

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

Seven Hundred and Sixty-Second Meeting
Department of the Interior, Kiowa Room
July 10, 2014 – 9:30 a.m.

Members and Deputy Members in Attendance

Eric Berman	Department of Homeland Security (Federal Emergency Management Agency)
Douglas Caldwell	Department of Defense (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers)
Jon Campbell	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
Bruce Johnson	Library of Congress
Betsy Kanalley	Department of Agriculture (U.S. Forest Service)
Sean Killen	Department of the Interior (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service) (by teleconference)
Brian Mueller	Department of the Interior (Bureau of Land Management)
Jacque Nolan	Library of Congress
Michael Shelton	Department of the Interior (National Park Service)
John St. Louis	Department of Homeland Security (by teleconference)
Douglas Vandegraft	Department of the Interior (Bureau of Ocean Energy Management) (Chairman)
Meredith Westington	Department of Commerce (Office of Coast Survey)

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 (by teleconference)

Staff

Maria McCormick, U.S. Geological Survey (by teleconference)
Jane Messenger, U.S. Geological Survey (by teleconference)
Matthew O'Donnell, U.S. Geological Survey
Jennifer Runyon, U.S. Geological Survey

Guests

Brenda-Anne C. Forrest, Government Printing Office
Chelsea Suydam, U.S. Forest Service
Patrick Woodward, Bureau of the Census

1. Opening

The Chairman opened the meeting at 9:30 a.m. He invited the guests to introduce themselves.

2. Minutes of the 761st Meeting

The Minutes of the 761st meeting of the Domestic Names Committee, held June 12th, 2014, were approved as submitted.

3. Reports

3.1 BGN Chairman (Caldwell)

The next full BGN meeting will take place on July 22nd and will be hosted by the U.S. Forest Service. Kanalley will provide details regarding the building and room location shortly.

Caldwell signed a letter addressed to Anne Castle, Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Water and Science, requesting a meeting with the Secretary of the Interior to discuss the roles and responsibilities of the BGN.

3.2 BGN Executive Secretary's Report (Yost)

Yost summarized the results of recent discussions regarding the USGS National Geospatial Program (NGP) Policy Directive on geographic names, the details of which have been covered in previous meeting minutes. Caldwell proposed that Yost and staff be given the authority to review the NGP's revision of the directive rather than bringing it before the entire BGN. A motion to accept this proposal was made and seconded and passed unanimously. If any NGP revisions are found to be unacceptable, then a new cycle of negotiations and revisions will be necessary.

Yost spoke of a syndicated news article that cited the BGN as an example of "a small, obscure government department." He also mentioned a recent reference to the Mount Reagan proposals in congressional legislation, which noted the BGN's policy of not considering any proposal that is currently pending before the U.S. Congress.

Palmer announced the upcoming Foreign Names Committee meeting on September 9th. He asked about the Federal Depository Library issue, but no new information has been heard.

Yost and Palmer reported, respectively, that there would be no new proposals from either the Advisory Committee on Antarctic Names or the Advisory Committee on Undersea Features at the upcoming full BGN meeting.

3.3 Communications Committee (Westington)

There were no updates from the Committee. The next meeting will take place during the morning of the next full BGN meeting, on July 22nd at 9:30 a.m.

3.4 Executive Secretary's Report (Yost)

Yost reported on an email received from a proponent thanking Runyon for her work in guiding him through the multi-year process of renaming East Dix in the Adirondack Mountains to Grace Peak. Yost also mentioned a *Chicago Tribune* article on the Canyon Creek Falls and related proposals in Illinois; the proponent is a colleague of the geography professor who has had his class students submit a large number of new name proposals to the BGN.

The name of a community in Kansas has been in the news lately. The official name in the Geographic Names Information System (GNIS) is Saint John; however, a former resident of the area contacted the BGN to report that local usage has always been St. John, because it was named for John Pierce St. John, who served as governor of Kansas from 1879 to 1883. He believes the name St. John should be made official for Federal use. The individual was advised that it is longstanding BGN policy to spell out all abbreviations. The U.S. Postal Service disallows periods in post office names and so the sign on the building reads ST JOHN (the USPS web site lists the preferred mailing address as Saint John, with St John

as an acceptable form). Fournier reported that the Census Bureau is attempting to locate the articles of incorporation to determine the official name. In addition to the GNIS entries for the incorporated city (“civil”), the corresponding populated place, and the aforementioned post office, there is a township named Township of Saint John and numerous associated administrative features (schools, churches, police department, etc.). The staff is awaiting the results of the Census Bureau’s investigation before deciding how to proceed.

Yost reported on a U.S. Geological Survey project in Alaska, which involved a trip along the Koyukuk River by Native youth and elders to document place names and to post traditional place name signs along their route. USGS plans to publish a map with these names, even though it appears none have been approved for federal use. The Alaska Native Language Center and BGN member Fordham are involved with the project.

3.5 Staff Report (Runyon)

Review List 417, comprising 49 new proposals, was recently completed and posted online.

Runyon extended her appreciation to former BGN Chair William Logan for his ongoing efforts to prepare a document that compares the existing and revised versions of the *Principles, Policies, and Procedures*. To date, the document is over 90 pages long, and is expected to be completed in time for the August DNC meeting. The DNC members also expressed their appreciation to Logan for taking on this task.

Runyon provided an update on the proposals that the BGN has received to apply a name to a summit near Juneau, Alaska; two competing proposals, for Mount Scribner and Tlaxsatánjín, were submitted. However, the Mount Scribner proposal has been withdrawn by the proponent, in recognition of the importance of native names and in the hope that the entire community can come to an agreement on a suitable name. A Facebook post by the proponent of Tlaxsatánjín seems to imply that that proposal will also be withdrawn soon. The U.S. Forest Service is continuing to accept comments on the latter name.

The four proposals submitted by the Washoe Tribe to change the names of features in California that include the word “Squaw” have been amended to include English generics and more phonetic spellings. The proposals on Review List 416 will be updated.

Runyon gave an update on a proposal to name a falls in Shenandoah National Park. The original proposal, to name the feature Rattlesnake Falls was withdrawn after the National Park Service expressed opposition to the name. The proponent consulted with representatives of the park and Warren County to select a more suitable name. The name John J. Miller Falls has been proposed to honor a local settler. Review List 415 will be amended (the name will be shortened to Miller Falls).

Legislation was recently passed in Tennessee to change the name of the City of Lake City in Anderson County to City of Rocky Top. Because the town is incorporated, the BGN will defer any changes to the GNIS entry until the Census Bureau has completed its investigation and submits a change to the BGN. Fournier spoke briefly about this issue, and also mentioned a recent request for information on community boundary changes and definitions in southern California.

3.6 GNIS and Data Compilation Program (McCormick)

McCormick reported that she and other GNIS staff are working on FY15 planning. A tool to allow the processing of batch uploads in Excel format should be ready by the end of the year. She described the prototype Landforms tool that allows general areas to be defined for appropriate physical features. This tool will be released internally for review by the end of the fiscal year.

McCormick spoke briefly about some recent staff reductions in the NGP offices in Denver.

Yost requested that McCormick ascertain the version number of the current Web Features Services-Gazetteer (WFS-G) in order to answer an inquiry.

Runyon mentioned the large backlog of BGN decision files that need to be attached to GNIS records. A tool is being developed to allow BGN staff to begin uploading these files. She also reported on a recent NGP staff meeting where there was discussion regarding the use of GNIS and the NGP Boundaries Dataset for official boundary files for military features as well as facilities maintained by the Department of Homeland Security. St. Louis agreed that further discussion is needed.

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

Kanalley reported that all business related to this special committee is now covered in full in the revised Tribal Names Policy. She had no report and suggested that this item could be removed from future meeting agendas.

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 **Miner Lake** (FID 632450) to **Looking Glass Lake**, Michigan (Review List 415)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this change.

Vote: 15 in favor
 0 against
 0 abstentions

Change **Pointy Knob** (FID 1555382) to **Flat Ridge**, West Virginia (Monongahela National Forest) (Review List 412)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this change.

Vote: 15 in favor
 0 against
 0 abstentions

II. Disagreement on Docketed Names

Carls Meadow, New Mexico (Santa Fe National Forest) (Review List 415)

A motion was made and seconded to not approve this new name.

Citing discussion between representatives of the Santa Fe National Forest and the Tesuque Pueblo, it seems that there is a Tesuque name for the feature; as such, the Forest Service has indicated it cannot support the

proposed name Carls Meadow. A counter-proposal might be forthcoming from the tribe. The motion to not approve the name was withdrawn.

A motion was then made and seconded to defer a decision on this new name pending an update from Kanalley on the counter-proposal. She indicated she would provide an update at the next DNC meeting.

Vote: 15 in favor
 0 against
 0 abstentions

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

Crawford Bayou, Louisiana (Review List 414) (FID 2761958)

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

Vote: 13 in favor
 2 against
 0 abstentions

The negative votes were cast citing a concern that the name could be construed to honor a living person.

Clarks Crossing, Montana (Review List 416) (FID 2761959)

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

Vote: 15 in favor
 0 against
 0 abstentions

One member left the meeting.

Garrison Creek, Pennsylvania (Review List 415) (FID 2761961)

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

Vote: 14 in favor
 0 against
 0 abstentions

IV. Revised Decisions - none

V. New Names agreed to by all interested parties

Split Rock Cascade, New York (Review List 415) (FID 2761960)

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

Vote: 9 in favor
 5 against
 0 abstentions

The negative votes were cast in the belief that the New York City Department of Environmental Protection should have been consulted because the feature is located on land they use as a source of city water. In addition, some members wished that a photograph of the feature had been made available.

5. Other Business

Caldwell announced that he is donating to the BGN Library a copy of a novel entitled *Sweeney*, written by New Mexico State Names Authority Bob Julyan; the story includes several references to geographic names.

Fournier announced that he will be retiring from Federal service and moving to Maine at the end of September. The Chair and the members congratulated Fournier and thanked him for his service and dedication to the BGN.

6. Closing

The meeting adjourned at 11:21 a.m.

The next Domestic Names Committee meeting will be held August 14, 2014, at 9:30 a.m. at the Department of the Interior, Room 1352.

(signed) Louis A. Yost

Louis A. Yost, Executive Secretary

APPROVED

(signed) Douglas Vandegraft

Douglas Vandegraft, Chairman
Domestic Names Committee

**U.S. BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES
DOMESTIC NAMES COMMITTEE
DOCKET
July 2014**

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

Change **Miner Lake** (FID 632450) to **Looking Glass Lake**, Michigan
(Review List 415)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesrimap?p_lat=42.6108854&p_longi=-86.064935&fid=632450

This 20-acre lake, the name of which is proposed to be changed from Miner Lake to Looking Glass Lake, is one of two lakes in Allegan County currently named Miner Lake. The other lake is located 14 miles to the east-southeast, is much larger, and is surrounded by resorts. The proponent claims that the name duplication causes much confusion. An online query for the name Miner Lake resulted in several thousand hits but it is unclear to which of the two lakes the results refer. Federal Census records for Allegan County show numerous individuals with the surname Miner, as do General Land Office property records dating back to the 1830s. An 1873 map of Manlius Township labeled the lake in question Dry Lake, and also showed that W.A. Miner owned property approximately 1.5 miles to the northwest. Several families named Miner still live in Allegan County.

The proponent further states that he owns all the property surrounding the smaller lake.

The Manlius Township government, the Allegan County Equalization Office, and the county mapping department have no objection to the proposed change. No response was received from the Allegan County Board of Commissioners, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion. The Michigan State Names Authority supports the proposal, saying: "This change would eliminate the confusion of another lake in Allegan County called Miner Lake."

A copy of this proposal and a request for comments was forwarded to the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, Oklahoma, the Forest County Potawatomi Community, the Hannahville Indian Community, the Match-e-be-nash-she-wish Band of Pottawatomi Indians, the Ottawa Tribe of Oklahoma, the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians, and the Prairie Band of Potawatomi Nation, Kansas, all of which are federally recognized. The Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians responded saying they had no opinion regarding the proposal; the other six tribes did not respond, which is presumed to indicate a lack of opinions.

Change **Pointy Knob** (FID 1555382) to **Flat Ridge**, West Virginia
(Monongahela National Forest)
(Review List 412)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesrimap?p_lat=39.0023316&p_longi=-79.4669959&fid=1555382

This proposal is to change the name of Pointy Knob, a 3,738-foot summit in Monongahela National Forest in Tucker County, to Flat Ridge. The proponent is a resident of Virginia who also owns property on the feature in question. He believes the name should be changed because local residents have known it as Flat Ridge for 100 years, and because there is another summit named Pointy Knob just 2.5 miles to the northwest, in the same county and on the same topographic map. Furthermore, he indicates the peak in question is not "pointy" but "relatively flat." The road that runs along the west side of the summit is named Flat Ridge Road. Both summits have been labeled Pointy Knob on USGS topographic maps since

1920; both names also appear on the DeLorme *West Virginia Atlas and Gazetteer*. Neither summit is named on the Tucker County highway map, and only the more northerly one is labeled on the National Forest visitors' map.

The Tucker County Commissioners support the proposal as do both the West Virginia State Names Authority and the U.S. Forest Service. According to the NAGRPA Native American Consultation Database, there are no federally recognized tribes with an interest in Tucker County.

II. Disagreement on Docketed Names

Carls Meadow, New Mexico
(Santa Fe National Forest)
(Review List 415)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=35.7806047&p_longi=-105.8040343

This 1.8-acre meadow is located in the Sangre de Cristo Mountains within the Santa Fe National Forest. According to the proponent, it is accessible via a Forest Service trail from Aspen Vista Picnic Area to the Santa Fe Ski Basin.

The proponent reports that the name Carls Meadow came into local use following the death of Carlton White Kithil (1978-2000), a native of Santa Fe who was an avid outdoorsman, nature lover, and musician. The proponent further states that Mr. Kithil was “a friend and inspiration to many and all-around wonderful person.” He spent a lot of time in the meadow, even building snow shelters in winter to be able to stay overnight. Before his death from cancer in 2000, he returned to the meadow as often as he could. He wrote a poem describing the beauty of the meadow, which the proponent included with the application.

The name is now used by Sierra Club trail guides, day trip programs, and the Santa Fe Hiking Meetup Group. It also is mentioned in an online video. A wooden sign is posted on an aspen tree identifying the meadow as Carl's Meadow [sic].

The Santa Fe County Commissioners support the proposed name. The New Mexico State Names Authority supports the proposed name and reports the receipt of numerous emails of support from private individuals. However, the U.S. Forest Service does not support the name based on a lack of “association between the person and the location that was sufficient to warrant a commemorative name.”

A copy of this proposal and a request for comments was forwarded to the Jicarilla Apache Nation, the Kewa Pueblo, New Mexico, the Pueblo of Nambe, New Mexico, the Pueblo of Pojoaque, New Mexico, the Pueblo of San Ildefonso, New Mexico, the Pueblo of Santa Clara, and the Pueblo of Tesuque, all of which are federally recognized. No responses were received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of opinion.

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

Crawford Bayou, Louisiana
(Review List 414)

Mouth: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=30.3254713&p_longi=-89.7079182
Source: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=30.32016&p_longi=-89.70570

This proposal is to make official the name Crawford Bayou, which the proponent claims has been used by members and friends of the Crawford family for many years. The feature in question is approximately 2,000 feet long and flows around the west side of Pine Tree Island, just west of the West Pearl River and

2.5 miles northeast of the edge of the community of Slidell. Approximately one mile to the south of the bayou is Crawford Landing, a locale named for the same family.

This proposal would specifically honor Ervin Crawford (d.1964), the father of the proponent. The intended honoree was a lifelong resident of the area who shared his knowledge of the local bayou environment with his son. State Senator A.G. Crowe submitted a letter of support for Crawford Bayou.

In April 2013, the DNC considered an earlier proposal from the same proponent, to change the name of Bullock Lake to Crawford Lake. This lake is located 0.8 miles to the north of the feature now proposed to be named Crawford Bayou. The proposed change to Crawford Lake was rejected, citing a reluctance to change a longstanding name that could be commemorative and in agreement with the negative recommendation of the Louisiana State Names Authority.

Both the Saint Tammany Parish president and the Louisiana State Names Authority are in support of this proposal to name the stream Crawford Bayou. According to the NAGRPA Native American Consultation Database, there are no federally recognized tribes with an interest in St. Tammany Parish.

Clarks Crossing, Montana
(Review List 416)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=45.7502777&p_longi=-108.4983333

This proposal would make official the name Clarks Crossing for a currently unnamed locale in the Yellowstone River just south of Billings. As a result of recent migration of the main river channel and changes in sedimentation patterns, the feature, which was formerly an island, has gradually become attached to the river's north bank. At present, the feature is only surrounded by water during flooding events.

Ralph Saunders, a Lewis and Clark scholar, determined in 2008 that the then-island was the site of a crossing by Capt. William Clark's company in 1806. On their return journey from the Pacific Ocean in July and August of 1806, Lewis and Clark separated and explored different rivers. Clark's journals and detailed maps indicated that 26 horses were ferried across the Yellowstone River near the northeast end of the feature now proposed to be named Clarks Crossing. Sergeant Nathaniel Pryor planned to take the horses over land in order to trade for supplies at Fort Mandan. However all the horses were stolen en route; Pryor rejoined Clark along the Yellowstone River a few weeks later.

Most of the locale was recently leased by the City of Billings from the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation; the land is to be included in the city's Riverfront Park. Trails will be constructed as part of the Billings Marathon Loop, which it is hoped will draw visitors to the site. The city also plans to establish a Lewis and Clark interpretive site and also to preserve the riparian habitat.

The proponent reports that the effort to make official the name Clarks Crossing has the support of a large number of agencies and groups, including historical societies, conservation groups, municipal boards, and academic institutions. Out of convenience, conservation volunteers sometimes refer to the locale as Darling Island; another group calls it Libby Island after one of its members; the source of another name, Carla Island, is unknown. Each of these groups is cited in the proposal as supporting the name Clarks Crossing.

Many locations in Montana are named for Captain William Clark or another Clark; however, the only natural or populated feature near Billings is Clark Fork Yellowstone River, a stream that flows into the Yellowstone River over 15 miles upstream from the locale in question.

The Montana State Names Authority supports the proposed name, reporting support from the Yellowstone County Commissioners and by the City of Billings Parks and Recreation Department. Several local citizens, businesses, and associations sent letters of support in response to an article in a Billings newspaper requesting public input. Support letters and local government approval notices can be found on the Montana Geographic Names Advisor website at http://msl.mt.gov/geonames/comments/41601_Clarks_Crossing.zip.

A copy of this proposal and a request for comments was forwarded to the Crow Tribe of Montana, a federally recognized tribe. No response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion.

Garrison Creek, Pennsylvania
(Review List 415)

Mouth: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=41.6093584&p_longi=-75.9332401
Source: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=41.6172309&p_longi=-75.9383516

This unnamed 0.7-mile-long stream is located in Lemon Township in Wyoming County. It heads 1.6 miles northeast of Valentine Hill, then flows south and east to enter Meade Brook. The name is intended to honor William Garrison (1816-1898), one of the early settlers and farmers in Lemon Township. Garrison is shown as a property owner on F.W. Beers' 1869 map of the township. Samuel Lyman Garrison (1849-1915) and Archie Bagley Garrison (1886-1981) were descendants of William Garrison. The Garrison family has remained in the area for 144 years. From the first parcel of land owned by William Garrison, the family significantly increased the acreage and continues to own and farm it. The stream passes through some of the current acreage owned by descendants of William Garrison.

The Supervisors of Lemon Township were asked to comment on the proposal; no response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion. The Wyoming County Commissioners support the proposal. The Pennsylvania State Names Authority had no opinion about this proposal. According to the NAGRPA Native American Consultation Database, there are no federally recognized tribes with an interest in Wyoming County.

V. Revised Decisions - none

VI. New Names agreed to by all interested parties

Split Rock Cascade, New York
(Review List 415)

Mouth: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=41.4713244&p_longi=-73.7862697
Source: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=41.4735421&p_longi=-73.7878756

This nearly 0.2-mile-long stream heads in a marshy area in the Town of Putnam Valley and flows southeast into the Town of Kent and then into Sagamore Lake. The stream falls approximately 80 feet in that distance. The proponent is proposing the name Split Rock Cascade “for the most prominent feature in the stream: two upright-standing rocks, clearly split from each other, where the rushing water crashes against them at a turn in the stream.”

The proponent further states that the stream is a part of the protected water source for New York City. He reports that New York City Department of Environmental Protection maps label it “west branch headwaters unit” (no maps have been located to confirm this). However, a photograph posted on Google Earth for the general area is titled “DEP West Branch Headwaters Unit.”

A query of GNIS for New York found 15 features using the words “Split Rock” in their name: a building, two capes, one falls, two lakes, two locales, a populated place, a ridge, two schools, a stream, and two summits. None are in Putnam County. The word “Cascade” is used 30 times but never as a generic and not in Putnam County.

The Town Supervisor of the Town of Putnam Valley supports the proposal as does the Putnam County Director of Tourism. The Supervisor of the Town of Kent, the Putnam County Executive, and members of the Putnam County Legislature were all asked to comment on the proposal; none responded, which is presumed to indicate a lack of opinions. The New York State Names Authority has no objection to the proposal. According to the NAGRPA Native American Consultation Database, there are no federally recognized tribes with an interest in Putnam County.