

**U.S. BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES
DOMESTIC NAMES COMMITTEE**

Seven Hundred and Forty-Eighth Meeting
Department of the Interior, Room 7000A
December 13, 2012 – 9:30 a.m.

Members and Deputy Members in Attendance

Douglas Caldwell	Department of Defense (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers)
Lee Fleming	Department of the Interior (Bureau of Indian Affairs)
Andrew Flora	Department of Commerce (Bureau of the Census)
Monique Fordham	Department of the Interior (U.S. Geological Survey)
Michael Fournier	Department of Commerce (Bureau of the Census)
Tony Gilbert	Government Printing Office (Chairman) (not voting)
Bruce Johnson	Library of Congress
Elizabeth Kanalley	Department of Agriculture (U.S. Forest Service)
Sean Killen	Department of the Interior (U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service)
William Logan	Department of Homeland Security (U.S. Coast Guard)
Curtis Loy	Department of Commerce (Office of Coast Survey)
Michael Shelton	Department of the Interior (National Park Service)
Meredith Westington	Department of Commerce (Office of Coast Survey)

Ex-Officio

Lou Yost, Executive Secretary, U.S. Board on Geographic Names/Domestic Names Committee

Staff

Jennifer Runyon, U.S. Geological Survey

Guests

Paul Holeva, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Matt Murdock, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Deborah Nordeen, National Park Service

1. Opening

The meeting opened at 9:35 a.m. The Chair announced he would not be voting, except in the case of a tie.

2. Minutes of the 747th Meeting

The Minutes of the 747th meeting of the Domestic Names Committee, held November 8, 2012, were approved as submitted.

3. Reports

3.1 BGN Chairman (Logan)

The Executive Committee met on November 20th to review the status of the BGN's bylaws, which were last updated in 2007 but were not reviewed by the Secretary of the Interior. Several additional changes were made and will be distributed to the full BGN membership for final review at the next BGN meeting. Once they are approved by the BGN, the bylaws will be forwarded to the Secretary of the Interior for concurrence.

The next quarterly meeting of the full BGN will take place January 15, 2013 at the Library of Congress. Prior to the meeting, the member from the Library has offered to conduct a tour of the map archives. Details regarding the time and meeting location will be distributed shortly.

3.2 BGN Executive Secretary (Yost)

No report.

3.3 Communications Committee Report (Westington)

The Communications Committee did not meet during the previous month. Caldwell reported that a draft of the BGN's new trifold brochure on the use of official geographic names will be ready for the BGN's review.

The Department of Homeland Security GIS Open House held in November was well attended. Unfortunately, the BGN tri-folds were not available for distribution.

3.4 Executive Secretary's Report (Yost)

Yost reported that Mark DeMulder, BGN member and chief of the USGS National Geospatial Program (NGP), was finalizing the NGP response to the BGN's letter in which the BGN membership expressed its concerns regarding the new policy under which the names of administrative features are to be maintained in the Geographic Names Information System (GNIS). The letter is expected to ask each member agency to identify which features they require to be maintained in GNIS. Several members expressed an opinion that the new policy must allow for known errors to be corrected in GNIS. It was noted that because the Department of the Interior funds USGS, which in turn provides support for the maintenance of GNIS, DOI has assumed ownership of the BGN's data. It was agreed that the members would be given an opportunity to review and provide feedback on how to respond to the NGP letter.

3.5 Staff Report (Runyon)

Review List 412, comprising 98 new name and name change proposals, was released and has been posted to the BGN Web site.

The Virginia Board on Geographic Names has expressed an interest in hosting a future meeting of the Domestic Names Committee at the Library of Virginia. Runyon polled the members as to whether they would be interested and received a positive response. It was suggested that spring or summer would be a good time to travel to Richmond.

3.6 GNIS and Data Compilation Program (McCormick)

The extensive review of new data and updates for features in Hawaii is almost complete. Some areas of the State are awaiting updated imagery.

There is an ongoing issue with the misrepresentation of features classified in GNIS as "Civil." As a result of recent conflation efforts and a flawed methodology of the data, numerous civil entities are listed as being in additional counties and/or States. The GNIS team continues to investigate the source of the problem.

3.7 Special Committee on Native Names and Tribal Consultation (Kanalley)

Kanalley reported that the Special Committee met following last month's DNC meeting to discuss which authoritative sources would be used to determine tribal lands. The committee affirmed its previous decision to use the Census TIGER Line files. It was noted that the Bureau of Indian Affairs title status reports could be made available if needed in the future.

Several other minor changes were made to the draft interim Policy X. Fordham also provided some language to address the issue of sensitive items.

Kanalley suggested the DNC has essentially completed its review of Policy X and it is time to move the document through the Department of the Interior. The special committee will prepare a briefing paper that outlines the intent of the policy. She noted that the special committee would meet again following the DNC meeting to discuss the next steps.

3.8 Update on Revision of Principles, Policies, and Procedures (Logan)

Logan met with the DNC staff on November 20th to review the list of sixteen outstanding issues. Eleven of the items were resolved, with some of the remainder to be addressed when the document receives a thorough editorial review. Logan thanked everyone for their input and noted that the final version had been distributed by email just prior to this meeting. Gilbert and Shelton agreed to meet in January to conduct the aforementioned editorial review.

3.9 Discussion of Roman Character Set

Johnson distributed a proposed Roman character "data dictionary." He also reported that he had received some feedback on the proposed Roman character set, and that several characters were removed from the list. There was further discussion regarding the use of the character set and a reminder that if a name is approved containing any of the characters in the set, they must be used on Federal products. The approval of "non-standard" characters will make the BGN and GNIS more relevant to a broader group of users, including speakers of native languages. However, this will also present challenges, and so the BGN must continue to provide names that are practical.

Runyon distributed an example of a Canadian topographic map, which although it was not produced by a Canadian government agency, demonstrated how native names would appear on U.S. maps when the revised policies are put into effect. The names were provided by Nunavut language experts, with each map showing the English translation of the Inuit name. Although the names are rendered in Unicode, they will be unfamiliar to non-native language speakers.

One member suggested that the BGN should provide a list of all accepted characters with technical instructions on how they can be applied, both in digital files and on conventional products.

Another member expressed concerns that the issue of non-standard characters is not sufficiently addressed in the revised Principles, Policies, and Procedures document, to which Logan noted it is covered in Chapter 5 and Appendix G, and that the BGN could add additional guidance on its Web site. On behalf of the DNC, Gilbert thanked Johnson for his analysis of the issue, as this is "a huge leap forward" for the BGN.

Prior to the presentation of the docket, one member left the meeting.

4. Docket

Please refer to the attached Docket for a description of each proposal. For new names approved at this meeting, the newly assigned GNIS Feature ID (FID) has been noted following the name.

I. Staff-Processed New Names, and Name and Application Changes agreed to by all interested parties

Change Hazlebrook (FID 1176719) to Hazle Brook, Pennsylvania (Review List 412)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this change.

Vote: 10 in favor
0 against
0 abstentions

II. Disagreement on Docket Names - none

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

Change Spring Mountain (FID 1526422) to Ira Spring Mountain, Washington (Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest/Glacier Peak Wilderness) (Review List 400)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this change.

Vote: 8 in favor
2 against
0 abstentions

The negative votes were cast in the belief that there was no compelling reason to change a longstanding name.

IV. Revised Decisions - none

V. New Names agreed to by all interested parties

A motion was made and seconded to consider the next two names together.

Vote: 10 in favor
0 against
0 abstentions

Bighorn Sheep Spring, Narrows Spring, Nevada (Lake Mead National Recreation Area/Black Canyon Wilderness) (Review List 409) (FIDs 2743312, 2743313)

A motion was made and seconded to approve the two names.

Vote: 10 in favor
0 against
0 abstentions

5. Other Business

None

6. Closing

The meeting adjourned at 12 noon.

The next Domestic Names Committee meeting will be held February 14, 2013, at 9:30 a.m. at the Department of the Interior, room TBD.

(signed) Louis A. Yost

Louis A. Yost, Executive Secretary

APPROVED

(signed) Tony Gilbert

Tony Gilbert, Chairman
Domestic Names Committee

**U.S. BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES
DOMESTIC NAMES COMMITTEE
DOCKET
December 2012**

I. Staff-Processed New Names, and Name and Application Changes agreed to by all interested parties

Change **Hazlebrook** (FID 1176719) to **Hazle Brook**, Pennsylvania
(Review List 412)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p_lat=40.9767518&p_longi=-75.8860317&fid=1176719

This proposal is to change the name of the small unincorporated community of Hazlebrook from the one-word form to Hazle Brook in order to recognize local usage. The community is located in Foster Township in Luzerne County, approximately five miles northeast of Hazleton. According to the proponent, whose family has lived in the community since 1911, local usage has always been Hazle Brook. He provided copies of several maps, letters, and emails indicating the two-word form. These include an undated Pennsylvania Department of Transportation map; an untitled and undated township map; a 1940 Hazle Brook Coal Company plat map; and one other undated tract map.

