

U.S. BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES
DOMESTIC NAMES COMMITTEE
 Seven Hundred and Forty-Fourth Meeting
 National Conservation Training Center
 August 20, 2012 – 8:30 a.m.

Members and Deputy Members in Attendance

Doug Caldwell	Department of Defense (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers)
Jon Campbell	Department of the Interior (U.S. Geological Survey)
Mark DeMulder	Department of the Interior (U.S. Geological Survey)
Andrew Flora	Department of Commerce (Bureau of the Census)
Michael Fournier	Department of Commerce (Bureau of the Census)
Tony Gilbert	Government Printing Office (Chairman) (not voting)
Betsy Kanalley	Department of Agriculture (U.S. Forest Service)
Sean Killen	Department of the Interior (U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service)
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 Vandegraff	Department of the Interior (Bureau of Ocean Energy Management)
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

Maria McCormick, U.S. Geological Survey
 Jane Messenger, U.S. Geological Survey
 Jennifer Runyon, U.S. Geological Survey
 Greg Winters, U.S. Geological Survey

1. Opening

The meeting opened at 8:30 a.m. The Chair announced he would not be voting, except in the case of a tie. Logan thanked the attendees for participating in this offsite meeting, and extended his appreciation to Killen and Vandegraff for making the arrangements.

2. Minutes of the 743rd Meeting

The Minutes of the 743rd meeting of the Domestic Names Committee, held July 12, 2012, were approved with a few amendments.

3. Reports

3.1 BGN Chairman (Logan)

The full BGN held its quarterly meeting on July 17th, during which it reviewed the commemorative naming policies of the advisory committees on Antarctic Names and Undersea Features. The BGN Executive Committee is expected to meet again in the near future and to provide a recommendation in order to resolve the outstanding issues. A decision regarding the ACAN proposal for Tuttle Point was deferred until the next BGN meeting.

3.2 BGN Executive Secretary (Yost)

BGN Chairman Logan has sent a letter to the Permanent Committee on Geographical Names for British Official Use thanking them for hosting the annual BGN-PCGN meeting in London.

Yost reported on his attendance at the five-year conference of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (UNGEGN) that was held in early August in New York. Also in attendance for all or some of the conference were Trent Palmer, Leo Dillon, Iain Crawford, Derek Hoffman, and Jennifer Runyon. Yost deferred a report on the conference until the next full BGN meeting. A postcard produced for the UNGEGN conference, which included an image from the USGS historical topographic map collection, was highlighted.

3.3 Communications Committee Report (Westington)

No report.

3.4 Executive Secretary's Report (Yost)

The three proposals that have been submitted for an unnamed barrier island in Brevard County, Florida are still in processing. Several jurisdictions have provided their recommendations.

At its April meeting, the DNC heard a presentation by representatives of Grant County, Oregon regarding the ongoing efforts to change the names of geographic features in Oregon that contain the word "squaw." The individuals indicated they would be submitting counterproposals to the names that have submitted by various tribal authorities for names in their native languages. Runyon and Yost reported that several counterproposals have been received and are now being processed.

Yost reported that Mark DeMulder would be arriving at NCTC later in the day, and on Tuesday morning, DeMulder would present to the DNC the draft policy proposed to be put in place by the USGS National Geospatial Program (NGP) regarding the future maintenance of administrative names in the Geographic Names Information System (GNIS).

3.5 Staff Report (Runyon)

Quarterly Review List 411 is nearing completion, with a release date expected by the end of the month.

Messenger reported that the Missouri Board on Geographic Names (MOBGN) is aware of several ongoing ‘name-that-stream’ contests. Proponents are coordinating their efforts with the MOBGN to ensure that the names comply with BGN guidelines. It is expected that the proposed names will not be commemorative in nature.

3.6 GNIS and Data Compilation Program (McCormick)

Work is underway to update names and locations in GNIS, principally for Montana, Washington, and Hawaii. Hawaii updates include datum shift corrections and the addition of diacritic marks recommended by the Hawaii Board on Geographic Names.

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

The Special Committee last met in July to discuss comments received from the Bureau of Indian Affairs Office of the Solicitor on the draft Policy X: Tribal Geographic Names. Key differences remain on whether to utilize Census TIGER Line files as the authoritative source for defining Indian Country. There was a brief discussion of the possible use of Tribal realty data as a supplemental source. It was the sense of the Committee that BGN policy does not make ownership determinative in name decisions. Several members of the Committee agreed to convene later in the day to discuss next steps. Kanalley offered to incorporate the Committee’s comments into the draft policy for inclusion in the *Principles, Policies, and Procedures* (PPP) document which was to be reviewed following the DNC meeting.

3.8 Update on Review of Principles, Policies, and Procedures (Logan)

Logan reported that following the DNC meeting, the review of the PPP would commence.

4. Docket

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

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

Change **Blue Mountain** (1516708) to **Sultan Ridge**, Washington (Snoqualmie National Forest)
(Review List 404)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this change.

Vote: 10 in favor
 0 against
 0 abstentions

II. Disagreement on Docketed Names

Clem Nelson Peak, California (Inyo National Forest) (Review List 408) (FID 2740411)

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

Vote: 10 in favor
 0 against
 0 abstentions

At this point, an additional member joined the meeting.

Mount Minerva Hoyt, California (Joshua Tree National Park/Joshua Tree Wilderness) (Review List 387) (FID 2740412)

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

Vote: 8 in favor
 3 against
 0 abstentions

The votes against the name cited a lack of an overriding need for an exception to the Wilderness Policy.

Change **Jew Pond** (FID 867776) to **Carleton Pond** or **Spring Pond**, New Hampshire (Review Lists 408, 410)

A motion was made and seconded to approve the name change of **Jew Pond** to **Carleton Pond**, citing the support of the town government and the State Names Authority.

Vote: 11 in favor
 0 against
 0 abstentions

Change **Summit Lake** (FID 1553143) to **Carl E Gainer Lake**, West Virginia (Monongahela National Forest) (Review List 408)

A motion was made and seconded not to approve the name change, citing the lack of local support and the negative recommendations of the State Names Authority and the U.S. Forest Service.

Vote: 11 in favor
 0 against
 0 abstentions

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

Wash Maybin Branch, Alabama (Review List 409) (FID 2740413)

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

Vote: 11 in favor
0 against
0 abstentions

Glass Branch, Missouri (Review List 410) (FID 2740414)

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

Vote: 11 in favor
0 against
0 abstentions

Seelinger Branch, Missouri (Review List 410) (FID 2740445)

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

Vote: 11 in favor
0 against
0 abstentions

Rufus Creek, Washington (Review List 404) (FID 2740446)

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

Vote: 11 in favor
0 against
0 abstentions

IV. Revised Decisions

Change the application of **Big McDonald Lake** (BGN 1975) (FID 640105) and apply the new name **McDonald Lake**, Minnesota (Review List 410) (FID 2740447)

A motion was made and seconded to approve the change and the new name.

Vote: 11 in favor
0 against
0 abstentions

Change **Mount Washington** (FID 1527835) (BGN 1977) to **Bryant Hill**, Washington (Review List 404)

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

Vote: 11 in favor
0 against
0 abstentions

V. New Names agreed to by all interested parties

Pond of Our Lady, Connecticut (Review List 408)

A motion was made and seconded to defer a decision on this proposal, citing the need to await a recommendation from the town government.

Vote: 10 in favor
0 against
1 abstention

Badger Ridge, Kansas (Review List 410) (FID 2740448)

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

Vote: 11 in favor
0 against
0 abstentions

Cottonwood Creek, Kansas (Review List 410) (FID 2740449)

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

Vote: 11 in favor
0 against
0 abstentions

Bobcat Fork, Missouri (Review List 410) (FID 2740526)

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

Vote: 11 in favor
0 against
0 abstentions

Rainbow Bridge Creek, New York (Review List 409) (FID 2740527)

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

Vote: 11 in favor
0 against
0 abstentions

Battlefield Bluff, Virginia (Review List 409) (FID 2740528)

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

Vote: 11 in favor
0 against
0 abstentions

Jordan Ridge, Washington (Review List 404) (FID 2740529)

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

Vote: 11 in favor
0 against
0 abstentions

5. Other Business5.1 PPP Issue: Proposals Submitted by Foreign Nationals (Fournier)

It has been suggested that foreign nationals have no standing to petition the BGN and that the BGN is responsible exclusively to U.S. citizens. Regarding a recent proposal submitted by a Canadian citizen, Fournier contended that the proper procedure was for that individual to work with the Geographical Names Board of Canada, which would then coordinate the issues between the two national naming authorities.

It was then noted that the statutes under which the BGN operates make no reference to citizenship, and in accordance with the Public Law, the mission of the BGN is to serve the interests of the Federal government. It was noted that non-citizens living in the U.S. are permitted to petition Federal agencies for various purposes. It was agreed that no changes to current procedures would be made at this time.

5.2 PPP Issue: Counterproposals (Caldwell)

The issue of when and how the DNC should accept counterproposals was addressed. Caldwell indicated that he had prepared a list of four options for handling counterproposals for the DNC's consideration:

- Any time prior to the DNC vote

- Once submitted, no counterproposals permitted. Any counterproposal would be processed as a name change after the decision
- Up until X days after the Review List is released
- X days prior to the DNC vote

After some discussion, and an explanation of how the staff currently processes counterproposals, it was agreed that the topic will likely require further discussion.

5.3 Request to revisit Ira Spring Mountain decision

Kanalley asked the DNC to consider new evidence that has been received in support of revisiting the previous decision not to approve a proposed change from Spring Mountain to Ira Spring Mountain for a summit in Washington. A motion was made and seconded to consider the evidence sufficient enough to warrant reopening the case.

Vote: 9 in favor
 2 against
 0 abstentions

5.4 Request for Waiver of Commemorative Names Policy

Yost asked the DNC if it would consider a request by Senator Schumer (New York) to name a geographic feature in the Town of North Hempstead for an individual who is still living. It was the agreement of the DNC that the policy would not be waived.

6. Closing

The meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

On Tuesday, at 8:00 a.m., the meeting was reconvened to allow DeMulder to present an overview of the changes proposed by the USGS National Geospatial Program (NGP) regarding the future maintenance of the GNIS. Three documents, including the NGP Policy Directive and the latest Data Life Cycle Management spreadsheet, were distributed; these documents highlighted the need to re-evaluate the mission of the BGN regarding the compilation and promulgation of administrative geographic names. Citing significantly decreased staffing and financial resources, the new policy proposes that the USGS should focus on the acquisition of national authoritative datasets for all feature types that are not under BGN purview. Within that group of features, USGS should further focus on those needed for current topographic map production. If a category of features is determined to be not needed by any Federal agency, it could cease to be maintained. It was further noted that Hydrography and Elevation data are the highest priority for USGS-NGP and that Geographic Names should be considered a “moderate investment.” The NGP is also focusing currently on the requirements of its four “Communities of Use” which have been identified by USGS as central to its mission: Water, Natural Hazards, Geologic Mapping, and National Resource Conservation.

Specifically, it is proposed that the BGN would continue to compile and render decisions on the names of natural features but would abrogate its authority for updating the names and locations of man-made (“cultural” or “administrative”) features to the national authoritative source for that class of feature. For example, the U.S. Department of Education would provide on a periodic basis a national file of school names and locations, which would be “ingested” into GNIS with little to no additional analysis or enhancement. The providers of this data would be educated on how to develop data sources that comply with Federal naming standards, thus removing the need for extensive GNIS staff review. No existing features in GNIS would be removed but they would no longer be maintained. If a user indicates that a name or location needs to be added or updated, the user will be advised to provide the information to the authoritative data source, which would then provide the addition or update to the GNIS on a pre-defined revision cycle.

Review of Principles, Policies, and Procedures (Logan)

On Wednesday, a motion was made and seconded to approve the PPP version dated August 15th, 2012, as amended August 20-22, with the exception of the Appendices that address Terms and Definitions; Acronyms; and the Roman Character Set. The DNC also authorized the staff to resolve the identified editorial issues. Once complete, the edited PPP will be distributed to the membership.

Vote: 11 in favor
 0 against
 0 abstentions

The next Domestic Names Committee meeting will be held September 13th, 2012, at 9:30 a.m. at the Department of the Interior.

(signed) Louis A. Yost

Louis A. Yost, Executive Secretary

APPROVED
 (signed) Tony Gilbert

Tony Gilbert, Chairman
 Domestic Names Committee

U.S. BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES
DOMESTIC NAMES COMMITTEE
DOCKET
August 2012

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

Change **Blue Mountain** (FID 1516708) to **Sultan Ridge**, Washington
(Snoqualmie National Forest)
(Review List 404)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p_lat=47.958404&p_longi=-121.722293&fid=1516708

This proposal is to change the name of Blue Mountain, one of two summits in Snohomish County with that name, to Sultan Ridge. The feature in question is 5.5 miles long and lies within Snoqualmie National Forest just to the south of the Sultan River and 5 miles north of the City of Sultan. The proponent, a local pilot and member of the Evergreen Soaring Club, claims the duplicate names are causing confusion because the two summits are just 15 miles apart and have approximately the same elevation. The other Blue Mountain lies at the edge of a U.S. Naval Radio Station and “thus is referenced in numerous government documents.” The proponent believes there would be no adverse consequences in changing the name of the summit in question “since it is not mentioned in any hiking guides”; however, the BGN staff was able to locate references to the name in publications of the Seattle Astronomical Society and the Washington Department of Natural Resources, both of which refer to a communication tower atop Blue Mountain.

The proposed name refers to the summit’s proximity to the City of Sultan. There are numerous features in the area named “Sultan,” including the Sultan River and its tributaries, and several schools. The City of Sultan was established in 1905, and “[in the 1870’s] named by miners and prospectors for the chief of a Snohomish sub-tribe who lived on the Skykomish River. His name was Tsul-tad or Tseul-tud, which the miners twisted into the present name” (Hitchman, 1985).

The proponent’s application noted that the name change is supported by the commander of the local Civil Air Patrol, the president of the Evergreen Soaring Club, and the director of the Sky Valley Chamber of Commerce.

The Washington Board on Geographic Names recommends approval of the proposal. Although the feature lies inside the boundaries of Snoqualmie National Forest, it is within a private in-holding and so the U.S. Forest Service has stated it does not have an opinion on the issue. As part of its research, the State Board contacted the government of Snohomish County, which did not respond to requests for comments and which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion. In addition, the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation, the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation, the Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe of Washington, the Snoqualmie Tribe, the Stillaguamish Tribe of Washington, the Swinomish Indians of the Swinomish Reservation, the Tulalip Tribes of the Tulalip Reservation, and the Upper Skagit Indian Tribe of Washington, all of which are Federally

recognized, were contacted for comment. No response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion.

II. Disagreement on Docketed Names

Clem Nelson Peak, California
(Inyo National Forest)
(Review List 408)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=37.3956642&p_longi=-118.1732368

This proposal is to apply the new commemorative name Clem Nelson Peak to an unnamed summit in Inyo County; the summit is also located within the Ancient Bristlecone Pine Forest, which is administered by Inyo National Forest. The name is intended to honor Clemens “Clem” Arvid Nelson (1938-2004), renowned paleontologist, stratigrapher, and author of geologic maps, who after retirement settled in the Owens Valley area, not far from the summit in question.

The name Clem Nelson Peak was originally proposed as a replacement name for Squaw Peak, also in the Inyo National Forest, and 25 miles from the feature in question. However, that proposal was withdrawn after the Big Pine Band of Owens Valley Paiute Shoshone Indians stated that the summit was located within its ancestral lands and therefore they wished to propose the name Wünüpü Peak instead. When advised of the Tribe’s objections and their counter-proposal, the proponent of Clem Nelson Peak withdrew his proposal and expressed support for Wünüpü Peak, adding “[We] believe Clem Nelson would support it with enthusiasm.” The name Wünüpü Peak was approved by the BGN in October 2011. The proponent then indicated he would work with the Big Pine Paiute Tribe to seek a different feature to be named for Mr. Nelson.

According to the proponent, “[Nelson] made and published U.S. Geological Survey geologic maps, not only of the quadrangle in which the peak lies, but also of all or parts of five other contiguous quadrangles in the White and Inyo Ranges of eastern California. Clem was a renowned paleontologist specializing in trilobites, a meticulous stratigrapher and participant in refining the Early-to-Middle Cambrian boundary, superb field geologist and author of geologic maps, dedicated and inspiring teacher of both his students and his colleagues, and friend and helper to everyone in need.” He also served in the U.S. Navy during World War II. At UCLA, he was geology department chairman, and following retirement in 1987, he served as undergraduate advisor, guiding and inspiring his department’s younger students. He led numerous geology field camps on the slopes above Owens Valley near Big Pine. He and his wife settled in the valley in 1987, yet remained active in the study of the geology of eastern California. Clem Nelson is remembered as “a remarkable source of support for younger generations of geologists working in the White-Inyo Range. His maps truly inspired generations of geologists to work in eastern California.” Six letters of support from the Nelson family and colleagues of Dr. Nelson were included with the proposal.

The Inyo County Board of Supervisors did not respond to several requests for comment (nor did they comment on the proposed change from Squaw Peak to Wünüpü Peak); the county was advised that a lack of response would imply a lack of an opinion. The Friends of the Eastern Museum of California, the California Advisory Committee on Geographic Names, and the U.S. Forest Service all support the proposal for Clem Nelson Peak.

In addition to the Big Pine Band of Owens Valley Paiute Shoshone Indians, fifteen Federally recognized Indian Tribes were contacted: the Death Valley Timbi-Sha Shoshone Band of California, the Fort Independence Indian Community of Paiute Indians, the Fort McDermitt Paiute and Shoshone Tribes of the Fort McDermitt Indian Reservation, the Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians of the Kaibab Indian Reservation, the Las Vegas Tribe of Paiute Indians of the Las Vegas Indian Colony, the Moapa Band of Paiute Indians of the Moapa River Indian Reservation, the Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah, the Paiute-Shoshone Indians of the Bishop Community of the Bishop Colony, the Paiute-Shoshone Indians of the Lone Pine Community of the Lone Pine Reservation, the Paiute-Shoshone Tribe of the Fallon Reservation and Colony, the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe of the Pyramid Lake Reservation, the Reno-Sparks Indian Colony, Te-Moak Tribe of Western Shoshone Indians of Nevada, the Walker River Paiute Tribe of the Walker River Reservation, and the Yerington Paiute Tribe of the Yerington Colony and Campbell Ranch. Three tribes responded, including the Big Pine Paiute Tribe, which supports the proposal. The Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians responded as having no opinion. The Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah responded by stating “we feel that a man who was BORN [sic] in Minnesota on November 26, 1918, not in California. Mr. Nelson worked at UCLA for about 39 years until he retired, but remained active in the geology of Eastern California. He sounds like a good person, but our Indian people have been here for thousands of years, and the Tribe here would be in support of having it named by the local Tribes in the surrounding area. Our Indian people have had great and powerful men as well, and are from California. We strongly oppose this name.” The Tribe, which was advised of the Big Pine Paiute Tribe’s support for the proposal, did not submit a counter-proposal.

Mount Minerva Hoyt, California
(Joshua Tree National Park/Joshua Tree Wilderness)
(Review List 387)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=34.013196&p_longi=-116.2266719

This proposal is to apply the new commemorative name Mount Minerva Hoyt to a summit in a wilderness area of Joshua Tree National Park. The proposal was submitted by the Chief of Interpretation at Joshua Tree National Park/Joshua Tree Wilderness in honor of Minerva Hamilton Hoyt (1866-1945). The 5,405-foot summit in question lies within the Little San Bernardino Mountains in Riverside County, 13 miles southwest of Twentynine Palms.

Minerva Hoyt was a native of Mississippi who moved to southern California with her husband around 1900. In addition to being known as a Pasadena socialite, she developed an enduring love for the desert and its native habitat, particularly the Joshua trees. Over the years, she fought to preserve the desert’s fragile environment, which earned her the nickname “Apostle of the Cacti.” In 1927, Hoyt began work with landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted Jr. on a survey of possible areas to be designated as state parks. One of the areas identified by the newly established California State Parks Commission encompassed the Joshua trees, but Hoyt suggested this area warranted national park status instead. She also wrote a magazine article in support of creating an international desert park along the United States-Mexico border; in 1931, Mexico named a newly discovered species of cacti in her honor. As a result of her efforts to preserve the desert landscape, Joshua Tree National Monument was created by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1936.

Previous efforts to honor Mrs. Hoyt by naming a feature in her honor have been unsuccessful. In 1979, the BGN was asked to name a summit, also in a wilderness area of the Monument; however, after the National Park Service (NPS) expressed opposition because of the Wilderness Policy, the issue was not pursued (it was not presented to the BGN for a vote). In 1993, the issue was raised again, with the Monument superintendent suggesting to the NPS Regional Director that efforts to honor Mrs. Hoyt were long overdue, and noting also that the previous proposal had had the support of a former Monument superintendent who had known Mrs. Hoyt personally. It is not clear why the 1993 proposal was also not presented to the BGN; it appears the matter was not pursued by the NPS.

The proponent of the current proposal, citing the two previous attempts, believes a commemorative name for Mrs. Hoyt is warranted. The Riverside County Board of Supervisors has no objection to the proposal, while the Twentynine Palms Historical Society supports it. The California Advisory Committee on Geographic Names (CACGN) initially recommended disapproval, citing the BGN's Wilderness Policy but also a concern that the relatively insignificant feature was not commensurate with Mrs. Hoyt's contributions to the Monument. However, after learning that the NPS now believes an exception to the Wilderness Policy is warranted, "because of an overriding need ...for purposes of education [and] area administration," the CACGN voted to reverse its position and support the proposal. The Augustine Band of Cahuilla Indians supports the proposal, while the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians has no opinion. The Cabazon Indian Tribe, the Morongo Indian Tribe, and the Twentynine Palms Indian Tribe, all of which are Federally recognized, were also contacted, but did not respond. The lack of response is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion.

Change **Jew Pond** (FID 867776) to **Carleton Pond** or **Spring Pond**, New Hampshire
(Review Lists 408, 410)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p_lat=42.8964739&p_longi=-71.672017&fid=867776

The names **Carleton Pond** and **Spring Pond** have both been submitted as replacement names for **Jew Pond**, a 0.6-acre body of water located in the Town of Mont Vernon in Hillsborough County. The five-acre park in which the pond is located is named George O. Carleton Park and is managed by the Mont Vernon Conservation Commission.

According to an article in *The Nashua Telegraph*, "The name **Jew Pond** dates back to the late 1920s, near the end of the town's era as a summer resort for people who, in the days before air conditioning, sought relief in hilltop communities such as Mont Vernon. The pond was originally made around the turn of the century by damming a small brook for the Grand Hotel, which was perched atop nearby Prospect Hill. In 1927, two Boston lawyers who were Jewish bought the Grand Hotel with the idea of creating a resort catering to Jews at a time when many New Hampshire resorts discouraged Jewish guests. That was when town residents began to apply the name 'Jew Pond' to the small body of water. Their idea never came to fruition, and the Grand Hotel burned down in 1930." The pond now serves as a source of water for the local fire department, as well as for recreational fishing. The name **Jew Pond** first appeared on USGS topographic maps in 1966; the name edit sheet states that the source of the name was a 1961 town zoning map.

The first attempt to change the name of the pond was made in June 2011 by the Town of Mont Vernon Health Officer, who stated, “A cyanobacteria bloom in a small pond in our town required that our town, in conjunction with health officials from the State of New Hampshire, temporarily close access to the pond. As word of the pond closure spread and was publicized in our town newsletter and area newspapers, many in our community were surprised to learn that the official name of the pond is Jew Pond.” He adds, “I have spoken to several townspeople who find the Jew Pond name derogatory and offensive. Many found the name embarrassing to our town.” He initially proposed the name Frog Pond in reference to “[the] many frogs [which] live in and around the pond and [which] can be heard calling in summer evenings.”

After the proposal was publicized in *The Nashua Telegraph*, the BGN was contacted by a member of the Carleton family objecting to the choice of Frog Pond as a replacement name. He asked the BGN “to confirm the commonly used name, namely Carleton Pond,” noting that the pond and surrounding land were donated to the Town by his grandfather George O. Carleton, and that “to give it any other name (especially ‘frog pond’) is an insult to his memory and highly inappropriate.” The proponent of Frog Pond responded, “I believe that due respect has already been bestowed to the Carleton’s [sic] in the form of naming features of the town and another name should be considered. Also, having a Carleton Pond within Carleton Park appears to be somewhat redundant.”

The Nashua Telegraph article continues, “A sign at the pond talks about Carleton Park, the name of the town-owned, 5-acre parcel that includes the pond; as a result, the water body is often referred to as Carleton Pond. The parcel was donated to the town in 1971 by the family of the late George Carleton, who owned hundreds of acres in Mont Vernon. The donation was touted on the cover of the 1971 town report, which said, “The area commonly known as Jew Pond ... will now be known as the George O. Carleton Park.”

After initially expressing reluctance to change the pond’s existing name, citing its historical significance, the Town of Mont Vernon Board of Selectmen voted in March 2012 to support the renaming efforts. Several replacement names, including Grand Hill Pond, Lake Serene, and Spring Pond, were discussed but no name was selected. A month later, the Selectmen stated that they would support the name Carleton Pond. Following the vote, the proponent of Frog Pond requested that his proposal be amended to Spring Pond. He claims that prior to being given the name Jew Pond, the body of water was known as Spring Pond because it had been created by damming a spring-fed creek.

The Jewish Federation of New Hampshire (JFNH) expressed concern over the existing name, as did the head of the Catholic Diocese of Manchester, but neither stated a preference for either proposal. U.S. Senators Jeanne Shaheen and Kelly Ayotte submitted a letter asking that the BGN change the name. The government of Hillsborough County did not respond to several requests for comment, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion. The New Hampshire State Names Authority supports the proposal for Carleton Pond. According to NAGPRA, there are no tribes with an interest in Hillsborough County.

Change **Summit Lake** (FID 1553143) to **Carl E Gainer Lake**, West Virginia
(Monongahela National Forest)
(Review List 408)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p_lat=38.2521013&p_longi=-80.4371332&fid=1553143

This proposal is to change the name of Summit Lake in Monongahela National Forest in Greenbrier County to Carl E Gainer Lake. In 1997, the West Virginia State Legislature passed Senate Concurrent Resolution 23, which renamed the feature Carl E. Gainer Lake (with the period in the name) in honor of Carl Edwin Gainer, Sr. (1915-2006), “As a fitting tribute to a man who has given much to his county and state by his membership in the Senate of West Virginia, his service as a commissioner of natural resources and as a businessman whose influence in his community has brought about change for the betterment of all the citizens, including the development of Summit Lake.” Senator Gainer was also a school principal in Barbour County from 1934 to 1941, served in World War II, and established an oil company and cable TV company. He served in the State Senate for 24 years, and was chairman of the 17-State Southern Legislative Leaders Conference. He was the recipient of awards from the Isaac Walton League Funding and Conservation Department, the West Virginia Wildlife Federation, and the U.S. Forest Service, as well as the Governor’s Distinguished West Virginian Award.

The Summit Lake project was developed in 1955, and named for its location at the top of a mountain, with an elevation of over 3,000 feet. The name first appeared on USGS topographic maps in 1966. Summit Lake is impounded by Summit Lake Dam. Summit Lake Campground, administered by the U.S. Forest Service, is located adjacent to the reservoir. The dam and campground were not mentioned in the State legislation.

The proponent of the change to Carl E Gainer Lake served as executive secretary to Senator Gainer for many years. The proposal was originally submitted to the BGN in 2007, along with a letter from Senator Robert Byrd requesting that the Forest Service “look into the matter,” but the proponent and the Senator were advised that it could not be accepted as the required five-year waiting period for commemorative names had not been satisfied. In August 2011, shortly after the fifth anniversary of Senator Gainer’s death, the proposal was resubmitted to the BGN.

The government of Greenbrier County did not respond to requests for comments, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion on the proposal. West Virginia State Senator Greg Tucker supports the name change proposal, while U.S. Senator Joe Manchin and Congressman Nick J. Rahall both requested to be kept informed of the BGN’s decision.

The U.S. Forest Service (USFS) does not support the proposal, citing a lack of a significant association between the honoree and the feature; a lack of local support or usage of the name since the Legislature approved it; and potential confusion that could result from changing a longstanding name. The USFS added, “Features and facilities on the Forest typically carry names which relate to the landscape. There are no named features with a complete name of a recently living individual so a change in this case could be viewed as precedent setting.” Finally, “We have no indication that when this reservoir was established, Mr. Gainer’s assistance was so substantial that there was thought given to naming this new feature after him at the time.”

The West Virginia State Names Authority also recommends disapproval, also citing a lack of local support and a reluctance to change a longstanding name. It was also noted that this is the third highest lake in West Virginia so the current name is appropriate.

According to the NAGPRA Native American Consultation Database, there are no Federally recognized tribes with an interest in Greenbrier County.

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

Wash Maybin Branch, Alabama

(Review List 409)

Mouth: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=31.458518&p_longi=-85.204806

Source: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=31.445966&p_longi=-85.182896

This proposal is to make official the commemorative name Wash Maybin Branch for a 1.8-mile-long tributary of Abbie Creek in Henry County. The proponent originally proposed the name Creek Indian Branch, but after speaking with a local historian, he learned that the stream is already known informally as Wash Maybin Branch.

Wash Maybin was an African-American midwife of the early 1900s, who is remembered as “the midwife to all the people in the area.” Ms. Maybin, whose birth and death dates are not known, was highly respected and “well loved by black and white people of her community.” An online search for Ms. Maybin yielded no results, although a few genealogy websites confirm that the surname Maybin was found in Henry County in the second half of the nineteenth century. A local road that passes the farm where the honoree lived and which parallels the stream is named Wash Maybin Road.

The Henry County Commissioners did not respond to requests for comment, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion on the proposal. The Alabama State Names authority has no objection. The Muscogee (Creek) Nation, which is Federally recognized, did not respond to a request for comments, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion.

Glass Branch, Missouri

(Review List 410)

Mouth: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=38.2733330&p_longi=-94.2786110

Source: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=38.2611110&p_longi=-94.2583330

This is the first of three proposals submitted by the Poplar Heights Farm Nature Conservancy to apply new names to unnamed streams in Summit Township. This 1.6-mile-long stream proposed to be named Glass Branch flows northwest to enter Willow Branch. A native of North Carolina, George Washington Glass (c.1796-1875) served in the 7th Regiment, Pearson’s North Carolina

Militia in the War of 1812. In 1844, Major Glass relocated to Missouri, where he patented 80 acres in Summit Township. He and his family were the earliest settlers in this part of Bates County. By 1860, he had amassed considerable wealth with real property of \$6,400. In addition to farming, he was a merchant in the city of Butler. In 1863, General Ewing's Order #11 required all persons living in Bates County to immediately leave the county. George Glass moved his family first to Henry County and then to St. Clair County, where he died in 1875. However, by 1880 there were 17 members of the Glass family still remaining in Bates County. The stream proposed to be named Glass Branch flows through the original Glass farm. Glass Cemetery is on a hill above the stream.

This proposal is supported by the management of Poplar Heights Farm as well as the Bates County Commissioners. The Missouri Board on Geographic Names also recommends approval. The proposal was forwarded to the Osage Nation, which is Federally recognized. No response was received from the other tribes, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion.

Seelinger Branch, Missouri

(Review List 410)

Mouth:http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=38.2786110&p_longi=-94.2675000

Source:http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=38.2897220&p_longi=-94.2477780

This proposal, also submitted by The Poplar Heights Farm Nature Conservancy, is to apply the new name Seelinger Branch to an unnamed 1.6-mile-long tributary of Willow Branch in Summit Township in Bates County. The stream flows through the Poplar Heights Farm. The original farm was owned by Adam Seelinger (1830-1908), who settled in Bates County shortly after the Civil War with his wife and sons. He purchased the 640-acre property that is now Poplar Heights Farm, which later passed to his sons Johannes "John" (1859-1933) and William (1861-1944). John Seelinger was particularly influential in Summit Township, serving on township and church boards, while William donated land for Summit School. All three honorees were influential and innovative farmers in the area. The proponent believes that the proposed name, Seelinger Branch, would honor these progressive farmers and their contributions to the development of Bates County. In January 2012, the BGN approved the new name Daisys Creek for Daisy Seelinger Bartlett (1883-1969), who was John's daughter and who grew up along the stream.

The proposal is supported by the Bates County Commissioners as well as the management of Poplar Heights Farm. The Missouri Board on Geographic Names also recommends approval. The proposal was forwarded to the Osage Nation, which is Federally recognized. No response was received from the other tribes, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion.

A query of GNIS revealed one other feature in Missouri with a name containing the word "Seelinger"; Seelinger School is located in Bates County, a short distance from Willow Branch.

Rufus Creek, Washington
(Review List 404)

Mouth: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=48.719961&p_longi=-122.354264

Source: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=48.7055555&p_longi=-122.3680555

This proposal is to apply the name Rufus Creek to a 1.2-mile-long tributary of Beaver Creek in southwestern Whatcom County, southeast of Bellingham and just outside the community of Sudden Valley.

According to the proponent, the name would honor Rufus Green (d. 1962), a logger who lived along the stream for many years. His old barn still stands along Lake Louise Road near the source of the stream. Rufus was known simply as “grandfather of the area.”

The Whatcom County Council stated that it has no opinion on the proposal. The Washington Board on Geographic Names noted the lack of documentation for the proposal, though one longtime member of the State Board recalled the name being in use years ago. The State Board recommends approval of the proposal. The Nooksack Indian Tribe of Washington, the Lummi Tribe of the Lummi Reservation, and the Upper Skagit Indian Tribe of Washington, all of which are Federally recognized, were contacted for comment but did not respond. The lack of response is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion.

IV. Revised Decisions

Change application of **Big McDonald Lake** (BGN 1975) (FID 640105)
and change the name to **McDonald Lake**, Minnesota
(Review List 410)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p_lat=46.5708643&p_longi=-95.758704&fid=640105

This 575-acre irregularly-shaped lake is one of a series of lakes which at one time formed one large contiguous body of water. Because the geography has changed over time, the lake has become separated and so the proposal is to apply the name McDonald Lake to distinguish it from the larger Big McDonald Lake. The latter name would then apply only to the middle lake, lying between West McDonald Lake, the unnamed lake proposed to be named McDonald Lake, and Little McDonald Lake to the northeast. As the proposal states, “The basin is part of “Big McDonald” and since the lake was lowered many years ago, the sub basin in question was separated from the main body of water and is now referred to by residents as a separate lake.” An 1864 Edna Township plat map confirmed that these multiple lakes were once a single lake, although no name was applied to that map. Around 1907 a ditch was dug from the lake southward to Round Lake, causing the water level to drop. Over the years, wave action has built up several sandbars and a falling water level divided the single lake into multiple lakes.

The name Big McDonald Lake was made official by the BGN in 1975. The decision resulted from a proposal by a USGS cartographer to recognize that a portion of the larger McDonald Lake had

become separated and so the names Big McDonald Lake and West McDonald Lake were proposed. The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources concurred with the suggestion and the latter two names were approved. The 1975 case file recognized that the lake to the east (the currently proposed McDonald Lake) was also starting to separate, yet there was no evidence that local people were yet calling it East McDonald Lake. As the proposal states, “Although it would seem natural to call the eastern most basin “East McDonald” this name never caught on and when suggested to the original petitioner, it was found that some residents were against the name change if the outcome was ‘East McDonald.’” If this proposal is approved, the extent of Big McDonald Lake will be amended.

After holding a public hearing, the Otter Tail County Commissioners passed a resolution recommending approval of the name and application change. The Minnesota Geographic Names Authority supports the changes as well. A copy of the proposal was forwarded to the following Federally recognized tribes: the Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe, the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe (Leech Lake Band), the Lower Sioux Indian Community of Minnesota, the Prairie Island Indian Community of Minnesota, the Santee Sioux Nation, the Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate of the Lake Traverse Reservation, the Spirit Lake Tribe, the Upper Sioux Community of Minnesota, and the White Earth Band of Minnesota. No response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion.

Change Mount Washington (FID 1527835) (BGN 1977) to Bryant Hill, Washington
(Review List 404)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p_lat=48.3039923&p_long=-122.1062561&fid=1527835

This proposal is to change the name of Mount Washington in Skagit County to Bryant Hill. The current name has appeared on Federal maps since 1956, and was reaffirmed by the BGN in 1977.

The original USGS topographic map of the area, published in 1911, labeled the summit Bald Mountain, but in 1956 the name was changed to Mount Washington (it appears the BGN did not render a decision on the change, but a “Controversial Name Report” was submitted by a USGS editor explaining that having two summits with the same name on the same map was confusing and Mount Washington was recommended for one of them. The other Bald Mountain is 5 miles away). Despite the change on USGS maps, the U.S. Forest Service continued to label the summit in question Bald Mountain (it is not within the National Forest but appears on the forest visitors’ map). In 1977, the BGN was asked to review the situation and voted to reaffirm the name Mount Washington.

Despite the decision, the current proponent, who is a resident of Seattle and a member of the Evergreen Soaring Club, believes the existing name causes confusion because there is another prominent and better known summit named Mount Washington in relatively close proximity. The two summits are 63 miles apart and the other serves as a significant navigation landmark for pilots approaching Seattle and the foothills of the Cascades. As the proponent notes, “Relating our positions requires reference to geographic features, particularly hills and mountains. This would also be vital in case of missing pilots for search and rescue.” He adds, “The proposed name Bryant Hill would recognize the small but historic community of Bryant several miles southwest of [the summit]. Bryant was named for the Bryant Lumber and Shingle Company that operated in this area

from 1892 to 1906 when it was taken over by the larger Stimson Lumber Company. The Bryant Country Store --- on the Snohomish County Local Historical Register --- is now all that is left of the old Bryant. It would seem appropriate that these two hills together (Bryant Hill and Stimson Hill) would reflect the local history.”

The Skagit County Commissioners and the Washington Board on Geographic Names both support the proposed change. The Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation, the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation, the Lummi Tribe of the Lummi Reservation, the Samish Indian Tribe, the Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe of Washington, the Stillaguamish Tribe of Washington, the Swinomish Indians of the Swinomish Reservation, and the Upper Skagit Indian Tribe of Washington, all of which are Federally recognized, were contacted for comment, but none responded. The lack of response is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion.

V. New Names agreed to by all interested parties

Pond of Our Lady, Connecticut (Review List 408)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=41.5475481&p_longi=-72.0577061

This proposal is to apply the new name Pond of Our Lady to a 0.1-acre lake located on property owned by the proponent. The proponent states that the previous owners informed her that the pond became a swamp after a hurricane in 1938, but that it was restored in 2004 to be used as a retention area in times of flooding.

The original proposal was to apply the name The Rose of Our Lady Pond. This name was chosen because the City of Norwich is often known as “the Rose of New England,” and the proponent also intends to have an area for peace and prayer. She adds, “Our nation’s greatest Marian Shrine is located in Washington, DC and dedicated to the Patroness of the US – the Blessed Virgin Mary, and Our Lady of the Guadalupe in Mexico is known as the Queen of the Americas. Dedications to our Lady is [sic] a very common practice.”

The Connecticut State Names Authority (SNA) contacted the Town of Norwich government, which supported the proposal for The Rose of Our Lady Pond. The Town Historian was unable to locate the pond on any historic maps of the area, and did not find evidence of any existing name. As such, he recommends honoring the owner’s request in naming the pond. However, the SNA did not support the name, believing it violated the BGN’s Long Names Policy.

A decision on the original proposal was deferred by the BGN in July 2012, citing the SNA’s objections and a belief that the name was indeed too long. The staff contacted the proponent to ask if a shorter name would be acceptable. She amended her proposal to Pond of Our Lady. The SNA supports the amended proposal. The SNA also contacted the Mashantucket Pequot Tribe of Connecticut and the Mohegan Indian Tribe of Connecticut, both of which are Federally recognized. The Mohegan Tribe responded as having no opinion, while no response was received from the Mashantucket Pequot Tribe, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion.

According to GNIS and internet searches, there are no churches with the name “Our Lady” in the Town of Norwich.

Badger Ridge, Kansas

(Review List 410)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=39.05694444444444&p_longi=-94.65444444444445

This is the first of two proposals submitted by a resident of Lawrence to apply new names to two unnamed features. The 0.1-mile-long slope proposed to be named Badger Ridge trends generally north-south, is approximately 60 feet high, and extends for a length of about 790 feet. The proponent states, “The well-defined steep timber ridge has been and currently is home to a badger population as evidenced by the number of earthen mounds at the entrance to their burrows and occasional observations.” These burrows undercut the shallow limestone rock.

The Wyandotte County Commissioners have no objection to the name, while the County GIS Director supports it. The Kansas State Names Authority also recommends approval. A copy of the proposal was sent to the following Federally recognized tribes: the Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska, the Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma, the Omaha Tribe of Nebraska, the Otoe-Missouria Tribe of Indians, the Sac and Fox Nation of Missouri in Kansas and Nebraska, the Sac and Fox Nation, and the Sac and Fox Tribe of the Mississippi in Iowa. Of these, only the Omaha Tribe responded, with support for the proposed name. No response was received from the other tribes, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion.

GNIS lists 14 features in Kansas with the word “Badger” as part of their names: a cemetery, a locale, an oilfield, a populated place, and ten streams. None of these features are in Wyandotte County.

Cottonwood Creek, Kansas

(Review List 410)

Mouth: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=39.0485481&p_longi=-94.6491952

Source: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=39.0666508&p_longi=-94.6546028

This is the second of the two proposals submitted to name features in Wyandotte County. The stream in question is described by the proponent as “a small, year-round stream that transitions from a glorified ditch to a well-defined natural stream bed....” She further states that there are cottonwood trees at the edge of the stream bed approximately two-thirds of the way upstream from the mouth.

The Wyandotte County Commissioners have no objection to the name, while the County GIS Director supports it. The Kansas State Names Authority also recommends approval. A copy of the proposal was sent to the following Federally recognized tribes: the Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska, the Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma, the Omaha Tribe of Nebraska, the Otoe-Missouria Tribe of Indians, the Sac and Fox Nation of Missouri in Kansas and Nebraska, the Sac and Fox Nation, and the Sac and Fox Tribe of the Mississippi in Iowa. Of these, only the Omaha Tribe responded, with

support for the proposed name. No response was received from the other tribes, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion.

A query of GNIS for features in Kansas with names containing the word “Cottonwood” found 52: one airport, four buildings, two cemeteries, two churches, two civil divisions, six locales, two parks, eight populated places, one post office, nine schools, and fifteen streams. None of these features are in Wyandotte County.

Bobcat Fork, Missouri
(Review List 410)

Mouth: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=38.2766670&p_longi=-94.270830

Source: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=38.2830660&p_longi=-94.2393000

This is the third of the three names submitted by a representative of the Poplar Heights Farm Nature Conservancy to apply new names to three unnamed tributaries of Willow Branch in Bates County. This 2.7-mile-long stream proposed to be named Bobcat Fork rises in Summit Township and flows southwest then northwest to enter Willow Branch. According to the proponent, bobcats, one of the most common wild cats in North America, were once plentiful in this part of Missouri; however, hunting and trapping for their highly prized fur severely reduced their numbers to the point of near extinction in the Bates County. A change in Missouri trapping laws and the evolution from row crop to mostly pasture farms has resulted in an increase in bobcat numbers. They are especially prevalent near the Poplar Heights Farm Nature Preserve.

The proponent asked of local landowners in the area and found they favored the name Bobcat Fork. The proposed name also has the support of the Bates County Commissioners as well as the management of Poplar Heights Farm. The Missouri Board on Geographic Names also recommends approval. The proposal was forwarded to the Osage Nation, which is Federally recognized. No response was received from the other tribes, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion. GNIS lists no other features in Missouri containing the word “Bobcat” in their name.

Rainbow Bridge Creek, New York
(Review List 409)

Mouth: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=42.2950879&p_longi=-77.4432278

Source: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=42.2678457&p_longi=-77.4514675

This proposal is to apply the new name Rainbow Bridge Creek to a one-mile-long unnamed tributary of Campbell Creek in Steuben County. The proponent reports that she owns 87 acres of land through which the stream flows and that she wishes to apply a name that recognizes her dedication to the Rainbow Bridge organization.

In the proposal she states, “I have just certified my property under the National Wildlife Federation as a wildlife habitat. We choose not to hunt as all the surrounding properties do [and] have our land

in a state forestry program. We have been referring to this Creek as the Rainbow Bridge as there is a county bridge right where the creek enters our property. Some time back I had checked out with [the New York Department of Environmental Conservation] as to the name and was informed that it only had a number not a name I would love to honor all animal lovers and the animals who have gone to their final resting place, the Rainbow Bridge, see the poem www.rainbowbridge.com, by having this creek designated to their ‘heaven.’ We are in a very rural area of undeveloped natural habitat and are interested in having our little sanctuary be a haven for animals always and in all ways.” The bridge that crosses the stream does not have a name; however, the proponent has permission from the NYDEC to repaint the bridge and is seeking to apply the name Rainbow Bridge to the structure.

The government of the Town of Howard has no opinion on the proposal. The Steuben County Commissioners and the Steuben County Historical Society support the name. The New York State Names Committee has no objection. According to the NAGPRA Native American Consultation Database, there are no tribes with an interest in Steuben County.

Battlefield Bluff, Virginia
(Review List 409)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=38.666172&p_longi=-78.669949

This proposal is to apply the new name **Battlefield Bluff** to a slope located within the New Market Battlefield State Historical Park, just north of the Town of New Market in Shenandoah County. Although the proposed name is not in local usage, Battlefield Bluff Drive, a private road, is located on the west side of the North Fork Shenandoah River, directly across the river from the unnamed cliff.

The feature is described by the proponent as “[S]triking and beautiful. Curved bluff, about 3/4 m. extent, up to 200’ vertical, quite steep yet wooded. North Fork Shenandoah R. follows its foot. Runs generally SW to NE. East is high side, on it New Market Battlefield state park and reservations. Charming Shen Valley views from here. Purpose-built lookouts. Immediate west side low, slightly rolling within river/bluff curve. Then hills and ridges with North Mtn in background.” He continues, “[The] Feature is very striking due to the unity lent by the harmonious river-curve, its nearly uniform height, and its almost unbroken forest coverage up a near-vertical slope. Viewed from the west, it completely blots out the enormous front of the Massanutten range only 2+ miles away east – yet move a quarter mile west and you have this imposing range frowning down over it. Coming to it from the east, you are in the heart of the New Market Battlefield monument, yet totally unaware of the bluff’s existence unless you deliberately penetrate a screen of near-mature forest .. and are shocked by the sudden view westward. Such an exceptional, rewarding and highly individual feature, so close to heavy tourist traffic, should have a name - if only for use on tourist material and in the Battlefield’s guides and signage.”

New Market Battlefield State Historical Park is managed by the Commonwealth of Virginia and is the site of a battle where cadets from Virginia Military Institute mobilized to support the Valley Campaigns in the Battle of New Market in May 1864. The Confederate victory resulted in the Union Army being forced out of the Shenandoah Valley. Numerous Civil War websites refer to prominent bluffs in the area, but none provide a name for the feature in question.

The governments of the Town of New Market and Shenandoah County did not respond to a request for comments, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion. The National Park Service, which is a partner of the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation, has no opinion and defers to the landowner. Virginia Military Institute, which manages the property along with the Virginia Museum of the Civil War, has no objection. The Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation and the Director of Civil War Trails both indicated they had no opinion. The Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries has no objection, while the Virginia State Names Authority recommends approval. According to the NAGPRA Native American Consultation Database, there are no American Indian tribes with an interest in Shenandoah County.

Jordan Ridge, Washington

(Review List 404)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=48.135650&p_longi=-121.985450

This proposal is to make official the name Jordan Ridge for a five-mile-long ridge located just east of the community of Jordan in Snohomish County. The proponent reports that the name has been used by local pilots “for quite some time.” He states, “The proposed name would recognize the history of the Jordan community and provide a navigational official landmark for pilots who use this name already.” His application noted that the name is supported by the commander of the local Civil Air Patrol, the president of the Evergreen Soaring Club, and a longtime local resident.

Other geographic features in the vicinity, in addition to the community of Jordan, are Jordan Ponds and the Jordan Road Bridge. Jordan Creek runs along the base of the ridge. Two USGS reference marks, each located on different peaks on the ridge, are stamped JORDAN 1941 and JORDEN 1941 [sic]. The National Geodetic Survey field notes for the latter mark do not indicate why the name is spelled “Jorden.”

The Washington Board on Geographic Names recommends approval of the proposal. The State Board contacted the Snohomish County Board of Commissioners, which did not respond to requests for comments, and so it is presumed they have no opinion. Additionally, the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation, the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation, the Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe of Washington, the Snoqualmie Tribe, the Stillaguamish Tribe of Washington, the Swinomish Indians of the Swinomish Reservation, the Tulalip Tribes of the Tulalip Reservation, and the Upper Skagit Indian Tribe of Washington, all of which are Federally recognized, were contacted for comment. No response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion.