

**U.S. Board on Geographic Names
Domestic Names Committee**

Seven Hundred and Second Meeting

Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C., Room 7000A

October 9, 2008 – 9:30 a.m.

Members and Deputy Members in Attendance

Douglas Caldwell	Department of Defense (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers)
Jon Campbell	Department of the Interior (U.S. Geological Survey)
Chick Fagan	Department of the Interior (National Park Service)
Bonnie Gallahan	Department of the Interior (U.S. Geological Survey)
Tony Gilbert	Government Printing Office
John Hébert	Library of Congress
Robert Hiatt	Library of Congress
Elizabeth Kanalley	Department of Agriculture (U.S. Forest Service)
William Logan	Department of Homeland Security (U.S. Coast Guard)
Curtis Loy	Department of Commerce (Office of Coast Survey)
(Chairman; not voting)	
Joseph Marinucci	Department of Commerce (Bureau of the Census)
Douglas Vandegraft	Department of the Interior (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)
Meredith Westington	Department of Commerce (Office of Coast Survey)

Ex-Officio

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

Staff

Jennifer Runyon, U.S. Geological Survey

1. Opening

The meeting opened at 9:30 a.m. The Chairman introduced Jon Campbell from the U.S. Geological Survey as a new deputy member for the Department of the Interior.

The Chairman reviewed the recent conference of the Council of Geographic Names Authorities (COGNA), noting that once again it was a very worthwhile meeting. The DNC meeting was well received and the attendees indicated they appreciated the opportunity to participate in the discussions. The State-Federal Roundtable included some interesting topics and there was good interaction between the States and the DNC members.

2. Minutes of the 701st Meeting

The minutes of the 701st meeting, held September 3rd, were approved with some corrections to the two agenda items entitled Tribal Consultation and Universal change to names containing

the word “Squaw”. Prior to this meeting, Fagan provided some additional wording to further clarify these two topics. Westington also asked that it be noted in the Communications Committee report that the DNC had encouraged representatives of COGNA to participate with the Communications Committee in future geospatial conferences and events. The amendments were accepted by the DNC and the minutes approved unanimously.

3. Communications and Reports

3.1 Chairman’s Report (Kanalley)

The Annual Meeting of the Geographical Names Board of Canada (GNBC) took place October 2nd and 3rd in Québec City, Canada. Kanalley, Gallahan, and Runyon were in attendance, as was Wayne Furr, Executive Secretary of COGNA. The program included sessions on international activities, liaison and promotion of GNBC and its mission, undersea feature naming policies, historic records preservation, and indigenous naming efforts. Gallahan presented a short paper on how the U.S. BGN deals with indigenous names and Tribal consultation. As is demonstrated each year, it is very apparent that the GNBC encounters many of the same issues and challenges as the BGN, and this led to a good dialogue between the representatives of the two boards.

3.2 BGN Executive Secretary’s Report (Yost)

The Foreign Names Committee (FNC) has been asked to review the request by the Assistant Secretary of State that the State Department should be designated the permanent chair of the FNC. This will be a topic for further discussion at the next FNC meeting on October 16th and at the full BGN meeting, scheduled for October 21st. The BGN meeting will take place at the Forest Service building in Rosslyn, Virginia.

3.3 Communications Committee Report (Westington)

The Communications Committee has not met since late August. Fournier is scheduled to make presentations on the BGN and GNIS activities at the upcoming meeting of the North American Cartographic Information Society (NACIS) in Missoula, Montana, and also at the annual Applied Geography Conference in Wilmington, Delaware.

Westington reported that she plans to attend the Coastal GeoTools Conference, to be held in early March in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, and if it can be arranged, there will be a presentation on the BGN. An abstract for the conference is due shortly, and it is important that the revised BGN pamphlets be available in time. Fagan and Vandegraff both expressed interest in learning more about this conference and offered to find out if their agencies would be participating.

The Committee will meet next in November, date and location to be determined, although it is possible it will be conducted by teleconference.

3.4 Executive Secretary's Report (Yost)

Yost reiterated the Chairman's comments regarding the success of this year's COGNA Conference, although the lower than average attendance was a disappointment. He asked whether the members thought the DNC meetings have become too long, or if the docket should be shortened to allow more time for in-depth discussions on specific issues. The DNC will discuss this issue as the next conference approaches.

Yost attended the Annual Meeting of the National States Geographic Information Council (NSGIC), held the week of September 8th in Keystone, Colorado. This venue always provides an excellent opportunity to learn about ongoing and forthcoming geospatial activities within Federal and State agencies. Many of the USGS Geospatial Liaisons were in attendance.

On September 30th, Yost made a presentation on the BGN and GNIS at the Virginia GIS Conference in Roanoke, Virginia. There was good attendance, with considerable interest and many questions.

A contract has been signed with PTFS, a Content Management Solutions company based in Bethesda, Maryland, to scan and archive the DNC's research files and historical records. Through a contract with SAIC, Eve Edwards, a former employee of the USGS Geographic Names Office, has been hired to serve as project manager for the scanning project. When completed, the files will be attached as PDF documents to the appropriate GNIS entry, allowing them to be accessed by both the staff and the public. It is hoped that a presentation on this project can be made at the 2009 COGNA Conference.

3.5 Staff Report (Runyon)

The proponent of the recent proposal to change the name of Richards Lake in Georgia to Southwire Lake, which was rejected by the DNC in September, has inquired as to whether the case can be reopened. After some discussion, the members indicated they did not see any reason to revisit their decision, but if the proponent could provide new evidence, such as a change of position by the State Names Authority, they would consider the possibility.

