

U.S. Board on Geographic Names Domestic Names Committee Quarterly Review List 464

Introduction

Date posted: 7/16/2026

Number of proposals: 14

This Quarterly Review List includes geographic names proposed to the U.S. Board on Geographic Names (BGN) for geographic features in the United States between mid-March and late June. The proposals will be considered by the BGN's Domestic Names Committee (DNC).

Please use the bookmarks in this document for easier navigation.

Any organization, agency, or person may contact the BGN to share their support or opposition to any proposal included in this list.

The proposals may have been submitted for Federal consideration to

- name previously unnamed features
- recognize names in current local use
- resolve conflicts in name spellings, applications, and local usage
- change existing names

The proposed names are not official for Federal use until approved by the BGN. Only one name is official per geographic feature. Variant names and spellings discovered in researching a name are listed under Other Names. These may include names and spellings that formerly were official, historical names known to have been previously associated with the feature, names that conflict with current policies of the BGN, misspellings, and names misapplied to the subject of the proposal.

The BGN allows anyone to submit a proposal as long as it meets the minimum requirements for a complete proposal under the Principles, Policies, and Procedures. After the review process, which involves seeking recommendations from interested parties, the BGN staff presents each case to the BGN for a vote. The BGN makes decisions on each proposal only after the full review process, and bases their decision on the following factors:

- the merits of the proposal
- recommendations and opinions from interested parties
- the DNC's [Domestic Geographic Names Policies](#)

The BGN has purview over the names of natural topographic and hydrographic features; reservoirs, canals, channels, crossings, and levees; and unincorporated populated places. The BGN does not have purview over the names of incorporated populated places, Census Designated Places, Civil divisions, ZIP Codes, or Tribal, Federal, State, local, and private administered land areas.

This Review List has also been posted on the [BGN's website](#).

Please send all comments on the proposals on this Review List to BGNEEXEC@usgs.gov.

Arizona

New name Gilbert Point

Proposal Information

Proposed name	Gilbert Point
Proposal type	New commemorative name for unnamed feature
Proponent	Stephen Pyne; Queen Creek, Arizona
Date proposed	4/16/2026
BGN case number	6678
Quarterly Review List	464

Feature Details

Primary coordinates	36.3408484, -112.3810019
Feature class	Cliff
Feature size	Elevation: 7,600 ft.
Feature description	3.5 mi. NE of Newberry Point, 4.6 mi. S of Fence Point
Name history	Named to commemorate Grove Karl Gilbert (1843-1918), USGS geologist associated with early Grand Canyon surveys.
USGS primary topo map	Powell Plateau 1:24,000
State(s)	Arizona
County(s)	Coconino County
PLSS	UP 15, T34N, R1W, Gila-Salt River Meridian
Land ownership	Grand Canyon National Park

BGN decisions

- None

Other Names

- Unpublished names: None found
- Published names: None found

Case Summary

The new name *Gilbert Point* is proposed for a 7,600-foot cliff in Coconino County, Arizona. The feature is located on Powell Plateau in Grand Canyon National Park. The proposal was submitted on April 16, 2026, by Stephen Pyne, with a mailing address in Queen Creek, Arizona.

Regarding the need for an official name for Federal use, the proponent stated:

All other points on the plateau are named - and all for prominent explorers of the region. GK Gilbert was a protégé to John Newberry of the Ives Expedition; primary geologist on the Wheeler Expedition; and member of the Powell Expedition. Gilbert and the presently unnamed point merit each other.

Regarding the meaning and significance of the name:

Grove Karl Gilbert (1843-1918) is one of the founders of American geology. He explored the Grand Canyon through two major expeditions, the Wheeler Survey (1871-75) and the Powell Survey (1875-79). He then served as first chief geologist of the USGS and was elected to the National Academy of Science.

Regarding the appropriateness of the name:

Gilbert completes the suite of celebrated explorer-geologists who first studied the Canyon and who have features on Powell Plateau named for them. He belongs with his colleagues, and the unnamed point, presently conspicuous by lacking a name, deserves one.

Regarding the proponent's interest in the naming of the feature:

I wrote a biography of GK Gilbert for my PhD dissertation (later published as a book) and have been to Powell Plateau numerous times when I was a member of the North Rim fire crew.

The proponent provided the following biographical information regarding the honoree:

Grove Karl Gilbert, born May 6, 1843, died May 1, 1918. Member of Ohio State Geological Survey (1869-70), Wheeler Survey (1871-74), Powell Survey (1875-79), USGS (1879-1918), incl. tour as chief geologist. National Academy of Sciences memoir: <https://www.nasonline.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/06/gilbert-grove.pdf>

Regarding the honoree's direct or long-term association with the feature:

He had no known direct contact with the feature or Powell Plateau. But he contributed to Grand Canyon geology through the Wheeler and Powell Surveys, was a protege of JN Newberry and a close colleague of JW Powell and Clarence Dutton, all of whom have features named for them on the plateau.

Regarding the honoree's contributions to the community, the proponent stated:

He contributed to the geologic knowledge of the Grand Canyon; influenced Powell and Dutton in their Canyon studies; named the Colorado Plateau; identified and named both the basin-range province and the laccolith; and codified erosional processes in the region.

Regarding the honoree's outstanding national or international recognition:

Gilbert became the USGS's first chief geologist (which created a Gilbert Fellowship to honor its centennial). He was elected to the National Academy of Sciences (and has the longest memoir in its series). He is the only man twice elected to the presidency of the Geological Society of America.

In follow-up correspondence regarding the Wilderness Policy and the question of overriding need, the proponent wrote:

Gilbert completes the suite of explorers to the Canyon. Naming the feature corrects a historical oversight, though, honestly, society has functioned without it since the 1870s. Adding his name is a cultural choice; so is not adding it. Deciding is why we have the BGN.

GNIS lists five features within Arizona with “Gilbert” in their names, though none are classified as points or cliffs.

Stakeholder Input

Local government	Coconino County Board of Supervisors	
State Names Authority	Arizona State Board on Geographic & Historic Names (ASBGHN)	
Federal Agency	National Park Service	
Federally Recognized Tribes	All federally recognized Tribes contacted under Policy X	

Indiana

New name Upper Coal Branch Creek

Proposal Information

Proposed name	Upper Coal Branch Creek
Proposal type	make a local name official new name for unnamed feature
Proponent	Ronald A. Mack; Newport, IN (Vermillion County Surveyor)
Date proposed	5/4/2026
BGN case number	6675
Quarterly Review List	464

Feature Details

Primary coordinates	40.05465, -87.50907
Secondary coordinates	40.07729, -87.53102
Feature class	stream
Feature size	2.7 mi. long
Feature description	heads at the confluence of two unnamed streams 1.7 mi. WSW of Gessie, flows SE into Coal Branch
Name history	Local name in reference to the local name of Coal Branch
USGS primary topo map	Danville SE 1:24,000
State(s)	Indiana
County(s)	Vermillion County
Local jurisdiction(s)	Township of Highland
PLSS	Sec 5, T18N R10W & Secs 32-30, T19N R10W, Second Principal Meridian
Land ownership	Private

BGN decisions

- None

Other Names

- Unpublished names: None found
- Published names:
 - Upper Coal Branch Creek: Vermillion County records

Case Summary

This proposal is to make the name Upper Coal Branch Creek official for an officially unnamed 2.7-mile-long tributary of Coal Branch in Vermillion County. The proposal was submitted on May 4, 2026 by Ronald A. Mack, the elected Vermillion County Surveyor in charge of regulated drains.

