Creek does not flow through the valley. However, further discussions revealed that the county would support a change to a name with historical significance.

CAPU, “a coalition of Asian American and Pacific Islander leaders, creatives [sic], and allies in Denver,” discussed the issue with the local Chinese-American community, as well as the Community Organizing for Radical Empathy and the Denver Asian American Pacific Islander Commission. After a review of newspaper archives, CAPU suggested the name Yansing Gulch, which derives from the Romanized Cantonese word meaning “resilience” (韌性). The origin of the name Chinaman Gulch has not been determined, but presumably refers to the many Chinese miners or railroad workers who were employed in the area in the 1800s. The proposed name refers to the resilience of these individuals.

The name Chinaman Gulch has appeared on USGS topographic maps since 1982. The valley is the location of the popular Chinaman Gulch off-road vehicle (ORV) trail on BLM lands. A 2018 BLM environmental assessment of the location used the names Chinaman Gulch, Chinaman’s Gulch, and Chinamen Gulch. A 2019 ORV map from the Stay The Trail Education & Stewardship Alliance uses the name Chinamen Gulch.

Change Alcohol and Drug Abuse Lake (FID 1239107) to Village Lake, South Carolina  
(not review listed)

<https://edits.nationalmap.gov/apps/gaz-domestic/public/summary/1239107>

Local government	Columbia City Council	Not contacted
	Richland County Council	Not contacted
State Names Authority	South Carolina	Support
Other	South Carolina Department of Mental Health	Support

This proposal is to change the name Alcohol and Drug Abuse Lake to Village Lake, to recognize the name used by the Morris Village Alcohol and Drug Addiction Treatment Center, on whose property the approximately 60-acre reservoir is located. The center is a facility of the South Carolina Department of Mental Health (DMH).

The existing name was entered into GNIS in 1992 during Phase II name collection, citing an inventory of dams and reservoirs provided by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). It often appears on lists of unusual place names and was the subject of an April 2021 [article](#) in *The State* (Columbia, SC). Several other names used by the DMH were reported: “pond at Morris Village,” “Morris Village Pond,” and “Village Lake.” The USACE National Inventory of Dams (NID) records the dam as Morris Village Lake Dam; this name was provided by the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, which has an office on dam safety.

The South Carolina State Names Authority (SNA) determined that the DMH refers to the reservoir as Village Lake, and that in 2018 the DHEC changed the name of the dam from “Alcohol & Drug Abuse Lake [Dam]” to “Morris Village Lake Dam.” The SNA recommends that the official Federal name be Village Lake, and reports that DHEC will update the name of the dam to “Village Lake Dam” and will inform the NID of change.

**II. Disagreement on Docketed Names**

**Ridgewood Run, Pennsylvania**  
(Review List 443)

Mouth: 40.43474, -79.822164 / Source: 40.451526, -79.818393

Local government	Wilkins Township Commissioners	Support
	Penn Hills Municipal Council	Support
	Churchill Borough Council	No objection
	Allegheny County Council	No response
State Names Authority	Pennsylvania	Oppose
Tribes		No response
Other	Chalfant Run / Thompson Run Watershed Association	Support
	Ridgewood Manor Association	Support

The new name Ridgewood Run is proposed for a 1.3-mile-long stream in Allegheny County. The stream heads in Penn Hills Township, flows through Wilkins Township, and into Chalfant Run in the Borough of Churchill.

The name references the Ridgewood Manor neighborhood located adjacent to the lower section of the stream. The proponent, an officer of the Ridgewood Manor Association, notes that residents “conduct biennial cleanups of trash and litter from the Lougeay Road corridor [which parallels the stream]; so we, the officers and past presidents of the Association, feel that we should be extended the honor of naming the stream.” He adds, “The stream adds beauty to the rustic valley enclosing the Lougeay Road corridor, and we are trying to maintain its picturesque quality.”

The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection’s legacy stream dataset labels the stream as Trib 37213 To Chalfant Run.

The Pennsylvania Geographic Names Committee (PGNC) does not support the proposal, noting published use of the name “Johnson’s Run” for the stream; this name appears in PennDOT bridge records and in a 1998 Penn Hills-Wilkins Township Boundary Report. The name presumably comes from landowners named Johnson (also listed as Johnston) who owned land near the mouth of the stream. An Allegheny County Department of Public Works 2017 Projects summary used the name “Johnson Run.”

The Wilkins Township Commissioners, the Penn Hills Municipal Council, and the Churchill Borough Council all report that there is no known name for the stream and even if it was known

historically as Johnson/Johnson’s Run, that name is not in current use and they would prefer the official name to be Ridgewood Run. The Director of the Chalfant Run/Thompson Run Watershed Association reported that “Johnson Run” was an old name for present-day Chalfant Run rather than for the tributary in question. None of the local municipalities could explain the county and Commonwealth usage of Johnson/Johnson’s Run.

BGN staff researched other PennDOT bridge data and found that the agency records the name Duffs Run at a bridge near the stream’s mouth, whereas that name is in fact a different tributary of Chalfant Run.

**Cedar Glen Creek and West Fork Cedar Glen Creek, Washington**  
(Review List 445)

Cedar Glen Creek:

Mouth: 48.0725, -121.96135 / Source: 48.0821518, -121.958105

West Fork Cedar Glen Creek:

Mouth: 48.078442, -121.96285 / Source: 48.0761555, -121.9657707

Local government	City of Granite Falls	Not contacted
	Snohomish County	Not contacted
State Names Authority	Washington	Oppose
Tribes		No response

The new names Cedar Glen Creek and West Fork Cedar Glen Creek are proposed for two unnamed streams that flow in part through the City of Granite Falls in Snohomish County. The proposed Cedar Glen Creek flows into Coon Creek.

The proponent, who owns land around the mouth of the proposed Cedar Glen Creek, states that the stream “deserves to be named because it is active salmon spawning habitat.” The name is descriptive of the cedar-filled glen the streams flow through. The cedars are presumably western red cedars (*Thuja plicata*).

The proponent originally submitted the proposal with the spelling “Glenn” and the explanation “the word glenn is of Irish/Scottish origin and means ‘a secluded and narrow valley’ . . . . The settlers that homesteaded here were mainly of Irish/Scottish origins and the terrain that the creek flows through is a glenn.” When asked about the unconventional spelling, the proponent amended it so as to “alleviate any confusion with personal names.”

According to GNIS, there are no features in Snohomish County with “Cedar” or “Glen” in their names.

The Washington State Committee on Geographic Names (WSCGN) rejected this proposal for initial consideration (which means they conduct no local or Tribal outreach and do not recommend approval) for the following reasons:

- the proposal was similar to another one (“Cedar Creek”) which the WSCGN had considered and rejected earlier in the same meeting for a stream elsewhere in the State (this proposal was not submitted to the BGN)
- members felt that cedars are not unique enough to the feature to warrant this name
- the stream was “only 2.3 miles long” and “probably only flowed intermittently” (the proponent didn’t describe the water flow)
- the State of Washington already has several streams named “Cedar Creek” (GNIS lists 45, and five other streams with “Cedar” as the specific. None are in Snohomish County).

**Moonlight Creek**, Washington  
(Review List 445)

Mouth: 46.95275, -123.03997 / Source: 46.964172, -123.05119

Local government	Thurston County	Not contacted
State Names Authority	Washington	Oppose
Tribes		No response

This proposal is to make official the name Moonlight Creek for a 1.25-mile-long tributary of Darlin Creek in Thurston County. The proponent, who lives along the stream, states: “During the day the creek lies under foliage and is almost invisible. At night the moon reflects off the creek. [It] has been known locally and by the neighborhood’s kids as ‘Moonlight Creek’ [for at least the last two and half years].”

GNIS does not list any nearby features with “Moonlight” or “Moon” in their names.

The Washington State Committee on Geographic Names rejected this proposal for initial consideration (which means they conduct no local or Tribal outreach and do not recommend approval) for the following reasons:

- the stream was “only 1.2 miles long,” even though it appears to be perennial
- confusion about how the stream could reflect moonlight at night yet be almost invisible under foliage during the day
- a lack of community support
- “the insipidness of the name”
- the stream flows in and out of Lake Lucinda, which to the committee members “suggests two separate features”
- the feature does not appear to be a creek for much of its length, especially below Lake Lucinda where it is “in an open area”, and as such, the feature may not exist as mapped

**Mount Jackson Pollock, Wyoming**  
(Review List 446)

44.72774, -109.29841

Local government	Park County Commissioners	Oppose
State Names Authority	Wyoming	Oppose
Tribes		No response
Other	Multiple comments to SNA	Oppose

The new name Mount Jackson Pollock is proposed for an unnamed 6,616-foot summit in Park County. The feature is described as a “dipping bed or ‘tilted bed’ of sedimentary rock.” The name would commemorate Paul Jackson Pollock (1912-1956), the American painter and a major figure in the abstract expressionist movement. Pollock was born in Cody, approximately 15 miles from the summit in question, although he moved with his family to San Diego at the age of ten months and did not return to Wyoming.

The Park County Commissioners initially supported the proposal, but later rescinded their support after learning that the summit is located on private property and the landowner is opposed to the name.

In a statement to the Wyoming Board of Geographic Names (WYBGN), the proponent stated:

My primary motive [to name the summit] was to have a title for the 35 paintings [of the summit] I created but also to honor a ‘native son,’ world famous Jackson Pollock, born in Cody.

My request is to seek your approval to give ‘my mountain’ a name, ‘Mount Jackson Pollock’ to be exact, I needed a title for my paintings, so I searched for the official name of ‘my mountain.’ It was nameless, according to Kent Sundell, a geologist at Casper College in Wyoming, so in 2020 I submitted a naming application to the U.S. Board of [sic] Geographic Names. I recalled a quote from American painter Georgia O’Keeffe who painted flowers, bleached skulls and Mount Pedernal in New Mexico. ‘It’s my private mountain. It belongs to me. God told me if I painted it enough, I could have it.’ That gave me the confidence to name ‘my’ mountain after Jackson Pollock.

I decided to honor Jackson Pollock, the world-famous artist who was born on January 28 1912 just 15 miles from this mountain in Cody Wyoming. Pollock is the most important and influential American artist of the 20th century, according to the consensus of informed art critics and art historians. . . .

I acknowledge his influence on my artistic output for three series of paintings (1978 Pollock Paintings, 1979 American Landmarks, and 2016-2021 Wyoming mountain landscapes). See my website: [www.gconstantine.com](http://www.gconstantine.com)

Please note again that I have pursued this naming process so I might title my paintings. . . .

The proponent initially proposed the name “Mount Saint Gregory” for the summit, a reference to Pope Gregory I (c. 540-604), also known as Saint Gregory the Great. This name also referenced his own first name (Gregory), but he stated:

This mountain is very similar to Mont Sainte-Victoire in southern France. I want to reveal the involvement that the famous French painter Paul Cezanne had with this mountain near his home in Provence. He painted Mont Sainte-Victoire at least 60 times and as a result the mountain is famous in the art world as well as known by the citizens of France. It is designated a national monument with a marker on the main North-South toll road in southern France. . . . While my wife and I were visiting Wyoming earlier this year, I was engaged by the stratified rock formations [of this summit] . . . I just knew I had to do something with the images I gathered. Because I am a professional artist painter (exhibiting for the last 45 years in New York, Chicago, L.A. Florida and Europe), I began a series of sketches and paintings that are ‘interpretations’ of this formation (18 paintings so far). Perhaps this proposed Mount Saint Gregory could be interpreted as ‘Mont Sainte-Gregoire’ to coincide with its sister mountain. By the way, I am not a Catholic, so that is not at all my motive. But I am an intensely involved art history professor.

