

**U.S. BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES**  
**DOMESTIC NAMES COMMITTEE**  
 Seven Hundred and Forty-Fifth Meeting  
 Department of the Interior, Room 7000A  
 September 13, 2012 – 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)
Julie Conklin	Department of the Interior (Bureau of Ocean Energy Management)
Monique Fordham	Department of the Interior (U.S. Geological Survey)
Michael Fournier	Department of Commerce (Bureau of the Census)
Tony Gilbert	Government Printing Office (Chairman) (not voting)
Bruce Johnson	Library of Congress
Betsy Kanalley	Department of Agriculture (U.S. Forest Service)
Patrick Mahoney	Department of the Interior (Bureau of Land Management)
William Logan	Department of Homeland Security (U.S. Coast Guard)
Michael Shelton	Department of the Interior (National Park Service)
Meredith Westington	Department of Commerce (Office of Coast Survey)
Carl Zulick	Department of Agriculture (U.S. Forest Service)

Ex-Officio

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

Staff

Jennifer Runyon, U.S. Geological Survey  
 Greg Winters, U.S. Geological Survey

Guests

Paul Holeva, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
 Matt Murdock, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

1. Opening

The meeting opened at 9:40 a.m. The Chair announced he would not be voting, except in the case of a tie.

2. Minutes of the 744<sup>th</sup> Meeting

The Minutes of the 744<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Domestic Names Committee, held August 20, 2012, were approved with minor editorial corrections.

### 3. Reports

#### 3.1 BGN Chairman (Logan)

The Executive Committee will meet at the U.S. Geological Survey on September 25<sup>th</sup> to continue its discussions regarding commemorative naming by the advisory committees on Antarctic Names and Underseas Features. Caldwell will ask each member to present his position on the issue as a basis for the discussion.

Logan asked Johnson to present for the committee's review a table of U.S. State name abbreviations that was distributed at the last Foreign Names Committee meeting. Although it appears the table was endorsed by the BGN a dozen years ago, Yost informed the committee this was intended only as a recommendation to cartographers, and while there are no specific issues with the table, the DNC will continue to use the two-character abbreviations in the retired FIPS 5-2 for staff work and in GNIS. This practice is in agreement with U.S. Postal Service abbreviations and the GPO Style Manual.

#### 3.2 BGN Executive Secretary (Yost)

On September 11<sup>th</sup>, Yost participated in a meeting hosted by the USGS with representatives of the Saudi Arabian government regarding various geospatial topics. He made a presentation on the BGN and the Geographic Names Information System.

#### 3.3 Communications Committee Report (Westington)

No report.

#### 3.4 Executive Secretary's Report (Yost)

The stock of BGN informational tri-folds is nearly exhausted and more will be needed for upcoming conferences. The Communications Committee agreed this provides a good opportunity to hold a meeting in the near future. The issue of funding for the next print job will need to be addressed.

A recent news article suggested there is some interest in changing the name of the City of Hutchinson, located in Kansas, to Smallville. As of yet, no proposal has been submitted to the BGN. The BGN does not have purview over civil entity names, and any changes must be made in the articles of incorporation before these can be reflected in GNIS and Census Bureau records.

Yost reminded the committee that the next meeting of the Council of Geographic Names Authorities will be held April 30<sup>th</sup> to May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2013, in Minneapolis.

Yost will attend the annual meeting of the Geographical Names Board of Canada, to be held next week in Québec City.

### 3.5 Staff Report (Runyon)

Over the past month, there have been media inquiries and news reports on the following cases: Jew Pond (New Hampshire) and San Pablo Island (Florida). In addition, the Chicago Tribune inquired about efforts to name a peak in Montana Rigby Mountain (the intended honoree has not been deceased five years).

The Town of North Hempstead (New York) inquired about the naming of a geographic feature May Newburger Cove. At the time, Ms. Newburger was still living; however, the staff has just learned that she recently passed away and so presumably a proposal will be submitted in 2017.

The Department of the Interior (DOI) Office of Alaska Affairs inquired about the naming of an unnamed peak in the Mount Chugach area. After further investigation, it was determined that the intended name is Mount Chosin Few. The BGN staff was able to report that the name was already approved in June 2012. The DOI representative extended her appreciation to the BGN for addressing the issue in such a timely manner. No further BGN action is needed.

The Department of the Interior announced that it will continue to support use of the Google Maps API for many of its mapping services through the next fiscal year, but cautioned that agencies will need to begin to develop alternative options.

After further review, the committee agreed that the proposed name Wine Cellar Islands for a group of “small man-made islands” in Illinois would not be considered as the feature does not satisfy the criteria of being a geographic feature.

### 3.6 GNIS and Data Compilation Program (McCormick)

No report.

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

Kanalley reported that the Special Committee met informally during the offsite meeting held last month. Draft interim Policy X was approved and recommended for inclusion into the revised *Principles, Policies, and Procedures* (PPP) document. The Special Committee needs to meet following the November DNC meeting to finalize the issue regarding the definition of tribal lands.

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

Logan expressed his appreciation to the members for their participation in last month’s offsite meeting, and commended them for completing the in-depth review of the PPP. A few issues remain unresolved, including the appendices for *Terms and Definitions*, *Acronyms*, and the *Roman Character Set*. He asked that any final comments be submitted to him by September 24<sup>th</sup>. He will meet with BGN staff on September 25<sup>th</sup> to incorporate comments.

On behalf of the entire committee, Gilbert thanked Logan for his diligence in continuing the PPP revision, particularly as the effort has extended beyond his term as chair of the DNC.

### 3.9 Roman Character Set

Yost distributed a list of diacritics and writing marks that exist currently in names in GNIS, and which fall outside the basic ASCII character set. The BGN staff recommends a subcommittee be formed to develop a definitive Roman Character Set for DNC use.

Gilbert suggested that the past approval of a diacritic mark in a name should not govern whether or not future proposals with such marks will be considered. The importance of geographic names in emergency response situations was highlighted.

Members discussed differing perspectives on the development of a DNC Roman Character Set. Although Principle I states that all names must be in the Roman alphabet, it is not clear what constitutes that alphabet and there is no definitive list. It is important that names be rendered correctly on Federal maps, and as such must be useful to the Federal user community. There was further discussion as to whether or not a character set was needed, with some members suggesting that each proposal be considered case-by-case, while others prefer a finite list of acceptable characters. It was further suggested that the BGN should state its preference for the standard character set (i.e. A-Z and a-z), with a cautionary note that anything else might not be accepted by the BGN or the local population. Whether or not to pursue an ASCII, ANSI, or Unicode standard was also discussed, but no consensus was reached. In accordance with the draft interim Policy X, names for features located entirely on tribal lands would not have any restrictions.

In order to proceed with the revision of the PPP, it was agreed that there should be a reference to a web site, with the details to be finalized later. Any members interested in the topic should plan to meet following the October DNC meeting. At that time, it will be determined whether a subcommittee is warranted.

### 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 - none**

#### **II. Disagreement on Docket Names**

Change **O'Neal Island** (FID 1507123) to **Avalon Island**, Washington (Review List 404)

A motion was made and seconded not to approve the name change, citing the negative recommendation of the Washington State Committee on Geographic Names and reluctance to change a longstanding name.

Vote:     12 in favor  
           0 against

0 abstentions

A motion was made and seconded to affirm the name **O'Neal Island**.

Vote: 12 in favor  
0 against  
0 abstentions

Change **Negro Creek** (FID 2681563) to **Black Miners Creek**, California (Review List 409)

A motion was made and seconded not to approve the name change, citing the negative recommendation of the California Advisory Committee on Geographic Names and a lack of local support.

Vote: 6 in favor  
4 against  
2 abstentions

A member voting against the motion cited a belief that the term “Negro” is not acceptable in today’s language.

Change **Ebey Slough** (FID 1504667) to **Ebey Estuary**, Washington (Review List 407)

A motion was made and seconded not to approve the name change, citing the negative recommendation of the Washington State Committee on Geographic Names and reluctance to change a longstanding name.

Vote: 12 in favor  
0 against  
0 abstentions

A motion was made and seconded to affirm the name **Ebey Slough**.

Vote: 10 in favor  
0 against  
1 abstentions

One member left the room.

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

**Keil Mountain**, New York (Review List 409) (FID 2740975)

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

Vote: 10 in favor

0 against  
1 abstention

The member returned to the room.

**Bartosh Creek**, Oklahoma (Review List 410) (FID 2740976)

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

Vote: 12 in favor  
0 against  
0 abstentions

Change **Soil Conservation Site 6 Reservoir** (FID 1856847) to **Muir Lake**, Texas (Review List 407)

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

Vote: 9 in favor  
2 against  
1 abstention

A member voting against the motion cited no association between the honoree and the feature and John Muir's opposition to the construction of dams.

#### **IV. Revised Decisions - none**

#### **V. New Names agreed to by all interested parties**

**Deer Creek**, Tennessee (Review List 410) (FID 2740977)

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

Vote: 11 in favor  
1 against  
0 abstentions

The member voting against the motion cited potential confusion between this feature and another with a similar name in close proximity.

#### **5. Other Business**

As a result of the committee's review of the proposed NGP Policy Directive, which was presented to them at the August meeting, members agreed to draft a letter expressing their concerns. Caldwell agreed to accept recommendations on the letter's content.

6. Closing

The meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

The next Domestic Names Committee meeting will be held October 11, 2012, at 9:30 a.m. at the Department of the Interior.

(signed) Louis A. Yost

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Louis A. Yost, Executive Secretary

APPROVED

(signed) Tony Gilbert

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Tony Gilbert, Chairman  
Domestic Names Committee

**U.S. BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES  
DOMESTIC NAMES COMMITTEE  
DOCKET  
September 2012**

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

**II. Disagreement on Docketed Names**

Change **O'Neal Island** (FID 1507123) to **Avalon Island**, Washington  
(Review List 404)

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p\\_lat=48.6037112&p\\_longi=-123.0924073&fid=1507123](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p_lat=48.6037112&p_longi=-123.0924073&fid=1507123)

This proposal is to change the name of O'Neal Island in San Juan County to Avalon Island. The proponent is a land use planner for a local attorney's office who submitted the name change on behalf of a couple who purchased the island.

The 2.9-acre island lies just off the northeast coast of San Juan Island, five miles north-northwest of Friday Harbor. The couple are the sole owners of the island, which is currently undeveloped except for the remains of an old cabin. There is no public access to the island, so as the proponent notes, "it is not a point of destination for boaters in the San Juans."

The name O'Neal Island has appeared on Federal maps and charts since at least 1854 and is mentioned in numerous books and online sources published since then, ranging from an account of the Wilkes Expedition to an article on islands for sale published in LIFE Magazine in 1954. However, the new owners of the island wish to change its name to one that is "a more fitting description of their new island paradise." The name Avalon is taken from the fictional island in the Arthurian legend, being the place where King Arthur was taken after he was mortally wounded in his last battle. O'Neal Island was named by Charles Wilkes during the Wilkes Expedition of 1841, reportedly for an American Naval hero of the War of 1812. Several sources suggest it is unlikely O'Neal had any direct association with, or even visited, the San Juan Islands.

According to one Washington State maritime historian who expressed an interest in the case, "...Wilkes did not include this name [O'Neal] in his *Narrative* but it is shown on his chart. Wilkes provided no reason for the 1841 name... Wilkes [had a] penchant for naming adjacent places for a similar event. Such was the case for John O'Neil of Havre de Grace, MD. During the War of 1812, Sir George Cockburn in command of the frigate H.M.S. *Marlborough*, two brigs, four schooners and several gunboats, threatened Havre de Grace on May 2, 1813. He delayed attacking and as a result, the town militia, apparently needed elsewhere, dispersed. Soon after, Cockburn attacked and most of the town folk scattered, except an Irishman named John O'Neil. A Revolutionary War vet, he worked his way to the battery and with the assistance of the night watchman, fired off one cannon volley before the British overran the battery. He managed to make it to the center of town and found himself the sole defender. He was captured; the British destroyed 40 of the 60 homes in the village. O'Neil was released after three days captivity." Citing longstanding usage and a reluctance to

change a name with a historical connection to the Wilkes Expedition, the historian does not support the change. When asked to comment on the objection, the proponent noted that O’Neal “has no significance in the history of the San Juan Islands.” She added also, “The [owners of the island] have been outstanding citizens of San Juan County. They have contributed to many charitable organizations without the desire for any recognition. [They] purchased O’Neal Island so that they could protect it from development but have been forced to construct a residence on the island just so that they can build a dock for access to the island (a requirement of our [Shoreline Management Program]). They are excellent stewards of the land and people of our county.”

Although the name O’Neal Island was first published by Charles Wilkes, cartographic surveys conducted by the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey noted the name Neal Island was also in use, stating, “[Neal Island] In undisputed local usage; this small island is located in Rocky Bay off the northeast side of San Juan Island, about 2.7 miles eastsoutheast of the town of Roche Harbor. A check of the San Juan County records shows that this feature was named after a man named Neal. As this checks with local usage, NEAL ISLAND is the version recommended for charting. See ONEAL ISLAND.”

Regarding the name Neal Island, the maritime historian notes, “Commodore John Rodgers, the commander of the *President*, had an estate in the town. Wilkes named the adjacent President Passage for the *President* and named Rodgers Island (San Juan Island) for the Commodore. John Huntington quarried limestone on the island in 1892. It was named the Neal Mine Claim.” Further research suggests the connection between O’Neal Island and the mine claim is simply a coincidence.

The San Juan County Commissioners and the San Juan County Planning Commission both support the name change proposal. The Commissioner of Washington State Ferries, the San Juan County Fire Department, and the San Juan Sheriff’s Office have no objection to the change.

However, the Washington Committee on Geographic Names and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration both do not support the name change, citing longstanding usage of the current name. The Lummi Tribe of the Lummi Reservation, which is federally recognized, did not respond to a request for comments, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion.

Change Negro Creek (FID 2681563) to Black Miners Creek, California  
(Review List 409)

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p\\_lat=39.23734&p\\_longi=-121.21312&fid=2681563](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p_lat=39.23734&p_longi=-121.21312&fid=2681563)

This proposal is to change the name of Negro Creek in Nevada County to Black Miners Creek. The stream in question is 3.4 miles long and heads approximately one mile west of the community of Rough and Ready before flowing west into Lake Wildwood. A previous proposal, to rename the stream Butterfly Creek (Review List 407), was withdrawn by the proponent after the Nevada County Commissioners indicated they were not in support of that name.

The proponent, after purchasing a home in the area, discovered that the stream was labeled Nigger Creek on a 2003 Nevada County Tax Assessors Map and so she submitted a proposal to change it, stating, “I find this extremely offensive and would like the name changed.” The 1949 USGS

topographic map labeled the feature Negro Creek. Although the pejorative form of name was not recorded in GNIS, further research by the BGN staff determined that the stream was also labeled Nigger Creek on a USGS topographic map published in 1950 and so it was added as a variant of Negro Creek.

According to field notes prepared by USGS prior to the 1995 map revision, neither of the two names were found to be in local use and so the stream was no longer labeled. The field notes went on to indicate that a 1988 California State Automobile Association map applied the name Wildwood Creek to just the lower portion of the stream (within the Lake Wildwood subdivision) but this name was also not found to be in local use; it has however been recorded in GNIS as a variant name.

The original proposal for Butterfly Creek was chosen “for the many, many different kinds of butterflies in the area.” In rejecting the proposal, the Nevada County Commissioners stated, “Nevada County takes pride in its unique Gold Rush history and in the contributions, struggles and stories of the many diverse settlers, immigrants, miners and residents who lived and died in our region. The Board of Supervisors does not view the word ‘Negro’ as pejorative, but as an objective term used as commonly in the past as the terms ‘African-American’ and ‘Black’ are used today.” The letter continues, “In order to preserve and reflect the history of black miners in the area, the Board of Supervisors requests that the name ‘Negro Creek’ be retained on all maps, databases and historical references....” The local chapter of the NAACP was asked by Nevada County to comment on the issue but did not respond.

After the County indicated it would be willing to consider future proposals to change the name of Negro Creek, the proponent amended the proposal to Black Miners Creek; this name “would explain the history a little better than ‘Negro,’ and honors the people that actually did do the work.”

Nevada County does not support the amended proposal, stating, “The question of whether ‘Negro Creek’ should be changed to ‘Black Miners Creek’ or ‘Butterfly Creek’ was recently discussed at two of the Board of Supervisors meetings.... and the action of the Board was to retain the historical name ‘Negro Creek.’”

The Nevada County Historical Society also does not support the proposal, citing “a lack of a compelling reason to change the name of the small creek. The name appears on historical records, including the USGS maps of the period and in Bean’s History and Directory of Nevada County (1867). A change at this late date would only lead to confusion.” The California Advisory Committee on Geographic Names also recommends disapproval, citing the lack of county support. According to the NAGPRA Native American Consultation Database, there are no federally recognized tribes with an interest in Nevada County.

Change name of Ebey Slough (FID 1504667) to Ebey Estuary, Washington  
(Review List 407)

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p\\_lat=48.0395406&p\\_longi=-122.2190274&fid=1504667](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p_lat=48.0395406&p_longi=-122.2190274&fid=1504667)

This proposal is to change the name of Ebey Slough in Snohomish County to Ebey Estuary. The proponent, the Chief Administrative Officer for the City of Marysville, submitted the change

because, “The City believes the current part of the name, ‘Slough,’ does not provide an accurate description of the waterbody. A slough as defined in the 2000 American Heritage Dictionary is a stagnant swamp, marsh, bog, or pond, especially as part of a bayou, inlet, or backwater.” According to the proponent, “The Slough was named in honor of Col. Isaac N. Ebey, a famous pioneer of western Washington, and the City of Marysville recognizes the historical name.” However, “The City believes ‘Estuary,’ defined as the part of the wide lower course of a river where its current is met by the tides or an arm of the sea that extends inland to meet the mouth of a river, is a more accurate and welcoming name.”

As part of its research, the Washington Committee on Geographic Names (WCGN) contacted the government of Snohomish County, but no response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion. The WCGN does not support the proposed change, citing longstanding usage of the current name and the widespread use of the term ‘slough’ in the Pacific Northwest. It was noted that in the scientific literature, Ebey Slough is considered to be part of the Snohomish Estuary, along with Union Slough and Steamboat Slough. One member of the WCGN noted that the U.S. BGN has long considered geographic identifiers (generics) arbitrary, although they are often identified with a specific geographic region. It was noted that the State of Washington is noted for using the term ‘slough’ in a way that is not used in other regions of the U.S. and as such it is appropriate in this instance.

NOAA also does not support the proposed change. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has no objection, while the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has no opinion. A copy of the proposal was forwarded to 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. Only one response was received; the Snoqualmie Tribe supports the proposal.

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

**Keil Mountain**, New York  
(Review List 409)

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=43.7068179&p\\_longi=-73.7597609](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=43.7068179&p_longi=-73.7597609)

This proposal is to make official the commemorative name Keil Mountain for a 1,575-foot summit that is located on privately-owned land within the boundaries of Adirondack State Park in Warren County. The name would honor Henry Richard Keil (1910-1997), a prominent entrepreneur whose family has owned property on the summit since 1949.

Keil, a native of Hesse, Germany, immigrated to the United States in 1929, settling in New York City. He and his brother established what would become the Keil Brothers Garden Center, which according to the proponent has “maintained a loyal place in the Bayside, Queens community, employing hundreds of people over the past 82 years.” The proponent adds, “In the mid-1940s, after visiting the Adirondacks, Henry fell in love with the area. In 1949, he started renting a plot of land on a mountain, by Valentine Lake in Warren County. In 1957, he purchased the large parcel of land,

which included the peak... eventually acquiring almost 300 acres of land on the mountain. Multiple branches of the Keil family own homes and property along the northeastern base of the mountain, on the mountainside, and the summit. Numerous trails run up the mountain, all maintained by the Keil family. It is regularly referred to by the people along Valentine Pond Road as Keil Mountain.” Furthermore, “Due to Henry Keil’s efforts to expose so many people to the beauty, solitude, and recreation in the area, the base of this mountain, which once housed only a remote hunting lodge, now serves as home and as getaway destination for dozens of people whose homes now dot the base of the mountain.”

The Warren County Board of Supervisors and the New York State Geographic Names Committee support the proposal. The New York Department of Environmental Conservation was asked to comment on the proposal but did not respond, which is presumed to indicate a lack of opinion. The Seneca Nation of New York and Tonawanda Band of Seneca Indians of New York, both of which are federally recognized, were also contacted but neither responded, which is also presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion.

**Bartosh Creek**, Oklahoma  
(Review List 410)

Mouth: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=35.5127777&p\\_longi=-96.7116666](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=35.5127777&p_longi=-96.7116666)

Source: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=35.4855789&p\\_longi=-96.7152075](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=35.4855789&p_longi=-96.7152075)

This one-mile-long intermittent stream is proposed to be named Bartosh Creek in honor of Ernest Bartosh (1910-1999). Mr. Bartosh was employed by the First National Bank of Prague (Prague is an incorporated community in the southeastern corner of Lincoln County) for more than 50 years, during which time he served as its liaison to the area’s Czech residents, helping them conduct business with the bank. In 1985, he was inducted into the Oklahoma Bankers 50 Year Club. He was also employed as a part-time bookkeeper for the Oklahoma Railway, and was an early member of the Prague Band.

In 1947, Mr. Bartosh purchased 80 acres along the unnamed stream. Eight years later, he acquired additional land just south of the stream, in neighboring Pottawatomie County that had been owned by his parents. He loved his farms and was “devoted to checking on his cattle daily.”

The Mayor of the City of Prague, the Lincoln County Commissioners, the former president of the First National Bank of Prague, the Executive Board of BancFirst, and an acquaintance of Mr. Bartosh all submitted letters of support for the proposal. In addition, State Representative Danny Morgan submitted a letter of support. The Oklahoma Water Resources Board indicated it had found no conflict with existing names; the Oklahoma Historical Society responded it had no opinion; while the Oklahoma Department of Transportation stated it would defer to the City of Prague. Citing the support of the community, the Oklahoma Board on Geographic Names voted to recommend approval of the name Bartosh Creek. A copy of the proposal was forwarded to the Cheyenne and Arapaho Tribes, the Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma, the Quapaw Tribal Business Committee, and the Sac and Fox Nation of Oklahoma, all of which are federally recognized. Only the Pawnee Nation

responded, with a statement that they had no opinion on the issue. The lack of a response from the other tribes is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion.

Change **Soil Conservation Site 6 Reservoir** (FID 1856847) to **Muir Lake**, Texas  
(Review List 407)

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p\\_lat=30.4868656&p\\_longi=-97.8102883&fid=1856847](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p_lat=30.4868656&p_longi=-97.8102883&fid=1856847)

This proposal is to change the name of Soil Conservation Service Site 6 Reservoir in the City of Cedar Park in Williamson County to Muir Lake. The proponent is the office manager for a local property development firm who states, “We’re wanting to name the lake after our future multifamily project, Muir Lake.” She adds, “[it] is a nod to the famous natural conservationist John Muir.”

The current name Soil Conservation Service Site 6 Reservoir was compiled from a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 1979 inventory of dams and reservoirs. The reservoir is shown but not named on USGS topographic maps, but is labeled on Google Maps. It is one of almost 1,800 lakes and reservoirs in Texas with “Soil Conservation Site” in their names. Of these, 44 are in Williamson County. There are 62 features in Texas named Soil Conservation Service Site 6 Reservoir. According to GNIS, there are no features in Texas with “Muir” in their name. John Muir (1838-1914) is not known to have had any direct association with the State of Texas.

The governments of the City of Cedar Park and Williamson County support the proposal, as does the Texas State Names Authority. The Texas Soil and Water Conservation Board and the Upper Brushy Creed Water Control and Improvement District both have no opinion. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Natural Resources Conservation Service (an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture) have no opinion. According to the NAGPRA Native American Consultation Database, there are no federally recognized tribes with an interest in Williamson County.

#### **IV. Revised Decisions - none**

#### **V. New Names agreed to by all interested parties**

**Deer Creek**, Tennessee  
(Review List 410)

Mouth: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=35.4822693&p\\_longi=-88.7537384](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=35.4822693&p_longi=-88.7537384)

Source: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p\\_lat=35.49425&p\\_longi=-88.76902](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglecoor?p_lat=35.49425&p_longi=-88.76902)

This proposal is to apply the new name Deer Creek to 1.5-mile-long unnamed stream in Madison County. The proponent states, “We choose [sic] this name because since we bought this farm we see deer every day. They are always standing in or drinking the great and all-natural water this creek provides.” He describes the stream as “a year round natural creek that is about 12 feet wide and it is a little over a mile and a half long. It runs through the middle of our property. It has a steady supply of minnow and crawfish.”

GNIS lists 21 streams in Tennessee with “Deer” in their names. Three have points in Madison County: South Fork Forked Deer River, Middle Fork Forked Deer River, and North Fork Forked Deer River all flow through Madison County; South Fork Forked Deer River flows within three miles of the mouth of the stream in question.

The Madison County Commissioners and the Tennessee State Geographic Names Board both support the proposal. The Eastern Band Cherokee Indians of North Carolina, which is a federally recognized tribe, was contacted for an opinion but did not respond, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion.