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 map services showing the location of the feature. A copy of this Review List has also been posted to the BGN’s website at https://usgs.gov/geonames/domestic-names.

Comments on the name proposals may be sent to: Research staff, U.S. Board on Geographic Names/Domestic Names Committee, 523 National Center, Reston, VA 20192-0523; (703) 648-4550; or e-mail BGNEXEC@usgs.gov.

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

**ALABAMA**

**Celeste Lake**: lake; 5.5 acres; in the City of Saraland, on an unnamed tributary of Bayou Sara; named for the nearby community of Celeste and Celeste Road; Sec 25, T2S, R2W and Sec 30, T2S, RW, Saint Stephens Meridian; Mobile County, Alabama; 30°50′43″N, 88°07′30″W; USGS map – Chickasaw 1:24,000 (central point).

Proposal: to make official an associative name in local use
Map: USGS map – Chickasaw 1:24,000 (central point)
Proponent: Jon Lieber; Mobile, AL
Administrative area: None
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
GNIS: No record
Local Usage: Celeste Lake (proponent’s development company, < 1 year)
Published: None found

Case Summary: This proposal is to make official the name Celeste Lake for a 5.5-acre reservoir in the city of Saraland in Mobile County, and along an unnamed tributary of Bayou Sara. The reservoir was constructed between 2002 and 2005. It is not recorded in NHD and has never been shown on USGS maps.

Mobile County recently approved a housing development named “The Estates at Celeste Lake,” which is to be built by the proponent’s development company. The proponent states that the name refers to a town named Celeste that was planned to be built in the area by the Gulf Coast Fruit Farm Company in 1913. Even though the town was never built, the name remained in local use in both Celeste Road, which passes the reservoir, and an unincorporated community named Celeste, 3.5 miles to the north.

A different planned housing development named Celeste Springs is located 4.7 miles to the north-northeast and is owned by the Celeste Land Company or Celeste Springs, LLC.

**ALASKA**

**Jade Lake**: lake; approx. 300 acres; S of the Mulchatna River, 3.6 mi. NE of Half Cabin Lake, 7.6 mi. SE of Whitefish Lake; named for the color of the lake’s water; Secs 28,29,&21, T9N, R31W, Seward Meridian; Lake and Peninsula Borough, Alaska; 60°50′45″N, 154°47′39″W; USGS map – Lake Clark D-5 SW 1:25,000.

Proposal: new descriptive name for unnamed feature
Map: USGS map – Lake Clark D-5 SW 1:25,000
Proponent: Samuel Carroll; Big Lake, AK
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 Jade Lake is proposed for an approximately 300-acre lake in Lake and Peninsula Borough south of the Mulchatna River. The proponent reports that he owns the only cabin on the lake and that the name refers to the color of the lake’s water.

There are five natural features in Alaska with “Jade” in their names, but none are near the proposed Jade Lake.

**Jade Mountain**: summit; elevation 3,030 ft.; on Alaska State land, 2 mi. SW of Toolik Lake; named for the color of the moss-covered tundra around the summit; Sec 36, T9S, R10E, Umiat Meridian; North Slope Borough, Alaska; 68°37’07”N, 149°40’32”W; USGS map – Philip Smith Mountains C-5 1:63,360.


Proposal: to make official a name in local use
Map: USGS Philip Smith Mountains C-5 1:63,360
Proponent: Liam Gerry; New Fairfield, CT
Administerial area: James Dalton Highway Corridor (State of Alaska)
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
GNIS: No record
Local Usage: Jade Mountain (seasonal researchers)
Published: Jade Mountain (*Smithsonian*, 2008)

Case Summary: This proposal is to make official the name Jade Mountain for a 3,030-foot summit near Toolik Lake in North Slope Borough. The summit is in the James Dalton Highway Corridor, managed by the State of Alaska, and the name has been used for several years by seasonal researchers at the nearby Toolik Field Station, which is operated by the Institute of Arctic Biology. The summit is a popular hike for the researchers. The name refers to the color of the moss-covered tundra around the summit.

GNIS lists a range named Jade Mountains over 200 miles to the southwest. There are four other natural features in Alaska with “Jade” in their names, but none are near the proposed Jade Mountain. This Review List includes a proposal to apply the new name Jade Lake to a small lake from this summit.

**Change Fish Creek to Red Horn Creek**: stream; 48 mi. long; heads 2 mi. N of Lynx Lake at 61°40’05”N, 150°03’31”W, flows generally SW to enter the Susitna River; named because the stream flows through Red Shirt Lake and Flat Horn Lake; Matanuska-Susitna Borough, Alaska; 61°21’56”N, 150°30’04”W; USGS map – Tyonek B-2 SE 1:25,000 (mouth); Not: Cheechako Gold Creek, Ggisgaht'intnu, Tanltun Betnu, Tanltuntnu, Tudli Benach'Titaytuntnu.


Proposal: to change a name to eliminate duplication
Map: USGS map – Tyonek B-2 SE 1:25,000 (mouth)
Proponent: Stuart Grenier; Anchorage, AK
Administrative area: None
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
  GNIS: Fish Creek (FID 1402102)
  Published: Cheechako Gold Creek (Shem Pete’s Alaska, 2003); Fish Creek (USGS 1949, 1951, 1958, 1965); Ggisgaht'intro (Shem Pete’s Alaska, 2003); Tanltun Betnu (Shem Pete’s Alaska, 2003); Tanltunnu (Dena’ina Topical Dictionary, 2007); Tudli Benach’ Titaytuntnu (Shem Pete’s Alaska, 2003)

Case Summary: This proposal is to change the name of Fish Creek, a 48-mile-long tributary of the Susitna River in Matanuska-Susitna Borough, to Red Horn Creek. The name references the two lakes the stream flows through, Red Shirt Lake and Flat Horn Lake.

The proponent is requesting the name be changed to eliminate confusion with other streams in the area also named Fish Creek. He referred to a report of a fire on Fish Creek and assumed it was the stream near his property and other cabins on Red Shirt Lake, before realizing that it was on a different Fish Creek in another drainage. He states that “[s]afety in identifying between numerous creeks in the area of the same name requires that the creek that runs between [sic] Red Shirt Lake and Flat Horn Lake have a distinct name. . . .” (Although the proposal describes the stream as being only between the two lakes, it actually heads above Red Shirt Lake, flows through Flat Horn Lake, and then into the Susitna River.

The current name has been shown on USGS maps since 1949. West Fork Fish Creek is a distributary of Fish Creek near the latter’s mouth. If the name of Fish Creek is changed, West Fork Fish Creek would be a distributary of Red Horn Creek.

GNIS lists a number of native names for the stream, citing the 2003 volume Shem Pete’s Alaska: Cheechako Gold Creek, Ggisgaht’intro, Tanltun Betnu, and Tudli Benach’ Titaytuntnu. The Dena’ina Topical Dictionary (2007) listed the variant Tanltunnu. A few other streams in the area have official names in Dena’ina which were added to GNIS from Shem Pete’s Alaska. The proponent suggests the replacement name “should have a distinct name that can be pronounced by both English Speakers and speakers of the language of the Dena’ina.” He notes that one of the variant names includes the word “Gold” but that the area is not known for gold.

GNIS lists 36 streams in Alaska named Fish Creek, not including features with names like West Fork Fish Creek or other modifiers. Two of these are in Matanuska-Susitna Borough, and at their closest are 7 and 14 miles from the stream in question.

Tammo Island: island; 1 acre; in Surf Bay, 1.45 mi. off the coast of Akun Island in the Alaska Maritime Wildlife Refuge; the word “tammo” reportedly means “little one” in the Netherlands province of Groningen; Sec 35, T69S, R111W, Seward Meridian, Aleutians East County, Alaska; 54°09'45"N, 165°38'09"W; USGS map – Unimak A-5 NW 1:24,000.
Proposal: new name for unnamed feature
Map: USGS map – Unimak A-5 NW 1:24,000
Proponent: Bram de Jong; Boornbergum, Netherlands
Administrative area: Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge
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 Tammo Island to an unnamed one-acre island located off of the coast of Akun Island, in Surf Bay, in Aleutians East County and the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge. The proponent is a resident of the Netherlands; he reports that the word “tammo” means “little one” in the Netherlands province of Groningen.

The Molar: ridge; elevation 5,277 ft., 1.8 mi. long; in Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, S of Atigun Gorge, 3 mi. ESE of Galbraith Lake; named for the summit’s similarity to the shape of a molar tooth as seen from above; Secs 34&33, T11S, R12E, Umiat Meridian; North Slope Borough, Alaska; 68°26′55″N, 149°18′08″W; USGS map – Philip Smith Mountains B-4 1:63,360.
https://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesricoor?p_lat=68.44852&p_longi=-149.3021
Proposal: to make official a name in local use
Map: USGS Philip Smith Mountains B-4 1:63,360
Proponent: Liam Gerry; New Fairfield, CT
Administrative area: Arctic National Wildlife Refuge
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
     GNIS: No record
     Local Usage: Molar (seasonal researchers); Molar Mountain (seasonal researchers); Molar Ridge (seasonal researchers); The Molar (seasonal researchers)
     Published: None found
Case Summary: This proposal is to make official the name The Molar for a 1.8-mile-long ridge on the south side of the western end of Atigun Gorge in North Slope Borough and within Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. The ridge’s highest point is 5,277 feet.
The proponent reports that the name has been used for several years by seasonal researchers at the nearby Toolik Field Station (operated by the Institute of Arctic Biology) and that it refers to the topography to the south of the ridge.

This ridge, along with a small ridge just to the south and the valley in between, resembles the shape of a molar tooth as seen from above. The highest point is a popular hike for the researchers, some of whom mention the name on their blogs, along with “Molar,” “Molar Mountain,” and “Molar Ridge.”

In 2017, the BGN approved the name Molar Rock for a tooth-shaped pillar in New Mexico.

**Upper Lane Lake**: lake; approx. 30 acres; 4 mi. E of Blair Lake, S of McKenzie Creek; named in association with nearby Lane Creek; Sec 4, T28N, R4W, Seward Meridian; Matanuska-Susitna Borough, Alaska; 62°32’52”N, 150°02’08”W; USGS map – Talkeetna C-1 SE 1:25,000.

Proposal: to make official a name in local use
Map: USGS map – Talkeetna C-1 SE 1:25,000
Proponent: Ryan Kingsbery
Administrative area: Alaska State Lands
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
GNIS: No record
Local Usage: **Upper Lane Lake** (~50 years by bush pilots)
Published: None found

Case Summary: This proposal is to make official the name Upper Lane Lake for an approximately 30-acre lake in Matanuska-Susitna Borough. The lake is located above Lane Creek and east of the Susitna River, and on State-managed lands.

According to the proponent, “[t]he name ‘Upper Lane Lake’ has been used locally for at least the past 50 years. Well-known float plane pilot, Cliff Hudson, and many other bush pilots have referred to the lake as **Upper Lane Lake** since the late-1960s.”

USGS maps show a locale named Lane west of the lake along the Susitna River.

**ARIZONA**

**Barger Hill**: summit; elevation 2,937 ft.; in the City of Tucson, 2.1 mi. W of Sentinel Peak, 2.6 mi. NE of Cat Mountain; named for George Charles Barger (1924-2016), who lived below the summit and was active in his local community; Secs 16&17, T14S, R13E, Salt River Meridian; Pima County, Arizona; 32°12’37”N, 111°01’42”W; USGS map – Cat Mountain 1:24,000.

Proposal: new commemorative name for an unnamed feature
Map: USGS map – Cat Mountain 1:24,000
Proponent: Robert Barger; Tucson, AZ
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 Barger Hill is proposed for an unnamed 2,937-foot summit in the City of Tucson in Pima County. The name would commemorate George Charles Barger (1924-2016), a U.S. Navy and WWII veteran who lived below the summit from 1982 to 2013.

The proponent, Mr. Barger’s son, reports that his father “was a revered church elder at the Church of the Painted Hills not far from the summit in question. He served as a volunteer at St. Marys Hospital located within walking distance of the summit. His volunteer efforts also extended to the local little league. George Barger left a lasting impact for those fortunate enough to know him and was a beloved figure and leader within the community that surrounds the summit.”

The proponent added, “Assurance by the housing development located at base of landmass, ‘Lennar at Starr Pass Vistas,’ in March of 2019 that said landmass is unnamed.” A portion of the summit is included within Starr Pass Resorts Easements, managed by Pima County Natural Resources, Parks, and Recreation.

According to GNIS, there are no other features in Arizona with “Barger” in their names.

Change Negrohead to Blackhead Butte: summit; elevation 3,024 ft.; on Bureau of Land Management lands, 2.3 mi. NW of Oatman, 2 mi. SW of Battleship Mountain; Secs 9&4, T19N, R20W, Gila and Salt River Meridian; Mohave County, Arizona; 35°03’15”N, 114°24’28”W; USGS map – Oatman 1:24,000; Not: Negrohead, N_ Head. 

Proposal: to change a name considered offensive
Map: USGS map – Oatman 1:24,000
Proponent: Stavros Basis; Lincroft, NJ
Administrative area: Bureau of Land Management lands
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
  GNIS: Negrohead (FID 8565)
  Local Usage: None found

Case Summary: This proposal is to change the name of Negrohead, a 3,024-foot summit on Bureau of Land Management (BLM) land in Mohave County, to Blackhead Butte. The proponent states that the feature is a “butte-looking volcanic feature near Oatman, AZ . . . and ‘Negrohead’ is unacceptable. Please change it to anything else, even unnamed.” He did not
provide a reason for choosing the proposed name and was informed that the BGN’s Principle VI does not allow for features, once named, to be unnamed.

The current name was shown on the U.S. Geological Survey maps published between 1967 and 1990; it was not labeled on the 1995 edition. Arizona Bureau of Mines Bulletin No. 131, Geological Series No. 6, titled “Geology and ore deposits of the Oatman and Katherine Districts, Arizona” (1931) referred to the summit as “the N[] Head.”

The current name likely refers to the black, volcanic rocks on top of the summit. A small barrel cactus (Echinocactus polycephalus) native to the Mojave Desert was formerly known as the “n[] head” cactus. It now has the common name “cottontop cactus,” or in some sources, “harem cactus,” “many-headed barrel cactus,” “cotton top cactus,” or “woolly-headed barrel cactus.” It is not known if the cactus is found in the area around the summit. Place name books on Arizona features do not include any details on the name. Gudde and Bright’s 1998 California Place Names noted that “the term ‘N[]head’ in place names may refer not to the head of a Negro, but rather to a flanged drum on a winch, used for winding lines—also called a ‘gypsyhead.’” The 1996 Dictionary of American Regional English contains an extensive list of uses of the words Negrohead and N[]head.

GNIS lists 16 natural, non-historical features with “Negrohead” in their names. Ten are summits, six of which are named simply Negrohead or The Negrohead. There is another summit named Negrohead in Mohave County, 96 miles to the north-northeast and also on BLM lands. In addition to the two features described in Mohave County, there is a third summit that was shown with the name N[]head on USGS maps published in 1939 and 1961; it has an elevation of 4,894 feet and is located 26 miles to the northeast of the summit in question. The name was not shown on the 1964 edition of the map or on any later larger-scale maps, nor is it listed in GNIS. The name was mentioned in the 1909 USGS Bulletin 397 titled “Mineral Deposits of the Cerbat Range, Black Mountains, and Grand Wash Cliffs, Mohave County, Arizona.” This summit is also on BLM lands.

Change Valle to Grand Canyon Junction: populated place (unincorporated); elevation 5,994 ft.; at the intersection of U.S. Route 180 and State Route 64, 23 mi. S of the entrance to the South Rim side of Grand Canyon National Park; T26N, R2E, Gila and Salt River Meridian; Coconino County, Arizona; 35°39’13”N, 112°08’19”W; USGS map – Valle Tank 1:24,000; Not: Valle.

Proposal: name change to recognize local use and eliminate confusion
Map: USGS Valle Tank 1:24,000
Proponent: Nathan Schott; Flagstaff, AZ
Administrative area: None
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
GNIS: Valle (FID 24672)
Local Usage: **Grand Canyon Junction** (local residents)
Published: **Grand Canyon Junction** (local website, 2021; many third-party websites); **Valle** (USGS 1989, 2011, 2014, 2018)

Case Summary: This proposal is to change the name of the unincorporated community of Valle in Coconino County to Grand Canyon Junction. It was submitted by a member of the Grand Canyon Junction Coalition, who suggests the change “would not only reduce confusion but is thought to facilitate economic development of the area” and “signifies the junction of Arizona State Route 64 and U.S. Hwy. 180 . . . the junction of two major arteries for vehicular traffic to and from Grand Canyon National Park [GRCA].”

The proponent reports that the community “has at all times been referred by local residents as Grand Canyon Junction, or just ‘The Junction,’” and that “the name Valle is often confused by the large number of non-residents visiting the Grand Canyon with ‘the Valley’ of ‘the Valley of the Sun,’ which is a colloquial term for the Phoenix metropolitan area approximately 200 miles to the South.” He notes that “the community known as Valle or Grand Canyon Junction is located in an unincorporated area of Coconino County, and is locally understood to encompass approximately 12 townships, or 430 square miles in Northern Arizona.”

The coalition’s website reports that it is “a group of residents and stakeholders interested in growing our community, living comfortably off-grid and crafting a vision for the area’s future. We value the people, businesses, wildlife and scenic vistas of our area, and want to ensure the future is one that we can all be proud of.” The coalition ran a survey in 2020; as of November 8, 86% of participants supported the change, 9% were opposed, and 5% were unsure. Approximately half of the participants were area residents, while the rest were non-residents who owned property in the area.

The coalition’s website also reports, “A fitting name for the region can facilitate the type of attitude, pride and vision that will bring meaningful change to our community and Northern Arizona . . . Renaming Valle to ‘Grand Canyon Junction’ would facilitate development, reduce confusion and protect scenic beauty. An attractive name can facilitate increased investment in the area. An appealing and geographically appropriate name permits the area to be marketed for what it is, an important Gateway Community to [GRCA]. The attractive name reminds the community of the unique topography and scenic beauty travelers experience on their way to and from [GRCA].”

The name Valle first appeared on USGS maps at this location in 1989. Earlier maps applied the name to a railroad siding to the west; that area is currently recorded in GNIS as a locale named Valle Siding. Valle Airport, adjacent to the community, was first labeled on USGS maps in 1962. A small reservoir near the siding is named Valle Tank and provided the name for the 1:24,000-scale quadrangle.

In 2020, the Coconino County Board of Supervisors passed a resolution supporting the change. The Mayor of the Town of Tusayan, located at the southern entrance of the park, also supports the proposal.
A populated place named Grand Canyon (BGN 1988) is located within GRCA, with Grand Canyon Village recorded as a variant name (the Census Bureau also records Grand Canyon Village Census Designated Place).

CALIFORNIA

*** Note: see also counterproposal for Avi Kwalal (Review List 446)

**Chesed Hills**: summit; elevation 891 ft., approx. 1.75 miles long, 1.4 mi. wide; on the Fort Yuma Reservation and in the Pilot Knob Area of Critical Environmental Concern (Bureau of Land Management) at the SE end of Pilot Knob Mesa, 7.2 mi WNW of Yuma; the name is the Hebrew word for the loving kindness of God; Secs 27,26,35&34, T16S, R21E, San Bernardino Meridian; Imperial County, California; 32°43’56”N, 114°44’48”W; USGS map – Yuma West 1:24,000 (highest point); Not: Avie Quah-la-Altwa, Avi kwalal, Avikwalal, Cerro de San Pablo, Ha-bee-co-la-la, Ha-bee-co-la-la, Pilot Peak, Pilot Knob, Pilot Ridge, San Pablo, Sierra Culaya.


Proposal: name change

Map: USGS map – Yuma West 1:24,000 (highest point)

Proponent: Victor Rivera; Reseda, CA

Administrative area: Fort Yuma Reservation / Pilot Knob Area of Critical Environmental Concern (Bureau of Land Management)

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: Pilot Knob (FID 247467)

Local Usage: Avi Kwalal (Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Indian Reservation); Pilot Knob (Bureau of Land Management)


Case Summary: This proposal is to change the name of Pilot Knob in Imperial County, to Chesed Hills. Pilot Knob is 1.75 miles long and 1.4 mi. wide, with an elevation of 891 feet, located in the southeastern corner of California. The eastern third of the range is located on the
Fort Yuma Reservation, while the western two-thirds is within the Bureau of Land Management’s Pilot Knob Area of Critical Environmental Concern. The southeastern part is cut by the All-American Canal, which appears to be managed by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation.

The proponent wishes to name the range with the Hebrew word that represents the “loving kindness of God towards humanity.” He states that his “Judeo-Christian church community... prays for our nation and especially, our great state of California. We have prayed for our beautiful state, on ground in physical locations, all throughout the state of California. We have all also prayed for our state on every corner tip. One day, while praying at the south-eastermost part of the state, we noticed that the hill we were gathered on had no name. I thought of proposing a name to those hills to always commemorate the year 2020 and serve as a reminder to always be praying for the ‘Chesed,’ or ‘loving kindness’ of God.”

In the proposal, the proponent quoted the beginning of the Wikipedia entry for the word and concept of “chesed”: “Chesed (Hebrew: סֶדחֶ, also Romanized ḥesed) is a Hebrew word. In its positive sense, the word is used of kindness or love between people, of the devotional piety of people towards God as well as of love or mercy of God towards humanity.” The concept of chesed is a primary virtue in Jewish ethics, and in Modern Hebrew the word can refer to charitable organizations. It is also a sephirot in Kabbalah.

The Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Indian Reservation is adamantly opposed to the proposal and reports that they call the mountain Avi Kwalal. They add “The mountain is revered as a sacred location in the Quechan culture and is deeply tied to the larger traditional cultural landscape. The Quechan people have a traditional name for this feature – Avi Kwalal. It has been known by this name to the Quechan since time immemorial and is still a part of our cultural patrimony.”

A report prepared for the Bureau of Land Management in 2002 titled “An Assessment of the Imperial Sand Dunes as a Native American Cultural Landscape” reported:

A few miles north of Xuksil [a Quechan settlement], about 2 miles east of the Sand Dunes, on the west side of the Colorado River, is the small mountain formation known as Pilot Knob (Avi kwalal). The small mountain just south of the main mass of Pilot Knob is called Avi kwinnur. Pilot Knob is a striking physical feature in the visual landscape of the eastern side of the Dunes. A number of tribes of the Lower Colorado region are associated with Pilot Knob in the ethnohistoric record, including the Quechan, Kamia, Halchidhoma, Kaveltcadom, Cocopah, Paipai, and Mohave. It has been identified as a seasonal campground for Cocopah, Quechan, Halchidhoma, and Kamia (Desert Planning Staff Field Notes 1979). Quechan and Cocopah consultants identified Pilot Knob as a boundary between joint Quechan/Kamia holdings and Cocopah land (Woods Field Notes [WFN] 1978-1980).

Pilot Knob is sacred to the Quechan and other Lower Colorado tribes. It is the point of departure and return for the all-important Keruk (mourning) ceremony, a place where dreams and visions were received, and figures importantly in the creation myths of the
Yuman Tribes of the Lower Colorado region. The mountain contains evidence of habitation sites, rock art, rock rings, trails, and numerous lithic and sherd scatters.

The Xam Kwatchan Trail or trail network (Baksh 1997; Johnson 2001; Bee 1982; Forbes 1965) was a major travel corridor that connected Avikwame (Newberry Mountain near modern-day Needles, California) and Avikwalal (Pilot Knob near Yuma). This trail has major cultural and religious significance to Yuman groups, as well as serving to facilitate secular travel. The name is translated from Quechan as “another coming down” (Forbes 1965) and refers to the origin story of the Quechan and other Yuman groups. All peoples were first created at Avikwame, and the Xam Kwatchan was the route they took as they migrated to the south. Subsequently, religious practitioners returned to Avikwame for spiritual guidance, traveling along the Xam Kwatchan, physically or in a dream state. In the beginning, when the Creator died and was cremated at Avikwalal, the first Keruk ceremony was held, including a pilgrimage along the Xam Kwatchan. Subsequently, pilgrimages along this trail were part of the Keruk. It was said that the pilgrimage took four days to accomplish.

A report prepared for the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation in 2002 titled “Imperial Irrigation District Water Conservation and Transfer Project Final EIR/EIS” reported:

The AAC [All-American Canal], from Pilot Knob to Drop 4, traverses through land that contains the remains of cultural activity from prehistoric times until recent historic periods. The Pilot Knob area, which is adjacent to the AAC near Yuma, is one of the most significant and sensitive cultural resource areas in the Colorado Desert. Pilot Knob, which contains abundant and diverse archaeological remains, was the focus of traditional ceremonies and symbolism for the Quechan, Cocopah, Kamia, and possibly other Indian groups. Pilot Knob and parts of the gravel terraces on its south side are sacred in the religious practices of the Quechan Indian Tribe, on whose behalf the BLM has restricted public access. Pilot Knob has been established as an Area of Critical Environmental Concern along the AAC to protect archaeological and Native American cultural resources (Reclamation 1994).

Although current USGS maps and GNIS place the name Pilot Knob on the second-highest peak in the range at the location of the “West Pilot” survey marker, earlier maps appear to apply it to the highest peak. Historical use of the name clearly referred to the entire range. Erwin Gudde’s 1969 California Place Names reported: “Pilot Knob [Imperial]. This black rock was called San Pablo in WU Anza’s diary entry of February 10, 1774. The present name was used as early as 1846 by soldiers, surveyors, and immigrants, and seldom has a name been applied more appropriately. The Indian name for the knob was Ha-bee-co-la-la (Whipple, 1849), or Avie Quah-la-Altwa (Emory, Report, p. 104). Avi or habi is the Yuman word for ‘mountain.’”

The “West Pilot” survey mark datasheet, provided by the Coast and Geodetic Survey, contains several references to the name Pilot Knob:
• the 1934 station description: “station is on the highest point of the SW end of the main ridge of Pilot Knob, 3/8 mile SW of the aviation beacon site which is on the highest point of the mountain.”
• a 1964 station recovery report: “the station is located about 7 miles west of Yuma, 2 miles north of U.S. Highway 80, 1/4 mile southwest of an aviation beacon, at the southwest end of the main ridge of Pilot Ridge [sic].”
• another 1964 station recovery report: “the station is located on the western end of a prominent ridge known as Pilot Knob, that has a beacon on it.”
• a 1974 station recovery report: “the station is located 7 miles west of Yuma, 3/4 mile south of I-8, 1/2 mile north of the All American Canal and on the highest [sic] and most westerly peak of Pilot Knob. To reach the station... bear left and go southeast for 1.15 miles to the base of Pilot Knob and a trail leading southwest. Pack southwest to the top of the ridge for about 1 hour and the station on the most westerly peak.”

Historical references to the name Pilot Knob generally apply the name to the entire range:
• The 1851 Report of the Secretary of War [Whipple Report]: “we came to the foot of ‘Pilot knob,’... an isolated mountain, [that] rises above us to the height of about fifteen hundred feet [sic] [this report gives the Yuma word for Pilot Knob as Ha-bee-co-là-là and the Yuma word for Pilot Range as Que-you-so-wiu-a; it is unknown to what feature Pilot Range refers.]
• William H. Emory’s 1857 Report on the United States and Mexican Boundary Survey: “Seven and a half miles below the post [Fort Yuma], is another high, prominent, and isolated hill, called Pilot Knob [Part I, page 103].... In passing up the river on the right bank to the junction of the Gila, we encounter a rocky ridge abutting directly on the river bank; thence rising inland into high rugged peaks, it forms the “Pilot Knob range. [page Part I, 128; this seems to refer to a separate feature upstream from the unnamed range that includes the present-day Pilot Knob]... Eight miles below Fort Yuma another trace of the action of earthquakes is exhibited on the eastern foot of the Sierra Culaya, or Pilot Knob, as it is styled by the Americans. [Part II, page 98].”
• William P. Blake’s 1858 Report of a Geological Reconnaissance in California: “Another object made its appearance. ... Pilot Knob, an isolated elevation on the banks of the Colorado River [page 110]”
• George Wharton James’ 1906 The Wonders of the Colorado Desert (Southern California): “Pilot Knob is a well-known landmark that has guided many a weary traveler over the desert. ... It rises, solitary, from the Colorado River plain, a few miles southeast [sic] of Yuma. [page 81]”

Change Chinaman Creek to China Creek: stream; 3.7 mi. long; in Stanislaus National Forest, heads 2.2 mi. NE of Dry Meadow at 38°14’37”N, 120°05’30”W, flows generally S to enter the Middle Fork Stanislaus River; named for Chinese immigrants’ contributions to the area; Tps4&5N, R17E, Mount Diablo Meridian; Tuolumne County, California; 38°12’03”N, 120°04’56”W; USGS map – Strawberry 1:24,000; Not: Chinaman Creek.
Proposal: to change a name considered offensive
Map: USGS Strawberry 1:24,000
Proponent: Michael Willis; USFS
Administrative area: Stanislaus National Forest
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
  GNIS: Chinaman Creek (FID 1655229)
  Local Usage: None found

Case Summary: This proposal is to change the name of Chinaman Creek, a 3.7-mile-long tributary of the Middle Fork Stanislaus River in Tuolumne County, to China Creek. The stream is located in Stanislaus National Forest and the change is proposed by the U.S. Forest Service (USFS).

This is a counterproposal to a proposal that would change the name to James Wong Howe Creek (Review List 440), which would commemorate an Academy Award-winning cinematographer. The proposal for China Creek states, “Our proposal also seeks to remove a term which is most often used in a derogatory manner to people of Chinese descent. Our proposal in no way seeks to minimize the cinematography achievements of Mr. Howe, but he did [not] have any association or make any contribution to the area per USBGN Policy III. Our proposal seeks to retain the historical and cultural reference to the Chinese immigrants’ contribution to the area that Chinaman Creek offered, while removing a name derogatory to Chinese people.”

The name Chinaman Creek appeared in a 1938 article in The Union Democrat about logging railroad activities in the area. It was labeled on USGS maps in 1956, 1993, and 2012, and was published in USFS documents in 1972. No information about its specific origin could be found, but presumably it referred to Chinese immigrants who worked on railroad projects in the area.

Granite Face Lake: reservoir; approx. 5 acres; on a private inholding in Tahoe National Forest, on North Creek approx. 1.5 mi. upstream from Fordyce Lake; named for the steep granite slope adjacent to the northeast side of the reservoir; Sec 29, T18N, R4E, Mount Diablo Meridian; Nevada County, California; 39°23’47”N, 120°25’41”W; USGS map – Webber Peak 1:24,000.
  Proposal: new name for unnamed feature
  Map: USGS map – Webber Peak 1:24,000
  Proponent: Ronald Krump; Reno, NV
  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 Granite Face Lake is proposed for an approximately 5-acre unnamed reservoir in Nevada County and within a private inholding in Tahoe National Forest. The reservoir is on North Creek upstream from Fordyce Lake. The name refers to the steep granite slope adjacent to the northeast side of the reservoir.

GNIS does not list any nearby lakes or reservoirs with “Granite” in their names. There is a stream named Granite Creek that flows into Fordyce Creek 9 miles to the southwest.

**The Duke:** summit; elevation 7,390 ft.; in Stanislaus National Forest on the boundary of Emigrant Wilderness; named for John Wayne (1907-1979), famous actor, and as a tribute to cowboys and guides that have worked at a station below the summit; Secs 12&11, T5N, R20E, Mount Diablo Meridian; Tuolumne County, California; 38°17’30”N, 119°44’04”W; USGS map – Sonora Pass 1:24,000.

Proposal: new commemorative name for unnamed feature
Map: USGS map – Sonora Pass 1:24,000
Proponent: Paul Davis; Rancho Murieta, CA
Administrative area: Stanislaus National Forest / Emigrant Wilderness
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
GNIS: No record
Local Usage: None found
Published: None found

Case Summary: The new name The Duke is proposed for an unnamed 7,390-foot summit in Tuolumne County and within Stanislaus National Forest along the boundary of the Emigrant Wilderness.

The name would commemorate John Wayne (1907-1979), born Marion Robert Morrison and nicknamed “Duke” or “The Duke”. The proponent reports, “For the past quarter century, members of our international fraternal organization have been going to Kennedy Meadows; a working hunting and packing station in the High Sierras. “The Duke” pays homage to one of our past members, John Wayne, and is a fitting tribute to all cowboys and guides who work at the station. . . . In addition to the 179 films he appeared in, John Wayne was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, fought to preserve wild lands, and raised millions of dollars for cancer research.”

BGN staff asked for a justification to override the Wilderness Geographic Names Policy. The proponent responded with the following: “You won't find an area steeped in more history and tradition. . . . for the good part of a century, the resort [the station in Kennedy Meadows] has served as a pack station offering guided trips to campers, fisherman and hunters, eager to experience some of the hardest to reach alpine lakes and valleys in the High Sierra. In addition, many hikers of the Pacific Crest Trail journey through Kennedy Meadows. The unnamed mountain in this proposal is the first major geographic feature that hikers and packers see once they leave the resort on the main trail to the high country. . . .
“The horsemen and horsewomen who guide these trips are a special breed of wilderness guide, using a hard earned combination of wilderness skills, backcountry knowledge and years of experience that allow safe travel to the heart of the Sierras. It is these amazing outdoorsmen who inspired the idea to name a unique mountain, at the head of Kennedy Meadow after a famous horseman, actor, director and philanthropist; John Wayne, whose nickname was ‘The Duke’. . . . The Bloom family has owned the Kennedy Meadows pack station for decades. . . . [and one family member] agreed that naming this peak ‘The Duke’ would be a fitting tribute to the robust men and women who have spent the summer season here for the past 75 years guiding trips, taking care of the stock, finding lost hikers and taking families on day rides into the mountains. Their presence at ‘Kennedy’ is unique, and sets this place apart from any other camp or resort in the High Sierra.

“There is not a single mountain or geologic feature in this area that recognizes the longstanding tradition of Kennedy Meadows Pack Station or specifically the invaluable contribution made by all their employees, both past and present. They uphold a longstanding tradition that protects the wilderness, while at the same time enabling people to enjoy it. These are the compelling reasons that these exceptional people deserve a fitting and respectful tribute, and why an exception to the BGN’s policy should be made. I humbly ask you to embrace the history and traditions of this unique area and move forward to prepare a case brief for review and approval for next steps.”

The proponent did not report the name of the international fraternal organization, but it presumed to be a group of Masons; Wayne was a 32nd degree Scottish Rite Mason.

**COLORADO**

**Change Mount Evans to Mount Cheyenne-Arapaho:** summit; elevation 14,264 ft.; in the Mount Evans Wilderness on the boundary of Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests and Pike and San Isabel National Forests 1.4 mi. NE of Mount Bierstadt; named for the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, members of which were killed in the Sand Creek Massacre; Sec 26, T5S, R74W, Sixth Principal Meridian; Clear Creek County, Colorado; 39°35′18″N, 105°38′37″W; USGS map – Mount Evans 1:24,000; Not: Evans Peak, Monte Rosa, Mount Evans, Mount Rosa, Mount Rosalia, Mount Rosalie, Rosa Mountain.


Proposal: to change a name considered offensive

Map: USGS Mount Evans 1:24,000

Proponent: Otto Braided Hair; Lame Deer, MT

Administrative area: Mount Evans Wilderness / Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests / Pike and San Isabel National Forests / Denver City and County Parks

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: Mount Evans (FID 204716)

Local Usage: Mount Evans (many sources)


Case Summary: This proposal would change the name of Mount Evans in Clear Creek County to Mount Cheyenne-Arapaho. The summit is the fourteenth highest peak in Colorado and is located in the Mount Evans Wilderness, along the boundary between the Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests and the Pike and San Isabel National Forests. Denver City and County Parks manages Summit Lake Park just below the summit. Colorado Parks and Wildlife manages the Mount Evans State Wildlife Area about eight miles east of the summit.

The proposal was submitted by the Chair of the Sand Creek Committee of the Northern Cheyenne Tribe, in response to previous proposals to change the name of the summit to Mount Soule (Review List 435), Mount Rosalie (Review List 435), or Mount Blue Sky (Review List 442). (A previous proposal, for Mount Cheyenne Arapaho (Review List 432) was withdrawn by the proponent in favor of Mount Blue Sky, while this Review List includes another new proposal, which would amend the dedication of the name so that it honors Anne Evans rather than Governor John Evans).

The summit’s current name was given in honor of John Evans (1814-1897), the second Territorial Governor of Colorado from 1862 to 1865. The proponents of each of the aforementioned names believe the name should be changed because of Evans’ part in the Sand Creek Massacre (1864). For additional details, see the previous Review Lists.

The Northern Cheyenne Tribe, in proposing Mount Cheyenne-Arapaho, believe that “naming one of Colorado’s most visible peaks after the disgraced Governor . . . is a travesty that needs to be corrected. Since Cheyenne and Arapaho people were victims of the horrific massacre . . . it seems to us that it would be altogether fitting and proper to remove Evans’ name from the mountain and replace it with Mt. Cheyenne-Arapaho.” Further, the name “Mt. Blue Sky . . . regrettably excludes the Cheyenne who suffered the greatest loss in the Sand Creek Massacre and in the battles and attacks that followed.”

**Change designation of Mount Evans**: summit; elevation 14,264 ft.; in Mount Evans Wilderness on the boundary of Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests and Pike and San Isabel National Forests, 1.4 mi. NE of Mount Bierstadt; named for Anne Evans (1871-1941), daughter of Governor John Evans and philanthropist and patron of many cultural institutions in Colorado; Sec 26, T5S, R74W, Sixth Principal Meridian; Clear Creek County, Colorado; 39°35’18”N, 105°38’37”W; USGS map – Mount Evans 1:24,000; Not: Evans Peak, Monte Rosa, Mount Evans, Mount Rosa, Mount Rosalia, Mount Rosalie, Rosa Mountain.


Proposal: to change the designated honoree of an existing name
Map: USGS Mount Evans 1:24,000
PropONENT: Katie Sauter
Administrative area: Mount Evans Wilderness / Arapaho and Roosevelt National
Forests / Pike and San Isabel National Forests / Denver City and County Parks
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
GNIS: Mount Evans (FID 204716)
Local Usage: Mount Evans (many sources)
Published: Evans Peak (Wheeler, 1879, Topographical Atlas); Monte Rosa (Hart, 1925,
Fourteen Thousand Feet); Mount Evans (USGS 1903, 1905, 1957, 1983; AMS 1953,
McNally, 1879 and onwards; Thayer, 1880, Colorado map; Hayden, 1881, Geological
and Geographical Survey; Adams and Son, 1887, Colorado map; Gannett, 1906; many
other local, state, and national sources, both historical and current); Mount Rosa (Byers,
1890, “Bierstadt’s Visit to Colorado” in Magazine of Western History; Hart, 1925,
Fourteen Thousand Feet; Denver Post, 2017); Mount Rosalia (Denver Pacific Railway
map, 1868); Mount Rosalie (Hart, 1925, Fourteen Thousand Feet; Bright, 1993,
Colorado Place Names; Denver Post, 1987, 2017); Rosa Mountain (USGS)

Case Summary: This proposal is to change the designation of the name of Mount Evans in
Clear Creek County. The summit is the fourteenth highest peak in Colorado and located in the
Mount Evans Wilderness on the border of the Arapaho and Roosevelt National Forests and the
Pike and San Isabel National Forests. Denver City and County Parks manages Summit Lake
Park just below the summit. Colorado Parks and Wildlife manages the Mount Evans State
Wildlife Area approximately eight miles east of the summit.

The proposal was submitted as a counterproposal to previous proposals to change the summit’s
name to Mount Soule (Review List 435), Mount Rosalie (Review List 441), Mount Blue Sky
(Review List 442), and Mount Cheyenne-Arapaho (q.v.). (An earlier proposal, to change the
name to Mount Cheyenne Arapaho (Review List 432) was withdrawn by the proponent in
favor of Mount Blue Sky.)