Local news reports stated that he had initially proposed the name “Mont Saint Gregoire.” BGN staff did not accept this proposal for review citing the Commemorative Names Policy.

In opposing the proposal, the WYBGN cited the strong local and landowner opposition, Pollock’s lack of association with the feature, and the fact that his family moved away from Cody when he was still an infant.

The county and landowner have no interest at this time in making official any other name for the summit, despite evidence that they refer to it as “Red Hill,” “Red Butte,” or “Red Cliffs.”

**III. New Commemorative Names and Changes agreed to by all interested parties**

**Samar Brook and Samar Pond, Connecticut  
(Review List 442)**

Samar Brook:

Mouth: 41.970652, -72.266641 / Source: 41.979075, -72.262134

Samar Pond:

41.979234, -72.262043

Local government	Stafford Town Selectmen	Support
	Town Director of Public Works and Zoning Enforcement Officer	No objection
State Names Authority	Connecticut	Support
Tribes		No response

Other	Two neighbors	Support
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The new names Samar Brook and Samar Pond are proposed for a 0.8-mile-long tributary of Cedar Swamp Brook and the reservoir at the head of the brook, respectively. Both features are located in the Town of Stafford in Tolland County.

The names would commemorate John G. “Jack” (1919-2005) and Elaine Samar (1915-1998), who purchased 55 acres of land at the head of the stream in 1964. Shortly thereafter, they built a dam near the head of the stream to form the small reservoir. Obituaries describe John Samar as “the former owner of Windham Electric, a machinist at Pratt & Whitney Aircraft, a U.S. Navy Veteran, and an avid outdoorsman,” while Elaine Samar was “a 37-year employee of Western Union.” The proponent, whose last name is Samar and who resides in Massachusetts but also owns the property in Connecticut, is the nephew of John and Elaine Samar.

The Connecticut State Names Authority (SNA) initially reported that they did not want to promote the naming of intermittent streams. They asked the Town Wetlands Commission if the watercourse is perennial or intermittent but did not receive a response (the National Hydrography Dataset (NHD) shows it is perennial). SNA members had no issues with the name itself and were split between support and no objection.

**Creighton Run**, Pennsylvania  
(Review List 444)

Mouth: 40.637768, -77.573431 / Source: 40.64981, -77.564639

Local government	Burnham Borough Council	No response
	Derry Township Supervisors	Support
	Mifflin County Commissioners	No response
State Names Authority	Pennsylvania	No objection
Tribes		No response

This proposal is to make official the name Creighton Run for an unnamed 1.1-mile-long tributary of Kishacoquillas Creek in Mifflin County. The stream flows from Derry Township into the Borough of Burnham.

The proposal was submitted by a Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection employee in order to make official the name used locally. The stream is not currently recorded in the NHD.

The name Creighton Run is shown on a schematic of the Standard Steel Factory facility, which is located at the mouth of the stream. The stream is piped under the facility and is free flowing upstream. An 1863 “Map of Juniata, Mifflin, and Perry Counties, Pennsylvania” shows a “W. Creighton” living in the area of the stream’s upper section. Online genealogical records show numerous individuals with the surname Creighton in Mifflin County as early as 1800.

**IV. Revised Decisions**

Change **Redskin Lake** (BGN 1959) (FID 658008) to **Memegwesi Lake** or **Ojibwe Lake**,  
 Minnesota  
 (Superior National Forest)  
 (Review Lists 439, 437)

<https://edits.nationalmap.gov/apps/gaz-domestic/public/summary/658008>

Memegwesi Lake:

Local government	Lake County Commissioners	Support
State Names Authority	Minnesota	Support
Federal Agency	USFS	Support
Tribes		No response

Ojibwe Lake:

Local government	Lake County Commissioners	Oppose
State Names Authority	Minnesota	Oppose
Federal Agency	USFS	Oppose
Tribes		No response

Two proposals were submitted to change the name of Redskin Lake (BGN 1959), a 44-acre lake in Lake County and Superior National Forest.

The first, to change the name to Ojibwe Lake, was submitted in 2019 in response to the online GISH (Greatest Internet Scavenger Hunt) contest in which one task was for teams to submit a proposal to change “an offensive, derogatory, or otherwise unpleasant name.” The contest was inspired by an online video from the *Patriot Act with Hasan Minhaj* Netflix series titled “What's With The Racist Names Of So Many American Places?,” in which he encouraged viewers to submit name change proposals to the BGN.

The proponent stated that “Redskin is pejorative, and it is critical that we remember and use the names of First Nations and Native American tribes when naming geological features and recalling our history. . . [The] new name would honor the native peoples of Minnesota rather than act as an old-fashioned slur.”

The Ojibwe (sometimes known as Chippewa) peoples inhabited present-day northern Minnesota, northern Wisconsin, and northern Michigan, as well as the general area north of the Great Lakes. Today, the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe consists of six bands located in northern Minnesota; the Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians are also located in Northern Minnesota, and other tribes with Ojibwe peoples are located in Wisconsin, Michigan, and Montana.

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, which serves as the State Names Authority (SNA), did not accept the proposal for review at the State level because duplicate or near-duplicate names are not allowed under Minnesota law. A lake named Ojibway Lake (BGN 1961) is also located in Lake County. The SNA informed the original proponent of the State's concerns and invited her to submit a different name, but no response was received. Minnesota also requires that proposals to name or change the name of features begin with a public petition to the county government signed by fifteen registered voters who live in the county. The proponent did not initiate this legally required process.

The name Memegwesi Lake was submitted by the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) regional geographic names coordinator on behalf of the forest supervisor, who had contacted tribes in the area for comment on the proposal for Ojibwe Lake. The Fond du Lac Band of the Minnesota Chippewa Indians responded that they support a name change but would prefer a "more appropriate" replacement. According to the forest supervisor letter, as well as a website titled Legendary Native American Figures: Memegwesi (Mannegishi) and the online Ojibwe People's Dictionary, "There was a creek by that name that went into the Lake. Memegwesi are described as small riverbank-dwelling water spirits and are said to carve symbols on rocks. Band members go there to hunt, trout fish, and trap and say that this lake is a special place." There is no published evidence of the name "Memegwesi" for a nearby stream, nor is it clear where this stream is located; the NHD shows just one stream flowing from the lake.

The lake was labeled Indian Lake on maps published by the USFS and USGS in 1951 and 1955, respectively. In 1959, the BGN approved a proposal submitted by the USFS to change the name to Redskin Lake, a name that was "relative to the association of Indian." The USFS noted at the time that there were several lakes named Indian Lake in Lake County and the BGN also renamed two others in the county from Indian Lake to Bine Lake and Source Lake. The Lake County Commissioners and the Minnesota Geographic Board endorsed these changes. As a result of the 1959 decisions, there were no features remaining in Lake County named Indian Lake (in 1941, the BGN had changed the name of another Indian Lake in the extreme northern part of the county to Dutton Lake). Another lake named Indian Lake is located 35 miles southwest of Redskin Lake in St. Louis County.

Following the 1959 change, Redskin Lake appeared on Federal maps, as well as in documents and on maps of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, the Minnesota Department of Transportation, and Lake County. The lake was also labeled Byron Lake on some Army Map Service maps in 1958 and as late as 1964; however, Byron Lake is a separate lake 0.5 miles to the northeast.

GNIS does not list any features in Minnesota with "Ojibwe" in their names. The State does include two lakes named Ojibway Lake; both were BGN decisions. The aforementioned Ojibway Lake (BGN 1961) is located in Lake County 24 miles to the northwest, while Ojibway Lake (BGN 1980) is in Hubbard County 175 miles to the southwest.

Change **Mount Doane** (BGN 1930) (FID 1599277) to **First Peoples Mountain**, Wyoming  
(Yellowstone National Park)  
(Review List 430)

<https://edits.nationalmap.gov/apps/gaz-domestic/public/summary/1599277>

Local government	Park County Commissioners	Oppose
State Names Authority	Wyoming	Support
Federal Agency	NPS	Support
Tribes		No response to Review List notice; see list below
	Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Reservation	Support
	Crow Creek Sioux Tribe of the Crow Creek Reservation, South Dakota	Support
	Northern Cheyenne Tribe of the Northern Cheyenne Indian Reservation, Montana	Support
Other	Piikani Nation of the Blackfoot Confederacy	Support
	Eight individuals	Support
	Three individuals	Oppose

This proposal is to change the name of Mount Doane, a 10,649-foot summit in eastern Yellowstone National Park (YELL), to First Peoples Mountain. The proposed change was submitted by the Great Plains Tribal Chairmen’s Association (GPTCA), as well as by several individual tribes, all of whom believe the existing name is offensive and needs to be changed.

The name First Peoples Mountain would be “in honor of all Tribal Nations that have treaty rights and interests to Greater Yellowstone, and those with an ancestral connection to this sacred landscape and our relatives, the Buffalo Nation.”

The name Mount Doane has been labeled on USGS topographic maps since 1885. It was applied to the feature by Ferdinand V. Hayden, the leader of the 1871 U.S. Geological Survey of the Territories, which included exploration of the Yellowstone area. The name was a BGN decision in 1930, one of over 500 names approved for features in the park. The summit was named for Gustavus Cheyney Doane (1840-1892), who participated in the 1870 “Washburn-Langford-Doane Expedition” into the Yellowstone area. Doane served as the leader of the military escort of the survey.

Doane served in the Civil War and was given a commission in the U.S. Army 2nd Cavalry Regiment as a Second Lieutenant. In 1869, he was assigned to Fort Ellis near Bozeman, Montana. In early 1870, he was involved in the Marias (or Piegan) Massacre, which was an attack on a Piegan camp along the Marias River in response to reports of a murder of a white trader and rancher by a Piegan man. Major Eugene M. Baker had been ordered to attack the hostile Piegan band harboring the man, but instead attacked a non-hostile Piegan band which had been promised protection by the local U.S.

military. Reports of those killed varied, but as many as 217 Piegan, mostly women and children, were slaughtered. At the time, most of the young men were away hunting bison; many of the band were also suffering from smallpox. Doane later boasted about his participation in the massacre. He was also involved in the Little Bighorn campaign, gaining the allegiance of the Crow Indians and recovering the remains of Custer, and in the Nez Perce wars, helping to capturing Chief Joseph.

In 1870, Doane was assigned as a military escort for the expedition into the Yellowstone area. He wrote detailed descriptions of the voyage, which led Hayden to honor him by naming Mount Doane. Doane also assisted the Hayden Survey in 1871, although he also resented Hayden for getting most of the credit for the formation of the national park. In an effort to gain recognition for being an explorer, he attempted several explorations of the Snake River Valley and the Arctic, although these were unsuccessful. In the years before his death, Doane campaigned extensively to be given the position of the first superintendent of YELL, but his applications were denied.

In September 2017, the GPTCA submitted a letter to the BGN which included a declaration that had been presented to YELL management a few days prior and which called for renaming Mount Doane and Hayden Valley. (The latter change is still under review by the NPS.) This letter stated:

The Great Plains Tribal Chairmen’s Association is in full accord with the signed declaration enclosed, a copy of which was furnished to Yellowstone National Park Superintendent, Dan Wenk, through Deputy Superintendent, Pat Kenney, on Saturday, September 16, 2017.

The [GPTCA] supported the resolution of the Rocky Mountain Tribal Leaders Council (RMTLC) dated December 2014, that formalized longstanding opposition to these names, aptly described by Blackfeet Chairman, Hany Barnes, as “deplorable” in his petition to Interior Secretary Zinke.

It is, as many tribal leaders have protested, shameful that Yellowstone National Park continues to honor a war criminal, Lieutenant Gustavus C. Doane . . . by retaining [his name] on [a] major feature of Yellowstone National Park. These categorizations are not opinion, but fact, based upon the written statements of . . . Doane . . . some of which are documented in the signed declaration.

The GPTCA is a federally chartered organization under the Indian Reorganization Act. GPTCA is comprised of Tribal Nations in South Dakota, North Dakota, and Nebraska—16 sovereign Indian Nations, all of which have treaty rights and/or ancestral connections to Greater Yellowstone, which has resulted in the Department of the Interior recognizing the Tribal Nations of the GPTCA as being among the “Associated Tribes of Yellowstone.”

In closing, let me reiterate what the [RMTLC] stated in its 2014 resolution: “Yellowstone was a homeland, a sacred cultural landscape to twenty-six tribes, before it was a National Park.” For healing, reconciliation, and a new era of education and cross-cultural cooperation, Mount Doane should be changed to First People’s Mountain . . . .

The GPTCA letter to the BGN also included a statement that:

The Declaration hereby furnished is signed by tribal presidents, chairpersons, chiefs, elected councilpersons and official representatives from the tribes listed below, including member tribes of the [GPTCA] and the [RMTLC]:

### **South Dakota**

Chairman Harold Frazier - Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, Chairman, GPTCA  
 Chairman Brandon Sazue - Crow Creek Sioux Tribe  
 Chairman Boyd Gourneau - Lower Brule Sioux Tribe  
 President Scott Weston - Oglala Sioux Tribe  
 Chairman Willie Kindle - Rosebud Sioux Tribe  
 Chairman Bob Flying Hawk - Yankton Sioux Tribe  
 Chairman Dave Flute - Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate  
 President Tony Reider - Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe

### **North Dakota**

Chairman Mark Fox - Three Affiliated Tribes (Mandan, Hidatsa & Arikara)  
 Chairwoman Myra Pearson - Spirit Lake Sioux Tribe  
 Chairman David Archambault, II - Standing Rock Sioux Tribe  
 Chairman Wayne Keplin - Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa

### **Nebraska**

Chairman Mike Wolfe - Omaha Tribe  
 Chairman Roger Trudell - Santee Sioux Nation  
 Chairman Larry Wright - Ponca Tribe of Nebraska  
 Chairman Frank White - Winnebago Tribe

### **Minnesota**

Chairman Charles Vig - Shakopee Mdewakanton Dakota

### **Montana**

Chairman Harry Barnes - Blackfeet Tribe  
 Chairman Harlan Baker - Chippewa Cree Tribe of Rocky Boy's Reservation  
 President Mark Azure - Fort Belknap Indian Community  
 Chairman Floyd Azure - Fort Peck Assiniboine & Sioux Tribes  
 President L. Jace Kills back/ Acting, Conrad Fisher - Northern Cheyenne Tribe  
 Chairman AJ Not Afraid, Jr. - Crow Tribe  
 Chairman Gerald Gray - Little Shell Tribe of Montana

Chairman Vernon Finley - Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes (CSKT)

## Wyoming

Chairman Clint Wagon - Eastern Shoshone Tribal Council

Chairman Roy Brown - Northern Arapaho Tribal Council

## Idaho

Chairman Nathan Small - Shoshone Bannock Tribes of Ft. Hall

## Oklahoma

Governor Eddie Hamilton - Cheyenne & Arapaho Tribes

The Piikani Nation of the Blackfoot Confederacy (a Canadian First Nation), which also signed the declaration, sent a letter to the BGN asking for and supporting the proposed changes.

The 2017 resolution submitted by the GPTCA further stated the case for the proposed change:

To quote Mr. Paul Wylie, author of *Blood on the Marias* (2016), “Clearly, Gustavus Cheney Doane was not worthy of having a mountain named for him, then or now.” [Doane] was responsible for one of the worst war crimes in US history, an act of genocide committed on this soil, that he bragged about throughout his life. Doane showed no remorse for this atrocity; on the contrary, he was proud of it. In his application to become superintendent of Yellowstone he wrote, ‘I was the first and last man in [the] Piegan [Piikani] camp January 23, 1870. Greatest slaughter of Indians ever made by U.S. Troops.’ Of the government’s record of 173 victims, authorities admitted that only 15 were men of fighting age, the rest were elders, women and children, ‘None older than twelve years and many of them in their mother’s arms,’ reported Indian Agent W.A. Pease. Doane subsequently ordered several of the Piikani he took prisoner to be executed with axes.

‘I remember the day when we slaughtered the Piegans, and how it occurred to me, as I sat down on the bank of the Marias & watched the stream of their blood, which ran down on the surface of the frozen river over half a mile, that the work we were then doing would be rewarded, as it has been,’ Doane wrote in a letter to Wilbur F. Sanders on January 7, 1891, by which time he was already being celebrated as ‘the man who discovered Wonderland’ for his role in the 1870 expedition that was instrumental in ‘Yellowstone’ becoming a national park. Doane didn’t discover anything, this land was never lost, for it had nurtured our ancestors since the close of the Pleistocene epoch. Doane was a war criminal. . .

‘First People’s Mountain’ also recognizes the 10,000-year plus connection Native peoples have to this sacred place.

A snippet of news published after the massacre, attributed to either the *New North West* or the *Rocky Mountain Gazette*, reported a conversation between a settler and Doane:

‘Will the Indians remain quiet now, do you think?’ asked an anxious settler of Lieutenant Doane, of the cavalry, when the expedition was returning from the Marias. ‘Well, I can’t say,’ returned the Lieutenant, ‘but there are certainly one hundred and seventy-three very good arguments in favor of their remaining quiet, lying out in the Marias.’

A reference to Doane as “the man who discovered Wonderland” could only be found in news reports and blog posts about the name change proposals, as well as in one line in *Empire of Shadows: The Epic Story of Yellowstone* written by George Black in 2012, about Doane’s possible reaction to skepticism about his reports: “What way was that to talk of the man who discovered Wonderland?” However, General William E. Strong, who was guided through the area in 1875, wrote that Doane “is spoken of and pointed out as the man who ‘invented Wonderland.’” (“Wonderland” is a nickname given to the area as early as 1871.)

A fuller quote of Doane’s is found in his 1891 letter to Senator W. F. Sanders of Montana, when his application to be superintendent of YELL was denied. Doane wrote:

I want command of the Yellowstone National Park. If I have not deserved it, justice is a mockery, merit a scandal, gratitude a farce and liberty a lie. I remember the day when we slaughtered the Piegans, how it occurred to me, as I sat down on the bank of the Marias & watched the stream of their blood, which ran down on the surface of the frozen river over half a mile, that the work we were then doing would be rewarded, as it has been. It has always been to me a question which is the more acceptable in the long run, a suitable & just reward for services rendered or the conscientiousness of unmerited neglect & the sustaining elements engendered therefrom of undying hatred & supreme contempt. . . .

The letter sent by the CSKT to the BGN states, “To honor Lieutenant Doane, a man who proudly recalled leading the Marias massacre . . . is unacceptable.” The Crow Creek Sioux Tribe stated, “Lieutenant Gustavus C. Doane is the dictionary-definition of a war criminal,” while the Northern Cheyenne Tribe added “There is no question that Doane was a war criminal. . . . Doane’s slaughter of defenseless Piikani Blackfoot women and children at first light on January 23, 1870 evokes the Sand Creek Massacre, a heinous act of inhuman barbarity committed upon our people. There is not, never was, nor ever will be, any justification or place for the names of killers like Doane. . . to be memorialized.”

The Park County Commissioners oppose the change.

Some of the individuals who sent letters or emails of opposition to the BGN cited:

- allegedly questionable research in the authoritative work on Gustavus Doane’s life
- Doane’s significant contribution to the development of Yellowstone National Park
- the longstanding use of the name and Doane’s “regrettable actions under orders of a superior

officer”

The BGN recently received an email from an individual who describes themselves as “fifth cousin, five times removed from Doane” and who is also opposed to the change. They added, “Doane was the discoverer of the Yellowstone Caldera, and thus, in a way, of Yellowstone National Park,” and “I believe the reason that Doane has been singled out . . . is that he is a minor enough historical character that it is hoped no one will raise an alarm about this, and then the precedent is set.” They went on to list a number of other individuals and suggested that “Enough digging can probably find a dozen or more folks from Yellowstone’s historic past who now have things named for them but who made a reprehensible offhand remark without ever taking any action besides in their pasts. I’m not sure any of us would care to be judged by such criteria. But with the change of Mount Doane, all these will be so laid open. Perhaps they should be: that’s of course your job!” “Lastly, if you do decide to drop the name Mount Doane, because Gustavus Cheyney Doane likely committed atrocities against American Indians, then the name First Peoples Mountain would be an inappropriate choice. Long before Euroamericans ever set foot in North America, and continuing after they had, American Indians were capable of committing, and positively did commit, the most egregious atrocities against each other, and are therefore not to be honored with such a place name if Doane is to be chided for the same actions.”

YELL management reports that the [Yellowstone Associated Tribes](#) were invited to consult on the matter. Not all Tribes participated, but no objections to the change were received from the Tribes that did respond.

A query of GNIS found one other feature in the area with “Doane” in its name: Doane Peak (BGN 1938) is also named for Doane; it is located in Grand Teton National Park, approximately 50 miles to the southwest. Doane Creek and Doane Peak are located approximately 275 miles to the southwest in Wyoming, but it is not known for whom these features are named.

**V. New Names agreed to by all interested parties**

**Little Pine Run, Georgia**  
(Review List 446)

Mouth: 31.309682, -81.7663784 / Source: 31.3071865, -81.7617758

Local government	Brantley County Commissioners	Support
State Names Authority	Georgia	No opinion
Tribes		No response
Other	Satilla Riverkeeper	Support
	Georgia DNR Wildlife Resources Division	Support

This proposal is to apply the new name Little Pine Run to an unnamed 0.8-mile-long stream in Brantley County. The proponent, who owns property through which the stream flows, reports

My family purchased the land in 2018 and is working to create a habitat preservation/environmental education based non-profit to provide in situ education to rural children of the surrounding community. Restoring the flow of this stream was one of the first restoration projects we completed. Since then, we have been working on managing undergrowth and restoring successful long leaf pine habitat, preparing to implement controlled burns and removal of many many tons of trash left from the former owner. While scheduling a clean up with the local Riverkeeper and reviewing the watershed, I became aware that it was not formally named yet and given our mission, it seemed appropriate to name it. As it’s a small stream, and we figured Pine Run was already in use in Georgia, we opted for Little Pine Run instead.

According to GNIS, there are 130 geographic features in Georgia with “Pine” in their names; of these, 14 are streams and two include “Little Pine,” but none are in Brantley County.

**Powers Branch**, Georgia  
(Review List 446)

Mouth: 33.96335, -84.38296 / Source: 33.96841, -84.35017

Local government	Sandy Springs City Council	No response
	Fulton County Commissioners	No response
State Names Authority	Georgia	No objection
Tribes		No response

This proposal is to make official the name Powers Branch for a 2.3-mile-long tributary of the Chattahoochee River in the City of Sandy Springs in Fulton County. The stream flows south of a park that is co-managed by the city and the National Park Service as part of Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area.

The proponent, who serves as the Sustainability Manager for the City of Sandy Springs, reports “The origin of the name is unknown (it could be a family name or relate to the hydroelectric dam at Morgan Falls), but it has been in use for several decades in Sandy Springs.”

Online genealogy records show that there have been a number of families named Power in Fulton County; in addition, Powers Ferry once operated in the area. According to Wikipedia, the ferry was “named for James Power (1790-1870), a plantation owner, who established [it] in 1835, before Atlanta was founded. The ferry remained in service for nearly 70 years, until a bridge was built in 1903.” Other sources refer to a Powers Island along the river and presumably close to the ferry crossing (where I-285 crosses the river today and six miles downriver of the stream in question), although it is not listed in GNIS, nor does there appear to be an island at that location so presumably it no longer exists. A nearby road is named Powers Ferry Road.

A 2012 FEMA report on Final Flood Elevation Determinations listed Powers Branch as a tributary of the Chattahoochee River, and the name is also displayed at the Chattahoochee Riverkeeper website. A map at the website of the Big Trees Forest Preserve labels the stream Powers Branch,

and an accompanying brochure describes the “Powers Branch gorge” and Powers Branch Trail. A local website that mentions the stream names it Powers Branch Creek.

Research conducted by Georgia Archives staff (working for the Georgia State Names Authority) found that some Fulton County maps published between 1911 and 1937 labeled the stream as Ball Creek. They also found that Aero Atlases (a company that has produced maps of Georgia since 1959) applied both Ball Creek and Powers Branch to the stream until 1972 but only Powers Branch after that. The lower part of the stream that was labeled Ball Creek is now mostly filled in by a reservoir named Orkin Lake. Land ownership maps found by Georgia Archives staff show that the land around the stream was owned by both Ball and Powers families.

**Urchin Key, Florida**  
(Review List 446)

24.6997245, -81.4456932

Local government	Monroe County Commissioners	Support
State Names Authority	Florida	No objection
Federal Agency	NOAA	Support
	FWS	No objection
Tribes		No response

This proposal is to make official the name Urchin Key for an officially unnamed 11.5-acre island in the Florida Keys in Monroe County. The island lies along Niles Channel, east of Toptree Hammock Key, and west of Big Torch Key. The proponent, a resident of Evans, Georgia, reports that his family owns the island and that they and their friends have used the name Urchin Key for 30 years, although the legal description records it as “Unnamed Island.” He adds that when his family first visited the island, “there was an abundance of a species of small sea urchin which played a part in inspiring the name.”

The proponent notes that a 19th century chart showed the name Burnt Keys in the general vicinity of this island and neighboring Toptree Hammock Key; this name is recorded in GNIS as a variant of the latter name, citing “Key Names: A Gazetteer of the Islands of the Florida Keys,” a publication of the Monroe County Public Library, but it is not recorded as an official name. Much of the area surrounding the island is managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as the Great White Heron National Wildlife Refuge, but the island itself is privately owned. GNIS does not list any other features in Florida named “Urchin.”

**Plummers Channel, Maryland**  
(Chesapeake & Ohio Canal National Historical Park)  
(Review List 446)

38.9702932, -77.1760794

Local government	Montgomery County Council	No response
State Names Authority	Maryland	Support

Federal Agency	NPS	No objection
Tribes		No response

The new name Plummers Channel is proposed by the vice-president of the Washington Biologists' Field Club for an unnamed anabranch of the Potomac River around Plummers Island in Montgomery County. The anabranch is adjacent to the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park, managed by the National Park Service (NPS).

The NPS, which owns the island, allows the club to use it for scientific study and events. The proponent originally proposed the name "Winnemana Channel" (Review List 443) as a reference to the Club's lodge on the island, which according to the club's website, was built in 1901. "The name Winnemana Lodge was adopted as the official designation for the Clubhouse at the annual meeting of 1906. Winnemana means 'beautiful island.' The term was exhumed from a local Indian language by Henry W. Henshaw." Because the name was "concocted . . . from native language words," the NPS opposed the original proposal, suggesting "[it] would be culturally insensitive to Native American Tribe(s) and would honor the incorrect, European amalgamation."

In 1996, the name "Rock Run Culvert" was added to GNIS as a canal close to Plummers Island, citing an Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin map. The name refers to a culvert that allowed Rock Run to pass under the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal and into the Potomac River. It was later determined that culverts should not be recorded in GNIS and also that the location was recorded incorrectly. The GNIS entry has since been deleted; nonetheless, the name appears on some published maps at the same location as the proposed Plummers Channel; these include Google Maps; a Maryland Department of Transportation map for the widening of I-495/I-270; and the USGS National Map base map. The proponent is asking to have the name Plummers Channel made official to establish that it is not a culvert.

**Dead Moose Swamp**, New Hampshire  
(Review List 445)

42.78964, -71.75238

Local government	Mason Town Selectmen	Support
	Hillsborough County Commissioners	No response
State Names Authority	New Hampshire	No opinion
Tribes		No response

This proposal is to make official the name Dead Moose Swamp for a 12-acre swamp in the northern part of the Town of Mason in Hillsborough County. The swamp is along Spaulding Brook and Abbott Hill Road. The proponent reports that during the snowmelt in the spring of 2009, some residents noticed what seemed to be a new "rock" in a rock wall near the swamp. The "rock" was a bloated moose carcass. The swamp has been called Dead Moose Swamp since then.

The 2020 Town of Mason Annual Report reported flooding at Dead Moose Swamp. A local Facebook page and an eBird report by a local birder refer to the location as Dead Moose Swamp.

Nearby features in New Hampshire with “Moose” in their names are:

- Moose Brook, 16 miles to the northwest in Hillsborough County
- Moose Hill, 20 miles to the east-northeast in Rockingham County
- Moose Meadow Brook, 27 miles to the northeast in Rockingham County

The New Hampshire State Names Authority (SNA) received comments from six State agencies. Four were opposed to the name on “aesthetic” grounds, with one commenting “[t]hat is a terrible name for anything, but particularly for one having to do with water.” The other two agencies were not opposed. The SNA asked that the official recommendation be recorded as “no opinion” reflecting the split opinions.

New Hampshire does not have any features recorded in GNIS with a “dead animal” name. Minnesota is the only State that has a recorded “Dead Moose” feature (Dead Moose River). Overall, there are approximately 330 “dead animal” names recorded in GNIS that are under BGN purview and not populated places. Of those, 214 refer to horses and 60 to cows, mostly in the Western and Great Plains States. Other animals with more than one “dead animal” feature are dogs, mules, deer, ducks, beavers, and elk. Some unusual animals in “dead animal” names include camel (in Nevada), elephant (Nevada), mole (California), monkey (Arizona), mouse (California), and tiger (Mississippi, but this may refer to a local name for a mountain lion).

**Whiskey Creek, Pennsylvania**

(Review List 446)

Mouth: 41.51697, -76.24223 / Source: 41.50959, -76.2518

Local government	Colley Township Supervisors	No objection
	Sullivan County Commissioners	No objection
State Names Authority	Pennsylvania	No objection
Tribes		No response

This proposal is to make official the locally used name Whiskey Creek for a 0.85-mile-long stream in Colley Township in Sullivan County. The stream heads on Briskey Mountain, within Pennsylvania Game Commission State Game Land #66, and flows to the northeast into North Branch Mehoopany Creek. The proponent states, “This creek was used by locals way before us to make whiskey in the early years. The hunting cabin directly next to the creek is also called Whiskey Creek Hunting Club. The group of neighbors who utilize this creek already recognize this was Whiskey Creek for years.”

GNIS lists seven other features in Pennsylvania with “Whiskey” or “Whisky” in their names; five of these are streams, with the closest being Whiskey Run, 123 miles away in Delaware County.

**Meadows Place Bayou, East Meadows Place Bayou, West Meadows Place Bayou**, Texas  
(Review List 441)

Meadows Place Bayou: 29.659229, -95.585721 (mouth)

East Meadows Place Bayou: 29.655312, -95.587238 (mouth)

West Meadows Place Bayou: 29.655312, -95.587238 (mouth)

Local government	Houston City Council	Support
	Meadows Place City Council	Support
	Stafford City Council	Support
	Fort Bend County Commissioners	Support
	Harris County Commissioners	Support
State Names Authority	Texas	Support
Tribes		No response
Other	Fort Bend County Drainage District	No objection

This proposal is to make official the locally used name Meadows Place Bayou for the main drainage canal through the City of Meadows Place in Fort Bend County, and to name two of its feeder canals East Meadows Place Bayou and West Meadows Place Bayou. The names were proposed by an employee of the city.

The proposed Meadows Place Bayou flows from the City of Stafford in Fort Bend County through the City of Meadows Place and into the City of Houston in Harris County. It is a tributary to Keegans Bayou.

A local news story referred to the stream system as a “Fort Bend County drainage bayou that dissects the city.” A City of Meadows Place document described the features as “our bayou system (Drainage Ditch).”

A 2007 FEMA map labels the lower part of the proposed Meadows Place Bayou as D118-08-00; this is also the designation used by the Harris County Flood Control District. Keegans Bayou is labeled on this map as “D118-00-00 (Keegans Bayou)”.

BGN staff asked a Professional Engineer, Certified Floodplain Manager with the Fort Bend County Drainage District to comment on the appropriateness of naming these features as “bayous” when the word “bayou” usually refers to a slow-flowing natural waterbody. The engineer replied that the features are constructed canals and that they are unnamed in county records; the drainage district has no objection to referring to them as “bayous.”

**Rabbit Chase Creek**, Washington

(Review List 446)

Mouth: 48.53447, -123.10347 / Source: 48.54706, -123.12325

Local government	San Juan County Council	No objection
State Names Authority	Washington	Support
Tribes		No response
Other	San Juan Historical Society Trustees	Support

The new name Rabbit Chase Creek is proposed for a 1.4-mile-long stream that flows into an unnamed tributary of Zyistra Lake on San Juan Island in San Juan County.

The proponent owns land along the stream and submitted the proposal to the Washington State Committee on Geographic Names (WSCGN). He reported “[m]any stories have been told of the property owners [along the stream] chasing rabbits to the creek edge for capture and sale to meat markets in Seattle . . . [the name] honors the original homesteaders and their agricultural roots and livelihoods.”

In 2012, a local historian published an article in *The Journal of the San Juan Islands* titled “San Juan Island Rabbit Tales,” which reported that in 1934 several thousand domestic rabbits had been released from a failed breeding operation and that by 1971 their population had grown to an estimated one million. Their numbers were a threat to agriculture on the island, and resident and tourists began hunting them for meat and to reduce the population. In the 1960s some residents converted old trucks into “bunny buggies” with bucket seats and cages and would drive through fields at night to collect rabbits by net. The rabbit population declined quickly in 1979 for unknown reasons.

The WSCGN asked for input from the Lummi Tribe of the Lummi Reservation and the Swinomish Indian Tribal Community, neither of which is federally recognized, but did not receive responses.

**Silver Stream**, Wisconsin

(Review List 444)

Mouth: 44.26766, -87.52612 / Source: 44.30458, -87.58141

Local government	Two Creeks Town Board	No objection
	Manitowoc County Supervisors	No response
State Names Authority	Wisconsin	Support
Tribes		No response
Other	Manitowoc County Historical Society	Support
	8 local residents	Support

The new name Silver Stream is proposed for an unnamed six-mile-long stream that flows through the Town of Two Creeks in Manitowoc County and into Lake Michigan. The name refers to the Silver Stream Dairy Farm, which the proponent reports was operated by her father. She notes that

she and her siblings are fourth-generation owners of the property, adding “NextEra is in the process of building Point Beach Solar LLC on our property and under their Erosion Control Plan, the stream is listed as an Unnamed Stream.” An online State land parcel dataset records Silver Stream Acres LLC as one of the property owners along the stream. It was incorporated in 2012.

If approved, this would be the first occurrence of a stream in Wisconsin with the generic term “Stream.” States and territories with at least 10 features with the generic “Stream” are: Maine (539), Hawaii (511), American Samoa (144), New York (41), New Hampshire (24), Alaska (17), Vermont (14), and Virginia (10). Of the states bordering Wisconsin, only Illinois lacks any streams with the generic “Stream.”