

**U. S. BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES**  
**DOMESTIC NAMES COMMITTEE**  
Seven Hundred and Seventeenth Meeting  
Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting  
Marriott Wardman Park Hotel, Nathan Hale Room, Washington, D.C.  
April 13, 2010 – 10:00 a.m.

Members and Deputy Members in Attendance

Eric Berman	Department of Homeland Security (Federal Emergency Management Agency)
Robert Bewley	Department of the Interior (Bureau of Land Management)
Douglas Caldwell	Department of Defense (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers)
Jon Campbell	Department of the Interior (U. S. Geological Survey)
Mark DeMulder	Department of the Interior (U. S. Geological Survey)
Andrew Flora	Department of Commerce (Bureau of the Census)
Michael Fournier	Department of Commerce (Bureau of the Census)
Tony Gilbert	Government Printing Office
Robert Hiatt	Library of Congress (Chairman) (not voting)
Elizabeth Kanalley	Department of Agriculture (U.S. Forest 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)
Douglas Vandegraft	Department of the Interior (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)

Ex-Officio

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

Trent Palmer, Executive Secretary, U.S. Board on Geographic Names/Foreign Names Committee

Staff

Jane Messenger, U. S. Geological Survey

Jennifer Runyon, U. S. Geological Survey

1. Opening

Hiatt opened the meeting at 10:00 a.m. He thanked the Association of American Geographers (AAG) for hosting this meeting as part of their annual conference. He welcomed the audience, and then asked the members and staff to introduce themselves.

2. Minutes of the 716<sup>th</sup> Meeting

The minutes of the 716<sup>th</sup> meeting, held March 10<sup>th</sup>, were approved with one correction. Ms. Kanalley noted that she was not at the meeting.

### 3. Communications and Reports

#### 3.1 Chairman's Report (Hébert)

In Hébert's absence, Logan announced there was no report. Palmer, as Executive Secretary for Foreign Names, was asked to provide an update on the anticipated visit to Washington DC by a delegation from the Board on Geographic Names-Afghanistan (BGN-A). The visit has been scheduled for the first week of August; during that time, the delegation would like to observe a regular DNC meeting or perhaps meet more informally with members and staff. The Foreign Names Committee would welcome any suggestions or contributions from the DNC. It was agreed that the topic should be placed on the agenda for discussion at the DNC's May meeting.

The next meeting of the full BGN is scheduled to take place Tuesday, April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2010, although it appears there may be conflicts and so the members will be notified as soon as possible of any changes. If the meeting must be canceled, it was suggested that perhaps the Executive Committee might meet instead to discuss the BGN-A visit.

#### 3.2 BGN Executive Secretary's Report (Yost)

Following this meeting, the FNC will hold its quarterly meeting, and all are invited to attend. At the same time, a meeting of the AAG's Special Working Group on Indigenous Names is being held at the National Museum of the American Indian. The meeting is to be hosted by Renee Louis, a member of the Hawaii Geographic Names Board, and is expected to focus on tribal consultation and linguistic issues.

The BGN's Advisory Committee on Antarctic Names will meet on Friday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> at the U.S. Geological Survey in Reston.

The annual meeting of the Canadian Society for the Study of Names will take place in Montreal, May 29<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup>.

In late June, a conference entitled "Trends in Toponymy" is to be held in Edinburgh, Scotland. Immediately following will be the next scheduled meeting between the BGN and the Permanent Committee on Geographical Names for British Official Use, to take place in London July 5<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup>.

The First International Conference on Indigenous Place Names will be held September 3<sup>rd</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>, 2010 at Sami University College in Norway.

In late September, the USGS will host a National Map Users Conference in Denver.

The Council of Geographic Names Authorities will hold its annual meeting in Springfield, Missouri, October 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>.

The Geographical Names Board of Canada will meet October 21-22 in New Brunswick.

The next session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names will take place during the third week of May 2011, while the International Congress on Onomastic Sciences will meet in September 2011 in Barcelona.

At this point, Berman announced that he had brought to the meeting some BGN lapel pins, which were distributed to each of the members and deputies. The recipients thanked Berman for the pins.

### 3.3 Communications Committee Report (Westington)

The Special Committee on Communications met recently to prepare for the BGN's participation at this AAG conference. There will be a BGN panel session this Thursday morning, which will provide the attendees with an overview of domestic and foreign names processes and the domestic and foreign names databases. The presenters are Hébert, Yost, and Runyon, as well as Leo Dillon and Marcus Allsup representing the FNC. Richard Randall, BGN Executive Secretary Emeritus, will serve as the panel moderator. Fournier will participate in another session on toponymy on Friday morning.

Berman reported that he will be attending a meeting of the the MidAmerica GIS Consortium next week and would like copies of the BGN's trifolds for distribution.

### 3.4 Executive Secretary's Report (Yost)

The DNC staff has continued to receive numerous e-mails commenting on two proposals that are pending, to change the name of Mount Diablo in California to Mount Reagan, and to change Mount Clay in New Hampshire to Mount Reagan. A significant number of individuals seem to be under the impression that the proposals were initiated by the DNC, so it is necessary to explain that the committee is simply a reactive body.

The members were reminded that a reporter from *The Los Angeles Times* attended last month's meeting. The results of his research were provided in an article that appeared on March 16<sup>th</sup>, entitled, "Place names are the domain of an obscure U.S. board: Mt. Diablo or Mt. Reagan? And shouldn't it be the Gulf of America? The U.S. Board on Geographic Names has to decide."

### 3.5 Staff Report (Runyon)

There was no staff report.

### 3.6 GNIS and Data Compilation Program (Yost)

Efforts toward developing stewardships for State data are improving. The Geographic Names Office is asking the USGS Geospatial Liaisons to submit requests for funding for such projects. GNIS may no longer be in need of physical feature polygons, thanks to a similar effort being undertaken by ESRI. Data already submitted by ESRI is being evaluated.

#### 4. Docket Review (Runyon)

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 Cow Island (FID 313053) to Eagle Island, Georgia (Review List 402)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this change.

Vote: 10 in favor  
4 against  
0 abstentions

The negative votes were cast in the belief that the proposed name appeared to be endorsing a commercial venture.

Change Sherman Creek (FID 1187488) to Shermans Creek, Pennsylvania (Review List 402)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this change.

Vote: 14 in favor  
0 against  
0 abstentions

#### **II. Disagreement on Docketed Names**

Change Squaw Creek (FID 777126) to Nancy Russell Creek, change Dry Fork Squaw Creek (FID 770828) to Dry Fork Nancy Russell Creek, and change Little Squaw Creek (FID 768086) to Little Nancy Russell Creek, Montana (Charles M. Russell National Wildlife Refuge and Bureau of Land Management) (Review List 400)

A motion was made and seconded to approve these changes.

Vote: 12 in favor  
1 against  
1 abstention

The negative vote was cast in the belief that the honoree did not have a direct association with the geographic features in question.

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

Change Short Squaw Creek (FID 776519) to Iron Teeth Woman Creek, Montana (Bureau of Land Management) (Review List 400)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this change.

Vote: 14 in favor  
0 against  
0 abstentions

Change Squaw Creek (FID 777129) to North Woman Creek, Montana (Review List 400)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this change.

Vote: 14 in favor  
0 against  
0 abstentions

Wally McClure Creek, Montana (Gallatin National Forest) (Review List 402) (FID 2612064)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this new name.

Vote: 14 in favor  
0 against  
0 abstentions

Change Little Miller Canyon (FID 1590824) to Little Mellor Canyon, and change Miller Mountain (FID 1591613) to Mellor Mountain, Wyoming (Bureau of Land Management) (Review Lists 403, 402)

A motion was made and seconded to approve these changes.

Vote: 14 in favor  
0 against  
0 abstentions

### IV. Revised Decisions - none

### V. New Names agreed to by all interested parties

Fairweather Bay, Alaska (Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge) (Review List 401) (FID 2612062)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this new name.

Vote: 14 in favor  
0 against

0 abstentions

Wilsall Peak, Montana (Gallatin National Forest) (Review List 402) (FID 2612063)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this new name.

Vote: 9 in favor  
4 against  
1 abstention

The negative votes were cast in the belief that the name was not needed, and citing a lack of local usage.

5. Location and Time of Next Meeting

The meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m. The next meeting of the Domestic Names Committee will take place May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2010, at the Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C., at 9:30 a.m., Room 7000B.

(signed) *Louis A. Yost*

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Louis A. Yost, Executive Secretary

APPROVED

(signed) *Robert Hiatt*

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Robert Hiatt, Chairman  
Domestic Names Committee

U.S. BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES  
DOMESTIC NAMES COMMITTEE  
DOCKET  
April 2010

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

Change Cow Island (FID 313053) to Eagle Island, Georgia  
(Review List 402)

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p\\_lat=31.3624483&p\\_longi=-81.3950997&fid=313053](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p_lat=31.3624483&p_longi=-81.3950997&fid=313053)

This proposal is to change the name of Cow Island in McIntosh County to Eagle Island. The island is 15 acres in size and lies in an unnamed swamp along May Hall Creek, just north of its confluence with the Darien River and 3.2 km (2 mi) east of the community of Darien. The proponent reports that eight years ago he purchased the island and constructed Eagle Lodge, an exclusive rental facility. The name was chosen in recognition of the eagles that nest there, and he claims it would be helpful if the island were renamed “to be recognized on mapping applications such as Google.” According to the application, “a name change request for the island was filed and recorded with the State of Georgia in October 2003.” Since then, the name has been published at a website called [privateislandsofgeorgia.com](http://privateislandsofgeorgia.com), as well as at two other vacation websites and a listing of lodging locations posted at the McIntosh County Chamber of Commerce website. It also was mentioned in the October 2008 edition of *Outside* magazine.

The name Cow Island first appeared on USGS topographic maps in 1956. An online search yielded no independent sources using the name Cow Island (all listings appear to originate from the GNIS entry). However, there is some evidence that a different island in close proximity is also named Cow Island. An online article, published in 2005 by the American Society for Microbiology, refers to “a marsh island inhabited primarily by cattle, locally known as Cow Island.” The map that accompanies the article applies the name to an island located just over two miles from the Cow Island in question, and along the Altamaha River; this second island is not listed in GNIS.

The McIntosh County Commissioners responded that they have no objection to the name change. The Georgia Department of Natural Resources/Wildlife Resources Division, which manages the nearby Altamaha Wildlife/Waterfowl Management Area, stated they are in support of the change. The Georgia State Geographic Names Authority is neutral on the issue, citing “a lack of use of either name.” After consulting with the Refuge Manager of the Harris Neck, Blackbeard Island & Wolf Island National Wildlife Refuges, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service stated it has no objection to the change. There are no Federally-recognized Tribes with an interest in McIntosh County.

Change Sherman Creek (FID 1187488) to Shermans Creek, Pennsylvania  
(Review List 402)

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p\\_lat=40.3836972&p\\_longi=-77.0280334&fid=1187488](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p_lat=40.3836972&p_longi=-77.0280334&fid=1187488)

This 84 km (52 mi) long stream heads in Toboyne Township at the confluence of Patterson Run and Big Spring Run, and flows generally east-northeast through portions of the Tuscarora State Forest, to its confluence with the Susquehanna River in Perry County. In addition to Toboyne Township, it also flows through Jackson Township, Southwest Madison Township, Tyrone Township, Spring Township, Carroll Township, Wheatfield Township, and Penn Township. This proposal, to change the stream's name from Sherman Creek to Shermans Creek, originated after the Pennsylvania Highway Department erected a new sign on the bridge over "Sherman Creek," which led the proponent to question why it was not in the genitive form, as known by local residents. It was determined that the singular form derived from the GNIS listing.

The name Sherman Creek has been published on all USGS topographic maps since 1907; field work conducted for the 1960 revision noted that all names had been verified by a State Forester, a District Forester, and a State Fish Warden. An online search yielded numerous references to both Sherman Creek and Shermans Creek, and also to Sherman's Creek. One of the small communities along the stream is named Shermans Dale. According to the proponent, who is a reporter with *The Perry County Times*, the proposed change has the support of the Shermans Creek Conservation Association; the Watershed Coordinator for the Perry County Conservation District; and a representative of Perry Historians. He also asked readers of his newspaper to comment on the issue, and all respondents indicated they were familiar with the genitive form. Letters of support have been received from the governments of Wheatfield Township, Toboyne Township, Blain Borough, Tyrone Township, Spring Township, Carroll Township, Penn Township, Landisburg Borough, and Perry County, while Jackson Township responded that it had no objection. The Pennsylvania Geographic Names Board also has no objection. There are 20 features in Pennsylvania containing the words "Sherman" or "Shermans"; of these, five are streams. Other other is named Sherman Creek; it is in Wayne County, 135 miles from the stream in question. There are no Federally-recognized Tribes with an interest in Perry County.

## II. Disagreement on Docketed Names

Change Squaw Creek (FID 777126) to Nancy Russell Creek,  
change Dry Fork Squaw Creek (FID 770828) to Dry Fork Nancy Russell Creek,  
and change Little Squaw Creek (FID 768086) to Little Nancy Russell Creek, Montana  
(Charles M. Russell National Wildlife Refuge and Bureau of Land Management)  
(Review List 400)

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglemap?p\\_lat=47.4661103&p\\_longi=-107.8126094&fid=777126](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglemap?p_lat=47.4661103&p_longi=-107.8126094&fid=777126)

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglemap?p\\_lat=47.3902778&p\\_longi=-107.5830556&fid=770828](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglemap?p_lat=47.3902778&p_longi=-107.5830556&fid=770828)

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglemap?p\\_lat=47.4499999&p\\_longi=-107.7389955&fid=768086](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglemap?p_lat=47.4499999&p_longi=-107.7389955&fid=768086)

These three proposals were submitted by the Montana House Bill 412 Committee, to change the names of a stream and two of its tributaries in Garfield County that are currently named “Squaw.” The primary stream, named currently Squaw Creek, is approximately 35 km (22 mi) long and heads inside land administered by the Bureau of Land Management, before flowing northwest into the Charles M. Russell National Wildlife Refuge and then into Fort Peck Lake. Dry Fork Squaw Creek is approximately 14 km (8.4 mi) long, while Little Squaw Creek is 27 km (17 mi) long. Because of the controversial nature of the existing names, a recent edition of the Montana Department of Transportation’s official highway map of Garfield County labels the primary stream as simply “XXXXX Creek.”

The newly proposed names would honor Nancy Russell, the wife of noted western artist Charles M. Russell. A decision on these three proposals was deferred by the DNC at its March 2010 meeting, citing a request for more biographical information on the intended honoree, particularly evidence that the proposal satisfies the requirements of the Commemorative Names Policy.

The H.B. 412 Committee and Montana State Names Authority were asked to provide more details for the file; their responses provided considerable information, including a reference to author Joan Stauffer’s book *Behind Every Man: The Story of Nancy Cooper Russell*. Although there is no specific evidence that proves whether or not Nancy Russell had a direct association with the streams in question, the State Names Authority suggests that if she ever floated the Missouri River, she may have seen them. A professor of geography at the University of Montana added, “[I]t should be emphasized that [Nancy Cooper Russell] made Charlie into what he became. Charlie Russell was a cowboy and liked “the drink”, and hanging out with his old range friends. Nancy, much younger and considered “fiery” organized his life his business and kept him on track. She had great ambitions for Charlie and plenty of business savvy. She promoted him internationally and set up many showing of his paintings throughout the US and western Europe. Three years after his death she published in book from [sic] a collection of his letters which included sketches – I think it was called Good medicine...

“There is a story that when she was dying in 1940 that she confided in a friend that she felt that while they had plenty, towards the end she feels she probably pushed Charlie too much to keep producing instead she should have given him more time to be with his friends. His heart was giving out and smoking had damaged his lungs. He has surgery at the Mayo Clinic not long before he died. Some felt she sensed his time was running out and pushed him more. She was the one who arranged for the commissioned projects from wealthy patrons. She did accompany him in the field and I’ve seen many pictures of her out on the range as well as in Glacier Park in his company (they lived at Lake McDonald when not in Great Falls or on the road. Charlie died quite young in 1926 – he was only 62. Nancy died in 1940 but I don’t remember how old she was. They were married in 1896 and he was born in 1864.”

An additional website describes the C.M. Russell home and log cabin studio:  
<http://www.tfaoi.com/aa/1aa/1aa543.htm>.

The Garfield County Commissioners do not support the proposed changes, stating, "People will continue to call the streams by their old names and this will cause confusion." However, the American Indian Caucus and the Montana Democratic Women's Legislative Caucus of the Montana State Legislature do support the proposals, while the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Bureau of Land Management both have no objection. The Montana State Names Authority recommends approval. A copy of the proposal was forwarded to the Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes of the Fort Peck Indian Reservation, the Blackfeet Nation, the Crow Tribe of Montana, the Fort Belknap Indian Community of the Fort Belknap Reservation, and the Nez Perce Tribe, but no response was received, which is presumed to indicate no opinion on the issue.

In addition to the aforementioned national wildlife refuge, there are 37 features in Montana containing the word "Russell"; it is not known how many are named for Charles or Nancy Russell, although a school, park, and museum in Cascade County are named for Charles. There are no features containing the name "Nancy Russell."

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

Change **Short Squaw Creek** (FID 776519) to **Iron Teeth Woman Creek**, Montana  
(Bureau of Land Management)  
(Review List 400)

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p\\_lat=46.2819468&p\\_longi=-105.6063795&fid=776519](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p_lat=46.2819468&p_longi=-105.6063795&fid=776519)

This proposal is to change the name of Short Squaw Creek, a 10 km (6 mi) long stream in Custer County, to Iron Teeth Woman Creek. It was submitted by the Montana House Bill 412 "Squaw Name Change" Advisory Committee on behalf of the Northern Cheyenne Tribal Council, which suggested the name in honor of Iron Teeth Woman, "a Cheyenne woman who survived several battles with the U.S. Government." According to one online description, "Iron Teeth Woman led the Northern Cheyenne people back to Montana from imprisonment in Indian Territory and Fort Robinson, Nebraska." (The Iron Teeth Woman Powwow Grounds are located at Fort Robinson.)

The proposed name change has the support of the House Bill 412 Committee; the American Indian Caucus and Montana Democratic Women's Legislative Caucus of the Montana State Legislature; the Bureau of Land Management, and State Representatives Norma Bixby, David Roundstone, and Sharon Stewart Peregoy. The Custer County Commissioners also support the change, as does the Montana State Geographic Names Authority. As part of its research, the State determined that the Montana Water Resources Division, the Montana Trust Lands Division, and the Indian Country Economic Development Program of the Montana Department of Commerce were all in support of the proposals, while the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks and the Montana State Historic Preservation office are not opposed.

A copy of the proposal was forwarded to the following Federally-recognized Tribes, but no response was received which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion: the Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes of the Fort Peck Indian Reservation, the Crow Creek Sioux Tribe, the Crow Tribe of Montana, the Fort Belknap Indian Community, the

Lower Brule Sioux Tribe, the Oglala Sioux Tribe of the Pine Ridge Reservation, the Rosebud Sioux Tribe, the Santee Sioux Nation, the Shoshone Tribe of the Wind River Reservation, the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes of the Fort Hall Indian Reservation, the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, and the Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort Berthold Reservation.

Change **Squaw Creek** (FID 777129) to **North Woman Creek**, Montana  
(Review List 400)

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p\\_lat=46.2819468&p\\_longi=-105.7677747&fid=777129](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p_lat=46.2819468&p_longi=-105.7677747&fid=777129)

This proposal, submitted by the Montana House Bill 412 Committee, would change the name of **Squaw Creek**, a 47 km (29 mi) long tributary of Tongue River in Custer County, to **North Woman Creek**. The new name, which was suggested by the Crow Indian Tribe, would honor a Cheyenne woman who was instrumental in leading her people back from Oklahoma.

This proposal also has the support of the House Bill 412 Committee and the American Indian Caucus of the Montana State Legislature, as well as the Bureau of Land Management, and State Representatives Norma Bixby, David Roundstone, and Sharon Stewart Peregoy. There are no other features in Montana with “North Woman” in their names. The Custer County Commissioners also support the change, as does the Montana State Geographic Names Authority. As part of its research, the State determined that the Montana Water Resources Division, the Montana Trust Lands Division, and the Indian Country Economic Development Program of the Montana Department of Commerce were all in support of the proposals, while the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks and the Montana State Historic Preservation office are not opposed.

A copy of the proposal was forwarded to the following Federally-recognized Tribes, but no response was received which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion: the Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes of the Fort Peck Indian Reservation, the Crow Creek Sioux Tribe, the Crow Tribe of Montana, the Fort Belknap Indian Community, the Lower Brule Sioux Tribe, the Oglala Sioux Tribe of the Pine Ridge Reservation, the Rosebud Sioux Tribe, the Santee Sioux Nation, the Shoshone Tribe of the Wind River Reservation, the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes of the Fort Hall Indian Reservation, the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, and the Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort Berthold Reservation.

**Wally McClure Creek**, Montana  
(Gallatin National Forest)  
(Review List 402)

Mouth:[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=44.8041203&p\\_longi=-111.2940944](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=44.8041203&p_longi=-111.2940944)

Source:[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=44.7755466&p\\_longi=-111.3308692](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=44.7755466&p_longi=-111.3308692)

This 4.8 km (3 mi) long stream, proposed to be named **Wally McClure Creek**, is located in Gallatin National Forest, on the west side of Hebgen Lake in Gallatin County. The

proposal, which was submitted by the Supervisor of the Gallatin National Forest, is intended to honor Forest Service fishery biologist Walter “Wally” V. McClure (1961-2003), who according to the proponent made substantial professional contributions to both the U.S. Forest Service and to aquatic education and conservation. Mr. McClure was “committed to the education of people on many diverse aquatic topics and taught educational programs each year. He was a leader in native species conservation, particularly cutthroat trout conservation.” He was also an active member of the American Fisheries Society (AFS), and received posthumously a Lifetime Achievement Award from the organization’s Montana Chapter, which is in support of this proposal. The AFS has also established the Wally McClure scholarship. The stream chosen to bear the name Wally McClure Creek was the last place Mr. McClure conducted fieldwork before he passed away from cancer; during that work he discovered a population of rare, genetically pure westslope cutthroat trout. This discovery has subsequently become important in conserving the species in the Madison River Basin.

The proposal for Wally McClure Creek has the support of the Gallatin County Commissioners, the Montana State Names Authority, and the U.S. Forest Service. There are no Federally-recognized Tribes with an interest in Gallatin County.

Change **Little Miller Canyon** (FID 1590824) to **Little Mellor Canyon**,  
and change **Miller Mountain** (FID 1591613) to **Mellor Mountain**, Wyoming  
(Bureau of Land Management)  
(Review Lists 403, 402)

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p\\_lat=41.4346864&p\\_longi=-109.2581851&fid=1590824](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p_lat=41.4346864&p_longi=-109.2581851&fid=1590824)

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p\\_lat=41.1846836&p\\_longi=-109.1770713&fid=1591613](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p_lat=41.1846836&p_longi=-109.1770713&fid=1591613)

These proposals are to change the name of Miller Mountain and Little Miller Canyon in Sweetwater County to Mellor Mountain and Little Mellor Canyon, respectively. The first of the two changes was submitted by a representative of the Sweetwater County Engineering and Community Development Office, who reports the spelling “Mellor” is historically accurate and in long term local use. Although the name Miller Mountain appeared in a 1925 USGS photograph and has been published on USGS topographic maps since 1980, the proponent reports that the proposed name was published in a 1913 U.S. Surveyor General’s Office document and is also on Sweetwater County highway maps. It also appears in many Bureau of Land Management, State, and county documents, and was mentioned in a 2008 Governor’s press release. In 2007, an article in The Casper Star Tribune referred to a search and rescue effort “southwest of Mellor Mountain.”

In researching this proposal, it was discovered that a 4.9 km (3.1 mi) long valley located just to the north of the summit is named Little Miller Canyon. Although the latter name does not appear on USGS topographic maps, it is listed in GNIS. The County agreed that name should be changed as well.

The proponent’s research indicates the summit and valley were likely named for William Mellor, a long time resident of the county. Mellor was employed by the

Wyoming Coal and Mining Company, where he first operated the company store and then for fifteen years served as mine superintendent. He also built the first building in Rock Springs. According to one online biography, “He did more than any other man in this section to develop the rich mineral resources of the county. He ably and successfully managed the mines of the company, and demonstrated abilities which placed him among the leading mining experts of the West. Resigning the superintendency in 1886, he went into a lucrative cattle business until 1894, when he retired from active life.” He also served as chairman of the Sweetwater County Commission in 1888. The proponent provided copies of several documents that corroborate the claim that Mellor was associated with the area, including a 1909 township survey that labeled “Mellor’s House” a few miles to the north of the summit; an inventory of land grants showing several Mellor family members owning property in the area from the 1880s through the 1920s; and an 1891 land patent for property adjacent to the summit.

The Sweetwater County Engineer and the Community Development Office both support the proposed changes. The Wyoming Board of Geographic Names also recommends approval. Neither the Bureau of Land Management nor the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service have an opinion on the issue. A copy of the proposal was forwarded to the Arapaho Tribe of the Wind River Reservation and the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes of the Fort Hall Indian Reservation, but no response was received, which is presumed to indicate no opinion on the issue.

**IV. Revised Decisions – none.**

**V. New Names agreed to by all interested parties**

**Fairweather Bay**, Alaska  
(Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge)  
(Review List 401)

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=55.16833333333333&p\\_longi=-159.57833333333333](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=55.16833333333333&p_longi=-159.57833333333333)

The bay proposed to be named Fairweather Bay is located on the western shore of Big Koniuji Island, 4.3 km (2.7 mi) northwest of Flying Eagle Harbor, in the Shumagin Islands in Aleutians East Borough. It also lies within the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge. According to the proponent, who serves as the commanding officer of the NOAA Ship Fairweather, the bay is well protected from southerly, northerly, and easterly storms and “has a good holding bottom for anchoring at a depth of 25 fathoms.” He claims the Fairweather is the first ship to have surveyed the bay (2007) and they currently use it for anchorage while surveying the waters around the Shumagin Islands. He further reports that no other vessels have been observed using the bay for anchoring during the Fairweather’s operations in the area.

The Alaska State Names Authority recommends approval of this new name. The State believes the proposal is warranted and the name is needed for safety reasons. In researching the issue, the State contacted the Aleut Corporation, the Pauloff Harbor Village Council, the Qagan Tayagungin Tribe of Sand Point, the Sanak Corporation, the Shumagin Corporation, the Unga Corporation, and the Unga Tribe. Of these, the Aleut

Corporation and the Shumagin Corporation expressed support for the name; the lack of response from the remaining groups is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion. The Mayor of Aleutians East Borough also endorses the name, while the City of Sand Point did not respond. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has no objection to the name, while NOAA is in support. There are five other features in Alaska known to be named “Fairweather”: a cape, a glacier, a bar, a range, and a summit. The closest is approximately 800 miles distant.

**Wilsall Peak**, Montana  
(Gallatin National Forest)  
(Review List 402)

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=46.02666666666667&p\\_longi=-110.346388888889](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=46.02666666666667&p_longi=-110.346388888889)

This proposal is to apply a new name to an unnamed 3,220 m (10,571 ft) summit in the Crazy Mountains in the Gallatin National Forest. The summit lies 25 km (15 mi) east-northeast of Wilsall, and so the name was chosen because it is reported to be the most prominent peak seen from the community. GNIS includes entries for nine other features in Park County containing the word “Wilsall,” all administrative features named for the community. According to several online sources, the community was named for Will and Sally Jordan, offspring of Walter B. Jordan, who laid out the town in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century.

The Park County Commissioners are not opposed to the proposal, while the Montana State Names Authority is in support. As part of its research, the SNA consulted various State agencies; the Montana Water Resources Division, the Montana Trust Lands Division, and the Indian Country Economic Development Program of the Montana Department of Commerce are responded that they are in favor of the new name, while the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks and the Montana State Historic Preservation Office are not opposed. The U.S. Forest Service also has no objection to the name. A copy of the proposal was forwarded to the Crow Tribe of Montana, the Northern Cheyenne Tribe, the Shoshone Tribe of the Wind River Reservation, and the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes of the Fort Hall Indian Reservation, but no response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion on the issue.