The summit’s current name was given in honor of John Evans (1814-1897), the second
Territorial Governor of Colorado from 1862 to 1865. The various proposals received thus far
are to change the name because of Evans’ part in the Sand Creek Massacre of November 29th,
1864, when U.S. Cavalry led by Colonel John Chivington attacked a village consisting of
Cheyenne and Arapaho people, resulting in the deaths of between 150 and 200 Cheyenne and
Arapaho, including over a dozen important tribal leaders, and an equal amount wounded.

The name Evans Peak was used by the 1879 Wheeler Survey. John Lathrop Jerome Hart, in
his 1925 volume Fourteen Thousand Feet, reported that the name Mount Evans dates to 1870
when the name was given in a celebration in Greeley, Colorado. In 1895, the Colorado
legislature resolved that the name of the summit be Mount Evans on Evans’ 81st birthday, two
years before his death. U.S. Geological Survey maps have used the name Mount Evans since
1903. Countless other sources have also used this name since the late 1800s.
For a more complete history of the feature and details regarding other names applied to the summit, please refer to the previous proposals.

The summit is located on land that was granted to the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes by the United States in the 1851 Fort Laramie Treaty. The subsequent 1861 Fort Wise Treaty excluded the summit from Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribal lands. The Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes’ present-day reservation is in western Oklahoma, while the Northern Cheyenne Tribe of the Northern Cheyenne Indian Reservation resides today in Montana and the Arapaho Tribe of the Wind River Reservation (Northern Arapaho) is in Wyoming. The summit also appears to be in ancestral lands of the Ute Tribes, according to Robert W. Delaney’s 1974 *The Southern Ute People*.

The proponent of this change is proposing “that the name remain the same, but is rededicated for Anne Evans. Most people who see [the mountain] and climb it do not know for whom it was named. It is likely they do not know who John Evans was. Changing the name will be costly and wouldn't the funds be better spent on educating the public about the Sand Creek Massacre? Instead, the name should be kept, but it should be rededicated for a person who is remembered for the good that she did for the state of Colorado.”

Anne Evans (1871-1941) was the youngest daughter of John Evans and his wife Margaret. The proposal reads, “She never married and lived with her brother and his family at the present-day Byers-Evans House (now the Center for Colorado Women’s History). She built her own cabin on the Evans Ranch and spent her summers there. She was a philanthropist and patron of many cultural institutions in Colorado, but made her mark especially on the Denver Art Museum, the Central City Opera House, and the Denver Public Library.”

The proposal continues, “According to her biography from the Colorado Women's Hall of Fame, Anne Evans ‘donated her extensive Native American Art collection [to the Denver Art Museum] which made it the first United States museum to collect Native American Art.’ Although she was the daughter of John Evans, her actions and writings indicate that she had very different opinions of Native Americans than that of her father. She came to appreciate their way of life. She worked ‘for the recognition of the art of Native Americans as art, not just colorful craftwork with which to decorate dens and recreation rooms.’ Evans raised funds for the restoration of the Central City Opera House and helped establish the Central City Opera Summer Festival in 1932. The festival still takes place every summer season. Anne Evans was appointed to the Denver Public Library Commission in 1907 and served on the Commission until 1940, resigning shortly before her death. She was the first female president of the Commission (and the only woman to serve in that role until 1987). Eight branches were built during her tenure.”

Additional information on Anne Evans can be found in Barbara Edwards Sternberg’s 2011 volume “Anne Evans—A Pioneer in Colorado’s Cultural History: The Things That Last When Gold is Gone,” and at the websites of the Colorado Women’s Hall of Fame: [https://www.cogreatwomen.org/project/anne-evans/](https://www.cogreatwomen.org/project/anne-evans/) and the Center for Colorado Women’s History: [https://www.historycolorado.org/center-colorado-womens-history](https://www.historycolorado.org/center-colorado-womens-history).
Change Negro Draw to Robinson Draw: valley; 0.8 mi. long; in San Juan National Forest, heads 3 mi. ESE of Drift Fence Spring at 37°35’16”N, 108°11’07”W, trends SSE to open onto the valley of the Delores River; named in association with the former Robinson Ranch, located near the mouth of the valley; Secs 9&4, T38N, R12W, New Mexico Meridian; Montezuma County, Colorado; 37°34’36”N, 108°10’54”W; USGS map – Wallace Ranch 1:24,000; Not: Negro Draw.


Proposal: to change a name considered offensive
Map: USGS Wallace Ranch 1:24,000
Proponent: Amanda Cadorette; CO
Administrative area: San Juan National Forest
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
GNIS: Negro Draw (FID 176969)
Local Usage: None found

Case Summary: This proposal is to change the name of Negro Draw, a 0.8-mile-long valley in Montezuma County, to Robinson Draw. The valley is located in the San Juan National Forest and opens onto the valley of the Delores River.

The name Negro Draw has been labeled on USGS maps since 1963 and is mentioned in a 2018 Colorado State University Colorado Natural Heritage Program document. No information about the origin of the name could be found.

The proposal for Robinson Draw was submitted by the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) on behalf of the proponent of a previous proposal to change the name to Hops Draw (Review List 437). After the USFS determined that the original name, which was intended to refer to Colorado’s hops growing industry, had no significance in the area, the proponent agreed to amend her proposal.

The name Robinson Draw is a reference to Robinsons Ranch, which was located at the mouth of the valley and was depicted on USGS topographic maps in 1897 (later maps label it Wallace Ranch). The ranch is believed to have been owned by James F. Robinson (1827-1916), who homesteaded 160 acres in 1889. According to online genealogy records, some of which spell his name Robison, “He had a few head of cattle and horses, which he grazed on the nearby hills during the summer months but which he took lower down on the Dolores River and winter ranged them for several years later.” There is some confusion as to whether this James Robinson was in fact the owner of the ranch, and although the proponent states “[the name] retains local black history,” his race has not been confirmed.
CONNECTICUT

Hoskins Island: island; 0.3 acre; in the Town of Killingly, at the S end of Killingly Pond, 1.2 mi. NW of Jerimoth Hill; the name commemorates U.S. Army SPC Christopher Hoskins (1983-2005), who was killed in Iraq at the age of 21 during Operation Iraqi Freedom; Windham County, Connecticut; 41°51’32”N, 71°47’51”W; USGS map – East Killingly NE 1:24,000.

Proposal: new commemorative name for unnamed feature
Map: USGS map – East Killingly NE 1:24,000
Proponent: Town of Killingly Town Council; Killingly, CT
Administrative area: None
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
GNIS: None found
Local Usage: None found
Published: None found

Case Summary: This proposal is to apply the new commemorative name Hoskins Island to a 0.3-acre unnamed island at the southern end of Killingly Pond in the Town of Killingly in Windham County. Killingly Pond State Park Reserve is located along the west and southwest banks of the pond. The property is owned by the Chestnut Hill Reservoir Company.

The name would honor U.S. Army SPC Christopher Hoskins (1983-2005), who was killed in Iraq during Operation Iraqi Freedom when his unit was attacked by enemy forces. SPC Hoskins had been an active member of the Killingly community. He graduated from Killingly High School where he competed on the wrestling team and was active in karate, soccer, and baseball.

The proposal was submitted by the Town of Killingly as a counterproposal to McCormack Island (Review List 441). After being asked to comment on that name, the Town Council found no evidence that the McCormack family had contributed to the community. The Town Historian searched historical documents, reached out to long-time residents, and published an article in the local paper seeking any information. They also reached out to the family for more details but received no response. The proponent of McCormack Island was advised of the counterproposal and withdrew his application.

Regarding the name Hoskins Island, the Town Council added, “[We] felt it would be more appropriate to name the feature after one of our fallen soldiers. Christopher loved the outdoors and found peace in the quiet of nature. Naming the island in his honor would be most fitting.”

FLORIDA

Change Innerarity Point to Innerarity Point: cape; approx. 6 acres; at the end of a peninsula jutting into Perdido Bay N of Ono Island; named for John Innerarity (1783-1854), Scottish-born merchant and longtime Pensacola resident who in 1815 was granted land that includes the cape; Sec 15, T3S, R32W, Tallahassee Meridian; Escambia County, Florida; 30°18’53”N,
Proposal: change name to recognize local use  
Map: USGS map – Perdido Bay 1:24,000  
Proponent: Tara Wallace; Silver Spring, MD  
Administrative area: None  
Previous BGN Action: None  
Names associated with feature:  
GNIS: Inerarity Point (FID 284547)  
Local Usage: Innerarity Point (proponent, local sources)  
Case Summary: This proposal is to correct the spelling of Inerarity Point, a cape along the Perdido River in Escambia County, to Innerarity Point. The proposal was submitted by the BGN member representing the Department of Commerce/National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration after receiving an inquiry from a local resident.  

The cape is named for John Innerarity (1783-1854), a Scottish-born merchant who came to Pensacola in 1802. In 1815, he was granted land that includes the cape by the Spanish Government. GNIS records the grant as Juan Inerarity Grant [sic], citing a county map that could not be found at the time of this research. It is possible the name was recorded under the “Juan” due to the documents being in Spanish. John Innerarity is buried in Saint Michael's Cemetery in Pensacola.  

USGS maps have shown the cape as Inerarity Point since 1941, and it was labeled as such on U.S. Army Corps of Engineers maps as early as 1921 and on NOAA/Office of Coast Survey charts since at least 1897. A National Geodetic Survey marker near the cape is named “INERARITY WEST 2 1911” and includes a reference to “Inerarity Peninsula”.  

All instances of the name in local sources spell it “Innerarity.” The island, of which the cape is the western point, is locally known as “Innerarity Island” (not in GNIS), the main road is Innerarity Point Road, and a local park is Innerarity Point Park. Several neighborhoods east of the cape include the name Innerarity.  

**GEORGIA**  

**Crow Branch:** stream; 2.5 mi. long; heads 4.3 mi. SW of Stilesboro at 34°05′05″N, 84°50′42″W, flows generally NW to enter Richland Creek 3.3 mi. S of Sproull Mountain; Bartow County, Georgia; 34°06′16″N, 84°52′08″W; USGS map – Burnt Hickory Ridge 1:24,000.  
Mouth: [https://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesricoor?p_lat=34.10457&p_longi=-84.86902](https://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesricoor?p_lat=34.10457&p_longi=-84.86902)  
Source: [https://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesricoor?p_lat=34.08484&p_longi=-84.84509](https://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesricoor?p_lat=34.08484&p_longi=-84.84509)  
Proposal: to make official a name in local use
Case Summary: This proposal is to make official the name Crow Branch for an unnamed 2.5-mile-long tributary of Richland Creek in Bartow County. The proponent reports that the name was known to his grandmother and “could refer to crows or named after a native.” Online genealogy records list a number of individuals with the surname Crow throughout the county as early as the 1860s; several owned property within a few miles of the stream in question but it is unknown if they are the source of the proposed name. Crow Spring, also in Bartow County, is located 15 miles north of the stream.

A second proposal was submitted to make official the name Smallpox Branch (q.v.) for a tributary of this stream.

Smallpox Creek: stream; 0.45 mi. long; heads 3.8 mi. W of Stilesboro at 34°06’07”N, 84°51’04”W, flows generally W to enter an unnamed stream proposed to be named Crow Branch (q.v.), 3.4 mi. SSE of Sproull Mountain; name reportedly refers to quarantined soldiers during the Civil War; Bartow County, Georgia; 34°06’11”N, 84°51’26”W; USGS map – Burnt Hickory Ridge 1:24,000.
Mouth: https://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesricoor?p_lat=34.103106&p_longi=-84.857341
Source: https://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesricoor?p_lat=34.101845&p_longi=-84.851096
Proposal: to make official a name in local use
Map: USGS map – Burnt Hickory Ridge 1:24,000
Proponent: John Rose; Cartersville, GA
Administrative area: None
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
GNIS: None found
Local Usage: Smallpox Creek (local residents)
Published: None found

Case Summary: This proposal is to make official the name Smallpox Creek for an unnamed tributary of an unnamed stream proposed to be named Crow Branch (q.v.), in Bartow County. The proponent reports that the name is in local use and refers to a nearby spring where soldiers with smallpox camped during the Battle of Allatoona during the Civil War. The battle site is located 8 miles to the east-northeast. The proponent acknowledges that “it’s not a very attractive name.” There are four streams in the U.S. named Smallpox Creek, but none in Georgia.
HAwaii

Ahuʻailāʻau: summit; centered on the community of Leilani Estates, approx. 24 mi. E of Kīlauea Crater; the name refers to Ahu (mound/shrine/altar or cairn) and ʻAilāʻau (Hawaiʻi deity for the volcano and lava); Hawaii County, Hawaii; 19°27′41″N, 154°54′33″W; USGS map – Pahoa South 1:24,000; Not: Fissure 8. [https://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesricoor?p_lat=19.46137&p_longi=-154.90913](https://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesricoor?p_lat=19.46137&p_longi=-154.90913)

Proposal: new name for unnamed feature
Map: USGS Pahoa South 1:24,000
Proponent: Kalani Makekau-Whittaker
Administrative area: None
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
   Gnis: No record
   Local Usage: Fissure 8 (area residents; local media)
   Published: Fissure 8 (USGS various reports 2018-2021; media reports)

Case Summary: The new name Ahuʻailāʻau is proposed for a previously unnamed fissure (feature class “summit”) that formed following the 2018 eruption of Kīlauea in Hawaii County. The proposal was submitted by the Hawaiʻi Board on Geographic Names (HBGN) on behalf of a professor in the Hawaiian department at University of Hawaiʻi at Manoa, who in turn represented three residents of the community of Puna.

One of the many fissures that opened during 2018 eruption, it was the most active in the community of Leilani Estates, “spewing an estimated 26,000 gallons of lava per second and creating fountains over 200 feet high” (Hawaii News Now, March 4, 2021). The eruption lasted over five months, traveled four miles to the ocean, destroyed over 700 homes and businesses, and caused nearly $800 million in property damage.

In an effort to apply an appropriate name that would encompass the traditional, cultural, and family ties to the area, the HBGN reviewed 18 proposals submitted by community members. The HBGN commented, “We actually joined the community, saw how to make it a meaningful process for the community, and actually heard from the community about how to proceed with this naming. Many of Hawaii’s features are named because they are ways to remember stories, traditions, and customs associated with different places.”

Prior to the HBGN’s final decision, many local sources and media coverage referred to the feature as Fissure 8; that name was also used widely by the U.S. Geological Survey in its study of the eruption. The USGS definition of a fissure is “a fracture or crack in rock along which there is a distinct separation; fissures are often filled with mineral-bearing materials. On volcanoes, a fissure is an elongate fracture or crack at the surface from which lava erupts. Fissure eruptions typically dwindle to a central vent after a period of hours or days. Occasionally, lava will flow back into the ground by pouring into a crack or an open eruptive fissure, a process called drainback; sometimes lava will flow back into the same fissure from which it erupted.”
In March 2021, following a series of meetings at which members of the public were invited to share their opinions, the HBGN approved the name Ahuʻailāʻau. The word Ahu refers to a mound or shrine, and ‘Ailāʻau is a Hawaiʻi deity for the volcano and lava. According to the HBGN, “Ai means ‘to eat,’ and Lāʻau can also mean ‘to heal or medicine, so the idea of Ahuʻailāʻau referring to this ancestorial guardian and deity for Puna, but also this idea it can be a healing element for the community.”

ILLINOIS

Emmons Creek: stream; 1.5 mi. long; heads in Woodland Township 1.8 mi. NNE of Bluff City, flows generally ENE into Kerton Township to enter a marshy area W of Anderson; named for Merrill Emmons (1926-1963), who found Native American artifacts on land adjacent to the stream, and Rosalie Emmons (1925-1993), who farmed the land after Merrill’s passing; Tps3&2N, R3E, Fourth Principal Meridian; Fulton County, Illinois; 40°12′42″N, 90°11′59″W; USGS map – Bath 1:24,000.


Proposal: new commemorative name for unnamed feature
Map: USGS map – Bath 1:24,000
Proponent: Kevin Emmons; Grand Blanc, MI
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 Emmons Creek is proposed for an unnamed 1.5-mile-long stream that flows into a marshy area west of Anderson Lake in Fulton County. The stream heads in Woodland Township and flows into Kerton Township.

The name would commemorate the proponent’s ancestors Merrill Emmons (1926-1963) and Rosalie Emmons (1925-1993). According to the proponent, “Land adjacent [to the stream] was owned by Merrill Emmons who found Native American archaeological sites on the property. Those sites were excavated, documented, and researched by professionals in the 1950-60s.” Following Merrill’s death, his wife Rosalie continued to farm the land, and after her death, her descendants donated the recovered artifacts to the Illinois State Museum. The well-known Middle Mississippian culture archeological site called Emmons Cemetery Site or Emmons Site is located north of the stream.

GNIS lists one other stream in Illinois named Emmons Creek, located in Wayne County, 160 miles to the southeast; the origin of this name has not been determined although online genealogical records show a number of individuals with that surname in the county in the early 20th century.
IOWA

**Change Negro Creek to Berlin Creek:** stream; 8 mi. long; heads in Grant Township 2.1 mi. NNE of Bliedorn at 41°55’49”N, 90°40’03”W, flows generally S into Welton Township then E to enter Silver Creek 1.5 mi. S of Welton; the name references the former name of Grant Township and for the German heritage of residents of the area; T82N, Rgs3&2E, Fifth Principal Meridian; Clinton County, Iowa; 41°53’10”N, 90°35’34”W; USGS map – Delmar South 1:24,000 (mouth); Not: Negro Creek, N__ Creek.


Proposal: to change a name to reflect local history
Map: USGS Delmar South 1:24,000 (mouth)
Proponent: Kurt Olson; Grand Mound, IA
Administrative area: None
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
  GNIS: Negro Creek (FID 459447)
  Local Usage: Negro Creek (Clinton County)
  Published: Negro Creek (USGS 1980, 1984, 2010, 2013, 2015, 2018); N__ Creek (The history of Clinton County Iowa 1879; Wolfe’s History of Clinton County Iowa 1911)

Case Summary: This proposal is to change the name of Negro Creek, an eight-mile-long tributary of Silver Creek in Clinton County, to Berlin Creek. It was submitted by a Grant Township Trustee in response to a previous proposal to change the name to Wolverine Creek (Review List 437), a name that would reference the mascot of a former school district in the area.

The name Berlin Creek would recognize the former name of Grant Township. According to the Clinton County website, “Preceding the outbreak of World War I, in a burst of patriotism, the name of Berlin township was changed to Grant township.” Other online sources state that the name was changed in 1918 or 1920. One article, published in The Clinton Advertiser on October 11, 1918, is often referenced: “The people of Berlin township have changed the name of ‘Berlin Cemetery’ to ‘Pine Hill Cemetery,’ and will change the name of the township as soon as a suitable name can be decided upon.”

When asked to comment on the proposal for Wolverine Creek, the township trustee responded, “Our community became aware that outside forces have taken upon themselves to rename a creek in our township. The current name is negro creek, and in today’s cancel culture, this name has been deemed inappropriate. After careful consideration we have come up with a name that is more in tune with the rich history of the immigrants who developed this agricultural area. That name is Berlin. Grant township was originally named Berlin but was changed in the early 1900’s. We feel that people within a community should be responsible for naming rights, not some outside social justice warrior. So, a name with meaning to community and not a comic book character as someone has proposed would be proper.” [The initial proposal for Wolverine Creek does not reference the Marvel character.]
The name Negro Creek has appeared on USGS maps since 1980; earlier smaller-scale maps did not label the stream. Histories of Clinton County published in 1897 and 1911 recorded the name in the pejorative form. From the 1897 source, “In an early day, a negro had settled on a small stream tributary to Silver Creek, which has since been called ‘N__ Creek.’ He remained but a short time and his name even could not be obtained.” A local historic preservation group conducted additional research but was unable to find any details on this individual.

A resident north of Grand Mound commented that there are opposed to the name change “because it is part of the history of the County” and because the request “came from outside of the jurisdiction.”

MAINE

Quarry Hill: summit; elevation 871 ft.; in the Town of Denmark, between Hancock Pond and Perley Pond; the name refers to a granite quarry that once operated on top of the hill; Oxford County, Maine; 43°57’40”N, 70°44’31”W; USGS map – North Sebago 1:24,000; Not: Peaked Hill.

Proposal: new name for unnamed feature
Map: USGS North Sebago 1:24,000
Proponent: Gordon Stuart; Westbrook, ME
Administrative area: None
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
GNIS: No record
Local Usage: None found
Published: Peaked Hill (Map of Oxford County, Maine, 1858)

Case Summary: The new name Quarry Hill is proposed for an unnamed 871-foot summit in the Town of Denmark in Oxford County. It refers to a granite quarry that once operated on top of the hill. The quarry is visible in aerial imagery but not depicted on USGS maps.

The name is proposed by the landowner of the majority of the summit, including the highest point. The proposal is supported by Town of Denmark Selectman and a member of the Denmark Conservation Committee; the proponent reports that the curator of the Denmark Historical Society assisted with the application.

The summit was labeled as Peaked Hill on an 1858 Oxford County atlas. The proponent reports that this name is not in local use. A query of GNIS found no nearby features with similar names.

Talking Brook: stream; 2.2 mi. long; heads in the City of Auburn at 44°00’06”N, 70°14’54”W, flows generally S into the Town of New Gloucester to enter Meadow Brook; named for the sound of the stream as it flows over rocks; Cumberland County and Androscoggin County, Maine; 43°58’31”N, 70°14’24”W; USGS map – North Pownal 1:24,000 (mouth).
Mouth: https://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesricoor?p_lat=43.97521&p_longi=-70.24009
Proposal: to make official a name in recent local use
Map: USGS North Pownal 1:24,000 (mouth)
Proponent: Michael Fralich; New Gloucester, ME
Administrative area: None
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
   GNIS: No record
   Local Usage: Talking Brook (landowner, since the 1970s)
   Published: None found

Case Summary: This proposal is to make official the name Talking Brook for a 2.2-mile-long unnamed tributary of Meadow Brook. The stream begins in the City of Auburn in Androscoggin County and flows into Meadow Brook in the Town of New Gloucester in Cumberland County.

The proposal was submitted by the Royal River Conservation Trust (RRCT) on behalf of the owner of the land that borders the stream within the Town of New Gloucester. The proponent’s family recently allowed public access to their land along the stream adjacent to a parcel recently donated to the RRCT.

The proponent states that the name refers to the sound of the stream. While camping on the land before building a house, he recalls “I could hear someone laughing and talking during the night only to realize that it was only the brook babbling as it played over its rocky bed. It was then that we gave the stream the name Talking Brook.” He comments that the name “reminds us that our stewardship of these woods is our legacy that will carry on long after we are gone and the voice of the brook falls on other ears.” He also added, “If there is a traditional Native stream name that we are not aware of, we would like to defer to the Native name.”

MARYLAND

Winnemana Channel: stream; 0.4 mi. long; a side channel of the Potomac River around Plummers Island; named in association with Winnemana Lodge, the Washington Biologists’ Field Club’s lodge located on the island; Montgomery County, Maryland; 38°58’13”N, 77°10’34”W; USGS map – Falls Church 1:24,000.

Proposal: new name for unnamed feature
Map: USGS map – Falls Church 1:24,000
Proponent: Robert J. Soreng; Chevy Chase, MD
Administrative area: George Washington Memorial Parkway
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
   GNIS: No record
   Local Usage: None found
   Published: None found
Case Summary: The new name Winnemana Channel is proposed for an unnamed anabranch of the Potomac River around Plummers Island in Montgomery County. The anabranch is adjacent to the George Washington Memorial Parkway (National Park Service).

The name is proposed by the Vice-President of the Washington Biologists’ Field Club and refers to the club’s lodge on Plummers Island. The NPS, which owns the island, which allows the club to use it for scientific study and events. According to the club’s website, the lodge was built in 1901 and “[t]he name Winnemana Lodge was adopted as the official designation for the Clubhouse at the annual meeting of 1906. Winnemana means ‘beautiful island.’ The term was exhumed from a local Indian language by Henry W. Henshaw.”

After consulting with the National Museum of the American Indian and Dr. Ives Goddard, National Museum of Natural History Department of Anthropology, emeritus, the proponent concluded, “We now believe that a Club member with some knowledge of Native American languages concocted the compound name from native language words. . . .”

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

**MICHIGAN**

**Bgoji-zibiins:** stream; 2 mi. long; in Charter Township of Plainfield, heads 0.6 mi. SW of Scott Lake at 43°04’43”N, 85°39’05”W, flows generally SE to enter the Grand River 0.15 mi WSW of the mouth of Scott Creek; name means “stream in the wilderness” in Anishinaabe; Secs 20,17&18, T8N, R11W, Michigan Meridian; Kent County, Michigan; 43°03’46”N, 85°37’53”W; USGS map – Cedar Springs SW 1:24,000.


Proposal: new name for unnamed feature

Map: USGS map – Cedar Springs SW 1:24,000

Proponent: Carl and Mark Sanford-Pelcher; Comstock Park, MI

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

| GNIS:  No record | Local Usage: None found | Published: None found |
The new name Bgoji-ziibiinhs is proposed for an officially unnamed two-mile-long tributary of the Grand River in the Charter Township of Plainfield in Kent County.

The proponent states: “We have researched the Ojibway name for this stream and are providing it to you so that it can appear on maps and signage and be noted by Plainfield Township, Michigan. There are few water features in Kent County which are noted with traditional names and this would have great meaning to the Native people of the area.” He added that the name was provided by the “the Cultural Manager of the Seventh Generation Program of the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe.” A language specialist with the Anishinaabe Language Revitalization Program of the Saginaw Chippewa Tribe has confirmed the spelling and reports that the name can be translated as “stream in the wilderness.”

The Charter Township of Plainfield has “no issues” with the proposal.

MISSOURI

Avery Creek: stream; 1.2 mi. long; heads at 38°36’01”N, 90°24’36”W, flows generally N to enter Two Mile Creek; St. Louis County, Missouri; 38°36’52”N, 90°24’23”W; USGS map – Kirkwood 1:24,000.


Proposal: new name for an unnamed feature
Map: USGS map – Kirkwood 1:24,000
Proponent: Erin Guenther; Kirkwood, MO
Administrative area: None
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
GNIS: No record
Local Usage: None found
Published: None found

Case Summary: This proposal is to apply the new name Avery Creek to an unnamed 1.2-mile-long tributary of Two Mile Creek in St. Louis County. The proponent, a local resident, describes the stream as “a significant part of the Deer Creek Watershed” and says the name was chosen because near its source, the stream flows alongside Avery Court and Avery Drive.

GNIS lists three natural features in Missouri named “Avery” but none in St. Louis County. There was at one time a school named Avery School in the county but its precise location is not known.

Hoot Owl Creek: stream; 2.2 mi. long; heads at 38°28’31”N, 90°21’21”W, flows generally SSW to enter the Meramec River 2.5 mi. ESE of Butler Lakes; named for an owl that resides near the source of the stream; Saint Louis County, Missouri; 38°28’31”N, 90°21’21”W; USGS map – Oakville 1:24,000.

Mouth: https://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesricoor?p_lat=38.456965&p_longi=-
Proposal:  new name for unnamed feature  
Map:  USGS map – Oakville 1:24,000  
Proponent:  Gerald Arb; Oakville, MO  
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 Hoot Owl Creek is proposed for an unnamed 2.2-mile-long tributary of the Meramec River in Saint Louis County. The proponent reports that when the area was developed a formerly natural stream was converted into a storm water runoff channel and that it “needs to be named for Operation Clean Stream to get volunteers to clean it.” The name refers to “a large owl remaining on the wooded area adjacent to the creek... It is very large and very active during the day [presumably a barred owl, a species that is more diurnal than other resident owls in the area]”.

A query of GNIS found 29 natural features with known locations with names that include “Hoot Owl.” Three, all valleys named Hoot Owl Hollow, are located in Missouri; one is 29 miles to the southwest in Jefferson County.

MONTANA

DeHorty Flat:  flat; approx. 5 acres; the area above 5,290 ft. south of Mill Gulch Road, 1.3 mi. ENE of Laurin; named for William J. DeHorty (1843-1924) and Anna DeHorty (1846-1920), who homesteaded and prospected west of the flat; Sec 33, T5S, R4W, Principal Meridian, Montana; Madison County, Montana; 45°21’17”N, 112°05’38”W; USGS map – Alder 1:24,000.  
Proposal:  new commemorative name for unnamed feature  
Map:  USGS map – Alder 1:24,000  
Proponent:  Bill Lev; Sheridan, MT  
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 DeHorty Flat is proposed for an approximately 5-acre flat east of Laurin in Madison County. The flat, which is located on the proponent’s property, is on a small ridge south of an unnamed summit and south of Mill Gulch Road.
The name is intended to commemorate William J. DeHorty (1843-1924) and Anna DeHorty (née Arbaugh) (1846-1920), who homesteaded and prospected in Section 33 west of the flat. Their land patent was granted in 1877. The original homestead buildings still stand and can be seen from the flat.

The proponent noted that he is not related to the DeHorty family. A descendant of Anna DeHorty’s brother submitted support for the proposal. The Town of Sheridan, located 8.6 miles to the northwest, passed a resolution in support of the name.

Change *Lost Coon Lake* to *Lost Loon Lake*: lake; approx. 60 acres; partly in the City of Whitefish, NE of Blanchard Lake; named for common loons (*Gavia immer*) that nest on the lake; Sec 2, T30N, R22W & Sec 35, T31N, R22W, Principal Meridian; Flathead County, Montana; 48°23'46"N, 114°21'35"W; USGS map – Whitefish 1:24,000; Not: Lodgepole Pond, Lost Coon Lake, N__ Lake.

Proposal: to change a name considered offensive  
Map: USGS map – Whitefish 1:24,000  
Proponent: Angela Jacobs; Whitefish, MT  
Administrative area: None  
Previous BGN Action: None  
Names associated with feature:  
GNIS: Lost Coon Lake (FID 1796095)  
Local Usage: Lost Coon Lake (reported by proponent); Lost Loon Lake (reported by proponent)  
Published: Lodgepole Pond (*Whitefish Pilot*, 1964; *Stumptown to Ski Town: The Story of Whitefish, Montana*, 2003); Lost Coon Lake (USGS 2011, 2014, 2017; *Kalispell Daily Inter Lake*, 1984); Lost Loon Lake (Glacier Nordic Club map, undated); N__ Lake (Flathead and Lincoln Counties, Montana Water Resources Survey, 1965; *Whitefish Pilot*, 1964; *Kalispell Daily Inter Lake*, 1952; *Stumptown to Ski Town: The Story of Whitefish, Montana*, 2003 [reported as historical name])  
Case Summary: This proposal is to change the name of Lost Coon Lake, a 60-acre lake located partly in the City of Whitefish in Flathead County, to Lost Loon Lake. The lake is entirely on private property. The proponent, the Whitefish City Attorney reports: “Lost Coon Lake was originally called ‘N__ Lake.’ The name allegedly became controversial in the mid-20th century when Washington bureaus began to refuse ice contracts with that name on it. At some point, the Lake began to be referred to as Lost Coon Lake. Given that ‘coon’ is a well-recognized racial slur, locals and visitors alike consider the name offensive. Loons returned to Lost Coon Lake after Whitefish Lake Golf Club, which owns property abutting the Lake, purchased and installed a nesting platform to encourage their establishment. Lost Coon Lake was formerly a casual feeing area for loons. The City of Whitefish, on behalf of owners of property abutting Lost Coon Lake, pursuant to section 85-2-133, MCA, filed a petition to change its name with the Eleventh Judicial District Court. The District Court granted the City’s petition on November 2, 2020.”
The proposal included two supporting documents with the history of the lake’s name. The first, a February 20, 1964 Whitefish Pilot article titled “N[] Lake name changed”: “N[] Lake south of Whitefish is to be designated on forest service and geological survey maps in the near future as Lodgepole Pond, Don Jensen announced this week. Jensen, who operates a lumber yard in Whitefish, has been active for the past year in getting the name of the lake changed. ‘Actually,’ Jensen observed, ‘The lake had no official name, since it has been unnamed on official maps until now.’ Jensen said he had polled the property owners and had come up with a majority in favor of the name change.”

The second source, Stumptown to Ski Town: The Story of Whitefish, Montana, 2003, stated: “N[] Lake was named several years later [than an undated account of an 1890 journey to Whitefish]. It is said that a Negro woman named Mrs. Randals operated a rooming house for lumberjacks near the lake which took its name from this fact. Some claim, however, that Mrs. Randals was actually Spanish rather than Negro . . . it is still known as N[] Lake in. Washington bureaus will no longer accept the name on ice harvest contracts, however. There N[] Lake is [sic] formally called ‘Lodgepole Lake’ in 1972.”

On April 15, 1984, The Kalispel Daily Inter Lake reported, in an account of interesting regional place names, that “[t]he only thing lost at Lost Coon Lake, however, was a name, which a publicity-conscious subdivision developer changed from the original N[] Lake.” This fact has not been independently confirmed, and there is no definitive recorded reason why the name Lost Coon Lake came to be used locally.

No records could be found of any BGN proposal, inquiry, or action on the name of the lake in the 1960s or 1970s. The name Lost Coon Lake was entered into GNIS in Phase II from a 1997 map cited as simply “dTG Maps. Flathead Valley Edition.” The variant name Lost Loon Lake was also entered with the same citation, but staff found no independent evidence that the name Lost Loon Lake dates back that far.

The aforementioned city petition included signatures of support from residents around the lake, some of whom live on a road named “Lost Coon Trail”.

NEW MEXICO

Loma Coyote: summit; elevation 5,611 ft.; in the City of Rio Rancho, 2 mi. ESE of Loma Duran, 2.7 mi. S of Loma Machete; named for coyotes found in the area; Sec 31, T13N, R3E, New Mexico Meridian; Sandoval County, New Mexico; 35°18’58”N, 106°39’57”W; USGS map – Loma Machete 1:24,000.  
- Proposal: new name for unnamed feature
- Map: USGS map – Loma Machete 1:24,000
- Proponent: Jansen Lyons; Rio Rancho, NM
- Administrative area: None
- Previous BGN Action: None
- Names associated with feature:
The new name Loma Coyote is proposed for an officially unnamed 5,611-foot summit in the City of Rio Rancho in Sandoval County. “Loma” is a small hill in Spanish and is a common generic term in New Mexico; four features with this generic are found within four miles of the proposed Loma Coyote.

The proponent states that “[the summit is on] undeveloped land with no plans for development, wildlife abounds among the arid hills and provides a central point or passage for the animals to travel to between arroyos and other features in the desert still undeveloped. As a point of conservation, this hill currently serves as an excellent habitat and feature to have named for the awareness of such. Especially as the region continues to experience drought conditions, having a well-balanced ecosystem, being that coyotes keep rodent populations in check and help prevent disease and overpopulation of rodentia or other vermin species. [The proposed] Loma Coyote is not a part of any reserve or study area, but is central among the other features in the area and it would serve as another point of reference for the community as it grows while at the same time bringing significant awareness to environmental care and concerns in the area.”

A query of GNIS found seven summits and a ridge in Sandoval County with names that contain the generic “Loma.” There are 33 such features in New Mexico, with other clusters in southern Texas (50), coastal California (14), and Puerto Rico (6). Numerous features include “Coyote” in their official names, including 79 in New Mexico. The BGN has recently approved three names that include “Coyote” (in 2011, 2019, and 2020); all were for unnamed features in Ohio.

**NEW YORK**

**Spiegelberg Lake:** lake; 10 acres; in Hand Hollow State Forest, in in the Town of New Lebanon, 2 mi. SE of Gale Hill, 5.4 mi. W of Mount Lebanon; the name commemorates Mathias Lloyd Spiegel (1926-2004), who owned the property and constructed the lake in 1967; Columbia County, New York; 42°27′33″N, 73°28′27″W; USGS map – Canaan 1:24,000. [https://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesricoor?p_lat=42.459261&p_longi=-73.47415](https://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesricoor?p_lat=42.459261&p_longi=-73.47415)

Proposal: to make official a commemorative name in local use
Map: USGS map – Canaan 1:24,000
Proponent: Paul Spiegel; San Francisco, CA
Administrative area: NYS Dept of Environmental Conservation
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
GNIS: None found
Local Usage: Spiegelberg Lake (proponent)
Published: Spiegelberg Lake (New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) map, 2017; Columbia County Tourism website, 2021; Open Space Institute, 2016)

Case Summary: This proposal is to make official the name Spiegelberg Lake an unnamed 10-acre lake in the Town of New Lebanon and Columbia County and within Hand Hollow State Forest.
Forest. The feature also shares part of its shore with the Hand Hollow Conservation Area, managed by the Columbia Land Conservancy.

The name would honor Mathias Lloyd Spiegel (1926-2004), the proponent's father, who purchased the property in 1956 and constructed the lake in 1967. The property was sold to the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), subject to a contractual provision to name the lake Spiegelberg Lake.

A NYSDEC map of Hand Hollow State Forest labels the feature Spiegelberg Lake and also displays the Spiegelberg Lake Trail leading from a nearby road to the north end of the lake.

NORTH CAROLINA

Change **Stinking Quarter Creek** to **Quarter Creek**, **North Prong Stinking Quarter Creek** to **North Prong Quarter Creek**, and **South Prong Stinking Quarter Creek** to **South Prong Quarter Creek**

- **Proposals:** to eliminate unpleasant names
- **Proponent:** James Barbour; Liberty, NC
- **Administrative area:** None
- **Previous BGN Action:** None

**North Prong Quarter Creek**: stream; 19.5 mi. long; heads 2.9 mi. E of Climax at 35°54′41″N, 79°39′55″W, flows NE to form Quarter Creek (q.v.) at its confluence with South Prong Quarter Creek (q.v.) 2.4 mi. SW of Bellmont; Alamance County and Guilford County, North Carolina; 36°00′12″N, 79°28′30″W; USGS map – Burlington 1:24,000 (mouth); Not: Big Stinking Quarter Creek, North Fork Stinking Quarter Creek, North Prong Creek, North Prong Stinking Quarter Creek, North Stinking Quarter Creek, Stinking Quarter Creek. [https://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesrimap?p_lat=36.0034697&p_longi=79.475021&fid=991261](https://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesrimap?p_lat=36.0034697&p_longi=79.475021&fid=991261)

  - **Map:** USGS map – Burlington 1:24,000 (mouth)
  - **Names associated with feature:**
    - **GNIS:** North Prong Stinking Quarter Creek (FID 991261)
    - **Local Usage:** None found
  - **Published:**

**Quarter Creek**: stream; 4.8 mi. long; heads at the confluence of North Prong Quarter Creek (q.v.) and South Prong Quarter Creek (q.v.) at 36°00′12″N, 79°28′30″W 2.4 mi. SW of Bellmont, flows ENE to enter Big Alamance Creek 1.2 mi. SE of Bellmont; Alamance County, North Carolina; 36°01′01″N, 79°25′26″W; USGS map – Burlington 1:24,000; Not: Big
Stinking Quarter Creek, Staukens Quarter Creek, Stinking Creek, Stinking Quarter Creek. 

Map: USGS map – Burlington 1:24,000
Names associated with feature:
GNIS: Stinking Quarter Creek (FID 995523)
Local Usage: Quarter Creek (reported by proponent)
Published:

South Prong Quarter Creek: stream; 15 mi. long; heads 1.5 mi. NNE of Liberty at 35°52’27”N, 79°33’47”W, flows NNE then NE to form Quarter Creek (q.v.) at its confluence with North Prong Quarter Creek (q.v.) 2.4 mi. SW of Bellmont; Alamance County, Guilford County, and Randolph County, North Carolina; 36°00’12”N, 79°28’30”W; USGS map – Burlington 1:24,000 (mouth); Not: Little Stinking Quarter Creek, South Fork Stinking Quarter Creek, South Prong Creek, South Prong Stinking Quarter Creek.

Map: USGS map – Burlington 1:24,000 (mouth)
Names associated with feature:
GNIS: South Prong Stinking Quarter Creek (FID 1024311)
Local Usage: None found
Published:

These three proposals are to remove the word “Stinking” from the names of three streams in north-central North Carolina: Stinking Quarter Creek (in Alamance County), North Prong Stinking Quarter Creek (in Alamance County and Guilford County), and South Prong Stinking Quarter Creek (in Alamance County, Guilford County, and Randolph County.

The proponent reports that “Local residents are embarrassed to announce they live on Stinking Quarter Creek.”
Stinking Quarter Creek is a 4.8-mile-long tributary of Big Alamance Creek and is formed by the confluence of the 19.5-mile-long North Prong Stinking Quarter Creek and the 15-mile-long South Prong Stinking Quarter Creek. These names have been shown on USGS maps since 1969. The stream was labeled “Stinking Quarter [Creek]” on maps as early as 1770. Various sources since then have applied that name, as well as “Big Stinking Quarter Creek.”

Several hypotheses exist to explain the origin of the name. A 1922 Greensboro Daily News article reported, “This locality according to local tradition was the home of a considerable village. . . of Indians. Local tradition also hath it that in the earliest recollection of white people. . . a great number of deer were congregated at this point and died. Or maybe one isolated passing animal after another perished there. At any rate, according to tradition, so many deer died that the stench of the decomposing bodies was so great as to leave a name through future generations. Local opinion attaches to still another tradition, that in more recent years one Stankins owned many slaves, and quartered them there. . . .”

The 1982 The North Carolina Gazetteer reported, “Name said to have been derived from the fact that Indians cleaned animals here and left quarters of meat to spoil. Caruthers, writing in 1856, said it was formerly known as Stauken’s Quarter Creek, presumably, therefore, named for a grant of land to a pioneer settler.” [An 1842 work by Caruthers noted a locale named “Stankin’s Quarter”.

A 2020 Facebook post from the Alamance County Historical Museum reported that in February 1963, inquiries were made regarding the name. It was noted that “none [of the explanations] have any more authority than the others.’ These included suggestions that “A Mr. Stankins owned a quarter of land in the area and the creek’s name is a corruption of his name”; “Indians used the place to slaughter game, leaving it in shambles”; “Animals frequented natural salt licks and created a smelly morass”; “Cornwallis’s army camped here, leaving debris and offal offensive to the residents.”

A 2020 North Carolina State University Master’s thesis stated, “Coble Township was formerly known as the Stinking Quarter community, its namesake is the creek that bisects [it]. . . Several unsubstantiated claims exist for the history of the creek’s name.” In addition to the theories outlined above, it suggests “It is an alteration of a former plantation owner in the area, Mr. Stalkings. In this theory, the Quarter is a reference to the plantation’s slave quarters. Based on descriptions of the land recorded by travelers, and described in local newspapers, I think the name may have been an attempt by early settlers to discourage future people from encroaching on their discovery”.

NORTH DAKOTA

Prairie Lake: lake; approx. 70 acres; located 10 mi. W of Pingree; the name refers to the lake’s location in the prairie pothole region; Secs36&35, T143N, R67W, Fifth Principal Meridian; Stutsman County, North Dakota; 47°09’36”N, 99°07’05”W; USGS map – Vashti 1:24,000 (central point).
Proposal: to make official a name in recent local use
Map: USGS Vashti 1:24,000 (central point)
Proponent: Liam Gerry; New Fairfield, CT
Administrative area: None
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
  GNIS: No record
  Local Usage: Prairie Lake (ecological researchers)
  Published: Prairie Lake (National Science Foundation's National Ecological Observatory Network website, 2021)
Case Summary: This proposal is to make official the name Prairie Lake for an approximately 70-acre lake west of Pingree in Stutsman County. The lake is a field site in the National Science Foundation's National Ecological Observatory Network. The name has been in use by researchers for several years and refers to the lake’s location in the prairie pothole region. Most of the lake is on State Land Board land.

GNIS does not list any other lakes in North Dakota with “Prairie” in their names. There are a number of features named “Prairie” in other States, typically in areas of prairie landscapes.

OHIO

Litchford Run: stream; 0.17 mi long; in the City of Columbus, heads at 40°00’43”N, 83°02’45”W, flows generally E to enter an unnamed stream proposed to be named Pleasant Run (q.v.); named for Pleasant Litchford (1789-1879), former enslaved person who owned land and worked as a blacksmith near the source of the stream; T1N, R18W, United States Military District; Franklin County, Ohio; 40°00’42”N, 83°02’37”W; USGS map – Northwest Columbus 1:24,000.
  Proposal: new commemorative name for unnamed feature
  Map: USGS Northwest Columbus 1:24,000
  Proponent: Natalie Fountain; Columbus, OH
  Administrative area: The Ohio State University
  Previous BGN Action: None
  Names associated with feature:
    GNIS: No record
    Local Usage: None found
    Published: None found

Pleasant Run: stream; 1.5 mi. long; in the City of Columbus, heads at 40°00’49”N, 83°02’51”W, flows generally SE then NE to enter Ackerman Run; named for Pleasant Litchford (1789-1879), former enslaved person who owned land and worked as a blacksmith near the source of the stream; T1N R18W, United States Military District; Franklin County, Ohio; 40°00’53”N, 83°01’29”W; USGS map – Northwest Columbus 1:24,000.
Proposal: new commemorative name for unnamed feature
Map: USGS Northwest Columbus 1:24,000
Proponent: Natalie Fountain; Columbus, OH
Administrative area: The Ohio State University
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
  GNIS: No record
  Local Usage: None found
  Published: None found

Case Summary: These two proposals are to apply new names to two unnamed streams in the City of Columbus in Franklin County. The streams are on land owned by The Ohio State University. The proposals were submitted by a volunteer with the Friends of Lower Olentangy Watershed.

Both names would commemorate Pleasant Litchford (1789-1879), a former enslaved person who worked as a blacksmith and owned land near the source of the stream. Litchford purchased or was granted his freedom in Virginia and traveled with his family to settle in Perry Township, in what is now the City of Upper Arlington and adjacent to the Columbus city limits. He set aside some of his land for a school for his family and other Black residents and also for a cemetery for Black families. His obituary reported that he owned 227 acres at time of his death, valued at $23,000, and that “[h]e was a man of iron constitution; a devout Christian, the oldest member of the Second Baptist Church . . . and the last surviving person who helped to organize the colored Baptist church of this city.” He owned the fourth-largest amount of land in the area at the time. By the time he passed away, he had 11 children, 25 grandchildren, and 3 great-grandchildren.

The Friends of Lower Olentangy Watershed website refers to the stream proposed to be named Pleasant Run as the south branch of Ackerman Run. The name Ackerman Run was a 2007 BGN decision, and although the name applies to a single stream, local use appears to refer the entire watershed.

A query of GNIS found many features in Ohio with “Pleasant” in their names. There are fifteen townships named Township of Pleasant, including one in Franklin County 12 miles to the southwest. Historical and toponymic sources suggest that all of the existing names derive from their amenable landscapes, locations, or living conditions.

The former Litchford Cemetery was located on land where the Upper Arlington High School was built. The bodies were reinterred at the nearby Union Cemetery in the 1950s. The Upper Arlington School District plans to incorporate Pleasant Litchford’s history into school curricula. GNIS does not list any no other features in Ohio named “Litchford.”
OKLAHOMA

Change Gobblers Knob to Little Bear Mountain: summit; elevation 1,535 ft.; 3.8 mi. NNE of Talihina; named for bears that can be found on the summit; Sec 19, T4N, R22E, Indian Meridian; Le Flore County, Oklahoma; 34°48′27″N, 95°02′18″W; USGS map - Talihina 1:24,000; Not: Gobblers Knob.

Proposal: to change a name considered to be offensive and to eliminate duplication
Map: USGS map - Talihina 1:24,000
Proponent: Wesley and Kerry Kirpach; Talihina, OK
Administrative area: None
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
GNIS: Gobblers Knob (FID 1093229)
Local Usage: None found

Case Summary: This proposal is to change the name of Gobblers Knob, a 1,535-foot summit north of Talihina in Le Flore County, to Little Bear Mountain. The proponents, who own the land around the summit, state “The name now has negative/inappropriate connotations. . . . i.e. ‘knob’ is not an accurate description. . . . The mountain is seasonally populated with many black bear that didn’t exist when it was named. There is no other ‘Little Bear Mountain’ named in Oklahoma as far as we can tell. The current name is offensive to some and duplicated several times in the area.”

“Knob” is a generic term describing a rounded hill or mountain. “Gobbler” presumably refers to wild turkeys. GNIS lists numerous examples of features named Gobblers Knob in the U.S.; six are in Oklahoma. One is located 19 miles to the southeast and also in Le Flore County, and another is 5.8 miles to the southwest in Latimer County. One of the more famous is located outside Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania and is the location of the annual Groundhog Day celebration and ceremonies. A community northwest of Talihina includes a street named Gobblers Knob Road, one of many named for nearby summits and ridges.

A summit named Bear Mountain is located in Latimer County, 4.5 miles west-northwest of the summit in question; its elevation is approximately 250 feet lower than the proposed Little Bear Mountain. Bear Suck Knob is located 11 miles to the west.

Change Tarbone Mountain to Tah-bone-mah Mountain: summit; elevation 2,395 ft.; in Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge, 16 mi. NW of Lawton; named for a Kiowa-American soldier and U.S. Army Indian Scout named Iseeo or I-See-O (1849?-1927), also known earlier in his life as Tahbonemah or Tah-bone-mah; Sec 1, T3N, R14W, Indian Meridian; Comanche County, Oklahoma; 34°45′45″N, 98°37′09″W; USGS map – Meers 1:24,000; Not: I-See-O Mountain, Mount Tarbone, Mount Tarno, Tarbone Mountain.

Proposal: change name to recognize correct name of honoree
Case Summary: This proposal is to change the name of Tarbone Mountain, a 2,395-foot summit in Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge in Comanche County, to Tah-bone-mah Mountain. The summit is located northwest of Lawton and Fort Sill.

The proponent believes the current name is misspelled and should be corrected so that it properly commemorates a Kiowa-American soldier and U.S. Army Indian Scout, who was stationed at nearby Fort Sill, and who was named Iseeo (or I-see-o) and also known as Tah-bone-mah (or Tabonemah) earlier in his life.

Around 1889, Tah-bone-mah enlisted in the 7th Calvary (under the name I-See-O); his Kiowa ethnographic knowledge, sign language fluency, and diplomacy skills were invaluable to future Army Chief of Staff Hugh L. Scott. I-See-O helped persuade Apaches and Kiowa not to go to war during the Ghost Dance movement. He enlisted in the United States Army Indian Scouts at Fort Sill and rose to the rank of sergeant. For his service to the United States, Scott ensured that I-See-O had the privilege of remaining an active duty sergeant for life, writing to the commanding officer at Fort Sill: “I have just enlisted, by order of the Secretary of War, as a sergeant of scouts, an old Kiowa Indian named Iseeo... as a reward for former services rendered during the Ghost Dance excitement in ‘90 and ‘91, when, as you will remember, all the southern plains were aflame. I was able, however, to keep peace among the 8 tribes down there and bring them through without firing a shot, and in this Iseeo assisted to a very large degree. I would like to have you let him live on the reservation or out among his people, as he elects, and see that he gets pay, clothing and rations from your Quartermaster, and that when his time expires he be re-enlisted as a sergeant until he dies... When the government needed him he was supremely loyal, against the wishes of his own people.”

According to the 2015 volume Through Indian Sign Language: The Fort Sill Ledgers of Hugh Lenox Scott and Iseeo, 1889-1897: “Iseeo is the English pronunciation of the Kiowa name Áiséàuidè (Many Camp Smokes/Campfires). It is a distinguished name that was passed down through three known individuals in the nineteenth century... In 1849 a Kiowa boy was born in the vicinity of Fort Larned, Kansas, to Quo-haw-ty and his wife, Kau-nai-ty... In the nineteenth century many Kiowas did not name children until they were a few years old, often to ensure their survival... Iseeo, who was not formally named as a child, explained to Scott (n.d.a:II:78, chapter 5 in this volume) how he received his first name:
‘My name was first Tah-bone-moh—Sees Big Morning Star [Jábônmāui]. Kom-au-dy was my father’s near brother and when I was little I was very sick and dying. I had no name then and was about four years old. Komau-dy said, ‘That is my child, he is very sick. I will call him Tahbonemoh and maybe he will get well’. When I enlisted first for a soldier I took my brother’s name Iseeo ‘Plenty Of Round Fire Places’ [Áiséàuidè]. Sees Big Morning Star was later enrolled as Tah-bone-mah, Family 328, on the Kiowa Tribal Roll (Kiowa Family Record 1901), which in time became Tahbonemah.”

This same book noted that Iseeo and his wife were granted allotments near Mount Sheridan, which is 1.7 miles east of Tarbone Mountain.

An interview with a Comanche County resident recorded in Chronicles of Oklahoma, Volume 32, No. 3, published in 1954, mentioned “I-See-O, generally known as Tah-Bone-Mah or Tarbone” as being well-known in the area around Fort Sill. The 2012 Kiowa Military Societies: Ethnohistory and Ritual gave his names as Iseeo and Tahbonemah. Tahbonemah is the last name of many people who have lived and still live in the Lawton and Fort Sill area.

The 1971 The Wichita Mountains: Ancient Oasis of the Prairie reported that the summit was known as Mount Tarbone and that that name was a “corruption of Tah-bone-mah, a Kiowa warrior, last surviving mem-ber of the Fort Sill detachment of Indian scouts, and who later rose in the social ranks within his tribe to become a keeper of one of the Ten Grandmother bundles. Better known as I-See-0 Mountain once known as Mount Tarno.” Other works, including the 2008 Kiowa Ethnogeography, cite this entry under the name Tarbone Mountain.

USGS maps have labeled the summit as Tarbone Mountain since 1950. Two summits approximately four miles to the east-southeast are named Hunting Horse Hill, presumably for the Kiowa Chief Hunting Horse who died in 1953, and Quetone Point, reportedly named for the Kiowa Chief Quetone (or Quoetone).

In 1992, the BGN approved a correction of the name I-See-Q Tank to I-See-O Tank, located east of Fort Sill; this name also commemorates I-See-O.

OREGON

Fern Creek stream; 4.4 mi. long; heads 0.6 mi. NW of Spring Hill at 45°27’53”N, 123°05’26”W, flows generally NE to enter Tualatin River 0.2 mi. N of Meyers Pond; associative of Fern Hill, located near the stream’s headwaters; Washington County, Oregon; T01S, R03W, Willamette Meridian; 45°29’38”N, 123°01’59”W; USGS map – Laurelwood 1:24,000.
Mouth: https://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesricoor?p_lat=45.493771&p_longi=-123.033169
Source: https://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesricoor?p_lat=45.464708&p_longi=-123.090645

South Fork Fern Creek: stream; 2.4 mi. long; heads at Spring Hill, 0.8 mi. NW of Cook Reservoir, flows E then NE to enter an unnamed stream proposed to be named Fern;
Washington County, Oregon; Secs 15,16,21,28,&29, T01S, R0W, Willamette Meridian; 45°28'49"N, 123°03'01"W; USGS map – Laurelwood 1:24,000.

Mouth: https://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesricoor?p_lat=45.480217&p_longi=-123.050176
Source: https://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesricoor?p_lat=45.459518&p_longi=-123.083033

Proposal: new name for unnamed feature
Map: USGS map – Laurelwood 1:24,000
Proponent: Anna Jesse; Beaverton, OR
Administrative area: None
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
GNIS: None found
Local Usage: None found
Published: None found

Case Summary: These names are proposed for a 4.4-mile-long tributary of the Tualatin River and a 2.4-mile-long tributary of the main stream, both in Washington County. Both streams flow in part through Forest Hills Golf Course, and the names are associated with Fern Hill located at the head of the main stream. According to the proponent, who is the Vice President of Forest Hill Farms, Inc., the area is primarily agricultural, wetland, and forested property, which is host to many fern species. Parts of the main stream are enrolled in a conservation project with the Tualatin Soil and Water Conservation District. A habitat conservation specialist with the district has confirmed there are no known names for the streams and recommends approval of Fern Creek and South Fork Fern Creek.

GNIS lists Fern Rock Creek and seven streams in Oregon named Fern Creek. The closest is also in Washington County, 11 miles east-southeast of the streams in question.

*** Note: The following proposal has been withdrawn.

Change Big Sq__ Mountain to Ford Mountain: summit; elevation 4,849 ft.; in Umpqua National Forest 6.5 mi. SSE of Taft Mountain; named for Kenneth “Pappy” Webster Ford (1908-1997), an iconic Douglas County and Pacific Northwest timber merchant, and philanthropist; Secs 13&14, T28S, R1W, Willamette Meridian; Douglas County, Oregon; 43°08'25"N, 122°46'25"W; USGS map – Taft Mountain 1:24,000; Not: Big Sq__, Big Sq__ Mountain.


Proposal: to change a name considered offensive
Map: USGS Taft Mountain 1:24,000
Proponent: Chris Boice; Roseburg, OR
Administrative area: Umpqua National Forest
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
GNIS: Big Sq__ Mountain (FID 1138084)
Local Usage: None found

Case Summary: This proposal, to change the name of Big Sq__ Mountain in Douglas County to Ford Mountain, was submitted by the Oregon Geographic Names Board on behalf of the Douglas County Commission. The name is proposed as a counterproposal to the Sacagawea Peak (Review List 437). The summit has an elevation of 4,849 feet and is located in Umpqua National Forest. The name Big Sq__ Mountain has appeared on USGS maps since 1955. The name Big Sq__ was applied to Army Map Service maps in 1958 and 1959, while a 1967 edition labeled the feature Big Sq__ Mountain. Small-scale versions of Metsker’s maps of Douglas County label the summit as “Big Sq__ L.O. [Lookout].”

The proponent of Ford Mountain recognizes that the existing name should be changed but cites a lack of any historical evidence that Sacagawea had any association with this feature or present-day Douglas County. The counterproposal would honor Kenneth “Pappy” Webster Ford (1908-1997), an iconic Douglas County and Pacific Northwest timber merchant, and “very generous philanthropist.” Beginning with the establishment of a mill near Roseburg in 1936 and a collection of secondhand machinery, he built Roseburg Forest Products Company into the largest privately held timber company in the nation. He later established the Ford Family Foundation, which has donated tens of millions of dollars to schools, public agencies, and charities.

*** Note: the following proposal has been re-posted on Review List 446

Change Sq__ Mountain to Kailapa Mountain: summit; elevation 4,325 ft.; in Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forests, 1.3 mi. N of the confluence of Grayback Creek and Sucker Creek, 10 mi. W of the community of Cave Junction; the name is from the Takelma language and means “woman”; Sec 19, T39S, R9W, Willamette Meridian; Josephine County, Oregon; 42°09’34”N, 123°27’12”W; USGS map – Kerby Peak 1:24,000; Not: Sq__ Mountain.  
https://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesrimap?p_lat=42.1593452&p_longi=-123.4533363&fid=1150287

Proposal: to change a name considered offensive
Map: USGS Kerby Peak 1:24,000
Proponent: Bruce Fisher; Portland, OR
Administrative area: Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forests
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
GNIS: Sq__ Mountain (FID 1150287)
Local Usage: None found

Case Summary: This proposal is to change the name of Sq__ Mountain, a 4,325-ft. summit in Josephine County and on the Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forests, to Kailapa Mountain. It was submitted by the President of the Oregon Geographic Names Board, in an effort to eliminate a name that is considered offensive. The name Sq__ Mountain has appeared on USGS maps since 1954. “Kailapa” is from the Takelma language and means “woman”; the word was recorded by anthropologists during the early 20th century (The Papers of John
Peabody Harrington; National Anthropological Archives of the Smithsonian Institution, 1907-1957).

**Lawanda Hill**: summit; elevation 4,734 ft.; located 0.8 mi. W of Botens Reservoir, 6.9 mi. E of Oatman Lake; the name is associated with the nearby neighborhood named Lawanda Hills; Klamath County, Oregon; Sec 15, T39S, R8E, Willamette Meridian; 42°10′53″N, 121°51′24″W; USGS map – Klamath Falls 1:24,000.  

- Proposal: new associative name for unnamed feature
- Map: USGS map – Klamath Falls 1:24,000
- Proponent: Gavin McKay; Klamath Falls, OR
- Administrative area:
- 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 Lawanda Hill to an unnamed 4,734-foot summit in Klamath County. The name refers to the Lawanda Hills neighborhood, located less than one mile southeast of the feature. The proponent did not provide a meaning for the word “Lawanda,” and it is not known if it is from a local indigenous language; it is a popular girl’s name and often stated to be of German origin.