In addition to making the local name official for Federal use, the proponent wrote that the stream needs an official name because it “contributes significant water flow to Coal

Branch.” He said that the name is appropriate for the stream because it is the “historically commonly used description.”

The proponent provided a list of residents in the watershed who use the name and noted that the name is used by the “D. Rouse Regulated Drain Watershed.”

The proponent provided a copy of letter he sent to five land owners. The letter read:

This letter fulfils our legal obligations [sic] required by NGIS [sic] to notify you that the Vermillion County Surveyor’s Office is officially requesting that the name of the creek passing through your property currently titled as “Unnamed Tributary of Coal Branch Creek” [sic] by the USGS be renamed [sic] to “Upper Coal Branch Creek.”

In our engineering studies. . . the [U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service] has identified this particular unnamed stream as a major contributor of water flow through Coal Branch [sic].

Therefore, to be able to differentiate water sources feeding Coal Branch Creek [sic], having each tributary named seems advantageous for all concerns. We chose “Upper Coal Branch Creek” as the name because I’m told that is what it is commonly referred to in the neighborhood.

The proponent did not state if any residents responded to the letter.

In an initial email (without a proposal form) that was directed to BGN-DNC staff, the proponent wrote:

Attached is a GIS map of a creek located in Vermillion County, Indiana (T 19 N, R 10 W, Secs. 30, 31, and extending into T 18N, R 10W, Sec 5) of approximately 2.2 miles in length, which the USGS has titled "Unnamed Tributary of Coal Branch Creek."

This creek is well known in the area, recognized as "Upper Coal Branch Creek."

I am respectfully asking that the current name be officially changed to UPPER COAL BRANCH CREEK.

No USGS maps or data have any name for the stream in question.

Stakeholder Input

Local government	Vermillion County Commissioners	
State Names Authority	Indiana Board on Geographic Names	
Federally Recognized Tribes	All federally recognized Tribes contacted under Policy X	

Other	Vermillion County Surveyor (proponent)	Support
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Massachusetts

Change Stedman Pond to Hume Pond

Proposal Information

Proposed name	Hume Pond
Proposal type	Change a name to eliminate confusion
Current official name	Stedman Pond
GNIS ID	617476
Proponent	Kip Strawbridge, Site Director, Hume New England; Monterey, Massachusetts
Date proposed	May 6, 2026
BGN case number	6682
Quarterly Review List	464

Feature Details

Primary coordinates	42.1645342, -73.1722456
Feature class	Reservoir
Feature size	29 acres
Feature description	1.4 mi. SE of Palmer Pond, 1.1 mi. SW of Glider Pond
Name history	Named in association with Hume Christian Camps.
USGS primary topo map	Monterey 1:24:000
State(s)	Massachusetts
County(s)	Berkshire County
Local jurisdiction(s)	Town of Monterey
Land ownership	Hume New England

BGN decisions

- None

Other Names

- Unpublished names: None found
- Published names:
 - *Stedman Pond*: USGS 1973, 1986, 1987, 1997

Case Summary

This proposal is to change the name *Stedman Pond*, a 29-acre reservoir in the Town of Monterey, Massachusetts, to *Hume Pond*. The proposal was submitted on May 6, 2026, by Kip Strawbridge, the Hume New England Site Director of which the feature is located, with a mailing address in Monterey, Massachusetts.

The current name has been shown on USGS topographic maps since 1973.

Regarding the need for a name change for Federal use, the proponent stated:

Emergency Services has requested that we change the name for clarity in emergency response for water related rescues. This was prompted from an occurrence where Emergency services was dispatched to the wrong location due to the similarity of the names which are less than 4 miles. Stedman vs Steadman

Regarding the meaning and significance of the existing name:

Local residents last names were both Steadman and Stedman who lived in close proximity back in 1876.

Regarding the meaning and significance of the proposed name:

The name comes from the Hume New England Christian Camps property where the pond is located. The property is owned by Hume Lake Christian Camps, Inc.

Regarding the appropriateness of the proposed name:

The pond is manmade and entirely on private property owned by Hume Lake Christian Camps, Inc. which has operated camps in the US for over 80 years. The original camp property in California is located at Hume Lake in Hume, CA. Hume now owns and operates camp on the property in Monterey, MA.

The name of Hume Lake Christian Camps derives from *Hume Lake*, the site of the organization's original camp in California. According to the Hume Lake Christian Camps webpage "[The Hume Lake Story](#)," *Hume Lake* was created by the Hume-Bennett Lumber Company, formed in 1905 by Thomas Hume and Ira Bennett. The company constructed a dam and lake at Long Meadow in Tulare County, California, for log storage and transport; in 1946, Christian camp organizers purchased lakeshore property there and opened Hume Lake Conferences, which later developed into Hume Lake Christian Camps.

GNIS lists one feature within Massachusetts with "Hume" in its name: *Hume Brook*, 25 miles to the northeast in Berkshire County, Massachusetts.

Stakeholder Input

Local government	Town of Monterey Administrator	
State Names Authority	Vacant	
Federally Recognized Tribes	All federally recognized Tribes contacted under Policy X	
Other	Hume New England (proponent)	Support

Mississippi

New name Saxon River

Proposal Information

Proposed name	Saxon River
Proposal type	New commemorative name for unnamed feature
Proponent	Leslie Thompson, Town of Meadville City Clerk; Meadville, Mississippi
Date proposed	May 1, 2026
Submitter	Levi Redd, Project Engineer, Dungan Engineering; Brookhaven, Mississippi
BGN case number	6680
Quarterly Review List	464

Feature Details

Primary coordinates	31.43406, -90.89332
Secondary coordinates	31.47051, -90.89427
Feature class	Stream
Feature size	3.5 mi. long
Feature description	Heads 1.3 mi. SW of the headwaters of Dry Creek, flows S to enter Homochitto River
Name history	Named to commemorate Colonel Robert Guy Saxon (1881–1966), a former Mayor that served for the Town of Meadville from 1948–1966.
USGS primary topo map	Meadville 1:24,000
State(s)	Mississippi
County(s)	Franklin
Local jurisdiction(s)	Town of Meadville
PLSS	Secs. 29,33,41,42,43, T6N, R3E, & Secs. 4,6, T5N, R3E, Washington Meridian
Land ownership	Private (within the proclaimed boundary of Homochitto National Forest)

BGN decisions

- None

Other Names

- Unpublished names: None found
- Published names: None found

Case Summary

This proposal is to apply the name *Saxon River* to a tributary of the Homochitto River in Franklin County, Mississippi. The proposal was submitted on May 1, 2026 by Levi Redd,

Dungan Engineering on behalf of the Town of Meadville. The stream flows partially through the proclaimed boundary of Homochitto National Forest, traverses several private inholdings, and a portion of the stream flows through the Town of Meadville.

Regarding the need for an official name, the proponent stated,

Assigning an official name will support accurate mapping and improve coordination for infrastructure planning and resource management by providing a consistent identifier for the tributary.

Regarding the significance and appropriateness of the proposed name,

Colonel R.G. Saxon served as Mayor of the Town of Meadville from 1948 to 1966 and was the longest-serving mayor. He was known for his focus on public works. The proposed name recognizes his contributions to the community.

... [He] made lasting contributions to public works and the community.

Regarding their interest in the naming of the feature,

Through work in the area performed at the request of the Town, I became familiar with this feature and recognized the need for a consistent name for use in mapping and project documentation. The Town has also requested my assistance in completing this form.

Regarding the bibliographical information of the individuals, the proponent stated,

Col. Robert Guy Saxon (July 20, 1891 – April 5, 1966) was a military figure associated with Meadville, Mississippi, and is buried in Midway Cemetery there. He served as a Second Lieutenant in the National Guard of Mississippi, with his service linked to Meadville and surrounding communities.

GNIS contains one record within Mississippi with “Saxon” in the name, a populated place located approximately sixty miles to the southeast.

Stakeholder Input

Local government	Town of Meadville (proponent)	Support
	Franklin County Board of Supervisors	
State Names Authority	Mississippi Geographic Names Authority	
Federal Agency	National Park Service	
Federally Recognized Tribes	All federally recognized Tribes contacted under Policy X	

New York

New name Iselin Inlet

Proposal Information

Proposed name	Iselin Inlet
Proposal type	New commemorative name for unnamed feature
Proponent	Michael Pryor; Rochelle, New York
Date proposed	May 8, 2026
BGN case number	6683
Quarterly Review List	456

Feature Details

Primary coordinates	40.907889, -73.761583
Feature class	Gut
Feature size	0.2 mi. long, 0.1 mi. wide
Feature description	0.1 mi. E of Echo Island, 0.1 mi. W of Premium Point
Name history	Named to commemorate Charles Oliver Iselin (1854–1932), America’s Cup syndicate manager and yachtsman who built an estate on the shore of the feature.
USGS primary topo map	Mount Vernon 1:24,000
State(s)	New York
County(s)	Westchester County
Local jurisdiction(s)	City of New Rochelle, Town of Mamaroneck
Land ownership	Adjacent lands private

BGN decisions

- None

Other Names

- Unpublished names: None found
- Published names: None found

Case Summary

The name *Iselin Inlet* is proposed for a tidal waterway located in City of Rochelle and Town of Mamaroneck, Westchester County, New York. The passage divides Echo Island from Premium Point, a peninsula projecting into the surrounding waters. The proposal was submitted on May 8, 2026, by Michael Pryor, a resident of New Rochelle, New York.

Regarding the need for an official name for Federal use, the proponent stated:

This inlet at Premium Point, Echo Bay, NY lacks an official name despite navigational and historical significance on Long Island Sound. An official name is needed for nautical charts, maritime coordination, emergency response, and preservation of local history.

Regarding the meaning and significance of the proposed name:

Iselin honors C. Oliver Iselin (1854–1932), five-time America's Cup syndicate manager who built All View Estate directly on this inlet's shore c. 1890. Echo Bay served as home anchorage for his Cup defenders Vigilant, Defender, Columbia, and Reliance.

Regarding the appropriateness of the name:

Iselin lived at All View Estate on this inlet for ~20 years. His Cup yachts anchored in Echo Bay. Endorsed by the New York Yacht Club, Larchmont YC, Echo Bay YC, Westchester County Historical Society, and the City Historian of New Rochelle.

Regarding their interest in the naming of the feature:

I am the owner of All View Estate, 116 Premium Point Road, the historic home built by C. Oliver Iselin c.1890, located directly on the eastern shore of this inlet. I am also a USCG-licensed captain who navigates these waters.

Regarding the bibliographical information of the individual, the proponent stated:

Charles Oliver Iselin (b. June 8, 1854 ...d. January 1, 1932). Columbia University LL.B. 1874. Partner, A. Iselin & Co., Wall Street banking firm. Built All View Estate, Premium Point, c.1890. Five-time America's Cup syndicate manager, 1893...1903. Inducted America's Cup Hall of Fame, 1994.

Iselin built and resided at All View Estate on the eastern shore of this inlet c.1890...1911. His America's Cup defenders „ Vigilant, Defender, Columbia, and Reliance „, anchored in Echo Bay during his tenure. The inlet provided his primary water access to Echo Bay and Long Island Sound.

Iselin's stewardship of five consecutive America's Cup defenses (1893... 1903) brought international attention to New Rochelle and Long Island Sound. New Rochelle City Historian Barbara Davis and the Westchester County Historical Society confirm his profound impact on the region's waterfront heritage.

Regarding the honoree's outstanding national or international recognition:

Inducted into the America's Cup Hall of Fame at the Herreshoff Marine Museum in 1994. Managed the defense of America's most prestigious sporting trophy five consecutive times, working with yacht designer Nathanael Herreshoff. Recognized as one of America's greatest yachtsmen of the Gilded Age.

The proponent shared six letters of support. The following quotes summarize each interest party's support.

- Mamaroneck Historical Society President / Village and Town of Mamaroneck Historian

- “The Iselin name is not memorialized anywhere on these waters today. The designation of this inlet as Iselin Inlet would be a fitting and lasting tribute to one of Mamaroneck’s most distinguished historical figures and would ensure that his remarkable legacy is recognized in the very waters he made famous.”
- New Rochelle City Historian / Executive Director of the Westchester County Historical Society
 - “Despite the Iselin family’s role in New Rochelle’s waterfront heritage, the Iseling name is not memorialized in the city, except for a small street in the far northern part of the town. The naming of this waterway would be a fitting and lasting tribute to the family, and C. Oliver Iselin, in particular. Iselin Inlet will allow for the extraordinary history of the Iselin family to be recounted, appreciated, and remembered.”
- New York Yacht Club Commodore on behalf of the Club
 - “The New York Yacht Club has no objection to the renaming of said body of water to Iselin Inlet.”
- Horseshoe Harbor Yacht Club Commodore on behalf of the Club
 - “We believe that formalizing the name ‘Iselin Inlet’ is a meaningful act of local stewardship. It ensures that the legacy of one of our most distinguished neighbors is permanently anchored to the geography he once called home.”
- Echo Bay Yacht Club Commodore on behalf of the Club’s Board of Directors
 - “The Club holds a State Water Land Grant conveying partial ownership of the submerged lands beneath the Inlet that abuts the Proponent of the Proposal’s proprietary ownership. Hence, the Club also holds both a direct proprietary as well as a historical reference to the Inlet. By recognizing the Iselin name, the historical contributions of the Iselin family and C. Oliver Iselin in particular, to Echo Bay and New Rochelle will be forever memorialized.”
- Larchmont Yacht Club Secretary on behalf of the Club
 - “The Iselin family has a long-standing association with our club and the surrounding community. . . . [O]fficially designating this feature as ‘Iselin Inlet,’ . . . will preserve a physical link to a pivotal era of American maritime history and provide a clear, historically grounded reference point for the modern mariners who navigate these waters today.”

There are no records with “Iselin” within their names in GNIS in the state of New York.

Stakeholder Input

Local government	Mamaroneck Town Board	
	City of New Rochelle Council	
	Westchester County Executive	
State Names Authority	New York State Committee on Geographic Names	

Federal Agency	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	
Federally Recognized Tribes	All federally recognized Tribes contacted under Policy X	
Other	Mamaroneck Historical Society President / Village and Town of Mamaroneck Historian	Support*
	New Rochelle City Historian / Executive Director of the Westchester County Historical Society	Support*
	New York Yacht Club	No objection*
	Horseshoe Harbor Yacht Club	Support*
	Echo Bay Yacht Club	Support*
	Larchmont Yacht Club	Support*

*Submitted by proponent

New name Willard Lane Mountain

Proposal Information

Proposed name	Willard Lane Mountain
Proposal type	New commemorative name for unnamed feature
Proponent	John Lane; Prattsville, New York
Date proposed	4/1/2026
BGN case number	6674
Quarterly Review List	464

Feature Details

Primary coordinates	42.299022, -74.432713
Feature class	Summit
Feature size	Elevation 1,840 ft.
Feature description	1.4 mi. SW of Pratt Rocks and 1.7 mi. N of Kipp Hill
Name history	Commemorates Willard Jess Lane (1915-1991), a local farmer and resident.
USGS primary topo map	Prattsville 1:24,000
State(s)	New York
County(s)	Greene County
Local jurisdiction(s)	Town of Prattsville
Land ownership	Private (proponent)

BGN decisions

- None

Other Names

- Unpublished names: None found
- Published names: None found

Case Summary

The name *Willard Lane Mountain* is proposed for an unnamed summit located in the town of Prattsville, Greene County, New York. The proposal was submitted on April 1, 2026 by John Lane, a landowner of the parcel of which the feature is on.

Regarding the need for an official name for Federal use, the proponent stated:

TO BE A LANDMARK

Regarding the meaning and significance of the name:

LOCAL MAN

Regarding the appropriateness of the name:

HE FARMED THIS LAND

Regarding the proponent's interest in the naming of the feature:
GRANDSON OF WILLARD LANE

The proponent provided the following biographical information regarding the honoree:
WILLARD WAS BORN IN GREENE COUNTY JUNE 30, 1915. GREW UP ON A HARDCRABBLE FARM WHERE THE CATSKILL MOUNTAINS ROLLED RIGHT UP TO THE BACK DOOR. AFTER MARRYING THE LOVE OF HIS LIFE, HE PURCHASED A FARM IN PRATTSVILLE IN 1956. THERE HE RAISED DAIRY COWS AND WORKED FULL TIME AT THE LOCAL PACKING COMPANY. A QIET [sic] GUY, DIDN'T TALK MUCH . . .

Regarding the honoree's contributions to the community, the proponent stated:
HE WAS AN ACTIVE MEMBER OF THE COMMUNITY, VOLUNTEER FIRE FIGHTER, LOCAL CHURCH MEMBER. OFTEN WORKING AT LOCAL EVENTS. ASSISTING THOSE WHO NEEDED HELP, BARN RAISINGS, BUILDING HOUSES GIVING JOBS ON THE FARM TO THE NEEDY. WILLING TODROP [sic] WHAT HE NEEDED DONE TO HELP OTHERS OUT.

The proponent further stated that the honoree "FARMED THE LAND AND RAISED A FAMILY THERE."

In regard to proposing the full name *Willard Lane Mountain*, the proponent indicated in correspondence with staff that:

The reason that "*Willard Lane Mountain*" was chosen, is because in the near by town of Windham, there is a street called "Clarence D. Lane Road" and a park named "C.D. Lane" Park" named after another man. This would differentiate between the two and avoid some confusion.

The proponent provided a letter of support from the Prattsville Town Supervisor, who wrote that:

The Town Board recognizes the value of formally naming geographic features within the community, both for clarity in mapping and identification and for the preservation of local history. The proposed name, Willard Lane Mountain, reflects the longstanding connection of the Lane family to the property and acknowledges their presence and history in the area.

GNIS lists one feature within New York with "Willard" in its name: *Willard Mountain* about 70 to the southwest.

Stakeholder Input

Local government	Prattsville Town Board	Support*
	Greene County Legislature	
State Names Authority	New York State Committee on Geographic Names	

Federally Recognized Tribes	All federally recognized Tribes contacted under Policy X	

*Provided by the proponent

North Dakota

New name Edmund Lake

Proposal Information

Proposed name	Edmund Lake
Proposal type	New commemorative name for unnamed feature
Proponent	Travis Gumeringer; Bismark, North Dakota
Date proposed	May 1, 2026
BGN case number	6681
Quarterly Review List	454

Feature Details

Primary coordinates	47.9678906, -99.8826528
Feature class	Lake
Feature size	49 acres
Feature description	9.4 mi. N of Goose Lake, 3.6 mi. ESE of Sandy Lakes
Name history	Named to commemorate Edmond J Gumeringer, (1928- 2020) a local farmer and U.S. Army veteran.
USGS primary topo map	Selz NW, 1:24,000
State(s)	North Dakota
County(s)	Pierce County
Local jurisdiction(s)	Alexander Township
PLSS	Sec. 21, T152N, R72W, Fifth Meridian
Land ownership	Private (proponent); managed by FWS (J. Clark Salyer Wetland Management District, Pierce County Waterfowl Protection Area)

BGN decisions

- None

Other Names

- Unpublished names: None found
- Published names: None found

Case Summary

This proposal is to apply the new commemorative name *Lake Edmund* to a 49-acre lake located on a privately owned parcel in Alexander Township, Pierce County, North Dakota. The proposal was submitted on May 1, 2026, by Travis Gumeringer a resident of Bismark, North Dakota and landowner of the parcel of which the feature is on.

Regarding the meaning and significance of the proposed name, the proponent stated:
Honor a great person that farmed the area his whole life.

Regarding the need for an official name, the proponent stated:
Honor my deceased Grand Father

Regarding the meaning and significance of the name:
Honor a great person that farmed the area his whole life

Regarding the appropriateness of the name:
It's an honor for My Grandfather

The biography provided by the proponent indicates
Edmond J Gumeringer, but he perfered [sic] Edmund. Born March 28th 1928- August 18 2020. Farmed the ares [sic] his whole life. Served in Us Army at Korea.

and his direct or long-term association with the feature is
lived next to it most of his life

The proponent provided a copy of a recorded deed associated with the parcel containing the feature. He also provided a link to a [gravesite record from Find A Grave](#) for the honoree.

The feature is located on private land owned by the proponent and is associated with lands managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as part of the J. Clark Salyer Wetland Management District, Pierce County Waterfowl Protection Area. The BGN representative for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service stated:

I did reach out to leadership and based on findings with our wetland easement conveyance documents, we do not see any impact to the protected status of this geographic feature. Given that information and the fact that this feature resides on private land, FWS will not provide an official agency opinion on the proposal.

GNIS does not contain any names with “Edmund” in the state of North Dakota.

Stakeholder Input

Local government	Alexander Township Board of Supervisors	
	Pierce County Commissioners	
State Names Authority	North Dakota State Historical Society	
Federal Agency	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	No Opinion
Federally Recognized Tribes	All federally recognized Tribes contacted under Policy X	

Pennsylvania

New name Berky Dell Brook

Proposal Information

Proposed name	Berky Dell Brook
Proposal type	New commemorative name for unnamed feature
Proponent	Kyle Traylor; Bally, Pennsylvania
Date proposed	4/23/2026
BGN case number	6685
Quarterly Review List	464

Feature Details

Primary coordinates	40.41627, -75.57291
Secondary coordinates	40.42111, -75.59278
Feature class	Stream
Feature size	1.3 mi. long
Feature description	Heads 1.4 mi SE of Blackhead Hill, flows SE into Valley Run
Name history	Named to commemorate Ralph W. Berky (1890–1977), a local naturalist associated with the stream.
USGS primary topo map	East Greenville 1: 24,000
State(s)	Pennsylvania
County(s)	Berks County
Local jurisdiction(s)	Washington Township
Land ownership	Private

BGN decisions

- None

Other Names

- Unpublished names:
 - *Dell Brook*: cited in historical journals provided by proponent
- Published names:

Case Summary

The name *Berky Dell Brook* is proposed for an unnamed tributary of Valley Run, located in Washington Township, Berks County, Pennsylvania. The proposal was submitted on April 23, 2026 by Kyle Traylor, a resident of Bally, Pennsylvania.

County GIS data depicts the stream extending farther upstream than the USGS National Hydrography Dataset (NHD).

Regarding the need for an official name, the proponent states:

Official recognition would ideally bring greater community awareness and involvement in the stewardship efforts of this and other streams in our township. Among other distinctions, the stream was the source of water power for a rare mill recorded with the National Registry of Historic Places.

Regarding the meaning of the proposed name:

This geological feature runs through a dell. It was referred to as "Dell Brook" by the individual this proposal is seeking to honor. His surname was Berky, a name not common in the general population but one which has had a presence in Berks County since the early 1700s.

Regarding the appropriateness of the proposed name:

For Berky's love of nature, for his contributions to our community, for his strong familial and personal ties to this stream and, not least, his affection for it, as we find in his writings, the proposed name is appropriate.

Regarding their interest in the naming of the feature:

I have land through which this stream runs. My hope is that in naming this stream it will both honor a community naturalist and bring awareness to the importance of our area's natural resources.

The proponent identified the following landowners involved in the feature location:

Ben and Karah Davies, Marvin and Esther Mae Burkholder, Matthew and Kelly Boyer, Karen Wright, Betty Traylor, and Kyle Traylor. Land preservation organizations include: Berks Nature 501(c)(3) and Berks County Agricultural Land Preservation Board.

The proponent provided the following biography of the honoree:

Ralph W. Berky (9/21/1890-4/8/1977) poet, musician, lover of nature, follower of his faith, was a lifelong township resident. Son of a schoolteacher, he and his brothers graduated from Perkiomen School. While his brothers pursued fields in medicine and science, Ralph pursued a life close to nature, one that inspired his poetic gifts.

The home where he lived most of his life stood near this stream. Generations of his family owned a farm through which this stream runs. His brother owned a farm along its north side. A road next to the stream was one he walked often during his life. Nearby, years ago, he planted the conifer trees that today mark a tract once owned by his father.

Support letters accompanied the proposal submission. The Berks County Conservation District stated that naming the tributary would support watershed restoration efforts and "bring much-needed attention to the headwater tributaries" associated with ongoing streambank and habitat enhancement projects.

The Berks County Agricultural Land Preservation Board stated that establishing an official name would benefit “local mapping, planning, and emergency management efforts” while supporting “the rural character of the area.”

Washington Township stated that formally recognizing the brook by name would help “preserve the character and identity of our community” and provide “clarity and consistency for residents, local officials, and visitors alike.”

Berks Nature stated that it has worked with several landowners along the stream and supports honoring Ralph Berky while continuing conservation efforts in the area.

The proponent submitted additional materials outlining biographical information, poems of the honoree, their obituary, and land deeds.

Stakeholder Input

Local government	Washington Township Board of Supervisors	Support*
	Berks County Board of Commissioners	
State Names Authority	Pennsylvania Geographic Names Committee	
Federally Recognized Tribes	All federally recognized Tribes contacted under Policy X	
Other	Berks County Conservation District	Support*
	Berks County Agricultural Land Preservation Board	Support*
	Berks Nature	Support*
	Executive Secretary of Schwenkfelder Library and Heritage Center	Support*
	Petition (9 signatures)	Support*

*Provided by proponent

New name Browning Brook

Proposal Information

Proposed name	Browning Brook
Proposal type	New commemorative name for unnamed feature
Proponent	Thomas Smarr; Devon, Pennsylvania
Date proposed	3/23/2026
BGN case number	6673
Quarterly Review List	464

Feature Details

Primary coordinate	40.068150, -75.439232
Secondary coordinates	40.057264, -75.431306
Feature class	Stream
Feature size	1 mi. long
Feature description	Heads 2.5 mi. SSE from Mount Joy, flows NNW into Trout Creek
Name history	Named to commemorate Edward Browning (1886-1927) and Louisa Browning (1897-1973) who owned land along the stream and donated it to the Jenkins Arboretum.
USGS primary topo map	Valley Forge 1:24,000
State(s)	Pennsylvania
County(s)	Chester County
Local jurisdiction(s)	Tredyffrin Township
Land ownership	Various private; Jenkins Arboretum & Garden, private owners, 2 non-profit religious institutions, a historic Scout camp, an electric utility right-of way

BGN decisions

- None

Other Names

- Unpublished names: None found
- Published names: None found

Case Summary

This proposal is to provide the new commemorative name *Browning Brook* to an unnamed approximately 1-mile-long stream that flows into Trout Creek in Tredyffrin Township, Chester County, Pennsylvania. The proposal was submitted on March 23, 2026, by Thomas Smarr, Executive Director of the Jenkins Arboretum & Gardens, on behalf of the organization.

Regarding the need for an official name, the proponent stated:

To identify the waterway and inform the public about a site of stormwater and streambank stabilization work underway with municipal government cooperation and assistance. People care more about things they name.

Regarding the meaning and significance of the name:

The stream begins just above and passes through a public arboretum—Jenkins Arboretum & Gardens. The name would honor one of two families who preserved their property as a green-space sanctuary, for public benefit.

Regarding the appropriateness of the name:

The stream flows through the properties of both arboretum benefactor families, who lived as next-door neighbors. The public garden is named for those who first left land in trust. The Browning name would honor the second benefactor, who added property to the first preserve.

Regarding their interest in the naming of the feature:

Our interest is in demonstrating good stormwater management practices and publicizing the erosion control and streambank restoration projects along the waterway.

Regarding the biographical information of the individuals, the proponent stated:

Edward Browning, (b. 10/21/1886–d. 10/11/1927), was a distinguished WWI veteran, whose lung injuries from gas attacks prevented him from living past 40 yrs. Louisa Browning, (b. 4/2/1897–d. 10/22/1973), raised their 4 children. She donated her valuable Devon, PA, property to be part of a public garden.

Living along the stream, Ed. & Louisa Browning had a wildlife pond for their children. Edward was a founding Boy Scout leader and his troop met at his household. Despite having heirs, Louisa wanted her land preserved as green space, adding to a public garden trust.

Louisa Browning's donated parcels doubled the area preserved for the arboretum, along with an architecturally significant house. Her land gave the garden a unique naturally-wooded viewshed across the stream and roadway.

