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 https://www.usgs.gov/us-board-on-geographic-names/domestic-names.

Comments on the name proposals may be sent to: Executive Secretary, U.S. Board on Geographic Names/Domestic Names Committee, 523 National Center, Reston, VA 20192-0523, or BGNEXEC@usgs.gov.

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

Notice regarding processing of name change proposals for features named Sq__.

Please note that this Quarterly Review List includes one or more proposals that have been submitted to the U.S. Board on Geographic Names (BGN) to change a name that contains the word “Sq__”.

In response to the Department of the Interior Secretarial Order 3404 - Declaring "S__" a Derogatory Term and Implementing Procedures to Remove the Term from Federal Usage, the BGN’s consideration of these proposals has been suspended.

Effective January 24, 2022, all pending proposals to change an existing Sq__ name were transferred to a Task Force that was established in response to S.O. 3404. The BGN staff has ceased all research and will not conduct any additional outreach. In addition, and effective immediately, no new proposals to change Sq__ names will be accepted.

A public comment period was announced via a Federal Register Notice, whereby local governments, State Names Authorities, Federal land management agencies, and Tribal Governments were invited to submit comments on any pending Sq__ change proposal on this or any other Quarterly Review List to the Task Force. In addition, the Department of the Interior (DOI) conducted three listening sessions, which provided an opportunity for Tribes to comment on these proposals. The public and Tribal comment periods closed April 25, 2022.

Please direct any questions to DOI at Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov, or to the Chair of the Task Force at mtischler@usgs.gov.
**ALABAMA**

**Vickery Lake**: reservoir; 80 acres; located along Crooked Creek, 2.5 mi. NE of Hatton; the name honors Mack Vickery (1938-2004), a native of Lawrence County, and renowned songwriter, performing artist, and member of the Rockabilly Hall of Fame and the Alabama Music Hall of Fame; Lawrence County, Alabama; 34°35'29"N, 87°22'52"W; Secs 28,21&20, T5S, R8W, Huntsville Meridian; USGS map – Hatton 1:24,000.


Proposal: new commemorative name for an unnamed feature

Map: USGS Hatton 1:24,000
Proponent: Thomas Pettus; Town Creek, AL
Administrative area: None
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
GNIS: None
Local Usage: None
Published: None found

Case Summary: This proposal is to apply the new commemorative name Vickery Lake to an 80-acre reservoir in Lawrence County. The name is intended to honor Mack Vickery (1938-2004), a native of this part of Lawrence County, who went on to become a renowned songwriter, performing artist, and member of the Rockabilly Hall of Fame and the Alabama Music Hall of Fame. The proponent states, “[Vickery] wrote songs that were recorded by many famous artists such as George Straight, Jerry Lee Lewis, Johnny Paycheck, Waylon Jennings, Tanya Tucker and others. He had more than 225 of his songs recorded.”

The Lawrence County Commission passed a resolution in support of the proposal.

The National Inventory of Dams records the name of the dam that forms the reservoir as Big Nance Creek W/S Dam Site 4, and notes that it is owned by the Lawrence County Commission. The construction of the dam was completed in 1987.

**ALASKA**

**Cora Lake**: lake; 40 acres; located 12 mi. NE of the community of Talkeetna, 1 mi. W of the Talkeetna River, just SE of Sockeye Lake; Matanuska-Susitna Borough, Alaska; Sec. 23, T27N, R3W, Seward Meridian; 62°24'51"N 149°46'06"W; USGS map - Talkeetna Mountains (B-6) 1:63,360.


Proposal: to make official a name in local use

USGS map: Talkeetna Mountains (B-6) 1:63,360
Proponent: Rebecca Smart; Wasilla, AK
Administrative area: None
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
GNIS: No record
Local Usage: Cora Lake (proponent and family)
Published: None found
Case Summary: This proposal is to make official the name Cora Lake for a 40-acre lake located approximately 12 miles northeast of the community of Talkeetna and one mile west of the Talkeetna River. The proponent’s family owns the only cabin on the lake, which is accessible only by float plane, river boat, or snow machine. The proponent reports that her mother began to refer to the lake as Cora Lake when she acquired the property in the 1970s, and although the name of her mother’s mother was Cora, it is not intended to be a commemorative name proposal. Her mother claimed she “simply loved that the meaning of the name is ‘Maiden,’ and that she believed her maiden voyage was complete once she had staked her claim at the lake.” Four other individuals who own property around the lake were contacted; two support the name, one objects (she disputes the proponent’s claim that hers was the first cabin at the lake and believes names should honor individuals who made a contribution to the area), and one did not respond. The Matanuska-Susitna Borough Council passed a resolution in support of the proposal, noting that giving the lake an official name “would be helpful in the event of an accident” and “would also assist as a reference when giving directions.” The Alaska Board on Geographic Names asked the Talkeetna Chamber of Commerce, Talkeetna Community Council, Inc., and Cook Inlet Region, Inc. for input, but no responses were received. The State Board recommends approval of the name.

Mini-Cup: summit; elevation 4,410 ft.; on Native selected land, 15 mi. SW of Eagle, 7.9 mi. ESE of Wallcutt Mountain; nickname applied for many decades, name origin unknown; Sec 1, T4S, R31E, Fairbanks Meridian; Southeast Fairbanks Census Area, Alaska; 64°35’45”N, 141°25’59”W; USGS map – Eagle C-1 1:63,360.
http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=64.595854&p_longi=-141.432933
Proposal: to make official a name for an unnamed feature
Map: Eagle C-1 1:63,360
Proponent: Jason Hamilton; Eagle, AK
Administrative area: None
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
GNIS: None found
Local Usage: Mini-Cup (locals, 40 years)
Published: None found
Case Summary: This proposal is to make official the name Mini-Cup for a 4,410-foot summit located southwest of Eagle. According to the proponent, the name was applied as a nickname in 1975 and since then it has been used by many local residents. He was unable to provide any information on the meaning of the name.

The land that contains the summit is designated as “Native selected” by Doyon, Limited (an Alaska Native Corporation) under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act. The name “Mini-cup” [sic] is used to refer to a trail that passes the summit on the way to Mount Wallcutt. The name appears in a Bureau of Land Management environmental assessment for Alaska Peak Air Adventure big game hunting and in an Interior Board of Land Appeals ruling.
ARIZONA

Change seven names containing the word “Squaw.”

The following seven proposals are to change to names of seven associated natural features (six streams and one summit) near Black Canyon City that contain the word “Squaw.” Seven proposals are pending (Review List 417) to replace the word “Squaw” with the word “Maiden.” The original proponent believes there are “vulgar connotations of the word ‘squaw,’” and as such, “it is not a word that should be in the lexicon of place names in America in this day and age.”

When Tonto National Forest management learned of these proposals, they consulted tribes with affiliations to the area. The Yavapai-Apache Tribe supplied names reportedly used by Apache peoples for these features. Spellings of the names were provided by the Yavapai-Apache Cultural Director. According to the tribe, these names were used before the names with “squaw” were applied.

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* Odzilaayé Creek only
** Odzilaayé Creek and Hósh Flat only
*** Yavapai-Apache Tribe (proponent)

Change East Branch Squaw Creek to Ché Yagooodigúhn Creek: stream; approx. 3 mi. long; in Tonto National Forest, heads on the S slope of Hutch Mesa, 0.7 mi. N of Picnic Tank at 34°10’21”N, 111°53’48”W, flows SW to enter Middle Fork Squaw Creek (proposed Middle Fork Maiden Creek or Iiyá Draw) 0.9 mi. SE of Brooklyn Peak; the name translates from Apache as “Rocks Bumpy All Over Creek”; Yavapai County, Arizona; Secs
Proposal: to change a name considered to be derogatory
Map: USGS Brooklyn Peak 1:24,000
Proponent: Tonto National Forest
Administrative area: Tonto National Forest
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
  GNIS: East Branch Squaw Creek (FID 28735)
Local Usage: None found
Case Summary: The stream currently named East Branch Squaw Creek is approximately three miles long and flows across Tonto National Forest land before entering the stream proposed to be renamed to either Middle Fork Maiden Creek or Iiyá Draw (q.v.). The name translates from Apache as “Rocks Bumpy All Over Creek.”

Change North Fork Squaw Creek to Gosga Creek: stream; approx. 5.2 mi. long; in Tonto National Forest, heads 1.1 mi. NNW of Brooklyn Peak, 0.7 mi. SW of Rosalie Spring at 34°10′13″N, 111°57′14″W, flows generally SW to enter Squaw Creek (proposed Maiden Creek or Ledni Líí Creek) 1.9 mi. WNW of Red Mountain; the name means “dry wash” in Apache; Yavapai County, Arizona; Secs 13,12&1, T9N, R3E, Sec 6, T9N, R4E, and Secs 31-33, T9½N, R4E, Gila and Salt Meridian; 34°07′31″N, 112°00′05″W; USGS map – Joes Hill 1:24,000; Not: North Fork Squaw Creek.
Map: USGS Joes Hill 1:24,000
Proponent: Tonto National Forest
Administrative area: Tonto National Forest
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
  GNIS: North Fork Squaw Creek (FID 32370)
Local Usage: None found
Case Summary: The stream currently named North Fork Squaw Creek is approximately 5.2 miles long and flows across Tonto National Forest lands before entering the stream proposed to be renamed to either Maiden Creek or Ledni Líí Creek. The proposed name means “dry wash” in Apache.

Change Squaw Creek Mesa to Hósh Flat: summit; elevation 3,527 ft., approx. 3 mi. long; located in Tonto National Forest, Arizona State Trust lands, and Bureau of Land Management lands, between Squaw Creek (proposed Maiden Creek or Ledni Líí Creek) and Little Squaw
Creek (proposed Little Maiden Creek or Odzilaayé Creek), 4.8 mi. E of Black Canyon City; the name translates from Apache as “Cactus Flat on Top”; Yavapai County, Arizona; Secs 4-8, T8N, R3E, Secs 1&12, T8N, R2E, and Secs 31-33, T9N, R3E, Gila and Salt River Meridian; 34°04′11″N, 112°03′35″W; USGS map – Squaw Creek Mesa 1:24,000; Not: Squaw Creek Mesa.


Proposal: to change a name considered to be derogatory
Map: USGS Squaw Creek Mesa 1:24,000
Proponent: Tonto National Forest
Administrative area: Tonto National Forest, Arizona State Trust lands, BLM Public Domain

Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
GNIS: Squaw Creek Mesa (FID 34768)
Local Usage: None found

Case Summary: This 3,527-foot high, approximately three-mile-long summit, currently named Squaw Creek Mesa, is located on Tonto National Forest, Bureau of Land Management, and Arizona State Trust lands between Squaw Creek (proposed or Maiden Creek or Ledni Lií Creek) and Little Squaw Creek (proposed Little Maiden Creek or Odzilaayé Creek). The existing name has appeared on USGS topographic maps since 1903. The proposed name translates from Apache as “Cactus Flat on Top.”

Change Middle Fork Squaw Creek to Iiyá Draw: stream; approx. 5.7 mi. long; in Tonto National Forest, heads 0.9 mi. NE of Rosálie Spring, 2.2 mi. NNE of Brooklyn Peak at 34°11′06″N, 111°56′01″W, flows S then SW to enter Squaw Creek (proposed Maiden Creek or Ledni Lií Creek) 1 mi. NE of Red Mountain; the name means “dry” in Apache; Yavapai County, Arizona; Secs 17,16,9,10&3, T9N, R4E and Secs 34&27, T9½N, R4E, Gila and Salt Meridian; 34°07′26″N, 111°57′37″W; USGS map – Cooks Mesa 1:24,000; Not: Middle Fork Squaw Creek.


Proposal: to change a name considered to be derogatory
Map: USGS Cooks Mesa 1:24,000
Proponent: Tonto National Forest
Administrative area: Tonto National Forest

Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
GNIS: Middle Fork Squaw Creek (FID 31811)
Local Usage: None found
Case Summary: The stream currently named Middle Fork Squaw Creek is approximately 5.7 miles long and flows across Tonto National Forest lands before entering the stream proposed to be renamed to either Maiden Creek or Ledni Líí Creek. The proposed name means “dry” in Apache.

**Change Squaw Creek to Ledni Líí Creek:** stream; approx. 18.5 mi. long; in Tonto National Forest, heads on the S slope of Six Bar Ridge 1.8 mi. east of Goat Camp Spring at 34°06’45”N, 111°53’26”W, flows generally W to enter the Agua Fria River 2.5 mi. NE of Black Canyon City; name translates from Apache as “Two Black Creeks Coming Together”; Yavapai County, Arizona; T9N, Rgs3&4E, Gila and Salt River Meridian; 34°05’10”N, 112°06’44”W; USGS map – Squaw Creek Mesa 1:24,000; Not: Squaw Creek.


Proposal: to change a name considered to be derogatory
Map: USGS Squaw Creek Mesa 1:24,000
Proponent: Tonto National Forest
Administrative area: None
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
- GNIS: Squaw Creek (FID 34767)
- Local Usage: None found

Case Summary: This proposal is to change the name of Squaw Creek, an approximately 18.5-mile-long tributary of the Agua Fria River, to Ledni Líí Creek. The stream flows through the Tonto National Forest. The existing name is of indeterminate origin, but has appeared on USGS topographic maps since 1887. The proposed name translates from Apache to “Two Black Creeks Coming Together.”

**Change Little Squaw Creek to Odzilaayé Creek:** stream; approx. 12.5 mi. long; heads in Tonto National Forest in the New River Mountains, 13 mi. NW of Benchmark Mountain at 34°04’08”N, 112°00’17”W, flows WSW through State Trust Lands and Bureau of Land Management lands to enter the Agua Fria River 3.5 mi. SSW of Black Canyon City; the name means “javelina” in Apache; Maricopa County and Yavapai County, Arizona; Tps8&9N, Rgs2&3E, Gila and Salt River Meridian; 34°01’15”N, 112°09’42”W; USGS map - Black Canyon City 1:24,000; Not: Little Squaw Creek.