**Roberts Mountain Pass**: gap; elevation 970 ft.; at the location where Interstate 5 passes over Roberts Mountain, 1.1 mi. S of Glengary; Sec 25, T28S, R6W, Willamette Meridian; Douglas County, Oregon; 43°06′36″N, 123°21′17″W; USGS map – Myrtle Creek 1:24,000.  
[https://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesricoor?p_lat=43.11&p_longi=-123.354722](https://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesricoor?p_lat=43.11&p_longi=-123.354722)

- Proposal: new associative name for unnamed feature
- Map: USGS Myrtle Creek 1:24,000
- Proponent: Gary Hatter
- Administrative area: None
- Previous BGN Action: None
- Names associated with feature:
  - GNIS: No record
  - Local Usage: Roberts Mountain Pass (55 years, according to proponent)
- Published: None found

Case Summary: The name Roberts Mountain Pass is proposed to be made official for the gap where Interstate 5 passes over Roberts Mountain in Douglas County. The gap has an elevation of approximately 970 feet and is located one mile northeast of part of the Cow Creek Reservation.

The Oregon Department of Transportation refers to the feature as a pass through Roberts Mountain, but does not use the proposed name, nor is the gap signed along the interstate.

Many other gaps in Oregon have official names in GNIS. Of the 14 gaps recorded in Douglas County, five have the generic “Pass.” Along Interstate 5, the following are named from south
to north: Siskiyou Summit (not in GNIS, although the nearby Siskiyou Pass may refer to the
same feature), Sexton Mountain Pass, Smith Hill Summit, Stage Road Pass, Canyon Creek
Pass, and Coryell Pass.

*** Note: the following proposal has been withdrawn; see new proposal for Lapam
Gulch (Review List 446)

Change Sq__ Gulch to Waiwee Gulch: valley; 0.9 mi. long; on land managed by the Bureau
of Land Management, heads at 42°22′24″N, 123°31′30″W, trends S to join the valley through
which Slate Creek flows, just E of the community of Wonder; the name is from the Takelma
language and means “young woman.”; Sec 9, T37S, R9W, Willamette Meridian; Josephine
County, Oregon; 42°21′44″N, 123°31′31″W; USGS map – Selma 1:24,000; Not: Sq__ Gulch.
https://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesrimap?p_lat=42.3622897&p_longi=-
123.5252844&fid=1150275
   Proposal: to change a name considered offensive
   Map: USGS Selma 1:24,000
   Proponent: Bruce Fisher; Portland, OR
   Administrative area: Bureau of Land Management
   Previous BGN Action: None
   Names associated with feature:
      GNIS: Sq__ Gulch (FID 1150275)
      Local Usage: None found
Case Summary: This proposal is to change the name of Sq__ Gulch, a 0.9-long valley in
Josephine County and on land managed by the Bureau of Land Management, to Waiwee
Gulch. It was submitted by the President of the Oregon Geographic Names Board, in an effort
to eliminate a name that is considered offensive. The name Sq__ Gulch has appeared on
USGS maps since 1954. “Waiwee” is from the Takelma language and means “young woman.”

PENNSYLVANIA

Brown Run: stream; 0.9 mi. long; heads in Potter Township on Egg Hill at 40°49′37″N,
77°36′05″W, flows SE into Gregg Township to enter Muddy Creek; named for Harold Brown
(1927-1991), who farmed the property east of the stream since 1972; Centre County,
Pennsylvania; 40°49′15″N, 77°35′16″W; USGS map – Spring Mills 1:24,000; Not: Trib
18354 To Muddy Creek.
Mouth: https://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesricoor?p_lat=40.820862&p_longi=-
77.587789
Source: https://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesricoor?p_lat=40.826886&p_longi=-
77.601436
   Proposal: new commemorative name for unnamed feature
   Map: USGS map – Spring Mills 1:24,000
   Proponent: Barbara Garrison; Spring Mills, PA
   Administrative area: None
   Previous BGN Action: None
   Names associated with feature:
Case Summary: The new name Brown Run is proposed for an unnamed 0.9-mile-long tributary of Muddy Creek in Centre County. The stream heads in Potter Township and flows into Gregg Township.

The name would commemorate Harold Brown (1927-1991), who in 1972 purchased and farmed the property to the east of the stream. Mr. Brown’s son and grandsons continue to live on the original farm. The proponent is working on “ecologically restoring the 1500 feet of waterway situated in the agricultural land”.

Before 2020, the USGS National Hydrography Dataset (NHD) inaccurately labeled this stream as part of Muddy Creek. The current version of NHD does not label the stream.

Kitty Payne Creek: stream; 2.8 mi. long; heads in Butler Township at 39°56’37”N, 77°15’33”W, flows SE then S through the Borough of Biglerville back into Butler Township to enter Conewago Creek 1.4 mi. NNE of Goldenville; named for Catherine “Kitty” Payne (1816?-1850?), a former enslaved woman who lived nearby, was captured and returned to Virginia, and then won back her freedom; Adams County, Pennsylvania; 39°54’43”N, 77°14’38”W; USGS map – Biglerville 1:24,000 (mouth); Not: Trib 09140 To Conewago Creek (in part), Trib 09141 Of Conewago Creek (in part). Mouth: https://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesricoor?p_lat=39.911983&p_longi=-77.24386

Proposal: new commemorative name for unnamed feature
Map: USGS map – Biglerville 1:24,000 (mouth)
Proponent: Aidan Kissner; Biglerville, PA
Administrative area: None
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
GNIS: No record
Local Usage: None found
Published: Trib 09140 To Conewago Creek (in part) (Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection legacy stream dataset, 2004); Trib 09141 Of Conewago Creek (in part) (Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection legacy stream dataset, 2004)

Case Summary: The new name Kitty Payne Creek is proposed for an unnamed 2.8-mile-long tributary of Conewago Creek in Adams County. The stream’s source and mouth are in Butler Township and it flows through the Borough of Biglerville.

The name would commemorate Catherine “Kitty” Payne (1816?-1850?), a former enslaved woman who lived nearby, was captured and returned to Virginia, and then won back her freedom in court. The National Park Service provides a summary of Kitty Payne’s life on its
Gettysburg National Military Park website. Kitty Payne was born in Rappahannock County (Virginia), the daughter of her owner, Samuel Maddox. When he died, his enslaved persons were inherited by his wife Mary Maddox who emancipated them in 1843. Mary moved with Payne and her family to southwestern Adams County to ensure their freedom. Kitty Payne settled on Bear Mountain in northern Adams County, approximately 2.5 miles from the source of the stream proposed as Kitty Payne Creek. Mary’s nephew contested Samuel Maddox’s will, and when legal methods failed, hired “slave catchers” to kidnap Kitty Payne and her children and imprison them in Virginia. Quakers from the Gettysburg area helped hire a lawyer who argued for Payne’s freedom. After a long legal process, her freedom was restored and she moved back to settle in Gettysburg (about six miles south of the mouth of the stream), where she died in 1850 or 1851.

Change Masseyburg to Masseysburg: populated place (unincorporated); elevation 909 ft.; in Barree Township W of Lake Perez, N of Hutchinson Pond; named for the Massey family, early settlers and long-time residents of Shavers Creek Valley; Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania; 40°39′34″N, 77°55′38″W; USGS map – Pine Grove Mills 1:24,000; Not: Masseyburg. https://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesrimap?p_lat=40.6595104&p_longi=-77.9272239&fid=1180535
Proposal: name change to recognize local and historical use
Map: USGS map – Pine Grove Mills 1:24,000
Proponent: Guy E Croyle; Petersburg, PA
Administrative area: None
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
GNIS: Masseyburg (FID 1180535)
Local Usage: Masseysburg (area residents)
Case Summary: This proposal is to change the name of Masseyburg, an unincorporated populated place in Barre Township in Huntingdon County, to Masseysburg. The community’s name refers to the Massey family, early settlers and long-time residents of Shavers Creek Valley.

The proponent, the president of the Petersburg Community Development Association, Inc. [“a non-profit organization serving the four-municipality Shavers Creek Valley region of northern Huntingdon County”], reports that the name in present-day use is Masseysburg. He cited road signs installed by the Township government, along with sources published in 1856, 1883, 1903, and 1909, and Post Office records dated 1882, 1892, and 1917.

The spelling Masseyburg has been applied to USGS and other Federal maps since 1935. A 2010 Barree Township map published by the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation
(PennDOT) also used that name, as does a sign installed by PennDOT in the community reads “Village of Masseyburg.”

**Ridgewood Run:** stream; 1.3 mi. long; heads in Spring Hills Township at 40°27’05”N, 79°49’06”W, flows SSW through Wilkins Township, into the Borough of Churchill to enter Chalfant Run; named for Ridgewood Manor, the neighborhood west of lower section of the stream; Allegheny County, Pennsylvania; 40°26’05”N, 79°49’20”W; USGS map – Braddock 1:24,000; Not: Trib 37213 To Chalfant Run.


- Proposal: new associative name for unnamed feature
- Map: USGS Braddock 1:24,000
- Proponent: Samuel Manganello; Pittsburgh, PA
- Administrative area: None
- Previous BGN Action: None
- Names associated with feature:
  - GNIS: No record
  - Local Usage: None found
- Published: Trib 37213 To Chalfant Run (Pennsylvania DEP streams legacy dataset, 2004)

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

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

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

**Slate Cabin Run:** stream; 0.9 mi. long; heads in Barree Township at 40°40’24”N, 77°53’22”W, flows NE to enter an unnamed tributary of Laurel Run 3.6 mi. NW of McAlevys Fort; named for an old slate quarry and cabin near the mouth of the stream; Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania; 40°40’48”N, 77°52’36”W; USGS map – Pine Grove Mills 1:24,000; Not: Trib 15463 Of Laurel Run.


Proposal: new name for an unnamed feature  
Map: USGS map – Pine Grove Mills 1:24,000  
Proponent: Ryan Gruhn; State College, PA  
Administrative area: None  
Previous BGN Action: None  
Names associated with feature:  
  GNIS: No record  
  Local Usage: None found  
Published: Trib 15463 Of Laurel Run (Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection legacy stream dataset, 2004)  

Case Summary: The new name Slate Cabin Run is proposed for an unnamed 0.9-mile-long stream that flows into an unnamed tributary of Laurel Run in Huntingdon County. The stream heads in Barree Township and flows into Jackson Township. According to the county’s online tax parcel records, the stream is entirely on private property, with the majority owned by the Red Rose Rod & Gun Club and the Stone Valley Pet Lodge.

The proponent reports that the stream flows through his property that he calls “Slate Cabin.” He confirmed there is no commercial intent to the name and no local business called “Slate Cabin.” The cabin on his property near the mouth of the stream “was built in 1900 on an old slate quarry. . . We’ve done everything to preserve the health of the stream including working with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection and installing stream discharge systems. . . We also are working with local environmentalists to bring back the ecological life to the tributary.”

A stream named Slab Cabin Run heads 4.1 miles to the northeast in Centre County.

Change Paradise Beach to Tunnelville Beach: beach; approx. 2.5 acres; in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Crooked Creek Reservoir, in Bethel Township, 0.25 mi. SW of the mouth of Elbow Run; the name refers to the former community of Tunnelville; Armstrong County, Pennsylvania; 40°42'51”N, 79°29'56”W; USGS map – Whitesburg 1:24,000 (central point); Not: Paradise Beach.  

Proposal: change name to recognize local use  
Map: USGS map – Whitesburg 1:24,000 (central point)  
Proponent: Erik Breedon, Pittsburgh, PA  
Administrative area: Crooked Creek Reservoir (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers)  
Previous BGN Action: None  
Names associated with feature:  
  GNIS: Paradise Beach (FID 1193087)  
  Local Usage: Crooked Creek Beach (online real estate listings); Tunnelville Beach (current USACE signage)  
Case Summary: This proposal is to change the name of Paradise Beach in Bethel Township in Armstrong County to Tunnelville Beach. The beach was formed when Crooked Creek Reservoir was created in 1940 and is within property managed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE).

The proponent, a geographer with the USACE Pittsburgh District, reports that the proposed name is used by the agency and refers to the community of Tunnelville that once existed at the location but was inundated by the creation of Crooked Creek Reservoir. According to a 1987 USACE memorandum for the Crooked Creek Lake Project, the name derives from a gristmill “where the builders tunneled through rock to construct a special head race powered mill.”

A 2004 Bethel Township map published by the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation shows a community named Tunnelville 0.9 miles southwest of where the community was shown on USGS maps in 1907 and 1909. Some online documents also refer to an existing community named Tunnelville.

The name Paradise Beach was first labeled on USGS maps in 1954 and is of unknown origin. The proponent speculates that it “may have been favored (sic) by the former State Park that existed at this lake.”

**Wilkinson Run**: stream; 0.5 mi. long; heads in Warwick Township at 40°15′16″N, 75°02′29″W, flows generally NE then SE along Wilkinson Road, through Heritage Conservancy land, to enter Neshaminy Creek in Wrightstown Township; named for Samuel Wilkinson (1816?-1867), who in 1833 settled on land at the headwater of the stream; Bucks County, Pennsylvania; 40°15′21″N, 75°02′01″W; USGS map – Buckingham 1:24,000.


Proposal: new commemorative name for unnamed feature

Map: USGS Buckingham 1:24,000

Proponent: Richard Myers; Rushland, PA

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 Wilkinson Run is proposed for a 0.5-mile-long stream that heads in Warwick Township and flows generally northeast, then turns southeast to enter Neshaminy Creek in Wrightstown Township in Bucks County. The stream flows along Wilkinson Road, which was named for Samuel Wilkinson (1816?-1867), who in 1833 settled on land at the headwater of the stream; his descendants still own the original homesite. Wilkinson is buried in Wrightstown Friends Meeting Cemetery, 2.75 miles from the mouth of the stream in question. The downstream section of the stream flows through Heritage Conservancy land.
**SOUTH CAROLINA**

**Courage**: locale; located SE of the unincorporated community of Fort Lawn; named for the courage of the company owner to start a second development at this location; Chester County, South Carolina; 34°41’42”N, 80°53’10”W; USGS map – Fort Lawn 1:24,000.


Proposal: new name for unnamed feature
Map: USGS map – Fort Lawn 1:24,000
Proponent: Robert Long, Richburg, SC
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 **Courage** is proposed for a locale directly southeast of Fort Lawn in Chester County. The proposed was submitted by the Chester County Economic Development Director who reported, “The developer [of the property] is the grandson of the original founder of the company, which was started in 1933. After almost 90 years of only being located in [California], they have made the courageous decision to have a second development. The developer is a privately-held, family-owned company and this new development is a legacy to his children and took Courage.”

The name would apply to “a new unincorporated locale as designated by Chester County government via a resolution in support of a new development. It consists of 10 parcels totaling 594.6 acres.” The proponent confirmed that the feature will not include any residences and will be strictly a commercial facility.

In March 2021 the BGN received an inquiry from the office of Senator Lindsay Graham about the BGN process. The inquirer had asked the U.S. Postal Service (USPS) about the process to allow the use of “Courage, SC” as an alternate city and state address line for ZIP Code 29714 rather than the USPS assigned “Fort Lawn, SC.” The USPS responded that in order for a unique last line to be considered, “it must be an established municipality that is recognized by the [BGN]. . . The requested last line of Courage, SC is not currently a US-BGN or SC-BGN recognized or established municipality and therefore cannot be added as a last line at this time. Honoring requests of this nature opens a dangerous precedent that could harm the needs and interests of the USPS for processing mail.”

A February 25, 2021 *The News & Reporter* [Chester County] online article reported that “A large West Coast wine manufacturer and bottler will be constructing a facility near Fort Lawn in Chester County. . . The name of the company constructing this facility has not yet been released.”
TENNESSEE

**Change Lewis Chapel to Lewis Chapel Mountain**: populated place (unincorporated); located E of the Cumberland Escarpment, S of Henson Gap; named for the Lewis family that settled in the mountains in the area around 1880; Sequatchie County, Tennessee; 35°20′25″N, 85°18′29″W; USGS map – Henson Gap 1:24,000; Not: Lewis Chapel. https://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesrimap?p_lat=35.340346&p_longi=-85.3080177&fid=1291078

Proposal: name change to recognize local use
Map: USGS map – Henson Gap 1:24,000
Proponent: Stacy Young; Graysville, TN
Administrative area: None
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
GNIS: Lewis Chapel (FID 1291078)
Local Usage: Lewis Chapel Mountain (long-time area residents, at least 80 years)

Case Summary: This proposal is to change the name of Lewis Chapel, a small unincorporated community in eastern Sequatchie County, to Lewis Chapel Mountain. The proponent reports that the proposed name is in local use and describes the area as “a mountain community that encapsulates the whole of Sequatchie County that tops the mountain [Walden Ridge], south to Marion County, east to Hamilton County, and north to Bledsoe County.”

USGS maps published in 1946 and 1947 and reprinted until 1974 labeled the community as Lewis Chapel (PO), while the 1989 edition labeled it Lewis Chapel. A church named Lewis Chapel and Lewis Chapel School are located approximately a half mile to the north-northeast.

There is no mountain officially named “Lewis Chapel Mountain,” but the proposal and some online sources suggest the name applies to the area of Walden Ridge at the crest of the Cumberland Escarpment.

TEXAS

**Bois d’Arc Lake**: reservoir; 16,526 acres; located along Bois d’Arc Creek, E and S of Coffee Mill Lake, NE of Bonham; named in association with Bois d’Arc Creek along which the reservoir is located; Fannin County, Texas; 33°40′39″N, 95°59′36″W; USGS map – Selfs 1:24,000 (central point). https://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesricoor?p_lat=33.67759&p_longi=-95.99342

Proposal: new name for an unnamed feature
Map: USGS Selfs 1:24,000 (central point)
Proponent: North Texas Municipal Water District
Administrative area: None
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
GNIS: No record
Local Usage: None found
Case Summary: The new name Bois d’Arc Lake is proposed for a newly constructed, 16,526-acre lake in Fannin County. The proposal was submitted by a law firm in Austin on behalf of the North Texas Municipal Water District (NTMWD), in an effort to establish a name for Federal use. The name refers to the reservoir’s location along Bois d’Arc Creek, a short distance upstream from its confluence with the Red River. According to the proposal, “NTMWD began pursuing permitting for the Bois d’Arc Lake project in 2003 and has secured all requisite state and federal permits and authorizations to construct the dam and impound water to create the reservoir referred to as Bois d’Arc Lake.”

This proposal was initially submitted to the BGN in 2019, but the proponent was advised that the BGN could not consider it until there was evidence that the dam had been constructed and the reservoir was being filled. These events occurred in late 2020 and early 2021, respectively. Upon completion in 2025, the reservoir will serve regional water needs for the area north and east of the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex.

Preliminary construction permits and impact statements by NTMWD, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers used the name Lower Bois d’Arc Creek Reservoir, but the proponent has confirmed that Bois d’Arc Lake is the preferred name. The application notes, “NTMWD has undertaken an extensive, years-long planning process that encompasses all aspects of the reservoir project, including the solicitation of public input on the name of the new geographic feature and a significant effort to seek local support and consensus among members of community and local governments regarding the selection of the name.”

According to the county’s history museum, the name of the stream derives from “the vast quantity of valuable Bois d’Arc timber, which has proved of great benefit in supply [sic] the world with timber, out of which the famous Bois d’Arc wagons have been and are still being made, and also the post durable fence posts, which incloses [sic] millions of acres of the richest virgin soil of the world.”

Support for the name Bois d’Arc Lake was included with the application from the Fannin County Commissioners Court, the City of Bonham Visitor and Information Center, the Fannin County Museum of History, the Fannin County Historical Commission, the Town of Windom, the City of Honey Grove, the Honey Grove Chamber of Commerce, the Honey Grove Preservation League, and the Honey Grove Industrial Foundation. In addition, 55 individuals submitted letters of support for the name, and there were 466 “likes” on the “Name Bois d’Arc Lake” Facebook page.

