

U. S. BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES
DOMESTIC NAMES COMMITTEE
Seven Hundred and Twelfth Meeting
Francis Marion Hotel, Charleston, South Carolina
September 9, 2009 – 10:30 a.m.

Members and Deputy Members in Attendance

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)
Chick Fagan	Department of the Interior (National Park Service)
Michael Fournier	Department of Commerce (Bureau of the Census)
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) (Chairman) (not voting)
Douglas Vandegrift	Department of the Interior (U.S. Fish and Wildlife 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

John Fenniman, U. S. Geological Survey
Sandra Hoyle-Moore, U. S. Geological Survey
Jane Messenger, U. S. Geological Survey
Roger Payne, U. S. Geological Survey; Executive Secretary, U.S. Board on Geographic Names Emeritus
Jennifer Runyon, U. S. Geological Survey

1.1 Opening

Curtis Loy, Chair, Domestic Names Committee, opened the meeting at 10:30 a.m. and thanked the Council of Geographic Names Authorities (COGNA) for hosting the DNC meeting at the COGNA Conference. He noted that his two-year term as DNC Chair would end and the new chair will assume duties with the October 8, 2009 meeting. As chair, he will not be voting on issues on today's docket unless there is a tie vote.

1.2 Introduction of Committee members and staff

Each of the DNC committee members and deputy members introduced themselves to the audience, as did the staff members present. Yost also introduced three representatives from the BGN's Foreign Names Committee and two from the Geographical Names Board of Canada (GNBC), and thanked them for participating in the COGNA Conference. Copies of the agenda and docket for this meeting were distributed for the audience's review.

1.3 Comments by Elizabeth Kanalley, Chairwoman, U.S. Board on Geographic Names

Kanalley reiterated Loy's thanks to the South Carolina State Names Authority and COGNA for hosting the 2009 Conference.

Kanalley reported that effective October 2009, her tenure as BGN Chair will end. Elections will take place at the BGN meeting on October 20th to select a new chair and vice-chair.

She also reported that a full BGN meeting took place July 14, 2009 at the State Department. The attendees discussed the need to develop a comprehensive plan for the storage, preservation, and dissemination of BGN records. It was agreed that the Executive Committee (E.C.) is responsible for this activity, and so a meeting has been scheduled for September 15th at the Library of Congress. At the same meeting, the E.C. will discuss the full BGN's possible involvement in the DNC's Native American Names policy.

Kanalley reported that she sent a letter to Doug Richardson, Executive Director of the Association of American Geographers (AAG), inviting him to attend a meeting of the US BGN. Mr. Richards has accepted the invitation, and will plan to attend an upcoming meeting.

Kanalley further reported that the BGN has agreed to advise the Association of American Geographers (AAG) on the development of a toponymic track for the 2010 AAG meeting which will be held in Washington, DC. More details are provided in the Special Communications Committee report.

1.4 The Minutes of the 711th Meeting, held August 13th, were approved as submitted.

2. Reports

2.1 BGN Executive Secretary (Yost)

The Executive Secretary reported that the reappointment letters have left the Department of the Interior (DOI) and asked members to alert their respective departments, agencies, and bureaus that they may expect them shortly. Yost reminded the members and deputies that their current appointments will extend into the new term.

Yost also reported that in early August, he participated in the annual meeting of the Geographical Names Board of Canada in Iqaluit, Nunavut, which he believes to be one the best GNBC meetings he has attended. There was discussion on indigenous names and on the delineation of vector polygons for physical features, both of which are issues that the DNC is dealing with.

The Advisory Committee on Antarctic Names and the Advisory Committee on Undersea Features continue to hold discussions to determine which body should take the lead on the naming of submarine features within 12 nautical miles of Antarctica.

The Web Feature Services-Gazetteer protocol (WFS-G) Working Group, which consists of representatives from the USGS, the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA), and the State of Montana continues work towards an Open Geospatial Consortium (OGC) Web Feature Service (WFS) standard.

The next Internationalization and Unicode Conference is scheduled to take place October 14-16 in California. In the past this has proven to be a very interesting meeting, and it should be noted that this year's keynote speaker is Chair of the Foundation for Endangered Languages. This relates to the DNC's upcoming meeting (October 8th), at which many issues related to indigenous names and tribal consultation will be discussed. Yost asked each of the Federal agencies responsible for mapping and charting to solicit comments on the possible application of indigenous names and special characters to their published and digital products.

The American Name Society will be holding its annual meeting in Baltimore in early January 2010. For additional details, the members and audience are encouraged to contact Tom Gasque or Grant Smith.

In late June 2010, in Edinburgh, Scotland, there will be a symposium entitled *Trends in Toponymy*. It has been reported that the focus will be on indigenous and minority names.

2.2 DNC Executive Secretary (Yost)

The USGS Geographic Names Office has developed a good working relationship with an online geospatial site known as HomeTownLocator. This has resulted in considerable user feedback and numerous requests to add the names of administrative features to GNIS. The staff has made several attempts to initiate a similar relationship with Google Earth, but thus far the response has been minimal. The BGN's FNC staff has been somewhat more successful in receiving feedback on foreign names.

The DNC staff has received considerable media and public interest in the proposal to change the name of Black Mountain in Sonoma County, California to Alexander Mountain. The majority of correspondence objects to the change. Fournier questioned whether the proposed name is being submitted for commercial reasons.

A newspaper reporter in Pennsylvania telephoned to inquire about the correct form of the name of Sherman Creek in Perry County. The reporter stated that a replacement bridge sign identifies the stream with its official form of "Sherman" and not with the locally known form of "Shermans" which appeared on the old sign. The reporter indicated that a proposal to have the local form recognized officially may be forthcoming.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has produced 1:6,000-scale quadrangles based on densification of the USGS Quarter Quads (1:12,000-scale) for emergency response reconnaissance during and after disasters. The data are also available as downloadable shapefiles to the public. This has led to some discussion, since GNIS is

the official repository for cell (quadrangle) names. It was noted once again that EPA does not serve on the BGN.

The USGS Geospatial Liaison for Wisconsin recently telephoned about the availability of current school data in GNIS. The liaison indicated that with the increased awareness of the H1N1 virus, local, State, and Federal agencies may be asked to track school closures. Although the Department of Education provided an updated file to GNIS in 2007, there were data issues, primarily because the locations were geocoded. Once again, this emphasizes the need for State stewardships, especially with a multi-layer approach (that is, encouraging stewards to collect data for all themes concurrently). The National Hydrography Dataset (NHD) is proving to be a good model, but many NHD stewards are not familiar with toponymic practices and standards.

Yost provided an update on the flood that took place in the Geographic Names Office in Reston in early July. Fortunately, the damage was limited to a few boxes of out of date CDs, duplicates copies of old decision lists, and one shelf of toponymic books, but it emphasized the need for precautions against future incidents. The BGN records continue to be scanned and Yost encouraged the members to attend the presentation on this topic on Friday.

2.3 Special Committee on Communications (Westington)

The Special Committee on Communications (SCC) met on August 20th, primarily to discuss plans for upcoming conferences and for FY10. She reported that BGN business cards and informational tri-folds have been produced for use at conferences and other events.

Mike Fournier, along with Leo Dillon of the FNC, will be attending the annual NACIS conference in early October, where they will present information on the BGN and Federal naming policies, and also display the BGN poster.

There will also be an ESRI Federal User Conference in Washington, DC in February, and the Association of American Geographers (AAG) Conference will also take place in Washington, in April. Doug Richardson, AAG Director, has indicated there will be a toponymic track at the conference, with a focus on historical gazetteers, the temporal nature of naming, and the BGN's adjudication process. He has invited the BGN to participate in two sessions and has requested abstracts by October 28th. He has also spoken with the SCC membership regarding the possibility of a BGN panel and an international toponymy session. Dillon will contact the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names, the British Permanent Committee on Geographical Names, and the GNBC for possible input. Richardson has also requested the BGN's assistance in reviewing the abstract submissions. The COGNA audience is invited to submit abstracts, noting the aforementioned deadline. Finally, he has suggested that both the DNC and FNC might hold their monthly meeting at the conference. Campbell inquired about hosting a BGN booth at the conference and Westington responded she has made some inquiries. It is also worth noting that if 50 signatures are received, AAG is willing to establish a Special Toponymic Interest Group within the organization, although as Yost noted previous attempts have not been fruitful.

Following the retirement of Randy Flynn, FNC Executive Secretary, from Federal service, the SCC is seeking additional Department of Defense involvement in the SCC.

The SCC plans to meet again in November, or possibly sooner. Fournier offered to check the availability of a meeting room at the Census Bureau in Suitland, Maryland. He will contact the members for a list of available dates.

2.4 DNC Staff, and Overview of Quarterly Review Lists and Monthly Dockets (Runyon)

Runyon provided a brief overview of the terms “quarterly review list” and “docket” as they relate to the geographic naming process.

As was noted at a previous meeting, the DNC has now received officially the proposal to change the name of Mount Clay in New Hampshire to Mount Reagan. The staff recently received a telephone call from a member of the State Names Authority, suggesting it would be appropriate for the DNC to send letters of inquiry to the current State Legislature, now that there is new membership. The DNC will also solicit comments from the Town and County governments, the Appalachian Mountain Club, and the U.S. Forest Service.

Quarterly Review List 402 is underway, with approximately 25 new proposals received since late June.

At the May meeting, Runyon reported that the DNC has received a request from the Arctic Village Tribal Council to make official unrecorded names and/or change existing names for 226 geographic features in the Village’s traditional area. The list and accompanying map were forwarded to the Alaska State Names Authority, which has begun to compile a more user-friendly listing that includes the geographic coordinates for each feature and a cross-reference, if appropriate, to the existing GNIS Feature ID. The State recently provided a sample of the listing to the DNC staff, but notes that the State Names Authority is unlikely to meet to discuss the proposal until November. Runyon displayed a copy of the map for review by the COGNA attendees.

As noted previously, the DNC’s October 8th meeting will focus on various ongoing issues related to tribal consultation, Native names, and indigenous language issues. The staff has been asked to prepare a list of talking points, and the DNC members will then attempt to seek out expert advice to help them address the issues. There was some discussion at the July full BGN meeting as to whether the issue should be elevated to the full BGN level; this will be addressed at the September 15th Executive Committee meeting.

In late August, the Geographic Names Office staff participated in a WebEx session with a representative of the USGS Watershed Boundary Dataset (WBD) group, regarding the possibility of adding Hydrologic Units to GNIS. There are approximately 160,000 such units nationwide, of varying sizes. The WBD believes that recording the names in GNIS will encourage standardization and the establishment of an official repository for such information.

2.5 Geographic Names Information System (GNIS), Data Compilation Program, and Web Services (Hoyle-Moore/Fenniman)

The GNIS Office in Denver is working currently with approximately 125 contractors and data stewards to collect and enhance GNIS names and locations. Batch files received from users this year comprised 7,552 new names; 499 edited records; and 8,051 variant names added. There has been an increase in FY09 over last year, especially the addition of variants from the *Dictionary of Alaska Place Names*.

Users who submitted data through the web-based maintenance forms added 15,576 new names; edited 9,250 existing features; and added 23,562 variant names. These numbers include those contributed by Roger Payne, who now works for the USGS Geographic Names Office as a rehired annuitant. Additionally, Payne added and enhanced 258 Antarctica records. He also answered 1,716 inquiries submitted through the GNIS public site.

Yost pointed out the posters displayed around the room, showing the various layers of *The National Map*, such as Names, elevation, hydrography, and so on. Whereas in the past, these layers were “stovepiped,” USGS is making significant progress toward integrating them into one national digital product. USGS must rely on stewards for data maintenance, including the addition of more precise coordinates. In the past, a tolerance of plus or minus 5 seconds was considered acceptable, but that is no longer the case. Kanalley reported on the Forest Service enterprise GIS initiative, which will hopefully allow for more automation in the maintenance of geographic names data. USGS is also beginning to compile and collect polygons for physical features, which are unofficial (not sanctioned by the BGN) but are useful for text placement. There has been some concentrated effort on this task in south Florida, and also ESRI has indicated a willingness to provide some polygon data.

Dwight Hughes has retired from his position as a full-time contractor for the Names program, but has agreed to remain as a consultant for the foreseeable future. Steve Skelton, employed at the USGS National Geospatial Technical Operations Center (NGTOC) in Rolla has begun to assume many of Hughes’s duties.

3. Public Presentations

There were no public presentations.

4. Geographic Names Cases / Docket Review

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 application of Ives Pond (FID 1933990) and change Ives Pond to Kifmire Pond, Connecticut (Review List 401) (FID 2570972)

A motion was made and seconded to approve these changes.

Vote: 9 in favor
0 against
0 abstentions

Change Spasticville (FID 473853) to Trails View, and change Stasticville Slough (FID 2475025) to Trails View Slough, Kansas (Review List 398)

A motion was made and seconded to consider these two proposals together.

Vote: 9 in favor
0 against
0 abstentions

A motion was made and seconded to approve these names.

Vote: 7 in favor
1 against
1 abstention

The negative vote cited a lack of evidence that the word “spastic” is offensive.

II. Disagreement on Docketed Names

Ashana Lake, Alaska (Review List 394) (FID 2570950)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this name.

Vote: 9 in favor
0 against
0 abstentions

Veterans Mountain, Arizona (Review List 401) (FID 2570977)

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

Vote: 7 in favor
2 against
0 abstentions

The negative votes were cast citing a lack of uniform local support for the name, and also a belief that the name warranted a more substantial feature. The BGN heard some additional comments from the COGNA attendees; it was suggested that the large volume of supporting letters came about only because of an extensive letter writing campaign by the proponent and that not to support such a name would be seen as unpatriotic. Another State representative wondered how it is that there is no Native name for the feature, to which the Arizona State Board representative responded there

was extensive publicity on this proposal and all affected Tribes were contacted, with no objections voiced. One BGN member suggested this appeared to be “a name in search of a feature.”

Casada Canyon, California (Angeles National Forest) (Review List 399)

A motion was made and seconded not to approve this name, citing the negative recommendations of the California Advisory Council on Geographic Names and the U. S. Forest Service, and a lack of evidence that the name satisfied the criteria of the Commemorative Names Policy. Specifically, death in an accident at a feature does not typically satisfy the “direct association” requirement.

Vote: 9 in favor
0 against
0 abstentions

San Andreas Ridge vs. East Table Mountain, California (San Bernardino National Forest) (Review Lists 395, 399) (FID 2570970)

A motion was made and seconded to approve East Table Mountain, citing evidence of local usage of that name. It was agreed that to approve the name San Andreas Ridge would cause confusion.

Vote: 9 in favor
0 against
0 abstentions

Lake Aura, Florida (Review List 401)

A motion was made and seconded not to approve this name, in the belief that the name, as proposed, would apply to more than one geographic feature, which is not correct geographically and as such could cause confusion. The Board indicated it would be willing to reconsider the proposal if the name were proposed in the plural form, or if a different name was proposed for each body of water.

Vote: 9 in favor
0 against
0 abstentions

Parrot Hill, New York (Review List 396)

A motion was made and seconded not to approve this name, citing a lack of widespread local support, the opposition of the Historical Districts Council of New York, and a concern that the reference to parrots is not locally significant.

Vote: 9 in favor
0 against
0 abstentions

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

Change Negrohead Mountain (FID 1669997) to Ballard Mountain, California (Review List 401)

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

Vote: 9 in favor
0 against
0 abstentions

One member noted that the DNC has been conservative in its approach toward requests to change “Negro” names, citing a lack of evidence that the term is offensive enough to be changed, but in this case, the proposed name clearly honors the individual for whom the feature was originally named and so the change is appropriate.

Kelham Creek, California (Review List 400)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this name.

Vote: 2 in favor
6 against
1 abstention

The negative votes cited a lack of long term association between the intended honoree and the geographic feature in question, and a determination that the name could be construed to honor a living person(s). The Board also suggested the proposal could be intended to promote a commercial venture.

Leal Creek, California (Review List 400) (FID 2570971)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this name.

Vote: 8 in favor
0 against
1 abstention

Otis Creek, Minnesota (Review List 401) (FID 2567592)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this name.

Vote: 9 in favor
0 against
0 abstentions

Change Ray Brook (FID 962239) to Rea Brook, New York (Review List 397)

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

Vote: 9 in favor
0 against
0 abstentions

Petes Mountain Creek, Oregon (Review List 401) (FID 2570976)

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

Vote: 9 in favor
0 against
0 abstentions

Sam Brown Creek, South Fork Sam Brown Creek, Oregon (Review List 401) (FIDs 2570974, 2570975)

A motion was made and seconded to approve these names.

Vote: 9 in favor
0 against
0 abstentions

Withrow Creek, Oregon (Review List 401) (FID 2570973)

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

Vote: 9 in favor
0 against
0 abstentions

Change Bergfield Lake (FID 1330441) to Bergfeld Lake, Texas (Review List 398)

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

Vote: 9 in favor
0 against
0 abstentions

Furtado Creek, Texas (Review List 398) (FID 2570964)

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

Vote: 9 in favor
0 against
0 abstentions

Change Wilmert Lake (FID 654211) to Willmert Lake, Minnesota (Review List 401)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this spelling change.

Vote: 8 in favor
1 against
0 abstentions

The negative vote was cast in the belief that there is no reason to change a name in longstanding use.

IV. Revised Decisions

Change West Summerland Key (FID 293123) (BGN 1973) to Scout Key, Florida (Review List 401)

A motion was made and seconded to defer a decision on this name, citing some confusion over what is being renamed. Although the current name applies to just one portion of what was once three separate islands but is now one, the members suggested this is confusing and the new name, if approved, should apply to the feature. Staff was asked to clarify the issue with the proponent and local community.

Vote: 9 in favor
0 against
0 abstentions

Change application of Benson Glacier, Oregon (BGN 1944) (FID 1154268) (Wallowa National Forest/Eagle Cap Wilderness) (Review List 399)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this application change.

Vote: 9 in favor
0 against
0 abstentions

V. New Names agreed to by all interested parties

Nadrchals Minnow Creek, East Nadrchals Minnow Creek, Middle Nadrchals Minnow Creek, West Nadrchals Minnow Creek, Nebraska (Review List 397) (FIDs 2570973, 2570974, 2570975, 2570976)

A motion was made and seconded to approve these names.

Vote: 6 in favor
2 against
1 abstention

The negative votes were cast in the belief that the proposed names violated the Long Names Policy and could be construed to honor living persons.

Muskrat Creek, Muskrat Lake, New York (Review List 396) (FIDs 2570951, 2570952)

A motion was made and seconded to approve these new names.

Vote: 8 in favor
1 against
0 abstentions

The negative vote was cast in the belief that the names were a self promotion for an organization.

Blue Dog Creek, Texas (Review List 397) (FID 2570957)

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

Vote: 8 in favor
0 against
1 abstention

5. Other Business

There were no questions or additional comments from the floor.

6. Closing

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m. The next meeting of the Domestic Names Committee will take place October 8th, 2009, at the Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C., at 9:30 a.m., Room 7000B.

(signed) *Louis A. Yost*

Louis A. Yost, Executive Secretary

APPROVED
(signed) *Curtis Loy*

Curtis Loy, Chairman
Domestic Names Committee

U.S. BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES
DOMESTIC NAMES COMMITTEE
DOCKET
September 2009

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

Change Ives Pond (FID 1933990) to Kifmire Pond,
and change application of Ives Pond, Connecticut
(Review List 401)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=41.512691&p_longi=-72.776055

Proposed Ives Pond (historical):

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=41.508&p_longi=-72.7834

This proposal is to change the application of the name Ives Pond, to make that name historical, and to apply the name Kifmire Pond to the body of water that is currently labeled Ives Pond.

The lake in question is approximately 3.5 acres in size and lies within the boundaries of the City of Meriden. The proponent of the changes reports that she owns the property that surrounds the lake that is labeled Ives Pond but that the name is incorrect. Her proposal originated from an inquiry to the Connecticut State Names Authority questioning why her privately-owned pond was listed on various websites as a site for public recreation and fishing. She expressed concern that this was inaccurate and misleading, and further, the pond is not even named Ives Pond. She questioned the source of the websites' information, and was told that the name and location originated from GNIS (she was also informed that USGS was not responsible for the pond being promoted as a site for public recreation. It appears this is a consequence of third parties collecting and redistributing GNIS data with additional attributes).

Although Ives Pond is not labeled on USGS topographic maps, the GNIS entry was entered during Phase II compilation for Connecticut, the name having been found in Hughes and Allen's 1976 volume *Connecticut Place Names*. The entry for the name reads, "A mile W of Foster Pond, toward SE corner of town; 309'; (State Highway Commissioner), where it is much larger than on (US'55) --- unnamed. On Ives farm. Cf. Kifmyre Pond, i.e. Star Lake." ("US'55" refers to the 1955 USGS topographic map.) A second entry in the same volume, for Kifmyre Pond [sic] reads, "A half mile NNE of Ives Pond; (SHC). A Kifmyre girl married an Ives." This information would appear to corroborate the proponent's claim, if Kifmyre (Kifmire) Pond was indeed located north-northeast of Ives Pond. The 1955 USGS map also showed the elevation of the more southerly lake as 309', which agrees with the aforementioned description.

The presumption is that the Hughes and Allen description was sufficiently imprecise to cause the name to be applied to the wrong feature in GNIS, and thus the "error" was perpetuated in Google Maps, Yahoo Maps, and others. Another volume in the Geographic Names Office, entitled "A Listing of Brooks, Streams, Rivers, Ponds and Lakes prepared by the State Highway Commissioner and the State Board of Fisheries and Game, 1960," lists both Ives Pond and Kifmire Pond in Meriden, but with no coordinates. Two online

listings of water bodies, one from the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection and the other for real estate in Meriden, both include Kifmire Pond, but once again, neither provides any locative details (Ives Pond is not shown on either list).

The second body of water that would appear to be the correct location of Ives Pond on the 1955 map has since been filled in and developed, and so the recommendation is to render this feature historical. The final proposed change is to correct the feature type for the proposed Kifmire Pond from “reservoir” to “lake,” because according to the proponent it has always been a natural spring fed feature. The City of Meriden supports the change from Ives Pond to Kifmire Pond, “since it is already on city maps,” and the Connecticut State Names Authority also recommends approval of the changes as proposed. There are no Federally-recognized Tribes within 50 miles of this feature.

Change Spasticville (FID 473853) to Trails View, Kansas
(Review List 398)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglemap?p_lat=37.8336232&p_longi=-97.3361531&fid=473853

This proposal would change the name of the small unincorporated community of Spasticville to Trails View. The community, which is located approximately 8 km (5 mi) north of Wichita, lies within the corporate boundaries of the City of Valley Center and is believed to have received its current name because it was once the site of a home for the mentally handicapped. A second proposal has been submitted to change nearby Spasticville Slough to Trails View Slough (q.v.).

The proposal to change the two names was submitted by the Mayor of Valley Center, who believes the current word has negative connotations. He also notes that virtually nothing remains today of the community; the map shows only a small cluster of buildings. The only online references to the community’s name are to the effort to change it. The proposed replacement names recognize the fact that the community is close to several historic trails that once were located in the Wichita area.

The Valley Center City Council is in support of the change from Spasticville to Trails View, and the City Administrator reports that Sedgwick County endorses it as well. The Kansas State Names Authority has no objection. A copy of the proposal was forwarded to the Kaw Nation and the Osage Nation, but no response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion on the issue.

Change Spasticville Slough (FID 2475025) to Trails View Slough, Kansas
(Review List 398)

Mouth: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=37.831378&p_longi=-97.362385

Source: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=37.883152&p_longi=-97.32271

This proposal would change the name of a 7.7 km (4.8 mi) long stream named Spasticville Slough to Trails View Slough. Like the aforementioned community, the stream also lies within the corporate boundaries of the City of Valley Center. Until recently, Spasticville Slough was not listed in GNIS, nor is it named on USGS topographic maps; however, it is

mentioned in a 2005 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers report, so it was added to GNIS as the official name of the feature.

The Valley Center City Council is in support of the change from Spasticville Slough to Trails View Slough, and the City Administrator reports that Sedgwick County endorses it as well. The Kansas State Names Authority has no objection. A copy of the proposal was forwarded to the Kaw Nation and the Osage Nation, but no response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion on the issue.

II. Disagreement on Docketed Names

Ashana Lake, Alaska

(Review List 394)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=60.43351&p_longi=-151.1644

The new name Ashana Lake is proposed for a 10-acre lake in Kenai Peninsula Borough, approximately 8 km (5 mi) south-southwest of Soldotna. The proponent, who lives along the shore of the lake, suggests the lake needs a name for reference purposes. She originally submitted the name Pula Lake after discovering the word in a novel and learning that it is of Botswanan origin meaning “rain” or “precious,” both of which she believes are appropriate references to the feature. Although the Kenai Peninsula Borough Planning Commission and the Soldotna Historical Society and Museum both submitted letters endorsing Pula Lake, the Alaska State Geographic Names Board voted not to approve it, citing concerns that if a name was needed, it should be of Native Alaskan origin. The State further noted that the Borough had attempted to solicit comments from the lake’s other property owners but only one response was received; this individual also stated that a name of Alaska origin would have been preferable.

Citing the opposition, the proponent amended her proposal to Ashana Lake; this name is reported to be from the Dena’ina Athabaskan language, and means “flower.” She notes that there are many native flowers around the lake. After the Borough voted to support the new name and several property owners signed a petition in support, the State Board voted to recommend approval of Ashana Lake. The BGN received a subsequent call from another neighbor, claiming he and several others had always referred to the lake as “Little Echo Lake,” but no counter-proposal was received. The State Board made aware of the objection but declined to revisit the case. The lake in question is less than two miles outside the boundary of the Kenai National Wildlife Refuge; the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has no objection to naming the lake Ashana Lake.

In researching the proposal, the State Board forwarded a copy to the following Alaska Native groups and local offices, but no response was received: Cook Inlet Region, Inc.; the Kenaitze Indian Tribe; the Salamatof Native Association; the Kenai Native Association; the City of Soldotna; and the Alaska Native Language Center.

Veterans Mountain, Arizona
(Review List 401)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=33.568825&p_longi=-112.035034

The new name Veterans Mountain is proposed for a 586 m (1,922 ft) summit located within the Phoenix Mountains Preserve, approximately 2.7 km (1.7 mi) northwest of Piestewa Peak. It was proposed by a resident of Sun City, who wishes to remember all of the veterans of the United States military. He initially suggested the name as a replacement for Squaw Peak, but the BGN voted to approve the name Piestewa Peak instead.

The Maricopa County Board of Supervisors recommends approval of the name Veterans Mountain. The Phoenix Parks and Recreation Department, which has jurisdiction over the Phoenix Mountains Preserve, indicated it has long been department policy not to apply names to individual peaks within the preserve, but it “neither supports nor objects to the proposed name.” The Unified Arizona Veterans does not support applying any name to the summit, while opinions among the 15 member groups of the Northwest Valley Veterans’ Association were mixed (according to the minutes of the Arizona Board on Geographic and Historic Names’ meeting, “some were strongly in favor, one group wanted to name the mountain for Ira Hayes, some were still upset with the way Piestewa Peak was handled, and some thought the mountain had nothing to do with veterans”).

Letters of support were received from the Gold Star Mothers of Arizona and the American Legion, Department of Arizona. Also in support are U.S. Senator John Kyl and John McCain; State Representatives Phil Lopes, Mark Anderson, James Weiers, Jerry Weiers, Nancy Young Wright, and John Kavanagh; State Senators Linda Gray, Robert L. Burns, Carolyn Allen, Amanda Aguirre, John McComish, Manuel Alvarez, and Jack Harper; Arizona Secretary of State Janice K. Brewer; one of the representatives of the Arizona Corporation Commission; and the Arizona State Mine Inspector. Senator Gray suggested that “naming the mountain is an opportunity to further honor veterans and would heal the animosity created after naming another mountain after one particular veteran.” A copy of the proposal was sent to the Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation, the Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community, the Ak-Chin Indian Community, the Gila River Indian Community, and the Tohona O’odham Nation. Of these, only the Fort McDowell Yavapai responded, with support for the name. The Arizona Board on Geographic and Historic Names also supports the proposal.

Casada Canyon, California
(Angeles National Forest)
(Review List 399)

Mouth:http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=34.2712300000&p_longi=-118.1657700000

Source:http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=34.2848500000&p_longi=-118.1560600000

This proposal is to make official the commemorative name Casada Canyon for a 1.9 km (1.2 mi) long valley in Los Angeles County and within Angeles National Forest. The proposed name would recognize U.S. Marine Corps Captain Howard O. Casada, Jr., who

died September 22, 1960, when his Navy jet crashed in the area during a routine test flight. The proposed name has been published at one hiking website, with the author noting, "Captain Casada's Navy F-104 Starfighter was based at China Lake Naval Weapons Center and carrying Sidewinder missiles [when it] crashed into the southern face of Josephine Peak at an elevation of 4,500ft. The cause of the crash was thought to be oxygen depletion at altitude. Casada was 29 at the time." The valley in question is on the southeast slope of Josephine Peak. The aforementioned website also refers to one of the peaks overlooking the valley as "Casada Point," but when asked about that name and whether he wished to submit a second proposal, the proponent did not respond.

The Sunland Tujunga Neighborhood Council and the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors have both submitted letters of support for the proposal; however, neither the California Advisory Committee on Geographic Names (CACGN) nor the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) recommend approval. Both the CACGN and the USFS cited the BGN's Commemorative Names Policy, which states that an honoree must have had a direct and/or long term association with the feature, or made local or regional contributions, and that "a person's death on or at a feature, such as in a mountaineering accident or plane crash.... does not normally meet the "direct association" criteria."

A copy of this proposal was also sent to the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians, the Cahuilla Band of Mission Indians, the La Jolla Band of Luiseno Mission Indians, the Los Coyotes Band of Cahuilla & Cupeno Indians, the Morongo Band of Cahuilla Mission Indians, the Pala Band of Luiseno Mission Indians, the Pauma Band of Luiseno Mission Indians, the Pechanga Band of Luiseno Mission Indians, the Ramona Band or Village of Cahuilla Mission Indians, the Rincon Band of Luiseno Mission Indians, the Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Mission Indians, the Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians, and the Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians, all of which are Federally-recognized Tribes. Of these, only the Pala Band responded, with a statement that the features "were not within the Tribe's traditional use area." There are no other geographic features in California known to be named "Casada."

San Andreas Ridge vs. East Table Mountain, California
(San Bernardino National Forest)
(Review Lists 395, 399)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=34.3677777778&p_longi=-117.6291666667

These two names have both been proposed for a 1.9 km (1.2 mi) long ridge that lies along the northeast side of the San Andreas Rift Zone in western San Bernardino County. The proponent of the first name, San Andreas Ridge, was at the time a resident of the nearby community of Wrightwood, who also taught at the Los Angeles County Outdoor Science School. The proponent has since passed away, but a representative of the San Bernardino County government has suggested that in his memory the proposal should stay active. In addition to the rift zone, GNIS lists 17 other features in California named "San Andreas," primarily cultural features, such as churches and schools. There is also a stream named San Andreas Creek in Calaveras County, and San Andreas Fault, which spans 13 counties.

A copy of the proposal for San Andreas Ridge was distributed to interested parties, including the U.S. Forest Service (USFS), which responded that it does not support the

name, because several employees within the Forest have already begun to refer to the feature as East Table Mountain. A retired USFS fire dispatcher and visitor center employee reported, “Any events that took place on that ridge, such as fire, lost hikers, illegal hunters, etc., were reported as being on “East Table Mountain.” I realize that the maps do not reflect that designation. We have always just called it by that name.” Citing the confusion that would be caused by applying any other name, the USFS has asked that East Table Mountain be made official.

After deliberating over the issue at several meetings and conferring with the city of Wrightwood, the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors declined to offer an opinion on either name. The Wrightwood Historical Society supports the proposal for East Table Mountain. Citing the mixed opinions, but recognizing “local, historical, established and verbal usage,” the California Advisory Committee on Geographic Names also voted to recommend approval of East Table Mountain.

A copy of the proposal was sent to the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians, the Buena Vista Rancheria of Me-Wuk Indians, the Cahuilla Band of Mission Indians, the La Jolla Band of Luiseño Indians, the Los Coyotes Band of Cahuilla & Cupeno Indians, the Morongo Band of Cahuilla Mission Indians, the Pala Band of Luiseño Mission Indians, the Pauma Band of Luiseño Mission Indians, the Pechanga Band of Luiseño Mission Indians, the Ramona Band or Village of Cahuilla Mission Indians, the Rincon Band of Luiseño Mission Indians, the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians, the Santa Rosa Band of the Cahuilla Mission Indians, the Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians, and the Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians, all of which are Federally-recognized. Of these, two Tribes responded. The Agua Caliente Band objects to the proposal for San Andreas Ridge, suggesting a name from the Serrano language would be preferable to a Spanish name. The Tribe was asked whether it wished to submit an alternate name, but no response was received. The Pala Band responded they have no opinion on the issue. The lack of response from the other Tribes is presumed to also indicate no opinion on the issue.

Lake Aura, Florida
(Review List 401)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=28.7471&p_longi=-81.7169

The new commemorative name Lake Aura is proposed for a 266 acre man-made lake in Lake County. The proposed name is intended to honor Aura Bland, who owned the property and whose family contributed to Lake County with philanthropic contributions (the public library is named for her husband, William T. Bland Sr.). The son of William and Aura Bland suggested the new name Lake Aura in memory of his mother. The feature in question is currently 266 acres in size, but after the completion of mining and reclamation will encompass approximately 675 acres. According to a representative of the rock mining company that now leases the property, who submitted the proposal on behalf of Mr. Bland, the name Lake Aura has been used since 2006 in water reports to State and local agencies. The Lake County Department of Environmental Utilities/Water Quality Services Division, which was asked by the County Commissioners to research and comment on the proposal, has expressed concerns regarding the application of one collective name to what appears to be four (or five) separate bodies of water. The

proponents were asked whether they might wish to amend the proposal, but responded that they would prefer the BGN consider the name as submitted.

The Florida State Names Authority has no specific objections to the name as submitted, but defers to the local authorities. This proposal was forwarded to the Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida, the Seminole Indian Tribe, and the Seminole Nation of Oklahoma, all of which are Federally-recognized, but no response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion. There are no other geographic features in Florida known to be named “Aura.”

Parrot Hill, New York

(Review List 396)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=40.73139&p_longi=-73.89833

The new name Parrot Hill is proposed for the highest point on Maspeth Plateau in Queens County. The plateau has only 18 m (30 ft) of local relief, which is barely discernible due to urban development, but the highest point atop the plateau rises to an elevation of 40 m (131 ft). The proponent reports that the name Parrot Hill would be an appropriate way to recognize the existence of his not-for-profit bird rescue organization which operates in the area. He adds that the feature is sometimes known as Goat Hill, although that may prove to be a variant of the larger area of Maspeth Plateau.

The Queens Borough government forwarded the proposal to the Borough Engineer, who responded that his office does not typically become involved in geographic naming efforts, but he has no overriding objection to the name. However, the Historical Districts Council of New York stated they were opposed to the name, preferring to retain simply the name Maspeth Plateau. The New York Names Committee stated it has no objection but would defer to the local authorities. There are no Federally-recognized Tribes within 50 miles of this feature.

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

Change Negrohead Mountain (FID 1669997) to Ballard Mountain, California

(Review List 401)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglemap?p_lat=34.1097284&p_longi=-118.8098136&fid=1669997

This proposal is to change the name of Negrohead Mountain, a 619 m (2,031 ft) summit in Los Angeles County, to Ballard Mountain. The summit lies 1.6 km (1 mi) west of Seminole Hot Springs and 2.8 km (1.6 mi) northeast of Saddle Rock, and just outside the boundary of the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area.

The summit was originally known by the pejorative form of “Negrohead,” but in 1964, when the BGN changed that term universally, the name became Negrohead Mountain. The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors believes the existing name has become offensive and would like it changed to Ballard Mountain. Most research indicates the summit was named for the early black pioneer John Ballard (d. ca 1900), so changing the name to Ballard Mountain would retain its original intent.

According to one newspaper account, “Ballard was a former Kentucky slave who came West around 1860 and died in 1905. He and his wife moved to Los Angeles, where he was a teamster and became prominent in the small but growing black community. He was part of a small group that founded Los Angeles’ African Methodist Episcopal Church in 1869. But in 1880, Ballard, who had remarried after the death of his first wife, decided to leave Los Angeles as newcomers poured in. “Historians speculate that the Ballards may have been responding to growing segregationist policies and attitudes many thought they had safely left behind in the antebellum South,” [Supervisor] Yaroslavsky’s motion said. The Ballard family moved about 50 miles west to a valley in the Santa Monica Mountains near what is now the community of Seminole Hot Springs. By the turn of the century he and his daughter, one of his seven children, owned 320 acres obtained under the federal Homestead Act. Ballard did some farming and ranching, worked as a blacksmith on a cattle ranch and cut and sold firewood. He lived in a shack and was well-known to other settlers.”

Although the name Negrohead Mountain is not published on current USGS topographic maps, nor does it appear on most other Federal maps (with the exception of a fire preparedness map posted online by the National Interagency Fire Center), there are numerous references to it because of media coverage of this name proposal. Letters of support for the name change have been received from the City of Calabasas, the City of Malibu, the City of Agoura Hills, State Senator Fran Pavley, and U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein. The California Advisory Committee on Geographic Names also recommends approval of the change, stating, “Examination of old USGS 7.5’ quad sheets seems to show that the feature refers to Ballard but in a derogatory way. The proposed name commemorates him in a positive way.”

A copy of the proposal was forwarded to the following Federally-recognized Tribes: the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians, the Cahuilla Band of Mission Indians, the La Jolla Band of Luiseño Mission Indians, the Los Coyotes Band of Cahuilla and Cupeno Indians, the Morongo Band of Cahuilla Mission Indians, the Pala Band of Luiseño Mission Indians, the Pauma Band of Luiseño Mission Indians, the Pechanga Band of Luiseño Mission Indians, the Ramona Band or Village of Cahuilla Mission Indians, the Rincon Band of Luiseño Mission Indians, the Santa Rosa Band of the Cahuilla Indians, the Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians, and the Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians. Of these, the Rincon Band responded with support for the name, while the Pala Band stated they had no opinion on the issue since the feature is “not within tribe’s traditional use area.”

Kelham Creek, California
(Review List 400)

Mouth:http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=38.4186791370%20&p_longi=-122.3973005696

Source:http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=38.4012600%20&p_longi=-122.4101940

This proposal, to apply the new name Kelham Creek to an unnamed stream in Napa County, would honor Bruce Kelham (d. 1963), who settled in the area in 1959 and established a vineyard and winery. The property through which the stream runs is still owned by Kelham’s two children, with the stream acting as the boundary between their

properties. According to the proponent, “The family is committed to preserving the natural features on their property. We are enrolled in the Fish Friendly Farming organization which ensures and promotes the health of the Napa River watershed and its tributaries. The restoration of [streams] on the property began last year, with native plantings and bank restoration. We hope to do the same with “unnamed creek” this year. [We] have also recently donated a 60 acre parcel to the Napa Land Trust to preserve the property from future development.” She suggests that if the BGN has concerns regarding the use of the surname only, which she understands could be construed to honor a living person she would accept an amendment to Bruce Kelham Creek.

The Napa County Supervisors were asked on two occasions to comment on the proposal, but no response was received; the second letter indicated that no response would imply no opinion. The California Advisory Committee on Geographic Names recommends approval of the name. A copy of the proposal was forwarded to the following Federally-recognized Tribes: the Big Valley Band of Pomo Indians of the Big Valley Rancheria, the Buena Vista Rancheria of Me-Wuk Indians, the California Valley Miwok Tribe, the Chicken Ranch Rancheria of Me-Wuk, the Cloverdale Rancheria of Pomo Indians, the Cortina Indian Rancheria of Wintun Indians, the Dry Creek Rancheria of Pomo Indians, the Elem Indian Colony of Pomo Indians of the Sulphur Bank Rancheria, the Hopland Band of Pomo Indians of the Hopland Rancheria, the Ione Band of Miwok Indians, the Jackson Rancheria of Me-Wuk Indians, the Kashia Band of Pomo Indians of the Stewarts Point Rancheria, the Los Coyotes Band of Cahuilla and Cupeno Indians, the Manchester Band of Pomo Indians, the Middletown Rancheria of Pomo Indians, the Pinoleville Pomo Nation, the Redwood Valley Rancheria of Pomo Indians, the Robinson Rancheria of Pomo Indians, the Rumsey Indian Rancheria of Wintun Indians, the Scotts Valley Band of Pomo Indians, the Sherwood Valley Rancheria of Pomo Indians, the Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians, and the Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk Indians. Of these, only the Los Coyotes Band and the Scotts Valley Band responded, with letters indicating they had no opinion on the issue.

There is one other stream in California named Kelham Creek; it is located in Marin County, approximately 59 km (37 mi) from the stream in question.

Leal Creek, California
(Review List 400)

Mouth: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=37.546109&p_longi=-121.944616

Source: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=37.5575&p_longi=-121.9305555

This 1.7 km (1.1 mi) long stream heads 1.1 km (0.7 mi) northeast of the intersection of Mission Boulevard and Castro Lane in the City of Fremont and flows southwest along Castro Lane where it enters a highly urbanized area and disappears underground. The proposed name Leal Creek is intended to honor Joseph S. Leal (d. 1970), a member of the family who has owned and farmed on adjacent property since the late 1800s. According to the Fremont City Planner, who submitted the proposal on behalf of a Leal family member who still owns the property, the proposed name continues the local practice of unofficially referring to local features for prominent landholdings.

The Fremont City Council, which recommends approval of the proposal, believes the name Leal Creek has been used informally by other agencies, possibly dating back to the early 20th century. The Alameda County Supervisors were asked on two occasions to comment on the proposal, but no reply was received; the second letter indicated that no response would imply no opinion. The Alameda County Flood Control District and the California Advisory Committee on Geographic Names both recommend approval of the name. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, which manages the Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge, approximately two miles from the feature, has no objection.

A copy of the proposal was forwarded to the following Federally-recognized Tribes: the Big Valley Band of Pomo Indians of the Big Valley Rancheria, the Buena Vista Rancheria of Me-Wuk Indians, the California Valley Miwok Tribe, the Chicken Ranch Rancheria of Me-Wuk, the Ione Band of Miwok Indians, the Jackson Rancheria of Me-Wuk Indians, the Middletown Rancheria of Pomo Indians, the Picayune Rancheria of Chukchansi Indians, the Robinson Rancheria of Pomo Indians, the Santa Rosa Band of the Cahuilla Indians, the Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians, the Table Mountain Rancheria, the Tule River Indian Tribe, and the Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk Indians. No response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion. There are no other streams in California known to be named Leal Creek.

Otis Creek, Minnesota
(Review List 401)

Mouth:http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=47.8444985971&p_longi=-89.9422360143

Source:http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=47.8825000&p_longi=-89.97972222222222

This 5.8 km (3.6 mi) long stream proposed to be named Otis Creek heads within Grand Portage State Forest and flows generally south and southeast to enter Chicago Bay on Lake Superior, approximately 1.6 km (1 mi) east of the small community of Hovland in Cook County. The proposed name would honor Otis Anderson (1918-2004), who owned property at the head of the stream and operated a sawmill along it. He was well-known to the citizens of the area and donated wood for the local firehouse and church.

After conducting a public hearing and receiving a petition signed by 34 area residents (“a large number, for such a sparsely populated area,” according to the State Names Authority), the Cook County Commissioners voted to support this proposal. The State Names Authority also recommends approval. A copy of the proposal was forwarded to the Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council and the Grand Portage Band of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe, but no response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion. There are no other features in Minnesota known to be named “Otis.”

Change Ray Brook (FID 962239) to Rea Brook, New York
(Review List 397)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglemap?p_lat=44.7453195&p_longi=-73.4529126&fid=962239

This proposal, to change officially the name of Ray Brook to Rea Brook, was submitted by a Trustee with the Clinton County Historical Association. Although the name Ray Brook has appeared on USGS topographic maps since 1907, and was also on the Clinton County highway map of 1946, the proponent reports that the correct spelling should be “Rea” as the William Rea family were pioneers and sawmill builders at this stream. He notes that the volume *Beekmantown: A Landmark in a Passageway* (Shields, ed.; 1976) details William Rea’s arrival in the area in 1825 and his establishment of iron works (“Rea Foundry”) along the stream.

According to the proponent’s research, there are no present-day or pioneer families in the area named “Ray.” He notes also that the *Beers Atlas of Clinton County* (1869) labeled the upstream portion of the stream Silver Creek, and that name also appeared on the 1907 USGS topographic map for the section upstream of the community of Beekmantown. Silver Creek is listed as a “variant-in part” in the GNIS entry for Ray Brook. The *Beers Atlas* also listed William and John Rea as business owners in the community. A description of hiking trails in the Beekmantown area, published in 2007 at PressRepublican.com, refers to “the curves and oxbows of meandering Rea Brook.” The Census Bureau’s MAF/TIGER Database also labels the stream Rea Brook.

In addition to his organization, the proponent reports that the Clinton County Historian, the Beekmantown Town Historian, and the Plattsburgh City Historian are all in support of this proposal. The Town of Beekmantown was asked on two occasions to comment on the proposal, but no response was received; the second letter stated that if the Town did not respond, it would be presumed that it supported the proponent’s findings. The Clinton County Commissioners submitted a letter of support, and the New York State Names Authority recommends approval as well. There are no Federally-recognized Tribes within 50 miles of this feature.

Petes Mountain Creek, Oregon
(Review List 401)

Mouth: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=45.323910&p_longi=-122.665958

Source: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=45.337426&p_longi=-122.689219

This proposal would apply the new associative name Petes Mountain Creek to an unnamed, 2.6 km (1.6 mi) long tributary of the Willamette River. The stream flows off the east side of Petes Mountain, which was named for Peter Weiss who patented a 300-acre land donation claim on the slope of the summit in the 1860s.

The Clackamas County Commissioners, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the Petes Mountain Homeowners’ Association have all indicated they have no objection to the proposal, while the Metro Planning and Development/Regional Parks and Greenspaces Office and the Clackamas County Historical Society are in support. The

stream flows in part through the Oregon Golf Course; the general manager of the course also responded he had no objection to the name. The Oregon Geographic Names Board (OGNB) recommends approval. During the course of its research, the OGNB forwarded the proposal to the Oregon Legislative Commission on Indian Services, which in turn shared it with all the Federally-recognized Tribes in the State; no response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion. The summit is the only feature in Clackamas County known to be named “Petes.”

Sam Brown Creek, South Fork Sam Brown Creek, Oregon
(Review List 401)

Mouth:http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=45.093913&p_longi=-122.846889

Source:http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=45.108090&p_longi=-122.892337

Mouth:http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=45.101335&p_longi=-122.884011

Source:http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=45.101396&p_longi=-122.898345

These two proposals were submitted by a resident and news reporter in Woodburn, to apply new names to two unnamed streams in the vicinity of the community of Gervais in north-central Marion County, approximately 16 km (10 mi) northeast of Salem. The name Sam Brown Creek would be applied to a 4.7 km (2.9 mi) long tributary of Farmers Creek (BGN 2009), and South Fork Sam Brown Creek would apply to a 1.1 km (0.7 mi) long tributary. The names are intended to commemorate an early pioneer, Samuel Brown, who received an 1850s donation land claim near the source of the stream; he also helped found the community of Gervais. According to a published history of Gervais, “Samuel Brown and his wife Elizabeth emigrated to California where they built a sawmill on Feather River. When gold was discovered the mill closed and everyone went to the gold fields, including the Brown family. In 1849 after their claim panned out, but with \$20,000 in cash, proceeds of their mine, they disposed of their property and started by sea to Oregon. Their ship was blown to sea and it took them three months to sail from San Francisco to Portland.... the family then were able to purchase [property]... [which] encompassed over 1,000 acres in the Gervais area. For the first eight years they lived in a log cabin about 1 mile north of the present home site. They soon began their plans for the home that was later to be known as the Sam Brown house. Legend has it that this was the first house in Oregon to be built from an architect’s plan. After completion, the house, in addition to being a residence, served as a stage coach station. Samuel ultimately founded the town of Gervais.” The Samuel Brown House is now listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The Marion County Commissioners, the Marion County Historical Society, the City of Gervais, and local landowners all have indicated they have no objection to the proposal, while the Oregon Geographic Names Board (OGNB) recommends approval. The OGNB forwarded the proposal to the Oregon Legislative Commission on Indian Services, which in turn shared it with all the Federally-recognized Tribes in the State; no response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion. There are 21 streams in

Oregon named “Brown” or “Browns,” but none are in Marion County. The closest is in Benton County, 106 km (66 mi) from the stream in question.

Withrow Creek, Oregon
(Review List 401)

Mouth:http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=45.098639&p_longi=-122.837362

Source:http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=45.115904&p_longi=-122.889719

This proposal would apply the new name Withrow Creek to an unnamed, 5.1 km (3.2 mi) long tributary of Farmers Creek (BGN 2009). The stream heads just northeast of the community of Gervais in Marion County. The proposed name is intended to commemorate an early pioneer, John Withrow, who received an 1850s donation land claim of 169 acres at the mouth of the stream.

The Marion County Commissioners, the Marion County Historical Society, the City of Gervais, and local landowners have all indicated they have no objection to the proposal, while the Oregon Geographic Names Board (OGNB) recommends approval. The OGNB forwarded the proposal to the Oregon Legislative Commission on Indian Services, which in turn shared it with all the Federally-recognized Tribes in the State; no response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion. There is one stream in the State named Withrow Creek; it is located in Douglas County, 219 km (136 mi) from the stream in question.

Change **Bergfield Lake** (FID 1330441) to **Bergfeld Lake**, Texas
(Review List 398)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglemap?p_lat=32.554545&p_longi=-95.252033&fid=1330441

This proposal is to correct the spelling of the name of Bergfield Lake to Bergfeld Lake, for a 15-acre reservoir in Smith County. The stream along which the reservoir is located flows a short distance to the north to enter the Sabine River at the boundary of the Little Sandy National Wildlife Refuge. The name Bergfield Lake has appeared on USGS topographic maps since 1960; however, the proponent, a member of the Bergfeld family, reports that the reservoir was constructed by his great-great-grandfather, Julius Alexander Bergfeld, and so the spelling should be corrected. He notes also that his father grew up hunting and fishing on the lake, which was on the family property. GNIS also includes an entry for the dam at the head of the reservoir; although its official name is recorded as Brown Lake Number 1 Dam (from a 1980 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers’ Inventory of Reservoirs and Dams), Bergfield Dam is listed as a variant name. Located 25 km (15 mi) to the south, in the City of Tyler, is a municipal park named Bergfeld Park. According to the *Images of Tyler* website, “8.32-acre Bergfeld Park was established in 1913 when Tyler businessman Rudolph Bergfeld [father of Julius Bergfeld] donated land for the site.”

The Tyler City Council and the Smith County Commissioners Court both submitted letters of support for this name change. The Texas State Names Authority recommends approval as well. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, which manages the Little Sandy

National Wildlife Refuge in close proximity to the reservoir, does not have an opinion on the proposed change. There are no Federally-recognized Tribes within 50 miles of this feature.

Furtado Creek, Texas

(Review List 398)

Mouth:http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=30.3825&p_longi=-97.77027777777778

Source:http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=30.38833333333333&p_longi=-97.74916666666667

The new commemorative name Furtado Creek is proposed for a 2.4 km (1.5 mi) tributary of Bull Creek in Travis County, and within the boundaries of the City of Austin. The proposed name is intended to honor Robert Furtado, a high school biology teacher who for four years led students and volunteers in testing water quality at this stream. According to the proponent, Furtado's passion for teaching inspired others to continue learning and to protect the environment. He reports that this proposal has the support of the Save Barton Creek Association; several teachers and over 96 Anderson High School alumni; citizens of Austin; and various local environmental leaders and activists. Many of these individuals have already begun to refer to the unnamed stream as Furtado Creek. The City of Austin Watershed Protection Office and the Travis County Judge both submitted letters of support for this name change. The Texas State Names Authority recommends approval as well. There are no Federally-recognized Tribes within 50 miles of this feature.

Change **Wilmert Lake** (FID 654211) to **Willmert Lake**, Minnesota

(Review List 401)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglemap?p_lat=43.5610669&p_longi=-94.4796962&fid=654211

This proposal is to change the spelling of the name of Wilmert Lake, a 342-acre lake in Martin County, to Willmert Lake. Although the existing name has appeared on township maps since 1911 and on Federal maps since at least 1958, the proponent, a member of the Willmert family, reports that it should be spelled "Willmert." He reports that the name came from that of two brothers, August and John Willmert, who settled with their families in the area around 1857 but left later that year, relocating to nearby Fairmont. The proponent states, "While this appears to be the end of the Willmert family living in the vicinity of the lake, the name prevailed over the years with various spellings." He included with his application a photograph of a gravestone, showing the spelling as proposed. The lake has also been labeled Wilmont Lake or Willmont Lake, primarily in the late 19th century. A 1953 newspaper article referred to it as "Martin County's "Forgotten Lake"; although it's not clear whether this was a specific name or just a reference, a road on the lake's east side is called Forgotten Lake Road.

Most local and State sources published in the 20th century favored the spelling "Wilmert" for the lake. The road that leads to the west side of the lake is named Wilmert Lake Road, and two local residents did express some concern that if the change were approved the lake and road names would be inconsistent.

The Martin County Commissioners held a public hearing and voted to recommend approval of the change to Willmert Lake. They noted that the road signs and county highway maps would be updated as part of the normal revision cycle. The Minnesota Geographic Names Authority also supports the proposal. This proposal was forwarded to the Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe of South Dakota, the Lower Sioux Indian Community, the Prairie Island Indian Community, the Santee Sioux Nation, the Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate, the Spirit Lake Tribal Council, and the Upper Sioux Community, all of which are Federally-recognized. Of these, only the Upper Sioux Community responded, with a letter of support. The lack of response from the other Tribes is presumed to indicate a lack of opinion.

IV. Revised Decisions

Change West Summerland Key (BGN 1973) (FID 293123)
to Scout Key, Florida
(National Key Deer Refuge)
(Review List 401)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglemap?p_lat=24.649826&p_longi=-81.310372&fid=293123

This 97 acre island is located in the Florida Keys, at Overseas Highway Mile Marker 34, between Bahia Honda Key and Big Pine Key. In 1973, the BGN determined that the westernmost island of the three islands that are named collectively Spanish Harbor Keys should be named West Summerland Key, which left the remaining two unnamed. However, more recent imagery indicates the three islands have merged together into one. The proponent believes the name West Summerland Key should be changed to Scout Key to reflect the fact that the island is primarily owned and used by the Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts of America. This is confirmed in a 2006 book entitled *Moon Florida Beaches* (Puterbaugh and Bisbort). The proponent also wishes to change the name of this island to “prevent further mailing, delivery, and arrival errors” (although his address is West Summerland Key, neither the BGN nor the U.S. Postal Service recognize this as a valid community name). He says there is also confusion because West Summerland Key lies to the *east* of Summerland Key.

Letters and emails of support for this name change were received from the Monroe County Commissioners, the Florida Environmental Protection Agency, and eight area residents. However, one other resident, a local historian and librarian, does not support the change, stating that, “the current name is historical and correct, since the island is the most westerly of the three once known collectively as Summerland Keys.” The Florida State Names Authority has no official opinion on the proposal; he stated he could “see [the] merits of both arguments, but [the issue] should be handled by local government and [the] US Board based on their past precedents.” The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is in support of this name change, while NOAA has no objection. The U.S. Coast Guard also has no objection provided there is local support.

According to GNIS, there are three other features in Florida named “Scout” (one lake, one island, and one swamp), but none include the generic “Key” nor are they in or near Monroe County.

Change application of Benson Glacier (BGN 1944) (FID 1154268), Oregon
(Wallowa National Forest/Eagle Cap Wilderness)
(Review List 399)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=45.1560&p_longi=-117.2954

This proposal, to correct the location of the name Benson Glacier, was submitted by the Chair of the Department of Geology at Portland State University. Although the name was made official by a BGN decision in 1944, the proponent believes the description in the file was misleading and so for over 60 years the name has been applied to the wrong feature. Instead of the glacier on the north slope of Eagle Cap, the evidence suggests that the glacier to which the original proponents were referring is in fact 1.3 km (0.8 mi) further to the south-southeast, just southwest of Glacier Lake, and on the east slope of an unnamed 2,894 m (9,495 ft) peak that has long been known informally as “Glacier Peak.”

This area is in the Wallowa National Forest and within the Eagle Cap Wilderness. The name Benson Glacier honors Frank W. Benson (1858-1911), who served as governor of Oregon in 1910 and 1911. According to research conducted prior to the 1944 decision, the U.S. Forest Service had recommended approval of the name as early as 1928, but the 15-year delay in bringing it to the BGN for a decision “was principally because studies were being made to determine whether this was a real glacier or merely a snow field.” The file further stated that the name had first been applied “...on August 12, 1912, by a party of businessmen from Enterprise, Oregon, and myself, who made the ascent of Eagle Cap that day” (Clyde Aitchison letter, 1943). Another letter in the 1944 file reads, “I have crossed over the little piece of ice on Eagle Cap a couple of times and my recollection of it is that it is a genuine glacier, but so small that I would hardly think it deserved a name.” The file further described Benson Glacier as “a small glacier on the northeastern and eastern slopes of Eagle Cap.” The geographic coordinates provided in the application were only in degrees and minutes and as such were not precise enough to pinpoint the exact location. It does say, however, that the location is “about on the line between townships 4 and 5 S...” The proponent does not dispute the fact that the name was applied to a glacier “on Eagle Cap,” but believes the original proponents’ interpretation of the position of Eagle Cap was probably incorrect. As further evidence, he provided a copy of a present-day photograph that almost exactly reproduces one taken earlier (possibly 1912 or 1914) which confirms that the glacier is above Glacier Lake and on the northwest slope of the unofficial “Glacier Peak,” not on Eagle Cap. He also notes that the glacier on Eagle Cap has melted away and so the name could not apply to that location.

The Summitpost.org website states, “The last active glacier in the Wallowa Mountains was Benson Glacier on the slopes of Glacier Peak above Glacier Lake. Benson Glacier ceased to be active in the 1930s and since has been one of the largest ice caps in the Wallowas.” Furthermore, “The Benson Glacier scoured the West Fork for almost 20 miles, was 2,000 ft thick, and left what is considered to be the most perfect lateral moraine in the United States enclosing Wallowa Lake on the east side. The relict perpetual snowbank residing above Glacier Lake on the north slope of Glacier Peak is all that remains of the Benson Glacier today.”

The Oregon Geographic Names Board (OGNB) and the U.S. Forest Service recommend approval of this proposal. Both agree that there is very little remaining of the feature and that it should more accurately be described as a “seasonal snowfield.” At part of its

research, the OGNB forwarded the proposal to the Oregon Legislative Commission on Indian Services, which in turn shared it with all the Federally-recognized Tribes in the State; no response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion.

V. New Names agreed to by all interested parties

Nadrchals Minnow Creek, East Nadrchals Minnow Creek, Middle Nadrchals Minnow Creek, West Nadrchals Minnow Creek, Nebraska
(Review List 397)

East Nadrchals Minnow Creek:

Mouth: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=41.56696&p_longi=-96.90422

Source: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=41.57753&p_longi=-96.8951

Middle Nadrchals Minnow Creek:

Mouth: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=41.56907&p_longi=-96.90172

Source: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=41.59239&p_longi=-96.90436

Nadrchals Minnow Creek:

Mouth: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=41.54675&p_longi=-96.90537

Source: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=41.56696&p_longi=-96.90422

West Nadrchals Minnow Creek:

Mouth: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=41.56696&p_longi=-96.90428

Source: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=41.59216&p_longi=-96.9121

These four names are proposed for one 2.4 km (1.5 mi) long tributary of Maple Creek in the southwestern corner of Dodge County, and three of its tributaries (one of which extends into neighboring Colfax County). The names would recognize the long time association between the Nadrchal family and the stream, and also the existence of hundreds of minnows that the proponent recalls seeing in the stream as a youngster. The proponent reports that the streams flow through farmland which has been in his family for three generations, and so the names would specifically honor his grandparents Charles Nadrchal (1893-1976) and Emma Nadrchal (1897-1969) and parents Elden Nadrchal (1925-1975) and Marilyn Nadrchal (1933-1982). The three tributaries are 1.4 km (0.9 mi) long, 2.7 km (1.7 mi) long, and 3 km (1.8 mi) long. Neither the Dodge County Commissioners nor the Colfax County Commissioners responded to two requests for comment. The Nebraska State Names Authority is in support of the names. A copy of the proposal was sent to the Omaha Tribe of Nebraska, the Otoe-Missouria Tribe of Indians, the Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma, and the Winnebago Tribe, all of which are Federally-recognized, but no response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion.

Muskrat Creek, Muskrat Lake, New York

(Review List 396)

Mouth: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=43.45769&p_longi=-75.14277

Source: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=43.47545&p_longi=-75.13239

Lake: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=43.4618&p_longi=-75.14127

This proposal, for Muskrat Creek and Muskrat Lake, was submitted by the secretary of the Muskrat Creek Club, to name an unnamed stream and lake in the Town of Forestport. The names would recognize the fact that the not-for-profit club, established in 1981, recently purchased the 180-acre property through which the stream flows. He believes “the creek needs to be named to distinguish it from others in the area,” and “[the lake] needs to be named to distinguish it from other bodies of water when discussing same.” The lake in question is one acre in size and lies along the unnamed stream. According to GNIS, there are three other streams in New York with names containing the word “Muskrat”; these include two named Muskrat Creek, in Hamilton County and Cayuga County, and another named Muskrat Brook that is also in Oneida County, just 8 km (5 mi) to the south of the unnamed stream in question. There are four bodies of water in New York that are already named Muskrat Pond; the closest is in neighboring Herkimer County, approximately 54 km (34 mi) from the lake in question.

Oneida County did not respond to two requests for comment on the proposal. However, the Town of Forestport does recommend approval of the name, as does the New York State Names Committee. A copy of the proposal was forwarded to the Oneida Indian Nation of New York, the Onondaga Indian Nation, the Seneca Nation of New York, the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe, the Tonawanda Band of Seneca Indians, and the Tuscarora Nation, all of which are Federally-recognized, but no response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion.

Blue Dog Creek, Texas

(Review List 397)

Mouth: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=31.21083&p_longi=-98.29667

Source: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=31.25729&p_longi=-98.32958

The new name Blue Dog Creek is proposed for an 8 km (5 mi) long tributary of Barkley Creek in Lampasas County. The proposed name reflects the fact that a significant portion of the stream flows through the Blue Dog Ranch. According to the proponents, this “beautiful, perennial creek supports a lush riparian woodland and a diversity of bird, mammal, fish and amphibian species.” The Lampasas County Commissioners responded that they have no opinion on the issue, while the Texas State Names Authority recommends approval. A copy of the proposal was forwarded to the Comanche Nation and the Kiowa Tribe of Oklahoma, both of which are Federally-recognized, but no response was received which is presumed to indicate a lack of opinion. According to GNIS, there are no other geographic features in Texas named “Blue Dog.”