

U.S. BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES
DOMESTIC NAMES COMMITTEE
Eight Hundred and Forty-seventh Meeting
September 15, 2022 – 9:30 a.m.
Frederick, Maryland
(Hybrid Meeting)

Members and Deputy Members in Attendance

Kenia Allen	Department of Commerce (Office of Coast Survey)
Marcus Allsup	Department of Defense (National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency)
Meghan Barrett	Department of Homeland Security
Wendi-Starr Brown	Department of the Interior (Bureau of Indian Affairs)
Thad Ellerbe	Department of Commerce (Office of Coast Survey)
Liz Flake	United States Postal Service
Andrew Flora	Department of Commerce (Census Bureau)
Andrew Griffin	Department of Defense (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers)
Brenda-Anne C. Forrest	Government Publishing Office
Chris Hammond	Department of the Interior (U.S. Geological Survey)
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)
Veronica Ranieri	Library of Congress
Mike Shelton	Department of the Interior (National Park Service)
Jeremy Smith	Department of the Interior (Bureau of Ocean Energy Management)
Michael Tischler	Department of the Interior (U.S. Geological Survey)
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

Jessica Campbell, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Alex Fries, National Park Service

Richard Ilvarsonn, National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency

Deb Nordeen, National Park Service
Melanie Riley, U.S. Forest Service
Kirsten Tighe, U.S. Forest Service
Foreign Names Committee staff
National Geographic Society representatives
CoGNA members

1. Opening

The Chair opened Meeting 847 of the Domestic Names Committee (DNC) at 9:07 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 in person during the annual meeting of the Council of Geographic Names Authorities (CoGNA), with a number of members joining virtually. The Chair thanked CoGNA for hosting the DNC meeting and provided an overview of how the meeting would be conducted.

Jessica Campbell was welcomed as a new deputy member, representing the Department of the Interior's U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS); Sean Killen will continue to represent FWS in Campbell's absence.

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 845

The minutes of Meeting 845, held August 11, 2022, were approved as submitted. The minutes of Meeting 846, held September 8, 2022, will be presented for consideration at the October meeting.

3. Reports

3.1 BGN Chairman (Allsup)

See attached report.

3.2 BGN Executive Secretary (Palmer and Guempel)

There was no written report. Palmer reminded the DNC that the BGN will be meeting on September 27 and 29 with the United Kingdom Permanent Committee on Geographical Names. The meetings will be held virtually in lieu of the usual in-person conference. One item on the agenda will be a report on the ongoing efforts to change names in the U.S. that are considered derogatory or offensive.

Progress is being made toward adding the Geographic Names Server (foreign names) as a National Geospatial Data Asset (NGDA) under the Cultural Resources theme of the OMB A-16 NGDA Act.

Guempel reported that the U.S. National Section (USNS) of the Pan American Institute of Geography and History (PAIGH) had submitted its annual report. Among other items, it provides an overview of efforts by PAIGH, under the leadership of NGA and USGS, to make its training course available online. Chile and Mexico have also committed support. The USNS is awaiting approval by PAIGH.

Allsup has announced his retirement effective in December, and so the upcoming Full Board meeting will include a special vote to appoint a new chair and vice chair.

3.3 Special Committee on Communications (Lyon)

There was no written report. Production of the FY21 Annual Report to the Secretary of the Interior is still ongoing.

3.4 Executive Secretary (Guempel)

There was no written report.

The DNC is aware that updates are needed to its Principles, Policies, and Procedures (PPP) document; the topic was discussed at a recent meeting of the BGN's Executive Committee.

Guempel and Kanalley met recently with representatives of the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) in an effort to engage the agency's regional directors in the DNC's outreach to Tribes. The meeting was productive. A suggestion was made by BIA to also connect with the White House Council on Native American Affairs.

3.5 Staff (Runyon)

See attached report.

3.6 GNIS and Data Compilation Program (McCormick)

There was no written report. McCormick reported that she has given presentations on the use of the Geographic Names Information System (GNIS) to the Maryland State Geographic Information Council and during the CoGNA conference.

Following the DNC's approval on September 8 of the 643 "sq__" changes, the GNIS team completed updates to the database, which also involved ensuring that the correct writing marks

were included. The members thanked McCormick and her colleagues for all their efforts and for changing the names so promptly.

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

See attached report.

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

Tischler reported there has been some public and media interest following the BGN's September 8 vote on the "sq____" changes. Inquiries are being directed to the DOI Communications Office for response.

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 **Negro Knob** (FID 1146833) to **Columbus Sewell Knob**, Oregon (Umatilla National Forest) (Review List 446)

Vote: 15 in favor
2 against
1 abstention

The votes against the motion cited concerns that the honoree had participated in the Blackhawk Wars.

II. Disagreement on Docketed Names

Robbie Burn, Connecticut (Review List 423)

A motion was made and seconded not to approve the name, citing the lack of local support and the objections of the Connecticut Geographic Names Committee.

Vote: 16 in favor
2 against
0 abstentions

The votes against to the motion cited the support of the Town Land Use Office.

Moki Arch, Utah (Utah Trust Lands Administration land) (Review List 444)

A motion was made and seconded not to approve the name, citing the objections of the Utah Geographic Names Committee and a concern that the name could be considered offensive to the Hopi Tribe.

Vote: 18 in favor
0 against
0 abstentions

Lungwitz Creek, Wisconsin (Review List 442)

A motion was made and seconded not to approve the name, citing the objections of the local government and the Wisconsin Geographic Names Council.

Vote: 18 in favor
0 against
0 abstentions

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

Kimberly Creek, Oregon (Review List 445) (FID 2830717)

A motion was made and seconded to approve the name.

Vote: 18 in favor
0 against
0 abstentions

Lewetag Creek, Oregon (Review List 446) (FID 2830718)

A motion was made and seconded to approve the name.

Vote: 16 in favor
1 against
1 abstention

Byington Creek, Wisconsin (Review List 444) (FID 2830720)

A motion was made and seconded to approve the name.

Vote: 18 in favor
0 against
0 abstentions

IV. Revised Decisions - none

V. New Names agreed to by all interested parties - none

5. Other Business

Forrest asked if the Executive Committee is accepting edits to the PPP. Guempel responded that the DNC Chair will review various options, which could include the establishment of a subcommittee to review the document. Flora commented on the need to address the interpretation of the Commercial Names Policy.

Forrest also inquired if there will be a waiting period before the BGN will accept counterproposals to the “sq___” changes recently approved by the BGN. Some discussion ensued.

Forrest asked how the GNIS staff manages features that are destroyed as a result of natural disasters. Staff responded that if they are notified, the database entry is amended to “historical,” but there are no resources available to actively monitor changes to the landscape. One recent example, initiated by NOAA, was an update to a number of coastal features.

There was no other business.

6. Closing

The meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

The next Domestic Names Committee meeting is scheduled to be held on October 13, 2022, at 9:30 a.m.

(signed)

Glenn Guempel, Executive Secretary
Domestic Names Committee

APPROVED
(signed)

Susan Lyon, Chair
Domestic Names Committee

~~~~~

## **BGN CHAIR REPORT**

1) FOREIGN NAMES COMMITTEE (FNC)

The FNC has not met since DNC 845. The next FNC Meeting is scheduled for September 20, 2022. Please note that this is one week later than as is usually scheduled. Contact FNC Staff Assistant Alex Boyd [Alexander.Boyd.ctr@nga.mil](mailto:Alexander.Boyd.ctr@nga.mil) to receive the Webex invitation and meeting documents should you wish to attend.

2) DOMESTIC NAMES COMMITTEE (DNC)

The DNC held meeting 846 on September 8<sup>th</sup> at the Department of Interior. Secretary Haaland spoke to the Committee immediately prior to the meeting, thanking the membership for their dedication and work for the US Board on Geographic Names. This was the first in-person meeting of the DNC since DNC 821 held in February 2020.

3) ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON UNDERSEA FEATURES (ACUF)

ACUF has not met since DNC 845.

4) ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ANTARCTIC NAMES (ACAN)

ACAN has not met since DNC 845.

5) NEXT FULL BOARD MEETING

The next Full Board Meeting, BGN 287, is scheduled for Tuesday, October 18, 2022.

~~~~~

BGN/Domestic Names Committee Meeting 845 Staff Report

Staff attended virtual meetings of the Colorado Geographic Naming Advisory Board (CGNAB) (August 18) and the Hawaii Board on Geographic Names (September 7). The staff also participated in a number of informal discussions with State Names Authority contacts to review pending cases.

There was a discussion on August 26 with the Director of the State Historical Society of North Dakota and the National Hydrography Dataset (NHD) State steward regarding the creation of a new State Names Committee.

[California Assembly Bill 2022](#), which would “require the term ‘sq___’ to be removed from all geographic features and place names in the state,” effective January 1, 2025, was passed by the State Senate on August 25 and is expected to be presented to Governor Newsome for his signature. The bill appears to focus on administrative names that fall outside the BGN’s purview, and also may be extended to other words considered derogatory.

Staff participated in meetings of the BGN's Special Committee on Native Names and Tribal Communication on August 24 and September 7. The discussions focused on involving the Federal land management agencies in Tribal communication and how to involve the Bureau of Indian Affairs regional directors in similar efforts.

In preparation for the DNC's September 8 vote to change 643 names that contained the word "Sq___," the staff continued to provide support as needed to the Derogatory Geographic Names Task Force.

The DNC's [*Principles, Policies, and Procedures*](#) ("PPP") document has been updated to add the word "Sq___" as the third derogatory word under Policy V: Derogatory and Offensive Names. In addition, Appendix K: Domestic Geographic Name Report ("proposal form") was removed, and proponents will now be directed to use the online version.

In addition to the 643 "Sq___" names that were changed on September 8, there are five unincorporated populated places (UPPLs) that include the word. The Derogatory Geographic Names Task Force submitted proposals to the BGN to change those. Case briefs have been prepared and added to the most recent Quarterly Review List. These are to change:

Sq___ Hill (Tehama Co., CA) to Woodson Bridge
Sq___ Valley (Fresno Co., CA) to Yokuts Valley
Sq___ Gap (McKenzie Co., ND) to Sun Dance
Sq___berry (Carter Co., TN) to Partridgeberry
Sq___ Mountain (Jack Co., TX) to Lynncreek Mountain

These names are undergoing outreach, thus providing a more deliberate process than was allowed for under S.O. 3404 for communities to determine a replacement name. The relevant county governments and State Names Authorities have been contacted for recommendations, and the 574 federally recognized Tribes were notified of the Review List, with 60 days to provide input. The Department of the Interior is requesting that these UPPL names be changed within six months. The original list included seven UPPLs, but following discussions with the State Names Authorities of Alaska and Wyoming, it was determined that the two in those States are "historical" or classified as "locale." As such, they have been removed from the BGN's consideration.

New proposals (new names and name changes) have been received and will be added to Quarterly Review List 449, which is expected to be released and posted [online](#) in early October.

The proposal for Mustang Bluff, a name change for Coon Bluff in Arizona (Review List 441), has been withdrawn by the proponent; they now support the counterproposal for Raccoon Bluff (Review List 442).

Following the Oregon Geographic Names Board's discussion at its August 20 meeting of the proposal to rename Swastika Mountain (to Mount Halo; Review List 448), there were a number of news articles; the president of OGNB was interviewed.

The president of the Dr. Edna B. McKenzie Branch (Pittsburgh) of the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASAALH) has contacted the staff several times to request that Negro Mountain, located along the State boundary in western Pennsylvania and western Maryland, not be renamed. There are currently two name change proposals pending before the BGN, to change the name to Mount Nemisis or Malcolm Mountain (in 1994, the BGN rejected a proposal to rename it to Black Hero Mountain, citing local and State opposition). The president of the ASAALH branch has requested that the name be changed to Negro Mountain African American Historic Site, but he has been advised that this would be an "administrative" name rather than one for a geographic feature.

The proposal for Susanna Toby Brook (a name change for Negro Brook in Windham County, VT; Review List 441), was withdrawn by the Vermont State Names Authority, citing a need for more community outreach to find a suitable replacement.

The staff met with the BGN member from the Bureau of Land Management to discuss concerns expressed by the BLM regional office regarding a need for further engagement with local Tribes on the proposal to apply the name Basket Island to an unnamed island in San Juan County, Washington (Review List 442).

The staff was asked to provide any background details on the evolution of the term "Ice Barrier" to "Ice Shelf" for geographic features in Antarctica. The staff was able to share information on the topic from a number of 1953 BGN decisions.

Following the July 27 meeting between staff and a representative of the [Guam Place Names Commission](#), changes to names of five municipalities (villages) in Guam were forwarded to the Census Bureau for further review and processing. The Commission is expected to submit proposals to the BGN to change geographic feature names on the island.

The staff continues to receive a steady number of inquiries regarding the Federal naming and renaming process. One inquiry from a town in Vermont pertained to the difference between permanent and intermittent streams when it comes to naming; the staff has deferred to NHD to explain how the status is determined for topographic mapping, but also informed the inquirer that the BGN does not make a distinction when asked to apply an official name.

The staff also receives requests for documents related to past BGN decisions that are not currently accessible via the GNIS public query page.

~~~~~

**Special Committee on Native American Names and Tribal Communication  
Report to the BGN Domestic Names Committee**

The BGN Special Committee on Native American Names and Tribal Communication met on Tuesday, September 6.

BGN Executive Secretary Guempel and Special Committee Chair Kanalley reported out on the August 29, 2022 meeting with Rachel Brown from the Office of the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA). The purpose of the meeting was to ask Rachel to pass along our request for support from BIA Regional Directors. We would like their help in sharing the BGN Quarterly Review List with Tribes. The BGN staff has been using the BIA Tribal Leader Directory to forward the review lists but it is not reliable and we are not sure if Tribes are consistently receiving this information. Tribes might be more likely to receive and respond to the review list if it comes from a recognized email address. Oliver Whaley, and Regina Gilbert, from the BIA also participated in the call. The meeting was very positive and many additional communication paths were suggested. Whaley agreed to forward our request to BIA leadership and to follow-up with us with what he learns.

The special committee is in communication with the National Association of Tribal Historic Preservation Officers (NATHPO) to request feedback on the BGN guidance document for non-tribal proponents who are wishing to submit proposals that relate to tribal language, history, or culture.

The Geographic Names Proposal Process story map is being finalized and should be available for review at by late October.

~~~~~~

**U.S. BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES
DOMESTIC NAMES COMMITTEE
DOCKET
September 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. If no response(s) were received regarding a proposal, 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 **Negro Knob** (FID 1146833) to **Columbus Sewell Knob**, Oregon
(Umatilla National Forest)
(Review List 446)

<https://edits.nationalmap.gov/apps/gaz-domestic/public/summary/1146833>

Local government	Grant County Commissioners	Support
State Names Authority	Oregon	Support
Federal Agency	U.S. Forest Service	Support
Tribes		No response

This proposal is to change the name of **Negro Knob** in Grant County to **Columbus Sewell Knob**. The summit has an elevation of 4,820 feet and is located within Umatilla National Forest, 46 miles northwest of Canyon City.

The proposed change was submitted to the Oregon Geographic Names Board by the Executive Director of Oregon Black Pioneers (OBP), who states, “[We have] undertaken a project to research those features [with names that include the word ‘Negro’] to determine if there are black pioneers associated with this feature and when appropriate propose changing the name to celebrate that pioneer.” The OBP has requested that the honoree’s full name be applied.

According to a historical account included with the proposal, “An African American, born in Washington D.C., Columbus Sewell (1842-1893) came to Canyon City from the California gold field in 1862 or 1863. Prior to going to California, he fought under General Winfield Scott during the Black Hawk War. When he came to Canyon City, he and others operated a gold claim a few miles about Canyon City. He ran freight between The Dalles and Canyon City and kept the local merchants supplied. At that time a round trip to The Dalles and back took a full six weeks. Columbus had a single wagon and trailer with twelve horses and was assisted by his son Tom. In the early winter of 1884, there came a snow which lay ten feet deep on the streets of The Dalles. We had tunnels dug through the streets in some places. Columbus Sewell was marooned at The

Dalles. He saved our lives because there were no horses in town and the snow was so deep, they could not be brought there. We constructed a lot of V-type wooden plows. Columbus Sewell with his twelve horses became our street cleaning department, make the streets passable.”

The pejorative form of the name appeared on a 1935 map of Grant County and on USGS topographic maps in 1953. It was changed to Negro Knob on the 1980 edition. The origin of the name has not been determined.

During its review of the proposal, the U.S. Forest Service asked for feedback from the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon, and the Nez Perce Tribe, but did not receive any responses.

II. Disagreement on Docketed Names

Robbie Burn, Connecticut (Review List 423)

Mouth: 41.7195449, -72.0381932 / Source: 41.7095933, -72.0318464

Local government	Town of Canterbury Selectmen	No response
State Names Authority	Connecticut	Oppose
Tribes		Pre-Policy X, no tribes
Other	Town of Canterbury Land Use Office	Support

This 1.1-mile-long stream, located in the Town of Canterbury in Windham County, is proposed to be named Robbie Burn in honor of Robert Burns (1759-1796), the Scottish poet, lyricist, farmer, and exciseman. Burns is widely regarded as the national poet of Scotland and celebrated worldwide. The proponent, whose first name was Robert, reported that he was of Scottish descent and that the stream flows through his property. The town immediately to the west of Canterbury is named Scotland.

There are no natural features in the U.S. known to be named for Robert Burns. Until 2021, GNIS listed two mines (in Montana and Colorado) and two parks with “Robert Burns” in their names: Robert Burns Park in California was named for a Los Angeles County School Board member, while Robert Burns Memorial Statue in Vermont “was erected by [the Town of] Barre’s Scottish immigrants in 1899 in observance of the 100th anniversary of the death of the Scottish poet” (Wikipedia). There is a replica of Burns’ birthplace cottage in Atlanta. Wikipedia lists a number of other statues and monuments to Burns in the U.S.:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Robert_Burns_memorials.

GNIS lists almost 800 other features nationwide with the word “Burns” in their names, but it is not known if any were named for Robert Burns. There is no evidence that the poet ever visited the United States. There are four streams with “Burn” as a generic term: Rogers Burn, Tennessee (BGN 1991), Scotch Burn, Vermont (BGN 1978), and Moy Burn (BGN 1993) and Sylvan

Gorge Burn (BGN 2011), both in Maryland. A burn is typically defined as “a small stream, or brook.”

In 2016, the proponent informed the Connecticut State Names Authority (SNA) that he would attempt to get more local support for the name, including from other landowners along the stream. The proponent asked that the case remain open until he had time to get more local support. The SNA tabled the proposal in 2017 and then recommended against approval in 2021, citing a lack of input from the proponent. The proponent passed away in 2022.

The Wetland Enforcement Officer for the Town of Canterbury supported the proposal on behalf of the Canterbury Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Commission.

Moki Arch, Utah
(Utah Trust Lands Administration land)
(Review List 444)

37.99939, -109.84235

Local government	San Juan County Commission	Support
State Names Authority	Utah	Oppose
Tribes		No response
Other	Utah Trust Lands Administration	No objection

The new name Moki Arch is proposed for an unnamed arch on Utah Trust Lands Administration lands in San Juan County. The proponent reports that he is not aware of any record of the arch and that the National Association of Arches and Bridges (NABS) does not record it. The arch is at the base of a cliff approximately 0.05 mi. northeast of Tse Niz’oni-Stellar Arch (BGN 2021), proposed by the same proponent.

The proponent describes the arch as “a classic weathering pot hole arch.” NABS states that [this category of arch](#) forms “when part of the wall or floor of a pothole ruptures, leaving a section of its rim suspended above the new opening. . . . A natural arch of this type can only form if the pothole is reasonably near a cliff wall.” Photos of the arch show evidence of a narrow opening between its top and the cliff above. Most pothole arch examples cited by NABS are ones with more distinct openings. The National Park Service’s website [lists examples](#) of pothole arches (e.g., “Pothole Arch Upper and Lower”) and similarly-formed cliff wall arches.

The proponent reports that the word ‘Moki’ has existed for hundreds of years, and notes that it occurs in the name of Moki Marbles, which his research shows have been used by various Native Americans in ancient Tribal ceremonies. The word ‘Moki’ also appears in original maps and other printed publications from early explorers.” [A page on the Utah Geological Survey’s website](#) states “Moqui marbles are small, brownish-black balls composed of iron oxide and sandstone that formed underground when iron minerals precipitated from flowing groundwater. They occur in

many places in southern Utah either embedded in or gathered loosely into ‘puddles’ on the ground near outcrops of Jurassic age Navajo Sandstone.”

The word “Moqui” comes from the Hopi Tribe, who were previously known as the Moqui Indians, so named by the early Spaniards, until their name was officially changed to Hopi in the early 1900s. According to some online sources, there is a Hopi legend that the Hopi ancestors’ spirits return to Earth in the evenings to play marble games with these iron balls, and that in the mornings the spirits leave the marbles behind to reassure their relatives that they are happy and content.

One source states “Moqui marbles (sometimes spelled Moki) are also known by collectors by many other names — Navajo cherries, Navajo berries, Kayenta berries, Entrada berries, Hopi marbles, Moqui balls, or Shaman stones. Geologists call them iron concretions.”

Several sources state that in the late 1800s, Dr. J. W. Fewkes made the case to change the recognized name of the Moqui (originally pronounced “mo-kwee”) Tribe to Hopi. He stated that the name was too similar to the Tribe’s word meaning “dead” or “to die,” and that the Tribe referred to itself as Hopi, generally meaning “peaceful.” Many online sources report that the Hopi Tribe finds or found the term Moqui or Moki “distasteful,” “obnoxious,” “demeaning,” or that they “keenly resented” the term. Others report that there are Navajo words that sound like “moki” that mean either “monkey” or “excrement,” and imply that Spanish explorers adopted the word from a derogatory Navajo exonym. BGN staff has not been able to verify any of these reports other than the change from “Moqui”/“Moki” to “Hopi” for the Hopi Tribe of Arizona; documentation supporting the official change is found in Smithsonian and Department of the Interior records.

“Moqui” is also used to refer to the Ancestral Puebloans (formerly known as Anasazi, a term that is now seen as derogatory by today’s Puebloan Tribes) or to any ancient known or unknown indigenous cultures of the Colorado Plateau area.

Several geographic features in the region include “Moki” or “Moqui” in their names, including steps known as “Moki Stairs” or “Moki Steps” that ancient Native Americans carved into steep slopes.

In 1882, President Chester Arthur signed the “Moqui Reserve” Executive Order “to set apart for the use and occupancy of the Moqui and such other Indians as the Secretary of the Interior may see fit to settle upon.” The area now within the Hopi Reservation was labeled as “Moquis Pueblos” on Federal maps starting as early as 1876, with one 1879 General Land Office (GLO) map labeling the settlements as “Province of Tusayan.” In 1887, GLO maps started showing the label “Moqui Indian Reservation.” In 1921, GLO maps used the label “Hopi (‘Moqui’) Indian Reservation.”

An 1884 volume titled *The Snake-Dance of the Moquis of Arizona* variously reports:

- “The Moquis call themselves Hopii or Opii, a term not now in the language of every-day life but referring in some way to the Pueblo custom of banging the hair at the level of the eyebrows. This mode of wearing the hair distinguishes them from Apaches, Utes, and Navajoes”
- “The story was given me that the name Moqui now borne by this tribe is a contraction for a whole phrase meaning the ‘dead people,’ and bestowed upon them by adjacent tribes in allusion to a former epidemic of [smallpox] which almost extirpated the seven [Hopi] Pueblos. Such a story, if true, must refer to some date beyond our history of the Moquis, who were, I am certain, styled by this name in the earliest Spanish chronicles.”
- “The name Moqui is not that by which they call themselves’ they have two names, one for ordinary use, the other for sacred or ceremonial occasions. The first is Opii, for which two interpretations were given; the first that it referred to the manner of banging the hair common to this people; the other, that it had some reference to the preparation of the bread-piki . . . which can be found in piles in every Moqui house.”

An 1890 Extra Census Bulletin titled “Moqui Pueblo Indians of Arizona and Pueblo Indians of New Mexico” reported:

“The Moqui Pueblo Indians . . . call themselves . . . Ho-pi, or Ho-pi-tuh-lei-nyu-muh, meaning ‘peaceful people’. The Zuñi knew them in 1540 and prior as the A-mo-kwi. The Spaniards changed this to Moqui, or Moki. In the Moqui language moki means ‘dead’.”

A note in *American Anthropologist* (1945) reported:

Although the name Moqui Buttes persists on maps and the word ‘Moqui’ is still used by the Spanish-speaking people in the Southwest and in Mexico, the name of the tribe and reservation formerly called Moqui was long since officially changed to Hopi, strangely enough through the instigation of one man, Dr. J. W. Fewkes, and on the appeal that the name Moqui sounds like the word meaning ‘dead’ in the Hopi language and is therefore obnoxious to the natives. Hopi has by now become so firmly entrenched that it is not the purpose of this note to try to change it back to Moqui, but only to record, rather, my experiences with the name.

Dr. Fewkes was no linguist and did not claim to be. The entire expose given below was set forth to Fewkes, parts of it several times, and *all of it was agreed to by him*. [italics in original]

Forms in other Indian languages designating the Hopi tribe and exhibiting [the sound] -kw- made me suspect that the original Spanish intention was at writing *Moqüi* and not *Moqui*, and sure enough, a visit to the Hopi villages revealed to me at last that this was not only the fact of the case, but that *Móokwi* is the native tribal name, as well as that similar sounding words are the tribal name of the Hopis in certain near-by Indian languages. The chief of Walpi and several old-time Indians knew the name *Móokwi* as the native tribal name. The Spanish orthography of this had patently been *Moqüi*, more carelessly written and standardized as *Moqui*.

A corrupt Spanish pronunciation, and an English pronunciation imitating this Spanish pronunciation, based on the erroneous omission of the dieresis, sounded almost like the Hopi word *mōki*, dead (singular), he died (singular). It was the partial similarity of the Spanish corruption to this Hopi word which gave Fewkes the leverage in his argument for change

The name Hopi, on the other hand, was stated by old timers at the Hopi villages to mean Pueblo Indian—for instance, the Laguna Indians were stated to be Hopis—in contradistinction to the more warlike or roving Indians, such as the Navajos and Utes.

The white man gives two such names as Moqui and Hopi a new officialness of meaning as well as of pronunciation. All such adaptations seem to Indian speakers of the older generations to be incorrect, as they doubtless are, from the Indian language standpoint.

In 1915, the BGN decided in favor of the name Hopi Buttes for a feature in Navajo County rather than other recorded names (Blue Peaks, Moki Buttes, Moqui Buttes, and Rabbit Ear Mountain). No other details about the decision were found.

In 1970, the BGN confirmed the spelling Moqui Canyon for a feature in Glen Canyon National Recreation Area (GLCA) in San Juan County, Utah.

Memos between USGS cartographers and the BGN from 1954 to 1970 document the spelling uncertainty. In 1954, a USGS cartographer reported that the spelling “Moki” had been corrected to “Moqui” on an edition of the Mancos Mesa 1:62,500-scale quadrangle and that: “Moqui is a derogatory name for the Hopi tribes, possibly being derived by alliteration and contraction of Indian and Spanish names. In early usage ‘Moqui’ is more commonly used, and this spelling should be preserved. There has been no BGN decision on the spelling.”

In 1959, another memo reported evidence for the spelling “Moki” stating: “We believe that a strong case could be made for either the Moqui or Moki spelling. As both spellings are in use and additional research time is not justified, we will . . . change Moqui Canyon [back] to Moki Canyon on [these] quadrangles.”

In 1970, USGS maps showed the name Moki Canyon, while NPS maps showed the name Moqui Canyon; a BGN decision was requested. The BGN approved the spelling Moqui Canyon based on further evidence from the NPS. A memo from the GLCA Superintendent reported: “Through common usage, the word ‘Moqui’ is no longer considered a derogatory name for the Hopi tribes. It is instead, commonly used locally to denote any prehistoric Indian culture. For example, common usage includes such things as Moqui steps, Moqui ruins, etc.” The acting NPS director also wrote “We believe the [GLCA] Superintendent has presented convincing evidence that ‘Moqui’ is no longer considered derogatory as applied to the Hopi Indians.”

In 1974, the BGN confirmed the name La Gorce Arch for a feature in GLCA in Kane County, Utah rather than a proposal from natural arch expert R. H. Vreeland to make official the local name Moqui Window. In 1973, Mr. Vreeland reported that the local name came from “local citizens who attached the label ‘moqui’ to many old features.” In 1974, the Public Information Officer from the Bureau of Reclamation’s Upper Colorado Regional Office recommended against both names and stated that “the name is considered an affront to the Hopi Indians, since ‘Moqui’ means dead.” In 1974, the GLCA Superintendent (not the same Superintendent who responded about Moqui Canyon, above) wrote, “The name has no particular application to this arch. The term Moqui has the local connotation of long-disappeared, early Indian inhabitants of the area.”

The Utah Committee on Geographic Names (UCGN) recommends that the name Moki Arch not be approved. The UGNC expressed concern at the lack of input from the Hopi Tribe and felt that the UCGN could not adequately determine whether or not the proposed name was derogatory or offensive toward the Tribe.

Lungwitz Creek, Wisconsin
(Review List 442)

Mouth: 44.0542, -89.04995 / Source: 44.06106, -89.08668

Local government	Warren Town Supervisors	Oppose
	Waushara County Supervisors	No response
State Names Authority	Wisconsin	No opinion
Tribes		No response

The new name Lungwitz Creek is proposed for a 2.1-mile-long tributary of Willow Creek in the Town of Warren in Waushara County.

The name would commemorate Valentine “Jack” Lungwitz, III (1928-2013), a life-time resident of Warren, who served in the Merchant Marines and the Naval Reserve. He was employed as a milk hauler for the former Willow Creek Dairy and was the owner of Lungwitz Garage. He was active in many local automotive related organizations.

The Warren Town Supervisors oppose the proposal because “this is not a stream, it's a ditch or more of a pot hole, and once it is named it brings in all kinds of outside influences that the Town does not want to deal with.”

The Wisconsin Geographic Names Council (WGNC) determined that this proposal “did not meet [the State’s] minimum criteria (streams < 5 miles)” and declined to review it.

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

Kimberly Creek, Oregon

(Review List 445)

Mouth: 43.870317, -123.988141 / Source: 43.879147, -123.988288

Local government	Lane County Commissioners	Support
State Names Authority	Oregon	Support
Tribes		No response
	The Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon	No opinion

This proposal is to make official the name Kimberly Creek for a one-mile-long tributary of Fiddle Creek in Lane County.

The proponent reports that the name has been in local use for 15 years and that it commemorates his wife Kimberly Huff (1956-2016). They purchased land along the stream in 1988 and visited the property for “forest management and recreation.” The proponent reports that the stream channel was altered in the 1940s for agriculture, and that in 2009, he and his wife restored habitat in and along the stream to help improve conditions for Coho salmon spawning. He still owns and manages the property.

A query of GNIS found only one feature in Oregon with “Kimberly” as a name: an unincorporated populated place in Grant County, over 200 miles to the northwest.

Lewetag Creek, Oregon

(Review List 446)

Mouth: 44.97728, -123.39654 / Source: 44.9791, -123.4149

Local government	Polk County Commissioners	No response
State Names Authority	Oregon	Support
Tribes		No response

The new name Lewetag Creek is proposed for a 0.95-mile-long tributary of Salt Creek in Polk County. The name would commemorate Jacklynn Lewetag (1992-2016), the proponent’s daughter. The Lewetag family owns the majority of the land around the stream.

The proponent notes that “Weyerhaeuser Co. is only other landowner along [the] creek and they approve of [the] name.”

The proposal was forwarded to the BGN by the Oregon Geographic Names Board (OGNB). When the proponent initially submitted the proposal to the OGNB a month after his daughter’s passing, he stated that the stream “is orally referred to as ‘Lewetag Creek’” but that there were issues

“using this [name] as a legal description.” He also reported that “the name has been by inferred by association since we have owned the property for over 22 years . . . [but] that is not a legal description of record for the creek which we are seeking to correct.”

Byington Creek, Wisconsin
(Review List 444)

Mouth: 43.66321, -90.23552 / Source: 43.67706, -90.21569

Local government	Wonewoc Village Trustees	No response
	Wonewoc Town Supervisors	Support
	Juneau County Supervisors	No response
State Names Authority	Wisconsin	No opinion
Tribes		No response

The new name Byington Creek is proposed for an unnamed 1.6-mile-long tributary of the Baraboo River in Juneau County. The stream begins and ends in the Town of Wonewoc and passes through the Village of Wonewoc.

The name would honor the proponent’s grandfather Clarence Byington (1908-1989), who lived and farmed on the property his entire life. Mr. Byington served in the Army during World War II and is buried at Potters Cemetery, 4.5 miles east of stream. The proponent reports that a parcel of land along the stream has been in the family for over 100 years. General Land Office records show that Edgar and Harley Byington acquired land in 1855 in the next town to the east. Byington Road passes near the stream.

County GIS data show that the proponent’s family and an individual with the last name Byington currently own land near the source of the stream.

The Wisconsin Geographic Names Council (WGNC) determined that this proposal “did not meet [the State’s] minimum criteria (streams < 5 miles)” and declined to review it.

IV. Revised Decisions - none

V. New Names agreed to by all interested parties - none