Edward Browning was an early WWI volunteer. First attached to the French Army and then joining 1st Engineers, 1st American Div. Participated in major engagements of Cantigny, St.-Mihiel, Montdidier-Noyon, Soissons, and Meuse-Argonne. He was gassed twice and received a distinguished conduct citation at St. Mihiel.

The proponent identified approximately 25 private landowners, two non-profit religious institutions, a historic Scout camp, and an electric utility right-of-way along the stream.

The proponent provided several letters of support. The Tredyffrin Environmental Advisory Council wrote that “Naming the stream will help our efforts to preserve and protect the township’s watershed.” The Chairperson of the Trout Creek Watershed Residents Association wrote, “We feel this is a fitting tribute to the Browning Family, who donated this property to the Arboretum.” The Trustee and President of Devon 50, Inc. wrote that the name would “honor [Mr. Browning’s] service in World War I, in founding Troop Devon 50 and to our community.” The president of Jenkins Arboretum & Gardens wrote that the name would strengthen “community interest in that waterway” and honor “a family that thought ahead to preserve our green space.”

The Chester County Water Resources Authority wrote:

We agree with the Tredyffrin Township Historical Commission that the name will help to preserve and protect a headwater of Trout Creek, a state designated Warm Water Fishes and Migratory Fishes stream. The health of smaller streams, such as the one selected, is essential to the health of their downstream waterways. Moreover, we believe that named streams, which have been designated as Warm Water Fishes and Migratory Fishes, are more likely to receive recognition, public support, and protection than unnamed streams. We also feel that stream naming is a worthwhile effort to better educate the public and achieve our County-wide water resource goals.

Stakeholder Input

Local government	Tredyffrin Township Board of Supervisors	Support*
	Chester County Water Resources Authority on behalf of Chester County	Support*
State Names Authority	Pennsylvania Geographic Names Committee	
Federally Recognized Tribes	All federally recognized Tribes contacted under Policy X	
Other	Tredyffrin Township Environmental Advisory Committee	Support*
	Tredyffrin Township Environmental Historical Commission	Support*
	Trout Creek Watershed Residents Association	Support*
	Scout Troop Devon 50	Support*
	Member of the Browning Family	Support*
	Jenkins Arboretum Board	Support*

*provided by the proponent

New name Paemasing Creek

Proposal Information

Proposed name	Paemasing Creek
Proposal type	new name for unnamed feature
Proponent	Kelly Lewis; East Stroudsburg, PA (Borough Manager)
Date proposed	3/3/2026
BGN case number	6676
Quarterly Review List	463

Feature Details

Primary coordinates	40.994741, -75.187297
Secondary coordinates	41.000085, -75.18513
Feature class	stream
Feature size	0.5 mi. long
Feature description	heads 0.9 mi. SSW of Zacharias Pond, flows SSE then SW into Brodhead Creek
Name history	Named for Paemasing, a Mahican who helped Johanna Boston, a local enslaved woman, during her escape to freedom
USGS primary topo map	Stroudsburg 1:24,000
State(s)	Pennsylvania
County(s)	Monroe County
Local jurisdiction(s)	Borough of East Stroudsburg
PLSS	Private / Borough land
Land ownership	

BGN decisions

- None

Other Names

- Unpublished names: None found
- Published names:
 - Little Sambo Creek: USGS topo map 2019; some local documents since 2011

Case Summary

The new name Paemasing Creek is proposed for an officially unnamed stream in the Borough of East Stroudsburg in Monroe County. The 0.5-mile-long stream flows into Brodhead Creek. The proposal was submitted on March 3, 2026 by Kelly Lewis, the East Stroudsburg Borough Manager.

The proposal would apply an official name to a stream sometimes locally called “Little Sambo Creek.” In 2011, GNIS staff added the name for this stream based on a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) report using the name. In 2022, DNC and GNIS staff

determined that this was an error; information from the Brodhead Watershed Association showed that the name was locally used for a tributary of Sambo Creek. GNIS staff corrected the location of [Little Sambo Creek](#). As a result, the stream in question is officially unnamed, although the USGS National Hydrography Dataset and 3D Hydrography Program continue to use the incorrect name [Little Sambo Creek](#). Local sources continue to use the name Little Sambo Creek for this stream.

The Borough had previously submitted a proposal to apply the new name Johanna Boston Creek to this officially unnamed stream (Quarterly Review List 458); that proposal is now withdrawn. The Borough submitted a proposal to change the name of the section of [Sambo Creek](#) only within the Borough of East Stroudsburg, but this proposal cannot be considered because of the BGN-DNC's Principle 5, "One Name for One Geographic Feature"; proposals must apply to entire features, not sections of features bounded by property lines or municipal boundaries.

The name [Sambo Creek](#) has been shown on USGS maps since at least 1944. [Sambo Creek Lower Reservoir](#) is located on Sambo Creek and was added to GNIS in 1990 from a USACE list of dams and reservoirs).

The proponent stated that the name should be changed because:

[t]he Borough of East Stroudsburg is submitting this proposal to align Federal geographic naming with community values and to remove terminology widely regarded as derogatory.

This was also the Borough's stated interest in the name of the feature.

The proponent originally stated that:

"Paemasing". . . reflects the Indigenous heritage of the region. The name acknowledges the original stewards of the land within the Brodhead watershed.

Staff asked for more information about Paemasing as a commemorative name. The proponent provided the following responses about Paemasing and his association with the feature or region:

Paemasing, a Mahican Native American living in the Smithfield area, sheltered and aided Johanna Boston after she collapsed from hypothermia during a severe winter storm. His assistance preserved her life and established a documented local historical connection between Paemasing and the East Stroudsburg area.

Paemasing is recognized in local history as one of the last Native American leaders living in the Smithfield Township area that later became the Borough of East Stroudsburg. His name represents the Indigenous people who inhabited and stewarded the region before European settlement.

Paemasing lived in the vicinity of the stream and the surrounding Smithfield area. His long-term association with the landscape predates the establishment of East Stroudsburg, making his name directly connected to the area's Indigenous history and cultural heritage.

Paemasing's recorded aid to Johanna Boston and his association with the Indigenous community of the Smithfield area provide an opportunity to recognize the Native American history of the region. Renaming the stream honors one of the area's last known Native American leaders.

The proponent stated that “[v]arious private landowners and municipal entities have been alerted by multiple surveys, emails, public notices, and public meetings.”

The proponent addressed the Derogatory and Offensive Names Policy (which does not apply to this proposal because it is a new name for an official unnamed feature, not a name change) by providing the reason the current name is considered derogatory or offensive and how the proposed name relates to the current official name:

The term “Sambo” is historically recognized as a racially derogatory term used to demean African Americans. Continued official use is inconsistent with contemporary standards of respect. The proposed name replaces the existing name in its entirety to eliminate derogatory terminology while maintaining recognition of the stream as a geographic feature.

A 2012 paper presented to the Monroe County Historical Society titled “[Johanna, the Slave Who Risked Her Life for Freedom](#)” (currently posted on the Smithfield Township website) includes some details about Paemasing including how he rescued Johanna Boston while she was suffering hypothermia during her escape from Solomon Jennings, and brought her to Judge Daniel Brodhead who purchased her freedom with help from the local Moravian community. Brodhead Creek is named for Judge Brodhead and the home where he sheltered her is near the stream.

Stakeholder Input

Local government	Borough of East Stroudsburg Council [proponent]	Support
	Monroe County Board of Commissioners	
State Names Authority	Pennsylvania Geographic Names Committee	
Federally Recognized Tribes	All federally recognized Tribes contacted under Policy X	

New name Smith Run

Proposal Information

Proposed name	Smith Run
Proposal type	New commemorative name for unnamed feature
Proponent	David L. Denlinger; Ronks, Pennsylvania
Date proposed	5/1/2026
BGN case number	6679
Quarterly Review List	463

Feature Details

Primary coordinates	40.03565, -76.19575
Secondary coordinates	40.02106, -76.17068
Feature class	Stream
Feature size	1.8 mi. long
Feature description	Heads 2.2 mi. S of the mouth of Muddy Run, flows NW into Mill Creek.
Name history	Named for James Smith (ca. 1700–1763) and his wife, Alice Smith (ca. 1700–1771), early Quaker settlers granted a 457-acre land warrant encompassing much of the stream in 1734.
USGS primary topo map	Leola 1:24,000
State(s)	Pennsylvania
County(s)	Lancaster County
Local jurisdiction(s)	East Lampeter Township
Land ownership	Private

BGN decisions

- None

Other Names

- Unpublished names: None found
- Published names: None found

Case Summary

The name *Smith Run* is proposed for an unnamed tributary of Mill Creek located in East Lampeter Township, Lancaster, Pennsylvania. The proposal was submitted on May 1, 2026, by David L. Denlinger, a resident of Ronks, Pennsylvania and a landowner along the stream.

Regarding the need for an official name for Federal use, the proponent stated:

The stream is being monitored for quality improvements and a name would be helpful for this purpose ongoing study by STroud Foundation [sic].

Regarding the meaning and significance of the name:

Name honors the founding settlers who were granted this tract of land in the 1730's.

Regarding the appropriateness of the name

The 457 acre [sic] land warrant granted to James and Alice Smith encompasses most of the stream area.

Regarding the proponent's interest in the naming of the feature:

Major landowner along this stream. Owner of a portion of the original Smith warranted land."

The proponent provided the following as biographical information for the honorees:

James Smith (born ca 1700, died 1763) and his wife Alice were granted a warrant for this land in 1734. (457 acres) that included much of this stream.

The Smith family lived on this property for three generations (1750-1787), according to local history recorded in *Bir[d]-in-Hand*.

Represented the earliest European settlers in this area. One of five Quaker families who settled here in the early 1700's.

The proponent provided supporting documentation from *Bird-in-Hand: A Bicentennial Celebration, 1734–1984*, including the title page, a map from page 12, and text from page 11 referencing James Smith and the original Smith tract. The proponent also provided an original parchment indenture documenting the 1796 transfer of property from the Smith family to the Grove family and referencing the James Smith tract.

In a letter of support provided by the proponent from the Stroud Water Research Center, they write:

Formally naming this tributary Smith Run would enhance clarity in communication related to our long-term monitoring, reporting, mapping, and restoration efforts. An official name would also support future conservation initiatives and scientific documentation, ensuring consistency in reference across agencies, researchers, and the broader community. Finally, formally naming the stream will increase community awareness about and investment in this small but important watershed.

GNIS lists forty-five records within Pennsylvania with "Smith" in its name. Of those records, 13 contain the name "Smith Run." The closest is *Doc Smith Run*, approximately 45 miles to the northeast in Dauphin County and *Smith Run*, 95 miles to the west-northwest in Huntingdon County.

Stakeholder Input

Local government	East Lampeter Township Board of Supervisors	Support*
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	Lancaster County Commissioners	
State Names Authority	Pennsylvania Geographic Names Committee	
Federally Recognized Tribes	All federally recognized Tribes contacted under Policy X	
Other	Stroud Water Research Center	Support*
	Petition including 11 signatures	Support*

*Provided by proponent

New name Wenner Run

Proposal Information

Proposed name	Wenner Run
Proposal type	New name for unnamed feature
Proponent	Elizabeth “Betsy” Quant; Lewisburg, PA
Date proposed	3/17/2026
BGN case number	6672
Quarterly Review List	464

Feature Details

Primary coordinates	40.987179, -76.943674
Secondary coordinates	40.99907, -76.96698
Feature class	Stream
Feature size	1.74 mi. long
Feature description	Heads 2.2 mi. SE of Buffalo Mountain, flows SE into the Buffalo Creek
Name history	Named to commemorate Sheldon (1900–1970), Marie (1903–1997), Donald (1926–2009) and David (1932–2021) Wenner, who resided at the stream’s headwaters.
USGS primary topo map	Lewisburg 1:24,000
State(s)	Pennsylvania
County(s)	Union County
Local jurisdiction(s)	Kelly Township
Land ownership	Private

BGN decisions

- None

Other Names

- Unpublished names: Unnamed tributary to Mill Race (reported by proponent)
- Published names: None found

Case Summary

The name *Wenner Run* is proposed for an unnamed tributary of Buffalo Creek located in Kelly Township, Union County, Pennsylvania. The proposal was submitted on March 17, 2026 by Elizabeth “Betsy” Quant a resident of Lewisburg, Pennsylvania.

Regarding the need for an official name for Federal use, the proponent stated:

Many small headwater streams to Buffalo Creek, which is within the Chesapeake Bay Watershed, are all labeled as “unnamed tributary” (UNT). Officially naming this stream as Wenner Run allows outreach and implementation of water quality improvement projects to be better specified and focused.

Regarding the meaning and significance of the proposed name:

This unnamed tributary begins at a spring on a farm formerly owned by the Wenner family (since the 1940's). It then runs for about a third of its length along a township road called Wenner Road.

Regarding the appropriateness of the name

The name Wenner Run is appropriate because of its origin on the former Wenner Farm and its initial course near Wenner Road

Regarding local use of the proposed name

My family and close neighbors have called this stream Wenner Run for 5 decades.

The name is proposed to commemorate members of the Wenner family, whom the proponent describes as longtime residents of the Kelly Point area near the stream's headwaters.

The proponent states that Sheldon Wenner (b. 1900–1970) and Marie Wenner (1903–1997) moved to the area by 1944 and raised their family on a farm near the stream.

The proponent describes David Wenner (b. 1932–2021) as “the unofficial mayor of Kelly Point,” stating that he “made sure that all the neighbors got together every year or two and kept all the communication lines open.” The proponent further states that David Wenner assisted neighboring families in learning “how to make hay, raise livestock, plant trees for windbreaks, etc.” and helped foster relationships within the rural community.

Regarding Donald Wenner (1926–2009), the proponent states that he was “community-minded” and served as chair of the Kelly Township Planning Commission. The proponent further notes that the “Wenner place” remained associated with the family until 2010 and that members of the community remembered Don and Arlene Wenner as welcoming neighbors and mentors.

The proponent identified approximately 11 landowners along the stream, including private citizens, two trust-land easements, and an LLC.

Regarding landowner awareness of the proposal:

On Feb. 10, 2026, I mailed each of the landowners a letter telling them of my intent to submit this proposal and asking each of them to let me know if they agreed or disagreed with my idea of naming Wenner Run. As of March 17, I have received 9 “agree” and 0 “disagree” answers from the 11 adjoining landowners. The letter is its own separate attachment to this proposal.

Regarding the proponent's interest in the name:

For this stream to be better discussed and respected, it needs a name. When living

here, the Wenner family were a positive part of the local community for many decades. The stream's origin on the former Wenner Farm along Wenner Road makes Wenner Run an appropriate name.

In a letter of support, the Union County Conservation District stated:

There are many small headwater streams within the Buffalo Creek Watershed that are labeled the exact same way [“unnamed tributary” or UNT], and. . .it makes it difficult to point out where exactly [restoration] work is being implemented. [An official name] can specify and focus where outreach and project implementation should occur to improve water quality.

Many conservation organizations are targeting small tributary streams to do outreach and project implementation in what is considered to be a “delisting catchment.” That typically requires a stream to have a name, so developing more named tributaries will lead to more successful watershed restoration. Also, with the historical information of the Wenner family once owning a farm along this stream channel and with Wenner Road running parallel, this is a very fitting name.

The Merrill W. Lynn Land and Waterways Conservancy wrote:

Wenner Run is already locally recognized, and can create confusion for newcomers or outside contractors looking for a location that is not officially recognized on available map platforms. Establishing the stream's official name will serve to more precisely identify the locations of our work in that part of the watershed.

GNIS lists one record with “Wenner” in its name: Wenner Swamp, approximately 40 miles to the east-northeast.

Stakeholder Input

Local government	Kelly Township Supervisors	Support*
	Union County Commissioners	
State Names Authority	Pennsylvania Geographic Names Committee	
Federally Recognized Tribes	All federally recognized Tribes contacted under Policy X	
Other	The Merrill W. Lynn Land and Waterways Conservancy	Support*
	Northcentral Pennsylvania Conservancy	Support*
	Union County Planning Commission	Support*
	Union County Conservation District	Support*
	Various Private Landowners	Support*

*Provided by proponent

Texas

New name Lively Pond

Proposal Information

Proposed name	Lively Pond
Proposal type	New commemorative name for unnamed feature
Proponent	Michael Lively; Pasadena, Texas
Date proposed	5/13/2026
BGN case number	6687
Quarterly Review List	464

Feature Details

Primary coordinates	29.639911, -95.147465
Feature class	Reservoir
Feature size	0.5 acres
Feature description	1.6 mi. S of Armond Bayou, 1.9 mi. W of Willow Springs Bayou
Name history	Named for Michael Talmadge Lively (1974-2016), a local resident and fisherman.
USGS primary topo map	Pasadena 1:24,000
State(s)	Texas
County(s)	Harris County
Local jurisdiction(s)	City of Pasadena
Land ownership	Private (proponent)

BGN decisions

- None

Other Names

- Unpublished names: None found
- Published names: None found

Case Summary

The name *Lively Pond* is proposed for a half-acre reservoir located in Pasadena, Harris County, Texas. The proposal was submitted on May 13, 2026, by Michael Lively, a resident of Pasadena, Texas and landowner of the feature.

Regarding the need for an official name, the proponent states:

It currently does not have a name

In follow up correspondence proponent outlined generalized needs for federal use, not specific to the feature itself.

Regarding the meaning and significance of the proposed name:

It is named after my father's name who passed away in 2016

Regarding the appropriateness of the proposed name:

My father liked to fish in this pond

Regarding their interest in the naming of the feature:

I want to name it after my father

Regarding the biographical information of the honoree, Michael Talmadge Lively, the proponent stated:

My father was born on July 1, 1974 and passed away February 20, 2016. He received his bachelors degree from the University of Houston in 1969 and married Claudia Guedry in September of 1970. They both had 3 children including myself.

The proponent also shared his father "coached sports teams for youth in Pasadena" and "he liked to fish."

In response to the commemorative names policy question, the proponent indicated that the proposed name could be construed to refer to living persons, specifying "the whole Lively family."

GNIS lists one reservoir feature within Texas, *Lively Lake*, about 350 miles north-northeast of the feature.

Stakeholder Input

Local government	Pasadena City Council	
	Harris County Commissioners Court	
State Names Authority	Texas Geographic Names Committee	
Federally Recognized Tribes	All federally recognized Tribes contacted under Policy X	

Washington

New name Heron Lake

Proposal Information

Proposed name	Heron Lake
Proposal type	New name for unnamed feature
Proponent	Martina Preston; Ellensburg, WA
Date proposed	5/27/2026
BGN case number	6689
Quarterly Review List	464

Feature Details

Primary coordinates	47.0047825, -120.5831909
Feature class	Reservoir
Feature size	14.3 acres
Feature description	4 mi. WNW of Tjossem Pond, 0.1 mi. S of the mouth of Currier Creek
Name history	Named in association with great blue herons along the waterbody.
USGS primary topo map	Ellensburg North 1: 24,000
State(s)	Washington
County(s)	Kittitas County
Local jurisdiction(s)	City of Ellensburg
PLSS	Secs. 33&34, T18N, R18E, Willamette Meridian
Land ownership	Private

BGN decisions

- None

Other Names

- Unpublished names: None found
- Published names: None found

Case Summary

The name *Heron Lake* is proposed for an approximately 14.3-acre reservoir in the City of Ellensburg, Kittitas County, Washington. The proposal was submitted on May 27, 2026, by Martina Preston, with a mailing address in Ellensburg, Washington.

Regarding the need for an official name, the proponent stated:

This waterbody runs parallel to a primary road of commerce and transportation in Ellensburg, WA. A number of businesses border the waterbody, and people both catch-and-release fish as well as sunbathe, skip rocks, and interact with the water on a daily basis.

Regarding the meaning and significance of the name:

The great blue heron is often used as a symbol of environmental stewardship, and the WDFW classifies it as a priority species. Some also see the heron as a sign of resilience and strength. WA has a revered population of great blue herons, and the bird is a symbol in many local and native legends.

Regarding the appropriateness of the name:

For years now, a great blue heron has been nesting on the side of the bank opposite to the businesses, creating a tranquil scene for both clients and employees who look out the water-facing windows on a daily basis. The heron fishes along the stretch of the lake, remaining undisturbed and sacred

Regarding their interest in the naming of the feature:

We work at one of the businesses bordering the waterbody and would love to see it officially recognized.

The proposal was originally submitted as *Lake Doom*, a name the proponent indicated had personal literary meaning. In follow-up correspondence, staff requested clarification regarding the significance of the name to the wider community. The proponent subsequently submitted a revised proposal for Heron Lake “after talking it over with a few of the other businesses who border the waterbody.”

GNIS lists four records within Washington with “Heron” in its name; “Heron Lake,” 62 miles to the east, “Heron Pond”, 152 miles to the northwest, “Blue Heron Lake”, 32 miles to the northeast, and “Blue Heron Beach” 173 miles to the northwest.

Stakeholder Input

Local government	Ellensburg City Council	
	Kittitas County Board of County Commissioners	
State Names Authority	Washington Committee on Geographic Names	
Federally Recognized Tribes	All federally recognized Tribes contacted under Policy X	