GNIS lists 12 other natural features in Texas with names that include “Bois d’Arc,” including an island, two springs, 7 streams, and a valley. There are also two communities named Bois d’Arc in Anderson County and Rains County, and one lake named Bois d’Arc Lake in Floyd County, approximately 400 miles from the reservoir in question. The community of Bonham, also in Fannin County and close to the head of the reservoir, was formerly known as Bois d’Arc (“Handbook of Texas Online”).
Change 16 names that include the word “Negro”

The following sixteen proposals are to change the names of features throughout Texas with names that include the word “Negro.” They were submitted to the BGN by the Texas Geographic Names Committee (TGNC), which is asking the BGN to revisit its 1998 decision not to approve the changes.

In 1994, the BGN received a copy of Texas State Legislation, H.B. 1756 (1991), “Relating to the elimination of certain racially offensive names given to geographical features.” The effort was initiated by the then-president of the Austin chapter of the NAACP. The bill directed the Director of the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) “to submit an application to the USBGN to change the name of 19 sites with the word ‘Negro’ included in its name, as well as other sites not explicitly listed that still contained the word ‘Negro.’” It also directed TxDOT to correct all maps and other documents that included the word. The bill listed the 19 features, along with replacement names that would “commemorate African-Americans who made a significant contribution to Texas.” One name on the list referred to a community (Negros Liberty Settlement in Liberty County), which at the time was not considered by the BGN to be under its purview; as such, it was not included in the list to be reviewed. Subsequent research has determined that the community no longer exists, so it has been made “historical” in GNIS. (Since 1998, one other name on the list, Negro Pond in Montgomery County, has been changed by the BGN (2018) to Emancipation Pond. Another name referred to a small reservoir, Negro Tank in Cameron County, which no longer exists and has also been made “historical.”)

The 1991 legislation did not provide any biographical details or any evidence that the intended honorees had any association with the geographic features in question.

The 18 proposals were added to the Quarterly Docket (now the “Quarterly Review List”). The BGN staff then contacted the governments of a number of the counties to ascertain local opinion. It was determined that none were aware of the legislation, nor had they been consulted regarding the replacement names.

The then-Texas State Geographic Names Authority (SNA) advised the BGN staff that because the changes had been approved by the State Legislature, he presumed he was required to accept them as official for State use.

At its December 10, 1998 meeting, the DNC reviewed and rejected the 18 proposals. The minutes read: “By a vote of 3-1, these name changes were not approved because the Board did not observe any evidence that there was any local involvement in the renaming process; and there was no evidence of local objection to the current names or local acceptance of the proposed names. Research concerning the location of the names also indicates that some of these names may be of Spanish origin, and therefore descriptive of the feature. The one member who voted to change the names believed that there was enough evidence to warrant the change, and that the names selected, for the most part, honored Americans who made significant contributions and were of regional notoriety.”
The SNA and the author of the 1991 legislation were informed in January 1999 of the BGN’s decision. No further communication was received.

In 2011, the BGN staff received an inquiry from a research associate at the Texas Senate Research Center regarding the renaming process, and specifically, the 1991 effort to change the 18 names. The inquirer was provided with a summary of the 1998 discussion and advised of the Commemorative Names Policy and the need for local input. Once again, no further communication was received.

In November 2020, the TGNC forwarded to the BGN a copy of a letter from Harris County Commissioner Rodney Ellis and State Representative Ron Reynolds. The letter, which was addressed to the Executive Director of TxDOT and the chair of the TGNC, “express[es] our serious concerns with the numerous racially offensive names of creeks, rivers, cliffs and other geographic features in Texas. Given the current moment in our history and our collective efforts to reconcile a racist past, now is the time to change these names and I hope that we can work with both of your offices to do so.” The letter noted that Commissioner Ellis had been a co-sponsor of H.B. 1756; however, “despite these legislative efforts, over 700 derogatory geographic names with the word ‘Negro’ remain in place across the United States.” Finally, “the [TxDOT and TGNC] should consider contacting jurisdictions to prompt name applications as well as submitting name change applications on behalf of the agencies themselves. There are also federal efforts to change this process. This year, U.S. House Representative Debra Haaland introduced H.R. 8455 that would create a more accountable and transparent process by which the USBGN would review and revise offensive names of federal land.” The authors of the letter requested a meeting with TxDOT and TGNC to discuss the matter.

The chair of the TGNC contacted the BGN staff for guidance, noting that because the names were changed by State legislation, the TGNC was required to consider them official for State use. Research by the TGNC and BGN staff found no evidence that the names had been changed on county or State maps or signs, although the geographic features are all minor and the existing names also do not appear.

An additional 11 “Negro” names in Texas were not mentioned in the 1991 legislation and have not been addressed. Commissioner Ellis has indicated he will coordinate with the appropriate county governments to initiate changes to those names.

Biographical details for the intended honorees have been quoted directly from the Texas State Historical Association’s Handbook of Texas Online, when available. For some of the individuals, additional sources have been quoted.

**Ada Simond Creek**: stream; 3.8 mi. long; heads 0.5 mi. NE of Boultinghouse Mountain at 30°34’17”N, 98°04’59”W, flows SE through Balcones Canyonlands National Wildlife Refuge to enter Cow Creek 1 mi. W of Travis Peak; named for Ada Simond (1903-1989), Austin teacher, writer, historian, and public health activist; Travis County and Burnet County, Texas; 30°32’03”N, 98°02’49”W; USGS map – Travis Peak 1:24,000; Not: Negro Branch, Negro Creek, N__ Branch.
Proposal: to change a name considered offensive
Map: USGS map – Travis Peak 1:24,000
Proponent: Texas State Legislation
Administrative area: Balcones Canyonlands National Wildlife Refuge
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
  GNIS: Negro Branch (FID 1363652)
  Local Usage: Negro Branch Creek (real estate listing, 2021); Negro Creek Branch (real estate listing, 2021)

Case Summary: This proposal is to change the name of Negro Branch, a tributary of Cow Creek in Travis County and Burnet County, to Ada Simond Creek. A small section of the stream flows through Balcones Canyonlands National Wildlife Refuge.

The Texas State Historical Association’s Handbook of Texas Online provides a biography of Ada Simond: https://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/entries/simond-ada-marie-deblanc. It notes in part that “During her lifetime, Ada DeBlanc Simond was considered a living legend by many of the residents of Austin and was the recipient of countless local, state, and national awards. For her literary work, she was recognized by the Texas Legislature’s Black Caucus, the Texas Association for the Study of Afro-American Life, and the Texas Historical Commission; for her commitment to human rights, she was recognized by the NAACP with the Arthur B. DeWitty Award; and her contributions as an educator were recognized by the Austin Independent School District and Huston-Tillotson College, which endowed a scholarship in her name. In 1980 she received a distinguished service award from Austin mayor Carole McClellan. The Austin city council declared November 16, 1983, as “Ada Simond Day.” She was inducted into the Texas Women’s Hall of Fame in 1986.”

The pejorative form of the name was shown on USGS maps published in 1903 and 1909, and in the 1919 Gazetteer of Streams of Texas, also published by USGS. Since 1966, all USGS maps have shown the name Negro Branch. A 2020 FEMA map labels the stream Negro Creek. Local real estate listings use both Negro Branch Creek and Negro Creek Branch.

In 1989 a lawyer with the Austin branch of the NAACP questioned the BGN about the continued use of the pejorative form of the name on local maps. The BGN replied that in 1962, it had “established a policy that the word shall not be used on any new Federal maps or other publications as part of a geographic name, and when such a word is encountered as being in local usage, it will be modified to remove any derogatory implication. [Furthermore], all such names already appearing on Federal maps will be reviewed by the publishing agencies, and as the maps are revised or reprinted, the names will be modified to remove any derogatory implications. To our knowledge, this policy has been faithfully carried out and Federal maps published or reprinted since 1962 do not use the word in any geographic names. We do not
have authority to provide similar instructions to State and private mapmakers, and of course, can do nothing with regard to Federal maps published before 1962. In a few cases, we were able to replace some of the ‘n____’ names with names of the individuals for whom the features were originally named. In most cases, however, the Federal mapmakers substituted the word ‘negro,’ a term that is not wholly satisfactory to many. For this reason, we welcome any naming suggestions you may have. We strongly suggest that you work with the Texas State Geographic Names Authority before submitting proposals to the U.S. Board on Geographic Names.” He added, “‘N[j] Branch’ should be renamed after either Ada Simond, the preeminent Black Austin historian and educator who died Sunday, or after the late Arthur B. DeWitty, the first Black in Austin to run for city council and a prominent activist, leader, and educator who worked with the NAACP and organized the Voters League.”

Also in 1989, the Travis County Public Improvements Transportation Office submitted a proposal to the BGN to change the name of the stream to Warbler Branch, in reference to the endangered golden-cheeked warbler (Setophaga chrysoparia) which is found in the area. The proposal was withdrawn in 1993, presumably due to the change included in H.B. 1756.

H.B. 1756 did not address the summit in Travis County that is named Negrohead and which is adjacent to Negro Branch. (The aforementioned county office also proposed renaming this feature to Warbler Peak, but it too was withdrawn.)

A February 14, 1990 New York Times article (https://www.nytimes.com/1990/02/14/us/texas-journal-on-geographic-names-and-cleaning-them-up.html) referred to the Negrohead in Travis county as “N[j]head Hill: A 1,300-foot-peak on a cattle ranch 40 miles north [sic] of Austin. The land has been in Dorothy Igau’s family since 1910, and she says she does not want the name of a stranger on her mountain.” [Mrs. Igau has since passed away, but the land, which also includes part of Negro Branch, remains in the Igau family.]

The article continued, “‘There’s a Negro woman who works on the editorial page here [in Travis County] and she was suggesting naming it after some colored historian,’ Mrs. Igau said. ‘That makes no sense to me. I can see where it shouldn’t be called ‘N__head,’ but that’s what everyone around here knows it as, and it’s not bothering anyone.’ As a compromise, the names ‘Warbler Hill’ and ‘Warbler Creek’ were suggested, for the rare golden-cheeked warbler, which is native to the area. Mr. Bledsoe [NAACP] objects to naming the site for the warbler, but Mrs. Igau and her family have grudgingly agreed. ‘I’ve never seen a warbler,’ she said. ‘There’s more rattlesnakes out here than warblers.’”

**Bill Pickett Hill**: summit; elevation 1,280 ft.; 9.2 mi. WNW of Burnet, E of Lake Buchanan, N of Inks Lake; named for Bill Pickett (1870-1932), cowboy, rodeo, Wild West show performer, and actor; Burnet County, Texas; 30°46’49”N, 98°22’45”W; USGS map – Lake Buchanan 1:24,000; Not: Negrohead, Negrohead Hill, N__head, N__head Hill, N__head Mountain, N__head Peak, N__ Head, N__ Head Peak. https://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesrimap?p_lat=30.7801803&p_longi=-98.3791961&fid=1363662

Proposal: to change a name considered offensive

Map: USGS map – Lake Buchanan 1:24,000
Case Summary: This proposal is to change the name of Negrohead, a 1,280-foot summit in Burnet County, to Bill Pickett Hill. William “Bill” Pickett (1870-1932) was a cowboy, rodeo and Wild West show performer, and actor; see also the Texas State Historical Association’s Handbook of Texas Online: https://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/entries/pickett-william.

Pejorative forms of the current name appeared on USGS maps published between 1887 and 1932. Since 1967, all USGS maps have shown the name Negrohead. Other names for the summit include Negrohead Hill and N__ head Hill (Handbook of Texas Online); N__ head Mountain (1911 USGS Bulletin); N__ head Peak (1936 Texas Almanac and State Industrial Guide and 1964-1965 Texas Almanac); and N__ Head (A Gazetteer of Texas, USGS, 1902). A U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey marker on the summit is stamped “N__HEAD 1956.”

All Federal maps published after 1962 labeled the feature Negrohead. In 1989, the aforementioned NAACP lawyer “encouraged the Board to take immediate action to rename ‘N[] Head Hill’ either after Mickey Leland, the late Texas Congressman, or Hendrick Arnold, a famous Afro-Texan fighter in the Texas Revolution.” [The name Hendrick Arnold Bluff is proposed as a replacement for Negrohead Bluff in Bosque County and Johnson County (q.v.).]

A 2011 Washington Post article about offensive place names in Texas noted that after the BGN’s action in 1962 [sic] to change all instances of “N____” on subsequent Federal maps and publications to “Negro”, “Lady Bird Johnson, the former first lady, lobbied to change the name of a mountain in Burnet, Tex., that had the same name as [Rick] Perry’s hunting spot [N____head]. In 1968, it became ‘Colored Mountain.’” The BGN staff was unable to find any independent confirmation of this statement.

Buffalo Soldier Creek: stream; 7.3 mi. long; heads 3.4 mi. W of Castle Mountain at 30°05’40”N, 102°58’32”W, flows SW to enter San Francisco Creek; Brewster County, Texas; 30°02’31”N, 103°02’50”W; USGS map – Horse Mountain 1:24,000 (mouth); Not: Negro Creek, N__ Creek.


Proposal: to change a name considered offensive
Map: USGS map – Horse Mountain 1:24,000 (mouth)
Proponent: Texas State Legislation
Administrative area:
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
  GNIS: Negro Creek (FID 1342406)
  Local Usage: None found

Case Summary: This proposal is to change the name of Negro Creek, a tributary of San Francisco Creek in Brewster County, to Buffalo Soldier Creek. The pejorative form of the name was shown on USGS maps published in 1921 and 1909. Since 1968, all USGS maps have shown the name Negro Creek.

The Handbook of Texas Online provides a history of the Buffalo Soldiers: https://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/entries/buffalo-soldiers, noting in part that the term “was given by the Plains Indians to the four regiments of African Americans, and more particularly to the two cavalry regiments, that served on the frontier in the post-Civil War army. From 1866 to the early 1890s the buffalo soldiers served at a variety of posts in Texas, the Southwest, and the Great Plains. They overcame prejudice from within the army and from the frontier communities they were stationed in, to compile an outstanding service record. Often divided into small company and troop-sized detachments stationed at isolated posts, the buffalo soldiers performed routine garrison chores, patrolled the frontier, built roads, escorted mail parties, and handled a variety of difficult civil and military tasks. They also participated in most of the major frontier campaigns of the period and distinguished themselves in action against the Cheyenne, Kiowa, Comanche, Apache, Sioux, and Arapaho Indians.”

Freedom Hollow: valley; 0.6 mi. long: heads 1.1 mi. NE of Chalk Hill, trends NE then SE to open on an unnamed valley; Bandera County, Texas; 29°45’38”N, 99°26’49”W; USGS map – Love Creek 1:24,000; Not: Negro Hollow.
  Proposal: to change a name considered offensive
  Map: USGS map – Love Creek 1:24,000
  Proponent: Texas State Legislation
Administrative area:
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
  GNIS: Negro Hollow (FID 1363658)
  Local Usage: None found

Case Summary: This proposal is to change the name of Negro Hollow, a valley in Bandera County, to Freedom Hollow. The 1991 legislation did not provide a specific reason for choosing this name for this feature. USGS maps first labeled the valley in 1964 as Negro Hollow. There is no evidence that any Federal map or publication used the more pejorative form of the name.
George Ruby Bend: bend; approx. 25 acres; within Trinity River National Wildlife Refuge, along the Trinity River 6.5 mi. SSW of Liberty; named for George Thompson Ruby (1841-1882); Liberty County, Texas; 29°57’59”N, 94°48’23”W; USGS map – Moss Bluff 1:24,000; Not: Negro Bend.  
Proposal: to change a name considered offensive  
Map: USGS map – Moss Bluff 1:24,000  
Proponent: Texas State Legislation  

Administrative area:  
Previous BGN Action: None  
Names associated with feature:  
GNIS: Negro Bend (FID 1363651)  
Local Usage: None found  
Case Summary: This proposal is to change the name of Negro Bend, a bend along the Trinity River in Liberty County, to George Ruby Bend. The bend is on private land within the Approved or Proclamation Boundary of Trinity River National Wildlife Refuge. USGS maps first labeled the feature in 1964 as Negro Bend.

The Handbook of Texas Online contains a biography of George Thompson Ruby (1841-1882): TSHA | Ruby, George Thompson (tshaonline.org). It notes in part that Ruby, a native of New York and free-born Black (or mulatto), arrived in Texas in 1866, where he joined the Freedmen’s Bureau at Galveston. While there, he managed the bureau’s schools, served as a correspondent for The New Orleans Tribune, and taught school at the Methodist Episcopal Church. He also published the short-lived Galveston Standard. After leaving Galveston, he became a traveling agent for the bureau, visiting Washington, Austin, Bastrop, Fort Bend, and other counties with the purpose of establishing chapters of the Union League, as well as temperance societies.

H.B. 1756 included changes for two other features in Liberty County: Negro Gully (q.v.) and Negros Liberty Settlement. The latter, an unincorporated community, was legislated to be changed to George Ruby Settlement, but after the BGN staff determined that it no longer exists, GNIS entry marked the feature “historical.”

Hendrick Arnold Bluff: cliff; 0.8 mi. long, approx. 80 ft. high; along the SW bank of the Brazos River 3.8 mi. WNW of Bee Mountain, 3.8 mi. SE of Brazos Point; named for Hendrick Arnold (?-1849), guide and spy during the Texas Revolution; Bosque County, Texas; 32°09’05”N, 97°34’12”W; USGS map – Brazos Point 1:24,000; Not: Negrohead Bluff, N__head Bluff.  
Proposal: to change a name considered offensive  
Map: USGS map – Brazos Point 1:24,000  
Proponent: Texas State Legislation  

Administrative area:
Case Summary: This proposal is to change the name of Negrohead Bluff, a cliff in Bosque County along the Brazos River, to Hendrick Arnold Bluff. The pejorative form of the name was shown on USGS maps published in 1924 and 1931. Since 1968, all USGS maps have shown the name Negrohead Bluff.

The Handbook of Texas Online includes a biography of Hendrick Arnold (?-1849): [https://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/entries/arnold-hendrick](https://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/entries/arnold-hendrick). It notes in part that Arnold, having arrived in Texas with his family in 1826, settled in Stephen F. Austin’s colony on the Brazos River. He took part in the battle of Concepción and was cited for his “important service” during the 1835 siege of Bexar. He would later become a guide and spy during the Texas Revolution. In 1827 he and one of the family’s slaves had a daughter, who he kept as a slave. After the revolution, Arnold was compensated for his service with land a few miles northwest of the site of present-day Bandera, a relatively unexplored area, where he operated a gristmill. This property is approximately 230 miles from the bluff now proposed to be named in his honor.

Regarding the existing name, A History of Johnson County and Surrounding Areas by Viola Block ([http://freepages.rootsweb.com/~piercescga/genealogy/index.html](http://freepages.rootsweb.com/~piercescga/genealogy/index.html)) reports, “The bottomland [along the river] was cleared for crops by Negro Slaves. A huge bluff on the river was walled up by the Negroes for their abode. US Govt naming systems have this called N__head Bluff or N__ Crossing. I have applied to have names changed to a more socially acceptable Pierces Negro Crossing [for the individual who had built a log cabin at the bluff]. [The] Negroes continued to live under the bluff long after the Civil War, and it was no trouble to see where their cooking fires were built. Floods on the river finally undermined the bluff so completely that it caved off, and now there is no evidence left of the early home of the Negroes. Many of them are buried in the Cemetery north of the house.”

**Henry Flipper Hill**: summit; elevation 4,210 ft.; in the Barrilla Mountains 1 mi. NW of Beard Mountain; named for Henry Ossian Flipper (1856-1940), engineer and first Black graduate of West Point; Reeves County, Texas; 30°50’06”N, 103°33’20”W; USGS map – Barrilla Mountains East 1:24,000; Not: Negro Head.

Proposal: to change a name considered offensive
Map: USGS map – Barrilla Mountains East 1:24,000
Proponent: Texas State Legislation
Administrative area:
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
GNIS: Negro Head (FID 1375107)
Case Summary: This proposal is to change the name of Negro Head, a 4,210-foot summit in the Barrilla Mountains in Reeves County, to Henry Flipper Hill. USGS maps first labeled the feature in 1980 as Negro Head. There is no evidence that any Federal map or publication used the more pejorative form of the name.

The Handbook of Texas Online and The New Georgia Encyclopedia include extensive biographies of Henry Ossian Flipper: https://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/entries/flipper-henry-ossian and Henry O. Flipper (1856-1940) | New Georgia Encyclopedia. They note in part that Flipper, born a slave in Georgia, went on to become an engineer and the first Black graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point. In 1878, he described his struggle against ostracism and prejudice in The Colored Cadet at West Point. He was commissioned into the U.S. Army, where he served until being dismissed in 1882, despite having been acquitted of embezzlement charges. He would wage a lifelong battle for reinstatement into the Army. He subsequently worked as a surveyor in the U.S. and in Mexico; special agent for the United States Court of Private Land Claims; editor of the Nogales Sunday Herald; and member of the Association of Arizona Civil Engineers, the National Geographic Society, and the Southwest Society of the Archaeological Institute of America. He was employed with the Balvanera Mining Company. In 1916, Flipper wrote a memoir of his life in the Southwest, which was published posthumously as Negro Frontiersman: The Western Memoirs of Henry O. Flipper (1963).

In 1919 Senator Albert B. Fall brought Flipper to Washington, DC to serve as translator and interpreter for his subcommittee on Mexican internal affairs, and two years later, Flipper was appointed assistant to the Secretary of the Interior, where he was involved with the Alaskan Engineering Commission. In the latter part of the 1920s he was employed by a petroleum company in Venezuela. Throughout his career, he published and translated many reports on mining laws, land claims, and mineral and hydrocarbons exploration.

In December 1976, a bust of Flipper was unveiled at West Point, and the Department of the Army granted him an honorable discharge, dated June 30, 1882. President Bill Clinton officially pardoned Flipper on February 19, 1999. An annual West Point award in honor of Flipper is presented to the graduate who best exemplifies “the highest qualities of leadership, self-discipline, and perseverance in the face of unusual difficulties while a cadet.”

Jack Johnson Creek: stream; 3.5 mi. long; heads 1.8 mi. SE of Turlington at 31°40’48”N, 96°01’42”W, flows SSW to enter Upper Keechi Creek 2.6 mi. NE of Lanely; named for Jack Johnson (1878-1946), the first black to win the world heavyweight boxing championship; Freestone County, Texas; USGS map – Turlington 1:24,000; Not: Negro Creek. 
Proposal: to change a name considered offensive
Map: USGS map – Turlington 1:24,000
Proponent: Texas State Legislation
Administrative area:
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
   GNIS: Negro Creek (FID 1363653)
   Local Usage: None found
Case Summary: This proposal is to change the name of Negro Creek, a tributary of Upper Keechi Creek in Freestone County, to Jack Johnson Creek (H.B. 1756 (1991) mistakenly refers to the stream as also being in Limestone County). USGS maps first labeled the feature in 1965 as Negro Creek. A 1956 edition of a 1919 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers map also showed the name as Negro Creek. There is no evidence that any Federal map or publication used the more pejorative form of the name.

The Handbook of Texas Online includes a biography of Jack Johnson (1878-1946), a professional prizefighter and the first Black to win the world heavyweight boxing championship: https://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/entries/johnson-jack.

John Horse Hollow: valley; 3.6 mi. long; heads 0.9 mi NNE of Boiling Mountain at 29°32'05"N, 100°06'27"W, trends generally S then SW to open on the unnamed valley through which flows Live Oak Creek; named for John Horse (1835–42), Black Seminole leader, army guide, and interpreter; Kinney County and Uvalde County, Texas; 29°29'48"N, 100°07'20"W; USGS map – Laguna 1:24,000 (mouth); Not: Negro Hollow, N__ Hollow. https://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesrimap?p_lat=29.4967323&p_longi=-100.1223477&fid=1375108
   Proposal: to change a name considered offensive
   Map: USGS map – Laguna 1:24,000 (mouth)
   Proponent: Texas State Legislation
   Administrative area:
   Previous BGN Action: None
   Names associated with feature:
      GNIS: Negro Hollow (FID 1375108)
      Local Usage: None found
Case Summary: This proposal is to change the name of Negro Hollow, a valley in Kinney County and Uvalde County, to John Horse Hollow. The pejorative form of the name was shown on USGS maps between 1938 and 1944. Since 1973, all USGS maps have shown the name Negro Branch.

The Handbook of Texas Online and the Oklahoma Historical Society’s Encyclopedia of Oklahoma History and Culture include biographies of John Horse (ca. 1812–1882), a subchief during the Second Seminole War (1835–42), army guide, and interpreter: https://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/entries/caballo-juan. He relocated to the Indian Territory (present Oklahoma) in 1842 and received his freedom in 1843, later becoming a captain in the Mexican army.
For forty years, he led the African allies of Seminole Indians on a quest from Florida to Mexico to secure a free homeland and is regarded by some as the most successful black freedom fighter in U.S. history. See also https://www.okhistory.org/publications/enc/entry.php?entry=HO033.

**Kiamata Creek**: stream; 3.75 mi. long; within the proclaimed boundary of Sam Houston National Forest, heads 6.9 mi. NW of Coldspring at 30°39’30”N, 95°12’59”W, flows S to enter East Fork San Jacinto River; named for Kiamata (or Kian), an enslaved girl who cared for her owner on Galveston Island in the winter of 1821–22; San Jacinto County, Texas; 30°36’50”N, 95°12’46”W; USGS map – Coldspring 1:24,000 (mouth); Not: Negro Creek. https://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesrimap?p_lat=30.6138085&p_longi=-95.2127168&fid=1383138

Proposal: to change a name considered offensive

Map: USGS map – Coldspring 1:24,000 (mouth)

Proponent: Texas State Legislation

Administrative area:

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: Negro Creek (FID 1383138)

Local Usage: None found


Case Summary: This proposal is to change the name of Negro Creek, a tributary of East Fork San Jacinto River in San Jacinto County, to Kiamata Creek. The stream is on private land within the proclaimed boundary of Sam Houston National Forest. USGS maps first labeled the feature in 1962 as Negro Creek.

*The Handbook of Texas Online* includes a biography of Kian (also known as Ki, Kiamatia, and in some sources, Kiamata): https://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/entries/kian). It notes that Kiamata (or Kian) was an enslaved girl who cared for her owner on Galveston Island in the winter of 1821–22 and later moved to the mainland of Texas, where she raised her own family.

**Lake Henry Doyle**: lake; approx. 36 acres; in the City of Baytown, on a bend in Cedar Bayou 1.4 mi. NNE of where Cedar Bayou flows into Galveston Bay; named for Henry Doyle (1910-1985), the first African-American to graduate from a Texas law school and the first to serve on the Texas appellate court; Harris County, Texas; 29°41’37”N, 94°55’25”W; USGS map – Morgans Point 1:24,000; Not: Negro Lake, Negrohead Lake, N__head Lake. https://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesrimap?p_lat=29.6935601&p_longi=-94.9235365&fid=1380989

Proposal: to change a name considered offensive

Map: USGS map – Morgans Point 1:24,000

Proponent: Texas State Legislation

Administrative area:

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: Negrohead Lake (FID 1380989)

Local Usage: None found
Published: Negro Lake (USGS 1916, 1919); Negrohead Lake (USGS 1956, 1982, 1993, 1995; USACE 1943); N__head Lake (The Baytown Sun, 1976)

Case Summary: This proposal is to change the name of Negrohead Lake, a lake along Cedar Bayou in Harris County, to Lake Henry Doyle. The lake was originally a small body of water within a bend in the bayou, but dredging and coastline changes have resulted in it being simply a wider part of the bayou. USGS maps since 1916 have labeled the feature as Negro Lake, while a 1943 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers map labeled it Negrohead Lake. There is no evidence that any Federal map or publication used the more pejorative form of the name, but it was mentioned in a 1976 Baytown Sun article.

The replacement name would honor Henry Doyle (1910-1985), the first African-American to graduate from a Texas law school and the first to serve on the Texas appellate court. The Handbook of Texas Online does not include an entry for Mr. Doyle, but a brief biography can be found in Volume 77, No. 2 of the Texas Bar Journal: https://www.texasbar.com/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Past_Issues&Template=/CM/ContentDisplay.cfm&ContentID=25092.

The City of Baytown and the Harris County Board of Commissioners passed resolutions in support of the change to Lake Henry Doyle.

Lake William Goyens: lake; approx. 2 acres; 22 mi. SW of Crockett, W of Patterson Lake, E of Rattlesnake Lake; named for William Goyens (1794–1856), early Nacogdoches settler, businessman, property owner, and negotiator with Indian Tribes; Houston County, Texas; 31°05′49″N, 95°44′08″W; USGS map – Sand Ridge 1:24,000; Not: Negro Lake. https://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesrimap?p_lat=31.0970127&p_longi=-95.735437&fid=1363659

Proposal: to change a name considered offensive
Map: USGS map – Sand Ridge 1:24,000
Proponent: Texas State Legislation
Administrative area:
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
  GNIS: Negro Lake (FID 1363659)
  Local Usage: None found

Case Summary: This proposal is to change the name of Negro Lake, a small lake in Houston County, to Lake William Goyens. The name would honor William Goyens (1794–1856), early Nacogdoches settler, businessman, property owner, and negotiator with Indian Tribes. USGS maps first labeled the feature in 1964 as Negro Lake. There is no evidence that any Federal map or publication used the more pejorative form of the name. H.B. 1756 did not include a change for the stream in Houston County named Negro Creek (FID 1363654) located 7.5 miles to the southeast.

The Texas State Historical Association’s Handbook of Texas Online includes a biography of William Goyens: https://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/entries/goyens-william.
**Leonard Harmon Hollow**: valley; approx. 6 mi. long; heads 4.5 mi WSW of Leakey at 29°42′08″N, 99°49′57″W, trends generally SW to open on the unnamed valley through which flows the Dry Frio River 7.5 mi. SW of Leakey; named for Leonard Roy Harmon (1917-1942), posthumous recipient of the Navy Cross and first person of African-American descent after whom a Navy ship was named; Real County, Texas; 29°39′40″N, 99°51′49″W; USGS map – Leakey 1:24,000; Not: Negro Hollow, N__ Hollow.


Proposal: to change a name considered offensive
Map: USGS map – Leakey 1:24,000
Proponent: Texas State Legislation
Administrative area:
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
GNIS: Negro Hollow (FID 1342409)
Local Usage: None found

Case Summary: This proposal is to change the name of Negro Hollow, a valley in Real County, to Leonard Harmon Hollow. The name would honor Leonard Roy Harmon (1917-1942), posthumous recipient of the Navy Cross and first person of African-American descent after whom a Navy ship was named. USGS maps first labeled the feature in 1971 as Negro Hollow. A 1957 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers map labeled it with the more pejorative form of the name. A U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey marker near the head of the valley is stamped “NIG 1944”.

The Texas State Historical Association’s *Handbook of Texas Online* includes a biography of Leonard Harmon: https://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/entries/harmon-leonard-roy.

**Matthew Hooks Reservoir**: reservoir; approx. 12 acres; 1 mi. SW of Brushy Tank, 12 mi. WSW of Guthrie; named for Mathew (Bones) Hooks (1867-1951), cowboy and horse breaker; King County, Texas; 33°27′19″N, 100°22′24″W; USGS map – Bob Creek 1:24,000; Not: Negro Tank.


Proposal: to change a name considered offensive
Map: USGS map – Bob Creek 1:24,000
Proponent: Texas State Legislation
Administrative area:
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
GNIS: Negro Tank (FID 1363660)
Local Usage: None found

Case Summary: This proposal is to change the name of Negro Tank, a small reservoir in Real County, to Matthew Hooks Reservoir. The name would honor Mathew (Bones) Hooks (1867–
1951), cowboy and horse breaker. USGS maps first labeled the feature in 1958 as Negro Tank. There is no evidence that any Federal map or publication used the more pejorative form of the name.

The Texas State Historical Association’s Handbook of Texas Online includes a biography of Mathew Hooks: https://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/entries/hooks-mathew. His name is most often recorded as “Mathew”, but his headstone does show “Matthew.” What appears to be a definitive biography of his life (Bones Hooks: Pioneer Negro Cowboy by Bruce G. Todd, published in 2005) used the spelling “Mathew”. Bones Hooks Park in Amarillo is named for Mathew Hooks.

Milton Holland Creek: stream; 8 mi. long; heads 6.9 mi. NW of Wills Point at 32°47’49”N, 96°03’45”W, flows generally SE to enter McBee Creek 2.9 mi. N of Wills Point; named for Milton M. Holland (1844–1910), who served with the Fifth United States Colored Troops and was one of sixteen Black soldiers to receive the Congressional Medal of Honor during the Civil War; Van Zandt County, Texas; 32°44’58”N, 96°00’38”W; USGS map – Wills Point 1:24,000 (mouth); Not: Negro Creek.

Proposal: to change a name considered offensive
Map: USGS map – Wills Point 1:24,000 (mouth)
Proponent: Texas State Legislation
Administrative area:
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
   GNIS: Negro Creek (FID 1342407)
   Local Usage: N Creek (reported in 1969)
Case Summary: This proposal is to change the name of Negro Creek, a tributary of McBee Creek in Van Zandt County, to Milton Holland Creek. USGS maps first labeled the feature in 1956 as Negro Creek. There is no evidence that any Federal map or publication used the more pejorative form of the name.

The 1969 Place Names of Northeast Texas by Fred Tarpley reported: “Faint recollections of a Negro lynching along the creek north of Wills Point are mentioned by oldtimers, who are unable to supply details. Although the map designation is Negro Creek, the local name among white citizens is N[ ] Creek.”

The Texas State Historical Association’s Handbook of Texas Online includes a biography of Milton Holland: https://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/entries/holland-milton-m. It notes that Milton M. Holland (1844-1910) served during the Civil War with the Fifth United States Colored Troops and was one of sixteen Black soldiers to receive the Congressional Medal of Honor. After the war, Holland moved to Washington, D.C., where he was employed in the Auditor Office of the U.S. Government; he also became chief of collections for the Sixth District and established the Alpha Insurance Company, one of the first African-American owned insurance companies. He is buried at Arlington National Cemetery.
Norris Cuney Gully: valley; 2.5 mi. long; heads 6.5 mi. ESE of Devers at 30°01′00″N, 94°29′03″W, trends generally NNE to open on the unnamed valley through which flows Willow Creek 7.2 mi. NNE of Devers; named for Norris Wright Cuney (1846–1898), politician, Galveston City Council alderman and customs collector, Republican party delegate, and founder of the Screwmen’s Benevolent Association; Liberty County, Texas; 30°02′49″N, 94°28′25″W; USGS map – Nome 1:24,000; Not: Negro Gully.  

Proposal: to change a name considered offensive  
Map: USGS map – Nome 1:24,000  
Proponent: Texas State Legislation  
Administrative area:  
Previous BGN Action: None  
Names associated with feature:  
GNIS: Negro Gully (FID 1342408)  
Local Usage: None found  
Case Summary: This proposal is to change the name of Negro Gully, a valley in Liberty County, to Norris Cuney Gully. USGS maps first labeled the feature in 1955 as Negro Gully. There is no evidence that any Federal map or publication used the more pejorative form of the name.  
The name would honor Norris Wright Cuney (1846–1898), politician, Galveston City Council alderman and customs collector, Republican party delegate, and founder of the Screwmen’s Benevolent Association. The Texas State Historical Association’s Handbook of Texas Online includes a biography of Norris Cuney: https://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/entries/cuney-norris-wright.  

H.B. 1756 also included name changes for two other features in Liberty County: Negro Bend (q.v.) and Negros Liberty Settlement. The latter, a small unincorporated community, was legislated to be renamed to George Ruby Settlement, but research shows that it no longer exists and the GNIS entry was marked “historical.”

WISCONSIN

Change Sq__ Creek to Amber Creek: stream; 15.5 mi. long; heads in the Town of Minocqua 3 mi W of Stone Lake at 45°49′59″N, 90°02′18″W, flows NE through Sq__ Lake (proposed Amber Lake (q.v.)), NW then SW through the Town of Lac du Flambeau, into the Town of Minocqua, then NW into the Town of Fifield to enter Pike Lake 0.5 mi. W of Turner Lake; named for the amber color of the lake the stream flows through; Tps40-39N, Rgs3-4E, Fourth Principal Meridian Extended; Price County, Oneida County, and Vilas County, Wisconsin; 45°54′16″N, 90°03′36″W; USGS map – Pike Lake 1:24,000 (mouth); Not: Sq__ Creek.  

Proposal: to change a name considered offensive
Map: USGS map – Lac du Flambeau 1:24,000 (central point)
Proponent: Joseph G. Wildcat; Lac du Flambeau, WI
Administrative area: None
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
  GNIS: Sq__ Creek (FID 1580518)
  Local Usage: None found

Change Sq__ Lake to Amber Lake: lake; 736 acres; in the Town of Minocqua and the Town of Lac du Flambeau W of Fuller Lake; named for the amber color of the lake; Tps40-39N, Rgs4E, Fourth Principal Meridian Extended; Oneida County and Vilas County, Wisconsin; 45°53'04"N, 89°59'40"W; USGS map – Lac du Flambeau 1:24,000 (central point); Not: Sq__ Lake.


Proposal: to change a name considered offensive
Map: USGS map – Lac du Flambeau 1:24,000 (central point)
Proponent: Joseph G. Wildcat; Lac du Flambeau, WI
Administrative area: None
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
  GNIS: Sq__ Lake (FID 1580521)
  Local Usage: None found

Case Summary: These proposals are to change the name of Sq__ Creek, a 15.5-mile-long tributary of Pike Lake, to Amber Creek, and to change Sq__ Lake, a 736-acre lake, to Amber Lake. The stream heads in the Town of Minocqua in Oneida County, flows through the Town of Lac du Flambeau in Vilas County, and enters Pike Lake in the Town of Fifield in Price County. The lake is in the Town of Minocqua and the Town of Lac du Flambeau. Both features are located near the southwest corner of the Lac du Flambeau Reservation.

In September 2020, the President of the Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians of the Lac du Flambeau Reservation of Wisconsin (Lac du Flambeau Tribe) submitted proposals to the Wisconsin Geographic Names Council (WGNC) to change the names of Sq__ Creek and Sq__ Lake to Ikwe Creek and Ikwe Lake. A Tribal Resolution stated, “...the word ‘Sq__’ is a contemptuous term used to refer to a Native American woman, especially a wife. Use of the term is considered offensive, derogatory, misogynist and racist, and the existence of a lake, creek, and roads bearing the derogatory name “Sq__” and lying in close proximity to the Lac du Flambeau Reservation is hurtful and damaging to women in the Tribal community and deleterious to race relations...” The Tribe’s president wrote that “‘Ikwe’ is an Ojibwe word which means ‘Woman’ in a positive and respectful way.” He also stated “[t]he lake name has been thrown into the faces of our Tribal children at area schools, and has subjected them to ridicule and bullying.”
The WGNC asked for recommendations from all affected town and county governments. The February 2021 minutes of the Lac du Flambeau Town Board reported, “Some of the residents from the Sq__ Lake area met with the [Lac du Flambeau] Tribal Council and presented to them [with] the name of Amber Lake,” which refers to the color of the lake’s water. “The Tribe unanimously agreed to amend its petition and replace the name of Ikwe Lake with the name of Amber Lake.” The WGNC reports that the Tribe also amended its Ikwe Creek proposal to Amber Creek.

The Lac du Flambeau Town Board supports both proposals, while the Price County Board of Supervisors had no opinion. The Oneida County Board of Supervisors does not support the proposals, citing a concern that “the applicant did not follow Chapter 21.01 of the Oneida County Code.” The County Land Records Committee also informed the WGNC that “. . . Oneida County adopted this Ordinance to allow for better public notification of naming or re-naming geographic features than what is required under the State’s process. This allows for more public input. . . the County charges a fee for these requests to cover expense of publishing a Class 1 notice and miscellaneous costs. The County has not received the fee from any of the ‘Applicants’ which is required to process the request. . . [We] request that any action. . . be postponed until the process in the Oneida County Ordinance can be followed.” No other local government comments on the proposal.

The WGNC recommends that the changes to Amber Creek and Amber Lake be approved. A recent WXPR article reported that “A couple people spoke against the change, not necessarily because they wanted to keep it as is, but they felt process wasn’t public enough and didn’t give enough time for input.”