In 2006, the government of Foster Township asked the Luzerne County 9-1-1 Office to correct the spelling of the names of two local roads to the two-word form, and present-day road signs confirm that the road is now named Hazle Brook Road. A highway sign at the entrance to the community reads Village of Hazle Brook. Also in 2006, a local law office corresponded with neighboring Hazle Township regarding garbage collection rates for Hazle Brook [sic]. The Wikipedia page for the City of Hazleton provides a list of surrounding communities, one of which is Hazle Brook. (Wikipedia further states, “Hazleton was incorporated as a borough on January 5, 1857. Its intended name was supposed to be spelled ‘Hazelton’ but a clerk misspelled the name during incorporation, and the name ‘Hazleton’ has been used ever since.”)

The Foster Township Board of Supervisors has no objection to the proposed change, and the government of Luzerne County has stated that it will defer to the Township. Two of the proponent’s neighbors expressed support for the proposed change, with one noting, “My grandparents moved here sometime between 1910 and 1915. My grandfather was postmaster during part of FDR’s administration until his death in 1942. Any correspondence that I came across always showed the village as two names. In fact, I wasn’t aware there was another way of it being shown until [the proponent] called it to my attention.” It should be noted that numerous editions of *The U.S. Postal Guide* list Hazlebrook in the singular form, starting as early as 1892. *Pennsylvania Postal History* (Kay and Smith, 1976) notes that Hazlebrook Post Office operated from 1885 to 1943.

The Pennsylvania Board on Geographic Names has no objection to the name change. According to the NAGPRA Native American Consultation Database, there are no federally recognized tribes with an interest in Luzerne County.

II. Disagreement on Docketed Names - none

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

Change Spring Mountain (FID 1526422) to Ira Spring Mountain, Washington
(Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest/Glacier Peak Wilderness)

(Review List 400)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p_lat=48.110816&p_longi=-121.349811&fid=1526422

This proposal is to change officially the name of Spring Mountain to Ira Spring Mountain, in an effort to recognize the contributions of Ira Spring (1918-2003), noted Pacific Northwest photographer, author, hiker, and wilderness advocate. The summit has an elevation of 5,740 feet and is located in Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, along the boundary of the Glacier Peak Wilderness. Although the name Spring Mountain has been applied to USGS topographic maps since 1966, there is no definitive information on the origin of the name. It has been suggested the name refers to the presence of springs in the area.

The proposal to rename the summit to Ira Spring Mountain was submitted by the Washington Board on Geographic Names (WA BGN) in 2006, on behalf of three residents of Washington State, one of whom has long been involved in the publication of Ira Spring's books. According to the WA BGN, all three were longtime friends and hiking companions of Spring. The WA BGN noted, "Mr. Spring was a tireless advocate for the protection of Washington's wilderness areas. The proponents wished to honor Mr. Spring's vast and unmatched knowledge of the trails in the North Cascades. It is estimated that perhaps a million books featuring his detailed trail descriptions, his photos and his sketch maps have been published."

Despite favorable recommendations from the WABGN and the U.S. Forest Service, the U.S. BGN denied the change in March 2009, citing a lack of a compelling reason to change a name in long-standing use, and the fact that a trail was already named in honor of Ira Spring.

Interested parties were notified of the BGN's rejection, which resulted in several requests that the proposal be revisited. The Wilderness and Trails Coordinator for the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest noted that "local folks were shocked, and frankly pretty upset [at the decision]." The Washington Trails Association (WTA) also submitted a letter voicing its disappointment at the outcome.

