

**UNITED STATES BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES  
WASHINGTON, D.C.**

This Quarterly Review List presents names proposed for geographic features in the United States. The names are offered to (1) identify previously unnamed features, (2) provide official recognition to names in current local usage, (3) resolve conflicts in name spellings, applications, and local usage, or (4) change existing names. Any organization, agency, or person may indicate to the U.S. Board on Geographic Names (BGN) their support or opposition to any name proposed herein by submitting written evidence documenting their position.

The names herein are official for use in Federal publications and on maps upon approval by the BGN. Only one name is official per geographic feature; however, a shortened version of an official name may be authorized, and these are identified by underlining. The use or omission of non-underlined words is optional.

Variant names and spellings discovered in researching a name are listed following the word "Not." These may include names and spellings that formerly were official, historical names known to have been previously associated with the feature, names that conflict with current policies of the BGN, misspellings, and names misapplied to the subject of the proposal.

If a populated place is incorporated under the laws of its State, it is specified as such in parentheses after the feature designation. Populated places without such designations are not incorporated.

The information following each name indicates the submitting agency or person, the most recent base series map\* for locating the feature, the reason for the proposal, and other pertinent background facts needed to assist the BGN in its decision process. Each paragraph also includes a link to available maps services showing the location of the feature. A copy of this Review List has also been posted to the BGN's website at [http://geonames.usgs.gov/domestic/quarterly\\_list.htm](http://geonames.usgs.gov/domestic/quarterly_list.htm).

Effective immediately, the horizontal datum used for geographic coordinates in all Domestic Geographic Names publications is the North American Datum of 1983. The datum of some geographic coordinates from historical maps may still be the NAD27.

Comments on the name proposals may be sent to: Mr. Lou Yost, Executive Secretary, U.S. Board on Geographic Names/Domestic Names Committee, 523 National Center, Reston, VA 20192-0523; telephone (703) 648-4552; fax (703) 648-4549; e-mail [BGNEXEC@usgs.gov](mailto:BGNEXEC@usgs.gov) .

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

\*Standard map series published by the U.S. Geological Survey, USDA Forest Service, or Office of Coast Survey.

## ALABAMA

**Change Shoal Creek to Sycamore River:** stream; 61 mi. long; heads at 35°12'55"N, 87°17'56"W, 2.5 mi. SE of Lawrenceburg, 2.7 mi. NE of Dunn, flows N, W, SW, and S to enter Wilson Lake on the Tennessee River, 7.5 mi. NE of Florence; named for the large number of sycamore trees growing along the banks of the river; Lauderdale County, Alabama and Lawrence County, Tennessee; Tps1&2S, R10W, Huntsville Meridian; 34°50'17"N, 87°33'12"W; USGS map - Killen 1:24,000 (mouth); Not: Big Shoal Creek, Clear Creek, Clear Water River, East Fork Shoal Creek-in part, Schoal Creek, Shoal Creek, Shoal River, Shoals Creek.  
[http://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesrimap?p\\_lat=34.8381421&p\\_longi=-87.5533592&fid=153439](http://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesrimap?p_lat=34.8381421&p_longi=-87.5533592&fid=153439)

Proposal: to change a name to restore historical and locally used name

Map: USGS Killen 1:24,000 (mouth)

Proponent: H. David Wright

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: Shoal Creek (FID 153439)

Local Usage: Shoal Creek (area businesses, residents, etc.)

Published: Big Shoal Creek (*The Place Names of Colbert and Lauderdale Counties, Alabama*, 1985), Clear Creek (ibid.), Clear Water River (ibid.), East Fork Shoal Creek-in part (*Military Map of Middle Tennessee and parts of Tennessee and Adjoining States*, 1865); Schoal Creek (*The Place Names of Colbert and Lauderdale Counties, Alabama*, 1985), Shoal Creek (USGS 1905, 1916, 1936, 1950-53, 1956, 1963, 1971, 1985, 1986, 2010, 2011, 2013, 2014, 2016; Waterdata.usgs 2016; National Weather Service 2016; NOAA; State of Tennessee Newsroom; EPA 2005; Forever Wild Land Trust; numerous websites), Shoal River (*The Place Names of Colbert and Lauderdale Counties, Alabama*, 1985), Shoals Creek (online history of Lauderdale County), Sycamore River (online history of Lauderdale County; *History of Lawrence County* 2016; Lawrenceburg water companies 2016)

Case Summary: This proposal is to change the name of Shoal Creek in Alabama and Tennessee to Sycamore River. The 61-mile-long stream heads near the city of Lawrenceburg in Lawrence County, Tennessee, then flows generally south across the state line into Lauderdale County, Alabama, where it enters the Tennessee River near Florence.

The proponent, who reports that he is an environmental manager with the Save the River Association, states that his organization has been working with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA), the Alabama Fish Wildlife Agency (AFWA), the Tennessee EPA (TEPA), the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA), the Bureau of Reclamation, and the U.S. Wild & Scenic Rivers Council to restore and clean up the stream. He is asking that “the original and authentic name” Sycamore River be restored for various reasons: as a “River” the generic “would help them get more and larger EPA and BOR grants; more TRWA and AFWA help with reintroducing native wildlife, repairing, and maintaining fish ladders; help to get the stream listed on [sic] the U.S. Wild & Scenic Rivers Act; help increase tourism; and increase awareness of area schools and service organizations in protecting and preserving the stream and its surrounding area.” [Note: a review of the names of officially designated wild and scenic rivers (<https://www.rivers.gov/map.php>) indicates that a number include the generic “Creek”.]

The proponent states that the name Sycamore River was used by Native Americans “because of the thousands of large Sycamore trees growing on the banks of the river from one end to the other.”

Furthermore, “the large long valley the waterway makes has always been known as the Sycamore river valley by everyone that has always lived in this area.”

The name Shoal Creek has been labeled on USGS topographic maps since 1905, and is used by a many other Federal, State, and local agencies.

In addition to Sycamore River, the GNIS entry for Shoal Creek records the variant names Big Shoal Creek, Clear Creek, Clear Water River, Schoal Creek, Shoal River, and Shoals Creek, all of which were compiled from a 1985 dissertation titled *The Place Names of Colbert and Lauderdale Counties, Alabama*. The Wikipedia entry for Shoal Creek adds “(originally called the Sycamore River).” An online history of Lauderdale County refers to the establishment around 1818 of “a small settlement on Sycamore River, known today as Shoals Creek [sic].” The volume “Greetings from Alabama: A Pictorial History in Vintage Postcards” (Wade Hall Collection, 2016) includes a postcard with the caption “Shoal Creek, originally called Sycamore River.”

GNIS also includes entries for Little Shoal Creek and New Shoal Creek Reservoir, but the proponent did not mention those names in his proposal. New Shoal Creek Dam, Old Shoal Creek Dam, Shoal Creek Bridge, and Shoal Creek Aqueduct (historical) are recorded as administrative features. The City of Florence website refers to the Shoal Creek Preserve, “300 acres of woods, waterfalls, creeks, and bluffs just north of Florence”; the preserve is not listed in GNIS.

There are sixteen other streams in Alabama and eight in Tennessee named Shoal Creek. There are no streams in either State currently named Sycamore River.

## ALASKA

**Buster Gene Lake**: lake; approx. 187 acres; located at the head of Little Tulsona Creek, 10 mi. SW of Chistochina; the name honors Buster Gene (1909-1993), homesteader, local historian, songwriter, mail carrier, Alaska Department of Transportation employee, and teacher of Ahtna heritage; Valdez-Cordova Census Area, Alaska; Secs. 35&36, T9N, R2E, Copper River Meridian; 62°31'05"N, 144°58'16"W; USGS map – Gulkana (C-2) 1:63,360.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=62.5180555&p\\_longi=-144.9711111](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=62.5180555&p_longi=-144.9711111)

Proposal: new commemorative name for an unnamed feature

Map: USGS Gulkana (C-2) 1:63,360

Proponent: Christopher Gene; Gakona, AK

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: None found

Published: None found

Case Summary: This 187-acre lake, located at the head of Little Tulsona Creek, is proposed to be named Buster Gene Lake in honor of Buster Gene (1909-1993). A native of Chistochina, Mr. Gene served as a mail carrier between Chisana and Chistochina. He also worked for the Alaska Road Commission and later for the Alaska Department of Transportation (AKDOT). When he retired, the State of Alaska recognized Mr. Gene for his 50 years of service to the AKDOT. From 1970 until his death at his homestead by the lake, he helped identify village and cemetery sites for Ahtna, Inc. He was a local historian, songwriter, and teacher of Ahtna heritage to young people in Gakona and Gulkana. After his death, the Gakona Village Council named its new community center the Buster Gene Memorial Facility. The proponent feels that naming the lake near his homestead

“would honor his dedication to the community, recognize a significant long-time local resident, and provide a name for a popular and prominent lake in the area.”

The Alaska Board on Geographic Names recommends approval of the proposal. Ahtna, Inc.; the Mt. Sanford Tribal Consortium/Cheesh’na Tribal Council; and the editor of the *Copper River Record* also support the proposed name.

A query of GNIS found six features in Alaska with the word “Buster” in their names: a bay and five streams, none of which are in the Valdez-Cordova Census Area.

**Carrie Creek:** stream, 0.3 mi. long; heads in a small unnamed pond on the E end of Crossman Ridge at 59°41’27”N, 151°27’15”W, flows NW into Twitter Creek 1 mi. S of Lookout Mountain, 3.2 mi. NE of Homer; the name honors Carrie Anne (Lyon) Kessock (1973-2010) in honor of her happy childhood spent playing along the stream; Kenai Peninsula Borough, Alaska; Sec. 35, T5S, R13W and Sec. 2, T6S, R13W, Seward Meridian; 59°41’43”N, 151°27’26”W; USGS map – Seldovia (C-4) 1:63,360.

Mouth: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=59.6952777&p\\_longi=-151.4572222](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=59.6952777&p_longi=-151.4572222)

Source: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=59.6908333&p\\_longi=-151.4541666](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=59.6908333&p_longi=-151.4541666)

Proposal: new commemorative name for an unnamed feature

Map: USGS Seldovia (C-4) 1:63,360

Proponent: Gene & Terri Lyon; Homer, AK

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: Carrie Creek (Homer area residents)

Published: None found

Case Summary: This 0.3-mile-long stream is proposed to be named officially Carrie Creek in honor of Carrie Anne (Lyon) Kessock (1973-2010), who as a child loved to play along the stream. The proponents, Ms. Kessock’s parents, own the land at the stream’s source.

The Mayor of the City of Homer supports the proposal, as does the owner of the other property along the stream. The Alaska Board on Geographic Names (AKBGN) received petitions in support of the name signed by approximately 100 individuals, both residents of Homer and from outside Alaska. The AKBGN asked the Kenaitze Indian Tribe, a federally recognized Tribe for comment, but no response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion. The AKBGN recommends approval of the proposal. The members noted that that their guidelines indicate a preference for using the honoree’s last name and a long significant association with the feature or area, they noted that “these are not hard and fast rules.”

A query of GNIS found no other features in Alaska with the word “Carrie” in their names.

**Spirit River:** stream; 39 mi. long; heads in the Alaska Peninsula National Wildlife Refuge, on the N slope of the Aleutian Range, 14 mi. E of Bear Lake at 56°00’00”N, 159°52’40”W, flows N then W through NOAA’s National Marine Fisheries Service Marine Protected Area (Halibut Longline Closed Area) to enter the Bear River 0.4 mi. E of Bristol Bay; the name honors and celebrates the human spirit of the people of Alaska; Aleutians East Borough, Alaska; Tps46-48S, Rgs68-71W, Seward Meridian; 56°10’02”N, 160°25’28”W; USGS map – Chignik (A-8) 1:63,360 (mouth); Not: Milky River (in part).

Mouth: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=56.167314&p\\_longi=-160.424312](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=56.167314&p_longi=-160.424312)

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Proposal: new name for an unnamed feature

Map: USGS Chignik (A-8) 1:63,360 (mouth)

Proponent: Louie Marinovich; Palo Alto, CA

Administrative area: Alaska Peninsula National Wildlife Refuge; NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service Marine Protected Area

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: Milky River (in part)

Published: Milky River (in part) (USGS 1963)

Case Summary: The name Spirit River is proposed to be applied to a 39-mile-long tributary of the Bear River in the Aleutians East Borough. The source of the stream lies within the Alaska Peninsula National Wildlife Refuge, while the entire length of the stream is also administered by NOAA as a Marine Fisheries Service Marine Protected Area (Halibut Longline Closed Area). The proponent, who performed fieldwork along the stream for several years as a USGS paleontologist and as a Curator of Paleontology with the California Academy of Sciences, suggests the proposed name would “celebrate the spirit of the people of Alaska” and as “a testament to the human spirit during the development of this challenging frontier land.”

Although the stream was erroneously labeled Milky River on one edition of the 1963 USGS 1:63,360-scale map, it is unlabeled on all other topographic maps, and officially unnamed in GNIS. Another stream, also a tributary of the Bear River and just a few miles to the south, is correctly named Milky River. The USGS Mapping Center speculates the error was made because the two streams flow in a similar direction and the names were transferred from field notes that had been compiled over limited geographic areas. The proponent contends that applying an official name to the currently unnamed stream would help eliminate some of the confusion that the mislabeling has caused. He adds, “An overriding need exists to name the unnamed river in my field area, in order to accurately refer to my numerous geographically separated geological and paleontological localities, and to dispel the erroneous notion that my fieldwork was conducted along the ‘Milky River.’” Furthermore, “Properly naming the proposed Spirit River fills an overriding need in the areas of science, education, area administration and safety, because two different river valleys miles apart are currently called by a single name.” He cites an example of an emergency request for help along the stream during which the aircraft first traveled to the incorrect Milky River, resulting in a delay of an hour in receiving aid. He claims that many bush pilots, helicopter pilots, and lodge owners refer to both rivers as the “Milky River.”

A query of GNIS found five features in Alaska with the word “Spirit” in their names: two lakes, a range, a stream, and a summit. None are in the Aleutians East Borough. The stream, named Spirit Creek, was a BGN 1996 decision; it lies over 1,000 miles to the east of the stream in question.

## ARIZONA

**Change Twentyfour and One-half Mile Rapids to Bert Loper Rapid:** rapids, 5-8 ft. high; in Grand Canyon National Park, in Marble Canyon, at the mouth of Sheep Spring Wash; the name honors Albert A. “Bert” Loper (1869-1949), white-water river-running pioneer and lead boatman on USGS survey mission to find a suitable dam site in Black Canyon (Hoover Dam); Coconino County, Arizona; Sec. 30, T37N, R6E, Gila and Salt River Meridian; 36°34’55”N, 111°47’15”W; USGS map - North Canyon Point 1:24,000; Not: 24 1/2 Mile Rapid, 24½ Mile Rapid, 24 1/2-Mile

Rapid, 24-1/2 Mile Rapid, 24-1/2-Mile Rapid, 24.5 Mile Rapid, 24.5 Mile Rapids, Bert Loper Rapid, Bert Loper's Rapid, Twenty-four and One Half Mile Rapids, Twenty-Four and One-Half Mile Rapid, Twentyfour and One-half Mile Rapids, Twenty-Four-and-One-Half Mile Rapid.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesrimap?p\\_lat=36.5819621&p\\_longi=-111.7874767&fid=1854210](http://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesrimap?p_lat=36.5819621&p_longi=-111.7874767&fid=1854210)

Proposal: name change to a new commemorative name

Map: USGS North Canyon Point 1:24,000

Proponent: Carol Hart; Catheys Valley, CA

Administrative area: Grand Canyon National Park

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: Twentyfour and One-half Mile Rapids (FID 1854210)

Local Usage: Twentyfour and One-half Mile Rapids

Published: 24 1/2 Mile Rapid (Grand Canyon Explorer Web site, 2000; Heavenrich, *Unimagined Gifts*, 2011; American Whitewater Web site, 2016); 24½ Mile Rapid (*Sports Illustrated*, 1991); 24 1/2-Mile Rapid (USGS Water-Resources Investigations Report 02-4080, 2002); 24-1/2 Mile Rapid (Anderson and Edwards, *At Home on this Earth: Two Centuries of U.S. Women's Nature Writing*, 2002); 24-1/2-Mile Rapid (Grand Canyon River Heritage Coalition Web site, 2011); 24.5 Mile Rapid (Farabee, *Death, Daring, and Disaster: Search and Rescue in the National Parks*, 2005; Martin and Whitis, *Guide to the Colorado River in the Grand Canyon*, 2008; *The Far Side of the Sky*, 2013); 24.5 Mile Rapids (USGS Miscellaneous Investigations Series, Map I-1897-B, 1988; Brian, *River to Rim*, 1992); Bert Loper Rapid (*Unimagined Gifts*, 2011); Bert Loper's Rapid (*Sports Illustrated*, 1991); Twenty-four and One Half Mile Rapids (USGS Open-File Report 87-576, 1987); Twenty-Four and One-Half Mile Rapid (USGS Professional Paper 1493, 1990); Twentyfour and One-half Mile Rapids (USGS 1985, 2011, 2014); Twenty-Four-and-One-Half Mile Rapid (*Outside Magazine*, 2013)

Case Summary: This proposal is to change the name of Twentyfour and One-half Mile Rapids to Bert Loper Rapid. The rapids are approximately five to eight feet high and 540 feet long, and are located along the Colorado River and within Grand Canyon National Park. The existing name has been published on USGS topographic maps and in various USGS reports since 1985. Variants with the numbers spelled out include Twenty-four and One Half Mile Rapids, Twenty-Four and One-Half Mile Rapid, and Twenty-Four-and-One-Half Mile Rapid. The first two are found in USGS publications; the latter is used in an *Outside Magazine* article. Variants that use numerals include 24 1/2 Mile Rapid, 24½ Mile Rapid, 24 1/2-Mile Rapid, 24-1/2 Mile Rapid, 24-1/2-Mile Rapid, 24.5 Mile Rapid, and 24.5 Mile Rapids. Most of these are used online or in nonfiction works, but both 24 1/2-Mile Rapid and 24.5 Mile Rapids appear in USGS publications.

The proposed name is intended to honor Albert A. “Bert” Loper (1869-1949), known as “the grand old man of Colorado River runners.” At the age of 25, Loper discovered his love of river running, and in 1907, he and two companions attempted to boat from Green River, Utah, through the Grand Canyon. After being delayed on an errand, his companions left him behind and Loper would have to wait another 30 years before finally navigating the canyon.

Loper was employed as a boatman for the government, and assisted explorers and geologists along rivers in the southwest. In 1920, Loper acted as the lead boatman on the USGS survey mission to find a suitable site in the Black Canyon for the future Hoover Dam. He finally made his first boating run through the Grand Canyon in 1939 on a two-boat trip. The boats were able to run their boats through Lava Falls, the first time two boats on any one trip had attempted this. Loper was the oldest person to pilot a boat through Lava Falls at the time.

In 1949, at the age of 79, Loper attempted another river run through the Grand Canyon. He was rowing his own self-built boat, *The Grand Canyon*, through Twentyfour and One-half Mile Rapids in Marble Canyon, when he suffered a fatal heart attack and his boat flipped in the rapid. The boat was found near mile 41, where it lies today, and where a monument to Loper and his accomplishments on the Colorado River was placed. His body was not recovered until 1975.

References to the proposed name are found in the 2011 volume *Unimagined Gifts* by Charley Heavenrich, a veteran river guide, and in a 1991 *Sports Illustrated* article (as Bert Loper's Rapid).

The proponent has requested that the proposed name use the generic "Rapid" to agree with the singular form that she claims is used for the other 95 rapids on the Colorado River between Mile 0 and Mile 226 (however, it should be noted that the 100 entries in GNIS for rapids on the river all use the plural form).

## ARKANSAS

**Change application of Coffee Creek:** stream; approx. 11 mi. long; heads in the City of Crossett 0.7 mi. S of Lily Pond at 33°07'52"N, 91°57'48"W, flows generally SW on the S side of Mill Pond, through Coffee Lake and Mossy Lake to enter the Ouachita River 0.7 mi. SE of Cooley Lake; Tps19&18S, Rgs9&8W, Fifth Principal Meridian; Ashley County, Arkansas; 33°01'44"N, 92°04'51"W; USGS map - Felsenthal Dam 1:24,000 (mouth).

Mouth: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=33.028811&p\\_longi=-92.080831](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=33.028811&p_longi=-92.080831)

Source: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=33.131212&p\\_longi=-91.963412](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=33.131212&p_longi=-91.963412)

Proposal: change application of a name to reflect local use

Map: USGS Felsenthal Dam 1:24,000 (mouth)

Proponent: Travis Gasnier; Bryant, AR

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: Coffee Creek (FID 47886)

Local Usage: Coffee Creek (proponent, Georgia Pacific)

Published: Coffee Creek - in part (USGS 1934, 1938, 1939, 1973, 1978, 1981, 1985, 1986, 1989, 2002, 2011, 2014; AMS 1953, 1958; FEMA 2012; 1956)

Case Summary: This proposal is to change the application of the name Coffee Creek, amending not only the stream's source and mouth locations but also the description of its course.

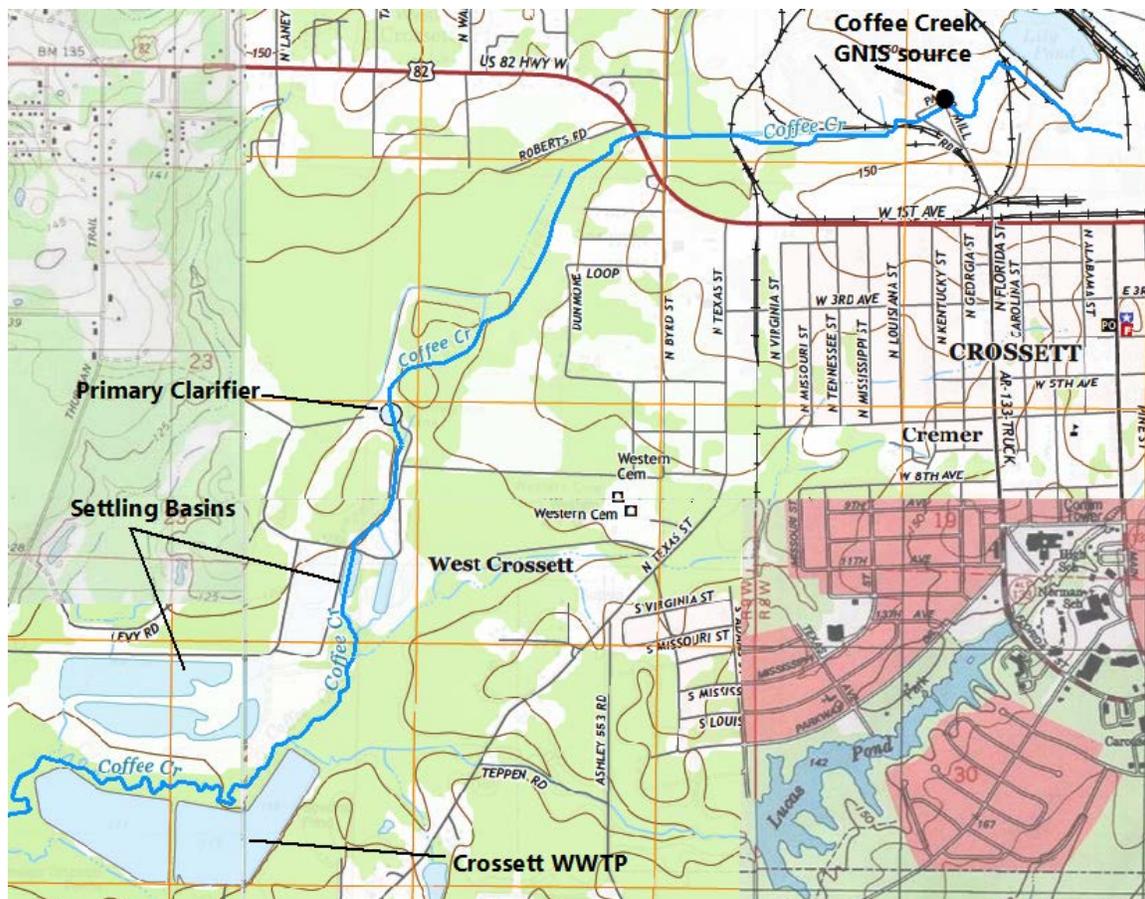
The proponent, an environmental scientist at GBM<sup>c</sup> & Associates, submitted a map correction request to the USGS Office of Science Quality and Integrity on behalf of Georgia Pacific Crossett LLC [GP]. The letter states:

"As currently shown on USGS topographical maps, Coffee Creek originates on the GP mill site in Crossett, Arkansas, then flows west across Hwy 82, then flows southwest directly through the Mill's wastewater treatment system, highlighted in yellow on Attachments A and B. This depiction is inaccurate. This actually represents part of the mill's wastewater conveyance system from the mill and through the wastewater treatment system. A significant portion of this route from the mill site to the primary clarifier is piped and not in open channel conveyances....

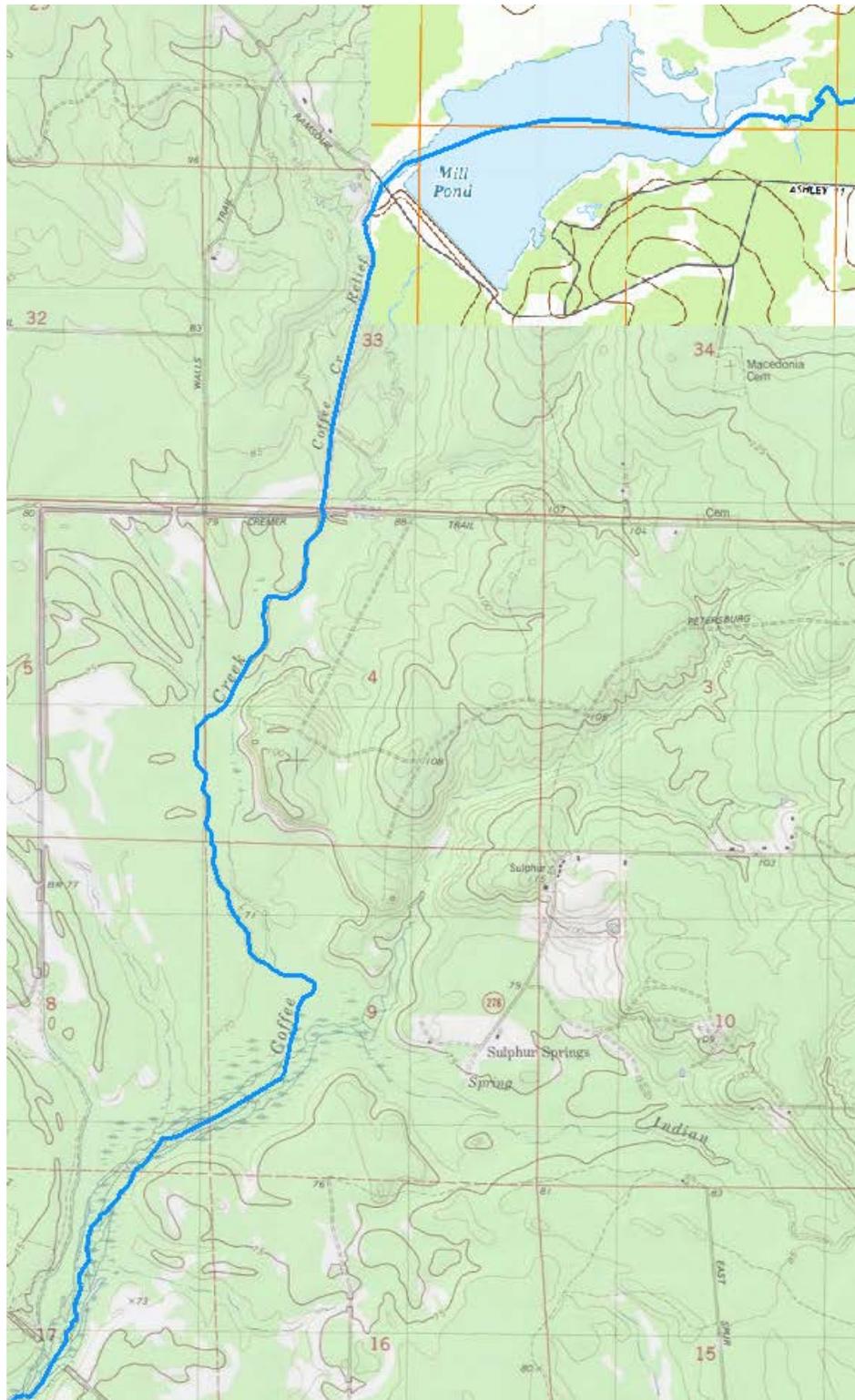
Based on the information provided herein and associated attachments, we request that all USGS topographic maps (and necessary databases) be updated as soon as practicable and corrected to reflect the actual Coffee Creek stream channel position."

In addition, the maps included with the letter suggest that Coffee Creek flows on the south side of Mill Pond rather than through the reservoir. The text of the letter indicates that the name Coffee Creek is also used for the stream flowing out of Mossy Lake and into the Ouachita River.

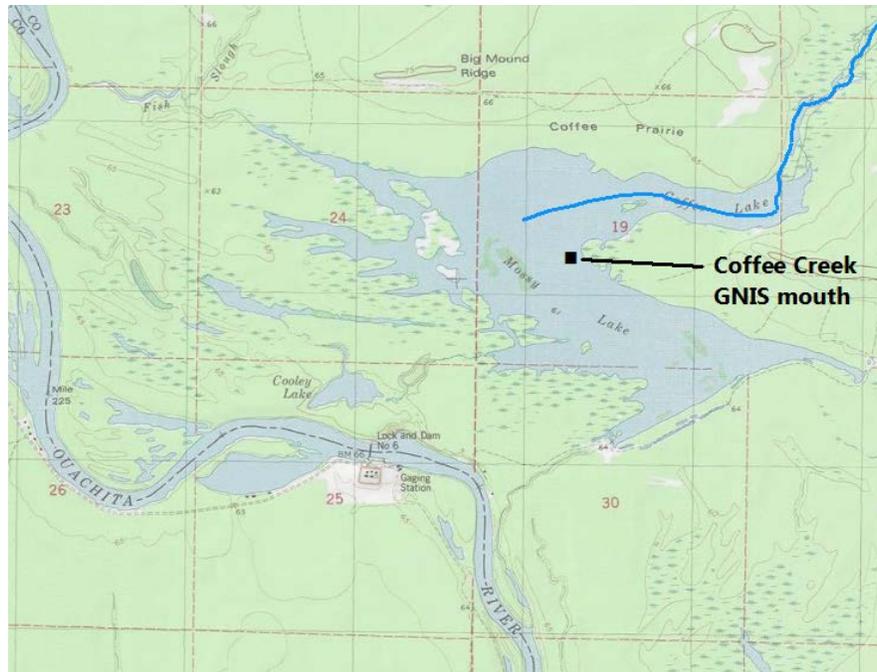
As currently recorded in GNIS, Coffee Creek has its source on the site of the Georgia Pacific Crossett Paper Mill. The stream flowline is shown on recent USGS maps and in current NHD geometry as flowing south-southwest to the west of Crossett, turning west to flow along the north side of Crossett's waste water treatment ponds and into Mill Pond. Water from Mill Pond flows through a man-made channel (labeled as Coffee Creek Relief on the 1981 USGS 1:24,000 Felsenthal Dam topographic map) before resuming natural flow northwest of Sulphur Springs. The stream then flows into the Coffee Lake-Mossy Lake system. The mouth of Coffee Creek was recorded in GNIS at the original shoreline of Mossy Lake; Coffee Lake was not recorded in GNIS until this proposal was received. (Mossy Lake was dammed in the late 1930s and merged with Coffee Lake as a settling basin for the Crossett paper mill.)



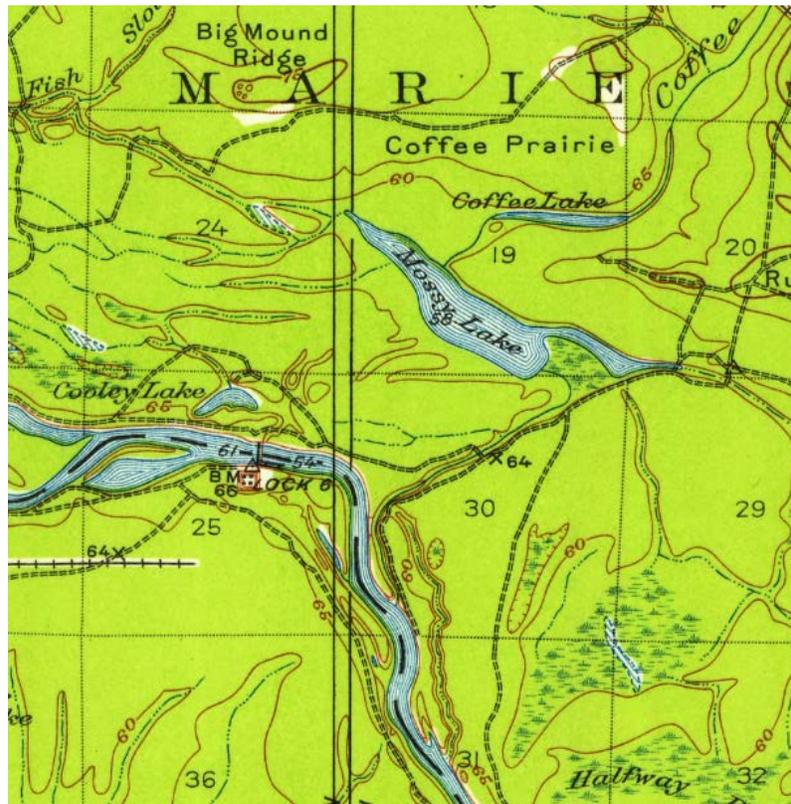
**Map 1: Headwaters of Coffee Creek to the Crossett wastewater treatment plant. Blue line shows NHD flowline. Base maps from USGS map service, with additions from the 2014 US Topo. Primary Clarifier and Settling Basins are part of the paper mill waste water treatment system.**



**Map 2: Coffee Creek from Mill Pond to a swampy area upstream of Mossy Lake-Coffee Lake. Blue line shows NHD flowline. Base maps from USGS map service, with additions from the 2014 USTopo.**



**Map 3: Coffee Creek near Mossy Lake-Coffee Lake. Blue line shows NHD flowline. Base maps from USGS map service.**



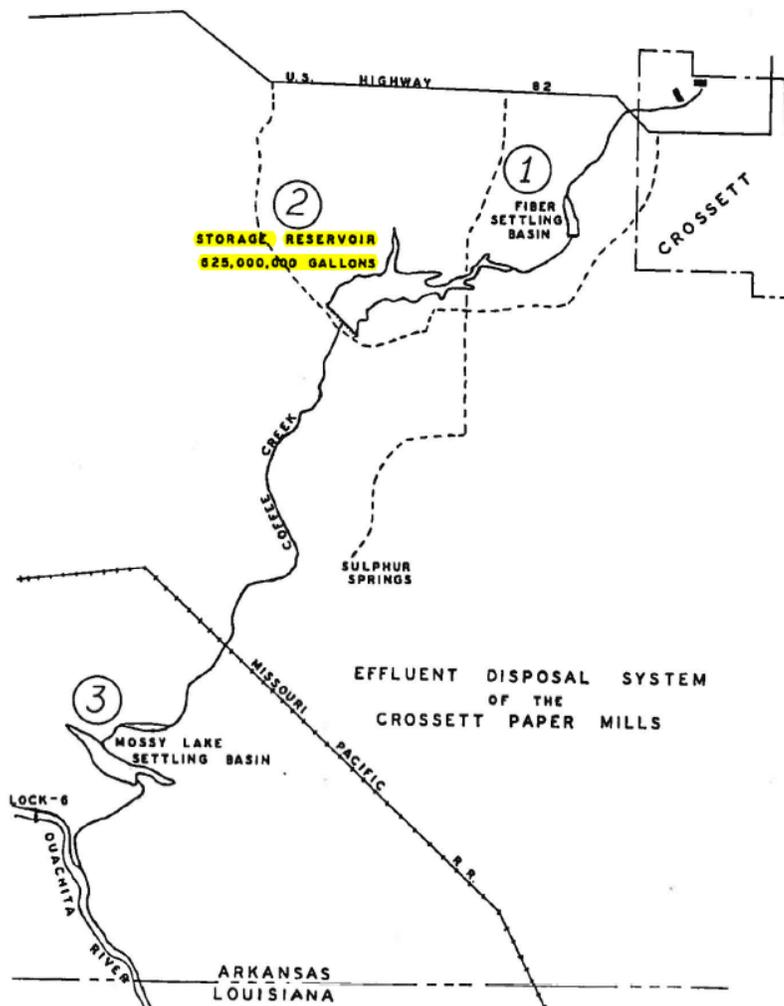
**Map 4: Original extent of Mossy Lake and Coffee Lake from the 1934 Felsenthal 1:62,500-scale topographic map.**

The stream's course has been altered over the past 80 years by the paper mill industry. An article in the December 10<sup>th</sup>, 1956 issue of *Southern Pulp and Paper Manufacturer* describes the situation:

“[Crossett Paper Mills] must...safely dispose of 27 million gallons of soiled water each day. The concern is now pollution control or stream improvement on the Ouachita River into which the disposal is made....

...the answer [is] in fast moving Coffee Creek that winds its way for 15 miles across the countryside before it finally enters the big Ouachita River [and] in man-made impounding basins, flumes, and gates constructed along the creek's circuitous route...”

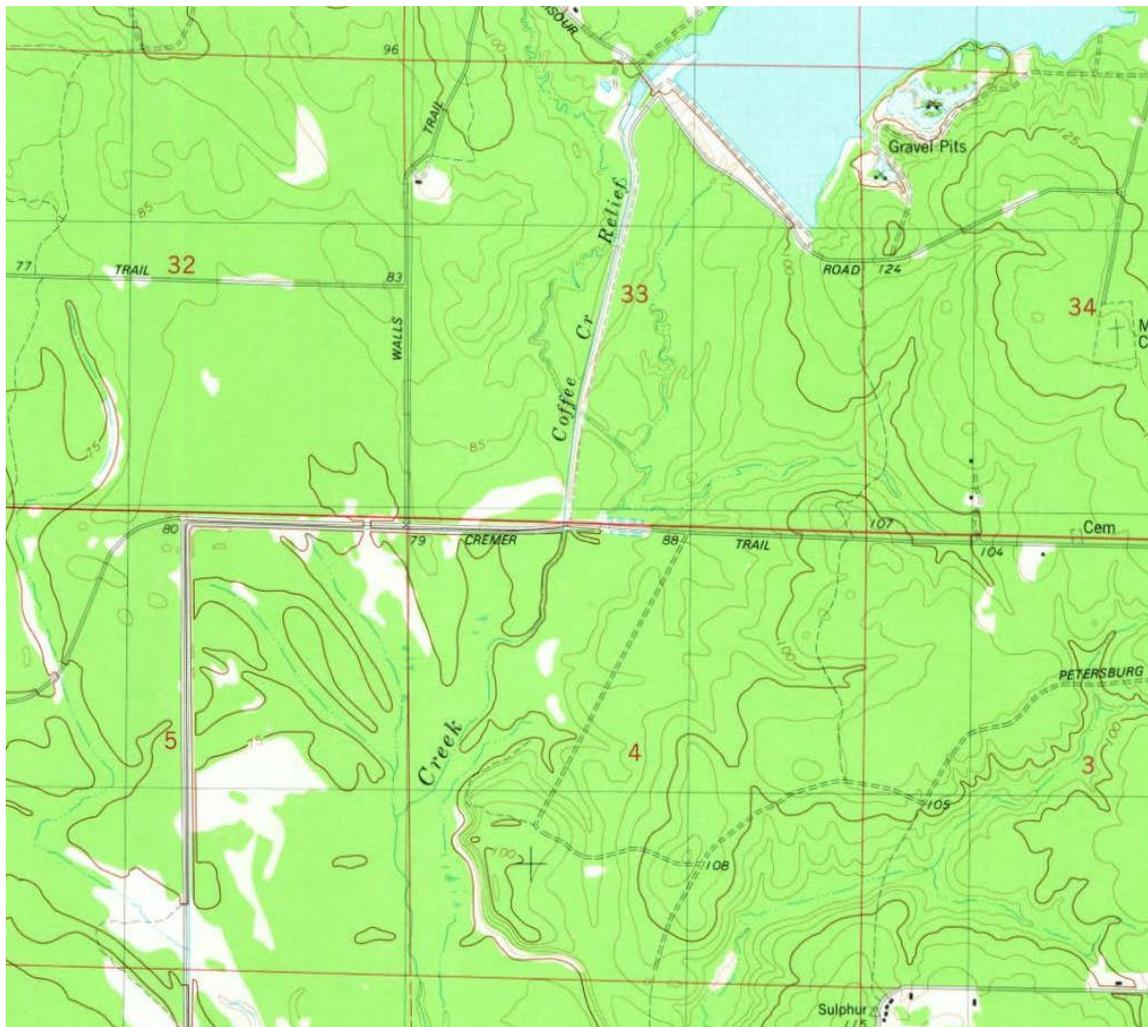
The article also describes the formation of Mill Pond in 1956 as a “water holding basin” and a “fiber settling pool” [likely the primary clarifier and upper settling basins in Map 1].



**Figure 1: Map of Coffee Creek alterations below the Crossett Paper Mills (from the December 10<sup>th</sup>, 1956 issue of *Southern Pulp and Paper Manufacturer*)**

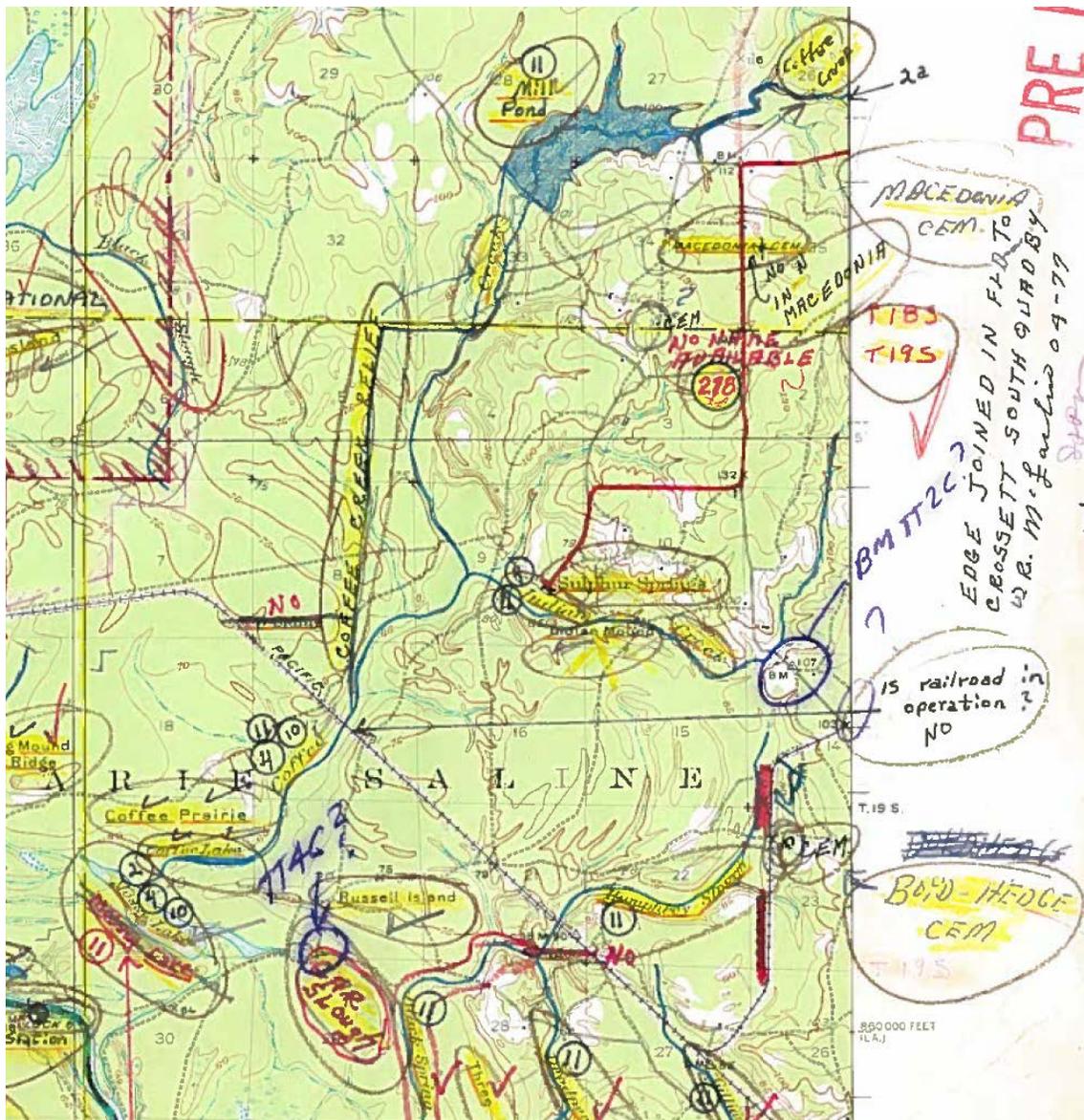
Although the 1956 map in the *Southern Pulp and Paper Manufacturer* article shows Coffee Creek flowing out of the middle of the Mill Pond dam, the 1981 Festenthal Dam 1:24,000 topographic

map shows water flow from the west end of the dam through a canal labeled Coffee Creek Relief. Coffee Creek itself is shown as an intermittent stream and it is unclear if water flows into it directly from Mill Pond.



**Map 5: Coffee Creek and Coffee Creek Relief from the 1981 Felsenthal Dam 1:24,000 topographic map.**

The name Coffee Creek Relief was labeled for the first time on the topographic map pre-edit sheet; it is unclear if the name applies to the canal only in Section 33 in T18S, R9W, or if it also applies to the canal extending through Sections 4, 5, 8, and possibly 17 of T19S, R9W.



**Map 6: Felsenthal Dam 1:24,000 topographic map pre-edit sheet showing possible extent of Coffee Creek Relief.**

On December 17<sup>th</sup>, 1979, the Arkansas Commission on Pollution Control and Ecology met to hear comments on proposed interim revisions to state water quality standards; Coffee Creek was described as “the receiving stream for Georgia-Pacific wastewaters.” An environmental control supervisor from GP spoke to the commission stating:

“We first began using Coffee Creek in 1937 when the papermill began its operations in Crossett....

Coffee Creek and the Mossy Lake area provided adequate treatment for the effluent and the paper operations with some smaller dams added on the lower end of Mossy Lake. These dams were installed by the Crossett Company...later Georgia-Pacific.

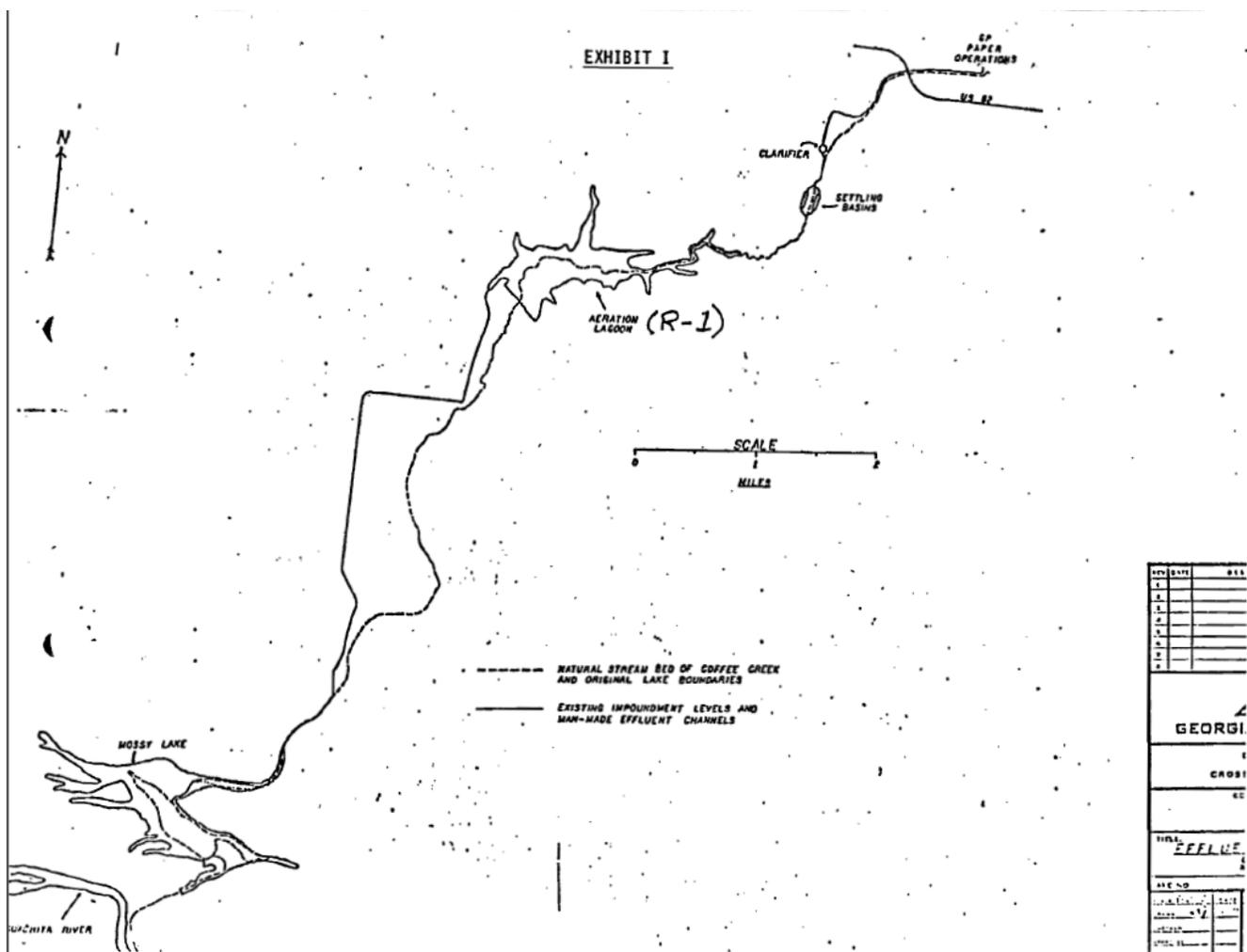
And as the operation in Crossett...got larger...it was necessary to expand this Mossy Lake and Coffee Creek system. Our first major change came in 1956 with the addition of the R-1 basin [Mill Pond].... This was made by forming a dam across Coffee Creek....

[T]wo earthen settling basins were constructed adjacent to Coffee Creek [near the upper end of Mill Pond which] were successful in taking the suspendable solids from the effluent.

As further expansion and more stringent regulations came about it was necessary to upgrade the system again, and the next step was completed in 1970 with the addition of a 300-foot primary clarifier in this area and...aerators in the lagoon [Mill Pond].”

The GP representative showed photographs of “where the original channel [of Coffee Creek] has been abandoned...below R1 [Mill Pond].” Regarding the regulation changes, he stated: “Coffee Creek is intermittent in nature and therefore the absence of a continuous flow in Coffee Creek, rather than treated wastewater precludes mixing in any area of the creek. It is further submitted that the mixing zone should be designated as some area contiguous to the mouth of Coffee Creek at its point of confluence with the Ouachita River.”

In a news release dated December 9<sup>th</sup>, 1979, the Arkansas Department of Pollution Control and Ecology stated: “The interim exemptions for Coffee Creek are an attempt to temporarily deal with a problem involving the regulation of the discharge from the Georgia-Pacific paper mill at Crossett.... [GP] officials contend the portion of Coffee Creek in question should be considered a legitimate part of the mill wastewater treatment system because of modifications to the stream over the past 40 years.”



**Figure 2: Map of GP modification to Coffee Creek presented by a GP representative at the December 17<sup>th</sup>, 1979 hearing of the Arkansas Commission on Pollution Control and Ecology. The dotted line is labeled “Natural Stream Bed of Coffee Creek and Original Lake Boundaries.” The solid line is labeled “Existing Impoundment Levels and Man-Made Effluent Channels.”**

A January 2003 report titled *Water Quality Assessment for the Ouchita River Between Felsenthal Reservoir Lock and Dam, Arkansas and Sterlington, Louisiana* prepared for the Environmental Protection Agency also describes the flow of Coffee Creek:

“The Georgia-Pacific Corporation (G-P) owns and operates an integrated pulp, paper, and chemical plant located in Crossett, Arkansas.... The G-P plant has used Coffee Creek and Mossy Lake as a wastewater treatment system since 1937. Coffee Creek has been substantially modified over the years to transfer and treat the wastewater. G-P discharges approximately 45 million gallons a day (MGD) from its plant site to upper reaches of a modified Coffee Creek. The wastewater then flows into a manmade canal and then to a primary treatment system, which removes heavy solids. The primary treatment system consists of one or more clarifiers, which discharges sediment to a settling basin. The discharge from the settling basin enters Coffee Creek and travels approximately 1.5 miles to an on-channel 625 million gallon aerated lagoon [Mill Pond]. The City of Crossett

wastewater ponds also discharge...to Coffee Creek approximately one half mile upstream of the aerated lagoon. G-P's first permit monitoring point, Outfall 001, is located at the cascade discharge of the aerated lagoon [Coffee Creek Relief]....

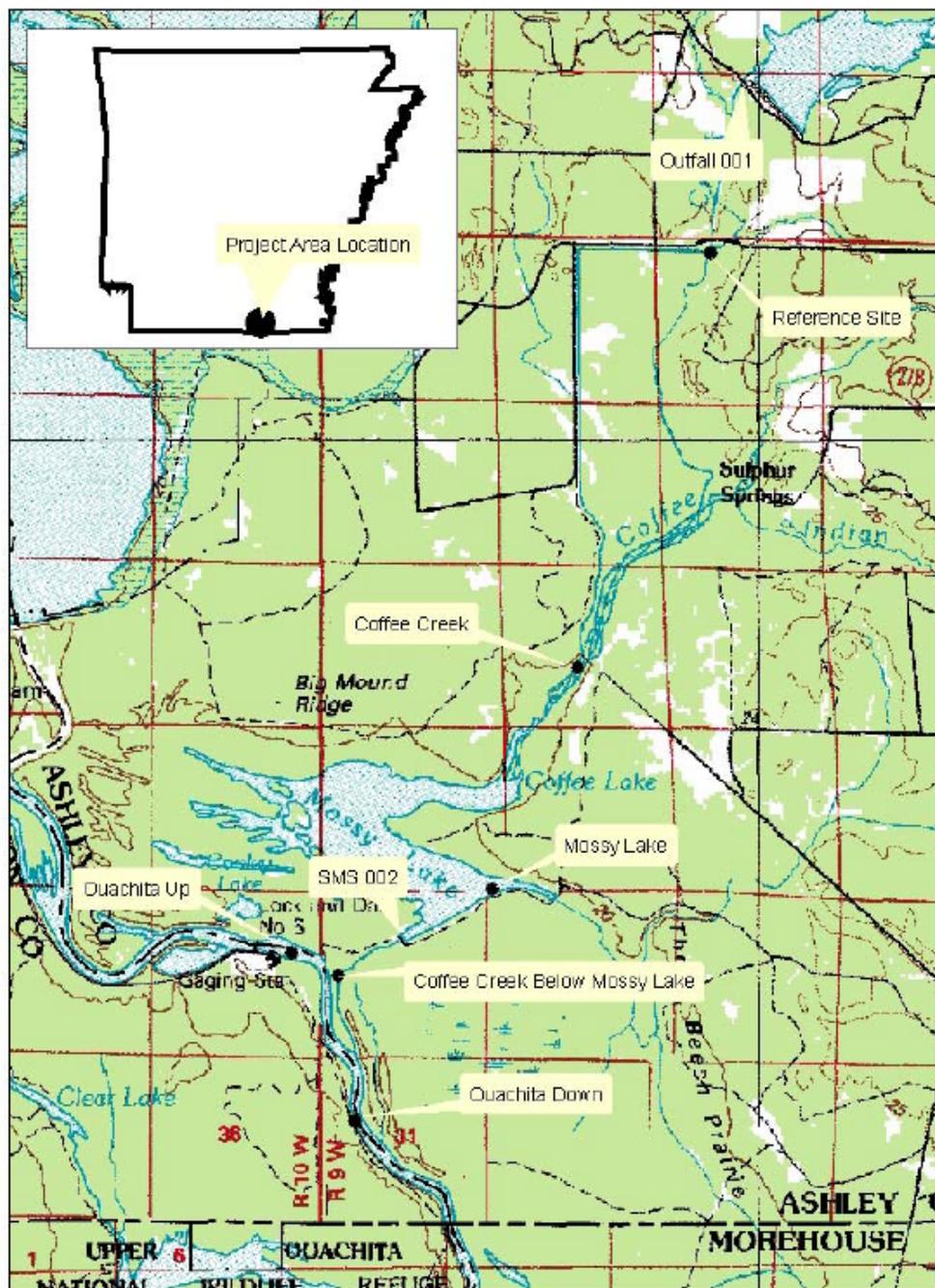
Prior to discharge, the effluent is treated by screening, primary clarification, settling, and stabilization in an aerated basin [Mill Pond]. The aerated basin discharges via Outfall 001 to Coffee Creek, which flows into Mossy Lake. Coffee Creek and Mossy Lake provide some measure of dilution and effluent polishing by natural degradation processes and are considered to be part of G-P's treatment processes. Mossy Lake discharges to the Ouachita River through Outfall 002."



**Figure 3: Map of Coffee Creek and GP outfalls from the January 2003 EPA report *Water Quality Assessment for the Ouachita River Between Felsenthal Reservoir Lock and Dam, Arkansas and Sterlington, Louisiana*.**

A December 2007 report titled *Use Attainability Analysis and Water Quality Assessment of Coffee Creek, Mossy Lake, and the Ouachita River*, prepared for the Environmental Protection Agency, analyzed the area below Mill Pond. The report describes Mill Pond as “an aerated basin, which occupies a former channel of Coffee Creek. The aerated basin discharges via Outfall 001 [Coffee Creek Relief] to a man-made channel, then to Coffee Creek at the upper reaches of Mossy Lake.” The study’s reference site “is located at the crossing of the historical channel of Coffee Creek by Ashley County Road 221.” According to the text, GP effluent leaves Mill Pond, flows through the canal labeled as Coffee Creek Relief on USGS maps, and then rejoins Coffee Creek in Section 17, T19S, R9W near the former crossing of the Union Pacific Railroad: “the site on Coffee Creek

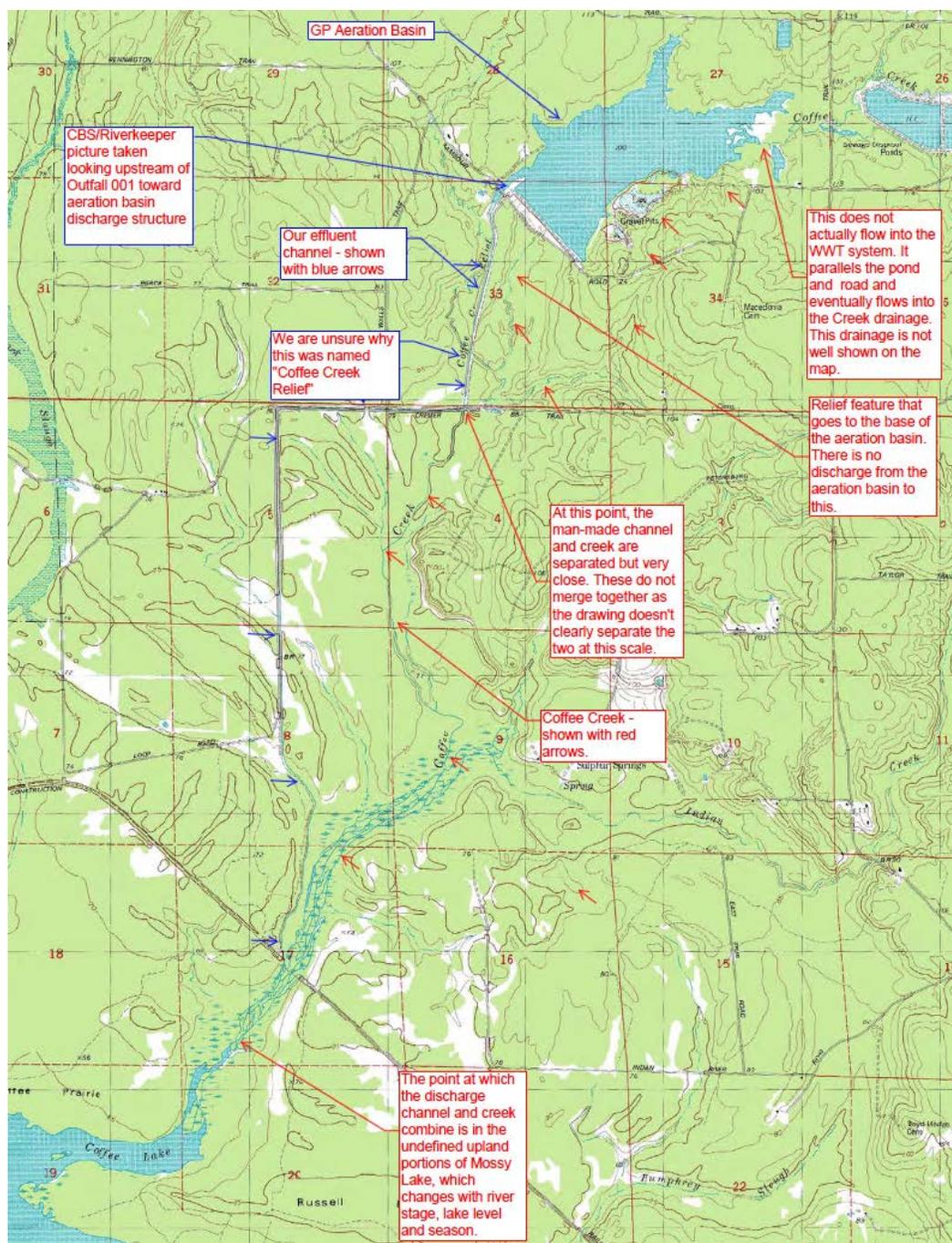
below GP Outfall 011 is located approximately 109 yards downstream of the large burned out trestles on the Union-Pacific Railroad Tram Road.” It also describes the confluence of Coffee Creek with the Ouachita River.



**Figure 3: Map of Coffee Creek area below Mill Pond from the December 2007 report titled *Use Attainability Analysis and Water Quality Assessment of Coffee Creek, Mossy Lake, and the Ouachita River*. GP flow does not enter Coffee Creek at “Reference Site” but rejoins the stream at the location labeled “Coffee Creek.”**

A November 2008 letter from AquaAeTer to the Crossett GP mill reviews the EPA Use Attainability Assessment and presents some objections to the conclusions. The extent and application of the name Coffee Creek is not challenged, but the letter states that “the only reason there is water on a continuous basis in Coffee Creek downstream from Georgia Pacific [outflow] and Mossy Lake is because it is Georgia-Pacific’s treated effluent.” It also states that “at times, the Ouachita River flood water has reached to the GP Aerated Stabilization Basin [Mill Pond].”

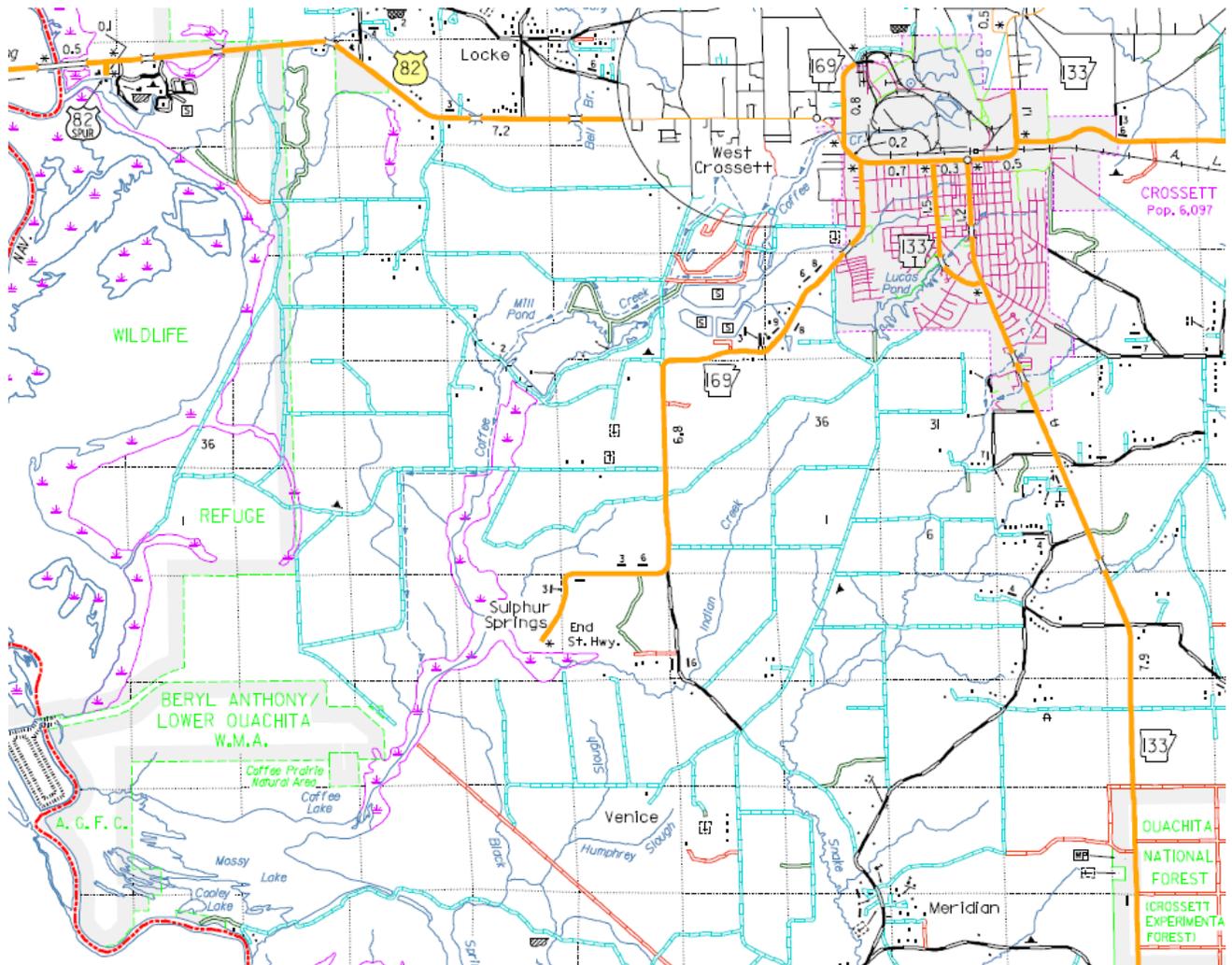
Letters from Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility (PEER) and Ouachita Riverkeeper to the EPA use the name Coffee Creek for the waterway below the Mill Pond discharge (Coffee Creek Relief on USGS maps). However, an Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality report on a site visit with GP officials describes the outflow of Mill Pond as into “the upper reaches of Mossy Lake, then into Coffee Creek, then into Ouachita River.” A USGS map annotated by GP was included in this report describing the flow in, around, and below Mill Pond. This map shows the flow of Coffee Creek as separate from the GP treatment system from upstream of Mill Pond to the upper reaches of Mossy Lake/Coffee Lake. Effluent from Mill Pond flows through Coffee Creek Relief as labeled on USGS maps, then through a canal through Sections 4, 5, and 8 of T19S R9W, and through a natural stream (as shown on USGS maps) into Coffee Creek. The annotator was unsure why the canal was labeled as Coffee Creek Relief.



**Figure 4: Map of Coffee Creek area below Mill Pond, included with a 2011 ADEQ site visit report.**

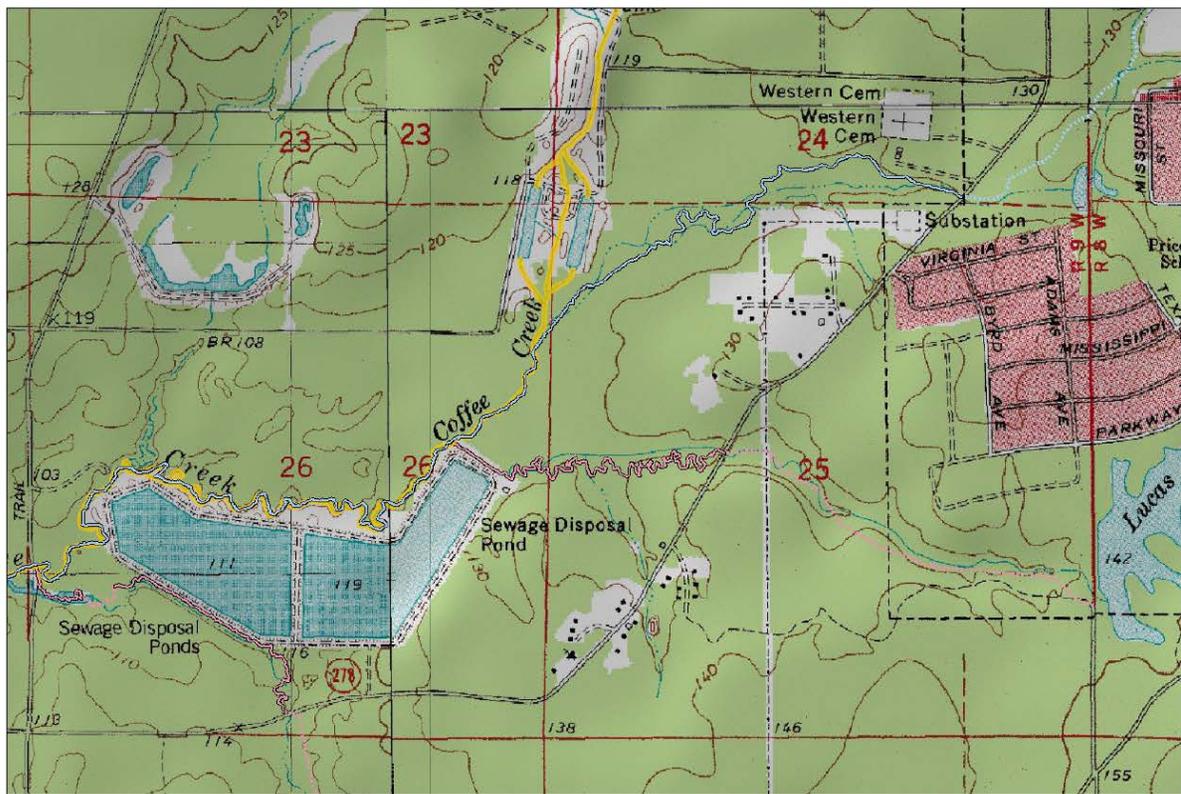
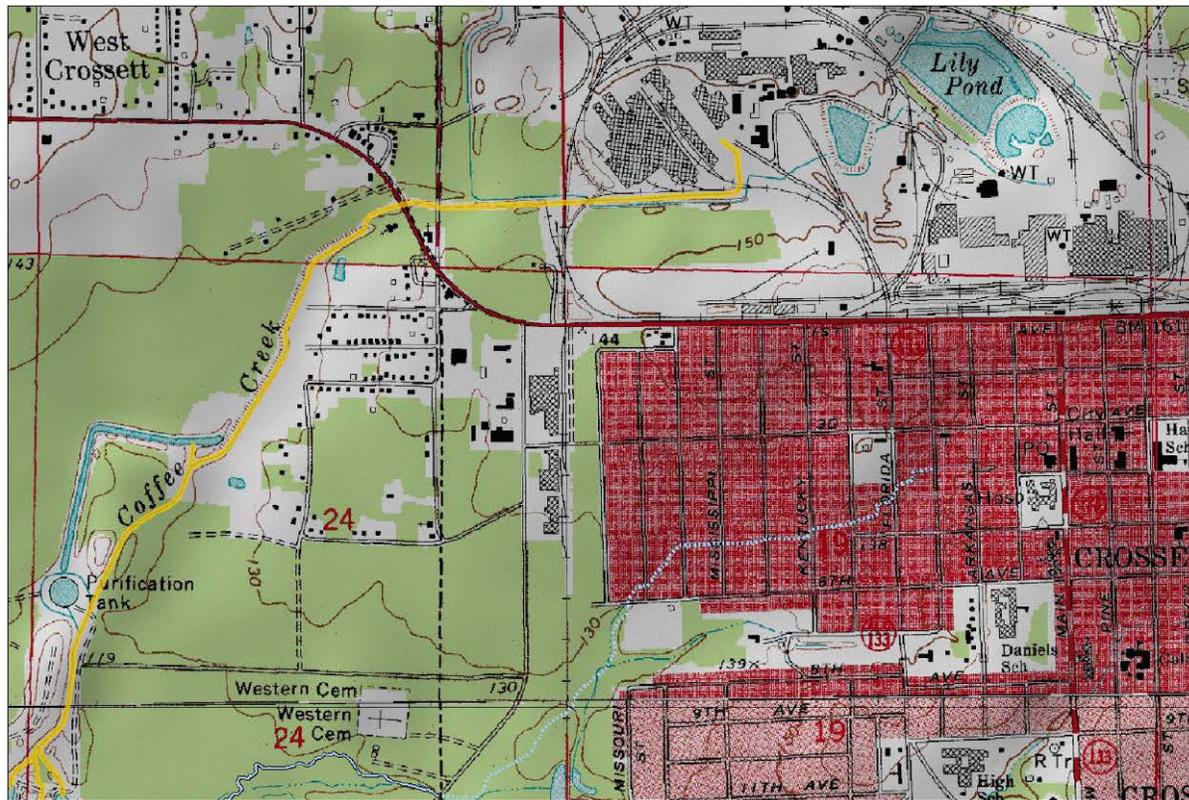
The 2007 Ashley County Highway Map is unclear about the flow of Coffee Creek. The map shows the stream's source on the GP mill site, but it is unclear if it flows through the upper GP settling basins or not. It is not shown flowing north of the Crossett WWTP, but rather north of the lower GP settling basins. Coffee Creek is then shown flowing on the north side of Mill Pond and joining the Mill Pond outflow canal below the reservoir. Stream flow is unlabeled below the upper canal

and the map does not indicate if Coffee Creek follows the stream channel or the man-made canal system.



**Figure 5: Coffee Creek as shown on the 2007 Ashley County Highway Map.**

The current proposal to change the source, mouth, and flow of Coffee Creek is a result of an investigation based on a field analysis and examination of aerial imagery by GBM<sup>c</sup> & Associates which was contracted by GP. The conclusions place the source of Coffee Creek not on the GP mill property, but rather 0.67 miles to the southeast within the town of Crossett. The stream flows southwest and joins the outflow of the upper GP settling basins, passing to the north of the Crossett WWTP. Rather than entering Mill Pond, the proposed flow of the stream trends south of the reservoir through gravel pits as labeled on USGS maps. The proposed flow of the stream passes to the east of the Mill Pond dam and enters the intermittent flow channel below the dam labeled as Coffee Creek on USGS maps. The letter requesting changes to all maps indicates that Coffee Creek ultimately empties into the Ouachita River.

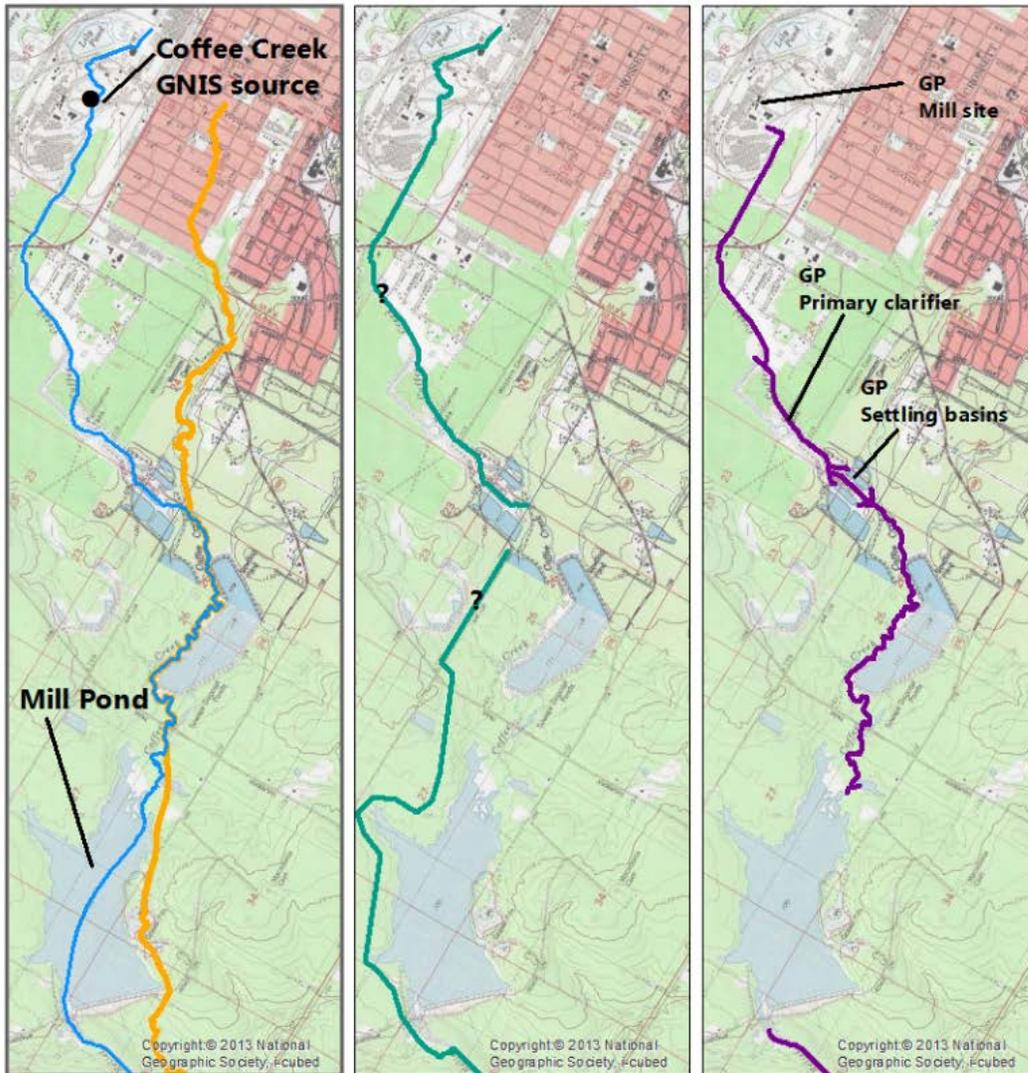






**Figure 6: Maps from proposal showing proposed Coffee Creek flow and the USGS map flow as interpreted by the proponent.**

Essentially, all sources besides GNIS indicate that Coffee Creek flows into the Ouachita River below Mossy Lake. The source of Coffee Creek on the GP mill site is well attested in all sources that mention it except for the current proposal.



**Coffee Creek**

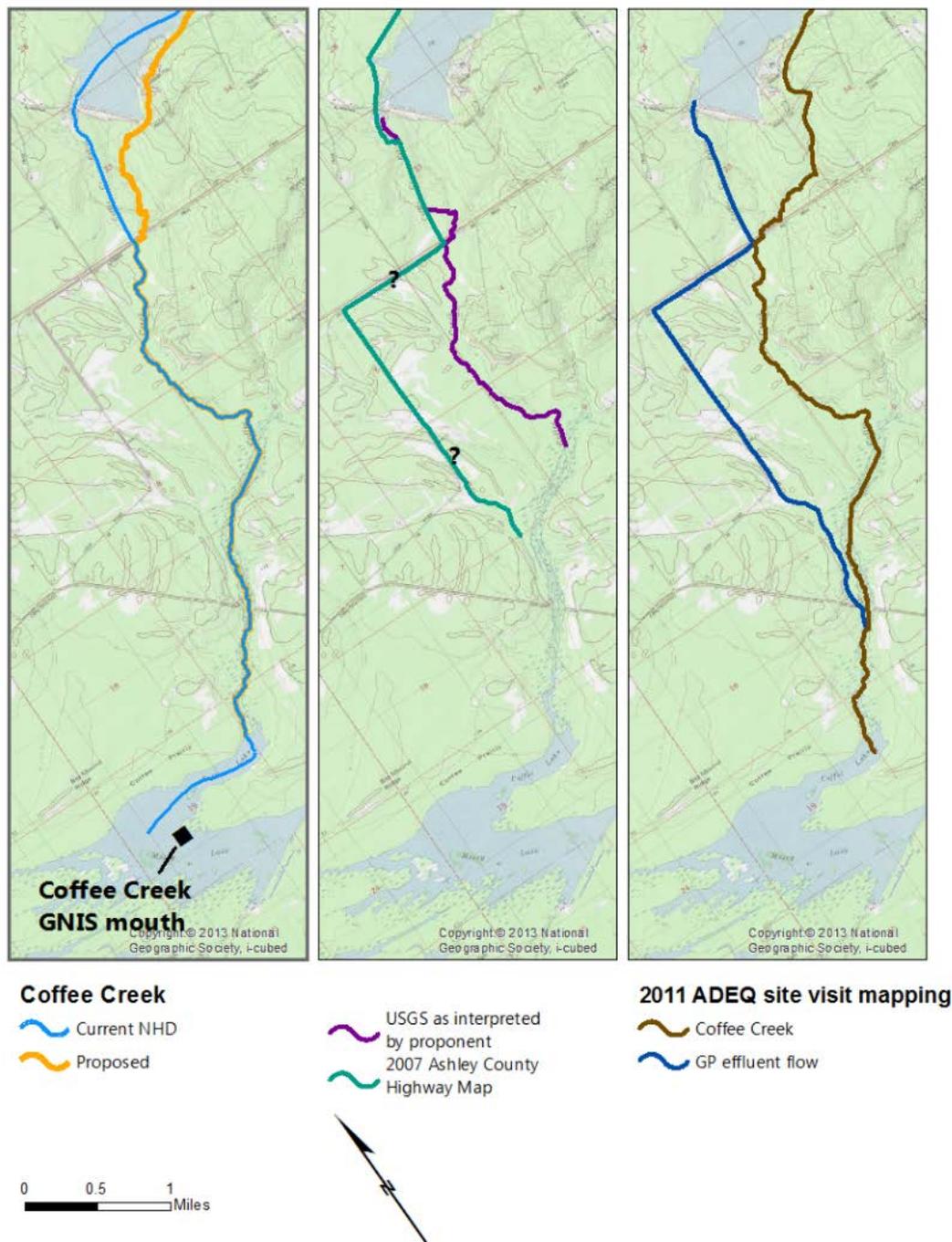
-  Current NHD
-  Proposed

 2007 Ashley County Highway Map

 USGS as interpreted by proponent

0 0.5 1 Miles





According to GNIS, there are several associated features near Coffee Creek in Ashley County: Coffee Creek Relief (a canal), Coffee Prairie, Coffee Bayou, and Coffee Lake. The lake into which Coffee Creek flows is labeled as Coffee Creek on the most current 1:24,000 scale USGS topographic map, but the official GNIS name is Mossy Lake. Both Coffee Lake and Mossy Lake are labeled until 1989; Mossy Lake is labeled on the 2011 digital USTopo map. There are four other Coffee Creeks in Arkansas; they are all 80 to 150 miles away.

## COLORADO

**Crosier Park:** flat; approx. 60 acres; located N of True Gulch, 2.3 mi. E of Crosier Mountain; named in association with Crosier Mountain; Sec. 5, T5N, R71W, Sixth Principal Meridian; Larimer County, Colorado; 40°25'58"N, 105°22'55"W; USGS map – Glen Haven 1:24,000; Not: Crozier Park, Drake's Meadow, Hobson Place.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=40.432749&p\\_longi=-105.382079](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=40.432749&p_longi=-105.382079)

Proposal: new associative name for an unnamed feature

Map: USGS Glen Haven 1:24,000

Proponent: Amanda Gordon; Glen Haven, CO

Administrative area: Roosevelt National Forest

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: None found

Local Usage: Crosier Park (geocaching website); Drake's Meadow (proponent, geocaching website); Hobson Place (nearby resident in 1989)

Published: Crosier Park (unsourced news article from 1930)

Case Summary: The name Crosier Park is proposed to be made official for a 60-acre flat located on the east slope of Crosier Mountain. According to the proponent, "the name dates back to the 1960s and before, but has been lost in modern times"; also, "the location is where a prospector [named Crosier] from the 1800s had a gold mine." The identity of the prospector is unknown, although the proponent provided a letter written in 1989 by a member of the Crosier family noting that the summit was named for an individual named Crosier who ran horses in the area (the letter also mentions Crosier Park). This individual also contacted the BGN staff in 1972 and again in 1989 to inquire as to the identity of Crosier; the BGN was unable to locate any details on the origin of the name.

The proponent notes also that the generic "Park" is used throughout Colorado to refer to meadows; GNIS lists three dozen flats in Larimer County named "Park", including Estes Park.

In an online geocaching record for a cache in the nearby Piper Meadows, the proponent mentions "Crosier Park (Drake's Meadow)" to the east. When asked about the latter name, the proponent said it was "made up [and] the local geocaching community would know what I meant." (The flat is located near the town of Drake.) She provided a copy of an unsourced news clipping from 1930 about a guided climb of Crosier Mountain (spelled as Crozier Mountain) that mentions Crosier Park [sic] east of the summit. The feature proposed to be named Crosier Park also lies along the Crosier Mountain Trail.

According to GNIS, the only nearby features that contain "Crosier" in their names are the aforementioned summit and trail. Crosier Hawxhurst Ditch is located 80 miles to the south-southwest.

**Ivans Mountain:** summit, elevation 10,223 ft.; in Routt National Forest 2.6 mi. SW of Willow Creek Lake, 0.9 mi. NE of Diamond Peak; named for Ivan Miller (1921-1996), mountain man and caretaker of the surrounding land; Routt County, Colorado; Secs. 19&20, T10N, R86W, Sixth Principal Meridian; 40°48'48"N, 107°03'53"W; USGS map - Meaden Peak 1:24,000.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=40.8133547&p\\_longi=-107.064713](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=40.8133547&p_longi=-107.064713)

Proposal: to make official a commemorative name

Map: USGS Meaden Peak 1:24,000

Proponent: Jonathan Miller; Boulder, CO

Administrative area: Routt National Forest

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: Ivan's Mountain (40 yrs, local residents)

Published: None found

Case Summary: This 10,223-foot summit in Routt National Forest is proposed to be named officially Ivans Mountain, in honor of Ivan Miller (1921-1996). According to the proponent, Miller and his friend Wayne Swanson explored the country searching for adventure when they came across this mountain and another nearby that is proposed to be named Waynes Mountain (q.v.). Together, the two men made multiple annual pilgrimages, becoming "caretakers of the surrounding land," and over the course of many years, establishing trails "that explored the most beautiful parts of the mountains." The tradition was passed down to their children and grandchildren, who according to the proponent, pay homage to Ivan and Wayne by continuing to care for the mountains.

The proposal included one letter of support from an individual who stated "locals in the area know the summit as "Ivan's Mountain" [sic].

**Waynes Mountain**: summit; elevation 9,529 ft.; in Routt National Forest 1.6 mi. SW of Willow Creek Lake; the name honors Wayne Swanson (1934-2006), mountain man and caretaker of the surrounding land; Routt County, Colorado; Secs. 16,17,20&21, T10N, R86W, Sixth Principal Meridian; 40°49'16"N, 107°02'47"W; USGS map - Meaden Peak 1:24,000.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=40.8210901&p\\_longi=-107.0464787](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=40.8210901&p_longi=-107.0464787)

Proposal: to make official a commemorative name

Map: USGS Meaden Peak 1:24,000

Proponent: Jonathan Miller; Boulder, CO

Administrative area: Routt National Forest

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: Wayne's Mountain (40 yrs, local residents)

Published: None found

Case Summary: This is the second of two proposals to make official names for two unnamed summits in Routt National Forest. This 9,529-foot summit is proposed to be named officially Waynes Mountain in honor of Wayne Swanson (1934-2006), who along with his friend Ivan Miller (1921-1996) explored the country when they came across this mountain and the one proposed to be named Ivans Mountain (q.v.). Together, they made annual pilgrimages to the area and became caretakers of the surrounding land. They established trails that explored the most beautiful parts of the mountains over the course of many years. Nearly a half century later Ivan and Wayne passed the tradition of caring for these mountains to their children and now their grandchildren. According to the proponent, family and friends now pay homage to the tradition of adventure by continuing to care for the mountains. Swanson's obituary noted that he supported many organizations, including The Nature Conservancy, the Sierra Club, and the Yampa Valley Flyfishers.

The proposal included one letter of support from an individual who stated "locals in the area know the summit as Wayne's Mountain [sic].

## FLORIDA

**Bella Mare Key**: island; 1.6 acres; the eastern island in Fanny Keys, 1.2 mi. W of Marathon, just W of Palm Island; the name is Italian for “Nice Sea” which reflects the beautiful, gentle water surrounding the island; Sec. 9, T66S, R32E, Tallahassee Meridian; Monroe County, Florida; 24°42’46”N, 81°06’34”W; USGS map - Marathon 1:24,000; Not: Aloe Key, East Fanny Key, Fanny Key, Fanny Key Island

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=24.712712&p\\_longi=-81.109469](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=24.712712&p_longi=-81.109469)

Proposal: new name for unnamed feature

Map: USGS Marathon 1:24,000

Proponent: Patrick M. Stevens; Marathon, FL

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: None found

Published: Aloe Kay (*Key Names: A Gazetteer of the Islands of the Florida Keys*, 2002 [online version]); Fanny Key (*Chicago Tribune* 2003; *Florida Keys News* 2009; Private Islands Online website 2016; Facebook page for Islands International Realty website 2016; Trusted Vacation Rentals website 2016); Fanny Key Island (Monroe County GIS 2016)

Case Summary: The new name Bella Mare Key is proposed for a currently unnamed 1.6-acre island that lies just north of the western end of Marathon on Vaca Key. The island is the eastern of the two islands in the Fanny Keys, but it is not officially named.

The proponent initially submitted the name Marabella Key for this island, a descriptive name meaning “Beautiful Sea” because it is “surrounded by the Caribbean waters of the Florida Keys.” However, the Florida State Names Authority learned that Monroe County property records showed that the owners of the island had the last name Marabella and that they ran a California-based real estate business with the same name. Because the name could be construed to honor living individuals, the proponent was informed that the BGN could not accept the proposal.

According to the proponent, the newly proposed name Bella Mare Key means “Nice Sea” in Italian, which he believes is fitting because of the “beauty and gentleness” of the “water of the Florida Keys.” (The proposal did not originally include a generic term but the staff suggested, and the proponent agreed, that “Key” was appropriate.)

The island is a vacation property listed on many websites and also in newspaper articles under the name Fanny Key, and the address of the property is often listed on Fanny Key Road. Although Monroe County GIS data show the name Fanny Keys for both islands, their property records also list the property as being on Fanny Key Island.

Jim Clupper’s *Florida Key Gazetteer* indicates that the island is labeled as Aloe Kay on an 1846 chart of the Florida Keys, although it also states that the same chart uses the name Aloe Kay for the nearby Pretty Joe Rock.

According to GNIS, there are a few features in Florida that contain “Bella” and “Mare” in their names; none are nearby. The populated place Bella Mar is located over 200 miles to the north-northeast.

**Brooks Island:** island; 45 mi. long; barrier island located along the Atlantic Coast, extends S from the Canaveral Barge Canal to Sebastian Inlet; the name honors Harry J. Brooks (1903-1928), early aviation pioneer; Tps24-30S Rgs37-39E, Tallahassee Meridian; Brevard County, Florida; 28°07'51"N, 80°35'00"W; USGS map - Tropic 1:24,000 (central point).

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=28.1307333&p\\_longi=-80.5833435](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=28.1307333&p_longi=-80.5833435)

Proposal: new commemorative name for unnamed feature

Map: Tropic 1:24,000 (central point)

Proponent: Matt Kish; Satellite Beach, FL

Administrative area: Patrick Air Force Base / Archie Carr National Wildlife Refuge / Indian River Lagoon Preserve State Park / Sebastian Inlet State Park

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: None found

Published: None found

Case Summary: The new commemorative name Brooks Island is proposed for a 45-mile-long barrier island along the coast of Brevard County. Although the island is currently unnamed, the names Ais Island, Ponce de Leon Island, and Coacoochee Island were proposed and not approved by the BGN in 2012, citing a lack of local consensus.

The island includes all or parts of a number of Federal and State managed areas: Patrick Air Force Base, Archie Carr National Wildlife Refuge, Indian River Lagoon Preserve State Park, and Sebastian Inlet State Park. There are eight incorporated communities on the island.

Harry Brooks (1903-1928), born in Michigan, was an early aviation pioneer who worked as a test pilot for Ford Motor Company's airplane division. A close friend of Henry Ford, Brooks was able to test many early airplane models. Brooks was the first to fly an aircraft guided only by a radio-beacon system. During a long-distance race from Michigan to Miami in a Ford Flivver, Brooks was forced to land in Titusville due to a bent propeller after setting a record of 1,200 miles flown without refueling. A few days later, he took off to complete the race but his airplane's motor stopped and he crashed into the ocean east of the island that is now proposed to be named for him.

A search of GNIS shows 13 features in Florida with names that include the word "Brooks." None are in Brevard County.

**Lake Powell:** populated place (unincorporated); approx. 600 acres; located on the N shore of Powell Lake, 3.6 mi. NW of Laguna Beach; named in association with the adjacent Powell Lake; Secs. 29-32, T3S, R7W, Tallahassee Meridian; Bay County, Florida; 30°16'48"N, 85°58'24"W; USGS map - Seminole Hills 1:24,000.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=30.280114&p\\_longi=-85.973296](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=30.280114&p_longi=-85.973296)

Proposal: new name for unnamed feature

Map: USGS Seminole Hills 1:24,000

Proponent: Terri Pennebaker Powell; Panama City Beach, FL

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: None found

Published: None found

Case Summary: The new name Lake Powell is proposed for an unincorporated populated place located on the north shore of Powell Lake and northwest of Panama City Beach, in Bay County.

The proposal was forwarded to the BGN by Florida Congresswoman Gwen Graham's office on behalf of the proponent. It is part of an effort by the Wild Heron Property Owners' Association to have the U.S. Postal Service (USPS) recognize Lake Powell as a valid mailing address for the developing gated community, while remaining within the existing 32413 ZIP Code. The USPS will not establish a community name for mailing purposes until the name is approved by the BGN.

Development of the community began as early as 2003 with the construction of a golf course and home lots. The websites of the community's Property Owners' Association and the Wild Heron Community Development District both indicate extensive residential construction over the next few years. The proponent states that mail, emergency, and other services may be affected for this area if addresses are continued to be listed under Panama City Beach. She notes that the Sharks Tooth Golf Club, located in Wild Heron [sic], already uses Lake Powell as its mailing address. Meanwhile, the Lake Powell Residential Golf Community Development District is described as "a Special Taxing District created to provide capital infrastructure and services for the community of the Wild Heron development."

The community website uses the name Lake Powell for the lake south of the populated place, although the official name is Powell Lake. The latter name has been published on USGS topographic maps since 1944. Neighborhoods on the south side of Powell Lake are named Lake Powell Estates, Hide A Way at Lake Powell, and Turtle Cove at Lake Powell. Lake Powell Park is also on the southern shore of Powell Lake.

According to GNIS, the only populated place with a similar name is Powell, nearly 250 miles to the southeast. A different lake, also named Powell Lake, is located 40 miles north.

## IDAHO

**Roundup Peak**: summit, elevation 10,218 ft.; in Challis National Forest, 1.6 mi. NW of Copper Basin Knob; named for the fall roundup of cattle in the Copper Basin area; Custer County, Idaho; Sec. 18, T5N, R22E, Boise Meridian; 37°12'45"N, 119°07'21"W; USGS map – Big Black Dome 1:24,000.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=43.7652666&p\\_longi=-113.8783518](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=43.7652666&p_longi=-113.8783518)

Proposal: to make official a name in local use

Map: USGS Big Black Dome 1:24,000

Proponent: Dan Robbins; Boise, ID

Administrative area: Challis National Forest

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: no record

Local Usage: Roundup Peak (9 years)

Published: Roundup Peak (*Idaho Summits* 2016; *Idaho: A Climbing Guide* 2016; *Climbing Idaho* 2016; many other hiking and climbing websites)

Case Summary: This proposal is to make official the name Roundup Peak for a 10,218-foot summit located in the Copper Basin area of the Challis National Forest in Custer County. The name is derived from the corrals that are used for the annual roundup of cattle in the Copper Basin. The summit is visible from the roundup area and, according to the proponent, the name has been used locally for approximately nine years. The summit's name is mentioned in several online hiking and climbing guides.

According to GNIS, there are no other features in Idaho with names containing the word "Roundup."

## ILLINOIS

**Winstanley Hill**: summit; elevation 544 ft.; located in the City of Fairview Heights, 1.7 mi. ENE of Clarks Mound; named in association with the Winstanley Baptist Church, which sits on top of the summit; Saint Clair County, Illinois; Secs. 25&36, T2N, R9W, Third Principal Meridian; 38°35'12"N, 90°02'26"W; USGS map – French Village 1:24,000.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=38.5867432&p\\_longi=-90.0405053](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=38.5867432&p_longi=-90.0405053)

Proposal: new associative name for an unnamed feature

Map: USGS French Village 1:24,000

Proponent: Winstanley Baptist Church; Fairview Heights, IL

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: Winstanley Hill (45+ years)

Published: none found

Case Summary: The name Winstanley Hill is proposed to be made official for a 544-foot summit in the City of Fairview Heights. The proposed name is associated with that of a church that sits atop the summit. Winstanley Baptist Church was established in 1908 and originally located in East Saint Louis. It relocated to its present location in 1970. The church was named for Thomas Winstanley (1823-1885), a prosperous farmer who founded and was mayor of Winstanley Village. He was gored to death by a bull; he is buried in the cemetery located just to the west of the church's present-day location. The proponent is asking that the locally used name be made official to acknowledge the history of the church and to aid in emergency response.

## KENTUCKY

**Change Loder Creek to Crisler Creek** stream, 1.7 mi. long; heads 1.2 mi. NW of Francisville at 39°07'03"N, 84°44'08"W, flows N then NE through North Bend Bottom to enter the Ohio River; named for Dr. Richard Henry Crisler (1848-1934), who dramatically improved the stream's surroundings; Boone County, Kentucky; 39°08'12"N, 84°43'37"W; USGS map – Addyston 1:24,000 (mouth); Not: Loder Creek.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesrimap?p\\_lat=39.1367247&p\\_longi=-84.726892&fid=496967](http://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesrimap?p_lat=39.1367247&p_longi=-84.726892&fid=496967)

Proposal: name change to a new commemorative name

Map: USGS Addyston 1:24,000 (mouth)

Proponent: Richard Crisler, Jr.; Hebron, KY

Administrative area: None found

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: Loder Creek (FID 496967)

Local Usage: None found

Published: Loder Creek (USGS 1954, 1960, 1982, 1996, 2010, 2013)

Case Summary: This proposal is to change the name of Loder Creek, a 1.7-mile-long tributary of the Ohio River in Boone County, to Crisler Creek. The name Loder Creek has been labeled on USGS topographic maps since 1954; however, the proponent believes it should be changed to honor Dr. Richard Henry Crisler (1848-1934), who dramatically improved the stream's surroundings. When Dr. Crisler purchased the farm in 1910, he transformed the overgrown area surrounding the stream into a "stately landscape park," by "clearing trees and dense underbrush, driftwood, and other debris; leveling the ground along the stream; seeding the cleared land with

Kentucky blue grass; planting stands of oak, beech, and sycamore trees, and creating paths along the creek.” Over the years, his descendants have continued to maintain the park. The current generation of the Crisler family has placed the entire farm under a conservation easement, thereby prohibiting commercial and residential development in perpetuity.

The origin of the existing name has not yet been determined; however, an online search for “Loder” in Kentucky indicates that the historic Loder House is located approximately nine miles downriver from the mouth of Loder Creek, also in Boone County. The Kentucky Historic Resources Inventory indicates that the house was built in the first half of the nineteenth century, and that in 1857 L. A. Loder acquired a tavern license for “the White Hall.” One year later, and again in 1860, Julian Loder purchased additional property adjacent to the building. “L.A. Loder kept a diary of activities during the twenty years that he owned/lived on the property.” When asked why a long-standing name should be changed, the proponent noted that the Loders left the county over 100 years ago; there is no obvious reason why the name “Loder” was applied to a feature many miles from where they lived; the stream is predominantly on Crisler property; and there are no other residents in the area “who would have any interest in its name change.”

The change to Crisler Creek is supported by the Boone County Fiscal Court Judge and the Boone County Historical Society.

A query of GNIS found no other features in Kentucky with the word “Crisler” in their names, and only the Loder Creek in question with the word “Loder.” Loder Creek Road (unpaved) runs alongside the stream.

**Thomas Lilly Run**: stream; 0.7 mi. long; heads at 36°44’11”N, 85°52’25”W, flows SW into Bethel Branch 0.7 mi. NW of Flippin; the name honors Captain Thomas Lilly, Navy Captain during the American Revolutionary War; Monroe County, Kentucky; 36°43’48”N, 85°52’55”W; USGS map - Fountain Run 1:24,000 (mouth).

Mouth: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=36.7299985&p\\_longi=-85.8819376](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=36.7299985&p_longi=-85.8819376)

Source: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=36.7364301&p\\_longi=-85.8736979](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=36.7364301&p_longi=-85.8736979)

Proposal: new commemorative name for an unnamed feature

Map: USGS Fountain Run 1:24,000 (mouth)

Proponent: Charles R. Arterburn; Lexington, KY

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: None found

Published: None found

Case Summary: This 0.7-mile-long stream in Monroe County is proposed to be named Thomas Lilly Run in honor of Captain Thomas Lilly (ca.1740-ca.1798), who served as a Captain in the Navy of Virginia and with the French Fleet at Yorktown. He was captain of the brig *Liberty* from 1776 until the end of the war, and according to one source, “He placed vessels which he owned at the disposal of the Government.” The proponent reports that Captain Lilly was awarded for his service 5,000 acres of western land, which included land through which the unnamed stream flows (*Register of members of the Society of Sons of the Revolution in the state of Colorado*). He states that “Although Lilly undoubtedly never set foot on the land, he was the first European to own it. Naming this stream in his honor does historically connect the land to its Revolutionary War land grant heritage, and also recognizes his service therein.”

The proponent was advised of the BGN's Long Names Policy (and the proposal was originally placed on the Review List as Lilly Run), but he now believes the first name should be included to clarify the identity of the honoree and avoid "false speculations about the origin or significance of this particular name." He states in his application that the current landowners support the proposal.

GNIS lists two features in Kentucky with the word "Lilly" in their names: a church and a crossing, neither of which are in Monroe County.

## MICHIGAN

**Baillies Pond:** reservoir; 2.7 acres; in Flint Township, on the S side of Calkins Road; the name honors Thomas Baillie, Jr. (1917-1969), who lived on the property for 15 years and expanded the reservoir; Sec. 16, T7N, R6E, Michigan Meridian; Genesee County, Michigan; 43°00'59"N, 83°45'33"W; USGS map – Flushing 1:24,000; Not: Baillie's Pond.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=43.016448&p\\_longi=-83.759146](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=43.016448&p_longi=-83.759146)

Proposal: new commemorative name for an unnamed feature

Map: USGS Flushing 1:24,000

Proponent: Janice Baillie; Flint, MI

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: Baillie's Pond (~50 years, proponent and locals)

Published: None found

Case Summary: This proposal is to make official the name Baillies Pond for a 2.7-acre reservoir in Flint Township. The name would honor Thomas Baillie, Jr. (1917-1969), a native of Scotland who with his wife, moved to Canada after World War II, and then to Flint in 1955. The reservoir was constructed in the early 1960s and in later years was expanded by Mr. Baillie and then by his son who owns the property today.

The proposal was submitted by a Flint Township Supervisor, on behalf of Mr. Baillie's daughter-in-law. The township passed a resolution in support of the name, although most of the accomplishments seem to refer to the currently living family members. A second resolution passed by the Genesee County Board of Commissioners uses the same language. Both resolutions highlight that Steven Baillie has maintained the pond since he was 14, when his father died. The proponent claims local residents have referred to the pond as Baillie's Pond [sic] for fifty years.

A portion of the land adjacent to the pond is owned by Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Catholic Church. In addition to the township and county resolutions, the proposal included an email from the church's pastor, who states that the parish council has no objection to the name and praises Mr. Baillie's son for his ongoing efforts to maintain the reservoir. He suggests the name "will be a tribute to your husband and his family."

**Loch Plater:** lake; 14 acres; in Norvell Township 2.3 mi. SE of Norvell Lake, 2.4 mi. W of Watkins Lake; presumed to be named for a family that lived in the area in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century; Jackson County, Michigan; Sec. 15, T4S, R2E, Michigan Meridian; 42°07'22"N, 84°10'58"W; USGS map – Onsted 1:24,000.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=42.1227003&p\\_longi=-84.1827173](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=42.1227003&p_longi=-84.1827173)

Proposal: to make official a name in local usage

Map: USGS Onsted 1:24,000

Proponent: Thomas Lennox; Mentor, MI

Administrative area: None found

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: Plater (60+ years)

Published: None found

Case Summary: This proposal is to make official the name Loch Plater for a 14-acre lake in Norvell Township in Jackson County. According to the proponent, the lake has been known as “Plater” for more than 60 years. Although he did not provide any information on the origin of the name, nor did he indicate it might be commemorative, a search of the online white pages shows a number of individuals with the surname Plater in Michigan, although none in the immediate vicinity of the lake. In addition, an 1894 plat map of Norvell Township showed that Edward Plater owned land approximately one mile south of the lake; the lake was unnamed on the plat, and by 1911 it seems Edward Plater had left the area. The proponent recalls seeing the name “Plater” on “an old local map that is no longer available.” He is proposing that the generic “Loch” be added as the area in which the feature is located is referred to as “the Irish Hills” and “for the last 50 to 60 years the owners of the property on which the lake is located have been of Irish or Scottish descent.” He claims there is another lake in the area known as Loch Erin, although it is not listed in GNIS.

## MISSOURI

**Powder Creek**: stream, 2.3 mi. long; heads at 37°08’16”N, 94°21’06”W, flows NW then N to enter Center Creek 1.6 mi. SSE of Brooklyn Heights; the name is associated with the explosives facility near the stream; Jasper County, Missouri; Secs. 13,18&19, T28N, Rgs32-31W, Fifth Principal Meridian; 37°08’55”N, 94°22’38”W; USGS map – Webb City 1:24,000 (mouth). Mouth: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=37.1486571&p\\_longi=-94.3772893](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=37.1486571&p_longi=-94.3772893)

Source: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=37.137799&p\\_longi=-94.351712](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=37.137799&p_longi=-94.351712)

Proposal: new name for an unnamed feature

Map: USGS Webb City 1:24,000 (mouth)

Proponent: Jeff Parks; Carthage, MO

Administrative area: None found

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: None found

Published: None found

Case Summary: This 2.3-mile-long unnamed tributary of Center Creek in Jasper County is proposed to be named Powder Creek in recognition of the fact that the stream flows through the Dyno Nobel explosives facility. The proponent is an employee of Dyno Nobel. The Missouri Department of Natural Resources Air Pollution Control Program issued an operating permit in which the company’s “powder laboratory” is mentioned, although the location of the facility is not specified.

A query of GNIS found 14 features in Missouri with the word “Powder” in their names: a building, a dam, a forest, four locales, a reservoir, three springs, a stream, and two valleys. None are in Jasper County.

## MONTANA

**Change Goedertz Lake to Goeddertz Lake:** reservoir, 6.2 acres; located at the W edge of the community of Kevin, 9.7 mi. SSE of Sunburst; named for members of the Goeddertz family, who settled in the area in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, including Albert Goeddertz (1880-1965), who helped organize and plat nearby Sunburst; Toole County, Montana; Secs. 34&35, T35N, R3W, Principal Meridian; 48°44'52"N, 111°58'13"W; USGS map - Kevin South 1:24,000; Not: Goedertz Lake, Goedertz Reservoir.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesrimap?p\\_lat=48.7478175&p\\_longi=-111.9703647&fid=771823](http://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesrimap?p_lat=48.7478175&p_longi=-111.9703647&fid=771823)

Proposal: to change spelling to recognize family name

Map: USGS Kevin South 1:24,000

Proponent: BGN staff

Administrative area: None found

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: Goedertz Lake (FID 771823)

Local Usage: None found

Published: Goedertz Lake (USGS maps since 1943); Goeddertz Reservoir (USACE Dams and Reservoirs list 1981)

Case Summary: This proposal, initiated by the BGN staff as a result of an inquiry from the Montana Geographic Names Advisor, is to change the name of Goedertz Lake in Toole County to Goeddertz Lake. The 6.2-acre reservoir is located on the western edge of the community of Kevin, and has been labeled Goedertz Lake on USGS topographic maps since 1943. Although there is no information in the USGS field notes regarding the origin of the name, it appears the reservoir was named for Albert Goeddertz (1880-1965), who owned property in the area and who along with neighbors helped organize and plat Sunburst, a community 9.7 miles north-northwest of the reservoir.

A search of online genealogical records resulted in numerous references to the Goeddertz family in the Kevin area. Albert Goeddertz's obituary states that the family settled in Sunburst in 1890, relocating to Kevin in 1907. Albert was described as a "pioneer rancher and builder," and for many years, "the leading sheep rancher in the area." He built the Kevin Hotel, as well as a grain elevator, lumber yard, general store, and livery stable, and the family home "that is still a landmark in Kevin." He later branched into ranching and banking, and was instrumental in bringing oil drilling to the area. The first oil well was located on the Goeddertz ranch. He served as mayor of Kevin for many years. The Goeddertz family continues to own and operate the ranch.

Prior to receiving this inquiry, GNIS listed two entries for the feature: Goedertz Lake and Goeddertz Reservoir. The latter entry was obtained from the 1981 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Dams and Reservoirs inventory; it has since been deleted from GNIS as a duplicate entry and retained as a variant of Goedertz Lake. Goeddertz Dam, from the same USACE file, is also listed in GNIS (it is no longer recorded in the present-day National Inventory of Dams). An inventory of "Gas Wells Rich in Carbon Dioxide" compiled in 1982 by the USGS includes a listing for "Goeddertz-Agen No. 1," with a location approximately 3 miles to the north-northwest of the reservoir. Google Maps, Google Earth, and the online MapCarta mapping service all apply the name Goeddertz Reservoir to another, much larger body of water on the east side of Kevin, but all evidence suggests this is an error. Until recently, that body of water was a dry lake bed; it is simply labeled on USGS topographic maps as "Lake Bed."

The Montana Geographic Names Advisor reports that he attempted to solicit local opinion on the issue, but did not receive any feedback from the Kevin town hall, while “two people at the local post office indicated they were not aware of any names for the pond on the west side of town or the lake bed on the east side of town.”

## NEVADA

**Windous Butte:** summit; elevation 6,226 ft.; partially on BLM land, 6.1 mi. WNW of Preston, 3.5 mi. SE of Warm Spring; named in association with the Windous Butte Tuff geological formation; White Pine County, Nevada; Sec. 1, T12N, R60E & Sec. 6, T12N, R61E, Mount Diablo Meridian; 38°55'57"N, 115°10'09"W; USGS map – Badger Hole Spring 1:24,000.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=38.9324&p\\_longi=-115.1691](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=38.9324&p_longi=-115.1691)

Proposal: to make official a name in local and published usage

Map: USGS Badger Hole Spring 1:24,000

Proponent: Chris Henry; Reno, NV

Administrative area: Bureau of Land Management

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: Windous Butte (geologists)

Published: Windous Butte Formation (Vitaliano, Charles J., *Magnesium-Mineral Resources of the Current Creek District, Nevada*: USGS Bulletin 978-A, 1951; USGS Bulletin 2154, 1996; USGS Lexicon of Geologic Names of the U.S.; National Geologic Maps Database 2016; Nevada Bureau of Mines, Cook, E. F., *Stratigraphy of Tertiary Volcanic Rocks in Eastern Nevada*, 1965; *Western Cordillera* 2016; many websites and geologic publications)

Case Summary: This 6,226-foot summit is proposed to be named officially Windous Butte. The name was labeled on a map in a 1951 USGS bulletin, and the name Windous Butte Tuff is used to refer to a prominent geologic formation in the area. The formation is referenced in the USGS Lexicon of Geologic Names of the U.S.; in a 1996 USGS bulletin; and in various other geologic reports. A 1965 Nevada Bureau of Mines report described the formation as “about one mile south of Windous Butte.” Windous Mine, located 0.5 miles to the southeast of the summit, is a well-known source of magnesium.

Although the origin of the name has not been determined, a search of online genealogical records shows that a number of families named Windous (sometimes spelled Windows) were residing in the area as early as 1900. The online white pages also list individuals with the surname Windous in the Ely area today.

The Nevada Board on Geographic Names (NBGN) recommends approval of the proposal. The NBGN requested input from the White Pine County Commission, but no response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of opinion. However, meeting minutes from the June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2015 meeting of the county commission indicate that they planned to submit a letter of support.

Other than the aforementioned Windous Mine, no other features are listed in GNIS with names that include the word “Windous.”

## NEW HAMPSHIRE

**Great Falls:** falls; 30 ft. high; located along the Connecticut River at Bellows Falls; Cheshire County, New Hampshire and Windham County, Vermont; 43°08'08"N, 72°26'25"W; USGS map - Bellows Falls 1:25,000; Not: Bellows Falls, Kitchee Pontegu.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=43.1355045&p\\_longi=-72.4403482](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=43.1355045&p_longi=-72.4403482)

Proposal: to make official a name in published use

Map: USGS Bellows Falls 1:25,000

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: Great Falls (proponent)

Published: Bellows Falls (#5, 10, #31, #32, #36), Great Falls (#8, #10, #24); Kitchee Pontegu (#25)

Case Summary: This 30-foot high waterfall is proposed to be named officially Great Falls. It is the only one of the 24 names on the list that refer to a feature that extends into neighboring New Hampshire. The proponent reports that the name Great Falls was first recorded in 1724 (#10). He adds that prior to 1791, Bellows Falls became the usual name “by common consent of both the village and the falls” (#10); however, most local residents, in both Vermont and New Hampshire, know it today as Great Falls. The Abenaki name for the feature, Kitchee Pontegu, reportedly means “great falls” (#25). The falls are visible from the highway and railroad bridges at Bellows Falls on the New Hampshire side of the river but only at high water flow on the Vermont side, because most of the water is diverted into the Bellow Falls Canal for hydro-electric power.

## NEW YORK

**Change Squaw Island to Unity Island:** island; approx. 160 acres; located in the Niagara River W of the mouth of Scajaquada Creek; the name refers to the unity of Buffalo’s diverse community; Erie County, New York; 42°55'27"N, 78°54'12"W; USGS map - Buffalo NW 1:24000; Not: Bird Island (in part), De-dyo-na-wah'h, De-dyo'-we-no'-guh-do, Deyowenoguhdoh, Ga'nigo:i:yoh, Squaw Island

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesrimap?p\\_lat=42.9242242&p\\_longi=-78.9033702&fid=966170](http://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesrimap?p_lat=42.9242242&p_longi=-78.9033702&fid=966170)

Proposal: to change a name considered by some to be offensive

Map: USGS Buffalo NW 1:24000

Proponent: Joseph Golombek Jr.; Buffalo, NY

Administrative area: Unity Island Park; Broderick Park (City of Buffalo)

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: Squaw Island (FID 966170)

Local Usage: Squaw Island (local residents), Unity Island (City of Buffalo)

Published: Bird Island (in part) (USGS 1948, 1950); De-dyo'-we-no'-guh-do (Beauchamp, *Aboriginal place names of New York*, 1907); Deyowenoguhdoh (*The Buffalo News*, 2015; New York State Outdoor Education Association, 2015); Divided Island, (*The Buffalo News*, 2015); Ga'nigo:i:yoh (*The Buffalo News*, 2015); Squaw Island (USGS 1894, 1901, 1948, 1950, 1965, 2011, 2013, 2016; NOAA 1899-2016; *Map of Black Rock*, 1813; *Map of a part of the Niagara River*, 1829; *Map of the County of Erie*, 1829; *Sketch of the Niagara River*, 1838; *New topographical atlas of Erie Co., New York*, 1866; Lossing, *Pictorial Field-Book Of The War Of 1812*, 1869; *Atlas of the City of Buffalo*, 1872; *Illustrated historical atlas of Erie Co., New York*, 1880; *City of Buffalo Atlas*, 1894; Rand McNally, 1903, 1924; untitled Buffalo map, 1940); Unity Island (City of Buffalo press release, 2015; *The Buffalo News*, 2015; Google maps, 2016)

Case Summary: The name Unity Island is proposed to replace the name of Squaw Island, an island located in the City of Buffalo in the Niagara River. In 2014, members of the Tyendinaga Mohawk Tribe and the Seneca Indian Nation petitioned the City of Buffalo Common Council to change the name of the island as well as the name of Squaw Island Park, which is located at the northern end of the island.

The name Squaw Island has been labeled on USGS topographic maps since 1894 and appears on other maps as early as 1813. The name was reportedly in use during the War of 1812. Part of the island is erroneously named as Bird Island on 1948 and 1950 USGS maps; Bird Island was located one mile to the south until the 1820s when it was mined and used for building materials. Bird Island Reef is currently located at this location. Beauchamp's 1907 *Aboriginal place names of New York* gives the Seneca name of the island as De-dyo'-we-no'-guh-do, which is translated as "Divided Island" due to a marshy stream known as Smuggler's Run bisecting the island. (The marshy area has since been filled in. Smuggler's Run is not listed in GNIS.)

The City of Buffalo Common Council initially considered the name "Divided Island – Deyowenoguhdoh" after the proponent, a member of the Council, suggested restoring the original Seneca name. Had this resolution passed, the official name would have been written as "Divided Island (Deyowenoguhdoh)." The president of the Seneca Nation wrote to the Council in support of "Deyowenoguhdoh, or Divided Island." The chief of the Six Nations of Grand River tribe in Canada also supports renaming Squaw Island. The name Scajaquada Island was also suggested in a letter to the editor published in *The Buffalo News*.

The Mayor of Buffalo stated that he disliked the negative connotation of "Divided Island" and met with the Seneca Nation President to come up with a "more positive" name. In February 2015, the mayor reported that he and the Tribe had agreed on the name Unity Island, represented as Ga'nigo:i:yoh in Seneca (meaning "one mind" or "unity"). He stated that the name "honors the legacy of our Native American brothers and sisters who are forever tied to our city and our region. It continues the national dialogue to support cultural tolerance and respect for diversity and reflects the unity that we continue to build in Buffalo." The proponent acknowledges that the name change was not popular with all locals, but believes it was the right thing to do, saying "I think that what we need to do is we need to educate people on terminology and why certain things are offensive to a large number of people in the community." A Tribal Councilor with the Seneca Nation in Allegany County states that "The Seneca Nation strongly believes that the name Ga'nigo:i:yoh, Unity Island, is a fitting and long overdue change.... Buffalo is a community of respect, inclusion and unity."

The Buffalo Common Council voted unanimously to change the name. New signs on the island and in the park will read "Unity Island (Ga'nigo:i:yoh)." The park name has also been changed by the city.

GNIS lists no natural features in New York with the word "Unity" in their names. Most of the 21 cultural features that do include "Unity" are churches; two are between two and three miles southeast of the island.

## NORTH CAROLINA

**Lake Come Good Home:** reservoir, 3.7 acres; located 4.1 mi. SE of Mebane, 1 mi. NW of Buckhorn; Orange County, North Carolina; 36°02'39"N, 79°13'59"W; USGS map – Efland 1:24,000.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=36.044043&p\\_longi=-79.2329723](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=36.044043&p_longi=-79.2329723)

Proposal: to make official name in local use

Map: USGS Efland 1:24,000

Proponent: Robert Keller; Mebane, NC

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: Lake Come Good Home (proponent's family)

Published: None found

Case Summary: This 3.7-acre reservoir was constructed sometime after 1984, and according to the proponent has been called Lake Come Good Home by his family for many years. He says the expression was “the salutation of farewell, good-bye that was used by my Great Grand Father, my Grand Father and my Mother. We now use this salutation when our children and grandchildren leave.” Three boats that the family has owned over the years have all been named “Come Good Home.”

## OHIO

**Change Gary Ditch to Brunswick Creek:** stream; 2.7 mi. long; heads in Brunswick Hills Township at 41°15'40"N, 81°49'59"W, flows SE then E to enter Lake Brunswick in the City of Brunswick; named in association with the City of Brunswick and the stream feeds Lake Brunswick; Medina County, Ohio; 41°14'04"N, 81°49'01"W; USGS map - Medina 1:24,000 (mouth); not: Gary Ditch.

Mouth: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=41.2344771&p\\_longi=-81.8168071](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=41.2344771&p_longi=-81.8168071)

Source: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=41.2610368&p\\_longi=-81.833052](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=41.2610368&p_longi=-81.833052)

Proposal: name change to a new associative name

Map: USGS Medina 1:24,000

Proponent: Barbara Ortiz; Brunswick Hills, Ohio

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: Gary Ditch (FID 2784326)

Local Usage: Gary Ditch (Rocky River Watershed Council)

Published: Gary Ditch (EPA 2014; Rocky River Watershed Action Plan, 2016; *Medina-Gazette Online*, 2015)

Case Summary: This proposal is to change the name of Gary Ditch, a 2.7-mile-long tributary of Plum Creek, to Brunswick Creek. It is submitted as a counter-proposal to Goodyear Creek (Review List 424). The stream is located within Brunswick Hills Township and the City of Brunswick in Medina County.

Although the name Gary Ditch has never been labeled on USGS topographic maps, and was not recorded in GNIS until the Goodyear Creek proposal was received, it was found to be in local and published use and so has been entered into the database as the official name.

Brunswick Creek is proposed as the replacement name by the City of Brunswick because the majority of the stream flows through the city, where it enters Lake Brunswick and then empties into Plum Creek. When asked to comment on the original proposal for Goodyear Creek, the City Council responded that it would prefer an associative name rather than a commemorative one, noting also that members of the Goodyear family still live in the area.

The City of Brunswick celebrated its bicentennial in 2015. The City Council feels it would be “an honor and logical choice to rename this stream Brunswick Creek after the two hundred plus years heritage of Germanic settlers in the area, as well as to recognize the rich and fertile earth which was originally farmed.”

The governments of Brunswick Hills and Medina County, as well as State Representative Steve Hambley, have expressed support for Goodyear Creek. They have been asked to comment on the counter-proposal. The proponent of Goodyear Creek does not wish to withdraw his proposal, noting that there are many named streams flowing through Brunswick and so “should all streams that flow through Brunswick be named ‘Brunswick Creek’?” He adds that his organization, the Rocky River Watershed Council, “has plans to develop water quality improvements through various grants we have solicited and would like to have a name the residents can be proud of when these improvements have been applied.” Finally, he notes that the intended honorees of his proposal contributed to both the city and the township.

A query of GNIS found 20 features in Ohio with the word “Brunswick” in their names: seven buildings, a cemetery, two civils, a dam, four locals, a populated place, a post office, a reservoir, and two schools. All but two locales are in Medina County.

## PENNSYLVANIA

**Corundum Run**: stream; 0.5 mi. long; heads in the Township of Newlin at 39°54'50"N, 75°42'56"W, flows NE into an unnamed stream 0.8 mi. S of Glenhall; the name refers to the corundum that was mined in the area in the 1830s-1890s; Chester County, Pennsylvania; 39°55'08"N, 75°42'39"W; USGS map - Unionville 1:24,000.

Mouth: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=39.918941&p\\_longi=-75.710885](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=39.918941&p_longi=-75.710885)  
Source: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=39.9138078&p\\_longi=-75.7154975](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=39.9138078&p_longi=-75.7154975)

Proposal: to make official a new name in published use

Map: USGS Unionville 1:24,000

Proponent: Roger Latham; Rose Valley, PA

Administrative area: none

Previous BGN Action: none

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: None found

Published: Corundum Run (Unionville Serpentine Barrens Restoration and Management Plan, 2012)

Case Summary: This proposal is to make official the name Corundum Run for a 0.5-mile-long stream in Newlin Township in Chester County; the stream flows in a northeasterly direction into an unnamed stream. A tributary of the stream in question is proposed to be named Feldspar Run (q.v.). A portion of the stream flows through an area managed by the Unionville Barrens Natural Lands Trust. The proponent is an ecologist/conservation biologist, who in 2012 co-authored a Unionville Serpentine Barrens Restoration and Management Plan, an extensive study of the ecology of the area, in which the stream is referred to as Corundum Run. The proposed name refers to the

corundum that was mined in the area from the 1830s to the 1890s. Corundum consists of aluminum oxide crystals of nearly diamond-like hardness, which were crushed and used as an industrial abrasive. The proponent notes that in the mid-nineteenth century the area was one of the most productive corundum mining districts in North America. However, the cost of excavating the crystals led to the mines and mill being abandoned by 1895.

The stream is described in the aforementioned report as “[flowing] more or less in parallel with, and for nearly the entire length of, the ridge of Corundum Hill, which extends from Cannery Road northeastward to the pond along Serpentine Run” and in the proximity of “Patterson Mine.” GNIS does not list features named Corundum Hill, Serpentine Run, or Patterson Mine. In 1999, the BGN approved a proposal to apply the name Serpentine Run to another stream, ten miles to the northeast, and also in Chester Run.

A query of GNIS found no other features in Pennsylvania with the word “Corundum” in their names.

**Feldspar Run**: stream; 0.2 mi. long; in the Township of Newlin, heads at 39°54’42”N, 75°42’46”W, flows N enter an unnamed stream proposed to be named Corundum Run (q.v.); the name refers to the feldspar quarries that operated in the area in the mid-1800s; Chester County, Pennsylvania; 39°54’54”N, 75°42’49”W; USGS map - Unionville 1:24,000. Mouth: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=39.914926&p\\_longi=-75.713739](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=39.914926&p_longi=-75.713739) Source: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=39.9115364&p\\_longi=-75.7127949](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=39.9115364&p_longi=-75.7127949)

Proposal: new name for an unnamed feature

Map: USGS Unionville 1:24,000

Proponent: Roger Latham; Rose Valley, PA

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: None found

Published: None found

Case Summary: This proposal is to apply the new name Feldspar Run to a 0.2-mile-long stream in Newlin Township. The stream flows into another unnamed stream that is proposed to be named Corundum Run (q.v.). According to the proponent, the Johnson and Patterson quarries that operated in the mid-1800s provided feldspar to New York, where it was used in the manufacture of porcelain teeth. The feldspar came from an outcrop of serpentinite, a rare rock formation of metamorphosed oceanic crustal material.

A query of GNIS found no features in Pennsylvania with the word “Feldspar” in their names.

**Change West Branch Mahantango Creek (in part) to Mahantango Creek**: stream; 2 mi. long; heads 1.5 mi. SSE of Meiserville, on the boundary of Chapman Township, Perry Township, and Susquehanna Township, at 40°38’50”N, 76°57’56”W, flows E then S to enter the Susquehanna River 0.7 mi. SSE of the community of Mahantango; name reportedly means “where we had plenty of meat to eat”; Snyder County, Juniata County, and Northumberland County, Pennsylvania; 40°38’20”N, 76°56’21”W; USGS map – Dalmatia 1:24,000; Not: Matchetongo River (in part), Matchitongo River (in part), Mahatango Creek (in part), Mahatongo Creek (in part), Mahontango Creek (in part), West Branch Mahantango Creek (in part), West Mahantango Creek (in part), West Mahantonga Creek (in part), West Branch Mahontonga Creek (in part).

Mouth: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=40.6389736&p\\_longi=-76.9391436](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=40.6389736&p_longi=-76.9391436)

Source: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=40.6473069&p\\_longi=-76.9655339](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=40.6473069&p_longi=-76.9655339)

Proposal: to change a name and application to reflect local use

Map: USGS Dalmatia 1:24,000

Proponent: Jakob Coles; no address given

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

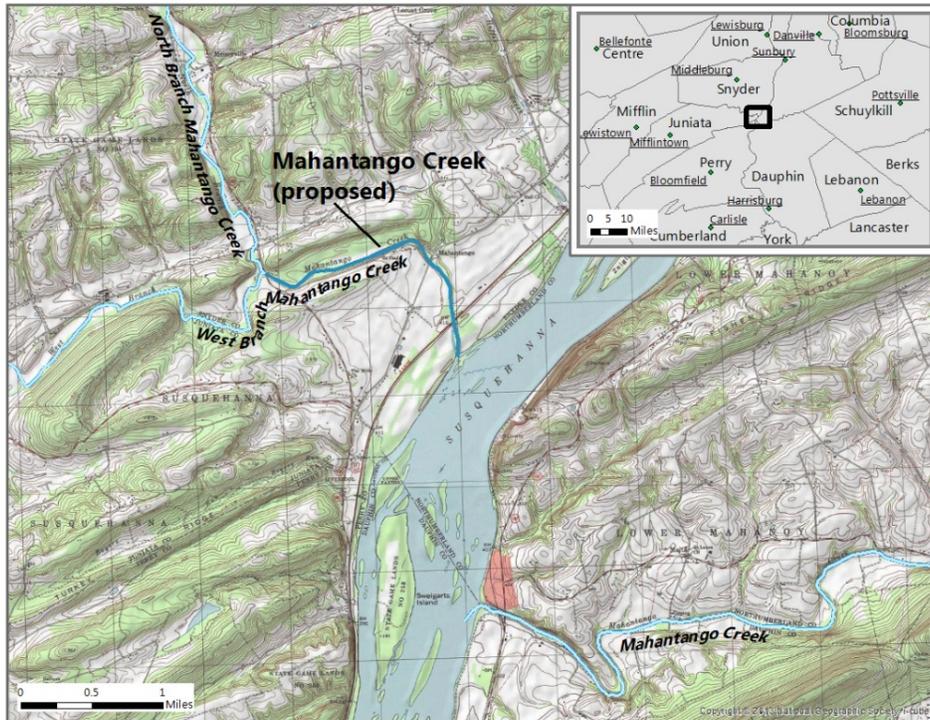
GNIS: West Branch Mahantango Creek (in part) (FID 1190915)

Local Usage: Mahantango Creek (proponent)

Published: Matchetongo River (in part) (letter from Governor Morris, 1756); Matchitongo River (in part) (letters from Governor Morris, 1756); Mahantango Creek (in part) (USGS 1893; USDA Soil Survey, 1985; Pennsylvania State Highway Department, 1912, 1914; Pennsylvania Department of Highways, Pennsylvania Gazetteer of Streams, 2001; Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2015, 2016; Juniata County Natural Heritage Inventory, 2007; National Bridge Inventory, 2015; Scull, 1770, *A Map of Pennsylvania*; Pomeroy & Beers, 1868, *Atlas of Union and Snyder Counties, Pennsylvania*; D'Invilliers, 1891, *Report on the Geology of the four counties, Union, Snyder, Mifflin and Juniata Pennsylvania*; Egle, 1894, *Notes and Queries*; Wagenseller, 1919, *Snyder County Annals*; Armstrong, 2000, *Trout Unlimited's Guide to Pennsylvania Limestone Streams*); Mahatango Creek (in part) (Scull, 1759, *Map of the Improved Part of the Province of Pennsylvania*); Mahantongo Creek (D'Invilliers, 1891); Mahontango Creek (in part) (Donehoo, 1928, *A History of the Indian Villages and Place Names in Pennsylvania*); West Branch Mahantango Creek (in part) (USGS 1907, 1917, 1922, 1938, 1969, 1977, 1999, 2010; AMS 1947, 1957, 1961, 1964; *Pennsylvania Gazetteer of Streams*, 2001; Pennsylvania Department of Transportation 2015; Juniata County Natural Heritage Inventory 2007; Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission 2016; Snyder County GIS data 2016); West Mahantango Creek (FEMA 2012), West Mahantango Creek (in part) (*Pennsylvania Gazetteer* 1832; Smith, Gallup & Hewitt, 1863, *Map of the Counties of Perry, Juniata, and Mifflin*; Stedman, Brown & Lyon, 1872, *New Topographical Atlas of the State of Pennsylvania*; D'Invilliers, 1891; Department of Environmental Protection, 2004); West Mahantonga Creek (in part) (Smith, Gallup, and Hewett, 1863, *Map of the Counties of Perry, Juniata, and Mifflin, Pennsylvania*); West Branch Mahontonga Creek (in part) (Wall, Mann and Hall, 1877, *Illustrated Atlas of Juniata County, Pennsylvania*)

Case Summary: This proposal would change the name of the lower section of West Branch Mahantango Creek to Mahantango Creek. The stream in question is a tributary of the Susquehanna River. It forms the boundary between Snyder County and Juniata County and flows past the unincorporated community of Mahantango. According to the proponent, Mahantango Creek is formed by the confluence of North Branch Mahantango Creek and West Branch Mahantango Creek, rather than the North Branch Mahantango Creek flowing into the West Branch Mahantango Creek.

He further claims that USGS topographic maps support the proposed change; however, because of the placement of the label for Mahantango Creek, GNIS compilation mistakenly recorded the entire stream as West Branch Mahantango Creek. The labels for “North Branch” and “West Branch” are separated enough from “Mahantango Creek” that it is unclear whether either directional should be applied to the lower section. The proponent also cites the 2001 *Pennsylvania Gazetteer of Streams*, which lists both Mahantango Creek and West Branch Mahantango Creek, although the mouth coordinates listed for the two streams differ by just one second.



Further complicating the issue is the existence of a second Mahantango Creek, which flows off the slopes of Mahantango Mountain into the Susquehanna River from the east, forming the boundary between Northumberland County and Dauphin County. Little Mahantango Creek flows into this stream. The mouth of this Mahantango Creek is less than two miles south of the stream in question and on opposite shores of the Susquehanna River.

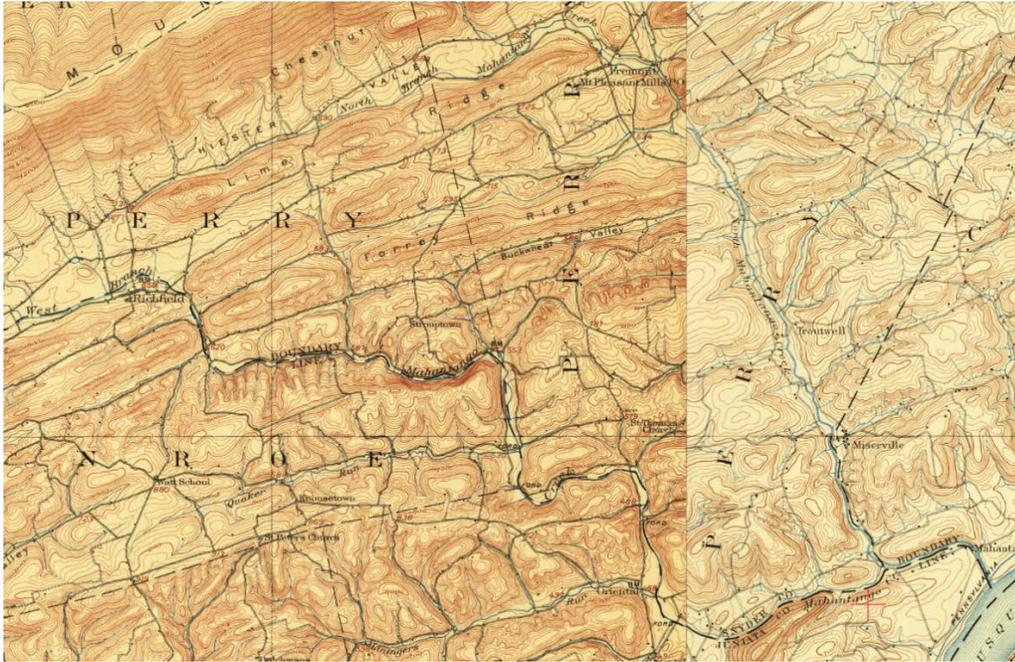
GNIS lists six natural features or populated places that contain “Mahantango” in their names. As noted above, North Branch Mahantango Creek and West Branch Mahantango Creek (as amended by this proposal) meet at the source of the proposed Mahantango Creek. The second Mahantango Creek flows into the Susquehanna River from the east 1.8 miles to the south. The populated place Mahantango is located 0.7 miles upstream from the mouth of the proposed Mahantango Creek. Mahantango Mountain is a long ridge that extends 30 miles northeastward from a point about 4 miles to the southwest. Little Mahantango Creek is located 17 miles to the east-northeast.

According to the 1832 *Pennsylvania Gazetteer*, the directional “West Branch” for the stream in question came into local use to reduce confusion. Some sources apply the name Mahantango Creek to both, while others use a different system to differentiate them. Mahantango Creek is also sometimes used for the current North Branch Mahantango Creek (for example, the North Oriental Covered Bridge, also known as Beaver Covered Bridge, is often described as crossing Mahantango Creek, despite being on North Branch Mahantango Creek).

Maps of the area from the late 1700s labeled the current West Branch Mahantango Creek as Mahantango Creek; letters from the same period refer to forts west of the Susquehanna River as being on Matchetongo River or Matchitongo River. County atlases from the 1800s use a wide variety of spellings and applications, including the current official ones, as well as West Mahantonga Creek, and West Branch Mahontonga Creek.

An 1891 Pennsylvania Geological Survey report mentions that Mahantango Creek flows into the Susquehanna River, but also mentions a west branch or fork as well as an east branch (the description of which matches North Branch Mahantango Creek).

The earliest USGS map of the area, published in 1893, labels the current West Branch Mahantango Creek as Mahantango Creek, with North Mahantango Creek flowing into it. This agrees with the proposed application.



All subsequent maps label both West Branch Mahantango Creek and North Branch Mahantango Creek.



The 2010 edition is the first to explicitly label the lower section as West Branch Mahantango Creek; the 2013 edition only labels North Branch Mahantango Creek. Field notes compiled by USGS in the 1950s and 1960s indicate that West Branch Mahantango Creek is the correct name for the stream to its mouth at the Susquehanna River, citing a highway sign on a bridge over the stream. Locals agreed that the name Mahantango Creek applied to the stream that enters the Susquehanna River from the east, and on occasion, the directional “East” was added to distinguish it from West Branch Mahantango Creek.

Pennsylvania highway maps labels the streams in a variety of ways. The current Snyder County map labels Mahantango Creek below the confluence of its northern and western branches, but the current Juanita County map only labels West Branch Mahantango Creek to the Susquehanna River. Older highway maps use only Mahantango Creek or a combination of Mahantango Creek, West Branch Mahantango Creek, and North Branch Mahantango Creek. The current State highway map uses Mahantango Creek for the entire West Branch Mahantango Creek.

The 2001 *Trout Unlimited's Guide to Pennsylvania Limestone Streams* lists Mahantango Creek as well as its North Branch and West Branch.

A 2004 Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection watershed document refers to the variety of Mahantango Creeks in several ways: (East) Mahantango Creek, (West) Mahantango Creek, East Mahantango Creek, West Mahantango Creek, West Branch (West) Mahantango Creek, and North Branch Mahantango Creek.

A 2012 Federal Emergency Management Agency map labels the stream referred to in this proposal as both West Mahantango Creek and West Branch Mahantango Creek. The stream east of the Susquehanna River is labeled Mahantango Creek.

The website of the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission states that West Branch Mahantango Creek is in Snyder County and Juniata County, whereas Mahantango Creek is in Northumberland County and Dauphin County.

The 2007 Juniata County Natural Heritage Inventory differentiates Mahantango Creek (Snyder County) from Mahantango Creek (Dauphin County). The 2009 Juniata County Comprehensive Plan refers to both West Branch Mahantango Creek and Mahantango Creek (West). The 2010 Snyder County Implementation Plan refers to the “Mahantango Creek Watershed” and to both West Branch Mahantango Creek and North Branch Mahantango Creek. The specific application of names is uncertain in the latter two sources.

The proponent has been editing the Wikipedia article for the proposed Mahantango Creek but it includes some information about the eastern Mahantango Creek.

**Stillwater Run:** stream, 1.9 mi. long; heads in the Township of Cumru, 1.9 mi. WSW of Freemanville, at 40°16'21"N, 75°58'20"W, flows through Nolde Forest Environmental Education Center into Angelica Creek; the name reflects “the social significance of the stills and beer garden in the area during the early history of the township”; Berks County, Pennsylvania; 40°17'14"N, 75°56'55"W; USGS map – Reading 1:24,000.

Mouth: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=40.28715&p\\_longi=-75.94863](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=40.28715&p_longi=-75.94863)

Source: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=40.27245&p\\_longi=-75.97228](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=40.27245&p_longi=-75.97228)

Proposal: new name for an unnamed feature

Map: USGS Reading 1:24,000

Proponent: Samson Gausch; Mohnton, PA  
 Administrative area: Nolde Forest Environmental Education Center  
 Previous BGN Action: None  
 Names associated with feature:  
   GNIS: no record  
   Local Usage: none found  
   Published: none found

Case Summary: This 1.9-mile-long unnamed tributary of Angelica Creek in Cumru Township is proposed to be named Stillwater Run. The stream flows in part through the Nolde Forest Environmental Education Center (also known informally as Nolde Forest State Park). According to the proponent, who serves as the township's park and recreation director, the name was the winning entry in a local contest initiated in an effort to decrease littering in the township. In August 2016, the Township of Cumru Board passed a resolution in support of the name Stillwater Run.

A query of GNIS found 11 features in Pennsylvania with the word "Stillwater" in their names: an area, a civil, three dams, three populated places, two reservoirs, and one stream (Stillwater Creek). None are in Berks County.

## TENNESSEE

Change Shoal Creek to Sycamore River – see Alabama

## UTAH

**Wheeler Sawmill Canyon**: valley; 1.1 mi. long; heads in Uinta National Forest, 4.5 mi. NW of Tucker at 39°58'12"N, 111°16'21"W, trends S onto private property to join Spanish Fork Canyon; the name honors Richard Wheeler (1928-2000), outdoorsman, lumberman, and sawmill owner; Utah County, Utah; Secs. 17&8, T10S, R6E, Salt Lake Meridian; 39°57'22"N, 111°16'03"W; USGS map – Mill Fork 1:24,000.

Mouth: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=39.95623&p\\_longi=-111.26763](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=39.95623&p_longi=-111.26763)

Source: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=39.9699141&p\\_longi=-111.272554](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=39.9699141&p_longi=-111.272554)

Proposal: new commemorative name for an unnamed feature  
 Map: USGS Mill Fork 1:24,000  
 Proponent: Kaye Nelson; Provo, UT  
 Administrative area: Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest  
 Previous BGN Action: None  
 Names associated with feature:  
   GNIS: No record  
   Local Usage: None found  
   Published: None found

Case Summary: This 1.1-mile-long valley is proposed to be named Wheeler Sawmill Canyon to honor Richard Wheeler (1928-2000), who purchased approximately 150 acres of land in Spanish Fork Canyon in the 1970s. He also acquired and transferred a working sawmill from Wyoming, which he set up and operated in the valley. He also constructed a cabin that is still standing today and is owned by the proponent's descendants. In addition, Mr. Wheeler used the wood to craft boxes, clocks, shelving, rocking horses, and hope chests. Mr. Wheeler was an avid outdoorsman and one of the first in Utah County to own a snowmobile. Following a snowmobile accident, he passed away at the age of 72. The family provides tours of the sawmill and cabin to visitors to the valley.

The proponent reports that there is a specimen of *Haliphus leechi*, a relative of the beetle, that is housed in the museum at Brigham Young University and which lists Wheeler Sawmill as the location where it was collected.

A query of GNIS found 15 features in Utah with the word “Wheeler” in their names: two locales, a mine, two populated places, four springs, and six streams. Wheeler Springs is in Utah County, 21 miles northwest of the source of the valley in question. There are also 44 features with the word “Sawmill” in their name or variant name, including a spring, a stream, and two valleys in Utah County. The closest of these is 8.6 miles to the southwest.

## VERMONT

**Mskaskek Brook**: stream; 5.4 mi. long; heads in Groton State Forest, 0.5 mi. SSW of Spruce Mountain at 44°13'41”N, 72°21'28”W, flows W then generally N then W to enter Great Brook 1.4 mi. SSE of Plainfield; the name is Abenaki for “red spruce” which grows on a nearby summit; Washington County, Vermont; 44°15'39”N, 72°24'40”W; USGS map - Plainfield, 1:24,000 (mouth).

Mouth: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=44.2608209&p\\_longi=-72.4109935](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=44.2608209&p_longi=-72.4109935)

Source: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=44.22805&p\\_longi=-72.3579](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=44.22805&p_longi=-72.3579)

Proposal: new name for an unnamed feature

Map: USGS Plainfield, 1:24,000 (mouth)

Proponent: Town of Plainfield Board of Selectmen; Plainfield, VT

Administrative area: Groton State Forest

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: None found

Published: None found

Case Summary: The new name Mskaskek Brook is proposed for a 5.4-mile-long stream which flows from the slopes of Spruce Mountain into Great Brook in the Town of Plainfield. In 2014, a proposal was submitted to the BGN to name the stream Garth Brook and one of its tributaries South Branch Garth Brook after a local farmer’s horse. Citing opposition from the Town of Plainfield Board of Selectmen and the Vermont State Names Authority, these proposals (and a third for North Branch Garth Brook) were not approved by the DNC at its April 2015 meeting.

The Plainfield Board of Selectmen reviewed potential native names and passed a motion in favor of Mskaskek Brook after the Abenaki word that means “red spruce,” the predominant tree species growing on nearby Spruce Mountain. The name would be applied collectively to the main stream and the aforementioned south branch (leaving the north branch unnamed). After receiving a petition signed by local residents and posting public notices about the proposal, the State Names Authority voted in October 2015 to recommend approval of the name. According to the State Librarian, the Town of Plainfield held an official naming ceremony on November 7, 2015. Abenaki elders were in attendance.

According to GNIS, there are no features in the Nation that contain “Mskaskek” in their names.

## **24 stream and waterfall names in the Town of Rockingham, Vermont**

The following 24 proposals were submitted by a representative of the Rockingham Conservation Commission (RCC) in the Town of Rockingham in Windham County. The list includes newly proposed names, names reported to be already in local use, and changes to existing names to recognize local usage.

In describing the naming project, the proponent stated that the Rockingham Town Selectboard gave the RCC approval in April 2014 to start the effort by conducting public outreach. During a number of local events, the RCC displayed a poster-sized map showing the unnamed streams and asking the public if they were aware of names for them. A GIS specialist at Windham Regional Commission assisted in the production of the map. The RCC also consulted all available historical maps, but very few label streams. They also consulted local experts, including zoning officers and historians and publicizes the effort in local newspapers. They sent over 250 letters to landowners along or near the 16 streams and waterfalls that had less well-established names; four suggested names form local history and another provided an Abenaki name. Finally, a presentation was made at the Rockingham Library, and the map was also on display at the Bellows Falls Town Hall. The proposed names were presented during a Selectboard meeting in June 2015. In conclusion, “People care more about natural features that have names; they are more likely to notice them and work to protect or restore them.”

Five of the proposals refer to waterfalls. The proponent reports that these falls “were crucial to local history because they provided water power for the mills built near them. The mills, in turn, had settlements grow up around them with houses for the workers in those mills and related industries.”

All names and changes have the approval of the governments of the Town of Rockingham, the Town of Springfield, the Town of Westminster, the Bellows Falls Village Corporation, and the Village of Saxtons River. The Vermont Board of Libraries, which serves as the State Names Authority, also recommends approval of the 24 names.

One proposal refers to a feature that straddles the Vermont-New Hampshire State boundary, along the Connecticut River, so the support of the Conservation Commission of Walpole (New Hampshire) was also obtained.

The following references used by the proponent are listed by their number in the Published Usage section of the case briefs:

1. Allman, Ellen Noyes, and her brother David Noyes. 2014. Source of the suggested Noyes Brook name; their family farm was in the watershed.
2. Bellows Falls Village Water Dept. 2015. Consumer Confidence Report, 2015. Online at [http://www.rockbf.org/vertical/Sites/%7B94A2BC1E-FB9F-4F96-B738-9CE50D820ADB%7D/uploads/consumer\\_confidence\\_report\\_2015.pdf](http://www.rockbf.org/vertical/Sites/%7B94A2BC1E-FB9F-4F96-B738-9CE50D820ADB%7D/uploads/consumer_confidence_report_2015.pdf)
3. Buchner, Harold. 2015; owns Warner Center and suggested Warner Brook name.
4. Caduto, Marie. 2014. VT DEC Basin 11 Coordinator, Springfield, VT. Source of Signal Hill Brook, name used in water quality monitoring for the U.S. EPA. See pg. 50 in this 2001 document: [http://www.watershedmanagement.vt.gov/mapp/docs/mp\\_basin11assessmentrpt.pdf](http://www.watershedmanagement.vt.gov/mapp/docs/mp_basin11assessmentrpt.pdf)
5. Collins, A. 2007. *Bellows Falls, Saxtons River and Westminster: A History of Vermont's Most Beloved River Communities*, History Press, Charleston, SC. A source of the names Middle Falls (= Saxtons River Falls) and Twin Falls.

6. Collins, A.L, V. Lisai, and L. Luring. 2002. *Around Bellows Falls: Rockingham, Westminster, and Saxtons River*, Arcadia Publishing, Charleston, SC. Source of the names Twin Falls and Beaver Dam Brook (the brook was named after the nearby Beaver Dam Hill and Beaver Dam Schoolhouse). Also includes a postcard labeled “Old bridge at Gages Mill.”
7. Deen, David, Connecticut River Watershed Council river steward; longtime resident of Westminster. Source of name Barnes Brook.
8. Duffy, J.J., S.B. Hand, and R.H. Orth. 2003. *The Vermont Encyclopedia*; University of Vermont Press, Burlington, VT. The Rockingham entry (p. 251) mentions Great Falls.
9. Grandy, Ruth. 2014. Westminster resident and 37-year employee of the Town of Westminster; also active in the Historical Society (“after retirement in 2008 she spent the next 5 years hand copying the Land Records of the Town, and building a computer data base from those records. She has nearly 200 years of information in the data base”).
10. Hayes, L. S. 1907. *History of the Town of Rockingham, Vermont: Including the Villages of Bellows Falls, Saxtons River, Rockingham, Cambridgeport and Bartonsville, 1753-1907, with Family Genealogies*; Bellows Falls, VT.
11. Howard, Ellen, former Rockingham Zoning Administrator. Source of the name Hyde Hill Brook; confirmed by Ray Perry, Bellows Falls Water Dept. Howard was also the source of the 1967 hand-drawn map by Bartonsville resident Charles Morris, showing Skunk Hollow Brook and Petty Brook.
12. Kenyon, Leon, longtime resident who lives next to Hitchcock Brook, recalls catching brook trout in the stream 65 years ago and that it was named for the family that owned most of the adjacent property.
13. Kurn Hattin, 2015; describes what is now the Warner Center in Saxtons River.  
<https://kurnhattin.org/about/history>
14. Lillie, David, 2015; descendant of the Lillie family for which Lily Brook (proposed Lillie Brook) was named; currently owns a farm in the watershed, where his son and his family live; maintains Lillie Brook Farm page on Facebook.
15. Lovell, F.S. & Lovell, L.C., 1958, *History of the Town of Rockingham, Vermont: Including the Villages of Bellows Falls, Saxtons River, Rockingham, Cambridgeport and Bartonsville, 1907 - 1957 with Family Genealogies*; Bellows Falls, VT: Town of Rockingham.
16. Major, Randy, 2014; longtime Westminster resident. Source of Barnes Brook name.
17. Mullen, Jim, 2015; lives near Parker Hill Rd; suggested Locke Brook for the stream on his property, for early settler Ebenezer Locke.
18. Nugent, Jeff, GIS specialist, Windham Regional Commission, Brattleboro, VT.  
[jnugent@windhamregional.org](mailto:jnugent@windhamregional.org).
19. Parker Hill Rural Historic District designation, 1993; <http://www.crjc.org/heritage/V06-49.htm> ; Locke-O’Brien Farm is #27.
20. Rockingham town plan map by WRC, 2010. Source of Pleasant Valley Brook name. Online at [http://www.rockbf.org/vertical/Sites/%7B94A2BC1E-FB9F-4F96-B738-9CE50D820ADB%7D/uploads/TP - Natural Topographic Conditions.pdf](http://www.rockbf.org/vertical/Sites/%7B94A2BC1E-FB9F-4F96-B738-9CE50D820ADB%7D/uploads/TP_-_Natural_Topographic_Conditions.pdf)
21. Rockingham town plan, 2010, Utilities chapter; source of Hyde Hill Brook name. Online at [http://www.rockbf.org/vertical/Sites/%7B94A2BC1E-FB9F-4F96-B738-9CE50D820ADB%7D/uploads/Chapter 11 - Utilities Facilities.pdf](http://www.rockbf.org/vertical/Sites/%7B94A2BC1E-FB9F-4F96-B738-9CE50D820ADB%7D/uploads/Chapter_11_-_Utilities_Facilities.pdf)
22. Rockingham road map by WRC, 2005,  
[http://windhamregional.org/images/maps/roadname/Rockingham\\_roadmap\\_town\\_2005.pdf](http://windhamregional.org/images/maps/roadname/Rockingham_roadmap_town_2005.pdf) (main)  
and [http://windhamregional.org/images/maps/roadname/Rockingham\\_roadmap\\_insets\\_2005.pdf](http://windhamregional.org/images/maps/roadname/Rockingham_roadmap_insets_2005.pdf) (insets).
23. Ross, Bob, 2015; resident of Gageville, has a postcard of the falls there labeled “Gages Falls.”
24. Sorensen, Lyle, 2015; “The view from Table Rock” video; details at <http://www.tablerockview.com/>
25. Swift, Esther M., 1977; *Vermont place-names: footprints of history*; Brattleboro, VT: Stephen Greene Press.
26. Vermont Academy (VA) campus map, 2015; shows Bowles Pond and The VA Brook;  
<http://www.vermontacademy.org/ourcampusmap>

27. Vermont Agency of Natural Resources, 2015, *Tactical Basin Plan for the West, Williams, and Saxtons Rivers and adjacent Connecticut River Tributaries* (Basin 11/13); online at [http://www.watershedmanagement.vt.gov/planning/docs/pl\\_basin11-13\\_draft.pdf](http://www.watershedmanagement.vt.gov/planning/docs/pl_basin11-13_draft.pdf)
28. Vermont water quality standards, 2014. Bolles Brook and Bolles Pond Brook on pg. 51: [http://www.watershedmanagement.vt.gov/rulemaking/docs/wrprules/wsmd\\_wqs2014.pdf#zoom=100](http://www.watershedmanagement.vt.gov/rulemaking/docs/wrprules/wsmd_wqs2014.pdf#zoom=100)
29. Williams, Stephen, 1837, *A Biographical Memoir of the Rev. John Williams, First Minister of Deerfield, MA*; C.J.J. Ingersoll, Greenfield, MA. Retrieved 6-12-14 from <https://archive.org/stream/abiographicalme00willgoog#page/n46/mode/2up> (link N/A)
30. West, Todd; resident of 446 Missing Link Rd., attended the public meeting on June 2, 2015, and suggested the name Upper Meadow Brook.

Waterfall guides used for waterfall names include the following references. Note that the names listed in them may differ from the proposed names, which are reportedly in predominant local use.

31. Dunn, R. 2015, *VERMONT WATERFALLS: A Guide*; Countryman Press. Source of Brockways Mills Falls (variant for Sokoki Falls), Bellows Falls (variant for Great Falls), Saxtons River Falls and Twin Falls.
32. Goss, D., 2015, Northeast Waterfalls database. For Vermont falls see: <http://www.northeastwaterfalls.com/database.php?browse=st&sort=VT>
33. Jenkins, J. and Zika, P., 1985, *Waterfalls, cascades & gorges of Vermont*. Prepared for Vermont Agency of Natural Resources, Dept. of Environmental Conservation and Dept. of Forests, Parks and Recreation. A source of name Twin Falls.
34. Parsons, Greg, and Watson, Kate, 2010, *New England waterfalls: A Guide to More Than 400 Cascades and Waterfalls* (Second Edition); Countryman Press, Woodstock, VT.
35. Pingree, R., 2014, *Rodrick's Guide to Vermont Waterfalls, Cascades and Gorges*; self-published with Lulu.com. Source of Saxtons River Falls, Covered Bridge Falls (variant for Gages Falls) and Twin Falls.
36. Swan, B., and Goss, D., 2015, *World Waterfalls Database*. For North American falls see: <http://www.worldwaterfalldatabase.com/continent/North-America/>

**The following three proposals are to change existing names:**

**Change Albees Cove to Allbees Cove:** bay; located in the Connecticut River, 1.4 mi. NNW of Bellows Falls, 1.8 mi. S of Herricks Cove; named for Ebenezer Allbee (b. 1743), one of the first settlers in the area; Windham County, Vermont; 43°09'09"N, 72°27'20"W; USGS map - Bellows Falls 1:25,000; Not: Albees Cove.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesrimap?p\\_lat=43.1524631&p\\_longi=-72.455658&fid=2784589](http://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesrimap?p_lat=43.1524631&p_longi=-72.455658&fid=2784589)

Proposal: change name to reflect correct spelling of family name

Map: USGS Bellows Falls 1:24,000

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: Albees Cove (FID 2784589)

Local Usage: Allbees Cove

Published: Albees Cove (USGS 1985; *Town of Rockingham Zoning Map 2009*;

*McClellan's Map of Windham County, Vermont 1856*); Allbees Cove (#10; #15)

Case Summary: This proposal is to change the name of Albees Cove to Allbees Cove to recognize the spelling of the name of Ebenezer Allbee (b. 1743), one of the first settlers in the area. The name Albees Cove has been labeled on USGS topographic maps since 1985. The cove was used to store logs that had floated down the river, before they were taken to paper mills in Bellows Falls.

Remnants of the timber and stone piers that helped hold those logs in place are still present.

**Change Lily Brook to Lillie Brook:** stream; 2.6 mi. long; heads in the Town of Springfield 0.2 mi. W of Cobble Hill at 43°14'17"N, 72°29'44"W, flows S into the Williams River; named for Erwin (Erving) Lillie, who owned property nearby in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century; Windham County, Vermont; 43°12'22"N, 72°30'18"W; USGS map – Saxtons River 1:25,000 (mouth); Not: Lily Brook.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesrimap?p\\_lat=43.2061874&p\\_longi=-72.5050892&fid=1458210](http://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesrimap?p_lat=43.2061874&p_longi=-72.5050892&fid=1458210)

Proposal: change name to reflect correct family spelling

Map: USGS Saxtons River 1:25,000

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: Lily Brook (FID 1458210)

Local Usage: Lillie Brook (#14)

Published: Lily Brook (USGS 1984), Lillie Brook (#10)

Case Summary: This proposal is to change the name of Lily Brook, a 2.6-mile-long tributary of the Williams River, to Lillie Brook. The stream has been labeled Lily Brook on USGS topographic maps since 1984. The proponent reports that the stream was named for Erwin (Erving) A. Lillie, who owned a farm in the Town of Springfield in 1907.

**Change Stream Brook to Stearns Brook:** stream; 1.8 mi. long; heads in the Town of Rockingham, 1.4 mi. NE of Bull Hill at 43°11'15"N, 72°32'48"W, flows N along Stearns Road through the John J Durano State Forest, then NE to enter the Williams River; named for the Stearns family, who lived in the area in the 1790s; Windham County, Vermont; 43°12'24"N, 72°32'10"W; USGS map - Saxtons River 1:25,000; Not: Stream Brook.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesrimap?p\\_lat=43.2066628&p\\_longi=-72.5361134&fid=2784588](http://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesrimap?p_lat=43.2066628&p_longi=-72.5361134&fid=2784588)

Proposal: change name to reflect family name

Map: USGS Saxtons River 1:25,000

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: Stream Brook (FID 2784588)

Local Usage: Stearns Brook

Published: Stream Brook (USGS 1984); Stearns Brook (#11)

Case Summary: This proposal is to change the name of Stream Brook, a 1.8-mile-long tributary of the Williams River, to Stearns Brook. Although the stream has been labeled Stream Brook on USGS topographic maps since 1984, the proponent reports that it was named for the Stearns family, who settled in the area in the late eighteenth century. McClellan's 1856 *Map of Windham County, VT* shows an E. Stearns living along the stream. Stearns is still a common surname in the area.

**The following three proposals are to make official commemorative names that have been found on sources other than USGS maps:**

**Ellis Brook:** stream; 0.5 mi. long; heads in the Bellows Falls Village Forest at 43°09'53"N, 72°29'29"W, flows ESE to enter Webb Brook 0.3 mi. SW of Colley Hill; named for John Ellis, who lived in the Rockingham area in the late 18<sup>th</sup> Century; Windham County, Vermont; 43°09'36"N, 72°28'28"W; USGS map – Bellows Falls 1:25,000.

Mouth: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=43.1599&p\\_longi=-72.4745](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=43.1599&p_longi=-72.4745)

Source: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=43.16459&p\\_longi=-72.4913](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=43.16459&p_longi=-72.4913)

Proposal: to make official a commemorative name found in a published source

Map: USGS Bellows Falls 1:25,000

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: None found

Published: Ellis Brook (#2)

Case Summary: The name Ellis Brook is proposed to be made official for a 0.5-mile-long tributary of Webb Brook. According to the proponent, the stream was named for John Ellis, who lived in the Rockingham area in the late eighteenth century. The stream is connected via pipe to Minards Pond to supplement the Bellows Falls water supply.

**Farr Brook:** stream; 0.8 mi. long; heads in the Bellows Falls Village Forest at 43°09'23"N, 72°28'49"W, flows SE then NE to enter Webb Brook 0.4 mi. S of Colley Hill; named for Norman Farr, a Bellows Falls businessman from 1836 to 1892; Windham County, Vermont; 43°09'27"N, 72°28'18"W; USGS map – Bellows Falls 1:25,000.

Mouth: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=43.1576&p\\_longi=-72.4717](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=43.1576&p_longi=-72.4717)

Source: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=43.1562813&p\\_longi=-72.480305](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=43.1562813&p_longi=-72.480305)

Proposal: to make official a commemorative name found in a published source

Map: USGS Bellows Falls 1:25,000

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: None found

Published: Farr Brook (#2)

Case Summary: The name Farr Brook is proposed to be made official for a 0.8-mile-long tributary of Web Brook. According to the proponent, the stream is named for Norman Farr, who moved to Bellows Falls in 1836, where he was a businessman until his retirement in 1892. The stream is connected via pipe to Minards Pond to supplement the Bellows Falls water supply.

**Petty Brook:** stream; 1.8 mi. long; heads in the Town of Rockingham at 43°14'07"N, 72°31'22"W, flows NW then SW near Petty Road to enter the Williams River 0.9 mi. NW of Brockways Mills; named for two Petty families who lived in the area in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century; Windham County, Vermont; 43°12'55"N, 72°32'01"W; USGS map - Saxtons River 1:25,000.

Mouth: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=43.2153289&p\\_longi=-72.5337165](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=43.2153289&p_longi=-72.5337165)

Source: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=43.2352433&p\\_longi=-72.5227889](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=43.2352433&p_longi=-72.5227889)

Proposal: to make official a commemorative name found in a published source

Map: USGS Saxtons River 1:25,000

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: None found

Published: Petty Brook (#15)

Case Summary: The name Petty Brook is proposed to be made official for a 1.8-mile-long tributary of the Williams River. The stream flows along what was once the main channel of Williams River, prior to a big flood in 1869. The name refers to two families who lived in the area in the late eighteenth century. Petty Road is nearby.

**The following five proposals are to make official locally used commemorative names not found on any published sources:**

**Barnes Brook:** stream; 4.4 mi. long; heads in the Town of Westminster at 43°04'44"N, 72°32'50"W, flows NE through the Town of Rockingham to enter Saxtons River in Village of Saxtons River; named for Laurentius F. Barnes, who lived in the area in the 1890s; Windham County, Vermont; 43°08'01"N, 72°30'59"W; USGS map - Saxtons River 1:25,000 (mouth); Not: Laughing Brook.

Mouth: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=43.1335&p\\_longi=-72.5164](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=43.1335&p_longi=-72.5164)

Source: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=43.07892&p\\_longi=-72.54721](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=43.07892&p_longi=-72.54721)

Proposal: to make official a commemorative name in local use

Map: USGS Saxtons River 1:25,000

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: Barnes Brook (#7, #16)

Published: None found

Case Summary: This 4.4-mile-long tributary of Saxtons River is proposed to be named officially Barnes Brook. The name, which was suggested by a river steward for the Connecticut River Watershed Council and longtime resident of Westminster, would honor Laurentius F. Barnes, who purchased property in 1881 and was the first member of the Barnes family to settle in the area.

**Hitchcock Brook**: stream; 1.1 mi. long; heads in the Town of Rockingham at 43°07'47"N, 72°32'53"W, flows E then NE to enter Saxtons River; named for Amos Hitchcock who arrived in the area before 1817; Windham County, Vermont; 43°08'17"N, 72°31'54"W; USGS map - Saxtons River 1:25,000.

Mouth: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=43.138&p\\_longi=-72.5318](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=43.138&p_longi=-72.5318)

Source: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=43.1297154&p\\_longi=-72.5480752](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=43.1297154&p_longi=-72.5480752)

Proposal: to make official a commemorative name in local use

Map: USGS Saxtons River 1:25,000

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: Hitchcock Brook (local resident)

Published: None found

Case Summary: The name Hitchcock Brook is proposed to be made official for a 1.1-mile-long tributary of Saxtons River. The name would honor Amos Hitchcock, who arrived in the area before 1817. The name was submitted by an individual who has lived near the stream for many years and who recalls that the descendants of Hitchcock were still living on the adjacent property in the mid-twentieth century (#12). The stream flows alongside Hitchcock Road.

**Locke Brook**: stream; 2 mi. long; heads in the Town of Rockingham at 43°12'52"N, 72°29'25"W, flows S to join the Williams River 1.7 mi. WNW of Herricks Cove; named for Ebenezer Locke, who built a house next to the stream ca.1785; Windham County, Vermont; 43°11'26"N, 72°28'50"W; USGS map - Bellows Falls 1:25,000.

Mouth: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=43.1906&p\\_longi=-72.4806](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=43.1906&p_longi=-72.4806)

Source: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=43.2145375&p\\_longi=-72.4901486](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=43.2145375&p_longi=-72.4901486)

Proposal: to make official a commemorative name in local use

Map: USGS Bellow Falls 1:25,000

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: Locke Brook (#17)

Published: None found

Case Summary: This 2-mile-long stream is proposed to be named officially Locke Brook to honor Ebenezer Locke who arrived in the area around 1785. The first house he built was next to the stream, while his second home that is still standing is part of the Parker Hill Historic District. Locke was active in town affairs and has many descendants in the town.

**Noyes Brook**: stream; 1.3 mi. long; heads in the Town of Rockingham at 43°07'33"N, 72°29'41"W, flows ENE to join Saxtons River 1.5 mi. NW of North Westminster; named for the

Noyes family who owned a farm within the stream's watershed; Windham County, Vermont; 43°07'59"N, 72°28'54"W; USGS map - Bellows Falls 1:25,000 .

Mouth: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=43.1331201&p\\_longi=-72.4816939](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=43.1331201&p_longi=-72.4816939)

Source: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=43.1258996&p\\_longi=-72.4946709](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=43.1258996&p_longi=-72.4946709)

Proposal: to make official a commemorative name in local use

Map: USGS Bellows Falls 1:25,000

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: Noyes family (#1)

Published: None found

Case Summary: This 1.3-mile-long tributary of Saxtons River is proposed to be named officially Noyes Brook to honor the Noyes family, who owned a farm within the stream's watershed.

Although no specific members of the family were identified, a search of online genealogical records shows that many individuals with the surname Noyes lived in Rockingham as early as the late nineteenth century. Noyes Street is located nearby. Two members of the family, who still own the farm, support the proposal.

**Warner Brook**: stream; 0.4 mi. long; heads in the Town of Rockingham at 43°07'54"N, 72°30'17"W, flows NW and N into Saxtons River; named for Sarah J. (ca.1822-1895) and Samuel W. Warner (ca.1819-?), who were instrumental in the establishment of the Warner Center; Windham County, Vermont; 43°08'12"N, 72°30'26"W; USGS map - Saxtons River 1:25,000.

Mouth: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=43.1367&p\\_longi=-72.5073](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=43.1367&p_longi=-72.5073)

Source: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=43.13167&p\\_longi=-72.50474](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=43.13167&p_longi=-72.50474)

Proposal: to make official a commemorative name in local use

Map: USGS Saxtons River 1:25,000

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: None found

Published: None found

Case Summary: This 0.4-mile-long tributary of Saxtons River is proposed to be named officially Warner Brook in honor of Sarah J. (d. 1895) and Samuel J. Warner. Upon Sarah's death, the property was bequeathed to the Warner Center, which in 1908 became the Kurn Hattin Homes for Children (#13). The present-day owner of the Warner Center suggested this name (#3).

**The following nine proposals are to make official associative and descriptive names found on sources other than USGS topographic maps:**

**Beaver Dam Brook**: stream; 1.5 mi. long; heads in the Town of Westminster at 43°06'47"N, 72°30'55"W, flows N along Hartley Hill Road to enter Saxtons River 0.85 mi. ESE of the mouth of Leach Brook; named for the nearby Beaver Dam Schoolhouse and Beaver Dam Hill; Windham County, Vermont; 43°08'04"N, 72°30'53"W; USGS map - Saxtons River 1:25,000.

Mouth: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=43.1345&p\\_longi=-72.5147](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=43.1345&p_longi=-72.5147)

Source: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=43.11296&p\\_longi=-72.51528](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=43.11296&p_longi=-72.51528)

Proposal: to make official an associative name in published use

Map: USGS Saxtons River 1:25,000

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: None found

Published: Beaver Dam Brook (#7)

Case Summary: This 1.2-mile-long tributary of Saxtons River is proposed to be named officially Beaver Dam Brook. The name refers to nearby Beaver Dam Hill and the Beaver Dam Schoolhouse that once operated in the area (neither of these features are listed in GNIS). The schoolhouse is now a private home. The proponent reports that there was a beaver dam on the stream that created a small pond at the stream's lower end that has since developed into a large marsh.

**Gages Falls**: falls; 3 ft. high; located along the Saxtons River at Covered Bridge Road in North Westminster, 0.5 mi. NW of Bald Hill; named for Gage's Mill, which was located below the falls; Windham County, Vermont; 43°06'59"N, 72°27'22"W; USGS map - Walpole 1:24,000; Not: Covered Bridge Falls, Upper Twin Falls.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=43.1163&p\\_longi=-72.4562](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=43.1163&p_longi=-72.4562)

Proposal: to make official an associative name in published use

Map: USGS Walpole 1:24,000

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: None found

Published: Gages Falls (#23); Covered Bridge Falls (#35); Upper Twin Falls (#32, #36)

Case Summary: This three-foot high waterfall is proposed to be named officially Gages Falls in recognition of its proximity to Gage's Mill, a nineteenth-century basket factory that was located at the foot of the falls. The stone foundations of the mill still remain. A local resident located a postcard of the falls labeled "Gages Falls" (#23). Two variant names for the community of North Westminster are Gages Mills and Gageville.

**Great Falls** – see New Hampshire

**Hyde Hill Brook**: stream; 0.3 mi. long; in the Village of Bellows Falls, heads at 43°08'00"N, 72°27'31"W, flows NE through an underground storm drain system and to the Rockingham Street pumping station; Windham County, Vermont; 43°08'15"N, 72°27'19"W; USGS map - Bellows Falls 1:25,000.

Mouth: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=43.1373837&p\\_longi=-72.4551792](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=43.1373837&p_longi=-72.4551792)

Source: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=43.1333743&p\\_longi=-72.4586488](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=43.1333743&p_longi=-72.4586488)

Proposal: to make official an associative name in published use

Map: USGS Bellows Falls 1:25,000

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: Hyde Hill Brook (Rockingham Town)

Published: Hyde Hill Brook (Rockingham town plan 2010, #21; Rockingham drainage basin study 1992)

Case Summary: This proposal is to make official the name Hyde Hill Brook for a 0.3-mile-long stream that flows in a northeasterly direction through the Village of Bellows Falls. According to a 2010 Rockingham town plan, in which the stream is referred to as Hyde Hill Brook, much of the stream is piped underground before entering the town's pumping station. The stream is subject to frequent flooding, and so in 1992 the Town conducted a Hyde Hill Brook Drainage Basin Study. The proponent notes also that Hyde Hill is a locally used name, either as a variant of Oak Hill, located near the head of the stream, or for one of the peaks on Oak Hill. The stream also flows under Hyde Street.

**Pleasant Valley Brook**: stream; 2.4 mi. long; heads in Pleasant Valley, 1.5 mi. NW of Paradise Hill, at 43°10'11"N, 72°31'15"W, flows S to enter Saxtons River; named for the valley through

which the stream flows; Windham County, Vermont; 43°08'17"N, 72°30'48"W; USGS map - Saxtons River 1:25,000 (mouth).

Mouth: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=43.1381&p\\_longi=-72.5133](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=43.1381&p_longi=-72.5133)

Source: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=43.169756&p\\_longi=-72.520865](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=43.169756&p_longi=-72.520865)

Proposal: to make official an associative name in published use

Map: USGS Saxtons River 1:25,000

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: Pleasant Valley Brook

Published: Pleasant Valley Brook (#20)

Case Summary: This 2.4-mile-long tributary of Saxtons River drains the southern half of Pleasant Valley and flows along Pleasant Valley Road.

**Saxtons River Falls**: falls; 19 ft. high; located along Saxtons River 1 mi. E of the mouth of Leach Brook in the Village of Saxtons River; Windham County, Vermont; 43°08'16"N, 72°30'35"W; USGS map - Saxtons River 1:25,000; Not: Middle Falls.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=43.137742&p\\_longi=-72.5096222](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=43.137742&p_longi=-72.5096222)

Proposal: to make official an associative name in published use

Map: USGS Saxtons River 1:25,000

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: Saxtons River Falls

Published: Middle Falls (#5), Saxtons River Falls (#4, #31, #32, #33, #34, #35, #36)

Case Summary: This 19-foot tall waterfall is proposed to be named officially Saxtons River Falls for the stream and village in which it is located. Although the proposed name is also been used to refer to other falls along Saxtons River, it is most often applied to the feature in question. In the nineteenth century, there was a dam on the falls which was used to power Frey's Mill. Only stone foundations of the mill and a raceway remain today. Because this is one of three falls in the village, this feature is sometimes known as Middle Falls (#5).

**Signal Hill Brook**: stream; 2.5 mi. long; heads on Signal Hill at 43°09'58"N, 72°29'47"W, flows S to enter Saxtons River; named for the summit where the stream begins; Windham County, Vermont; 43°08'23"N, 72°30'09"W; USGS map - Saxtons River 1:25,000 (mouth); Not: Bolles Brook, VA Brook, Storey Brook.

Mouth: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=43.1396&p\\_longi=-72.5025](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=43.1396&p_longi=-72.5025)

Source: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=43.1660468&p\\_longi=-72.4963485](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=43.1660468&p_longi=-72.4963485)

Proposal: to make official an associative name in published use

Map: USGS Saxtons River 1:25,000

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: None found

Published: Bolles Brook (#20, #27, #28); Storey Brook (local resident); VA Brook (#26)

Case Summary: This 2.5-mile-long stream heads on Signal Hill and flows south along Rockingham Hill Road to join Saxtons River. The proponent reports that the proposed name is used by Vermont Agency of Natural Resources staff for water quality monitoring. Signal Hill was named after "early settlers are said to have signaled across the river to their friends in Walpole during Indian emergencies." A 2014 Vermont water quality standards document refers to the stream as Bolles Brook, and one local resident claims he knows it as Storey Brook.

**Skunk Hollow Brook:** stream; 2.1 mi. long; heads in the Town of Springfield at 43°14'59"N, 72°32'04"W, flows generally S through a valley known locally as Skunk Hollow to enter the Williams River; Windham County and Windsor County, Vermont; 43°13'47"N, 72°32'29"W; USGS map - Saxtons River 1:25,000 (mouth).

Mouth: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=43.2297144&p\\_longi=-72.5413049](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=43.2297144&p_longi=-72.5413049)

Source: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=43.2497939&p\\_longi=-72.534318](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=43.2497939&p_longi=-72.534318)

Proposal: to make official an associative name in published use

Map: USGS Saxtons River 1:25,000

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: None found

Published: Skunk Hollow (#11)

Case Summary: This 2.1-mile-long stream flows through a valley that the proponent reports is known locally as Skunk Hollow. According to a local resident, nearby Lower Bartonsville Road was once called Skunk Hollow Road. A hand-drawn map, produced in 1967 by a local resident, labels the stream Skunk Hollow Brook.

**Twin Falls:** falls; 19 ft. high; located along Saxtons River, 0.5 mi. NNW of Bald Hill; named for the two plunges within the falls; Windham County, Vermont; 43°06'59"N, 72°27'13"W; USGS map - Bellows Falls 1:25,000; Not: Forest Falls.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=43.1166&p\\_longi=-72.4536](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=43.1166&p_longi=-72.4536)

Proposal: to make official a descriptive name in published use

Map: USGS Saxtons River 1:25,000

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: Twin Falls (local residents)

Published: Forest Falls (#5), Twin Falls (#5, #31, #32, #33, #34, #35, #36)

Case Summary: This 19-foot-high waterfall is proposed to be named officially Twin Falls. A published description of the area (#6) refers to the feature as the best-known of the five named waterfalls in or near Rockingham; the name is included in six waterfall guides. According to the proponent, these falls may also be the prettiest of the five, but it is also extremely dangerous and so swimming is not allowed. The falls can be seen from Forest Road and were once known locally as Forest Falls (#5). The name refers to the two waterfalls or plunges that constitute the feature.

### **The following three proposals are new associative names for unnamed features:**

**Brockways Mills Brook:** stream; 2.3 mi. long; heads in the Town of Springfield 0.6 mi. NW of Cobble Hill at 43°14'05"N, 72°30'07"W, flows SSW into the Williams River 0.4 mi. ESE of the community of Brockways Mills; named for nearby Brockways Mills; Windham County and Windsor County, Vermont; 43°12'24"N, 72°30'34"W; USGS map - Saxtons River 1:25,000 (mouth).

Mouth: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=43.2067&p\\_longi=-72.5094](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=43.2067&p_longi=-72.5094)

Source: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=43.2346932&p\\_longi=-72.5019417](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=43.2346932&p_longi=-72.5019417)

Proposal: new associative name for an unnamed feature

Map: USGS Saxtons River 1:25,000

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: None found

Published: None found

Case Summary: This 2.3-mile-long tributary of the Williams River is proposed to be named Brockways Mills Brook in association with the community of Brockways Mills, located close to the mouth of the stream. Jonathan Brockway was the first of the family to settle in the area, arriving in 1820. His brother Zebah arrived a few years later and acquired the mills (#10).

**Upper Meadows Brook:** stream; 1.9 mi. long; heads in the Town of Rockingham, on the E side of Coburn Hill at 43°12'44"N, 72°27'44"W, flows E then S through Upper Meadows into Roundys Cove; named for the flat through which the stream flows; Windham County, Vermont; 43°11'51"N, 72°26'59"W; USGS map - Bellows Falls 1:25,000.

Mouth: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=43.1974841&p\\_longi=-72.4498031](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=43.1974841&p_longi=-72.4498031)

Source: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=43.21236&p\\_longi=-72.4621](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=43.21236&p_longi=-72.4621)

Proposal: new associative name for an unnamed feature

Map: USGS Bellows Falls 1:25,000

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: None found

Published: None found

Case Summary: This 1.9-mile-long stream, proposed to be named Upper Meadows Brook, heads on the east side of Coburn Hill before flowing through Upper Meadows and into Roundys Cove. The name was suggested by a local resident (#30), who noted that this was a traditional Abenaki summer gathering area, as well as one of the first areas of white settlement in the town. The stream flows under Upper Meadows Road, and there was once an Upper Meadows School District No. 5 in the vicinity.

**Wiley Hill Brook:** stream; 3.2 mi. long; in the Town of Rockingham, heads at 43°11'20"N, 72°32'12"W, flows generally ESE then NE into the Williams River; named in association with a hill known locally as Wiley Hill; Windham County, Vermont; 43°11'50"N, 72°29'47"W; USGS map - Bellows Falls 1:25,000.

Mouth: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=43.1973&p\\_longi=-72.4964](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=43.1973&p_longi=-72.4964)

Source: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=43.189&p\\_longi=-72.5368](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=43.189&p_longi=-72.5368)

Proposal: new associative name for an unnamed feature

Map: USGS Bellows Falls 1:25,000

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: None found

Published: None found

Case Summary: This 2.2-mile-long stream, proposed to be named Wiley Hill Brook, heads on the slope of a summit that the proponent reports is known locally as Wiley Hill, before flowing northeast through the north end of Pleasant Valley. A nearby road is named Wiley Hill Road, and according to Hayes (#10), the area was once known as the Wiley District. Robert and Abigail Wiley arrived in the area in 1794.

**The following proposal is a new name for an unnamed feature:**

**Sokoki Falls:** falls; 16 ft. high; in the community of Brockways Mills, along the Williams River; named for a band of Abenaki Indians who once lived in the area; Windham County, Vermont; 43°12'31"N, 72°31'01"W; USGS map - Saxtons River 1:25,000; Not Brockways Mills Falls.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=43.2086078&p\\_longi=-72.5170712](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=43.2086078&p_longi=-72.5170712)

Proposal: new name for an unnamed feature

Map: USGS Saxtons River 1:25,000

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: None found

Published: Brockways Mills Falls (#31, #32, #33, #34, #35, #36)

Case Summary: This 16-foot high waterfall, located along the Williams River in the community of Brockways Mills, is proposed to be named Sokoki Falls. The proposal states, "A resident near the falls asked local Abenaki leaders to suggest an Abenaki name for these falls, since there was no name in local usage [and] and we have so few local Abenaki place names (Connecticut is one of the few)." Further, "Sokoki is the name of the band of the Abenaki that traditionally lived in this area of the Middle and Upper Connecticut River Valley. Through migration and intermarriage, the Sokoki bloodline is now widespread throughout the Western Abenaki people. The name was suggested by Roger Longtoe, who is an Abenaki chief living in Jamaica, Vermont. He told me that the name has the support of several Abenaki chiefs."

## VIRGINIA

**Notch Creek:** stream; 0.4 mi. long; heads at 36°36'36"N, 81°03'43"W, flows S into the New River 1.2 mi. NNE of Peach Bottom; named in reference to the "notch" or small hollow from which the stream flows; Grayson County, Virginia; 36°36'20"N, 81°03'40"W; USGS map – Sparta East 1:24,000.

Mouth: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=36.60549&p\\_longi=-81.0610619](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=36.60549&p_longi=-81.0610619)

Source: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=36.6100393&p\\_longi=-81.0620048](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=36.6100393&p_longi=-81.0620048)

Proposal: new name for an unnamed feature

Map: USGS Sparta East 1:24,000

Proponent: Christopher Smith; Charlotte, NC

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: None found

Published: None found

Case Summary: The new name Notch Creek is proposed for a 0.4-mile-long unnamed tributary of the New River in Grayson County. The name refers to the "notch" or small hollow from which the stream flows. The stream is on property owned by the proponent, and which he has named Notch Creek Farm. When asked if there was any commercial use of the name, the proponent responded that the farm is a weekend getaway and family farm. He raises bees for honey and also has a small blueberry operation "with sales of any products through word of mouth and farmer's markets. We will also be selling some timber later this year to create a larger area for additional fruit and Christmas tree farming."

A query of GNIS found six features in Virginia that contain the word "Notch" in their name or variant name. None are in Grayson County, nor are they streams.

## WASHINGTON

**Hix Bay:** bay; approx. 45 acres; in the Shaw Island Marine Preserve, at the SW end of Shaw Island, 0.8 mi. SE of Parks Bay; the name honors Cynthia and Louis Hix, who bought the property in 1888; San Juan County, Washington; Sec. 5, T35N, R2W, Willamette Meridian; 48°33'15"N, 122°58'10"W; USGS map - Shaw Island 1:24,000; Not: Hicks Bay.

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesrimap?p\\_lat=48.5542673&p\\_longi=-122.9693466&fid=1505487](http://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesrimap?p_lat=48.5542673&p_longi=-122.9693466&fid=1505487)

Proposal: to change spelling to reflect the correct spelling of family name

Map: USGS Shaw Island 1:24,000

Proponent: Eben Frankenberg; Seattle, WA

Administrative area: Shaw Island Marine Preserve, San Juan County/Cypress Island Marine Biological Preserve

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: Hicks Bay (FID 1505487)

Local Usage: Hicks Bay (local residents)

Published: Hicks Bay (USGS 1943, 1957, 1973, 1975, 2011, 2014; NOAA since 1933; Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife 2016; Washington Department of Revenue 2016; *San Juan County Atlas* 1933; San Juan County GIS 2016); Hix Bay (Recorded Plats and Surveys, San Juan County 2016)

Case Summary: This proposal is to change the name of Hicks Bay, located in San Juan Channel on Shaw Island, to Hix Bay. Although the existing name has been labeled on NOAA charts since 1933 and on USGS maps since 1943, the proponent states that the bay was named for Cynthia and Louis Hix, who purchased the property in 1888 (the proponent purchased the property from the Hix family in 2010). He adds that there has never been a family named Hicks in the area and also that the county road that accesses the bay has been posted for two decades as Hix Bay Road. The history of the Hix name was also documented in 2008 by local historian Henry Hoffman.

The current San Juan County map of recorded plats and surveys shows the name Hix Bay, while other San Juan County maps show the name as Hicks Bay. The bay is located within the Shaw Island Marine Preserve, which was created in 1990 in conjunction with the University of Washington's Friday Harbor Laboratories. The university's Cedar Rock Preserve Management Plan of 2008 refers to the bay as Hix Bay.

Several area residents and Hix family descendants sent letters of support to the Washington Committee on Geographic Names (WCGN). The San Juan County Council also supports the change, while NOAA has no objection. The chair of the Shaw Island Historical Society and a former curator of the Shaw Island Museum and Washington maritime historian have both stated they believe the spelling should be "Hix." The WCGN contacted the San Juan County Chamber of Commerce, three area yacht clubs, a number of local visitor and tourism bureaus, libraries, and museums, the Marine Exchange of Puget Sound, the Puget Sound Maritime Historical Society, the Washington State Historical Society, and the U.S. Coast Guard, but no responses were received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion. The WCGN also forwarded the proposal to the Lummi Tribe of the Lummi Reservation, a federally recognized Tribe, which also did not respond, and so is presumed to have no opinion. The Washington Board on Geographic Names recommends approval of the name.

**Shaner Creek:** stream; 2.3 mi. long; heads 3.5 mi. NW of Sunnysdale at 46°51'32"N, 122°59'50"W, flows generally W into the Black River 3.2 mi. SSW of Littlerock; the name honors Melvin Shaner (1919-2010), who co-owned a fishing business on nearby Black River and who

fished in and hiked along the stream; Thurston County, Washington; Secs 22-24, T16N, R3W, Willamette Meridian; 46°51'30"N, 123°02'22"W; USGS map - Rochester 1:24,000 (mouth).

Mouth: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=46.8583333&p\\_longi=-123.0394444](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=46.8583333&p_longi=-123.0394444)

Source: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=46.8588888&p\\_longi=-122.9972222](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=46.8588888&p_longi=-122.9972222)

Proposal: new commemorative name for an unnamed feature

Map: USGS Rochester 1:24,000 (mouth)

Proponent: Rob Shaner; Littlerock, WA

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: None found

Published: None found

Case Summary: The new name Shaner Creek is proposed for a 2.3-mile-long tributary of the Black River in Thurston County. The name is intended to honor the proponent's father, Melvin Shaner (1919-2010), who "loved this stream and spent many hours there, hiking, fishing, and caring for it." According one online genealogical record, Mr. Shaner was a veteran of World War II and Korea, and the recipient of a Purple Heart.

Before the proponent purchased property along the stream in 2001, he and his father often visited the stream, fishing and hiking along its banks. During the owner's absences, the proponent checked the property and stream for flood damage, sometimes joined by his father. They would make sure that the stream was clean, checking for log jams and bank erosion, and ensuring that salmon could continue to run the stream. Since acquiring the property, the proponent has stated that he believes his father is "right here helping me" to keep the stream alive.

The South Sound Green/Thurston Conservation District and the Washington Waterfowl Association - Grays Harbor Chapter, as well as two private citizens, recommend approval of the proposed name. The Washington Committee on Geographic Names (WCGN) contacted the governments of Thurston County and the City of Rochester. No responses were received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion. The WCGN also contacted the Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation and the Cowlitz Indian Tribe, both of which are federally recognized. No responses were received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion. The Washington Board on Geographic Names recommends approval of the proposed name.

A query of GNIS found no features in Washington with the word "Shaner" in their names.