Proposal: to change a name considered to be derogatory
Map: Black Canyon City 1:24,000
Proponent: Tonto National Forest
Administrative area: Tonto National Forest, BLM Public Domain Land
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
- GNIS: Little Squaw Creek (FID 31134)
- Local Usage: None found

Case Summary: The stream currently named Little Squaw Creek is approximately 12.5 miles long and flows across National Forest and Bureau of Land Management land before entering the Agua Fria River. The proposed name translates from Apache as “javelina.”

**Change South Fork Squaw Creek to Tudigis Creek:** stream; approx. 4 mi. long; in Tonto National Forest, heads 1.3 mi. NE of Benchmark Mountain, 1.2 mi. ESE of Top of the Mountain Tank at 34°04’13”N, 111°58’26”W, flows generally NNE to enter Squaw Creek (proposed Maiden Creek or Ledni Líí Creek) 0.8 mi. NE of Red Mountain; name means “crooked” in Apache; Yavapai County, Arizona; Secs 17,20,29&32, T9N, R4E, Gila and Salt Meridian; 34°07’11”N, 111°57’34”W; USGS map – Cooks Mesa 1:24,000; Not: South Fork Creek, South Fork Squaw Creek.

**Proposal:** to change a name considered to be derogatory

**Map:** USGS Cooks Mesa 1:24,000

**Proponent:** Tonto National Forest

**Administrative area:** Tonto National Forest

**Previous BGN Action:** None

**Names associated with feature:**

- **GNIS:** South Fork Squaw Creek (FID 34668)
- **Local Usage:** None found


**Case Summary:** The stream currently named South Fork Squaw Creek is approximately four miles long and flows across Tonto National Forest land before entering the stream proposed to be renamed to either South Fork Maiden Creek or Ledni Líí Creek (q.v.). The proposed name translates from Apache as “crooked.”

**Serenity Hill:** summit; elevation 4,264 ft.; located in the Hualapai Valley, 10 mi. N of Kingman; Mohave County, Arizona; Sec 20, T23N, R16W, Gila and Salt River Meridian; 35°21’32”N, 114°00’16”W; USGS map – Stockton Hill 1:24,000.

**Proposal:** new name for an unnamed feature

**Map:** USGS Stockton Hill 1:24,000

**Proponent:** Leia Landrock; Kingman, AZ

**Administrative area:** None

**Previous BGN Action:** None

**Names associated with feature:**

- **GNIS:** None found
- **Local Usage:** None found

**Published:** None
Case Summary: The new name Serenity Hill is proposed for a 4,264-foot peak in the Hualapai Valley in Mohave County, 10 miles north of Kingman. The proponent notes that the distinctively shaped hill can be seen from most parts of the Kingman area as it is one of the tallest peaks between the Cerbat Mountains and Long Mountain. She believes it is of volcanic origin “as there is a lot of cinder and pumice to be found around it. But it is mostly granite.” She adds, “When giving directions to people, it is hard to do so without just saying, the tall pyramid/cone shaped hill (that looks like it is wearing a cap) east of Stockton Hill Rd. The hillside is occupied by several residents and it is indeed, a very serene hill.”

**ARKANSAS**

**Change Bayou Dee to Bayou de Chute:** stream; 5.3 mi. long; heads in the Township of Fenter at 34°24’49”N, 92°56’00”W, flows E to enter the Ouachita River 1.8 mi. NW of where I-30 crosses the Ouachita River; the name is French for “bayou of falls”; Hot Spring County, Arkansas; Secs 5&6, T4S, R17 W and Secs 1-4, T4S, R18W, Fifth Principal Meridian; 34°24’27”N, 92°51’05”W; USGS map – Malvern North 1:24,000 (mouth); Not: Bayou Dee.


Proposal: to change a name to restore its historical name
Map: USGS Malvern North 1:24,000 (mouth)
Proponent: Tony Caver; Malvern, Arkansas
Administrative area: Lake Catherine State Park
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
GNIS: Bayou Dee (FID 46175)
Local Usage: None found

Case Summary: This proposal is to change the name of Bayou Dee to its historical name of Bayou de Chute, which translates from the French as “bayou of falls”. The proponent, a local historian, notes that the name Bayou de Chute appeared on a geological map of the Novaculite Region published by the Geological Survey of Arkansas in 1890 and was also found in The Annual Report of the Geological Survey of Arkansas 1887-1893. He believes the original French name should be restored. He notes also that the area has historical significance as the route traveled by the Hunter-Dunbar expedition up the Ouachita River in 1804-1805; many French names appear on their maps and journals.

The name Bayou Dee has appeared on USGS topographic maps since 1948. Field work conducted in 1978 confirmed the name was correct. Bayou Dee is also labeled on the Hot Spring County highway map and in a 2010 report by the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality. It is mentioned at various web sites, including ones dedicated to Arkansas lake locations, sport fishing, and the mapping of bird locations.
**Rose Creek**: populated place; in Rose Creek Township 4.4 mi. NE of Casa, 5.5 mi. WNW of Adona; the name refers to a nearby stream named Rose Creek; Secs 23-27&22, T5N R9W, Fifth Principal Meridian; Perry County, Arkansas; 35°03′53″N, 92°59′23″W; USGS map – Adona 1:24,000.


Proposal: to make official a name in local use
Map: USGS Adona 1:24,000
Proponent: Patricia Watts; Casa, AR
Administrative area: None
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
- GNIS: None found
- Local Usage: Rose Creek (proponent)
- Published: Rose Creek Community (local obituaries)

Case Summary: This proposal is to make official the locally used name Rose Creek for a small unincorporated community in Rose Creek Township in northern Perry County. According to the proponent, the name has been in use for 125 years, although it has not been found on any maps. In addition to officially naming the community, the proponent states that locals “are currently organizing a community crime watch program and wish to install community boundaries.”

The name “Rose Creek Community” is used to refer to birth or death locations in many online obituaries. Meetings of various local clubs and societies are held in the Rose Creek Community Building. According to the Perry County Historical Museum web site, the 1860 Perry County census lists a “Petit Jean Township, Rose Creek Community.”

According to GNIS, the only nearby features with names containing “Rose Creek” are all associated with this community area: streams named Rose Creek and Little Rose Creek which flow though a valley flanked on the south by Rose Creek Mountain, Rose Creek Church, and the Township of Rose Creek.

**CALIFORNIA**

**Change application of Liebre Twins**: summit; elevation 6,173 ft.; located S of Cottonwood Creek, N of Little Oak Canyon, 2.6 SW of Twin Lakes; Kern County, California; Sec 14, T10N, R16W, San Bernardino Meridian; 34°57′38″N, 118°32′57″W; USGS map – Liebre Twins 1:24,000.


Proposal: application change to recognize local and historic usage
Map: USGS Liebre Twins 1:24,000
Proponent: Elias Elias; Arcata, CA
Administrative area: None
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
- GNIS: No record
Local Usage: Liebre Twins (proponent)  
Published: Liebre Twins (USGS 1903; Gudde 1960)

Case Summary: This proposal is to change the application of the name Liebre Twins for a summit in Kern County. The name is applied currently to a 6,413-foot peak in Section 15, whereas the proponent believes the correct location is a twin-peaked, 6,173-foot summit 1.4 miles to the east-northeast in Section 14.

Research has confirmed that the name Liebre Twins was applied to the proposed location on the first USGS topographic map of the area, published in 1903. However, on the next map, dated 1943, the name was transferred to its current position. No reason is given in the field notes, although it may have been due to the placement in 1932 of a U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey benchmark named “LIEBRE” on the single-top peak. (The benchmark description states that the summit is named “Liebre Mountain” rather than Liebre Twins. There is another peak named Liebre Mountain in Los Angeles County, just 17 miles to the south of the one in question.) Other USGS maps published between 1959 and 1975 are at too small a scale to determine which summit the name applied to. Edwin Gudde, in his 1960 volume California Place Names: The Origin and Etymology of Current Geographical Names, states, “By mistake the name Liebre Twins was transferred on the [USGS] atlas sheet to a single-top higher peak to the west.” A number of online hiking reports describe climbs to the peak of Liebre Twins but do not note any discrepancy regarding the application of the name; they typically include a photograph of the LIEBRE benchmark.

A Sierra Club website states the following about the feature: “Named after the 48,800 acre Mexican land grant Rancho La Liebre (1846), and the double summit of this peak. The term liebre means ‘hare’ in Spanish.”

**Mather Ridge:** ridge; elevation approx. 9,778 ft., 0.25 mi. long; in Sequoia National Park/Sequoia-Kings Canyon Wilderness/John Krebs Wilderness, W of Timber Gap, 1 mi. N of Mineral King; the name honors Stephen Tyng Mather (1867-1930), first director of the National Park Service; Tulare County, California; Sec 9, T17S, R31E, Mount Diablo Mer.; 36°28′03″N, 118°36′11″W; USGS map – Mineral King, 1:24,000.  

Proposal: new commemorative name for an unnamed feature  
USGS Map: Mineral King 1:24,000  
Proponent: Sarah Barton Elliott; Three Rivers, CA  
Administrative area: Sequoia National Park/Sequoia-Kings Canyon Wilderness / John Krebs Wilderness  
Previous BGN Action: None  
Names associated with feature:
  	GNIS: None found  
  Local Usage: None found  
  Published: None found  

Case Summary: The new name **Mather Ridge** is proposed for a 0.25 mile-long ridge trending west from Timber Gap in Sequoia National Park and just north of the park’s Mineral
King Ranger Station. The feature also lies along the boundary between the Sequoia-Kings Canyon Wilderness and the John Krebs Wilderness.

The proposed name would honor Stephen Tyng Mather (1867-1930), who became the first director of the National Park Service in 1917. Mather, born in San Francisco, earned his fortune through borax manufacturing and sales. After seeing the poor state of Western national parks, he began campaigning for a government agency to protect and manage these “treasured landscapes.” In 1915, as Assistant Secretary of the Interior, he invited many influential men, including politicians, scientists, conservationists, and journalists, on a trip, known as the Mather Mountain Party, through some of California’s national parks and unprotected wilderness areas. On July 18th, several members of the party posed for a photograph on the ridge now proposed to be named for Mather. The photograph shows the group looking southeast over the Mineral King area towards Farewell Gap.

By proposing the name Mather Ridge for this feature, the proponent believes the 100th anniversary of the Mather Mountain Party in Sequoia National Park should be commemorated. When asked to address the BGN’s wilderness policy, she stated that the name would “pay tribute to and preserve the fascinating history of Sequoia National Park and the Mineral King area” and that Mather “chose Sequoia and its surrounding landscape as the means by which to convince the men [in the Mather Mountain Party] to lobby for this government agency [the National Park Service].” She notes also that Horace Albright, Mather’s assistant and also a member of the party, wrote that “one of the ‘prime discussions of the Mather Party’ in 1915 was ‘wilderness’ …[h]ow fitting that Mather's name be associated with wilderness, in wilderness, at a place where he, himself, stood a century ago.”

GNIS lists 17 features in California with “Mather” in their names. Not all of these honor Stephen Mather; several features in the Sacramento area are presumably associated with the former Mather Air Force Base and current Sacramento Mather Airport, named for a U.S. Signal Corps lieutenant. Of the nearby features named for Stephen Mather or associated with features named for him, Mather Pass is 40 miles north-northeast in Kings Canyon National Park; the community of Mather, just outside Yosemite National Park, and Mather Ranger Station at the entrance to the park are 120 miles northwest; and Mather Grove is 390 miles northwest in Humboldt County. The origin of the name of Mather Creek, also in Humboldt County, is unknown. A historical locale named Mather is 160 miles north-northwest in Nevada; once again, the origin of this name is unknown.

Features in several national parks are named for Stephen Mather. In addition to the Kings Canyon and Yosemite National Park features mentioned above, these include Mount Mather in Denali National Park and Preserve (a BGN 1947 decision), Mather Point in Grand Canyon National Park, and Mather Gorge in Great Falls Park (a BGN 1968 decision). The National Park Service’s training center in West Virginia is named for Stephen Mather. Many national parks contain plaques in honor of Mather’s contributions to the establishment of the National Park Service.

Mather’s summer home near Norwalk, Connecticut was listed as a National Historic Landmark under the name “Stephen Tyng Mather House” in 1963; GNIS records a nearby
reservoir and dam with the name “Mather,” which may refer to previous generations of his family. The Mather Memorial Parkway runs through Mount Rainier National Park and Snoqualmie National Forest in Washington. The Stephen Mather Wilderness in Washington was designated in 1988. Mather Peaks in Wyoming were named in 1970 for Kitley Mather, a USGS employee.

The National Park Service is opposed to the proposal, citing a belief that it does not warrant an exception to the Wilderness Policy. Specifically, “While Stephen Mather was instrumental in the creation of the National Park Service in 1916 (and went on to become its first Director), and while the Mather Mountain Party of 1915 had numerous, substantive discussions about the formation of a bureau to administer the national parks, no significant discussions or decisions by members of the Party occurred during its brief stop at the feature in question. Accordingly, we find no ‘overriding need’ for a name for this feature for purposes of education or for any other reason, and thus cannot support it.”

IDAHO

Change Ghoul Basin to Gould Basin: basin; approx. 160 acres; on land administered by the Bureau of Land Management, 3.4 mi. NW of Lemhi Pass, 10 mi NE of Lemhi; the name honors George Gould, a homesteader in the area; Lemhi County, Idaho; Secs 5-8, T19N, R25E, Boise Meridian; 44°59’37″N, 113°31’22″W; USGS map – Agency Creek 1:24,000; Not: Ghoul Basin.


Proposal: name change to recognize correct spelling of honoree’s name
Map: USGS Agency Creek 1:24,000
Proponent: BGN Staff
Administrative area: Bureau of Land Management
Previous BGN Action: Ghoul Basin (BGN 1977)
Names associated with feature:
GNIS: Ghoul Basin (FID 398457)
Local Usage: Gould Basin

Case Summary: This proposal, initiated by the BGN staff, is to change the name of Ghoul Basin in Lemhi County to Gould Basin. During a search for geographic names with a
Halloween theme, it was discovered that despite the BGN’s approval of Ghoul Basin in 1977, the feature is known locally as Gould Basin. The latter name is recorded as a variant in the GNIS entry, citing Idaho Place Names (Boone, 1998), which reports that the basin was named for George Gould, who homesteaded in the area.