The original proposal for Ira Spring Mountain noted that Mr. Spring is remembered "as probably the Northwest's best-known outdoor photographer and hiking-guidebook author." In 1941 he joined The Mountaineers and helped assemble photographs for the first edition of *Mountaineering, The Freedom of the Hills*. In 1966, he co-authored *100 Hikes in Western Washington*, and went on to co-author 64 hiking and outdoor books. According to one online biography, "He made several trips to Washington D.C. to lobby for trail funding, written [sic] hundreds of letters, served on planning committees, and given [sic] numerous speeches in an attempt to raise awareness of the need for trails and problems associated with their maintenance and funding. He was a co-founder in 1973 of the Washington Trails Association, which now has 5,500 members. He has received national and regional awards for his conservation efforts." An advocate for the passage of the 1964 Wilderness Act, Ira Spring led the WTA from its inception in 1970, becoming its president in 1995. He mentored some of America's best-known climbers, and in 1992, was awarded the Teddy Roosevelt Conservation Award, "in recognition of outstanding accomplishment and achievement in the areas of conservation and wise stewardship of natural resources." The executive director of the WTA stated, "He was never in it for the recognition; he didn't seek out the limelight." Another member of the WTA stated at the time, "This [naming effort] is a reminder to hikers that mountain trails don't just happen on their own. You have to be stewards of them."

In December 2009, the BGN was asked if it wished to reopen the case, but by a vote of 6 to 3 the members stated that additional letters of support alone did not constitute new evidence. However, after the proponent

and the USFS presented additional evidence suggesting that the previous docket write-up did not sufficiently describe Ira Spring's wilderness contributions, the BGN agreed in August 2012 to revisit its decision.

After learning of the BGN's decision to revisit the proposal, John Spring, the son of Ira Spring and Managing Trustee of the Spring Trail Trust, contacted the North Cascade Conservation Council to obtain additional details regarding Ira Spring's involvement in the establishment of the Glacier Peak Wilderness and his advocacy for all of the State's wilderness areas. The Council responded that Mr. Spring played a vital role in the campaign for what would become The Washington Wilderness Act of 1984.

According to John Spring, "The Mountaineers club contacted Ira in the 1960s to request that he publish a hiking guide so that legislators and land managers would be aware that there really are people who used these trails, (and so that hikers would have directions to help them find the trailheads through a maze of unsigned logging roads)."

In 1983, Ira Spring produced for the Washington State Legislature a 20-page summary and detailed inventory of all of the trails in the State's 26 Forest Service roadless areas that were being recommended for wilderness classification. He noted that "as a co-author of the popular Mountaineer hikes book series," he had visited all of the proposed wilderness areas and hiked many of the trails. He expressed concerns that these trails needed protection from motorized usage, but that only about one-third were currently within national parks and wilderness areas. Many of the trails were already negatively impacted by logging and by the heavy use of four-wheel off-road vehicles. He observed that many people were dependent on the trails for their livelihood and that the opportunity to experience a wilderness environment had many health benefits; furthermore, "The beauty of a place is enhanced by the physical effort in reaching it." Because of its proximity to the State's urban areas, the Glacier Peak Wilderness was already heavily used and so Spring argued that it should be expanded to provide further protection. He also pointed out to the Legislature where he believed additional trails could be built. Established before his death, the Spring Family Trail Fund helps fund hiking trail maintenance. Since 2000, all proceeds from the fund have been donated for that purpose.

John Spring has summarized his reasons why he believed the name Ira Spring Mountain was warranted by stating, "Ira tirelessly promoted Wilderness, Wilderness ethics, and making opportunities for everyone to recreate on 'their land' either being Wilderness or non-Wilderness. Ira produced his guide books solely for the purposes of making more people aware of the opportunities out there and Congress to know that funding was needed to USFS lands because there were people recreating on 'their lands.' Ira annually would trek to DC with his list of items he wanted our [c]ongressional staffs to know needed fixing or attention in budgets and legislation for the USFS. Ira never profited from those guidebooks as he turned the proceeds including his social security checks in later years into the Spring Trust for Trails [which] has benefited many organizations with funding for building and maintaining trail programs for everyone in Wilderness and outside." In explaining why the original proponent selected this feature, he stated, "the only reason they picked Spring Mountain was they initially thought it would be less invasive to alter an existing name than try to rename something more well known." Furthermore, "Adding Ira's name to the existing Spring Mountain should cause no confusion for Forest Service or Mountain Search and Rescue personnel as the new name is phased in on new maps."

Approximately 50 miles to the south, in neighboring King County and also within the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest is Ira Spring Trail; this trail was named by the U.S. Forest Service in 2007. A plaque bearing Ira Spring's photo has been placed at the trailhead.

Prior to the BGN's consideration of the original proposal, letters of support for the name Ira Spring Mountain were received from seven U.S. Forest Service employees, 11 friends and colleagues of Spring, a

representative of a local book publishing company, and the Spring Family Trail Fund. The Snohomish County Historical Society had no objection to the proposal. Additional letters were received from the Mountains to Sound Greenway, the Boeing Employees Alpine Society, and the Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest Supervisor, both of which expressed appreciation to the BGN for reopening the case. The Greenway letter noted that it will begin construction of a new trail to the summit of Mailbox Peak; before his death Ira Spring helped fund a feasibility study to scope out potential routes and costs.

Prior to the WA BGN's original consideration of the name change, one area resident noted that there is already a Sauk Indian name for the summit but no counterproposal was received. The Washington Board on Geographic Names forwarded the original proposal to the Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe and the Tulalip Tribes of Washington, both of which are federally recognized. No response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion.

The Washington Committee (formerly "State Board") on Geographic Names (WCGN) and the U.S. Forest Service have affirmed their support for the proposal. The WCGN reports that the name is official on all state maps and publications, and is published in the State's GIS layer. The USFS summarized its support with the statement: "Mr. Spring was instrumental in lobbying the Forest Service for Wilderness designation for the Glacier Peak area, and promoted the creation of the North Cascades National Park. He likewise advocated Wilderness before the Washington legislature, and Washington's Federal congressional delegation. Mr. Spring is very well-known and well-respected in Washington State, and most deserving of this honor. The Washington State Committee on Geographic Names has already formalized this change, it is in the best interest of the Forest Service that the US Board follow suit."

IV. Revised Decisions - none

V. New Names agreed to by all interested parties

Bighorn Sheep Spring, Nevada

(Lake Mead National Recreation Area/Black Canyon Wilderness)

(Review List 409)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=35.939167&p_longi=-114.734167

This is one of five proposals that were submitted by a former GIS analyst with the Lake Mead National Recreation Area (LMNRA), to make official names for springs along the Colorado River within the recreation area. The perennial spring proposed to be named Bighorn Sheep Spring is located just inside the boundary of the Black Canyon Wilderness. According to the proponent, the spring is "a significant place name within the context of biological conservation because it harbored the largest remaining population of a nearly extinct frog species (*Rana onca*)." He provided excerpts from various scientific publications and literature relating to the amphibian, confirming use of the name Bighorn Sheep Spring since at least 1983.

The Clark County Commission was contacted by the Nevada Board on Geographic Names (NVBGN) for an opinion, but no response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion on the issue. The NVBGN recommends approval of the name, noting that it is "among the more significant springs in the LMNRA." The National Park Service also supports the proposal, adding that there is an overriding need for an exception to the Wilderness Naming Policy because the spring has attracted "considerable management attention due to [its] unique environment and sensitivity to disturbance..." and "necessary coordination of management activities without ambiguity." As part of its research, the NVBGN forwarded a copy of the proposal to the Las Vegas Paiute Tribe of Paiute Indians of the Las Vegas Indian Colony, and the Moapa Band of Paiute Indians of the Moapa River Indian Reservation, both of which are federally recognized. No response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion.

A second proposal is listed below, while the three other names (Greenwing Springs, Stomp Spring, and Maidenhair Spring) were approved by the BGN at its February 2012 meeting.

Narrows Spring, Nevada

(Lake Mead National Recreation Area/Black Canyon Wilderness)

(Review List 409)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=35.988568&p_longi=-114.745004

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

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

The Clark County Commission was contacted by the Nevada Board on Geographic Names (NVBGN) for an opinion, but no response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion on the issue. The NVBGN recommends approval of the name, noting that it is also one of the more significant springs in the recreation area. The National Park Service also supports the proposal, adding that there is an overriding need for an exception to the Wilderness Naming Policy because of the need to refer to the spring in management documents. As part of its research, the NVBGN forwarded a copy of the proposal to the Las Vegas Paiute Tribe of Paiute Indians of the Las Vegas Indian Colony, and the Moapa Band of Paiute Indians of the Moapa River Indian Reservation, both of which are federally recognized. No response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion.