

**UNITED STATES BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES  
WASHINGTON, D.C.**

This Quarterly Review List presents names proposed for geographic features in the United States. The names are offered to (1) identify previously unnamed features, (2) provide official recognition to names in current local usage, (3) resolve conflicts in name spellings, applications, and local usage, or (4) change existing names. Any organization, agency, or person may indicate to the U.S. Board on Geographic Names (BGN) their support or opposition to any name proposed herein by submitting written evidence documenting their position.

The names herein are official for use in Federal publications and on maps upon approval by the BGN. Only one name is official per geographic feature; however, a shortened version of an official name may be authorized, and these are identified by underlining. The use or omission of non-underlined words is optional.

Variant names and spellings discovered in researching a name are listed following the word "Not." 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.

If a populated place is incorporated under the laws of its State, it is specified as such in parentheses after the feature designation. Populated places without such designations are not incorporated.

The information following each name indicates the submitting agency or person, the most recent base series map\* for locating the feature, the reason for the proposal, and other pertinent background facts needed to assist the BGN in its decision process. Each paragraph also includes a link to available maps services showing the location of the feature. A copy of this Review List has also been posted to the BGN's website at [http://geonames.usgs.gov/domestic/quarterly\\_list.htm](http://geonames.usgs.gov/domestic/quarterly_list.htm).

Effective immediately, the horizontal datum used for geographic coordinates in all Domestic Geographic Names publications is the North American Datum of 1983. The datum of some geographic coordinates from historical maps may still be the NAD27.

Comments on the name proposals may be sent to: Mr. Lou Yost, Executive Secretary, U.S. Board on Geographic Names/Domestic Names Committee, 523 National Center, Reston, VA 20192-0523; telephone (703) 648-4552; fax (703) 648-4549; e-mail [BGNESEC@usgs.gov](mailto:BGNESEC@usgs.gov).

**THE NAMES IN THIS REVIEW LIST MAY BE USED ONLY AFTER APPROVAL BY THE  
BGN**

\*Standard map series published by the U.S. Geological Survey, USDA Forest Service, or Office of Coast Survey.

## ALABAMA

**Wash Maybin Branch:** stream; 1.8 mi long; heads just NE of Henry County Roads 176 and 65 at 31°26'45"N, 85°10'58"W, flows NW to enter Abbie Creek 8.7 mi NE of Newville, 8.2 mi SE of Abbeville; named in honor of Wash Maybin, an African-American midwife of the early 1900s; Henry County, Alabama; Secs 26,25&36, T6N, R28E, St. Stephens Meridian; 31°27'31"N, 85°12'17"W; USGS map – Haleburg 1:24,000.

Mouth: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=31.458518&p\\_longi=-85.204806](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=31.458518&p_longi=-85.204806)

Source: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=31.445966&p\\_longi=-85.182896](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=31.445966&p_longi=-85.182896)

Proposal: new commemorative name for an unnamed feature

Map: USGS Haleburg 1:24,000

Proponent: Charles Richter; Abbeville, Alabama

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: None found

Local Usage: None found

Published: None found

Case Summary: This proposal is to make official the commemorative name Wash Maybin Branch for a 1.8 mile-long tributary of Abbie Creek in south-central Henry County. The proponent originally proposed the name Creek Indian Branch (BGN Review List 408), but after speaking with a local historian, he learned that the stream is already known informally as Wash Maybin Branch. Wash Maybin was an African-American midwife of the early 1900s, who is remembered as “the midwife to all the people in the area.” Ms. Maybin, whose birth and death dates are not known, was highly respected and “well loved by black and white people of her community.” An online search for Ms. Maybin yielded no results, although a few genealogy websites confirm that the surname Maybin was found in Henry County in the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. A local road that passes the farm where the honoree lived and which parallels the stream is named Wash Maybin Road.

## ALASKA

**Lochenyatth Creek:** stream; 19 mi. long; heads 9.7 mi WNW of Minto at 65°11'00"N, 149°39'28"W, flows SW to join Hutlitakwa Creek, 70 mi NW of Fairbanks; the name means “grass tussocks” in the Lower Tanana Gwich'in language; Yukon-Koyukuk Census Area; T4N, Rgs10-12W, Fairbanks Meridian; 65°03'35"N, 150°04'00"W; USGS map – Tanana A-1 1:63,360; Not: Lachenyatth Creek, Lochenhyaal No', Lochenyatth No', Negrohead Creek, Niggerhead Creek.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p\\_lat=65.0597222&p\\_longi=-150.0666667&fid=1407007](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p_lat=65.0597222&p_longi=-150.0666667&fid=1407007)

Proposal: to change a name considered by some to be derogatory

Map: USGS Tanana A-1 1:63,360

Proponent: Tonya Brown & Jane Naze; Fairbanks, AK

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: Negrohead Creek (FID 1407007)

Local Usage: None found

Published: Lachenyatth Creek (Athabascan language research), Lochenhyaal No' (*Native Place Names Mapping in Denali National Park and Preserve*, 1999), Lochenyatth No' (*Native Place Names Mapping in Denali National Park and Preserve*, 1999), Negrohead

Creek (USGS 1984; *DeLorme Alaska Atlas and Gazetteer*, 2010), Niggerhead Creek (USGS, 1952/72; NOAA aeronautical chart 1991)

Case Summary: This proposal is to change the name of Negrohead Creek to Lochenyatth Creek. The 19-mile long stream is a tributary of Hutlitakwa Creek and is located approximately 70 miles northwest of Fairbanks. A portion of the stream lies within the Tanana Valley State Forest. The stream was originally named Niggerhead Creek, a word used for many years to refer to grass tussocks found in tundra areas. The name was changed as part of the BGN's universal change from the pejorative form and thus became Negrohead Creek on later Federal maps. However, according to the proponents, there is no known word "negrohead" and they would like to see the stream's name changed to reflect the Lower Tanana Gwich'in name, Lochenyatth Creek, which translates to "grass tussocks" (Lochenhyaal No' and Lochenyatth No' are already listed in GNIS as variant names for Negrohead Creek; both were compiled from Dr. James Kari's 1999 publication *Native Place Names Mapping in Denali National Park and Preserve*). The proposed spelling, including the use of the barred Ł, is consistent with the orthography established by the Alaska Native Language Center at the University of Alaska-Fairbanks. Dr. Kari and other linguists at the Language Center assisted local middle school students in submitting the proposal.

The proposed change is endorsed by the Tanana Chiefs Conference, "a consortium of interior [sic] federally recognized tribes," as well as the Alaska Historical Commission (AHC), which serves as the State Names Authority. As part of its research, the AHC contacted various Alaska Native groups for an opinion. Doyon Ltd., an Alaska Native corporation, responded that they had no objection. The Native Village of Minto, Manley Hot Springs Village, the Seth-De-Ya Corporation, the Bean Ridge Corporation, the Manley Hot Springs Community Association, the African American Historical Society of Alaska, and Black Coalition Inc. did not respond to the State's request for comment, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion. The AHC also asked that the name Tussocks Creek be recorded in GNIS as a variant.

**Murphy Ridge**: ridge; elevation 5,457 ft; 1 mile long; located partly in the Independence Mine State Historical Park, extends from Gold Cord Peak eastward to The Pinnacle, 14 mi NW of Sutton; named in honor of former Hatcher Pass and Independence Mine State Historical Park ranger Patrick Murphy (1959-2006); Matanuska-Susitna Borough, Alaska; 61°48'46"N, 149°16'38"W; Secs 20-22, T20N, R1E, Seward Meridian; USGS map – Anchorage D-7 SE 1:25,000.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=61.812777777778&p\\_longi=-149.277222222222](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=61.812777777778&p_longi=-149.277222222222)

Proposal: new commemorative name for an unnamed feature

Map: USGS Anchorage D-7 SE 1:25,000

Proponent: Alan "Buz" Blaisdell; Palmer, AK

Administrative area: Hatcher Pass Management Area

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: None

Local Usage: Murphy Ridge (Alaska Mountain Safety Center)

Published: None

Case Summary: This proposal is to apply the new commemorative name Murphy Ridge to an unnamed ridge extending from Gold Cord Peak from the west, generally northeast for one mile, to The Pinnacle at the southeast end, in Matanuska-Susitna Borough. The feature extends partially into Independence Mine State Historical Park. The name would honor Patrick Murphy (1959-2006), a park ranger with Alaska State Parks, who worked in the Hatcher Pass area.

Patrick Murphy was a graduate of Northern Michigan University with a degree in natural resources management and conservation of recreational resources. He relocated to Alaska and spent a season as

a ranger in Denali National Park before joining Alaska State Parks as a ranger in 1985. In 1987 he transferred to the Hatcher Pass area and worked there for 18 years, becoming Chief Ranger in 2002.

According to media reports, “Pat Murphy was a genial and well-known state park ranger in the Matanuska-Susitna Borough with a reputation as a storyteller and practical joker... He delved into the history of the mine, led mine tours, helped update exhibits and compiled stories from old-timers. He also tried to keep the road to the mine open, even when heavy snow blocked the alpine two-laner before the state paved it and plowed it regularly.” According to the proponent, who is an employee of Alaska State Parks at the Little Su station, “Murphy worked steadfastly for the preservation, restoration, interpretation and enjoyment of the area. He worked well with present-day miners, visitors, volunteers, and co-workers.” The owners of the Lucky Shot Mine, located near the State Historical Park, provided funds for a memorial bench and Independence Mine from which the range can be viewed.

A letter from the Backcountry Avalanche Awareness and Response Team (BAART) Secretary states “Ranger Murphy was a great man and the founding BAART members got to know him more personally when their son and brother got buried in an avalanche in 1999. Pat became [a] family friend after the incident and worked hand in hand with BAART and always supported our effort to educate [the] public on avalanche danger.”

Media reports suggest the proposed name is already used by an instructor with the Alaska Mountain Safety Center.

The Alaska Historical Commission supports the proposal, as do the Manager of Matanuska-Susitna Borough, the City of Palmer Mayor, the Commissioner of the Alaska Department of Natural Resources, and the Superintendent of the Alaska State Parks Mat-Su/Copper Basin Area. A petition was also forwarded containing approximately 200 signatures in support of the proposal.

## CALIFORNIA

**Black Miners Creek**: stream; 3.4 mi long; heads 1 mi. W of Rough and Ready at 39°13'50"N, 121°09'24"W, flows W, SW and NW to enter Lake Wildwood; named in recognition of historic black miners in the area; Nevada County, California; 39°13'42"N, 121°12'21"W; USGS map – Rough and Ready 1:24,000; Not: Negro Creek, Nigger Creek, Wildwood Creek – in part.  
[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p\\_lat=39.23734&p\\_longi=-121.21312&fid=2681563](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p_lat=39.23734&p_longi=-121.21312&fid=2681563)

Proposal: to change a name considered by some to be derogatory

Map: USGS Rough and Ready 1:24,000

Proponent: Gail Smith; Rough and Ready, CA

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: Negro Creek (FID 2681563)

Local Usage: None found

Published: Negro Creek (California Department of Transportation Nevada County map 1991), Nigger Creek (USGS 1950; Nevada County Tax Assessors map 2003), Wildwood Creek – in part (California State Automobile Association map, 1988)

Case Summary: This proposal is to change the name of Negro Creek in Nevada County to Black Miners Creek. The stream in question is 3.4 miles long and heads approximately one mile west of the community of Rough and Ready before flowing west into Lake Wildwood. The original proposal, to

rename the stream Butterfly Creek (Review List 407), was withdrawn by the proponent after the Nevada County Commissioners indicated they were not in support of that name.

Prior to receiving the proposal for Butterfly Creek, the stream was not listed in GNIS. However, the proponent, after purchasing a home in area, discovered that it was labeled Nigger Creek on a 2003 Nevada County Tax Assessors Map and submitted a proposal to change it, stating, “I find this extremely offensive and would like the name changed.”

Further research by the BGN staff determined that the stream had in fact been labeled Nigger Creek on a USGS topographic map published in 1950 and as Negro Creek on a California Department of Transportation county highway map. The latter name was added to GNIS as the official name, with the pejorative form recorded as a variant. According to the USGS field notes for the 1995 map revision, neither of the two names was found to be in local use and so the stream was not labeled. The field notes went on to indicate that a 1988 California State Automobile Association map applied the name Wildwood Creek to just the lower portion of the stream (within the Lake Wildwood subdivision) but this name has also not been found to be in local use; it also has been recorded as a variant name.

The original proposal for Butterfly Creek was chosen for “the many, many different kinds of butterflies in the area.” In rejecting the proposal, the Nevada County Commissioners stated, “Nevada County takes pride in its unique Gold Rush history and in the contributions, struggles and stories of the many diverse settlers, immigrants, miners and residents who lived and died in our region. The Board of Supervisors does not view the word ‘Negro’ as pejorative, but as an objective term used as commonly in the past as the terms ‘African-American’ and ‘Black’ are used today.” The letter continues, “In order to preserve and reflect the history of black miners in the area, the Board of Supervisors requests that the name ‘Negro Creek’ be retained on all maps, databases and historical references....” The local chapter of the NAACP was asked by Nevada County to comment on the issue but did not respond.

After the County indicated it would be willing to consider future proposals to change the name of Negro Creek, the proponent amended the proposal to Black Miners Creek; this name “would explain the history a little better than “Negro,” and honors the people that actually did do the work.”

## COLORADO

**Aunt Clara Brown Hill**: summit; 9,088 ft; located 0.75 mi NW of Central City, 6.6 mi E of Saint Marys; the name honors Clara Brown (c. 1803-1885); Gilpin County, Colorado; Sec. 11, T3S, R73W, Sixth Principal Meridian; 39°48’29”N, 105°31’31”W; USGS map – Central City 1:24,000; Not: Negro Hill, Nigger Hill.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p\\_lat=39.8080433&p\\_longi=-105.5252754&fid=181489](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p_lat=39.8080433&p_longi=-105.5252754&fid=181489)

Proposal: to change a name considered by some to be derogatory

Map: USGS Central City 1:24,000

Proponent: Roger Baker; Central City, Colorado

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: Negro Hill (FID 181489)

Local Usage: Negro Hill (local residents)

Published: Negro Hill (USGS 1972, 2011); Nigger Hill (USGS 1910, 1912)

Case Summary: This proposal is to change the name of Negro Hill, a 9,088-foot summit located just east of the boundary of the Arapaho National Forest in Gilpin County, to Aunt Clara Brown Hill. The summit was labeled Nigger Hill on U.S. Geological Survey topographic maps in 1910 and 1912 and as Negro Hill on later revisions in 1972 and 2011. The proponent, who is the Gilpin County Manager, states, “The use of the epithet was inspired by the lynching, on the hilltop, of a black man named George Smith on February 18, 1870. Smith was accused, tried and convicted of the murder of a white man, William Hamblin, in Quartz Valley (just below the hill) in 1868. Though the case received at least a modicum of due process—it was appealed to the Colorado Supreme Court—contemporary descriptions of the hanging make it clear that the penalty was an example of what could, at best, be called “Frontier Justice.”

The proposed name is intended to honor Clara Brown (ca.1803-1885), who was born a slave, likely in Spotsylvania County, Virginia. Originally owned by Ambrose Smith, she married a slave and bore four children. Upon Smith’s death, her family members were sold to different owners and dispersed. Clara was sold to George Brown, from whom she acquired her surname. After Brown’s death in 1857 she earned her freedom and went west, first to St. Louis, then Leavenworth, Kansas, and Denver, Colorado. In Denver, she set up business as a laundress, prospered financially, and made many friends of all races. In 1859, when gold was discovered in what would become Gilpin County, Clara relocated her laundry business to that area while always in search of her children. Only one of the four was thought to still be living. She continued to work as a laundress, as well as cook and midwife. She became a leading citizen of what came to be called Central City; she helped found churches, grubstaked young miners, cared for the sick and invested in real estate. While acquiring a small fortune, she became known as “Aunt Clara” as she provided food, shelter, and nursing care to the townspeople.

After the Civil War, she returned to Kentucky and Tennessee in search of family; finding none, she returned with a number of impoverished freedmen and women, whom she helped settle in Central City, Georgetown, and Denver. With failing health, Clara moved back to Denver where she was selected by Governor Pitkin to travel to Kansas bearing large cash donations for support of struggling Exodusters (freed slaves).

After a lifetime of charitable work and giving, a continual search for her daughter, and financial losses, Clara herself was nearly destitute. Admirers provided her with a home in Denver and contributed to her support.

Clara’s friends constantly kept up the search for Clara’s daughter, Eliza Jane, who was located in Council Bluffs, Iowa in 1882. At age 79, Clara was reunited with her daughter and a granddaughter. All returned to Denver where Clara Brown’s health continued to deteriorate. In 1884, Clara Brown became the first woman and one of the first two African-Americans to be inducted into the Colorado Pioneer Association, which also provided a stipend for her lifetime of good works. She died in Denver in 1885. A century later, Clara Brown was inducted into the Colorado Woman’s Hall of Fame in 1989. A stained glass portrait of her graces the old Colorado Supreme Court Chambers in the Capitol building in Denver. Many articles and books about her have been written, and in 2003 an opera based on her life, “Gabriel’s Daughter,” received its world premiere at the famed Central City Opera House.

## FLORIDA

**Ponce de Leon Island:** island; 45 mi long; barrier island located along the Atlantic Coast, extends S from the Canaveral Barge Canal to Sebastian Inlet; Brevard County, Florida; the name commemorates Spanish explorer and soldier Don Juan Ponce de Leon (c.1460-1521), who led the



first European expedition to Florida and reportedly landed at the barrier island in 1513; 28°07'51"N, 80°35'00"W; USGS map – Tropic 1:24,000 (central point). Not: Ponce de León Island.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=28.1307333&p\\_longi=-80.5833435](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=28.1307333&p_longi=-80.5833435)

Proposal: new commemorative name for an unnamed feature

Map: USGS Tropic 1:24,000 (central point)

Proponent: Paul R. Gougelman; Melbourne Beach, FL

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: none

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: none found

Published: Ponce de León Island (Wikipedia)

**Case Summary:** This proposal would apply the new commemorative name Ponce de Leon Island to an unnamed 45-mile long barrier island located along the Atlantic coast of Brevard County. The name was proposed in 2011 to local municipalities and Brevard County, but was not forwarded at the time to the BGN. In reaction to local media coverage of the naming effort, the American Indian Association of Florida submitted a proposal to the BGN to name the island Ais Island instead; this proposal is listed on BGN Review List 408. Following receipt of the Ais Island proposal and after the BGN staff asked the Brevard County Commissioners to comment on that name, the proposal for Ponce de Leon Island was submitted to the BGN. The latter name was submitted by the County Commissioners and is intended to commemorate the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2013 of the landing of Ponce de León in Florida, reportedly near the site of the present-day Town of Melbourne Beach on the island in question. The county's resolution notes that the Brevard County Historical Commission, the Town of Melbourne Beach, the City of Melbourne, and the Town of Indialantic also support the proposal. The proposal included letters of support from Florida Senator Darren Soto; the Florida Hispanic Achievers Grant Council; the Florida Puerto Rican/Hispanic Chamber of Commerce; United Third Bridge, Inc. A Certificate of Support from Santervas de Camopos (Valladolid) of Spain was also included with the proposal. Illinois State Senator William Delgado submitted a letter of support, noting, "The business and educational opportunities this tribe will bring are endless."

**Addendum:** subsequent to the publication of this Review List, the BGN has been advised that the Town of Indialantic has rescinded its support for Ponce de Leon Island.

Don Juan Ponce de León was born in Spain in approximately 1460. After leading the Spanish reconquest of Spain from the Moors in 1492, he joined Christopher Columbus in the Second Expedition to the Americas. He was appointed Governor of Puerto Rico, only to later lose the title to Diego Colón, son of Christopher Columbus. He was later reaffirmed as Governor, and led successful expeditions in search of gold throughout the West Indies. In 1513 he led the first European exploration of Florida, where historians claim he landed at either Saint Augustine, a small harbor now called Ponce de León Inlet, or further south near the present location of Melbourne Beach. He is widely remembered as searching for the Fountain of Youth, though these legends surfaced years after his death. Historians dispute that gold, not the Fountain of Youth, was the driving force behind his expeditions.

The American Indian Association of Florida opposes naming the island for Ponce de León; in an email to local municipal governments, the AIA stated Ponce de León and his men "had no qualms about pillaging, mutilating, raping, and murdering the Ais people, the original inhabitants of the barrier island... Naming the island after Ponce de Leon would be seen by indigenous people around the world as the equivalent of honoring a mass murderer." They added, "We propose, instead, that the island be named Ais Island to honor the memory of its original inhabitants." The Ais (or Ays)

Indians once inhabited the area. The United Confederation of Taíno People submitted a resolution in support of Ais Island, and “vehemently opposes any proposal” to honor Ponce de León.

GNIS lists several dozen features in Florida with names that include the words “Ponce” or “Leon,” the majority of which were named for Ponce de León, including Leon County. These include a bay, two springs, five communities, and a channel. The remainder are buildings or other cultural features, such as churches, schools, and parks. None are islands and none are in Brevard County. There are no geographic features in Florida named “Ais” or “Ays,” although research indicates that the Indian River was once known as the River of Ais.

## INDIANA

**Wabee Lake**: lake; 187 acres; located in Van Buren Township 1.7 mi. SE of Milford, 7.3 mi. W of Lake Wawasee; Kosciusko County, Indiana; Secs 21&22, T34N, R6E, Second Principal Meridian; 41°23’22”N, 85°49’50”W; USGS map – Milford 1:24,000; Not: Milford Lake, Wabee Lake.  
[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p\\_lat=41.3895528&p\\_longi=-85.8306219&fid=445335](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p_lat=41.3895528&p_longi=-85.8306219&fid=445335)

Proposal: name change to long-time reflect local usage

Map: USGS Milford 1:24,000

Proponent: Scott Slusser; Milford, Indiana

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: Wabee Lake (FID 445335)

Local Usage: Milford Lake (local residents), Wabee Lake (local residents, Waabee Lake Association)

Published: Wabee Lake (USGS topographic maps since 1952; DeLorme Indiana Atlas & Gazetteer, 2009; Wabee Lake (USGS Nonindigenous Aquatic Species report; 2009; EPA Walter Quality Assessment Report, 2002; National Climatic Data Center Event Record, 2006; Waabee Lake Association; “Waabee Lake Sediment Removal Plan”, 2005; Indiana Department of Natural Resources “Waabee Lake Report” 2002; Indiana Department of Natural Resources Lake and River Enhancement Program, 2010; Kosciusko County Visitors’ Bureau)

Case Summary: This proposal is to change the name of Wabee Lake, a 187-acre lake in Kosciusko County, to Wabee Lake. The existing name has appeared on USGS topographic maps since 1952, having been collected and verified during field investigation in 1949. The 1952 map also showed Wabee Tri Station, a survey benchmark that was located and identified by the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey. A sign on nearby State Route 15 also uses the name Wabee Lake.

According to the proponent, the lake has been known locally as Wabee Lake “for more than 70 years,” although it is occasionally referred to as Milford Lake, presumably in reference to the nearby community of Milford. The Environmental Protection Agency and the Indiana Department of Natural Resources both refer to Wabee Lake in water quality assessment reports, and at least one USGS aquatic species report also uses the spelling “Waabee.” The Kosciusko County Visitors Bureau, the Waabee Lake Association, and a Christian camp that has been on the lake since 1925 also use the proposed spelling. The proponent further states, “Some of the older folks that have grown up here [state] that there was a Pottawatomie camp on the East side of the lake.... I am sure that the word Waabee comes from the Indian language as there are many names that begin with Wau-be. These name[s] appear in treaties that were signed between the tribes and the states.” Several websites indicate that “wau-be” translates to “white.”



## IOWA

**Johles Creek:** stream; 4.5 mi long; heads at 42°47'11"N, 91°10'42"W, trends SE to enter Turkey River, 0.5 mi SE of Osterdock; Clayton County, Iowa; 42°43'41"N, 91°08'38"W; USGS map – Colesburg 1:24,000; Not: Joles Creek.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p\\_lat=42.728046&p\\_longi=-91.1440193&fid=457982](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p_lat=42.728046&p_longi=-91.1440193&fid=457982)

Proposal: correct spelling to reflect historical usage

Map: USGS Colesburg 1:24,000

Proponent: Joel Biggs; Clayton County, IA

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: Joles Creek (FID 457982)

Local Usage: Johles Creek

Published: Joles Creek (USGS maps since 1957)

Case Summary: This proposal is to correct the spelling of the name of Joles Creek to Johles Creek, for a 4.5-mile long stream in southern Clayton County. The proposal was submitted by the Clayton County Commissioners in response to a request for opinion on the proposal for Johles Hollow (Review List 407). According to the proponent, "The name mentioned above (i.e. Johles) has been validated by [a member of] a group preparing a history book for Osterdock, Iowa." In order to restore the correct spelling and maintain consistency between the two feature names, the County Commissioners requested Joles Creek to be corrected to Johles Creek.

The name Joles Creek first appeared on the USGS topographic maps in 1957. Neither the County nor the Johles Hollow proponent has been able to determine the origin of the name Johles, but it is believed to be a German family name. A county road that crosses over the stream is Johles Hollow Road. In addition to the County Commissioners, the Iowa State Names Authority supports the proposal.

## MASSACHUSETTS

**Montgomery Cove:** bay; 650 ft long by 150 ft wide; in the City of Gloucester, along the E side of the Annisquam River, just N of the A. Piatt Andrew Bridge (Route 128); named for Nicholas Montgomery (1875-1955), who established a boatyard on the cove in 1908; Essex County, Massachusetts; 42°37'36"N, 70°41'14"W; USGS map –Gloucester 1:24,000.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=42.6267124&p\\_longi=-70.6871080](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=42.6267124&p_longi=-70.6871080)

Proposal: to make official a commemorative name in local use

Map: USGS Gloucester 1:24,000

Proponent: Rebecca Reynolds; Gloucester, MA

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: None found

Local Usage: Montgomery's Cove (local residents; Montgomery family, local artists)

Published: None found

Case Summary: This proposal is to make official the name Montgomery Cove for a small bay located along the east side of the Annisquam River in the City of Gloucester. The name would honor Nicholas Montgomery (1875-1955), who established a boatyard on the cove in 1908, which is still in operation today. According to the proposal, "Nicholas Montgomery pursued boat building as an occupation after a brief career working in local shoe factories. He purchased the lot on Ferry Street in

1908, setting up his second shop, where his descendants continue the tradition he started over 100 years ago. Nicholas Montgomery never retired and in some 50 years he created 700 to 800 boats, from small day sailers to 75-foot fishing draggers for the US Government during World War II. He not only built boats, he also designed most of the ones he made, using half-hull models from which to loft them up.”

The proposal continues, “In 2008, as part of the centennial celebration of the boatyard which is still in operation (and one of the few that remains in this region), the Cape Ann Museum held an exhibition on the Montgomery boatyard, a festive community open house that attracted some 250 visitors, and efforts were begun to obtain a commemorative naming for the Cove on which this boatyard is located. Research into maps and archival records at several repositories in the City revealed that the cove had never been named. However, neighbors and natives, as well as those working on the River, reveal that locals have been referring to this feature as ‘Montgomery’s’ or ‘Montgomery’s Cove’ for some 100 years. A public forum, advertised in the paper and on the City’s website, to discuss this possibility was presented. The support of the community was unanimous.” An online search for the name shows that the grandson of Nicholas Montgomery who is a local artist has painted several scenes of “Montgomery’s Cove.” The Good Morning Gloucester blog has also included several references to “Montgomery’s Cove” in the past two years. The proponent notes that usage is mixed for “Montgomery” and “Montgomery’s,” so rather than simply remove the possessive apostrophe, she is asking that the name be considered as Montgomery Cove.

Letters of support included with the proposal were written by the Gloucester City Council, the Gloucester Historical Commission, the Gloucester Shellfish Constable, and State Representative Anthony Verga. Two individuals who own property abutting the cove have also expressed support for the proposal.

## NEVADA

**Bighorn Sheep Spring**: spring; in Lake Mead National Recreation Area/Black Canyon Wilderness, on the W side of the Colorado River, 5.5 mi S of Hoover Dam, 5 mi E of Boulder City; named for the prominence of bighorn sheep in the area; Clark County, Nevada; Sec 21, T23S, R64E, Mt. Diablo Meridian; 35°56’21”N, 114°44’03”W; USGS map – Ringbolt Rapids 1:24,000.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=35.939167&p\\_longi=-114.734167](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=35.939167&p_longi=-114.734167)

Proposal: make official a name in local usage

Map: USGS Ringbolt Rapids 1:24,000

Proponent: Joseph Hutcheson; Boulder City, NV

Administrative area: Lake Mead National Recreation Area/Black Canyon Wilderness

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: None found

Local Usage: Bighorn Sheep Spring (Clark County government since at least 2010)

Published: Bighorn Sheep Spring (Hydrogeological Investigation of Thermal Springs in the Black Canyon-Hoover Dam Area, Nevada and Arizona (1983); Rediscovering Rana onca: Evidence for Phylogenetically Distinct Leopard Frogs from the Border Region of Nevada, Utah, and Arizona (2001); Petition to List the Relict Leopard Frog (Rana onca) as an Endangered Species Under the Endangered Species Act (2002); Population Status and Distribution of a Decimated Amphibian, the Relict Leopard Frog (Rana onca) (2004); Conservation Agreement and Rangewide Conservation Assessment and Strategy for the Relict Leopard Frog (Rana Onca) (2005); numerous other scientific publications)

Case Summary: This is one of five proposals, submitted by a former geographer with the Lake Mead National Recreation Area, to make official names for springs along the Colorado River within the

recreation area. The perennial spring proposed to be named Bighorn Sheep Spring is located just inside the boundary of the Black Canyon Wilderness. According to the proponent, it is “a significant place name within the context of biological conservation because it harbored the largest remaining population of a nearly extinct frog species (*Rana onca*).” He provided excerpts from various scientific publications and literature relating to the amphibian, confirming use of the name since at least 1983.

**Narrows Spring**: spring; in Lake Mead National Recreation Area/Black Canyon Wilderness, on the W side of the Colorado River, 1.2 mi S of Hoover Dam, 5 mi E of Boulder City; descriptive name; Clark County, Nevada; Sec 1, T22S, R65E, Mount Diablo Meridian; 35°59’19”N, 114°44’42”W; USGS map – Ringbolt Rapids 1:24,000. Not: Dawns Spring.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=35.988568&p\\_longi=-114.745004](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=35.988568&p_longi=-114.745004)

Proposal: new name for an unnamed feature

Map: USGS Ringbolt Rapids 1:24,000

Proponent: Joseph Hutcheson; Boulder City, NV

Administrative area: Lake Mead National Recreation Area/Black Canyon Wilderness/Hoover Dam Security Zone (Bureau of Reclamation & National Park Service)

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: None found

Local Usage: Dawns Spring

Published: None found

Case Summary: This proposal is to apply the name Narrows Spring to a spring located along the west side of the Colorado River, within the Lake Mead National Recreation Area/Black Canyon Wilderness. At the time the proposal was submitted, the proponent was employed as a GIS analyst for the National Park Service. He states, “The mouth of the canyon where it joins the waters of the Colorado River is tight enough that getting a small motor boat in requires some care.” He originally suggested the name Pinch Spring but the park superintendent asked that it be amended to Narrows Spring. The proponent noted that the spring is often referred to locally as “Dawn’s Spring” in recognition of the name of the person who reportedly discovered it a few years ago; however, “in keeping with the PPP, an alternate name is being proposed instead of a personalized one.”

The feature is described as “a collection of water sources emanating from a narrow side canyon that feeds into the Black Canyon of the Colorado River. There are at least two spots within thirty feet or so where water of considerably different temperatures emanate. Because of this, it may be considered as two or more springs, but for most purposes the site of the spring complex is collectively referred to as a single place. Water issues from seeps in the canyon wall, and also from the bottom of the drainage. The water sources are approximately 100 feet up [the] canyon from the Colorado River and flow down a short springbrook into the river.”

According to GNIS, there are ten other features in Clark County with “Narrow” in their names, although none are springs. The Narrows, in Mohave County, Arizona, is the closest feature, located 16 miles northeast of the spring in question.

## NEW YORK

**Bamboo Island**: island; approx. 8 acres; in Great South Bay, 1.9 mi SE of Indian Island, 2.4 mi W of Grass Island; the name refers to the stand of bamboo that has taken root on the island; Suffolk County, New York; 40°39’00”N, 73°20’30”W; USGS map – Bay Shore West 1:24,000.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=40.650055&p\\_longi=-73.341615](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=40.650055&p_longi=-73.341615)

Proposal: new name for an unnamed feature

Map: USGS Bay Shore West 1:24,000  
Proponent: Patrick Stewart; Farmingdale, NY  
Administrative area: None  
Previous BGN Action: None  
Names associated with feature:  
GNIS: None found  
Local Usage: None found  
Published: None found

Case Summary: This proposal is to apply the new name Bamboo Island to an eight-acre unnamed island located in the Great South Bay of Suffolk County. According to the proponent, the island was created by channel dredging, and rises about 4 feet above high tide. The island is a popular destination for boaters and campers. Tall bamboo plants cover about a third of an acre on the island, with the much of the remaining edge of the island covered in tall trees and brush. The proponent states that the rest of the island is “mostly clear”.

According to GNIS, there are no features in the State of New York with the word “Bamboo” in their name.

**Keil Mountain:** summit; elevation 1,575 ft; located within Adirondack State Park, in the Town of Horicon, 1 mi SE of Valentine Pond, 2 mi W of Brant Lake; named in honor of Henry Keil (1910-1997), New York City businessman and longtime owner of property on the summit; Warren County, New York; 43°42'25"N, 73°45'35"W; USGS map – Chestertown 1:24,000.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=43.7068179&p\\_longi=-73.7597609](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=43.7068179&p_longi=-73.7597609)

Proposal: to make official a commemorative name in local use

Map: USGS Chestertown 1:24,000

Proponent: Eric Herman; Clifton Park, NY

Administrative area: Adirondack State Park

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: None

Local Usage: Keil Mountain (local residents)

Published: None

Case Summary: This proposal is to make official the commemorative name Keil Mountain for a 1,575-foot summit that is located on privately-owned land within the boundaries of Adirondack State Park in Warren County. The name would honor Henry Richard Keil (1910-1997), a prominent entrepreneur whose family has owned property on the summit since 1949. Keil, a native of Hesse, Germany, immigrated to the United States in 1929, settling in New York City. There, he and his brother established what would become the very successful Keil Brothers Garden Center, which according to the proponent has “maintained a loyal place in the Bayside, Queens community, employing hundreds of people over the past 82 years.”

The proponent adds, “In the mid-1940s, after visiting the Adirondacks, Henry fell in love with the area. In 1949, he started renting a plot of land on a mountain, by Valentine Lake in Warren County. In 1957, he purchased the large parcel of land, which included the peak... eventually acquiring almost 300 acres of land on the mountain. Multiple branches of the Keil family own homes and property along the northeastern base of the mountain, on the mountainside, and the summit. Numerous trails run up the mountain, all maintained by the Keil family. It is regularly referred to by the people along Valentine Pond Road as Keil Mountain.” Furthermore, “Due to Henry Keil’s efforts to expose so many people to the beauty, solitude, and recreation in the area, the base of this mountain, which once housed only a remote hunting lodge, now serves as home and as getaway destination for dozens of people whose homes now dot the base of the mountain.”

**Rainbow Bridge Creek**: stream; 1 mi. long; heads in the Town of Canisteo 2,000 ft. N of Hathaways Pinnacle at 42°16'04"N, 77°27'05"W, flows NNE through the SE corner of the Town of Howard, then N into the Town of Bath, to enter Campbell Creek 6 mi SW of the Village of Bath; the 'rainbow bridge' refers to the final resting place of animals; Steuben County, New York; 42°17'42"N, 77°26'36"W; USGS map – Towlesville 1:24,000.

Mouth: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=42.2950879&p\\_longi=-77.4432278](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=42.2950879&p_longi=-77.4432278)

Source: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=42.2678457&p\\_longi=-77.4514675](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=42.2678457&p_longi=-77.4514675)

Proposal: new name for an unnamed feature

Map: USGS Towlesville 1:24,000

Proponent: Deana Wolfe; Bath, NY

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: None

Local Usage: None found

Published: None

Case Summary: This proposal is to apply the new name Rainbow Bridge Creek to a one-mile long unnamed tributary of Campbell Creek in Steuben County. The proponent reports that she owns 87 acres of land through which the stream flows and wishes to apply a name that recognizes her dedication to the Rainbow Bridge organization. In the proposal, she states, "I have just certified my property under the National Wildlife Federation as a wildlife habitat. We choose not to hunt as all the surrounding properties do [and] have our land in a state forestry program. We have been referring to this Creek as the Rainbow Bridge as there is a county bridge right where the creek enters our property. Some time back I had checked out with [the New York Department of Environmental Conservation] as to the name and was informed that it only had a number not a name .... I would love to honor all animal lovers and the animals who have gone to their final resting place, the Rainbow Bridge, see the poem [www.rainbowbridge.com](http://www.rainbowbridge.com), by having this creek designated to their "heaven". We are in a very rural area of undeveloped natural habitat and are interested in having our little sanctuary be a haven for animals always and in all ways."

The bridge that crosses over the stream proposed to be named Rainbow Bridge Creek does not have a name; however, the proponent has permission from the NYDEC to repaint the bridge. The proponent is seeking to apply the name Rainbow Bridge to the structure.

The New York State Names Committee has indicated it has no objection to the name provided the local municipalities support it.

## OHIO

**Ossing Run**: stream; 3.4 mi long; heads 3.5 mi SSW of Cardington at 40°30'36"N, 82°57'52"W, flows generally S to enter Shaw Creek; named in honor of Mexican-American War veteran Frederick Ossing (d.1896); Morrow County and Marion County, Ohio; 40°28'49"N, 82°57'31"W; USGS map – Ashley 1:24,000.

Mouth: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=40.480392&p\\_longi=-82.95873](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=40.480392&p_longi=-82.95873)

Source: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=40.50992&p\\_longi=-82.96456](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=40.50992&p_longi=-82.96456)

Proposal: new commemorative name for an unnamed feature

Map: USGS Ashley 1:24,000

Proponent: Andrew Schleppi; Denver, CO

Administrative area: None  
Previous BGN Action: None  
Names associated with feature:  
GNIS: None  
Local Usage: None found  
Published: None found

Case Summary: This proposal is to apply the new commemorative name Ossing Run to an unnamed stream in Marion County and Morrow County. The stream heads 3.5 miles southwest of the town of Cardington and flows generally south to enter Shaw Creek. The proposed name is intended to honor Frederick Ossing (d.1896), a native of Germany who emigrated to the United States in the mid-1800s and who went on to serve in the Mexican-American War. According to the proponent, "Frederick Ossing obtained the land as bounty land from the United States federal government as reward for his honorable service in the Mexican-American War. The acquisition of the land began in 1850. Prior to [that time], this area of Ohio was established as federal government military land." Ossing also established a productive farm and raised his family on this property. The land remained in the Ossing family until 1984.

## OREGON

**Schooner Rocks**: island; comprises three small rocks located within the Oregon Department of State Lands, 0.5 mi WNW of Schooner Point and the mouth of Schooner Creek; Lincoln County, Oregon; 44°41'30"N, 124°04'33"W; USGS map – Newport North 1:24,000.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=44.6917677&p\\_longi=-124.075942](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=44.6917677&p_longi=-124.075942)

Proposal: new associative name for an unnamed feature

Map: USGS Newport North 1:24,000

Proponent: Bob Berman; Newport, OR

Administrative area: Oregon Department of State Lands

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: None found

Local Usage: None found

Published: None found

Case Summary: This collection of three rocks, proposed to be named Schooner Rocks, is located within Oregon Department of State Lands just off the coast in Lincoln County. The proponent, a resident of Newport, states, "The rocks are offshore from Schooner Point and near the mouth of Schooner Creek. Thus, Schooner Rocks."

The rocks do not appear on USGS topographic maps, but are depicted on the NOAA chart as three distinct rocks awash, with a drying height of 8 feet above mean sea level. According to the Oregon Geographic Names Board, "Schooner Rocks are considered submerged lands owned by the State of Oregon because they are below the mean high-tide line of the Pacific Ocean and are within three nautical miles of the shore." The OGNB suggests the feature should be classified as an island rather than a bar, since "The Schooner Rocks are actual rocks that are surrounded by water and are likely on top of an underwater reef."

The Lincoln County Commissioners, the Lincoln County Historical Society, and the Oregon Department of State Lands all support the name proposal, as does the OGNB.



## UTAH

**Butler Peak:** summit; elevation 10,583 ft.; in the Wasatch National Forest/Twin Peaks Wilderness, 3 mi E of the City of Cottonwood Heights; named for the five Butler brothers who settled the area in 1877 and in recognition of the fact that the community of Cottonwood Heights was formerly known as Butlerville; 40°36'03"N, 111°43'40"W; Salt Lake County, Utah; Sec 33, T2S, R2E, Salt Lake Meridian; USGS map –Dromedary Peak 1:24,000.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=40.600829&p\\_longi=-111.727885](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=40.600829&p_longi=-111.727885)

Proposal: new commemorative name for an unnamed feature

Map: USGS Dromedary Peak 1:24,000

Proponent: Steve Shaw; Cottonwood Heights, UT

Administrative area: Wasatch National Forest/ Twin Peaks Wilderness

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: None found

Local Usage: None found

Published: None found

Case Summary: This proposal was submitted by a resident of Cottonwood Heights to apply the new name Butler Peak to an unnamed 10,583-foot summit on the western slope of the Wasatch Range, three miles east of the City of Cottonwood Heights. The peak also falls within the Wasatch National Forest/Twin Peaks Wilderness. The proponent, who submitted the proposal on behalf of the Mayor and City Manager of Cottonwood Heights, suggests the name is an appropriate way to commemorate the five (or six?) Butler brothers and their families who settled the area in 1877, and to recognize the fact that the community that is now Cottonwood Heights was originally named Butlerville.

According to John Van Cott's *Utah Place Names* (1990), Alva Butler was the first bishop of the new Butlerville Ward of the Mormon Church. Van Cott reports that the town was named Butlerville in 1901, although a General Land Office map of the State of Utah published in 1893 already labeled it Butler Ville [sic]. Every July, the residents of Cottonwood Heights celebrate the founding of their community during Butlerville Days. An online account of the community's history states: "Among the earliest settlers of the area were six colorful brothers, the 'Butler Brothers' who were lumbermen – complete with wagons, teams and sawmills. There were also four McGhie brothers and their families. Legend has it that they called a town meeting to organize their community and there was one more Butler than McGhie at the meeting, therefore the community was named 'Butler' rather than 'McGhie'."

Although the summit lies in a Federally-designated wilderness area, the proponent notes that it overlooks the city and is situated between two other peaks that are already named. He adds that furthermore, virtually every other summit on the skyline above Salt Lake City has a name. The city believes an exception to the Wilderness Policy is warranted for educational purposes. GNIS lists four other features in Salt Lake City with names that include the word "Butler," including two schools, a stream, and an unincorporated community within the corporate boundaries of Cottonwood Heights named Butler Hills.

**Iraivan Arch:** arch; located in Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument (Bureau of Land Management), 40 mi E of Panguitch; the name means "divine" in the Tamil language; Garfield County, Utah; Sec 35, T35S, R2E, Salt Lake Meridian; 37°43'04"N, 111°39'20"W; USGS map – Canaan Creek 1:24,000.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=37.7177777777778&p\\_longi=-111.6555555555556](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=37.7177777777778&p_longi=-111.6555555555556)

Proposal: new name for an unnamed feature

Map: USGS Canaan Creek 1:24,000

Proponent: Adiyar Haran; Escalante, UT

Administrative area: Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument (BLM)

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: None found

Local Usage: None found

Published: None found

Case Summary: This unnamed arch, proposed to be named Iraivan Arch, is located within the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument in Garfield County. The proponent, a resident of Escalante, describes the feature as “an arch in a side canyon of Coal Bed Canyon, approximate height 12’, width 40’, at elevation 6327’, facing 214°.” He reports that he discovered the arch in October 2011. He has also proposed two other arch names (on Review Lists 407 and 408), as well as Vamana Arch (q.v.). These four arches are among hundreds that he claims to have discovered and which he believes need to be catalogued and named.

The proponent reports that he consulted with the local BLM office and with the USGS and “In all cases there was no knowledge, records, or documentation on these particular arches. Due to the absence of information for this geological feature [sic] I have decided to claim the discovery of these new arches and name them.” He states the name “Iraivan” is a Tamil word meaning “divine.”

The Natural Arch and Bridge Society (NABS) has declined to review the proposal, stating “there are hundreds of arches of this type and size in this area” and questioning the need to name them all.

**Vamana Arch**: arch; located in Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument (Bureau of Land Management), 40 mi E of Panguitch; the name means “dwarf” in the Sanskrit language; Garfield County, Utah; Sec 36, T35S, R2E, Salt Lake Meridian; 37°43’05”N, 111°37’52”W; USGS map – Canaan Creek 1:24,000.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=37.71805555555556&p\\_longi=-111.63111111111111](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=37.71805555555556&p_longi=-111.63111111111111)

Proposal: new name for an unnamed feature

Map: USGS Canaan Creek 1:24,000

Proponent: Adiyar Haran; Escalante, UT

Administrative area: Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument (BLM)

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: None found

Local Usage: None found

Published: None found

Case Summary: This is the second of the two proposals to apply new names to unnamed arches in the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument in Garfield County. The name Vamana Arch is from the Sanskrit word meaning “dwarf” and would apply to a feature described by the proponent as “an arch on [a] ridge above Star Seep, approximate width 24’, height 6’, elevation 7282’, facing 180°.” He reports that he discovered it in October 2011.

## VIRGINIA

**Angel Island**: island; 0.6 acres; in the George Washington Memorial Parkway/Dyke Marsh Wildlife Preserve, along the W shore of the Potomac River, 2,000 ft. N of Hog Island; named for its favorable (“angelic”) conditions during field study; Fairfax County, Virginia; 38°45’36”N, 77°02’53”W; USGS map – Alexandria 1:24,000.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=38.76&p\\_longi=-77.04805555555556](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=38.76&p_longi=-77.04805555555556)

Proposal: new name for an unnamed feature

Map: USGS Alexandria 1:24,000

Proponent: Ronald Litwin (USGS)

Administrative area: George Washington Memorial Parkway/Dyke Marsh Wildlife Preserve

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: None found

Local Usage: None found

Published: Angel Island (USGS Open File Report, 2011)

Case Summary: This is the first of four proposals to apply names to four small islands located along the western shore of the Potomac River and within the Dyke Marsh Wildlife Preserve. The preserve is administered by the National Park Service and managed as part of the George Washington Memorial Parkway. The first of the four islands is 0.6 acres in size and is permanently-vegetated. The proponent, a research geologist with the U.S. Geological Survey, reports that the USGS is conducting studies in the area. He says the name Angel Island was chosen because “the area is filled with soft areas (mires) in which one frequently sinks knee-to-waist deep within several steps. The last island we visited for the study was not at all “hellish” or devilish to work on, but “angelic”, as it was entirely firm ground. No twisted ankles, wrenched knees, or lost boots. Field-named for a welcome change of state, rather like a far more modest version of John Wesley Powell’s naming of Bright Angel Creek in Grand Canyon. Thus Angel Island, thus the set of reference names.”

He continues, “This island is the first of four informally-named geographic reference features (in alphabetic progression) in USGS OFR2010-1269, a synoptic study completed by the USGS for the National Park Service. These islands are first designated by name in that publication. They have been used as informal designations during the course of the field study. Currently this area is under study for restoration by the NPS and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, with the USGS in an advisory role. Formalized naming of these islands per the OFR study will provide unambiguous designations for these island features, consistent with their current use by those involved in the restoration planning. Multiple agencies involved in restoration plans then can use these features unambiguously for geographic reference points.”

**Battlefield Bluff**: slope; located within New Market Battlefield State Historical Park, at the N end of the Town of New Market, E of the North Fork Shenandoah River; Shenandoah County, Virginia; 38°39’58”N, 78°40’12”W USGS map – New Market 1:24,000.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=38.666172&p\\_longi=-78.669949](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=38.666172&p_longi=-78.669949)

Proposal: new name for an unnamed feature

Map: USGS New Market 1:24,000

Proponent: William Wadbrook; Edinburg, VA

Administrative area: New Market Battlefield State Historical Park

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: None found

Local Usage: None found

Published: None found

Case Summary: This proposal is to apply the new name Battlefield Bluff to a slope located within the New Market Battlefield State Historical Park, just north of the Town of New Market in Shenandoah County. Although the proposed name is not in local usage, Battlefield Bluff Drive, a private road, is located on the west side of the North Fork Shenandoah River, directly the across the river from the unnamed slope.

The feature is described by the proponent as “[S]triking and beautiful. Curved bluff, about 3/4 m. extent, up to 200’ vertical, quite steep yet wooded. North Fork Shenandoah R. follows its foot. Runs generally SW to NE. East is high side, on it New Market Battlefield state park and reservations. Charming Shen Valley views from here. Purpose-built lookouts. Immediate west side low, slightly rolling within river/bluff curve. Then hills and ridges with North Mtn in background.” He continues, “[The] Feature is very striking due to the unity lent by the harmonious river-curve, its nearly uniform height, and its almost unbroken forest coverage up a near-vertical slope. Viewed from the west, it completely blots out the enormous front of the Massanutten range only 2+ miles away east -- yet move a quarter mile west and you have this imposing range frowning down over it. Coming to it from the east, you are in the heart of the New Market Battlefield monument, yet totally unaware of the bluff’s existence unless you deliberately penetrate a screen of near-mature forest .. and are shocked by the sudden view westward. Such an exceptional, rewarding and highly individual feature, so close to heavy tourist traffic, should have a name - if only for use on tourist material and in the Battlefield’s guides and signage.”

New Market Battlefield State Historical Park is managed by the Commonwealth of Virginia and is the site of a battle where cadets from Virginia Military Institute were mobilized to support the Valley Campaigns in the Battle of New Market in May 1864. The Confederate victory forced the Union Army out of the Shenandoah Valley. Numerous Civil War websites refer to the prominent bluffs in the area, but none provide a name for the feature in question.

**Bird Island**: island; 0.1 acre; in the George Washington Memorial Parkway/Dyke Marsh Wildlife Preserve, along the W shore of the Potomac River; named for a prominent osprey nest found on the island; Fairfax County, Virginia; 38°45’43”N, 77°02’44”W; USGS map – Alexandria 1:24,000. [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=38.76194444444444&p\\_longi=-77.04555555555556](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=38.76194444444444&p_longi=-77.04555555555556)

Proposal: new name for an unnamed feature

Map: USGS Alexandria 1:24,000

Proponent: Ronald Litwin (USGS)

Administrative area: George Washington Memorial Parkway/Dyke Marsh Wildlife Preserve

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: None found

Local Usage: None found

Published: Bird Island (USGS Open File Report 2011)

Case Summary: This is the second of the four names proposed by the USGS for four small islands located along the Potomac River and within the Dyke Marsh Wildlife Preserve. This permanently-vegetated island is 0.1 acres in size. The proponent reports, “Bird Island was named for the prominent osprey nest on it; one of the FODM [Friends of Dyke Marsh] members told me it originally housed a pair of eagles.”

**Coconut Island**: island; 2.9 acres; in the George Washington Memorial Parkway/Dyke Marsh Wildlife Preserve, along the W shore of the Potomac River; named for a coconut found on the island; Fairfax County, Virginia; 38°46’16”N, 77°02’43”W; USGS map – Alexandria 1:24,000. [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=38.77111111111111&p\\_longi=-77.04527777777778](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=38.77111111111111&p_longi=-77.04527777777778)

Proposal: new name for an unnamed feature

Map: USGS Alexandria 1:24,000

Proponent: Ronald Litwin (USGS)

Administrative area: George Washington Memorial Parkway/Dyke Marsh Wildlife Preserve

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: None found

Local Usage: None found

Published: Coconut Island (USGS Open File Report 2011)

Case Summary: This proposal would make official the name Coconut Island for another of the small vegetation-covered island that lie along the western shore of the Potomac River. This island is 2.9 acres in size and according to the proponent, “The second island [sic] was named after a piece of flotsam (jetsam?) found on our first coring site on that island. That eponymous coconut is still at the Park, with one of the rangers. Finding such an extremely out-of-place object on the island made that particular island memorable.”

According to GNIS, there are no geographic features with “Coconut” in their names in Virginia, Maryland, or the District of Columbia.

**Dyke Island**: island; 10 acres; in the George Washington Memorial Parkway/Dyke Marsh Wildlife Preserve, along the W shore of the Potomac River; named in association with Dyke Marsh located directly S of the island; Fairfax County, Virginia; 38°46’16”N, 77°02’43”W; USGS map – Alexandria 1:24,000.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=38.772222222222&p\\_longi=-77.046666666667](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=38.772222222222&p_longi=-77.046666666667)

Proposal: new name for an unnamed feature

Map: USGS Alexandria 1:24,000

Proponent: Ronald Litwin (USGS)

Administrative area: George Washington Memorial Parkway/Dyke Marsh Wildlife Preserve

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: None found

Local Usage: None found

Published: Dyke Island (USGS Open File Report 2011)

Case Summary: This is the last of the four proposals submitted by a research geologist with the U.S. Geological Survey to name four permanently-vegetated islands in the tidal waters of the Potomac River and within George Washington Memorial Parkway/Dyke Marsh Wildlife Preserve.

The proponent notes, “As we began the study in the north and took a series of cores across the marsh, we named the largest island parcel Dyke Island, to distinguish it from the (Dyke Marsh) main marshland west of it, that was attached to the shoreline and adjacent to Haul Road.” Additionally, the proponent notes, “Regarding the spelling of Dyke, it is the official spelling used by the Park Service, and presumably is an older 18th or 19th century spelling.” According to historical records, a dike was previously located in this vicinity.

According to the proponent “This island, like the other three just proposed, are discontinuous remnant features within what formerly was a single marsh (Dyke Marsh). Restoration planning within the marsh now is focused at a smaller geographic scale, on remnant features within the marsh. It would be helpful to formalize these for restoration and research purposes. This specific remnant has existed as an island since 1976, and definitely since at least 1987.”

## WASHINGTON

**Glencanaan Mountain**: summit; elevation 5,603 ft.; located on the Wenatchee Ridge in Wenatchee National Forest, 6.3 mi NW of Lake Wenatchee, 4 mi. N of Mount Mastiff; named for a nearby homestead and means “the promised land valley”; Chelan County, Washington; Sec 36, T28N, R15E, Willamette Meridian; 47°52’32”N, 120°55’30”W; USGS map – Mount David 1:24,000.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=47.8755555&p\\_longi=-120.925](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=47.8755555&p_longi=-120.925)

Proposal: new name for an unnamed feature

Map: USGS Mount David 1:24,000

Proponent: David Bartholomew; Leavenworth, Washington

Administrative area: Wenatchee National Forest

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: None found

Local Usage: None found

Published: None found

Case Summary: This 5,603 foot summit lies on the Wenatchee Ridge in the Wenatchee National Forest in Chelan County. According to the proponent, the proposed name Glencanaan Mountain means ‘valley’ and ‘promised land.’ He suggests the name is appropriate because his property, located at the base of the summit, is named Glencanaan. He also owns a consulting firm in Woodinville named Glencanaan, LLC; however, he claims the proposed geographic name has no commercial implications.

## WISCONSIN

**Lake Pesobic**: lake; 150 acres; in the Town of Merrill, 1.5 mi. NE of the community of Merrill; the name is of Indian origin and reportedly means “lake view”; Lincoln County, Wisconsin; Sec 36, T32N, R6E, Fourth Principal Meridian Extended; 45°12’46”N, 89°40’49”W; USGS map – Merrill 1:24,000; Not: Lake View, Mathews Lake, Pesabic Lake.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p\\_lat=39.7352585&p\\_longi=-103.9830123&fid=185003](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p_lat=39.7352585&p_longi=-103.9830123&fid=185003)

Proposal: change the name to recognize spelling of family name

Map: USGS Merrill 1:24,000

Proponent: Scott Voigt; Merrill, WI

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: Pesabic Lake (FID 1517242)

Local Usage: Lake Pesobic (Merrill Historical Society; local residents; lake association; local realtors)

Published: Lake Pesobic (Township map 1944; *A History of Lincoln, Oneida, and Vilas Counties Wisconsin* 1924; land abstract, 1919; mortgage petition, 1879; flickr.com), Pesabic Lake (USGS 1951, 1966, 1982, 1990, 2010), Pesobic Lake (Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources lake survey map)

Case Summary: This proposal is to change the name of Pesabic Lake in Lincoln County to Lake Pesobic to recognize long time local use. It was submitted by the Wisconsin Geographic Names Council (WGNC) on behalf of the Pesobic Lake Association, which pointed out that the historically correct spelling is “Pesobic.” The proponent provided a copy of a Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources lake survey map on which the lake is labeled Pesobic Lake. A 1919 land abstract referred to the feature as “Lake View, formerly known as Mathews Lake and now known as Lake Pesobic.” Two accompanying maps also label the feature Lake Pesobic, as does an 1879 mortgage petition. A



road leading to the lake is named Lake Pesobic Road. The 4-H club in Merrill is named the Pesobic Pathfinders. An online account of a tornado that passed through Merrill in April 2011 referred to the lake as Lake Pesobic. Although the origin of the name is unknown, *A History of Lincoln, Oneida, and Vilas Counties Wisconsin* (Jones, 1924) states, “Two miles north of Merrill is Lake Pesobic (the Indian name for Lake View).” In addition to USGS topographic maps published since 1954, a 2004 Town Plat labeled the lake Pesabic Lake. The WGNC is also asking that the specific and generic parts of the name be reversed to reflect predominant local usage.

The Town of Merrill and the Lincoln County Land Information and Conservation Department both submitted letters in support of the name change and the WGNC recommends approval as well.