The USGS Geology Division submitted the original proposal to make official the name Ghoul Basin. The name was found to be in local use during field work conducted in 1952 and was subsequently published in a 1962 USGS Bulletin entitled Geology and Thorium-Bearing Deposits of the Lemhi Pass Area Lemhi County, Idaho, and Beaverhead County, Montana. At the time of the field work, the authors of the report noted that they had spoken with ranchers who stated that the name of the basin was Ghoul Basin.

A Salmon National Forest ranger who lives in the area and a local BLM ranger have both confirmed local use of the name Gould Basin.

**Highpointers Butte:** summit; elevation 5,947 ft.; located on land administered by the Bureau of Land Management, 20 mi. NW of Shoshone, 11 SW of Magic Reservoir; the name refers to the feature’s distinction of being the highest point in Lincoln County, according to the County Highpointers Association; Lincoln County and Camas County, Idaho; Secs 33&34, T2S, R16E and Secs 3&4, T3S, R16E, Boise Meridian; 43°11′53″N, 114°33′17″W; USGS map – Thorn Creek Reservoir 1:24,000.


Proposal: new name for an unnamed feature  
Map: USGS Thorn Creek Reservoir 1:24,000  
Proponent: Mark O’Brien; Rupert, ID  
Administrative area: Bureau of Land Management  
Previous BGN Action: None  
Names associated with feature:  
   GNIS: None found  
   Local Usage: None found  
   Published: None found  

Case Summary: This 5,947-foot unnamed summit is located in the Mount Bennett Hills along the boundary between northwestern Lincoln County and southeastern Camas County. The proposed name Highpointers Butte is the first of several proposals submitted by the proponent. He reports that this “otherwise nondescript, flat-topped butte” has the distinction of being the highest point in Lincoln County, according to the County Highpointers Association.

**Nakuppeh Dome:** summit; elevation 4,803 ft.; located on land administered by the Bureau of Land Management, 14 mi. N of Shoshone, 10 mi. S of Magic Reservoir; the name is from the Western Shoshone word for grave or burial; Lincoln County, Idaho; Sec. 25, T3S, R17E, Boise Meridian; 43°08′13″N, 114°23′12″W; USGS map – Summit Reservoir 1:24,000; Not: Abo Dome.

Proposal: new name for an unnamed feature
Map: USGS Summit Reservoir 1:24,000
Proponent: Mark O’Brien; Rupert, ID
Administrative area: Bureau of Land Management
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
  GNIS: None found
  Local Usage: Abo Dome (local residents, international geological community)
  Published: Abo Dome (geological literature)

Case Summary: The name Nakuppeh Dome is proposed for a lava blister (dome) located in the eastern Mount Bennett Hills in Lincoln County. The feature is well known to the international geological community as “Abo Dome,” although that name is not listed in GNIS. At approximately 15 feet in diameter, the feature is considered a “textbook example” of an exceptionally large and rounded gas blister cave. The word “Abo” reportedly refers to the aboriginal people that lived in the area prior to the arrival of European settlers.

According to a local rumor, a Native American grave was removed from the interior of the lava blister in the 1960s, although excavations conducted in the 1980s by BLM archaeologists yielded no evidence of this. The name “Abo Dome” appears to have been in local use for many years prior to its appearance in national and international geological literature approximately 50 years ago. Due to the offensiveness of the name, the proponent recommends that the feature be named officially Nakuppeh Dome to honor the Shoshone-Bannock and Shoshone-Paiute peoples who inhabited the area. Nakuppeh is the Western Shoshone word for grave or burial (Nadeehgipe in the Fort Hall Shoshone dialect). The dome is well known to locals and has become a popular gathering spot for the young people of nearby communities. The proponent suggests that although it is not a cave in the true definition of the word, as it does not extend for any great length, its location has been kept confidential under the Federal Cave Protection Act of 1988.

Sheepmens Butte: summit; elevation 5,738 ft.; located on land administered by the Bureau of Land Management and the Idaho Department of Lands in the eastern Mount Bennett Hills, 7.9 mi. SW of Magic Reservoir, 19 mi. NNW of Shoshone; the name refers to several sheepmen who were instrumental in promoting and advancing the range sheep industry in Idaho; Camas County, Idaho; Sec. 36, T2S, R16E and Sec. 31, T2S, R17E, Boise Meridian; 43°12’32”N, 114°29’31”W; USGS map – Summit Reservoir 1:24,000.

Proposal: new name for an unnamed feature
Map: USGS Summit Reservoir 1:24,000
Proponent: Mark O’Brien; Rupert, ID
Administrative area: Bureau of Land Management / Idaho Department of Lands
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
  GNIS: None found
  Local Usage: None found
  Published: None found
Case Summary: This 5,738-foot butte, located in the eastern Mount Bennett Hills in southeastern Camas County, is proposed to be named Sheepmens Butte. The proponent recommends the name in honor of several sheepmen who were instrumental in promoting and advancing the range sheep industry in Idaho from the 1880s until the 1940s. While the name refers to “all those flockmasters that ran sheep in the foothills northeast of Gooding and northwest of Shoshone,” it would specifically honor Senator Frank R. Gooding (1859-1928), Fred W. Gooding (1856-1927), Thomas H. Gooding (1853-1938), Edward G. Gooding (1885-1963), D. Sidney Smith (1885-1978), and Ben Darrah (1868-1950), all of whom over time acquired many of the private inholdings in the vicinity of the butte. Located just south of the butte were the corrals in which bands of sheep were sheared in the spring as they made their way north to summer pastures on National Forest land.

A query of GNIS found no features in Idaho with the word “sheepmen” in any their names.

**Three-Crater Butte:** summit, elevation 4,975 ft.; located on land administered by the Bureau of Land Management in the eastern Mount Bennett Hills, 14 mi. N of Shoshone, 10 mi. SSW of Magic Reservoir; the butte is so named because of the three small craters on its summit; Lincoln County, Idaho; Secs. 25&26, T3S, R17E, Boise Meridian; 43°07’58”N, 114°23’31”W; USGS map – Summit Reservoir 1:24,000.


Proposal: new descriptive name for an unnamed feature
Map: USGS Summit Reservoir 1:24,000
Proponent: Mark O’Brien; Rupert, ID
Administrative area: Bureau of Land Management
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
  GNIS: None found
  Local Usage: None found
Published: Three-Crater Butte (Twin Falls Times-News, 2007)

Case Summary: The name Three-Crater Butte is proposed to be made official for this 4,975-foot summit in the eastern Mount Bennett Hills. The name was first applied to the feature by a retired geologist in Twin Falls in 2007. The butte was the source of the lava flow that created Mammoth Cave during the Pleistocene. According to the geologist, this “large, but subtle butte” was so named “for the simple reason that it has three small craters” on its summit.

**ILLINOIS**

**Horseshoe Lake:** reservoir; 2.6 acres; in Plato Township along Stoney Creek 4.1 mi. NE of Lily Lake, 1.9 mi. SW of Bowes; Kane County, Illinois; Sec. 34, T41N, R7E, Third Principal Meridian; 41°59’24”N, 88°25’13”W; USGS map – Elburn 1:24,000.


Proposal: to make official a descriptive name
Map: USGS Elburn 1:24,000
Proponent: Nadine Thornton
Administrative area:  None
Previous BGN Action:  None
Names associated with feature:
  GNIS:  None found
  Local Usage:  Horseshoe Lake (proponent’s family)
  Published:  None found
Case Summary:  The name Horseshoe Lake is proposed to be made official for a 2.6-acre reservoir on property owned by the proponent. The feature was built sometime after 1964 by the proponent’s late husband, who she claims always referred to it as Horseshoe Lake because of its shape.

A query of GNIS found 41 features in Illinois with names that include the word “Horseshoe”; however, none are in Kane County.

**Turtle Rock Lake:** reservoir; 6.1 acres; in Plato Township on Stoney Creek, 5.2 mi. SE of North Plato, 3.6 mi. NNW of Wasco; the name refers to a small rock on which turtles sun themselves; Kane County, Illinois; Secs 34&35, T41N, R7E, Third Principal Meridian; 41°59’20”N, 88°24’57”W; USGS map – Elburn 1:24,000.
  Proposal:  new name for an unnamed feature
  Map:  USGS Elburn 1:24,000
  Proponent:  Nadine Thornton; no address given
  Administrative area:  None
  Previous BGN Action:  None
  Names associated with feature:
    GNIS:  None found
    Local Usage:  None found
    Published:  None found
Case Summary:  The name Turtle Rock Lake was submitted as a counter-proposal to the name Seahorse Lake, one of a number of proposals submitted by students at the College of DuPage (Review List 416). The Kane County government solicited comments on the original list of names from local municipalities and residents, and learned that this reservoir is sometimes known unofficially as Lake Tommy. The owner of the property indicated she was opposed to the name Seahorse Lake and that although she was aware of local usage of the name Lake Tommy, she preferred to submit the name Turtle Rock Lake instead. This name refers to a rock on an island in the lake where turtles sun themselves. The proponent’s children and grandchildren try to catch the turtles, so the name has special meaning for the family. The proposal for Seahorse Lake has since been withdrawn.

A query of GNIS found 11 features in Illinois with names that include the word “Turtle”; however, none are “Turtle Rock” and none are in Kane County.

**KENTUCKY**

**Change Reservoir Number 2 to Lake Fontaine:** reservoir; approx. 60 acres; on the upper
reaches of West Hickman Creek in the City of Lexington, 2.5 mi. WSW of Brighton; named in association with nearby Fontaine Road; Fayette County, Kentucky; 38°00′24″N, 84°27′55″W; USGS map – Lexington East 1:24,000; Not: Lexington Reservoir Number 2, Reservoir Number 2.


Proposal: name change to establish a new associative name
Map: USGS Lexington East 1:24,000
Proponent: Joel DiGirolamo; Lexington, KY
Administrative area: None
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
  GNIS: Reservoir Number 2 (FID 517270)
  Local Usage: None found
  Published: Lexington Reservoir Number 2 (Fayette County General Highway Map, 1999); Reservoir (in part) (USGS maps 1927, 1929); Reservoir Number 2 (USGS maps since 1950)

Case Summary: The new name Lake Fontaine is proposed for a reservoir in southeastern Lexington. This reservoir is the middle of a series of three numbered reservoirs along West Hickman Creek. According to the proponent and historical maps, dams were built by the Lexington Hydraulic & Manufacturing Company for Reservoir Number 1 (labeled as Lake Eielerslie on an 1891 map), Reservoir Number 2, and Reservoir Number 3 (proposed as Lake Hickman, q.v.).

According to the proponent, Reservoir Number 2 was built in 1893 for use as a water source. In 1963, it was sold to a development company. The proponent, secretary for the Lakeview Estates Lake Association, Inc., which owns the reservoir, says that many local residents mistakenly believe it is owned by Kentucky American Water and that it is still a drinking water source. The new name will “dispel this myth and enhance the value of the lake.” A road just to the north of the reservoir is named Fontaine Road, hence the choice of the new name.

The Mayor of Lexington (also the head of the Fayette County government) and the local Councilmember have submitted letters in support of this proposal. An additional letter of support was received from the Blue Grass Trust for Historic Preservation.

Change Reservoir Number 3 to Lake Hickman: reservoir; approx. 85 acres; on the upper reaches of West Hickman Creek in the City of Lexington, 2.9 mi. WSW of Brighton; named in association with the stream that was dammed to form the reservoir; Fayette County, Kentucky; 38°00′09″N, 84°28′15″W; USGS map – Lexington East 1:24,000 (center); Not: Lexington Reservoir Number 3, Reservoir Number 3.


Proposal: change a name to a new associative name
Map: USGS Lexington East, 1:24,000 (center)
Proponent: Joel DiGirolamo; Lexington, KY
Administrative area: None
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
  GNIS: Reservoir Number 3 (FID 517271)
  Local Usage: None found
Published: Lexington Reservoir Number 3 (Fayette County General Highway Map, 1999); Reservoir (in part) (USGS maps 1927, 1929); Reservoir Number 3 (USGS maps since 1950)

Case Summary: The new name Lake Hickman is proposed for a reservoir in southeastern Lexington. It is the third of a series of three numbered reservoirs along West Hickman Creek. According to the proponent and historical maps, dams were built by the Lexington Hydraulic & Manufacturing Company for Reservoir Number 1 (labeled as Lake Eilerslie on an 1891 map), Reservoir Number 2 (proposed as Lake Fontaine, q.v.), and Reservoir Number 3.

According to the proponent, Reservoir Number 3 was built in 1903 for use as a water source. In 1963, it was sold to a development company. The proponent, secretary for the Lakeview Estates Lake Association, Inc. which owns the reservoir, says that many Lexington residents mistakenly believe it is owned by Kentucky American Water and that it is still a drinking water source. The new name will “dispel this myth and enhance the value of the lake.” Members of the Association voted to propose a name reflecting the Hickman Creek watershed and Hickman Creek, which was flooded to form the feature. The Mayor of Lexington (also the head of the Fayette County government) and the local Councilmember have submitted letters in support of this proposal. An additional letter of support was received from the Blue Grass Trust for Historic Preservation.

According to GNIS, several features within the Hickman Creek watershed have names that contain the word “Hickman.” Besides Hickman Creek and its two branches, populated places named East Hickman and Little Hickman are located about 4 and 14 miles south-southwest, respectively. The name of Hickman Creek is from James Hickman, a Revolutionary War colonel who was given the land southeast of Lexington for his service.

MAINE

Swan Hill: summit; elevation 1,329 ft.; located in the Town of Dixfield, 1.1 mi. S of Sugarloaf, 0.25 mi. NW of Pauls Bluff; the name honors Stanley Stuart (“Sonny”) Swan, Jr. (1930-1975), Dixfield First Selectman, Road Agent, and Overseer-of-Poor; Oxford County, Maine; 44°32′30″N, 70°25′45″W; USGS map –Dixfield 1:24,000; Not: Pauls Bluff.
Proposal: new commemorative name for an unnamed feature
  USGS map: Dixfield 1:24,000
  Proponent: Steven Swan; Dixfield, ME
  Administrative area: None
  Previous BGN Action: None
  Names associated with feature:
    GNIS: None found
Local Usage: None found
Published: Pauls Bluff (Esri, Google Earth)

Case Summary: The new name Swan Hill is proposed for an unnamed 1,329-foot summit in the Town of Dixfield in Oxford County. The name would honor Stanley Stuart ("Sonny") Swan, Jr. (1930-1975), a town official for at least two years in the 1960s. He held the office of First Selectman, and according to the proponent, was also "Road Agent" and "Overseer-of-Poor." (Recent town meeting minutes refer to the selectmen and "Overseers of the Poor" as joint office titles.) The proponent is the son of the intended honoree. Members of the Swan family are associated with an address on Swan Avenue, which is located on the southwest slope of the summit.

Esri base maps and Google Earth (but not Google Maps) label the summit Pauls Bluff; however, GNIS lists this name as a distinct promontory on the southeast edge of the unnamed summit. The confusion may have arisen as a result of early USGS topographic maps (1926 and 1929) labeling Pauls Bluff closer to the summit’s highest point.

The Maine State Names Authority has no objection to the proposed name.

GNIS lists 38 features in Maine with the word “Swan” or “Swans” in their names. These include seven in Oxford County, including another summit named Swan Hill, 17 miles to the southwest.

MARYLAND

Bridgeport Brigade Creek: stream; approx. 1 mi. long; heads 1.4 mi. SSW of Longville, 2.8 mi. NW of Taneytown at 39°41’12”N, 77°12’47”W, flows generally NW to enter the Monocacy River 1.8 mi. SW of Harney; named for an early 19th-century annual muster in the nearby town of Bridgeport; Carroll County, Maryland; 39°41’38”N, 77°13’35”W; USGS map –Taneytown 1:24,000.


Proposal: new name for an unnamed feature
Map: USGS Taneytown 1:24,000
Proponent: Jack Lynch; Frederick, MD
Administrative area: None
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
GNIS: None found
Local Usage: None found
Published: None found

Case Summary: The new name Bridgeport Brigade Creek is proposed for a one-mile-long stream in northwestern Carroll County. A local resident reports that in the early 19th century, the nearby community of Bridgeport hosted an annual muster. All male citizens between the ages of 18 and 45 were required to attend. Not all these men brought rifles; many carried
“sticks, fence stakes, and primarily corn stalks; as a result, they were nicknamed the ‘Corn Stalk Brigade.’” The proponent wishes to recognize this chapter in Carroll County’s history with this new name.

**Oneega Creek**: stream; approx. 2.2 mi. long; heads 2.4 mi. ESE of Uniontown at 39°34’54”N, 77°04’21”W, flows generally S to enter Little Pipe Creek 0.1 mi. SE of Jasontown; named for the Susquehannock word for “water”; Carroll County, Maryland; 39°33’58”N, 77°04’11”W; USGS map - New Windsor 1:24,000.  

- Proposal: new name for an unnamed feature  
- Map: USGS New Windsor 1:24,000  
- Proponent: Jack Lynch; Frederick, MD  
- Administrative area: None  
- Previous BGN Action: None  
- Names associated with feature:  
  - GNIS: None found  
  - Local Usage: None found  
- Published: None found  

**Case Summary:** The new name Oneega Creek is proposed for a 2.2-mile-long stream located approximately four miles west of Westminster in Carroll County. In the Susquehannock language, the word “oneega” means “water.” The Susquehannock Tribe inhabited an area from the Chesapeake Bay north along the Susquehanna River and west into the eastern Blue Ridge. The proponent states that because “the Susquehannock tribe was located in modern Westminster, they made an impact on the way we live today. With this new name, the history of Westminster is brought back in remembrance of our noble and heroic ancestors of the Susquehannock Native American Tribe.”

**MASSACHUSETTS**

**Lyman Reservoir**: reservoir; 11 acres; located in the Town of Southbridge, 16 mi. SW of Worcester; the name honors Philip Howe Lyman (1900-1995), long-time local resident and businessman; Worcester County, Massachusetts; 42°05’31”N, 72°01’03”W; USGS map – Southbridge 1:24,000.  

- Proposal: new commemorative name for an unnamed feature  
- Map: USGS Southbridge 1:24,000  
- Proponent: Lee Lyman; Ormond Beach, FL  
- Administrative area: None  
- Previous BGN Action: None  
- Names associated with feature:  
  - GNIS: None found  
  - Local Usage: **Lyman Reservoir** (proponent)  
- Published: None found
Case Summary: This proposal is to make official the name Lyman Reservoir for an 11-acre reservoir that was constructed in the early 1980s on property that the proponent still owns today. The name would honor the proponent’s father, Philip Howe Lyman (1900-1995), who together with his son built the reservoir. A native of Vermont, Mr. Lyman lived most of his life in Sturbridge and Southbridge, where he was employed as a salesman for Chilton Company. He went on to become head of the Pattern Storage Department at Springfield Bronze and Aluminum.

The proponent reports that the reservoir served as a place for the Lyman family to gather and recreate. It was also developed for flood control and aquifer recharge. The feature is shown but not named on the Town of Southbridge online map but does not appear of USGS topographic maps.

**MICHIGAN**

**Change Mud Lake to Lake Hope**: lake; 23 acres; in Holly Township, 1.6 mi. SE of Slack Lake, 3.1 mi. WNW of Groveland Mills; the name signifies the hope that Rose Hill Center residents will have successful treatments; Oakland County, Michigan; Sec. 11, T5N, R7E, Michigan Meridian; 42°51'01"N, 83°36'12"W; USGS map – Davisburg 1:24,000; Not: Mud Lake.

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=42.850275&p_longi=-83.603242

Proposal: to change a name to establish a name of local significance
Map: USGS Davisburg 1:24,000
Proponent: Daniel Kelly; Holly, MI
Administrative area: None
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
  - GNIS: Mud Lake (FID 632948)
  - Local Usage: Lake Hope (proponent and center owners/staff)
  - Published: Mud Lake (USGS 1920, 1922, 1945, 1968, 1985; Oakland County Atlas 1896; Geoview 2014)

Case Summary: This proposal, to change the name of Mud Lake, a 23-acre lake in Holly Township to Lake Hope, is the first of two submitted by the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Rose Hill Center, a psychiatric residential rehabilitation center. The lake is located on the Center’s property. According to the proponent, the facility and staff “provide residents with the HOPE of recovery to the point where they can reach their highest level of independence and return to their communities.” Although the name Mud Lake has appeared on USGS topographic maps since 1920, the staff began referring to the lake as Lake Hope in 1992, the date of the Center’s opening.

The proposal included letters of support from the governments of Holly Township and Oakland County, as well as those of several surrounding property owners.

A query of GNIS for “Mud Lake” found 231 lakes in Michigan with that name, including nine in Oakland County. The word “Hope” appears in the names of 202 names in the State, including two churches and a cemetery in Oakland County.
Change Gravel Lake to Lake Lahring: lake; 39 acres; in Holly Township on Rose Hill Center property, 2 mi. SSE of Slack Lake, 3.3 mi. W of Groveland Mills; named for John Henry and Agatha Lahring, who settled in Holly Township in 1838; Oakland County, Michigan; Secs. 10,11&14, T5N, R7E, Michigan Meridian; 42°50’34”N, 83°36’27”W; USGS map – Davisburg 1:24,000; Not: Gravel Lake. [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=42.8428409&p_longi=-83.6074332]

Proposal: commemorative name change for a named feature
Map: USGS Davisburg 1:24,000
Proponent: Daniel Kelly; Holly, MI
Administrative area: None
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
GNIS: Gravel Lake (FID 627244)
Local Usage: none
Published: Gravel Lake (USGS 1920, 1922, 1945, 1968, 1985; Michigan Department of Natural Resources 2014; Oakland County Atlas 1896; Geoview, 2014)

Case Summary: This proposal, to change the name of Gravel Lake, a 39-acre lake in Holly Township, to Lake Lahring, is the second of two submitted by the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Rose Hill Center. The name would honor John Henry and Agatha Lahring, who in 1838 settled in Holly Township, where they built a log cabin and established a homestead on the shore of the lake. The Lahring family eventually acquired 160 acres and continued to farm the property for several more generations. The lake is co-owned today by Rose Hill Center and Roy Lahring. According to the proponent, changing the name of the lake from Gravel Lake to Lake Lahring would recognize the family’s long term service to the community. A nearby road is named Lahring Road.

The proposal included letters of support from the governments of Holly Township and Oakland County, as well as from several surrounding property owners.

A query of GNIS for “Gravel Lake” found five lakes in Michigan with that name.

MINNESOTA

Moozoogitagaanesing Island: island; approx. 1 acre; in Superior National Forest, in West Cook Unorganized Territory on West Pope Lake, 1 mi. S of Whisker Lake; the name means “a small garden to protect young moose” in the Ojibwe language; Sec 32, T65N, R2W, Fourth Principal Extended Meridian; Cook County, Minnesota; 48°04’15”N, 90°36’14”W; USGS map – South Lake 1:24,000; Not: Little Island.[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=48.0708333&p_longi=--90.6038889]

Proposal: new name for an unnamed feature
Map: USGS South Lake 1:24,000
Proponent: Tom Bettenhausen; Grand Marais, MN
Administrative area: Superior National Forest
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:

GNIS: None found
Local Usage: Little Island (proponent)
Published: None found

Case Summary: The new name Moozoogitagaanesing Island is proposed for a small island on West Pope Lake in Cook County, near the Minnesota-Ontario border and within Superior National Forest. The name is an Ojibwe word meaning “a small garden to protect young moose.” According to the proponent, both this island and the one proposed as Moozoogitagaaning Island (q.v.) are “a sort of moose maternity ward.” The proponent and his family have seen moose calves born each spring on these islands during the more than twenty years they have been visiting property on the lake. The family decided to recognize the many generations of moose born on the islands and to select names in the native Ojibwe language with help from a member of the Grand Portage Band of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe.

The Cook County Commissioners recommend approval of the name, as do the Minnesota State Names Authority and the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.

According to GNIS, no U. S. features have names similar to the proposed name, although many features are named for moose. Eight features in Cook County and Lake County to the west have names that include the word “Moose.” The nearest are Moose Mountain, 21 miles east-northeast, and Moose Lake, 24 miles east-northeast.

Moozoogitagaaning Island: island; approx. 8 acres; in Superior National Forest, in West Cook Unorganized Territory on West Pope Lake, 1.9 mi. WNW of Surber Lake; the name means “a safe garden for moose and their young” in the Ojibwe language; Secs 32&33, T65N, R2W, Fourth Principal Extended Meridian; Cook County, Minnesota; 48°04’17”N, 90°35’58”W; USGS map – South Lake 1:24,000; Not: Big Island. 

Proposal: new name for unnamed feature
Map: USGS South Lake 1:24,000
Proponent: Tom Bettenhausen; Grand Marais, MN
Administrative area: Superior National Forest
Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: None found
Local Usage: Big Island (proponent)
Published: None found

Case Summary: The new name Moozoogitagaaning Island is proposed for an island on West Pope Lake in Cook County, near the Minnesota-Ontario border and within Superior National Forest. The name is an Ojibwe word meaning “a safe garden for moose and their young.” According to the proponent, both this island and the one proposed as Moozoogitagaanesing Island (q.v.) are “a sort of moose maternity ward.”
The Cook County Commissioners recommend approval of the name, as do the Minnesota State Names Authority and the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.

**Zell Creek**: stream; approx. 1 mi. long; heads in a spring in Glasgow Township at 44°17'18"N, 92°08'13"W, flows NNE through Richard J. Dorer Memorial Hardwood State Forest into the Zumbro River; the name honors Frederick (1826-1898) and Henrietta (1834-1992) Zell, early homesteaders along the stream; Secs 33&28, T110N, R11W, Fifth Principal Meridian; Wabasha County, Minnesota; 44°18’07”N, 92°07’56”W; USGS map Theilman 1:24,000; Not: Helbig Creek.
Proposal: new commemorative name for an unnamed feature
Map: USGS Theilman 1:24,000
Proponent: Nancy Carlson; Lake City, MN
Administrative area: Richard J. Dorer Memorial Hardwood State Forest
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
   GNIS: None found
   Local Usage: None found
   Published: Helbig Creek (MN DNR, 2008)
Case Summary: The new commemorative name Zell Creek is proposed for a 1-mile-long stream in Wabasha County. The stream heads at a spring on land belonging to the proponent’s parents. Although an intermittent stream flows into the spring, the name is proposed only for the lower perennial stream.

Frederick (1826-1898) and Henrietta (1834-1992) Zell established a homestead along the stream in 1883. The land has remained in the Zell family since then.

The name Helbig Creek was applied to the stream in a 2008 Minnesota Department of Natural Resources habitat improvement report. However, this name was chosen to honor a still-living DNR forester and so there is no desire to make it official.

After conducting a public hearing and receiving no objections, the Wabasha County Commissioners passed a resolution endorsing the name Zell Creek. A petition with 28 signatures of individuals supporting the proposal was included with the application. The Minnesota State Names Authority recommends approval as well.

**MISSOURI**

**Quail Cove**: bay; approximately 80 acres; in Mark Twain National Forest on Table Rock Lake 1.6 mi. SSE of Shell Knob, 2 mi. S of Big Bay; Stone County, Missouri; Secs 19&30, T22N, R24W, Fifth Principal Meridian; 36°35’34”N, 93°34’05”W; USGS map – Viola 1:24,000.
Proposal: to make official a name in local use
Map: USGS Viola 1:24,000
Proponent: Missouri Board on Geographic Names
Administrative area: Mark Twain National Forest
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
  GNIS: None found
  Local Usage: Quail Cove (local residents)
  Published: None found

Case Summary: This proposal is to make official the name Quail Cove for a bay on Table Rock Lake in Stone County and within Mark Twain National Forest. In the course of researching another proposal, which was to apply the new name Quail Cove to a different cove on Table Rock Lake, the Stone County Commission noted that the name was already in use for a feature elsewhere in the county. (The first proposal was subsequently amended to Bobwhite Cove (Review List 417)).

Although no published evidence was found to support the county’s claim and the Arkansas District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) could find no name for the bay in question, the road that leads to it is named Quail Cove Lane, and Quail Cove Resort is located along the shore of the bay. Emergency personnel interviewed in the area confirmed that they would presume the feature to be named Quail Cove.

A 1944 USACE planning map labeled the valley that would later be partially submerged by the creation of Table Rock Lake as Basin Hollow. This name does not appear on any published USGS topographic maps, including those published prior to the reservoir’s creation.

USACE has no objection to the proposed name Quail Cove. The Missouri Board on Geographic Names recommends approval of the name.

A query of GNIS found a cemetery, a populated place, and two schools in Missouri using the word “Quail” in their names. The populated place is also in Stone County, 21 miles to the north of the bay, but not on Table Rock Lake.

MONTANA

Change O’Hearn Creek to Ahern Creek: stream; 5.8 mi. long; heads in Lewis and Clark National Forest in the E slope of the Crazy Mountains at 46°12'31"N, 110°16'43"W, flows E to enter the American Fork; named for Thomas Ahern, who homesteaded on land along the stream; Sweet Grass County, Montana; Secs 1-4, 9, 8, 5&6, T5N, R12E, Principal Meridian; 46°13'00"N, 110°10'15"W; USGS map – Rein Lake 1:24,000 (mouth); Not: O’Hearn Creek.

Proposal: name change to recognize correct family name
Map: USGS Rein Lake 1:24,000 (mouth)
Proponent: Rachael Spangelo; Twodot, MT
Administrative area: Lewis and Clark National Forest
Previous BGN Action: O’Hearn Creek (BGN 1975)
Names associated with feature:
  GNIS: O’Hearn Creek (FID 788369)
  Local Usage: None found
Published: O’Hearn Creek (USGS 1972; USFS 1961; Sweet Grass County highway map 1965; History of Land and Water Use in Irrigated Areas, Montana State Engineer’s Office 1950)

Case Summary: This proposal is to change the name of O’Hearn Creek, a 5.8-mile-long stream in Sweet Grass County, to Ahern Creek. The stream heads on the eastern slope of the Crazy Mountains, within the Lewis and Clark National Forest and flows onto private land where it enters the American Fork. The existing name was the subject of a 1975 BGN decision, following a request by the U.S. Geological Survey to correct the application of the name. There was a discrepancy between USGS maps, which agreed with the Sweet Grass County highway map, and the U.S. Forest Service map. There was no mention in 1975 file of any issue with the spelling of the name; the application was verified by a Forest Service district ranger and three local ranchers.

The proponent of the change believes the name should be corrected to recognize the name of the family that settled in the area. She provided a copy of a check that was written in 1913 to Thomas Ahern for the purchase of the family’s land. An online search of genealogical records indicates that Thomas and Annie Ahern lived in the small community of Hurst, where they operated a stage coach “stopping ranch” and a post office; Hurst was located approximately eight miles from O’Hearn Creek. Thomas Ahern died in Sweet Grass County in 1890. An article in the Big Pioneer Times in 1945 notes that the Aherns settled in the vicinity of American Fork “on what was later known as Ahern Creek”; the article states also that they are buried in a cemetery at the head of the stream. A Montana State Engineer’s Office report published in 1950 and entitled History of Land and Water Use in Irrigated Areas lists the stream’s name as O’Hearn Creek.

Change Squaw Creek to Williams Creek: stream; 17 mi. long; in Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument (Bureau of Land Management); heads 0.5 mi. S of Eagle Child Mountain at 47°55’18”N, 108°41’05”W, flows generally W then SW to enter Cow Creek; the name honors Francis Wysoski Williams (1894-1990), who homesteaded on nearby property and was a midwife for families in the area.; Blaine County and Phillips County, Montana; 47°51’17”N, 108°57’11”W; USGS map – Cow Island 1:24,000 (mouth of stream); Not: Squaw Creek.


Proposal: to change a name believed to be offensive and to apply a new commemorative name
Map: USGS Cow Island 1:24,000
Proponent: Gerry and Lorri Williams; Dodson, MT
Administrative area: Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument (Bureau of Land Management)
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
- GNIS: Squaw Creek (FID 777127)
- Local Usage: None found
- Published: Squaw Creek (USGS 1954, 1971, 2011)

Case Summary: This proposal is to change the name of Squaw Creek, a 17-mile-long tributary of Cow Creek in Blaine County and Phillips County, to Williams Creek. The downstream portion of the stream flows through the Upper Missouri River Breaks National Monument, which is administered by the Bureau of Land Management. The existing name has appeared on USGS topographic maps since 1954; the origin of the name has not been determined. The proposed replacement name was submitted by land owners along the creek, in response to a proposal by the Fort Belknap Community Council to change the name to Kills at Night Creek (BGN Review List 415). Both proponents believe the name Squaw Creek is offensive and should be changed. However, the proponents of Williams Creek believe a name that honors an individual with direct association with the stream would be more appropriate.

The proposed new name is intended to honor Francis Wysoski Williams (1894-1990). Francis was born on her parents’ ranch in the area and homesteaded on nearby property with her husband Edgar in 1920. Francis, in addition to raising her own five children, became the “midwife” of the area, because the nearest doctor was in Malta, 65 miles away. According to the proponents, “she delivered over 50 infants for mothers in the surrounding areas, never losing a single baby. She would stay with the new mother as needed and provided her service free of monetary charge.”

The Williams Creek proposal is endorsed by the Phillips County Commissioners and a petition signed by 32 local residents.

NEW YORK

Gray Brook: stream; 1.5 mi. long; in the Town of Rochester, heads at 41°51’50”N, 74°17’52”W, flows SE then E to enter Mettacahonts Creek 1.3 mi. NE of Tabasco; the name honors Stephen Gray (c.1797-?), Jacob Gray (c.1832-?), and Charles Gray (c.1875-?), early settlers along the stream; Ulster County, New York; 41°51’29”N, 74°16’49”W; USGS map - Kerhonkson 1:24,000.

Proposal: new commemorative name for an unnamed feature
Map: USGS Kerhonkson 1:24,000
Proponent: Richard Gray; Kerhonkson, NY
Administrative area: None
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
- GNIS: None found
Case Summary: The new commemorative name Gray Brook is proposed for a 1.5-mile-long tributary of Mettacahonts Creek in the Town of Rochester in Ulster County. The name is intended to honor Stephen Gray (born c.1797), who settled on the property through which the stream flows in the early nineteenth century, and his descendants Jacob Gray (c.1832-) and Charles Gray (c.1875-). The majority of the land has remained in the Gray family since then.

The proposal included letters of support for the name from the Town of Rochester Town Board, the Ulster County Planning Department, and the Friends of Rochester, Inc.

NORTH CAROLINA

Penland Creek: stream; 0.8 mi. long; heads in the community of West Asheville, 2.2 mi. WSW of White Fawn Gap at 35°34′40″N, 82°34′41″W, flows NNE to enter the French Broad River 2.2 mi. SSE of Richmond Hill; named in association with the Penland Auction House, the former site of which the stream flows through; Buncombe County, North Carolina; 35°35′14″N, 82°34′14″W; USGS map –Asheville, 1:24,000.
Mouth: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=35.58732&p_longi=-82.57066
Proposal: new associative name for an unnamed feature
USGS Map: Asheville 1:24,000
Proponent: Dave Russell; Asheville, NC
Administrative area: None
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
GNIS: None found
Local Usage: None found
Published: Penland Creek (Asheville Citizen-Times, 2014; New Belgium Brewing Company, 2014)

Case Summary: The new name Penland Creek is proposed for a 0.8-mile long tributary of the French Broad River in West Asheville. The stream flows through the site of the former Penland Auction House, which opened in the late 1950’s by Grover Penland and his son Johnny. According to the proponent, “[t]he Penland Auction House was a legend in the Asheville area,” hosting weekly auctions until 2013, when it moved to a new location. The site was also the former location of the Western North Carolina Livestock Market. In late 2015, the New Belgium Brewing Company will open a new brewery at the site and plans to improve the quality of the currently unnamed stream.

RiverLink, an Asheville-based non-profit focused on conserving the French Broad River drainage basin, sponsored a contest to name the stream. Final candidate names also included “Brewer’s Creek” after the brewery currently under construction at the site and “Trippel Creek” after one of the brewery’s notable beers. Support from the Asheville City Council for the name Penland Creek was provided with the proposal.
GNIS lists nine features in North Carolina that contain “Penland” in their official names; none are in Buncombe County. **Penland Branch** is located about 80 miles southwest; two valleys, a gap, and an island are found in the area. The populated place **Penland** and **Penland School** are 35 miles northeast. There are two cemeteries named **Penland Cemetery**, 24 and 38 miles northeast.

**NORTH DAKOTA**

**Searl Creek:** see **SOUTH DAKOTA**

**OREGON**

**Calanthe Creek:** stream; 1.3 mi. long; heads 1.3 mi. NW of Brightwood at 45°23’26”N, 122°02’07”W, flows S then W to enter the Sandy River; named for Inez Calanthe Mathisen (1892-1980), longtime owner of property along the stream; Secs 22,23&14, T2S, R6E, Willamette Meridian; Clackamas County, Oregon; 45°23’11”N, 122°03’21”W; USGS map – Brightwood 1:24,000.


Proposal: new commemorative name for an unnamed feature
Map: USGS Brightwood 1:24,000
Proponent: Diana Partin; Lake Oswego, OR
Administrative area: None
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
GNIS: None found
Local Usage: None found
Published: None found

Case Summary: The new name **Calanthe Creek** is proposed for a 1.3-mile-long tributary of the Sandy River in Clackamas County. The name is intended to honor Inez Calanthe Mathisen (1892-1980), who along with her husband Leonard, were longtime owners of property along the stream. In 1945, the Mathisens purchased the land, developing it into 23 riverfront recreational homesites. They retained five of the lots for their own use and by 1948 had “handcrafted a log cabin, cleared a large garden, and created their ‘Isle of Tranquility.’” According to the proponent, “For over 6 decades our family have enjoyed weekends, vacations, birthdays, weddings, and memorials with friends and family.” She notes that as a result of her family’s ongoing efforts to nurture the stream and its surrounding natural, native forest, the stream has been designated an Essential Salmonid Habitat by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and Oregon State Lands.

Letters of support from two neighbors were included with the application. The Oregon Geographic Names Board (OGNB) contacted the county government and historical society for comment. The Clackamas County Commissioners have no objection to the name. The
Clackamas County Historical Society responded with a concern that the proponent had not submitted a name with more historical significance to the area, noting that “although [Calanthe] is a pretty word it is also a type of orchid that does not grow in this area,” and as such the name could cause confusion; the society rendered a decision of “no preference.” As part of its research, the OGNB forwarded the proposal to the Oregon Legislative Commission on Indian Services, which in turn shared it with all federally recognized tribes in the State. No responses were received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion. The OGNB recommends approval of the name.

Change Keseberg Canyon to Kaseberg Canyon: valley, 4.4 mi. long; heads on the N slope of Basket Mountain at 45°49′47″N, 118°15′09″W, trends NW into the valley of Couse Creek 7.9 mi. SE of Milton-Freewater; named for Wilhelm “Billy” Kaseberg (1839-1896), a native of Germany who arrived in Oregon in 1861 and homesteaded in the area; Umatilla County, Oregon; Secs 2&11-13, T4N, R36E and Secs 7&18, T4N, R37E, Willamette Meridian; 45°51′03″N, 118°16′44″W; USGS map – Weston Mountain 1:24,000; Not: Keseberg Canyon.


Proposal: to change a name to reflect the correct spelling of a family name
Map: USGS Weston Mountain 1:24,000
Proponent: Larry and Sherry Kaseberg; Wasco, OR
Administrative area: None
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
   GNIS: Keseberg Canyon (FID 1122712)
   Local Usage: Kaseberg Canyon (family members)
   Published: Kaseberg Canyon (Familytree Heritage Library, 2014), Keseberg Canyon (USGS 1964; ORMAP 2014);
Case Summary: This proposal is to change the spelling of the name of Keseberg Canyon, a 4.4-mile-long valley in Umatilla County, to Kaseberg Canyon. Although the current name has appeared on USGS topographic maps since 1964, the proponents, who are members of the Kaseberg family, report that the feature was named for their ancestor Wilhelm “Billy” Kaseberg (1839-1896), a native of Germany who arrived in Oregon from Missouri in 1861 and homesteaded in the area. He was the first of three brothers to eventually settle in the area. Research indicates that the family name has been spelled various ways in land deeds and local histories, including Caseberg, Kaseberg, and Kaseburg.

The proposed change from Keseberg Canyon to Kaseberg Canyon is supported by the Umatilla County Board of Commissioners and the Umatilla County Historical Society Museum. As part of its research, the Oregon Geographic Names Board (OGNB) forwarded the proposal to the Oregon Legislative Commission on Indian Services, which shared it with all tribes having an interest in Oregon. The Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation responded that they support the name change. The OGNB also recommends approval of the change.
Change Squaw Creek to Wewa Creek: stream; 6.3 mi. long; heads at 44°33’25”N, 119°22’07”, flows WNW then NNE along the W side of Sheep Ridge to enter Donaldson Creek, 25 mi. NW of John Day; the name honors Northern Paiute Chief We-You-We-Wa; Grant County, Oregon; Secs 17, 19, 20, 30 & 31, T1S, R28E and Secs 6 & 5, T2S, R28E; Willamette Meridian; 44°36’58”N, 119°22’34”W; USGS map – Sheep Ridge 1:24,000 (mouth of feature); Not: Squaw Creek. 

Proposal: to change a name considered by some to be derogatory and to apply a new commemorative name

Map: USGS Sheep Ridge 1:24,000 (mouth of feature)

Proponent: Wilson Wewa; Warm Springs, OR

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: Squaw Creek (FID 1150255)

Local Usage: None found


Case Summary: This proposal is to change the name of Squaw Creek, a 6.3-mile-long stream in west-central Grant County, to Wewa Creek. The current name has appeared on USGS topographic maps since 1951. The proposed replacement name is intended to honor Northern Paiute Chief We-You-We-Wa (also spelled “Wewa” and “Weyawewa”). It was submitted by his great-great-grandson, present-day chief of the Paiute people, who states, “Prior to reservations, the Northern Paiute bands were very mobile and followed the traditional seasonal round of the foods and utilized both temporary and permanent camps and villages along their travel routes. I have no doubt that my great, great grandfather and his family visited Squaw Creek and used the stream for fishing. In those days resources were plentiful and water was clear, cold, and clean. The adjacent areas would have been used to gather other types of traditional foods, medicines, and raw materials.”

The Grant County Court recommends approval of the change from Squaw Creek to Wewa Creek, as does the Oregon Geographic Names Board.

PENNSYLVANIA

Bidwell Station Run: stream; 1.5 mi. long; in Ohiopyle State Park, in Henry Clay Township, heads at 39°50’02”N, 79°25’18”W, flows NE to enter the Youghiogheny River; the name refers to the historic site of Bidwell Station; Fayette County, Pennsylvania; 39°50’49”N, 79°24’12”W; USGS map – Ohiopyle 1:24,000.


Proposal: new associative name for an unnamed feature

Map: USGS Ohiopyle NE 1:24,000

Proponent: Stacie Hall; Ohiopyle, PA
Administrative area: Ohiopyle State 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 Bidwell Station Run to a 1.5-mile-long tributary of the Youghiogheny River in Henry Clay Township in Fayette County. The stream is also located with Ohiopyle State Park. The proponent, an assistant manager at the park, reports “This is a significant stream located near ruins of an old rail station and quarry site.” A geocaching website recounts the history of the name Bidwell Station: “The area on [the north] side of the river was the site of the Bidwell Lumber Company’s loading area for their logging operation. In 1904, prior to the building of the Western Maryland railroad through here, the Bidwell Lumber Co. had a sawmill on the other side of the river (the B&O side) and they used to haul logs across the river from here to their sawmill via an aerial cable system. After the Western Maryland came through on this side of the river, they began using the Western Maryland to ship their logs, eliminating the need for the cable system. There was a railroad station, of sorts, located here, but it was said to be nothing more than a small shelter.”

*** NOTE: The following proposal has been withdrawn, and replaced with the proposed name Tar Run (Review List 420) ***

Little Montgomery Run: stream; 1.9 mi. long; heads in Pike Township at 41°02’10”N, 78°33’22”W, flows SE then NE into Moshannon State Forest to join Montgomery Creek 4.6 mi. WNW of Clearfield; Clearfield County, Pennsylvania; 41°02’05”N, 78°31’42”W; USGS map – Elliott Park 1:24,000.

Proposal: new associative name for an unnamed feature
Map: USGS Elliott Park 1:24,000
Proponent: Thomas Pavlock; Juniper, FL
Administrative area: Moshannon State Forest
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
   GNIS: None found
   Local Usage: None found
   Published: None found

Case Summary: This 1.9-mile-long stream, proposed to be named Little Montgomery Run, is a tributary of Montgomery Creek. It heads in Pike Township and flows into Moshannon State Forest. The proponent, a native of Clearfield County who now lives in Florida, is a member of a hunting camp located near the stream; he believes the stream should be named because other tributaries have official names and because “it would give special meaning to this stream…as being part of the ‘Montgomery Creek’ watershed”.


There are four other streams in Clearfield County with names that include the word “Montgomery”: the aforementioned Montgomery Creek and its tributaries North Branch Montgomery Creek and West Branch Montgomery Creek. Another stream, named Montgomery Run, is located in Union Township and Pine Township and within a different watershed; its mouth is 5.4 miles to the northwest and its source 5 miles north of the source of the stream proposed to be named Little Montgomery Run. No specific information has been found regarding the origin of the name “Montgomery,” although a search of Census records shows that there have been numerous individuals with that surname in Clearfield County since the mid-nineteenth century. Montgomery Creek and Montgomery Run have both been labeled on USGS maps since 1929.

A query of GNIS found 84 features in Pennsylvania with names that contain the word “Montgomery.” Of these, five are streams and two are named Montgomery Run. One is in Washington County and the other is in Clearfield County as mentioned above.

**Wickel Run:** stream; 1.2 mi. long; heads in the Borough of Lansdale at Lansdale Cemetery at 40°14'12"N, 75°17'27"W, flows W then WSW into Upper Gwenydd Township to enter Towamencin Creek; named for Ralph J. Wickel (1921-2001), a native of Lansdale who served in World War II, had a successful tennis career, and was employed as a teacher and in the publishing business; Montgomery County, Pennsylvania; 40°13'47"N, 75°18’33”W; USGS map – Lansdale NE 1:24,000.


Proposal: new commemorative name for an unnamed feature

- Map: USGS Lansdale NE 1:24,000
- Proponent: Andrew Schleppi; Denver, CO
- Administrative area: None
- Previous BGN Action: None
- Names associated with feature:
  - GNIS: None found
  - Local Usage: None found
  - Published: None found

Case Summary: The new name Wickel Run is proposed for a 1.2-mile-long stream in Montgomery County. The stream heads in the Borough of Lansdale and flows into Upper Gwenydd Township where it enters Towamencin Creek. The proposal is intended to honor Ralph J. Wickel (1921-2001), a native of Lansdale, who served in World War II in the highly classified 23rd Headquarters Special Troops, also known as the “Ghost Army.” The troop's mission involved tactical deception activities in the European theater. Following his military service, Wickel returned to Pennsylvania and went on to have a successful tennis career. He participated in three U.S. National Championships (known today as the US Open). He was also employed as a teacher and in the publishing business.
Change Greenville Branch to Butterfly Creek: stream; 2.2 mi. long; in the City of Spartanburg, heads 0.5 mi. NW of Rutledge College at 34°57′28″N, 81°56′50″W, flows SE then S to enter Fairforest Creek 0.6 mi. NE of Arkwright; Spartanburg County, South Carolina; 34°55′51″N, 81°56′13″W; USGS map – Spartanburg 1:24,000 (mouth); Not: Greenville Branch, Nasty Branch, Nasty Creek.


Proposal: to change a name to recognize local preference
Map: USGS Spartanburg 1:24,000
Proponent: Jack Turner; Spartanburg, SC
Administrative area: None
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
GNIS: Greenville Branch (FID 2770821)
Local Usage: Nasty Branch (Trees Coalition 2014)
Published: Butterfly Creek (City of Spartanburg Northside Initiative Master Plan, 2014)

Case Summary: This 2.2-mile-long tributary of Fairforest Creek in the City of Spartanburg is proposed to be renamed from Greenville Branch to Butterfly Creek. The stream heads in a spring that was historically used as a source of fresh water for local textile mills. For many years the stream was piped underground, but efforts are now underway to redevelop the blighted area, which will include “daylighting” the stream and developing a linear park. A system of trails within the new artificial riparian zone will connect Cleveland Academy, a local elementary school, to a nearby farmers’ market. The name Butterfly Creek was proposed by students at Cleveland Academy.

Prior to receipt of this proposal, no name was recorded for the stream in GNIS. However, numerous sources have been uncovered that refer to the stream as Greenville Branch, including an 1849 deed of conveyance; a 1912 Sanborn fire insurance map; Census enumeration records from 1930; a 1940s U.S. Bureau of Soils map; and a 1944 Spartanburg Herald article. More recently, the name has appeared in news articles and blogs from the late 1980s through 2008, as well as in a 2014 environmental report published by Wofford College and another, also from 2014, published jointly by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control. As a result of this evidence, the name Greenville Branch has been added to GNIS and the proposal for Butterfly Creek is now being processed as a name change.

The proponent notes that the stream is also occasionally referred to as Nasty Branch or Nasty Creek, because it was believed to have been used as a disposal area for human waste and other trash. The former name appeared in a 2006 Kudzu Telegraph news update and is mentioned on a Trees Coalition page on Facebook. In 2013-14, the proponent, a professor of biology at University of South Carolina Upstate received a grant from the college for his project entitled “Renaming Nasty Creek.” The City of Spartanburg’s Northside Initiative Master Plan (2014) refers to “the creek, known locally as the ‘Nasty Branch’ but soon to be renamed as Butterfly Creek” as “a significant new environmental asset for the entire City.”
The Manager of the City of Spartanburg Streets and Stormwater Department recommends approval of the proposed name.

A query of GNIS found no geographic features in South Carolina using the word “Butterfly” in their names.

SOUTH DAKOTA

Change Harney Peak to Black Elk Peak: summit; elevation 7,211 ft.; in Black Hills National Forest/Black Elk Wilderness, 5 mi. NE of Thunderhead Mountain, 1.6 mi. SW of Elkhorn Mountain; the name honors Black Elk (1863-1950), a Lakota spiritual leader who reported having a vision on the summit; Sec. 21, T2S, R5E, Black Hills Meridian; Pennington County, South Dakota; 43°51’58”N, 103°31’53”W; USGS map – Custer, 1:24,000; Not: Great Owls Nest, Harney Peak, Harneys Peak, Harney’s Peak, Hinhan Kaga, Hinhan Kaga Paha, Mount Harney, Okawita Paha, Opihata I, Saint Elmo Peak.  

Proposal: to change a name considered by some to be offensive  
Map: USGS Custer 1:24,000  
Proponent: Basil Brave Heart; Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, SD  
Administrative area: Black Hills National Forest/Black Elk Wilderness  
Previous BGN Action: Harney Peak (BGN 1906)  
Names associated with feature:  
GNIS: Harney Peak (FID 1261770)  
Local Usage: Hinhan Kaga Paha (Lakota Indians), Harney Peak (local civic and tourism boards, books, web sites)  

Case Summary: The new name **Black Elk Peak** is proposed for the summit currently named **Harney Peak**. This summit is located in the Black Elk Wilderness of Black Hills National Forest in Pennington County in southwestern South Dakota. It is the highest point not only in the State but also east of the Rocky Mountains in North America. The summit has been labeled **Harney Peak** on U.S. Geological Survey topographic maps since 1896 and on U.S. Forest Service maps since 1988. It was reportedly first applied to the summit in 1864 or 1865.

Black Elk or Nicholas Black Elk (1863-1950) was a revered Oglala Lakota holy man. His life’s story became widely known after the publication of *Black Elk Speaks* by John G. Neihardt. This book contains Neihardt’s English translations of Black Elk’s autobiographical stories. In this book, Black Elk says that when he was nine years old, he was sick for twelve days, during which time he had a great vision. Part of this vision included travelling to the top of this summit which he described as the center of the world and about which he said: “round about beneath me was the whole hoop of the world. And while I stood there I saw more than I can tell and I understood more than I saw.” Later in life, he hiked to the top of the mountain with Neihardt. Black Elk’s teachings on sacred rituals have inspired many Lakota and non-Lakota to take up traditional ceremonies and study Native spirituality. He revived the Sun Dance rituals and his version is now celebrated by Lakota traditionalists, often at Devils Tower National Monument at the feature known to them as “Bear Lodge.” Black Elk became a Catholic and stressed the concordance between Lakota and Christian religions.

The summit is one of the most holy sites of the Lakota. Early each spring at the summit, the Lakota hold ceremonies known as Yate Iwakicipi or “welcoming back the thunders,” in which they pray for rain, help, and strength.

The proponent believes that the summit is desecrated by the name of General William S. Harney, who participated in atrocious attacks on American Indians early in his military career. Particular objection is raised about his role in the Battle of Ash Hollow in September 1855. A year earlier, a small contingent of soldiers led by Lieutenant John Lawrence Grattan was killed by a group of Lakota after an escalated negotiation over a slaughtered cow. Harney’s attack was sent in retaliation for this so-called “Grattan Massacre.” Harney and his men were reportedly brutal in their attack, killing women and children. The Lakota later called him “Squaw Killer,” “Woman Killer,” or “The Butcher.”

A review of a 2001 biography of Harney describes him as “the veritable Forrest Gump of the mid-century frontier.” Harney was involved in many frontier conflicts between 1818 and 1863, including wars with Black Hawk the Sauk, the Seminoles, the Lakota Sioux, and tribes in Texas. He served with distinction in the Mexican War in battles at Veracruz, Cerro Gordo, and Mexico City. While in command of the Army’s Department of Oregon, he sent
forces led by Captain (later General) George Pickett to San Juan Island after an American settler killed a British settler’s pig. The resulting standoff with British warships was quickly de-escalated and Harney was recalled to Missouri. There he was soon embroiled in the violence of “Bleeding Kansas” as well as secessionist militia activities after the start of the American Civil War. For not dealing with the rebels harshly enough, President Lincoln recalled Harney to Washington where he served as an administrator after being captured in Virginia enroute and being offered a command by Robert E. Lee. After the Civil War, Harney worked as a peace negotiator with Plains American Indian Tribes, many of whom were the same ones he fought against in the Sioux Wars. He urged the U.S. Government to improve the treatment of native tribes and to honor past treaties. He retired to Florida and died in Orlando. After his death, the Lakota conferred to him the name “Man-who-always-kept-his-word.”

A BGN decision in 1906 approved the singular form Harney Peak. In 1970, a proposal was submitted by two residents of California to change the name to Black Elk Peak. The proponents stated, “The American Indian culture, displaced by the Anglo-American, needs reassertion for the health and depth of American culture as a whole. New impulses of ethnic self-awareness are quickening our American consciousness. Re-naming of Harney Peak for Black Elk would be an act both of restitution and of creative imagination, for the future.” The Acting Commissioner of the Bureau of Indian Affairs submitted a letter in support of the change, stating, “[Black Elk’s] story sweeps the whole gamut of human experience, from humor to pathos, from wit to profound mystic insight, from lonely everyday living to high heroism and tragedy. In his youth Black Elk hunted bison, rounded up wild horses, and wandered over half a continent. Later he traveled all over Europe with Buffalo Bill and met Queen Victoria. Always he watched the Wasichu (white man) taking over the land that belonged to his fathers.” However, the BGN decided to take no action, stating, “Since Harney Peak is a name of historical significance and is a former Board decision, the Committee expressed the need for compelling reasons to warrant consideration of the proposal. No formal action was taken.” The proponent was advised that there would likely be more support if an unnamed feature was selected instead to honor Black Elk.

The change was proposed again by a different proponent in 1973; again, the BGN declined to take any action, citing a reluctance to change “well-established” names and a belief that there would not be local or State support for the change. An online search for references to Harney Peak shows that in 2011 the Lower Brule Sioux Tribe passed a resolution requesting the name Harney Peak “revert to its Lakota name, Hinhan Kaga Paha, or such other name acceptable to the affected communities in the Black Hills region.” However, this resolution was never forwarded to the BGN.

A few independent petitions have been set up to request a name change. A 2010 causes.org petition requested the name be changed to Hinhan Kaga Paha. A September 2014 change.org petition, submitted by the Lakota Way Healing Center to President Obama, asks that the name be formally changed to Hinhan Kaga or Hinhan Kaga Paha, which is translated as “Great Owls Nest.” In 2009, a group known as Defenders of the Black Hills asked the National Park Service to designate “Okawita Paha National Monument”; the group refers to the summit as both “Okawita Paha” and “Opahata I.”
A letter of support for the change from Harney Peak to Black Elk Peak has been submitted to the South Dakota Board on Geographic Names (SDBGN) by a first cousin, seven times removed of General Harney. Two additional letters of support have been received from South Dakota residents.

In addition to Black Elk Wilderness, GNIS includes records for a few other features with “Black Elk” in their names. Black Elk - Neihardt Park in Nebraska is named for Black Elk and John Neihardt. Black Elk Elementary School in Douglas, Nebraska is also named for Black Elk. It is unclear if Black Elk Creek, on the Rosebud Indian Reservation east of Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, is named for Black Elk.

Many features in GNIS have names that contain “Harney.” A number are named for General Harney or associated with Harney Peak, including Harney, a small community in the Black Hills. (The nearby Harney Ranger Station appears to no longer exist.) Verendrye Hill, near Pierre, was initially named Harney Hill after the peak. Several features in areas where Harney served in the U.S. Army have names honoring him. These include features in Florida such as Harney Point (in Fort Myers, the site of an attack on Harney and his men), Harney Lake (near Orlando), and Harney River and North Harney River (in the Everglades); Harney County, Oregon, which contains Harney Lake and many other associated features (the name origins of Harney Holes and Harney Well, outside Harney County, are unknown); and Harney Channel, in Washington’s San Juan Islands. Others include Harney, Nevada (an abandoned railroad siding); Harney, Maryland; and Harney Creek in Albany County Wyoming.

Dells Island: island; 1.9 sq. mi.; located along the Big Sioux River, just to the SW of the City of Dells Rapids; Minnehaha County, South Dakota; Secs 16,17,20&21, T104N, R49W, Fifth Principal Meridian; 43°48’24”N, 98°43’46”W; USGS map – Dell Rapids 1:24,000. http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=43.8065446&p_longi=-96.7267173

Proposal: new associative name for an unnamed feature
Map: USGS Dell Rapids 1:24,000
Proponent: City of Dell Rapids Board of Aldermen
Administrative area: None
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
GNIS: None found
Local Usage: None found
Published: None found

Case Summary: The new name Dells Island is proposed for a 1.9-square-mile island located along the Big Sioux River in Minnehaha County. Just south of the City of Dells Rapids, the Big Sioux River divides into two distinct branches, reuniting again approximately three miles downstream. The name Dells Island would apply to the area between the two branches, which is believed to be the largest island in South Dakota. The more easterly branch flows through cliffs of red quartzite known as the Dells of the Sioux.
The proposal for Dells Island was submitted by the Board of Aldermen of the City of Dell Rapids in response to a previous proposal to name the feature Quarry Island. The latter name refers to the fact that a large quarry exists at the north end of the island; Quarry Road also crosses the island in this area. However, the City government indicated that it would prefer the name Dells Island. After holding a public hearing and learning that the Minnehaha County Commission would defer to the City, the South Dakota Board on Geographic Names voted to recommend approval of the name Dells Island.

Searl Creek: stream; 7.3 mi. long; heads 1.7 mi. SE of Becker Lake at 45°59’31”N, 100°19’14”W, flows SSW then SSE to enter Lake Pocasse 0.9 mi. N of Pollock; named for Charles Robert Searl (1856-1921) and Emma Searl (1859-1945), who settled on property along the stream in 1905; Campbell County, South Dakota and Emmons County, North Dakota; Secs 9,8,5&4, T128N, R78W and Secs 34,27,28, 21&16, T129N, R77W, Fifth Principal Meridian; 45°55’00”N, 100°17’29”W; USGS map – Pollock 1:24,000.

Mouth:

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=45.9166666666667&p_longi=-100.29138888889


Proposal: new commemorative name for an unnamed feature
Map: USGS Pollock 1:24,000
Proponent: James Pollock; Pierre, SD
Administrative area: None
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
    GNIS: None found
    Local Usage: None found
    Published: None found

Case Summary: The new name Searl Creek is proposed for a 7.3 mile-long stream that heads in Emmons County, North Dakota and flows south into Campbell County, South Dakota, where it enters Lake Pocasse north of the community of Pollock. The name is intended to honor Charles Robert Searl (1856-1921) and Emma Searl (1859-1945), who settled on property that includes the downstream portion of the stream in 1905. The 1920 Federal Census of Campbell County lists Charles and Emma Searl as general farmers. The proponent reports that the area has long been known as “the Searl Place.” Numerous descendants of the Searls submitted letters in support of the proposal. The Spring Valley Cemetery Association, the Pollock Visitor/Interpretive Center, the City of Pollock Town Board, and the Campbell County Commission also support the name. After soliciting input at a public hearing and receiving no objections, the South Dakota Board on Geographic Names (SDBGN) voted to recommend approval of the name Searl Creek. The SDBGN also asked the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe of the Cheyenne River Reservation, the Crow Creek Sioux Tribe of the Crow Creek Reservation, the Lower Brule Sioux Tribe of the Lower Brule Reservation, the Rosebud Sioux Tribe of the Rosebud Indian Reservation, and the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, all of which are federally recognized, to comment on the proposal. No response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion.
TENNESSEE

**Flatrock Falls:** falls; approx. 25 ft. high; located just outside Falling Water Falls Natural Area on the Cumberland Escarpment, 2.4 mi. ENE of Fairmount, 6.7 mi. NW of Chickamauga Dam; named for the flat rock on the top of the falls; Hamilton County, Tennessee; 35°11′30″N, 85°17′06″W; USGS map – Fairmount 1:24,000. [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=35.191575&p_longi=-85.2850761](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=35.191575&p_longi=-85.2850761)

Proposal: new name for an unnamed feature
Map: USGS Fairmount 1:24,000
Proponent: Steve Rogers; Chattanooga, TN
Administrative area: None
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
   GNS: None found
   Local Usage: None found
   Published: None found

Case Summary: This approximately 25-foot high falls is located along an unnamed stream on the Cumberland Escarpment in Hamilton County, just outside Falling Water Falls Natural Area. The proposed name Flatrock Falls refers to a flat rock located at the top of the falls. According to the proponent, the falls are a common destination for local hikers.

A query of GNIS for Tennessee for the word “Flatrock” found 14 records: one locale, one falls, one school, and 11 streams. Flatrock Falls is in Morgan County, approximately 80 miles to the northeast.

**Freudenberg Falls:** falls; approx. 40 ft. high; located in Falling Water Falls Natural Area, 2 mi. SW of the community of Falling Water, 2 mi. ENE of Fairmount; the name is reportedly associated with settlers from Freudenberg, Germany; Hamilton County, Tennessee; 35°11′38″N, 85°17′09″W; USGS map – Fairmount 1:24,000. [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=35.1938007&p_longi=-85.2858258](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=35.1938007&p_longi=-85.2858258)

Proposal: to make official a name in local use
Map: USGS Fairmount 1:24,000
Proponent: Steve Rogers; Chattanooga, TN
Administrative area: None
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
   GNS: None found
   Local Usage: None found
   Published: None found

Case Summary: This proposal is to make official the name Freudenberg Falls for a 40-foot-tall falls in Falling Water Falls Natural Area in Hamilton County. The proponent reports that he first heard the name as a child 42 years ago. His mother told him the name refers to
Freudenberg, Germany, the home town of many of the area’s early settlers. The name has not been found on any published sources.

**Change Kelley Mountain to Kelly Mountain**: summit; elevation 2,830 ft.; in Frozen Head State Park and Natural Area, extending S from Indian Knob, 1.5 mi. W of Petros; named for James Martin Kelly (1802-1863) and four generations of the Kelly family who have lived near the base of the mountain since the early 19th century; Morgan County, Tennessee; 36°05’39”N, 84°28’16”W; USGS map – Petros 1:24,000; Not: Dedden Mountain, Kelley Mountain.


Proposal: name change to correct the spelling of a family name
Map: USGS Petros 1:24,000
Proponent: John Kelly
Administrative area: Frozen Head State Park and Natural Area
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
  GNIS: Kelley Mountain (FID 1290009)
  Local Usage: None found
Published: Dedden Mountain (USGS 1936), Kelley Mountain (USGS 1946, 1952; Esri base map; listsofjohn Morgan County peaks; www.peakery.com)
Case Summary: This proposal is to correct the spelling of the name of Kelley Mountain, a 1.2-mile long, 2,830-foot summit in Morgan County, to Kelly Mountain. The summit also lies within Frozen Head State Park and Natural Area. The name Kelley Mountain has been labeled on USGS topographic maps since 1946, and field work conducted in 1952 did not uncover any concerns regarding the name. (The 1936 USGS topographic map labeled the feature Dedden Mountain; the origin of this name has not been determined, nor is it clear why the name was changed ten years later.)

The proponent of the change from Kelley Mountain to Kelly Mountain, a member of the Kelly family, states, “This mountain sits next to land historically occupied by the Kelly family. There is not, and was not, a Kelley family in the area.” Genealogical records confirm that James Martin Kelly and four generations of his descendants resided in a house located near the base of the summit. The house still stands today, as one of the earliest landmarks in the area. Census records for Morgan County and gravestones in the local cemetery show that the family name was spelled Kelly. Two emails from descendants of James Kelly in support of the spelling change have been received.

**Twelve Stones Creek**: stream; approx. 0.6 mi. long; heads in the City of Nashville at 36°05’27”N, 86°48’13”W, flows NE to enter West Fork Browns Creek 2.4 mi. NE of Radnor Lake; the name refers to an ancient Israelite practice of erecting twelve stones to mark important events or places; Davidson County, Tennessee; 36°05’42”N, 86°47’38”W; USGS map – Oak Hill, 1:24,000.
Proposal: new name for an unnamed feature
Map: USGS Oak Hill 1:24,000
Proponent: Ginger Reasonover; Nashville, TN
Administrative area: None
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
GNIS: No record
Local Usage: None found
Published: None found

Case Summary: The new name Twelve Stones Creek is proposed for an unnamed 0.6-mile long stream in southern Nashville. According to the proponent, the stream begins on the grounds of the Lipscomb Academy elementary school. Students from the school chose the name as part of their work with Lipscomb University and the Academy’s S.T.R.E.A.M. project (Students Taking Responsible Environmentally Active Measures), “an environmental restoration and education project.” The name is a reference to a practice in ancient Israel of erecting twelve stones (one for each of the twelve tribes) to mark locations of spectacular religious events or locations. The name has no specific significance to the feature; the proponent reports that it was selected as a “generic reference.” The Director of the Nashville Division of Water Services recommends approval of the name Twelve Stones Creek.

According to GNIS, numerous features in Tennessee have names that contain the word “stone” or “stones.” The nearest to the feature in question is Stones River which flows along the eastern edge of Nashville about ten miles to the east.

**TENNESSEE**

**Gordon Lake:** reservoir; approx. 2.5 acres; located 1.5 mi. ENE of Thurber, 2.7 mi. SSW of Gordon; named for the nearby community of Gordon; Palo Pinto County, Texas; 32°30’48”N, 98°23’31”W; USGS map –Strawn East 1:24,000.

Proposal: new associative name for unnamed feature
USGS map: Strawn East 1:24,000
Proponent: Chris Hamilton; TX
Administrative area: None
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
GNIS: None found
Local Usage: None found
Published: None found

Case Summary: The new name Gordon Lake is proposed for an unnamed 2.5-acre reservoir located in Palo Pinto County southwest of the community of Gordon. This reservoir was first shown on USGS topographic maps in 1984.
The reservoir is located on a private ranch. According to real estate Web sites, the ranch is known under various names including “Thurber Ranch,” “Gordon Lake Ranch,” and “Palo Pinto Ranch.” The last name seems to be the most recent land sale listing in June 2014.

GNIS has records for Gordon City Reservoir and Gordon City Reservoir Dam located approximately 1.8 miles to the north-northeast of the feature in question. In addition, GNIS lists several administrative features associated with Gordon. The populated place Gordon Junction is 4.6 miles to the east-northeast. Several other lakes or reservoirs in Texas are named Gordon Lake: one 100 miles north, one 180 miles northeast, and two others approximately 270 miles to the southeast.

**UTAH**

*** NOTE: The following proposal has been withdrawn ***

**Change O’Sullivan Peak to Sunrise Peak:** summit; elevation 11,276 ft.; in Wasatch National Forest/Twin Peaks Wilderness; named for the way the peak “captures the morning’s early light through fall, winter, and spring”; Salt Lake County, Utah; Sec. 3, T3S, R2E, Salt Lake Meridian; 40°35’27”N, 111°42’41”W; USGS map – Dromedary Peak 1:24,000; Not: O’Sullivan Peak.


Proposal: to change a name to recognize long-time local and published use
Map: USGS Dromedary Peak 1:24,000
Proponent: Arie Leeflang; Utah Geographic Names Committee
Administrative area: Wasatch National Forest/Twin Peaks Wilderness
Previous BGN Action: O’Sullivan Peak (BGN 1978)
Names associated with feature:
  GNIS: O’Sullivan Peak (FID 1436056)
  Local Usage: Sunrise Peak
Case Summary: This proposal is to change the name of O’Sullivan Peak, an 11,276-foot summit in Wasatch National Forest/Twin Peaks Wilderness in Salt Lake County, to Sunrise Peak. The proponent, who serves as chair of the Utah Geographic Names Committee, reports that despite the BGN’s approval of the current name in 1978 and the fact that it has been published on USGS and Forest Service maps between 1998 and 2014, it has never come into local usage and predominant usage continues to be Sunrise Peak. The BGN’s 1978 case file notes that a U.S. Forest Service employee submitted the name O’Sullivan Peak to honor Timothy H. O’Sullivan, a photographer with the King Survey Expedition (1867-1869) and the Wheeler Expedition (1871-1875). Although O’Sullivan published hundreds of photos of the west, and, according to the proponent, visited Salt Lake City and may have seen the peak
that was later named for him, there is no evidence of any direct association between O’Sullivan and the summit. There is considerable evidence that the name Sunrise Peak was in local use prior to the 1978 BGN decision, although none was provided at the time of the decision. The name has since been found in several guide books, including the 1976 edition of Wasatch Tours (Kelner and Hanscom). Since then, the name has also appeared in various hiking and skiing guides to the Wasatch Mountains, and in the volume Backroads and Byways of Utah (2011).

The name Sunrise Peak reportedly refers to the peak’s ability to capture the morning’s early light through the fall, winter, and spring (in summer, it is partially shaded by the summit of Dromedary Peak). The proponent of the name change believes that O’Sullivan undoubtedly deserves to have a feature named for him, but that this summit should be given the name by which it is widely known.

There is another summit named Sunrise Peak in Juab County, 54 miles to the southwest; it serves as the type locality for a formation of the Triassic Period known as the Sunrise Peak Monzonite Porphyry.

**WYOMING**

**Change Devils Tower to Bear Lodge:** populated place (unincorporated); located 8 mi. SW of Hulett; Sec. 8, T53N, R65W, Sixth Principal Meridian; Crook County, Wyoming; 44°35'21"N, 104°41'48"W; USGS map – Devils Tower, 1:24,000; Not: Devil’s Tower, Tower.  
Proposal: to change a name considered by some to be derogatory  
Map: USGS Devils Tower 1:24,000  
Proponent: Arvol Looking Horse  
Administrative area: None  
Previous BGN Action: None  
Names associated with feature:  
GNIS: Devils Tower (FID 1604684)  
Local Usage: Devils Tower (U.S. Post Office; local businesses: restaurant/gift shops, KOA campground; Crook County GIS 2015)  
Case Summary: This proposal is to change the name of the small unincorporated community of Devils Tower to Bear Lodge. It was submitted in connection to the proposal to change the name of Devils Tower (q.v.), the prominent landmark within Devils Tower National Monument. The community lies just outside the entrance to the monument, and comprises Devils Tower Post Office, the monument visitor center, a campground, and a few shops. The community was first labeled on National Park Service brochures in 1949. A Rand McNally map of 1924 labeled it simply Tower.
Change Devils Tower to Bear Lodge: summit; elevation 5,125 ft.; located in Devils Tower National Monument, 8.4 mi. SW of Hulett, 44 mi. NE of Gillette; the name is the English translation of a native name for the feature; Sec. 7, T53N, R65W, Sixth Principal Meridian; Crook County, Wyoming; 44°35′26″N, 104°42′55″W; USGS map - Devils Tower 1:24,000; Not: Aguay Za-Quid-Ipe, Aloft on a Rock, Bad Gods Tower, Bad God’s Tower, Bear Lodge Butte, Bear Peak, Bear Tipi, Bear’s House, Bear’s Lair, Bears Lodge, Bear’s Lodge, Bear’s Tipi, Brown Buffalo Horn, Chan-hoo-tah-ah, Che Paha, Dabicha Asow, Dabiche Asow, Daxpitchee Awaasuua, Daxpitche’e Awaasuua, Deh bee nes, Devils Tower, Devil’s Tower, Four Sisters (in part), Ghost Mountain, Goo /see/ werr/ ed, Gray Sacred Horned Pipe, Great Gray Horn, Grey Buffalo Horn Grey Horn Butte, Grizzly Bear Lodge, Grizzly Bear’s Lodge, Grizzly Bears’ Lodge, He Hota Paha, Home of the Bear, Maeho Wakupe, Matoothi, Matoothipi, Matoothipila, Mathó Thípila, Mateo Tepee, Mato Teepee, Mato Tepee, Mato Tipi, Mato-Tipi, Mato Tipila, Mato Tipila Paha, Mato Tipi Paha, Mythic/owl Mountain, Náhkohevee’e, Nakoeve, Nakoe vet, Na’koo! Vee!, Na Kovea, Na Kovehne, Penis Mountain, Ptehé Či, Pte He Gi, Ptehé Háota, Pte Hé Háota, Tower, Tree Rock, Tso-aa, Tsoai, Tso-ai, Tso-i-e, T’sotsedle, Tso-sedle, T’sou’a’e, T’sou'a'e, Wanaghipaha, Wáx nee nun, we'shaBeNar, Wiwayang Wachipi Paha, Wox-nii-non, Wox Niihon.


Proposal: to restore a native name and remove a name considered by some to be offensive

Map: USGS Devils Tower 1:24,000
Proponent: Arvol Looking Horse
Administrative area: Devils Tower National Monument
Previous BGN Action: Devils Tower (BGN 1904)
Names associated with feature:
GNIS: Devils Tower (FID 1609083)
Local Usage: Bear Lodge (local writers’ group, 2015), Devils Tower (many local tourism books and web sites)
Published: Aguay Za-Quid-Ipe (Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office 2001); Aloft on a Rock (NPS reports and Web site 1994, 1997); Bad Gods Tower (Urbanek, Wyoming Place Names); Bad God’s Tower (Richard I. Dodge, 1876; Newton-Jenny Report 1880); Bear Lodge (NPS brochures, reports, and Web site 1994, 1997, 2006, 2007, 2009, 2011, 2015; U.S. War Department 1868, 1869, 1876; U.S. Army 1874; USACE 1874; Newton-Jenny Report, 1876, 1880; USGGS 1879; G.W. & C.B. Colton & Co. 1872; Stedman, Brown & Lyon 1873, 1874, 1878; Asher & Adams 1874, 1875; Stedman & Brown 1884; Major General H. L. Scott, letter 1920; NPS reports and Web site 1994, 1997); Bear Lodge Butte (NPS Web site 1994); Bear Peak (NPS Web site 1994); Bear Tipi (NPS report 1997); Bear’s House (NPS Web site 1994); Bear’s Lair (NPS Web site 1994); Bears Lodge (Lloyd & Co. 1873; Stedman, Brown & Lyon 1873); Bear’s Lodge (U. S. War Department, 1859; NPS reports and Web site 1994, 1997); Bear’s Tipi (NPS reports and Web site 1994, 1997, 2015); Chan-hoo-tah-ah (Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office 2001); Che Paha (Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office 2001); Dabicha Asow (Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office 2001); Molyneaux, “Topographical Scale as Ideological and
Case Summary: The new name Bear Lodge is proposed for the summit currently named Devils Tower. This prominent geologic feature is located in Devils Tower National Monument in northeast Wyoming on the edge of the Black Hills. It rises over 1,000 feet above the surrounding landscape and is an important geologic example of columnar jointing, a sacred site for the Lakota and other American Indian tribes, and a popular tourist and rock climbing destination.

The proponent, a neutral mediator speaking on behalf of a Spiritual Leader of the Lakota Nation, objects to the name Devils Tower for such a holy site. She wishes to have the name changed to Bear Lodge, a native name with current and historical usage, stating, “The Devils Tower name is offensive because it equates cultural and faith traditions practiced at this site to ‘devil worship,’ in essence equating indigenous people to ‘devils.’ The Devils Tower name is perceived by indigenous elders, leaders and individual tribal members as highly offensive…and [it] serves as a constant irritant that causes…ongoing resentment in their community.” A related proposal is to change the name of the populated place named Devils Tower to Bear Lodge.

About 40 million years ago, a phonolitic magma (with a composition between that of granites and basalts) intruded into sedimentary rocks and cooled. Geologists debate the shape of this intrusion and whether any of it reached the surface as lava or ash, but this intrusion resisted weathering as the overlying and surrounding sediments eroded away. The feature is composed of long columns of rock which formed as the magma cooled similar to the way that cracks form in drying mud.

The summit is a crucial part of many American Indian tribes’ spirituality, rituals, and cosmology. Many tribes have similar stories about how it was formed. Most involve a group of people being chased by a bear onto a rock. This rock is then raised high out of the reach of the bear which left long claw marks in the side as it tried to climb. The summit is known by numerous names in many native languages, but many are variations on “Bear Lodge” or “Bear Tipi.”

A study commissioned by the National Park Service in 1997 found evidence that six tribes likely have historic cultural connections to the summit: Eastern Shoshone (though evidence is inconclusive), Crow, Kiowa, Cheyenne, Arapaho, and Lakota (with the strongest evidence). The area around the summit within the National Monument had been used as a sacred Lakota
ceremonial site; modern celebrations have been held there since 1983. It is the fourth stop in
the annual “Journey Seeking Sacred Goodness” that holds ceremonies at major sacred
features in the Black Hills. Around the summer solstice, Lakota hold the Sun Dance, “a
ceremony of fasting and sacrifice that leads to the renewal of the individual and the group as
a whole,” according to an NPS document. The Lakota refer to the summit as Mato Tipila, or
Bear Lodge.

The first American explorers to refer to the feature in their records were part of an 1859
expedition led by Captain William F. Raynolds. In an 1857 report, he called the summit
Mato Teepee and the official 1859 map from the expedition labels it as “Mato Teepee or
Bear’s Lodge.” Variations on the name Bear Lodge appear on many expeditionary, survey,
and commercial atlas maps until the 1880s. An 1875 expedition under Lieutenant Colonel
Richard I. Dodge was sent after gold and other mineral resources were discovered in the
Black Hills. Surveyors from his crew reported the summit’s name as Bear Lodge, but a
popular 1876 book by Dodge stated that “the Indians call this shaft ‘The Bad God’s Tower,’
a name adopted, with proper modification by our surveyors.” The phrase evolved into Devils
Tower and the memorable and evocative, if inappropriate to American Indians, name stuck.
Scholars believe that poor translation by someone in Dodge’s party caused the name change.
In Lakota, devil or “bad god” is wakansica (pronounced wah-KON-she-cha) whereas black
bear is wahanksica (pronounced wah-ON-ksee-cha).

The area around the summit was designated Devils Tower National Monument by President
Theodore Roosevelt in 1906 and was the Nation’s first National Monument. The proponent
has also asked the Monument be renamed but has been advised that this would require an Act
of Congress or Executive Order.

With the exception of the 113th, a bill has been introduced into each Congress since the
106th to retain the name Devils Tower for the summit.

The monument and the summit are part of an ongoing controversy between tourist and
climbing use and sacred Lakota use. The monument’s management asked for a voluntary
ban on climbing during the month of June. This ban was challenged based on the First
Amendment, with the argument that the NPS was endorsing one religion over others. A
judge dismissed the case in 1998, writing that the ban was “in the nature of accommodation,
not promotion, and consequently is a legitimate secular purpose.”

Shoshone names for the summit include Goo /see/ werr/ ed (translated as “Grey Rock
Standing Up”), we'shaBeNar (translated as “Gourd-its-Butte”), or Aguay Za-Quid-Ipe
(translated as “Bear Scratchings”). Crow names include variations on Dabicha Asow which
can be translated as “Bear House” or “Bear Lodge”. The preferred spelling, according to the
Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office is Daxpitchee Awaasuua. Cheyenne names for
the summit include variations on Nakoeve, which can be translated as “Bear Lodge” or “Bear
Tipi”. The preferred spelling, according to the Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office
is Na'koo! Vee!. Arapahoe names include variations on Woox-niii-non and Deh bee nés
which can be translated as “Bear Lodge” and “Broken Horn” respectively. The Wyoming
State Historic Preservation Office also lists Na Kovea (“Bears’ Lodge” or similar) as an
Arapahoe name, but this name is similar to Cheyenne names. Kiowa names are variations on Tso-i-e, which can be translated as “Tree Rock”, “Standing on a Rock”, or “Aloft on a Rock”. Lakota names are many and include variations on Mato-Tipi, Mato Tipila, or Mato Tipi Paha; and He Hota Paha or Pte He Gi, which can be translated as “Grey Horn Butte”.

According to an NPS document, “over twenty tribes” [sic] have potential cultural affiliation with Devils Tower National Monument. Eight of these are currently listed in the Native American Consultation Database as having an interest in Crook County, along with a ninth not included on the NPS list.

According to the proponent, the name Bear Lodge has widespread national support from members of many tribes and from “Americans of Caucasian descent.”

The proponent believes the name should be changed because (1) the name Devils Tower was applied based on a faulty translation; (2) the name is offensive to the religious practices of the Lakota; and (3) the Board has “a firm policy prohibiting the inclusion of a word in an official geographic name considered by the Board to be derogatory to any racial, ethnic, gender, or religious group.” She contends the name Bear Lodge is apt because it is a correct translation of several of the native names for the tower, it is “currently in regular usage, therefore this formal change would not cause confusion,” the name is historically well-documented, has widespread national support, and “it corrects the patently offensive name.” The proposal references “a bi-partisan, interfaith petition that includes Wyoming residents and signatories from across the nation, as well as letters of support from human rights organizations, religious leaders, tribal authorities and indigenous elders.” The proponent requests that the name change be considered and decided before “the centennial year of the National Park Service and the 110th anniversary celebration of the monument in September 2016.”

According to GNIS, the only landform feature in Wyoming that includes the name “Bear Lodge” is Bear Lodge Mountains located between ten and twenty miles to the east. Within these mountains are five administrative features with names that include “Bear Lodge”: two mines, a ranch, a National Forest campground, and a National Forest lookout tower (known either as Bear Lodge Mountain Lookout Tower or Warren Mountain Lookout Tower). Many maps from the 1800s as well as many online sources, including Google Earth and Google Maps, label the highest point in the Bear Lodge Mountains as “Bear Lodge Mountain.” That name is not official for federal use. The name Bear Lodge Mountains was the subject of a 1904 BGN decision. The question at the time was whether the name was one word or two.

The Bearlodge Ranger District of the Black Hills National Forest encompasses most of the Bear Lodge Mountains; GNIS records the name of the ranger station as Sundance District Ranger Station.