

U. S. BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES
DOMESTIC NAMES COMMITTEE
Seven Hundred and Twenty-First Meeting
Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C., Room 7000B
August 12, 2010 – 9:30 a.m.

Members and Deputy Members in Attendance

| | |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Mark DeMulder | Department of the Interior (U.S. Geological Survey) |
| Lee Fleming | Department of the Interior (Bureau of Indian Affairs) |
| Andrew Flora | Department of Commerce (Bureau of the Census) |
| Michael Fournier | Department of Commerce (Bureau of the Census) |
| Tony Gilbert | Government Printing Office |
| Robert Hiatt | Library of Congress (Chairman) (not voting) |
| William Logan | Department of Homeland Security (U.S. Coast Guard) |
| Curt Loy | Department of Commerce (Office of Coast Survey) |
| Michael Shelton | Department of the Interior (National Park Service) |
| Douglas Vandegrift | Department of the Interior (Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement) |
| Meredith Westington | Department of Commerce (Office of Coast Survey) |

Staff

Jennifer Runyon, U. S. Geological Survey

1. Opening

The Chairman opened the meeting at 9:45 a.m.

2. Minutes of the 720th Meeting

The minutes of the 719th meeting, held July 8th, were approved with some editorial corrections.

3. Communications and Reports

3.1 Chairman's Report (Logan for Hébert)

The full Board on Geographic Names held its Quarterly Meeting at the U.S. Geological Survey on July 27th. In addition to the regular reports, there was a presentation by Richard Pearsall, National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency, on the proposed transition from FIPS 10-4 as the Standard for Country Codes to ISO 3166. Although this issue and the outcome of the deliberations will have a greater impact on the operations of the Foreign Names Committee (FNC), the advocates of the change are seeking the support of the full Board.

The planned visit by the newly-formed Board on Geographic Names-Afghanistan has been postponed until April 16th to 28th, 2011. The FNC expects the visitors will have a particular interest in the activities of the Domestic Names Committee (DNC). The FNC staff thanked Fournier for providing PowerPoint slides for use by the BGN-A.

Logan noted that in early July Yost attended the annual meeting between the BGN and the Permanent Committee on Geographical Names for British Official Use (PCGN), held in London. The BGN and PCGN are expected to meet next in 2011 in Washington, DC, dates to be determined.

The 26th Session of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names will take place May 2nd to 6th, 2011 in Vienna, Austria, and the 10th Conference is expected to be scheduled in August 2012 in New York.

The Geographical Names Board of Canada will meet October 21st to 23rd, 2010 in Moncton, New Brunswick.

3.2 BGN Executive Secretary's Report

No report.

3.3 Communications Committee Report

No report.

3.4 Executive Secretary's Report (Runyon for Yost)

In Yost's absence, Runyon announced the recent passing of Robert Rennick, noted Kentucky toponymist, chair of the Kentucky Geographic Names Committee, and host of the 2007 Council of Geographic Names Authorities meeting. Rennick was the author of numerous volumes and articles on the history of Kentucky placenames, and had a particular interest in the Commonwealth's post offices and rural communities.

The DNC has received a request to revisit its 1996 decision not to approve a name change from Mobile Bay to Bay of the Holy Spirit. This proposal was denied in 1996 because of widespread local and regional opposition to the change and reluctance to remove a longstanding name. The same proponent has asked the DNC to reopen the case because of the placement in 2008 of a sign on the shore of the bay that commemorates the history of the feature. The sign reports that a sixteenth century Spanish expedition referred to the bay as "Bahia del Espiritu Santo" ("Bay of the Holy Spirit" is the English translation). The proponent's latest request was accompanied by copies of several proclamations and commendations signed by the mayors and councils of some of the surrounding communities, who recognized the significance of the early Spanish settlement in the area. The DNC staff contacted each of these communities to ask if their recognition of the sign constituted official endorsement of the name change. Several expressed informal opposition, although only the City of Mobile submitted a formal letter expressing strong opposition. The Committee members reviewed the new information and determined that the erection of a historical marker does not constitute new evidence in support of the name change. A motion was made and seconded not to revisit the earlier decision. It was agreed that the name Bay of the Holy Spirit could be added to the existing GNIS entry as a variant name of Mobile Bay.

The Tribal Subcommittee is scheduled to meet again following the DNC meeting, in the same meeting room.

3.5 Staff Report (Runyon)

In July 2009, the Committee received a proposal to change the name of Squaw Peak in Inyo County, California, to Clem Nelson Peak (Review List 402). As part of its research, the staff contacted several area Tribal groups, including the Big Pine Paiute Tribe. The Tribe responded that it would prefer to see a replacement name that had significance to the native people of the area, and so a counter-proposal for Wünüpü Peak was submitted. The new proposal is on Review List 404. The proponent of Clem Nelson Peak was advised of the Tribe's request, and after consulting with the family and colleagues of Mr. Nelson, agreed to withdraw his proposal. He commended the Big Pine Paiute for their efforts to recognize names from their culture and expressed support for the Wünüpü Peak proposal. He also asked that the Tribe's representatives work with him to select an alternate feature to honor Mr. Nelson.

The Committee has received a proposal to change the name of Squaw Point in Washington to Bushoowah-ahlee Point. The proposed name is of Lushootseed origin, although its meaning is unknown. The original phonetic spelling is "B1cuwa'3ali"; however, the proponents have chosen to submit the anglicized form instead.

3.6 GNIS and Data Compilation Program (Runyon for Yost)

The BGN and GNIS staff recently hosted an online training session with representatives of the Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA), facilitated by the U.S. Geological Survey geospatial liaison for the State. IEMA is interested in updating and maintaining entries in GNIS and the training provided an opportunity to discuss their requirements and the maintenance process. They were reminded that any issues involving the names of natural features need to be forwarded to the BGN for consideration.

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

Logan reported that he recently spent a day at the USGS, where he worked with the BGN staff to consolidate the latest updates to the *Principles, Policies, and Procedures* (PPP) document. In the summer of 2009, three Committee members (Logan, Caldwell, and Kanalley), plus staff (Runyon) worked toward compiling an edited document that encompassed all changes put forth to date by the full DNC. It was determined at the time that several of the changes need to be considered by the full membership. These issues have now been consolidated into one document, which Logan proposed should be presented to the DNC at several of its upcoming meetings. It was agreed that approximately thirty minutes should be set aside at the next few meetings, beginning next month, to address the issues. Logan will prepare and prioritize the list for consideration at the September meeting.

It was also noted that the PPP does not include references to the new topographic map product (USTopo) or *The National Map*; it was suggested these should be more fully incorporated into the revised document.

3.8 Review of Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes appeal letter (Runyon)

Although this issue will be addressed more fully by the Tribal Subcommittee, an overview was provided to the full DNC. It was noted that it has been a year and a half since the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes (CSKT) submitted their letter appealing to the DNC to explain some of its decisions regarding changes to “Squaw” names in Montana. The CSKT believes the DNC was inconsistent in some of its reasons, and requests that some of the issues should be revisited. The DNC members discussed what constitutes “new evidence” and noted that the PPP does not provide any guidance regarding its appeal process. It was further noted that all decisions are made case-by-case.

The Committee analyzed some of the overall concerns expressed in the CSKT letter, and agreed to review the items outlined in Enclosure 2. It was agreed that the decision to change Squaws Grave Butte to Indian Graves Butte may have introduced an unforeseen consequence; that is, the new name might, as the CSKT suggests, draw attention to a sacred Indian site. The members agreed that this constitutes new evidence and so they are willing to revisit the case. There was a brief discussion regarding what needs to be done next; that is, once the CSKT is apprised of the Committee’s decision to revisit, all interested parties must once again be notified before the issue can once again be presented to the Committee for a vote. It was noted also that various Federal agencies likely have guidance regarding the dissemination of information on archeological sites with reference to the Archaeological Resource Protection Act of 1979; these sources should be consulted to determine what those guidelines are.

The Committee then discussed some of the other names on the CSKT list. It was noted that in several cases where names proposed by the local county commissioners were approved over the Salish name, the Committee had also cited the support of the U.S. Forest Service as a reason. It was suggested that the USFS member to the DNC should be provided with another opportunity to further explain the agency’s justification. Only then and depending on the USFS explanation would the DNC decide whether or not those cases should be reopened.

It was noted that the proposal to change the names of Squaw Creek and two of its tributaries to Sun Creek, North Fork Sun Creek, and South Fork Sun Creek might also be in violation of the restriction against the display of sacred sites, because the new names recognize the existence of an ancient petroglyph in the shape of a sun. It was noted that the possibility that the proposed names might violate any Federal policies was never considered during the discussion of the proposals. It was agreed to suspend further discussion on this item until the Tribal Subcommittee meeting this afternoon.

4. Docket Review (Runyon)

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

following the name. Immediately following the meeting, Fleming provided staff with some corrections to the titles of various tribes' names as recorded in the docket.

I. Staff-Processed New Names, and Name and Application Changes agreed to by all interested parties – none.

II. Disagreement on Docketed Names

Change application of **Sugarloaf** (FID 250014), California (Cleveland National Forest) (Review List 392)

A motion was made and seconded to defer a decision on this proposal, pending a need for further clarification from the Forest Service.

Vote: 7 in favor
1 against
1 abstention

The one negative vote was cast in the belief that there was enough information to proceed with a vote.

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

Jimmys Peak, New York (Review List 403) (FID 2635495)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this name.

Vote: 8 in favor
0 against
1 abstention

Lloyds Hill, New York (Review List 396) (FID 2635496)

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

Vote: 6 in favor
3 against
0 abstentions

The negative votes were cast in the belief that the geographic feature was insufficiently discernable to warrant being named, as well as an apparent lack of evidence of direct association between the intended honoree and the feature.

Wrights Island, New York (Review List 396) (FID 2635497)

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

Vote: 8 in favor
0 against

1 abstention

IV. Revised Decisions

Change Donlans Creek (FID 1577238) (BGN 1979) to Geisel Creek, Wisconsin (Review List 403)

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

Vote: 9 in favor
0 against
0 abstentions

V. New Names agreed to by all interested parties

Liberty Creek, North Fork Liberty Creek, South Fork Liberty Creek, Iowa (Review List 403) (FIDs 2635498, 2635499, 2635500)

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

Vote: 9 in favor
0 against
0 abstentions

5. Other Business

Prior to the July Tribal Subcommittee meeting, the Census Bureau prepared a white paper outlining its definition of "tribal lands." The paper, which recommends that Census boundary files be accepted as the authoritative source for such lands, was reviewed and accepted by the subcommittee. It will be presented to the Domestic Names Committee for its consideration at next month's meeting.

6. Location and Time of Next Meeting

The meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m. The next meeting of the Domestic Names Committee will take place September 9th, 2010, at the Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C., at 9:30 a.m., Room 7000B.

(signed) *Louis A. Yost*

Louis A. Yost, Executive Secretary

APPROVED

(signed) *Robert Hiatt*

Robert Hiatt, Chairman
Domestic Names Committee

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

I. **Staff-Processed New Names, and Name and Application Changes agreed to by all interested parties** - none

II. **Disagreement on Docketed Names**

Change application of **Sugarloaf** (FID 250014), California
(Cleveland National Forest)
(Review List 392)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=33.629235&p_longi=-117.490175

This proposal was submitted by a land surveyor in Aliso Viejo, who believes the name Sugarloaf is applied to the wrong summit. Federal maps have shown the name at its current location (the 3,227 ft. summit in Section 23) since 1956, but the proponent says the name should be applied instead to the 3,326 ft. summit that lies 1.1 km (0.7 mi) further to the west-northwest, in Section 22. He describes the proposed location as “a conspicuous high point on [the] ridgeline,” whereas the current application refers to a summit that is “much less conspicuous, and is hidden by the larger peak from the main population area of Orange County.” He believes “The placement of the name on the 7½ minute quad was a technical mistake by the Geological Survey.”

Small-scale topographic maps published by the USGS between 1901 and 1948 would appear to be the origin of the confusion, as the label is applied midway between the two points and slightly closer to the 3,326 ft. peak. NOAA charts published since 1947 also show the name as it appears on the USGS maps. The 1947 edition of the Cleveland National Forest map shows the label Sugarloaf alongside the 3,323 ft. peak in Section 22 (as proposed) [the 3 ft. difference in elevation is likely due to a datum variation]. However, the 2000 edition of the same forest map shows the name and only the 3,227 ft. peak in Section 23.

A review of the USGS field notes for the 1956 edition (the first at a scale of 1:24,000) confirms that the 3,227 ft. high summit was the intended location. The field notes do not indicate any uncertainty regarding the application of the name.

The Orange County Board of Supervisors did not respond to two requests for comment. A letter of support for the proposed change was submitted by the Sierra Sage of Orange County/Angelos Chapter of the Sierra Club. A few hiking websites refer to the ongoing confusion, including one that names the two peaks “Sugarloaf” and “Old Sugarloaf,” or “New Sugarloaf” and “Old Sugarloaf,” stating, “Old Sugarloaf is the higher of the two and the peak that looks like the hard sugar lumps that were delivered to grocers in days of yore. At some time in the past, the map maker accidentally transferred the name to the wrong point on the map.”

The U.S. Forest Service does not support the proposed application change, citing a lack of evidence that the name was misapplied. The California Advisory Committee on Geographic Names (CACGN) also does not recommend approval, citing the Forest Service's objection.

Although the County Supervisors declined to offer a recommendation, the County Surveyor did confirm that the names "Sugarloaf" and "Old Sugarloaf" are often used locally. The CACGN, in its meeting minutes, added the comment, "It was suggested that a new naming proposal for the more prominent peak be submitted to avoid confusion with the current name."

A copy of the proposal was sent to the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians of the Agua Caliente Indian Reservation,, the Augustine Band of Cahuilla Indians, the Barona Group of Capitan Grande Band of Mission Indians of the Barona Reservation, the Cabazon Band of Mission Indians, the Cahuilla Band of Mission Indians of the Cahuilla Reservation, the Iipay Nation of Santa Ysabel, the Inaja Band of Diegueno Mission Indians of the Inaja and Cosmit Reservation, the La Jolla Band of Luiseno Mission Indians of the La Jolla Reservation, the Los Coyotes Band of Cahuilla and Cupeno Indians, the Mesa Grande Band of Diegueno Mission Indians of the Mesa Grande Reservation, the Morongo Band of Mission Indians, the Pala Band of Luiseno Mission Indians of the Pala Reservation, the Pauma Band of Luiseno Mission Indians of the Pauma & Yuima Reservation, the Pechanga Band of Luiseno Mission Indians of the Pechanga Reservation, the Ramona Band or Village of Cahuilla Mission Indians of California, the Rincon Band of Luiseno Mission Indians of the Rincon Reservation, the San Pasqual Band of Diegueno Mission Indians of California, the Santa Rosa Band of Cahuilla Indians, the Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians, the Sycuan Band of the Kumeyaay Nation, the Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians, the Twenty-Nine Palms Band of Mission Indians of California, and the Viejas (Baron Long) Group of Capitan Grande Band of Mission Indians of the Viejas Reservation. No response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion on the issue.

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

Jimmys Peak, New York
(Review List 403)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=43.46694444444444&p_longi=-73.82638888888889

This summit, proposed to be named officially Jimmys Peak, is the middle summit of three known collectively as The Three Sisters (the other two are Bald Mountain and Pine Mountain). The three summits lie within the Town of Warrensburg in Warren County, 5.3 km (3.3 mi) southwest of Warrensburg and 4.4 km (2.9 mi) northwest of Phoebe Mountain. The proponent, a longtime local resident, reports that according to local legend, this is the summit on which "Tory" James Cameron lit signal fires and which is close to the location of his homestead. Cameron settled in the area in 1773 and lived on the Warrensburg side of the summit.

The proponent indicates that the proposed name has been used locally for many years. She provided a copy of an article from a 1989 issue of the *Adirondack Journal*, which

referred to the summit as Jimmies Peak [sic]. The summit is also known to have been frequented by Native American, English, and French groups, being just 9.6 km (6 mi) from the historic Fort William Henry.

The Warrensburg Town Supervisors and the Warren County Supervisors both submitted letters of support for the name. The proposal was submitted initially as Jimmys Peak, but citing the aforementioned article, the proponent was asked about the spelling. She agreed to amend the proposal to Jimmies Peak. However, when the Town Supervisors responded, they noted that the Town Historian believed the name should be spelled “Jimmys” and the proponent indicated that was acceptable to her. The New York Geographic Names Committee supports the proposal. A copy of the proposal was sent to the Seneca Nation of New York and the Tonawanda Band of Seneca Indians of New York. No response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion on the issue. GNIS lists no other features in New York named “Jimmy” or “Jimmies”. There are two lakes and three streams named “Jimmy,” but none are in Warren County.

Lloyds Hill, New York
(Review List 396)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=44.6677777777778&p_longi=-74.299722222222

The new name Lloyds Hill is proposed for a 483 m (1,585 ft) summit in the Town of Duane in Franklin County. The proponent of this proposal and the following one (Wrights Island) is president of the Horseshoe Pond-Deer River Flow Association. The name is intended to honor Lloyd Mayville (1924-2003), who since 1962 was a summer resident of the area, and beginning in the 1970's a full-time resident. In 1981, he acquired the property on which the unnamed summit is located; the property is still owned by the Mayville family. As an active member of the community, Mr. Mayville was involved with the Duane Volunteer Fire Department, the Franklin County Network of Shoreline Associations, and the Horseshoe Pond-Deer River Flow Association. Regarded as a “jack of all trades,” he frequently provided assistance to those who needed help with machinery, plumbing, mechanical repairs, snow plowing, carpentry, and hospice visits. “Because of his constant generous assistance to everyone, he was presented with a plaque designating him as Honorary Mayor of Horseshoe Pond.”

A petition signed by 67 area residents in support of the proposed name was included with the application. The Town of Duane Board of Supervisors did not respond to two requests for comment, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion on the issue. The Franklin County Board of Legislators is in support of the name, while the New York Geographic Names Committee indicated it had no objection. The New York State Adirondack Park Agency also did not respond, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion. A copy of the proposal was sent to the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe. No response was received, which is also presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion on the issue.

Wrights Island, New York
(Review List 396)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=44.6575000&p_longi=-74.3177777777778

The new name Wrights Island is proposed for a small island located at the northwest end of Deer River Flow in the Town of Duane in Franklin County. The name is intended to honor Reverend Thomas Wright (1933-2001), who in addition to serving as a Congregational Church Minister for over 20 years, was involved with the Duane Volunteer Fire Department, the Franklin County Network of Shoreline Associations, and for four years was the president of the Horseshoe Pond-Deer River Flow Association. As a qualified naturalist and licensed guide, he led groups at the local interpretive center and campsite. He was instrumental in starting a water testing program in the watershed, and would collect samples off the unnamed island now proposed to be named in his honor.

A petition signed by 67 area residents in support of the proposed name was included with the application. The Town of Duane Board of Supervisors did not respond to two requests for comment, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion on the issue. The Franklin County Board of Legislators is in support of the name, while the New York Geographic Names Committee indicated it had no objection. The New York State Adirondack Park Agency also did not respond, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion. A copy of the proposal was sent to the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe. No response was received, which is also presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion on the issue.

IV. Revised Decisions

Change **Donlans Creek** (FID 1577238) (BGN 1979) to **Geisel Creek**, Wisconsin
(Review List 403)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p_lat=44.8663867&p_longi=-87.2614877&fid=1577238

This proposal is to change the name of Donlans Creek, an 8.8 km (5.5. mi) long stream in the Town of Sevastopol in Door County, to Geisel Creek. It was submitted by the Wisconsin Geographic Names Council (WGNC), which approved the change in 1998 but neglected to forward the application the BGN. A National Hydrography Dataset (NHD) steward, reviewing a list of Wisconsin stream names, noticed the discrepancy between State and Federal files, and asked the BGN to investigate.

The name Donlans Creek was made official by a decision of the BGN in 1979, following a request from the WGNC, which had been asked by a local resident in 1977 “to preserve [the] historic legacy of the name.” USGS topographic maps published in 1960 labeled the stream Maple Creek, and an 1899 deed labeled it Maples Creek, but according to the individual who submitted the 1977 proposal, an elderly man named Donlan lived along the stream and that name had historical significance. The Door County government also recommended approval of the name Donlans Creek.

However, in 1995 a member of the Geisel family noticed the name Donlans Creek on a plat map and asked the WGNC to change it to Geisel Creek, citing “the Geisel family ancestry” and their longtime association with the stream. He also claimed that none of the area’s residents were familiar with the name Donlans Creek, nor with Dolans Creek, which had been applied to a 1990 township map. He reported that his grandfather Herman Geisel, Sr., acquired the property in 1884, with additional land being added by his sons William, Herman Jr., and Emil in 1919, 1927, and 1943. He also cited the confusion caused by having various names on maps and documents, suggesting that establishing the name Geisel Creek would eliminate much of that confusion. He believed the WGNC’s 1979 approval of Donlans Creek was a disservice.

In 1995, the WGNC considered the proposal to change the name to Geisel Creek, with one town supervisor recalling that he knew the stream as Geisel’s Creek [sic] during his 55 years of fishing there. However, the proposal was denied, citing the earlier approval of Donlans Creek. Despite the rejection, the WGNC minutes read, “The significance of Donlans Creek is uncertain.”

In 1997, Mr. Geisel petitioned the WGNC again, this time with a resolution of support from the Door County Commissioners and a petition signed by 75 local residents. In 1998, the WGNC voted to approve the change to Geisel Creek. Since then, several published State and local sources, including the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Lake Directory and the Door County Soil and Water Conservation Department Surface Water Inventory, have referred to the stream as Geisel Creek. The 2009 Door County Festival of Nature, a local neighborhood association newsletter, and a real estate listing also mention Geisel Creek. The Town of Sevastopol also supports the proposal, and the WGNC recently reaffirmed its support.

The proposal was forwarded to the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, the Forest County Potawatomi Community, the Hannahville Indian Community, and the Prairie Band of Potawatomi Nation. No response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion on the issue.

V. New Names agreed to by all interested parties

Liberty Creek, North Fork Liberty Creek, South Fork Liberty Creek, Iowa

(Review List 403)

Mouth:http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=41.535085&p_longi=-91.530919

Source:http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=41.533591&p_longi=-91.560810

North Fork Liberty Creek:

Mouth:http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=41.533591&p_longi=-91.560810

Source:http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=41.545477&p_longi=-91.572633

South Fork Liberty Creek:

Mouth:http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=41.533591&p_longi=-91.560810

Source:http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=41.525447&p_longi=-91.598811

This proposal would apply the new name Liberty Creek to an unnamed 2.7 km (1.7 mi) long tributary of the Iowa River in Johnson County, and North Fork Liberty Creek and South Fork Liberty Creek to the two tributaries that form the main branch. The proponent owns property through which the main stream flows and believes it needs an official name. She has confirmed with the Johnson County Soil and Water Conservation District Office that there is no name currently listed in their files. The name Liberty Creek was chosen because the stream flows through Liberty Township. The proponent included with her application a petition signed by 14 neighbors who support the proposed names. The tributaries are 1.9 km (1.2 mi) and 4 km (2.5 mi) long.

The Johnson County Board of Supervisors submitted a letter of support for the proposals, and the Iowa State Names Authority also recommends approval. A copy of the proposal was forwarded to the Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska, the Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma, the Otoe-Missouria Tribe of Indians, the Sac & Fox Nation of Missouri in Kansas and Nebraska, the Sac & Fox Tribe of the Mississippi in Iowa, the Santee Sioux Nation, and the Sac & Fox Nation, Oklahoma. Of these, only the Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska responded, noting they had no opinion on the issue. The lack of response from the other Tribes is presumed to also indicate a lack of an opinion.