Runyon described a proposal that the DNC has received, to make official the name North Bench for a geographic feature in California (Review List 393). The California Advisory Committee on Geographic Names (CACGN) declined to offer a recommendation on the proposal, believing the name applies to an administrative feature rather than a natural feature. Runyon asked whether the DNC agreed with this interpretation. The DNC members reviewed the material and maps of the area and noted that there are eight other entries in GNIS for features in California named "Bench" and this is a natural feature. Staff will ask the CACGN if it wishes to revisit its decision not to provide a recommendation.

The DNC has received a proposal to name a geographic feature in the Grand Canyon National Park for E.O. Beaman, the photographer on one of John Wesley Powell's expeditions down the Colorado River. The proposed name is E.O. Beaman Point. The staff asked the Committee

whether it had an opinion regarding the use of the intended honoree's initials. The members responded that in accordance with their guidelines, they would prefer they not be included but that the staff should ask the proponent why an exception might be warranted.

The DNC staff has received a telephone call indicating that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Nebraska office is preparing to propose approximately 74 new names for unnamed lakes and streams in the Omaha area. A packet of material, including maps and letters of support from local authorities, is expected shortly.

A representative of Mansfield Township, New Jersey has indicated that the township wishes to submit new names to honor 13 military veterans from the area. A packet of material is expected shortly.

Runyon reminded the members of the proposal to apply the new name San Tan Foothills to an unincorporated residential area in Pinal County, just to the southeast of Phoenix. She asked the DNC whether Tribal authorities should be contacted, since the community is newly established and presumably local Tribes do not have any historical or cultural affiliation with it. The DNC responded that in accordance with established procedures, the Tribes in the area should be asked if they wish to comment on the new name.

The staff asked the Committee to consider when it is appropriate to revisit a decision. If the staff determines that there is sufficient new evidence and/or information that was not available at the time of the vote, can the staff make that determination? The Committee agreed that in instances when the new evidence is overwhelming, the staff can decide that the case should be reopened. If in doubt, the staff should continue to seek the Committee's guidance. A specific example was presented this month; in 2006 the DNC rejected a proposal to change the name of Blackman Peak in Idaho to Blackmon Peak. An amateur historian in Idaho (not the original proponent) has conducted additional research and uncovered considerable new evidence, including signed documents and land records, which the staff believes does corroborate the claim that the name might be misspelled. The case will be reopened, and after the Idaho Geographic Names Authority has had a chance to revisit the issue, it will be presented once again to the DNC.

The DNC recently received a proposal to change the name of Grob Lake in Montana to Wilderness Lake. This is the second such proposal, the first having been rejected by the DNC in March 2008. It is unclear whether the recent proponent was aware of the original request, but because there was no new evidence and because the first proposal was rejected citing overwhelming objections from the County and the State, the staff informed the proponent that the proposal could not be accepted.

A proposal to apply the new name Fishlips Lake to an unnamed lake in California was withdrawn after the proponent was advised of the restrictions of the Wilderness Policy.

A proposal to apply the new name Neruda Run to a stream in Pennsylvania (Review List 396) was later withdrawn after one of the local townships expressed an objection. The township supervisors suggested it would be more appropriate if the stream were named Steskal Run in

honor of a former local resident who also happens to be the late wife of the proponent of Neruda Run. The original proponent agreed to amend his proposal but asked that his wife's first name rather than her surname be submitted. The township agreed to amend its proposal and so once the research is complete the DNC will be asked to vote on Eileen Run.

3.6 GNIS and Data Compilation Program (Yost)

In September, the GNIS server was successfully relocated from Reston to Denver.

The University of Alabama has been awarded a new two-year contract to compile geographic names data for a buffer zone along the Gulf of Mexico, the Pacific coast and the U.S. Mexican border.

The issue of whether an impounded body of water should be classified as "lake" or "reservoir" was raised again. It has been decided that even if it was once a natural lake, the fact that it is later impounded by artificial means warrants it being reclassified in GNIS as "reservoir."

3.7 Tribal Consultation (Yost/Fagan)

At the COGNA Conference, Fagan presented his concerns regarding the process by which the BGN staff is consulting with Tribal authorities on geographic names cases. He suggested it might be more efficient if a notice were sent to a list of Tribal contacts whenever a new Quarterly Review List is released, inviting them to comment on any case in which they have an interest. This new procedure would relieve BGN staff of the need to pore over maps to identify specific Tribes, and also help to ensure that no Tribes are overlooked in the process.

The Committee agreed this appears to be a viable option, but recognized that preparing a comprehensive list of authoritative contacts for every Tribe could prove to be challenging. The staff relies currently on the BIA Tribal Leaders Directory, but only half of the Tribes have a valid e-mail address and so if each Tribe is to be notified once a quarter, the workload will still be considerable. Fagan suggested that posting a notice in the Federal Register might be another option, but the costs and logistics might prove to be prohibitive.

3.8 Universal change to names containing the word "Squaw" (Yost/Fagan)

At the COGNA Conference, Fagan suggested the DNC might wish to review the issues surrounding the ongoing effort by many individuals and groups to change the word "Squaw" in geographic names. In particular, Fagan had suggested that a universal substitution of the term "Indian Woman" for the word "Squaw" might satisfy the interests of those who believe the existing word is offensive. It would also relieve the staff of having to process the large numbers of name changes that might still be forthcoming.

After further review, the Committee determined that to institute a global change of "Squaw" to "Indian Woman" would not be feasible at this time. There is still some concern that "Indian Woman" might not be the best replacement, and the logistics involved in consulting and informing all affected parties would be overwhelming. Fagan noted that after hearing the

discussion at COGNA, the Oregon Geographic Names Board decided it might wish to try something similar in that State and so the Committee concluded it would be best to wait to see the results of the Oregon efforts.

3.9 Requirements for processing proposals in Wilderness areas (Yost/Runyon)

The Committee was informed that citing the restrictions of its Wilderness Names Policy, the staff, upon receipt of a proposal to name an unnamed feature in an area designated as wilderness or proposed wilderness, is asking the proponent to provide a reason why he/she believes an exception is warranted. The proponent is told that the proposal will be on hold and not processed further until a reason is given.

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 number (FID) has been noted following the name.

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

Change Squaw Creek (FID 391299) to Seastem Creek, Idaho (Review List 392)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this change.

Vote: 10 in favor
0 against
0 abstentions

Change Squaw Creek (FID 400110) to Teakweh Creek, Idaho Clearwater National Forest (Review List 392)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this change.

Vote: 10 in favor
0 against
0 abstentions

Change Squaw Lake (FID 791365) to In-thlam-keh Lake, Montana (Flathead National Forest) (Review List 396)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this change.

Vote: 10 in favor
0 against
0 abstentions

Change Cochram Creek (FID 1579025) to Cochran Creek and Cochram Lake (FID 1579026) to Cochran Lake, Wisconsin (Chequamegon National Forest) (Review Lists 395, 397)

A motion was made and seconded to approve these changes.

Vote: 10 in favor
0 against
0 abstentions

II. Disagreement on Docketed Names

Bay of Chippechaug vs. Bay of Tears vs. Body of Water at Mason Island vs. Chippechaug Cove vs. Chippechaug Inlet vs. Howe Bay vs. Huskie Cove vs. Mason Bay vs. Nutmeg Cove vs. Pegot Cove vs. Pegot Sound vs. Riding Way Cove vs. Saint Edmunds Bay vs. Sheep Cove vs. Shepherd Cove vs. Sheeps Cove vs. Shepherds Cove vs. Whalers Bay, Connecticut (Review Lists 391, 393)

A motion was made to accept the proposal for Chippechaug Cove. The motion died for lack of a second. A motion was then made and seconded to reject all the names, citing the lack of overwhelming support for any of the proposals.

Vote: 7 in favor
4 against
0 abstentions

The negative votes cited evidence that there was support from the Town Selectmen for Mason Bay.

June Bug Creek, Idaho (Review List 393)

A motion was made and seconded **not** to approve this new name, citing a lack of local or State support of the name and a belief that the name could be construed to honor a living person as the proponent's wife is named June.

Vote: 7 in favor
0 against
0 abstentions

Change Squaw Lake (FID 791383) to Lovell Lake or Skwoom-tsin Lake, Montana (Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest) (Review Lists 393, 396)

A motion was made and seconded to approve the proposal for Lovell Lake.

Vote: 8 in favor

4 against
0 abstentions

The negative votes were cast in support of the Montana State Names Authority and the Montana House Bill 412 Committee, both of which had endorsed the Salish name.

Beurys Run, West Virginia (George Washington National Forest) (Review List 396)

A motion was made and seconded **not** to approve this new name, citing a lack of local and State support for the name, as well as a lack of evidence that the intended honoree had any association with the stream in question.

Vote: 11 in favor
0 against
0 abstentions

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

Skoog Brook, Connecticut (Review List 397) (FID 2501778)

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

Vote: 7 in favor
0 against
1 abstention

IV. Revised Decisions - none

V. New Names agreed to by all interested parties

Moon Mountain, California (Review List 396) (FID 2501758)

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

Vote: 11 in favor
0 against
0 abstentions

The remaining names on the docket were deferred to the next meeting.

5. Location and Time of Next Meeting

The meeting adjourned at 12 noon. The next meeting of the Domestic Names Committee will be held November 13, 2008, at the Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C., at 9:30 a.m., Room 7000A.

(signed) *Louis A. Yost*

Louis A. Yost, Executive Secretary

APPROVED
(signed) *Curtis Loy*

Curtis Loy, Chairman
Domestic Names Committee

**U.S. BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES
DOMESTIC NAMES COMMITTEE
DOCKET
October 2008**

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

Change **Squaw Creek** (FID 391299) to **Seastem Creek**, Idaho
(Review List 392)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglemap?p_lat=46.77018&p_longi=-116.2345945&fid=391299

This proposal and the following one are the last of the thirteen proposals submitted by the Coeur d'Alene Tribe to change the names of various features in Idaho and eastern Washington that are named "Squaw." The Tribal Council believes the current names are offensive. The proposed replacement names were offered following consultation with Tribal members and historians, with most of the names referring to women or female characteristics and/or to individuals of historical significance to the Tribe. The name Squaw Creek is applied to an 8 km (5 mi) long tributary of Cameron Creek in northwestern Clearwater County, 32 km (20 mi) north of Orofino. The proposed replacement name, Seastem Creek, is of Coeur d'Alene origin and is reportedly the term used by a man to refer to his sister-in-law. According to the Idaho Geographic Names Board, the Clearwater County Commissioners "are not opposed [to changing the existing name], but are not fond of the proposed name." The State Board supports the name change.

Change **Squaw Creek** (FID 400110) to **Teakweh Creek**, Idaho
Clearwater National Forest
(Review List 392)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglemap?p_lat=46.6304692&p_longi=-115.4668052&fid=400110

This is the last of the thirteen proposals submitted by the Coeur d'Alene Tribe. The name Squaw Creek applies currently to a 6.4 km (4 mi) long tributary of the North Fork Clearwater River in central Clearwater County and within the Clearwater National Forest. The proposed replacement name, Teakweh Creek, is of Coeur d'Alene origin and is reportedly the word used to refer to one's father's sister. According to the Idaho Geographic Names Board, the Clearwater County Commissioners "are not opposed [to changing the existing name], but are not fond of the proposed name." The State Board supports the name change. The U.S. Forest Service has no objection.

Change **Squaw Lake** (FID 791365) to **In-thlam-keh Lake**, Montana
(Flathead National Forest)
(Review List 396)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglemap?p_lat=48.1299567&p_longi=-113.9092735&fid=791365

This proposal, submitted by the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, is to change the name of Squaw Lake to In-thlam-keh Lake. The current name applies to a 3.4 acre lake in southern Flathead County, approximately 33 km (21 mi) southeast of Columbia Falls and 32 km (20 mi) northeast of Flathead Lake in the Flathead National Forest. The origin of the current name has not been determined; the earliest map on which it has been located is the 1964 USGS topographic map. The proposed replacement name, In-thlam-keh Lake, is the Anglicization of the Salish word for black bear. The proponent adds that this lake lies in an area “important to the Pend d’Oreille people for hunting, fishing, gathering, and other purposes. In this area there are strong populations of black bears (*ursus americanus*).”

The Flathead County Commissioners do not have any objection to the proposed change, while the Montana State Names Authority supports it. The Manager of the Northwest Montana Wetland Management District, who also manages the Swan River National Wildlife Refuge, suggests the change is “a good idea.” The proposal also has the support of the U.S. Forest Service, the Montana House Bill 412 “Squaw Name Change” Advisory Committee, and the American Indian Caucus of the Montana State Legislature.

Change **Cochram Creek** (FID 1579025) to **Cochran Creek**
and **Cochram Lake** (FID 1579026) to **Cochran Lake**, Wisconsin
(Chequamegon National Forest)
(Review Lists 395, 397)

Stream: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglemap?p_lat=45.9468942&p_longi=-90.1009921&fid=1579025

Lake: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglemap?p_lat=45.9646715&p_longi=-90.1079375&fid=1579026

These spelling changes were submitted by the Wisconsin Geographic Names Council (WGNC) on behalf of the president of the Cochran Lake Management District. The 111-acre lake has been named Cochram Lake on Federal maps and reports since 1953, but the proponent says the name should be spelled “Cochran.” The 1.9 km (1.2 mi) long stream does not appear to flow directly into or out of the lake but is in very close proximity; it has been named on USGS topographic maps since 1971. The proponent included with his application copies of records from the Price County Historical Society which show that in the period 1880 to 1894 several patents for land in the vicinity of the lake were granted to individuals named Cochran. He says he knows of no family in the area named Cochram.

A search of the Internet yielded an equal number of references to both spellings, with the oldest being a map published in 1939 by the Wisconsin Conservation Department on which the lake was labeled Cochran Lake. The 2000 Price County highway map also labeled it Cochran Lake. A listing of lake names compiled by the Wisconsin Lakes Partnership includes Cochram Lake;

however, the same source notes that the lake is associated with the Cochran Lake Management District [sic]. Several real estate websites offer property for sale at Cochram Lake, and the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) also uses that spelling in several of its Chequamegon National Forest environmental reports.

The Town of Fifield and the Price County Supervisors both recommend approval of the change to “Cochran,” as does the WGNC, which stated “there was sufficient evidence showing a typographical error had occurred.” The USFS also supports the proposal. A copy of these proposals was forwarded to the Chippewa-Cree Indians of the Rocky Boy’s Reservation, the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians, the Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council, the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community, the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe, the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan, and the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians, all of which are Federally-recognized. Of these, only the Keweenaw Bay Community responded, stating that 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.

II. Disagreement on Docketed Names

**Bay of Chippechaug vs. Bay of Tears vs. Body of Water at Mason Island
 vs. Chippechaug Cove vs. Chippechaug Inlet vs. Huskie Cove vs. Mason Bay
 vs. Nutmeg Cove vs. Pequot Cove vs. Pequot Sound vs. Riding Way Cove
 vs. Saint Edmunds Bay vs. Sheep Cove vs. Shepherd Cove vs. Sheeps Cove
 vs. Shepherds Cove vs. Whalers Bay, Connecticut
 (Review Lists 391, 393)**

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=41.333333&p_longi=-71.960278

These 17 names have all been proposed for the body of water located immediately to the east of Mason Island in the Town of Stonington in New London County. The first proposal submitted to the BGN was for Mason Bay; the proponent, a resident of nearby Mystic, reports that this name has been in local use for over 100 years and that an official designation is needed “to identify [the] location for mooring permits and boating traffic.” The proponent reports that he applied the proposed name to a map that appeared in his 1976 volume entitled “Major John Mason’s Great Island.”

Major John Mason (c.1600–1672), for whom Mason Island was named, was a member of the Massachusetts Bay Colony who traveled west and settled along the Connecticut River, in an area that would later become established as the Connecticut Colony. According to an online report, “Tensions there rose between the settlers and the dominant tribe in the area, the Pequots, ultimately leading to bloodshed. After some English settlers were found dead, the Connecticut Colony appointed Mason to lead an expedition against the Pequot stronghold in Mystic. The result is known as the Mystic Massacre, and it was the major engagement of the Pequot War, which virtually destroyed the Pequot tribe.” In 1651, the island that would later bear his name was awarded to John Mason for his role in the incident.

After an online newspaper published an article and editorial entitled “At Sea Over What To Call Body of Water” and “Floating Some Names For Nameless Bay,” numerous local residents

wrote to suggest that it would be inappropriate to name the bay for Captain Mason. The article provided a link to the BGN's online application form, suggesting that its readers might wish to propose alternative names for the bay. Sixteen proposals were submitted; following is a brief description of the rationale, if provided, for each name.

Bay of Chippechaug

"The Pequots called the island "Chippechaug." In 2004, excavation of a building lot on Old North Road on Masons Island unearthed the remains of Indians, presumably Pequots, who lived there in the mid- to late 17th century, that is, after the 1637 massacre."

Bay of Tears

"[I am] Suggesting Bay of Tears because nearby Mason's Island was named for massacre of Pequot Indian tribe."

Body of Water at Mason Island

Chippechaug Cove

"Chippechaug is the native American name for Mason's Island [sic]. The road that runs along the cove is called Chippechaug Trail. I would think that the name Chippechaug Cove would be [more] politically correct than any name using Mason. We all have to drive down Chippechaug Trail to get on to the island. We see the cove from Chippechaug Trail, therefore it shouldn't be offensive to anyone."

Chippechaug Inlet

"Chippechaug was the name of the island west of this body of water used by the Pequot Indians prior to the island being taken by John Mason. It is now called Mason's Island [sic]."

Huskie Cove

"This is Uconn country, we are very proud of the Uconn Huskies. Huskie Cove is a natural choice and would be widely supported."

Nutmeg Cove

Origin not provided, but one of Connecticut's nicknames is "The Nutmeg State."

Pequot Cove

"It should be named Pequot Cove in honor of all the Native Americans, specifically Pequots, murdered by John Mason."

Pequot Sound

"The Mashantukets [sic] and Pequots Tribes have a burial ground adjacent to this body of water."

Riding Way Cove

"I was born and grew up in Mystic. As a young boy back in the forties, all of the locals from the Water Street area in Mystic always called the bridge connecting the mainland to Mason's Island [sic] the "Riding Way Bridge." Whenever we went crabbing, scalloping or clamming

in the cove that you're looking to name, we all used the name "Riding Way Cove." I'm not sure of the actual origin of the name, but I believe it refers to the current there that could take you out into the middle of the cove when the tide changed. My father and I would plan our fishing trips so that we'd go when the tide was outgoing and come back on the incoming tide. There was no way you could row against it. The fishermen who fished there for a living...and most of the people in Mystic from the 40's and even right up until the 80's there were locals who referred to the bridge as Riding Way. Even more recently in the 90's I've heard the Stonington Police refer to the bridge as Riding Way."

Saint Edmunds Bay

Origin not provided. St. Edmund was a martyred king of England; according to Wikipedia, he is the patron saint of "various kings, pandemics, torture victims, and wolves."

Sheep Cove

"This cove surrounds an island historically inhabited by many sheep. The island was a good setting for raising sheep since they could not escape."

Shepherd Cove

"[Named for a] herd of sheep that used to populate the unnamed Island."

Sheeps Cove

Origin not provided; presumably same as above.

Shepherds Cove

Origin not provided; presumably same as above.

Whalers Bay

"Refers to some of the historic activities of the area."

In an effort to determine local opinion, NOAA's Navigation Manager for Connecticut met with representatives of the Thames Maritime Coalition; the coalition's members discussed the appropriateness of the name and offered to contact the Pequot Tribe for input.

In addition to the island, there is also a small lake in New London County, as well as two capes, a summit, and various administrative features named "Mason."

The Stonington Town Selectmen, Mystic Harbor Management Commission, the Mason's Island Yacht Club, and the Masons Island Company have all expressed support for the proposal for Mason Bay. The Connecticut State Names Committee is in the process of being reconstituted; a representative of the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection, which will likely have responsibility for the new committee, believes it will likely be a few more months before its membership is in place and so the BGN should proceed with a vote on this issue.

A copy of the proposal for Mason Bay, along with a summary of the subsequent 16 proposals, was sent to the Eastern Paucatuck Pequot Indians, the Mashantucket Pequot Tribe of Connecticut, the Mohegan Tribe of Indians of Connecticut, and the Narragansett Indian Tribe of Rhode Island. Of these, only the Mohegan Tribe responded, with a letter objecting to Mason Bay and indicating that they would prefer the name Chippechaug Cove instead.

June Bug Creek, Idaho

(Review List 393)

Mouth: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=48.21806&p_longi=-116.25917

Source: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=48.22151&p_longi=-116.25611

The name June Bug Creek is proposed for a 0.5 km (0.3 mi) long tributary of Carter Creek in Bonner County. The perennial stream flows through the proponent's property before entering Carter Creek just upstream of its confluence with Denton Slough, an inlet of Lake Pend Oreille. The proponent reports that he and wife started referring to the stream by the proposed name shortly after purchasing the property in 2000, and since then other local residents have begun to use the name. June bugs are frequently found along the shady banks of the stream. The proponent also included with his application a letter from the grandson of the original pioneer owner of the property who reports that to the best of his knowledge the stream has never had a name. When asked if there might be any local residents named "June," the proponent revealed that it is his wife's name, and also that a couple of his neighbors are named June, and that the wife of the original property owner was named June Rose. However, he does not wish for the proposal to be considered as a commemorative name.

The Bonner County Commissioners were asked on three occasions to comment on the proposal, but no response was received. The Idaho Geographic Names Board, citing the lack of county response and a belief that the stream is too minor to be named ("it is not depicted on the USGS quadrangle"), declined to offer a recommendation. A copy of the proposal was sent to the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes and the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation, but no response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion. No other geographic features in Idaho are known to be named "June Bug."

Kopp Canyon, Idaho
(Targhee National Forest)
(Review List 396)

Mouth: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=43.49616&p_longi=-111.32981

Source: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=43.50393&p_longi=-111.31678

The new name Kopp Canyon is proposed for a 1.6 km (1 mi) long valley in Bonneville County and within Targhee National Forest. The proponent, who owns property on what was once the Kopp family's 640-acre ranch and near the mouth of the unnamed valley, is proposing the name in an effort to honor Edward Kopp (1882-1965). Mr. Kopp was a member of one of the

first families to homestead in the area, doing so in the early twentieth century. The ranch was sold by Mr. Kopp's widow in 1970. As the proponent notes, the Kopp family was important to the early development of Swan Valley and the Pine Creek Bench area.

The Bonneville County Commissioners were asked on two occasions to comment on the proposal, but no response was received. The second letter indicated that if the county did not reply, the BGN would presume they did not have an opinion. A copy of the proposal was sent to the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes. In early April 2008, the BGN staff received a telephone call from a representative of the Tribal Business Council, indicating that the Tribe did not support the existing proposal and that a counter-proposal in its language would be forthcoming within two weeks. No further correspondence was received. Citing the lack of County or Tribal input, the Idaho Geographic Names Board recommends approval of Kopp Canyon.

Change Squaw Lake (FID 791383) to Lovell Lake or Skwoom-tsin Lake, Montana
(Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest)
(Review Lists 393, 396)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglemap?p_lat=45.7575&p_longi=-113.2219444&fid=791383

These proposals were submitted to change the name of Squaw Lake, a 4-acre body of water in the Beaverhead-Deerlodge National Forest/West Pioneer Mountains Wilderness Study Area in northern Beaverhead County. The lake lies along a short unnamed tributary of a stream that was formerly named Squaw Creek but which was renamed by the BGN in September to Christiansen Creek. Three earlier proposals, to change the lake's name to Jurds Lake, Indian Woman Lake, or Christiansen Lake, were withdrawn.

The first proposal, for Lovell Lake, was submitted by a resident of Medicine Lake. Although the proponent does not support the Montana House Bill 412 "Squaw Name Change" Advisory Committee's efforts to eliminate the word "Squaw," he suggests that if the lake must be renamed, the replacement should honor families that have lived and ranched in the area for a length of time. Lovell Lake is intended to honor Charles Lovell (d. 1949), who settled in the area in 1912, and who until his death in 1949 lived in a cabin adjoining the lake. The Beaverhead County Commissioners and the U.S. Forest Service are in support of the change to Lovell Lake. The Montana State Geographic Names Authority was also initially in support of Lovell Lake, but after a reevaluation of the intent of the HB 412 Committee's legislation, the State decided to reverse its position and now supports the following counter-proposal.

The second proposal, for Skwoom-tsin Lake, was submitted by the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes. This proposal has the support of the Montana House Bill 412 Advisory Committee and the American Indian Caucus of the Montana State Legislature.

A decision on these proposals was deferred by the BGN at its September meeting, after it was noted that there is another lake in Beaverhead County, approximately 50 miles from the lake in question, that is named Lovells Lake. Some members expressed concern that the names are too similar and might cause confusion. Research shows that Lovells Lake, which has appeared on USGS topographic maps since 1979, was named for Phillip Lovell, who homesteaded there

around 1868. The proponent for Lovell Lake has not found any evidence that Phillip Lovell and Charles Lovell were related. When asked to comment on the situation, the Beaverhead County Commissioners stated that they would not object to the existence of Lovells Lake and Lovell Lake “because they are located so far apart and because Lovells Lake is a private lake.” Also listed in GNIS in Beaverhead County are Lovell Island, Lovell School (historical), and Lovells Gulch.

A copy of both proposals was also sent to the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation, the Eastern Shoshone Tribe of the Wind River Reservation, the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community, the Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians, the Nez Perce Tribe of Idaho, and the Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone Indians of Nevada, but no response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion on the issue.

Beurys Run, West Virginia
(George Washington National Forest)
(Review List 396)

Mouth: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=39.06123&p_longi=-78.58412

Source: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=39.04748&p_longi=-78.56134

The new commemorative name Beurys Run is proposed for a 2.9 km (1.8 mi) long tributary of Waites Run in northeastern Hardy County. The proponent, a resident of nearby Wardensville, believes the stream should be named in honor of his ancestor Colonel Joseph Lawton Beury (1842-1903), a West Virginia coal industry pioneer. Col. Beury, a native of Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania, and a Union Army captain, relocated after the Civil War to West Virginia, where he established the New River coalfield in 1873. He was the first to ship coal from the New River Valley on the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad. One report stated that his death in 1903 “marked the end of the early paternalistic coal baron era in West Virginia, where men who mined coal became rich coal barons and continued to live near the miners who worked in their coal operations.” Approximately 248 km (155 mi) from the unnamed stream, there is a small community and a summit in Fayette County named Beury and Beury Mountain, respectively. In addition, there is in the community of Quinnimont a monument to Col. Beury, commemorating his first shipment of coal. In Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania, Beury’s hometown, there is a community named Beurytown and a lake named Beury Lake.

The Hardy County Commissioners were asked on two occasions to comment on the proposal, but no response was received. The second letter indicated that if the county did not reply, the BGN would presume they did not have an opinion. The West Virginia State Names Authority does not support the proposal, citing the fact that Col. Beury has already been honored several times, as well as the lack of evidence of local support. The U.S. Forest Service also does not support it, citing the duplicate names issue and an apparent lack of association between Col. Beury and the unnamed stream. There are no Federally-recognized Tribes within 50 miles of the stream.

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

Whittaker Point, Colorado

(Review List 394)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=39.569176&p_longi=-106.719003

The new name Whittaker Point is proposed for a 2,772 m (9,094 ft) high summit in Eagle County, approximately 13 km (8 mi) southeast of the community of Eagle. The name is intended to honor Jesse Gordon Whittaker (1904-1981), who in 1932 homesteaded on land at the base of summit. The proponent is the son of the intended honoree; he reports that his father operated a cattle and sheep ranch and was “one of the original homesteaders in Eagle, [was] named National Woolgrower of the year, and was a major contributor to the area, the town of Eagle and its early development.” Mr. Whittaker’s ashes were scattered on the summit now proposed to be named in his honor. The proponent adds that the nearby resort area of Cordillera already includes several features named for his father, including Whittaker Cabin, Whittaker Pines, and Whittaker Pond. This proposal was submitted initially as Whittaker Mountain, but after the U.S. Forest Service expressed concern that the feature was not a distinctive “peak,” the proponent agreed to modify the generic to “Point.”

The BGN has received three letters of support for this proposal from longtime friends and colleagues of Mr. Whittaker. The feature lies just outside the boundary of the White River National Forest, but the USFS has expressed support for the proposal. The Eagle County Commissioners and the Colorado Geographic Names Board are also in support. A copy of the proposal was sent to the Northern Cheyenne Tribe, but no response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion.

Skoog Brook, Connecticut

(Review List 397)

Mouth: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=41.7134&p_longi=-72.35499

Source: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=41.68665&p_longi=-72.3479

The new name Skoog Brook is proposed for a 3.2 km (2 mi) long stream that flows into the southern end of Andover Lake in the Town of Andover. The proposal is intended to honor the proponent’s father, Henry Skoog (1913-1977), who after moving to Andover in 1945 became an active member of the community (the proponent’s maiden name is Skoog). Employed for many years as a milkman, Mr. Skoog also operated an ice cream business in the area. During that time, the Skoog family’s house was situated on the shore of Andover Lake, alongside the unnamed stream. The Andover Lake Property Owners Association and the Andover Lake Management Association both have no objection to the proposal. The Town of Andover Board of Selectmen supports the name. A petition signed by 544 area residents was also included. A copy of the proposal was sent to the Mashantucket Pequot Tribe of Connecticut, the Mohegan Tribe of Indians of Connecticut, and the Narragansett Indian Tribe of Rhode Island. Of these, only the Mashantucket Pequot Tribe responded, with a letter of support for the proposal.

The Connecticut State Names Committee is in the process of being reconstituted; a representative of the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection, which will likely have responsibility for the new committee, believes it will likely be a few more months before its membership is in place and so the BGN should proceed with a vote on this issue.

Change Olathea Creek (FID 2071690) to Lund Creek, Iowa
(Review List 398)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglemap?p_lat=41.6494444&p_longi=-90.3466667&fid=2071690

This proposal is to change the name of Olathea Creek to Lund Creek. The stream in question is 2.4 km (1.5 mi) long and flows generally northeast through LeClaire Township to enter the Mississippi River. The proponent, whose maiden name is Lund, is a member of the family that has owned property alongside the stream for many years; she reports that she inquired four years ago whether the stream was named and was told it was not. However, according to the Watershed Coordinator for the Scott County Soil and Water Conservation District, who submitted this proposal on behalf of the proponent, an effort in 2006 to name many of the unnamed streams in the Mississippi River corridor resulted in it being given the name Olathea Creek. This name was applied because the stream flows through the Olathea Golf Course.

The proponent of Lund Creek believes a name that honors a longtime landowner would be more appropriate. Her father, Hilding E. Lund (1902-1988), was an active member of the community for many years, having operated a farm implement and car dealership in Princeton. Mr. Lund is remembered for his devotion to the community, including his service as a Scott County Supervisor, member of the library board, and as grand marshal in the town's annual parade. He also was known for hosting a Christmas party at his dealership every year beginning in 1939, providing toys, stockings, and refreshments for 1,000 area children.

The proposal for Lund Creek included a petition signed by 19 local residents who support efforts to rename the stream; the list includes the Mayor of Princeton. The Partners of Scott County Watersheds, the Scott County Planning and Development Office, and the City of LeClaire also endorse the proposal. The Iowa Geographic Names Authority has found no other names assigned to the stream in official State records and therefore has no objection to the name change. The Manager of the Upper Mississippi Refuge has no objection to the proposal. A copy was sent to the following Federally-recognized Tribes: the Chippewa-Cree Indians of the Rocky Boy's Reservation, the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians, the Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council, the Hannahville Indian Community, the Ho-Chunk Nation of Wisconsin, Huron Potawatomi, Inc., the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community, the Match-e-be-nash-she-wish Band of Pottawatomi Indians of Michigan, the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe, the Ottawa Tribe of Oklahoma, the Prairie Band of Potawatomi Nation, the Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Indian Reservation, the Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians of Minnesota, the Sac & Fox Nation of Missouri, the Sac & Fox Nation of Oklahoma, the Sac & Fox Tribe of the Mississippi in Iowa, the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan, the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community of Minnesota, the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians of North Dakota, the White Earth Reservation, and the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska.

Of these, responses were received from the Sac & Fox Nation and the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community, both of which have no opinion on the issue, and from the Prairie Band of Potawatomi Nation, which has no objection. The lack of response from the other Tribes is presumed to also indicate a lack of an opinion.

Starry Brook, Pennsylvania
(Review List 397)

Mouth: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=40.295&p_longi=-76.96359

Source: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=40.30389&p_longi=-76.9764

The new name Starry Brook is proposed for a 1.9 km (1.2 mi) long tributary of Holtz Run in the northeastern corner of Cumberland County. The stream heads in Hampden Township, then flows to the south and southeast into East Pennsboro Township. According to the proponent, whose surname is Starry, the name is not only commemorative but also descriptive because the stream is “replete with shiny riffles.” The name is intended to honor her grandfather, Arthur Starry (1918-1966), who settled on the family’s property along the stream in 1951 following service in World War II.

The East Pennsboro Township Commissioners did not respond to two requests for comment on the proposal. The Hampden Township Commissioners and Director of Planning for Cumberland County both provided letters of support. The Pennsylvania Board on Geographic Names has no objection. There are no Federally-recognized Tribes within 50 miles of the stream.

IV. Revised Decisions - none

V. New Names agreed to by all interested parties

Moon Mountain, California
(Review List 396)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=38.34778&p_longi=-122.445

The new name Moon Mountain is proposed for an unnamed 531 m (1,741 ft) summit in eastern Sonoma County. The proponent is a local resident who reports that although the summit has never had an official name, the road on which he lives was officially named Moon Mountain Road in 1959 by a resolution of the Sonoma County Planning Commission. He adds that several businesses along the road use the proposed name, including Moon Mountain Vineyard and Moon Mountain Llamas. The proposed name recognizes the fact that the summit overlooks Valley of the Moon, the name of which is believed to date to at least the mid-nineteenth century. (Some sources suggest *Valley of the Moon* is the Anglicization of the Miwok and Pomo word *Sonoma*, although Edwin Gudde, author of *California Place Names*, does not agree.)

A decision on this proposal was deferred by the BGN at its September meeting, citing a concern that the summit was located some distance from Moon Mountain Road. However, this has since been clarified, and it has been demonstrated that the road is nearby.

The Sonoma County Supervisors are in support of this proposal, as is the California Advisory Committee on Geographic Names. The proponent provided a letter of “no objection” from the Federated Indians of the Graton Rancheria, noting that the summit’s name in the Coast Miwok language is Puluulukpais. In addition, the a copy of the proposal was sent to the following Federally-recognized Tribes: the Big Valley Band of Pomo Indians, the Buena Vista Rancheria of Me-Wuk Indians, the California Valley Miwok Tribe, the Chicken Ranch Rancheria, the Cloverdale Rancheria of Pomo Indians, the Cortina Indian Rancheria of Wintun Indians, the Coyote Valley Band of Pomo Indians, the Dry Creek Rancheria of Pomo Indians, the Elem Indian Colony of Pomo Indians, the, Hopland Band of Pomo Indians, the Ione Band of Miwok Indians of California, the Jackson Rancheria of Me-Wuk Indians, the Kashia Band of Pomo Indians of the Stewarts Point Rancheria, the Manchester-Point Arena Band of Pomo Indians, the Middletown Rancheria of Pomo Indians, the Pinoleville Pomo Nation, the Redwood Valley Rancheria of Pomo Indians, the Robinson Rancheria of Pomo Indians, the Rumsey Indian Rancheria of Wintun Indians, the Scotts Valley Band of Pomo Indians of California, the Sherwood Valley Rancheria of Pomo Indians, the Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians, and the Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk Indians. No response was received, which is presumed to indicate no opinion on the issue.

GNIS lists 77 geographic features in California with names containing the word “Moon,” including five in Sonoma County (the aforementioned valley and vineyard, plus a lake, Moonshine Pond, a campground, Moonrock Campground, and a mobile home park, De Anza Moon Valley Mobile Home Park). Of the 77 features, three are summits, Mount Mooney in Los Angeles County, Moonlight Peak in Plumas County, and Moonlight Mesa in San Bernardino County.

Pottery Run, Pennsylvania
(Review List 396)

Mouth: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=39.81528&p_longi=-77.15111

Source: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=39.82481&p_longi=-77.13295

This proposal is to apply the new name Pottery Run to an unnamed 2.1 km (1.3 mi) long tributary of Chicken Run in Adams County. The stream heads in Mount Pleasant Township and flows southwest along the western edge of the Borough of Bonneauville. The proponent suggests the new name would be an appropriate way to recognize the existence of the historic Ditzler Pottery that was located along the stream in the late 19th century. He reports that the Mount Pleasant Township Board of Directors and the Bonneauville Borough Mayor and Council are in support of the proposal, as is the Environmental Engineer for the Adams County Watershed Alliance. GNIS does not list any geographic features in Pennsylvania with the word “Pottery” in the name, but there are 24 containing “Potter” or “Potters.” Nine are streams, including five named Potter Run, but none are in Adams County.

Spring Creek Gap, Pennsylvania
(Review List 398)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gnis538/getgooglecoor?p_lat=40.929722&p_longi=-77.783333

This proposal is to name an unnamed gap located along the boundary between Boggs Township and Spring Township in Centre County. The feature is a prominent 0.8 km (0.5 mi) wide gap that cuts through Bald Eagle Mountain, between the two communities of Milesburg and Bellefonte. The stream which flows through it is named Spring Creek, and the proponent suggests it would be appropriate to name the gap because two others in the area already have official names (Curtin Gap and Howard Gap). He reports that the Centre County Conservation District and the Centre County GIS Department are in support of this name, and the Centre County Board of Commissioners, the Spring Township Supervisors, and the Tuscarora Nation of New York have all submitted letters in favor of the name. There are numerous features in Pennsylvania containing the name Spring Creek, but no gaps that use these words.

The Manager of Spring Township and the Centre County Board of Commissioners are in support of this proposal. The Boggs Township Supervisors did not respond to two requests for comment. The Pennsylvania Geographic Names Board has no objection. A copy of the proposal was sent to the Cayuga Nation, the Oneida Indian Nation of New York, the Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin, the Onondaga Indian Nation, the Seneca Nation of New York, the Seneca-Cayuga Tribe of Oklahoma, the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe, the Tonawanda Band of Seneca Indians of New York, and the Tuscarora Nation of New York. Of these, only the Tuscarora Nation responded, with support for the proposal. The lack of response from the other Tribes is presumed to also indicate a lack of an opinion.