

**U.S. BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES
DOMESTIC NAMES COMMITTEE**

Seven Hundred and Seventy Eighth Meeting
Department of the Interior, Kiowa Room
December 10, 2015 – 9:30 a.m.

Members and Deputy Members in Attendance

Wendi-Starr Brown	Department of the Interior (Bureau of Indian Affairs)
Douglas Caldwell	Department of Defense (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers) (not voting)
Jon Campbell	Department of the Interior (U.S. Geological Survey)
Laurie Campbell	Department of Agriculture (U.S. Forest Service)
Andrew Flora	Department of Commerce (Bureau of the Census)
Monique Fordham	Department of the Interior (U.S. Geological Survey) (by teleconference)
Brenda-Anne C. Forrest	Government Publishing Office
Tony Gilbert	Government Publishing Office
Paul Holeva	Department of Defense (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers)
Elizabeth Kanalley	Department of Agriculture (U.S. Forest Service) (Chair) (not voting)
Curt Loy	Department of Commerce (Office of Coast Survey)
Ron Salz	Department of the Interior (U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service)
Mike Shelton	Department of the Interior (National Park Service)
Michael Tischler	Department of the Interior (U.S. Geological Survey)
Douglas Vandegraft	Department of the Interior (Bureau of Ocean Energy Management)
Tara Wallace	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 (by teleconference)
Matthew O'Donnell, U.S. Geological Survey
Jennifer Runyon, U.S. Geological Survey

Guests

Bob Davis, U.S. Geological Survey

1. Opening

Chairwoman Kanalley opened the meeting at 9:33 a.m.

2. Minutes of the 777th Meeting

The minutes of the 777th meeting of the Domestic Names Committee (DNC), held November 12th, were approved as submitted.

3. Reports

3.1 BGN Chairman (Gilbert)

Gilbert attended the most recent Foreign Names Committee meeting.

3.2 BGN Executive Secretary (Yost)

The next full BGN meeting will take place on January 19th, 2016, at the Department of the Interior in the Kiowa Room.

Juan Valdez, the Geographer and Director of Editorial and Cartographic Research at the National Geographic Society (NGS), will retire at the end of December. He has been a long-time supporter and observer of the BGN and has worked to ensure that NGS publications are kept up-to-date with current BGN names.

The Advisory Committee on Antarctic Names met on December 7th. It is expected that there will be some proposed names for the full BGN to vote on in January.

A recent eagle.com article described the BGN's approval of new names for undersea features in the Gulf of Mexico that were proposed by Texas A&M University.

3.3 Special Committee on Communication (Holeva)

The Special Committee on Communication (SCC) met on November 12th. There were discussions of the content and status of the BGN's annual report; the after action report for the BGN's 125th anniversary symposium; how to increase the DNC's social media presence; and the revision of a statement regarding the USGS's proposed handling of non-maintained names in GNIS.

The next SCC meeting will take place on the morning of January 19th, prior the full BGN meeting.

3.4 Executive Secretary (Yost)

Yost had no report.

3.5 Staff (Runyon)

Runyon and Kanalley attended the recent National Tribal GIS Conference held in Albuquerque, New Mexico, November 16th to 20th. They were invited to attend as a result of discussions that took place at the Council of Geographic Names Authorities (COGNA) conference in Anchorage last May. At the GIS Conference, Runyon provided a general overview and background on the BGN and GNIS, while Kanalley focused on some examples of the U.S. Forest Service's involvement with the BGN and tribes. The information seemed to be well received. One presenter from the Choctaw Nation spoke about a recent effort to collect ancestral place names in Alabama and Mississippi; he added, however, that the Tribe would prefer that the information not be publicly disseminated. He was told that if the names are entered into GNIS, they become public information. Some attendees questioned whether GNIS could accommodate multiple layers of public and private data but were told this is not feasible, nor is it the mission of the BGN. Runyon mentioned the variety of GIS and cartographic visualizations used by tribes, many of which incorporated USGS cartographic data services. A tribal elder and GIS expert from the Oglala Sioux Tribe also spoke about the ongoing Devils Tower and Harney Peak name change proposals. The presentation was well researched and addressed the recent legislation that prevents the BGN from acting on the Devils Tower proposal. The Thunder Peak counterproposal for Harney Peak was also mentioned. The presenter referred to Harney Peak as Hinhan Kaga; Runyon informed him that the BGN has not received a proposal for this name. Kanalley added that although many tribes have expert users of GIS and GNIS, it is unclear if they

are aware that they have an opportunity to provide input on name proposals. These GIS experts could be encouraged to look at the review lists, although they are not tribal leaders and so their input would not be considered official by the BGN. Kanalley suggested posting a link to the BGN home page on the Tribal GIS Conference Web site. The hosts of the conference indicated that future dialogue on geographic names issues should be encouraged.

Review List 422, comprising 24 new proposals, was released on November 18th.

Runyon was interviewed by *The Las Vegas Review-Journal* regarding the Peanut Peak, Arizona proposal. She also shared an article from *The Maui News* about the BGN's recent approval of the name Wailuku River.

Former DNC chair Bill Logan has completed his summary of the BGN's history since 1991. This effort will update Don Orth's 100-year history (1890-1990) and will include the BGN's 125th anniversary in September 2015. The next step is for the SCC to review the work. Logan will attend the DNC and full BGN meetings in January and welcomes any feedback.

Last week, Runyon and Yost visited Don Orth at his home. Orth donated some books to the BGN Library and was also able to provide many photographs of BGN members and other individuals from the past several decades. The BGN staff will scan the photos and may also include some in the revised BGN history document.

The proponent of several Gwich'in names for rivers in central Alaska has amended the orthography of the name change proposed for the current Beaver Creek (Tsèenjìk River instead of Tseenjìk River) and the orthography and application of the change proposed for Birch Creek (K'iidòotinjìk River instead of K'iidootinjìk River). Birch Creek also has two named distributary channels. The original proposal for K'iidootinjìk River included the main stem and the lower distributary channel; the amended proposal now only includes the lower distributary channel. The main stem of Birch Creek and the upper distributary channel will now be proposed as Ikhèenjìk River. After further clarification from the proponent, new case briefs will be written and added to the next Review List. The proponent also indicated he would be working with State representatives and senators to change the names of the designated Wild and Scenic Rivers. Salz reported that the Wild and Scenic River issue, which resulted in two of the four proposals being deferred at the September 2015 meeting, should be simpler than expected and hopes that progress will be made in the next few weeks.

The BGN staff has learned of a potential proposal to change the name of Negro Heads, a rock off the coast of Connecticut. Two senators have written to the USGS Director requesting a name change. The name is also applied to a nearby U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) navigation buoy. According to a representative of USCG contacted by Runyon, the USCG will not change the name of the buoy until the BGN addresses the name of the natural feature. No proposal has been received, but the senators were advised that in order for the BGN to consider the matter a replacement name must be proposed.

The BGN staff has received all member biographies needed for vetting by the White House, which is required before the reappointment letters can be finalized. The reappointment process for the 2015-17 term is still ongoing, but the members were reminded that they continue to serve.

Tischler was featured in recent episodes of the podcasts “What’s the Point” (from fivethirtyeight.com) and “The Pixar Podcast,” both speaking about Pixar’s use of USGS lidar data to render realistic landscapes in the movie *The Good Dinosaur*. Tischler also mentioned the BGN and GNIS in the interviews.

3.6 GNIS and Data Compilation Program (McCormick)

GNIS staff recently held the first meeting to discuss replacing the current public and maintenance forms. The timeline is uncertain, but much development will occur on the tools and forms.

The function that allows users to search for names by USGS quadrangle has been fixed to reflect the recent change from Mount McKinley to Denali; the change to the natural feature required that several hundred map names had to be updated. Efforts are still underway to add the decision type “Secretarial Order” to the list of options in GNIS (these currently include “Board Decision,” “Congress,” and “Executive.”

Following discussions at the COGNA meeting, Bob Francis, the U.S. Forest Service regional geographic names coordinator for Alaska, has indicated he would like to submit a number of variant names for features in southeast Alaska. Many of these names are used by the Alaska Native groups in the area and are published on maps and in place name books. McCormick will provide him with the batch upload template as a worksheet, although she added that it is not currently possible to upload batch files into GNIS.

McCormick has received a list of needed changes to the Web pages from the BGN’s 125th anniversary and the State Names Authorities; these will be processed as staff resources become available.

The Watershed Boundary Dataset, a program of the USGS, has requested that watersheds be added to GNIS. To date, only the 2-digit Hydrographic Units have been received; the 4- to 12-digits are in progress. Each watershed is named for its most prominent stream and so it is important that there is coordination between the unit name and the BGN approved stream name.

Salz inquired whether GNIS is a geodatabase. McCormick responded that it is, although the data cannot yet be downloaded in a geodatabase format; this capability will be added in the near future. The file will include secondary coordinates, variant names, and text (description and history) fields.

3.7 Handling of non-maintained data in GNIS (Yost)

Yost provided a summary of the issue and referred to the discussion at last month’s meeting. The USGS will estimate how much effort will be required to individually mark each record that will continue to be maintained (Option 1). A global change would be difficult because some feature classes contain both maintained and non-maintained features.

Yost asked all members to review the options (Attachment A) and the metadata statement (Attachment B), and to provide feedback to Caldwell or Shelton. In the short term, the metadata statement will be attached to GNIS files and posted at the Web site.

There was some discussion regarding the timeline for Option 1 to be implemented, and also where this requirement originated, since other USGS datasets are not undergoing the same scrutiny. Vandegraft asked if any member agencies are willing to actively help maintain GNIS, to which it was noted that this discussion took place last year and that there does not appear to be any interest, primarily because of the

agencies' severely limited resources. To date, only the Census Bureau and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers are participating in active data maintenance.

If a name changes for an administrative feature that is no longer maintained in GNIS but will be shown and labeled on a product of the Federal Government, the DNC member from the agency producing the product can request that the name be updated in GNIS. Kanalley reported that the Chief of the Forest Service has asked that the agency be proactive about changing offensive names, which may involve non-maintained administrative features.

As a further example, Yost noted that the stadium at the University of the Maryland was recently renamed by the university's board of regents because the existing name was considered offensive; however, the name cannot be updated in GNIS because it is not one of the maintained categories. There followed some discussion of whether the name could be changed if it was labeled on a Federal product and if the change was requested by a Federal agency. It was agreed this would be permitted.

It was the consensus of the DNC that Shelton's "Sense of the BGN" statement is acceptable, but that some edits may still be needed in the metadata statement.

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 **Laplata Lake** (FID 760730) to **La Plata Lake**, and apply the new name **La Plata City Lake** (FID 2777825) Missouri (not review listed)

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

Vote: 13 in favor
 0 against
 0 abstentions

II. Disagreement on Docketed Names

Barnum Brown Creek, Marion Brown Branch, Arkansas (Buffalo National River) (Review List 416)

A motion was made and seconded to not approve these new names, citing the negative recommendations of the State Names Authority and the Federal land management agency.

Vote: 11 in favor
 1 against
 1 abstention

The negative vote was cast in the belief that the intended honorees satisfied the requirements of the Commemorative Names Policy.

One member joined the meeting by teleconference.

Mather Ridge, California (Sequoia National Park/Sequoia-Kings Canyon Wilderness/John Krebs Wilderness) (Review List 419)

A motion was made and seconded to not approve this name, citing the negative recommendations of the State Names Authority and the Federal land management agency.

Vote: 14 in favor
 0 against
 0 abstentions

“Squaw” changes in Harney County and Malheur County, Oregon (Bureau of Land Management) (Review Lists 405, 410, 412)

Change **Squaw Creek** (FID 1127485) to **Ede huudi Creek**; change **Squaw Creek** (FID 1127486) to **Kaiba agai Creek**; change **Squaw Lake** (FID 1160938) to **Puhi-Pane Na-De Lake**, and change **Squaw Flat** (FID 1160940) to **Puhi-Pane Na-De Flat**; Change **Squaw Creek** (FID 1150250) to **Se-ng abi Huudi Creek**, change **Squaw Creek Spring** (FID 1150267) to **Se-ng abi Huudi Creek Spring**, and change **Squaw Reservoir** (FID 1150265) to **Se-ng abi Huudi Reservoir**; and change **Squaw Creek** (FID 1150249) to **Tipi-Tehaga Creek**, Oregon (Bureau of Land Management) (Review Lists 410, 412)

A motion was made and seconded to consider these eight proposals, all for features in Harney County, as a group.

Vote: 14 in favor
 0 against
 0 abstentions

A motion was made and seconded to approve these name changes.

Vote: 14 in favor
 0 against
 0 abstentions

A motion was made, but not seconded, to group the last nine proposals, all for features in Malheur County and supported by the BLM, and to consider the first three, on which the BLM is “neutral,” individually. Members discussed the translations provided for two names, which are spelled differently and yet both of which reportedly mean “reservoir reservoir.” Additional questions were raised, (1) could the names be traditional Paiute names when the reservoirs were only constructed within the last half century; and (2) if the similarity in names would pose a problem. It was suggested that these names and translations are a “compromise” by the tribes to find acceptable names. Further discussion took place regarding how much weight the BGN should place on the Federal land management agency’s opinion when considering a proposal.

A motion was made and seconded to group the last nine of the cases in Malheur County, which are supported by the BLM.

Vote: 3 in favor
 11 against
 0 abstentions

A motion was then made and seconded to consider seven of the Malheur County names as a group, excluding Paa nena-d Reservoir and Paa-ne-na Reservoir.

Vote: 14 in favor
 0 against
 0 abstentions

Change Squaw Flat (FID 1127494) to aa-Tiipi Flat; North Fork Squaw Creek Reservoir (FID 1124810) to Ha-ng isa Reservoir; change Squaw Creek Spring (FID 1127489) to Kwii-na-a Spring; change Squaw Creek Spring (FID 1127490) to Sai-be Spring; change Squaw Butte (FID 1127474) to Táxšpa Butte; change Squaw Flat (FID 1130273) to Tuu-Tiipi Flat; and change Squaw Creek (FID 1127487) to Yapaa Creek, Oregon (Bureau of Land Management) (Review Lists 405, 412)

A motion was made and seconded to approve these changes. The members then discussed the level of local opposition and the lack of any counter-proposals by those who disagree with the proposed changes.

Runyon reported that the Tamástsiikt Cultural Institute of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation has just published an ethnogeographic atlas of Native place names, composed of more than four hundred place names used by the Cayuse, Umatilla, and Walla Walla Tribes in eastern Oregon. One of the maps in the atlas labels Táxšpa Butte, which is one of the proposed names in this group.

Vote: 13 in favor
 1 against
 0 abstentions

The negative vote was cast in recognition of the local opposition to the name changes.

Change Squaw Creek Reservoir (FID 1127488) to Paa nena-d Reservoir and Change Squaw Flat Reservoir Number Two (FID 1157359) to Paa-ne-na Reservoir, Oregon (Bureau of Land Management) (Review List 412)

A motion was made and seconded to defer a decision on these changes until further review by staff in consultation with the proponents and the Oregon Geographic Names Board.

Vote: 14 in favor
 0 against
 0 abstentions

Change North Fork Squaw Creek (FID 1124809) to Hu Tsi Tehaga Creek; change Squaw Flat Reservoir (FID 1163916) to Pisa Paa Ta Tsi Tsa-da Reservoir; and Change South Fork Squaw Creek (FID 1127325) to Ti-he-cha-paa nena Creek, Oregon (Bureau of Land Management) (Review List 412)

A motion was made and seconded to consider these three proposals as a group.

Vote: 13 in favor
 0 against
 1 abstention

A motion was made and seconded to approve the changes. The members discussed the BLM's concerns regarding the length of the names and the possibility that if the names get truncated when used, that may be seen as offensive by the tribes.

Vote: 8 in favor
 4 against
 2 abstentions

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

Vickery Lake, Alabama (Review List 419) (FID 2777805)

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

Vote: 13 in favor
 1 against
 0 abstentions

The negative vote was cast based on a lack of clear association between the honoree and the feature.

Skerrett Point, Louisiana (Review List 421) (FID 2777806)

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

Vote: 14 in favor
 0 against
 0 abstentions

Change B Stream (FID 561384) to Captain Ambrose Bear Stream, Maine (Review List 421)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this change.

Vote: 14 in favor
 0 against
 0 abstentions

Change **Soil Conservation Service Site 7 Reservoir** (FID 1856934) to **Lake Will Wilson**, Texas (Review List 420)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this change.

Vote: 14 in favor
 0 against
 0 abstentions

Criss Creek, Washington (Review List 422) (FID 2777808)

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

Vote: 14 in favor
 0 against
 0 abstentions

IV. Revised Decisions - none

V. New Names agreed to by all interested parties

New Milford Creek, Ohio (Review List 421) (FID 2777807)

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

Vote: 14 in favor
 0 against
 0 abstentions

5. Other Business

In celebration of the holiday season, Caldwell distributed the lyrics to a song about the BGN to the tune of “Jingle Bells.” The committee joined in a rousing rendition of the song.

Yost reminded the committee about next year’s Council of Geographic Names Authorities (COGNA) meeting, to be held in Reno, Nevada, May 3-7.

6. Closing

The meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m. The next Domestic Names Committee meeting will be held January 14th, 2016, at 9:30 a.m. at the Department of the Interior, Kiowa Room.

(signed) Louis A. Yost

Louis A. Yost, Executive Secretary

APPROVED
(signed) Betsy Kanalley

Betsy Kanalley, Chair
Domestic Names Committee

**U.S. BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES
DOMESTIC NAMES COMMITTEE
DOCKET
December 2015**

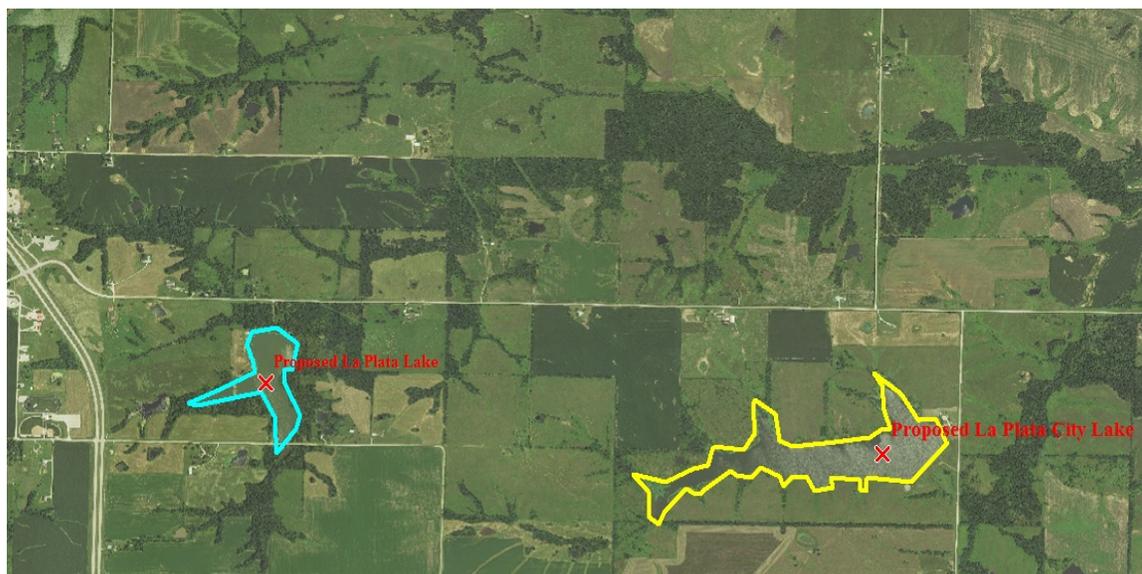
I. Staff-Processed New Names, and Name and Application Changes agreed to by all interested parties

Change Laplata Lake (FID 760730) to La Plata Lake, and apply new name La Plata City Lake, Missouri
(not review listed)

La Plata Lake: http://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesrimap?p_lat=40.0163961&p_longi=-92.4658505&fid=760730

La Plata City Lake: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic.getesricoor?p_lat=40.01258&p_longi=-92.43334

These proposals are to change the name of Laplata Lake, a reservoir in Macon County, to La Plata Lake, and to make official the name La Plata City Lake for a second reservoir located one mile to the east. Both reservoirs are located in La Plata Township, and just southeast of the City of La Plata. Until a few years ago, the smaller and more westerly reservoir was owned by the City. The existing GNIS entry, for Laplata Lake, was compiled from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 1981 Inventory of Dams and Reservoirs, which presumably obtained the information from the State of Missouri. The present-day version of the National Inventory of Dams (NID) no longer includes reservoirs; the associated dams are recorded in the NID as Laplata Lake Dam and Laplata New Dam (“formerly La Plata City Reservoir East Dam”).



After the city constructed the larger reservoir, it sold the older one and applied the name La Plata City Lake to the newer one. The City Clerk and the Macon County Commissioners have confirmed that the old reservoir continues to be known locally as La Plata Lake.

The Visit Missouri Web site still records the older reservoir as La Plata City Reservoir, while the Missouri Major Water Users Well Information (Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MO DNR)) lists it as La Plata Lake. Another MO DNR site, as well as the Missouri Code of State Regulations and the Lakes of Missouri Volunteer Program, lists the two features as La Plata Lake - Old and La Plata Lake - New. The Missouri Department of Conservation shows the newer one as La Plata City Lake. Google Maps labels the new lake as Laplata Lake and does not label the older one. The new reservoir is not depicted on the 2015 US Topo map or in the National Hydrography Dataset. The Missouri Board on Geographic Names is deferring to the BGN on the matter.

II. Disagreement on Docketed Names

Barnum Brown Creek, Marion Brown Branch, Arkansas (Buffalo National River) (Review List 416)

Barnum Brown Creek:

Mouth: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=36.07837&p_longi=-93.20757

Source: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=36.09903&p_longi=-93.1894

Marion Brown Branch:

Mouth: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=36.0794&p_longi=-93.20767

Source: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=36.09301&p_longi=-93.20887

The commemorative names Barnum Brown Creek and Marion Brown Branch are proposed for two unnamed streams near Jasper in Newton County. The stream proposed to be named Marion Brown Branch flows across private property into the one proposed to be named Barnum Brown Creek, which in turn is a 2.4-mile-long tributary of the Buffalo River. The Buffalo River and a buffer of adjacent land along both sides of the river for a distance of approximately 135 miles are managed by the National Park Service. Some sections are designated wilderness; these unnamed streams are not within those areas.

The names would honor Barnum Brown (1873-1963), a 20th century paleontologist who is most famous for discovering the first specimens of *Tyrannosaurus rex* in Montana in 1902 and Marion Brown (1877-1910), his wife and field assistant. In 1903, on a return trip to the American Natural History Museum in New York after a field season in the West, Barnum Brown stopped in Arkansas to investigate a cache of recently discovered Ice Age fossils. A landowner, prospecting for lead, had found the bones in Conard Fissure, which is located a short distance uphill from the unnamed streams. Following their marriage in 1903, the Browns spent several months collecting fossils across the western United States, including excavations at Conard Fissure. The proponent reports that Mrs. Brown was crucial to the expedition's success, assisting with fossil cleaning and preparation, as well as various camp duties. They spent several weeks camped near the fissure, using the nearby stream to wash the fossil bones before carefully packing them for shipment back to New York. A 2010 biography of Barnum Brown entitled *Barnum Brown: The Man Who Discovered Tyrannosaurus rex* (Dingus and Norell) includes a photograph of Mrs. Brown washing fossils in, according to the proponent, the stream now proposed to be named in her honor. Marion Brown contracted scarlet fever and died in 1910.

Writing about Conard Fissure, Brown reported, “This ossuary is probably richer in individual specimens than any so far discovered in North America.” In a report he published on the discovery, the proponent adds, “Conard Fissure produced fossils in sufficient number and quality to enable Brown and his associates to identify fifty-one species of mammals, plus a turkey, a rattlesnake, and assorted specimens of other (unidentifiable) reptiles, amphibians and birds. From that collection, Brown named twenty new species, and determined that twenty-four of the fifty-one mammal species collected and identified had become extinct toward the close of the Pleistocene.”

Mr. Brown later travelled extensively around the world, collecting many kinds of fossils from Mesozoic and Cenozoic strata. He confirmed the discovery of Pleistocene Folsom points which showed that humans were hunting large mammals during the Ice Age, worked with Sinclair Oil to produce dinosaur booklets for customers, and advised Disney animators on the dinosaur sequences in *Fantasia*.

The Newton County Judge was asked to comment on these proposals, but no response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion. The National Park Service does not recommend approval of the proposals, citing a belief that Barnum and Marion Brown’s association with the stream is not compelling enough to warrant naming a feature in the park. The Arkansas State Names Authority concurs with the NPS and also does not support the names. A copy of the proposals was forwarded to the Osage Nation, a federally recognized tribe. No response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of opinion.

A search of GNIS indicates that a valley named Brown Hollow lies 15 miles to the northwest of the stream in question. The origin of this name has not been determined.

Mather Ridge, California

(Sequoia National Park/Sequoia-Kings Canyon Wilderness/John Krebs Wilderness)

(Review List 419)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=36.467458&p_longi=-118.602928

The name Mather Ridge is proposed for a 0.25 mile-long ridge trending west from Timber Gap in Sequoia National Park and just north of the park’s Mineral King Ranger Station. The feature also lies along the boundary between the Sequoia-Kings Canyon Wilderness and the John Krebs Wilderness.

The proposed name would honor Stephen Tyng Mather (1867-1930), who became the first director of the National Park Service in 1917. Mather, born in San Francisco, earned his fortune through borax manufacturing and sales. After seeing the poor state of Western national parks, he began campaigning for a government agency to protect and manage these “treasured landscapes.” In 1915, as Assistant Secretary of the Interior, he invited many influential men, including politicians, scientists, conservationists, and journalists, on a trip, known as the Mather Mountain Party, through some of California’s national parks and unprotected wilderness areas. On July 18th, several members of the party posed for a photograph on the ridge now proposed to be named for Mather. The photograph shows the group looking southeast over the Mineral King area towards Farewell Gap.

The proponent believes the 100th anniversary of the Mather Mountain Party in Sequoia National Park should be commemorated by proposing the name Mather Ridge for this feature. When asked to address the BGN’s wilderness policy, she stated that the name would “pay tribute to and preserve the fascinating history of Sequoia National Park and the Mineral King area” and that Mather “chose Sequoia and its surrounding landscape as the means by which to convince the men [in the Mather Mountain Party] to lobby

for this government agency [the National Park Service].” She notes also that Horace Albright, Mather’s assistant and also a member of the party, wrote that “one of the ‘prime discussions of the Mather Party’ in 1915 was ‘wilderness’ ...[h]ow fitting that Mather's name be associated with wilderness, in wilderness, at a place where he, himself, stood a century ago.”

GNIS lists 17 features in California with “Mather” in their names. Not all of these honor Stephen Mather; several features in the Sacramento area are presumably associated with the former Mather Air Force Base and current Sacramento Mather Airport, named for a U.S. Signal Corps lieutenant. Of the nearby features named for Stephen Mather or associated with features named for him, Mather Pass is 40 miles north-northeast in Kings Canyon National Park; the community of Mather, just outside Yosemite National Park, and Mather Ranger Station at the entrance to the park are 120 miles northwest; and Mather Grove is 390 miles northwest in Humboldt County. The origin of the name of Mather Creek, also in Humboldt County, is unknown. A historical locale named Mather is 160 miles north-northwest in Nevada; once again, the origin of this name is unknown.

Features in several national parks are named for Stephen Mather. In addition to the Kings Canyon and Yosemite National Park features mentioned above, these include Mount Mather in Denali National Park and Preserve (a BGN 1947 decision), Mather Point in Grand Canyon National Park, and Mather Gorge in Great Falls Park (a BGN 1968 decision). The National Park Service’s training center in West Virginia is named for Stephen Mather. Many national parks contain plaques in honor of Mather’s contributions to the establishment of the National Park Service.

Mather’s summer home near Norwalk, Connecticut was listed as a National Historic Landmark under the name “Stephen Tyng Mather House” in 1963; GNIS records a nearby reservoir and dam with the name “Mather,” which may refer to previous generations of his family. The Mather Memorial Parkway runs through Mount Rainier National Park and Snoqualmie National Forest in Washington. The Stephen Mather Wilderness in Washington was designated in 1988. Mather Peaks in Wyoming were named in 1970 for Kitley Mather, a USGS employee.

The Tulare County Supervisors were asked to comment on the proposed name; no response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of opinion. The National Park Service is opposed to the proposal, citing a belief that it does not warrant an exception to the BGN’s Wilderness Names Policy. Specifically, “While Stephen Mather was instrumental in the creation of the National Park Service in 1916 (and went on to become its first Director), and while the Mather Mountain Party of 1915 had numerous, substantive discussions about the formation of a bureau to administer the national parks, no significant discussions or decisions by members of the Party occurred during its brief stop at the feature in question. Accordingly, we find no ‘overriding need’ for a name for this feature for purposes of education or for any other reason, and thus cannot support it.” The California Advisory Committee on Geographic Names recommends disapproval of the name, citing the opposition of the NPS and the lack of a compelling reason to override the Wilderness Names Policy.

A copy of the proposal was forwarded to the following federally recognized tribes: the Fort McDermitt Paiute-Shoshone Tribe of Nevada and Oregon, the Paiute-Shoshone Tribe of the Fallon Reservation, the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe, the Reno-Sparks Indian Colony, the Tule River Indian Tribe of the Tule River Reservation, the Walker River Paiute Tribe of the Walker River Reservation, and the Yerington Paiute Tribe of the Yerington Colony and Campbell Ranch. No responses were received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of opinion.

“Squaw” changes in Harney County and Malheur County, Oregon

(Bureau of Land Management)

(Review Lists 405, 410, 412)

The following 20 proposals were submitted to change the names of geographic features that contain the word “Squaw,” a word that the proponents believe is offensive. Eight of the features are in Harney County and twelve in Malheur County. Nineteen are Paiute names submitted by the Burns Paiute Tribe, and one is Umatilla from the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation. All are on land managed by the Bureau of Land Management.

The proposals were forwarded to the BGN by the Oregon Geographic Names Board (OGNB), which recommends approval of all of changes. In a number of cases, the OGNB’s approval included a request that another name that had been submitted by a different tribe be recorded in GNIS as a variant name. As part of its research, the OGNB forwarded each of the proposals to the Oregon Legislative Commission on Indian Services, which in turn shared them with all federally recognized tribes with an interest in Oregon. No responses were received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion.

The first eight proposals, for features in Harney County, were submitted by the Burns Paiute Tribe. The OGNB reports that the Harney County Historical Society recommends approval of the proposed changes. However, the Harney County Court informed the OGNB that it had concerns regarding “the practical outcome of these types of name changes” and would prefer the use of English translations. It questioned whether the features had ever had other names; whether other names were suggested; and, if any of the suggested names are adopted, would they fit onto signage (“For instance county road signs have a limit of 15 characters”). The county also expressed a concern that “the pronunciation of some words may prove problematic to so many that the original name may remain on a practical basis”, and “We are curious what effort will be made to assure folks understand the correct pronunciation of the chosen name.” In conclusion, the county stated, “In an effort to resolve some of the questions raised we suggest that the English meaning of the Paiute words be considered as a compromise.” The county did not submit counter-proposals. The OGNB has stated that at subsequent OGNB meeting attended by a Harney County Commissioner, the issues were not raised and therefore it believes the county does not intend to pursue the matter.

The Bureau of Land Management recommends approval of the eight proposed changes in Harney County.

Change **Squaw Creek** (FID 1127485) to **Ede huudi Creek**, Oregon

(Review List 412)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p_lat=42.940716&p_longi=-118.3287977&fid=1127485

This 9.5-mile-long stream heads on Steens Mountain and flows generally north, then east, to enter a marshy area just north of Juniper Lake. The proposed replacement name is of Paiute origin and means “near hot spring creek.” A counter-proposal, to name the stream **Juniper Creek**, was submitted to the OGNB by a local resident. However, this name was rejected by the OGNB in favor of **Ede huudi Creek** and was not forwarded to the BGN.

Change **Squaw Creek** (FID 1127486) to **Kaiba agai Creek**, Oregon
(Review List 412)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p_lat=42.7073859&p_longi=-118.781028&fid=1127486

This 5.2-mile-long stream in Steens Mountain National Recreation Lands flows generally west-northwest into an unnamed tributary of the Donner und Blitzen River. The proposed replacement name is of Paiute origin and means “Mountain Trout Creek.”

Change **Squaw Lake** (FID 1160938) to **Puhi-Pane Na-De Lake**,
and change **Squaw Flat** (FID 1160940) to **Puhi-Pane Na-De Flat**
(Review List 412)

Lake: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p_lat=42.9495097&p_longi=-118.3742612&fid=1160938

Flat: http://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesrimap?p_lat=42.9713084&p_longi=-118.3877277&fid=1160940

The names of 75-acre **Squaw Lake** and the flat in which the lake is located are proposed to be changed to **Puhi-Pane Na-De Lake** and **Puhi-Pane Na-De Flat**, respectively. The proposed replacement names are of Paiute origin and translate as “Pretty Blue Lake” and “Pretty Blue Flat.”

Change **Squaw Creek** (FID 1150250) to **Se-ng abi Huudi Creek**,
change **Squaw Creek Spring** (FID 1150267) to **Se-ng abi Huudi Creek Spring**,
and change **Squaw Reservoir** (FID 1150265) to **Se-ng abi Huudi Reservoir**
(Review List 410)

Stream: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=43.9054358&p_longi=-118.3054798&fid=1150250

Spring: http://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesrimap?p_lat=43.977622&p_longi=-118.3673475&fid=1150267

Reservoir: http://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesrimap?p_lat=43.9127963&p_longi=-118.3256433&fid=1150265

These features are located several miles west of Beulah. **Squaw Creek** is a 7.7-mile-long tributary of Cottonwood Creek. The proposed replacement name “Se-ng abi Huddi” is of Paiute origin and translates to “cottonwoods.”

The Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation originally proposed the names **Hey'úuxcpel'uu Creek**, **Hey'úuxcpel'uu Spring**, and **Hey'úuxcpel'uu Reservoir** for the three features, but agreed to withdraw its proposals in favor of the Paiute names, provided the Umatilla names be recorded in GNIS as variants. The Umatilla word “Hey'úuxcpel'uu” reportedly refers to “the Paiute people.”

The OGNB’s recommendation to approve the names **Se-ng abi Huudi Creek**, **Se-ng abi Huudi Creek Spring**, and **Se-ng abi Huudi Reservoir** also included a request that the Umatilla names be recorded as variants.

Change **Squaw Creek** (FID 1150249) to **Tipi-Tehaga Creek**
(Review List 412)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p_lat=43.74708&p_longi=-119.19691&fid=1150249

This 1.5-mile-long tributary of the Silvies River, located 12 miles northwest of Burns, is proposed to be renamed **Tipi-Tehaga Creek**. This name is of Paiute origin and translates as “Rock Canyon Creek.” A counter-proposal was submitted to the OGNB by a resident of Redmond, who reports that he has owned the property through which the stream flows since 1976. He asked that the name be changed to **Beal Creek**. However, this name was rejected by the OGNB in favor of **Tipi-Tehaga Creek** and was not forwarded to the BGN.

The following twelve proposals were also submitted by the Oregon Geographic Names Board (OGNB), on behalf of the Burns Paiute Tribe and the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, to change the names of twelve features in Malheur County that contain the word “Squaw.”

The Malheur County Commissioners do not support the changes, citing “no local support for the names and in fact local active opposition to removing the [existing] names.” Furthermore, the County believes there is no State mandate to change “Squaw” names or to replace them with names from Indian languages; “the names are not easily understood by the general public and are not common to the area”, and “are not easy to pronounce.” Finally, “Changing names on maps interferes with important historical searches and implementation of emergency services.”

The president of the Malheur Country Historical Society objects strongly to the proposed changes; he also believes there is no mandate nor any compelling reason to change the existing names, and further, the proposed names “have never been used and are unknown to the locals, have no local support, no historical documentation, and most persons would have trouble pronouncing [them].”

The Oregon Geographic Names Board recommends approval of the proposed changes. A representative of the Bureau of Land Management regional office also contacted the county and was told that there was “a concern for emergency services to be able to dispatch or locate locations while the dispatcher database is updated and for emergency requests from locals that may continue to use the old name and not learn/be aware of the new name.” The BLM continued “[we] do not oppose changing the geographic names but have a concern that new names that are long may be shortened by locals and the local name may be derogatory - hence [our] neutrality for [3] of the proposed names.”

Citing the aforementioned concerns, the BLM has stated it is “neutral” on the following three proposals.

Change **North Fork Squaw Creek** (FID 1124809) to **Hu Tsi Tehaga Creek**
(Review List 412)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p_lat=43.743491&p_longi=-117.7087901&fid=1124809

The stream currently named **North Fork Squaw Creek** is an 8.3-mile-long tributary of **Squaw Creek** (proposed **Yapaa Creek** (q.v.)). The proposed replacement name is of Paiute origin and translates as “Grouse canyon in general.” Citing the concerns expressed by Malheur County, the BLM is “neutral” on this proposal.

Change **Squaw Flat Reservoir** (FID 1163916) to **Pisa Paa Ta Tsi Tsa-da Reservoir**
(Review List 412)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p_lat=42.5984898&p_longi=-117.363478&fid=1163916

This one-acre reservoir is located at the northwest edge of Squaw Flat (proposed aa-Tiipi Flat (q.v.)). The name is of Paiute origin and translates as “pretty reservoir.” Citing the concerns expressed by Malheur County, the BLM is “neutral” on this proposal.

Change **South Fork Squaw Creek** (FID 1127325) to **Ti-he-cha-paa nena Creek**
(Review List 412)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p_lat=43.743491&p_longi=-117.7087901&fid=1127325

This 6-mile-long tributary of Squaw Creek (proposed Yapaa Creek (q.v.)) is proposed to be renamed to Ti-he-cha-paa nena Creek. The proposed name is of Paiute origin and translates as “Deer Creek.” Citing the concerns expressed by Malheur County, the BLM is “neutral” on this proposal.

The BLM recommends approval of the following nine changes.

Change **Squaw Flat** (FID 1127494) to **aa-Tiipi Flat**
(Review List 412)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p_lat=42.5834898&p_longi=-117.3351441&fid=1127494

The proposed name is of Paiute origin and translates as “alkali flat.”

Change **North Fork Squaw Creek Reservoir** (FID 1124810) to **Ha-ng isa Reservoir**
(Review List 412)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p_lat=43.7001119&p_longi=-117.8448732&fid=1124810

This 1.6-acre reservoir, located just east of Tims Peak, is proposed to be renamed to Ha-ng isa Reservoir. The proposed name is of Paiute origin and translates as “Beaver Reservoir.”

Change **Squaw Creek Spring** (FID 1127489) to **Kwii-na-a Spring**
(Review List 412)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p_lat=43.7248902&p_longi=-117.7622538&fid=1127489

This spring is located on a small tributary of North Fork Squaw Creek (proposed Hu Tsi Tehaga Creek (q.v.)). The proposed name is of Paiute origin and translates as “Golden Eagle Spring.”

Change **Squaw Creek Reservoir** (FID 1127488) to **Paa nena-d Reservoir**
(Review List 412)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p_lat=43.7198091&p_longi=-117.7326128&fid=1127488

This one-acre reservoir, located 1.5 miles west of the head of Warm Springs Canyon, is proposed to be renamed to **Paa nena-d Reservoir**. The proposed name is of Paiute origin and translates as “reservoir reservoir.”

Change **Squaw Flat Reservoir Number Two** (FID 1157359) to **Paa-ne-na Reservoir**
(Review List 412)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p_lat=42.5360287&p_longi=-117.2389967&fid=1157359

This two-acre reservoir, located along **North Fork Squaw Creek** (proposed **Hu Tsi Tehaga Creek** (q.v.)) is proposed to be renamed to **Paa-ne-na Reservoir**. The proposed name is of Paiute origin and translates as “reservoir reservoir.”

Change **Squaw Creek Spring** (FID 1127490) to **Sai-be Spring**
(Review List 412)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p_lat=43.7307515&p_longi=-117.6350394&fid=1127490

The proposed name is of Paiute origin and translates as “Cattail Spring.”

Change **Squaw Butte** (FID 1127474) to **Táxšpa Butte**
(Review List 405)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=44.199528&p_longi=-118.107319&fid=1127474

The name **Squaw Butte** applies currently to a 5,538-foot summit located 20 miles north of Beulah. The proposed replacement name is of Umatilla origin and means “at the willows (flowing into this place).” This is the only one of the 21 on this docket that was proposed by the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation. The proposal was originally submitted as **Táyšpa Butte**, but in accordance with the BGN requirement that names be rendered in the Roman alphabet, it was modified to **Táxšpa Butte**.

The Oregon Geographic Names Board recommends approval of the change to **Táxšpa Butte**, with a request that the Paiute name for the feature, **Ti-Tsi-u-Sii-bi Butte** (meaning “Little Willow Butte”) also be recorded in GNIS as a variant name.

Change **Squaw Flat** (FID 1130273) to **Tuu-Tiipi Flat**
(Review List 412)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p_lat=42.5526565&p_longi=-117.2498649&fid=1130273

The proposed name is of Paiute origin and translates as “volcanic rock flat.”

Change Squaw Creek (FID 1127487) to Yapaa Creek
(Review List 412)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getgooglemap?p_lat=43.7893244&p_longi=-117.6907361&fid=1127487

This 3.3-mile-long tributary of the Malheur River is proposed to be renamed to Yapaa Creek. The proposed name is of Paiute origin and translates as “Wild Carrot Creek.”

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

Vickery Lake, Alabama
(Review List 419)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=34.591336&p_longi=-87.381223

This proposal is to apply the new commemorative name Vickery Lake to an 80-acre reservoir in Lawrence County. The name is intended to honor Mack Vickery (1938-2004), a native of this part of Lawrence County, who went on to become a renowned songwriter, performing artist, and member of the Rockabilly Hall of Fame and the Alabama Music Hall of Fame. The proponent states, “[Vickery] wrote songs that were recorded by many famous artists such as George Strait, Jerry Lee Lewis, Johnny Paycheck, Waylon Jennings, Tanya Tucker and others. He had more than 225 of his songs recorded.” He worked with Sam Phillips, Elvis Presley, and Jerry Lee Lewis at Sun Records in Memphis, where he helped establish the Rockabilly sound.

The National Inventory of Dams records the name of the dam that forms the reservoir, and which was completed in 1987, as Big Nance Creek W/S Dam Site 4, and notes that it is owned by the Lawrence County Commission. The name of the dam is not impacted by this proposal.

The Lawrence County Commission passed a resolution in support of the proposal. Letters of support were received from the Curator of the Alabama Music Hall of Fame, the general manager of WALW Radio in Moulton, and two other individuals. A petition signed by 32 family members and local residents in support of the name was included with the application. The Alabama State Names Committee recommends approval as well. A copy of the proposal was forwarded to the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians of North Carolina, a federally recognized tribe. No response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of opinion.

Skerrett Point, Louisiana
(Review List 421)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=29.9801718&p_longi=-91.526382

This approximately eight-acre cape, located at the southern end of Round Island in Iberia Parish, is proposed to be named Skerrett Point. The name would honor B.E.M. “Ben” Skerrett, III (1920-2005), Lafayette businessman, avid sportsman, and member of the 1971 Commission on the Atchafalaya Basin, who was instrumental in the selection of Buffalo Cove as a project site. The Buffalo Cove project is a joint U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Louisiana Department of Natural Resources water management project in the Atchafalaya Basin. The groundbreaking ceremonies for the project took place at Louisiana’s Lake Fausse Pointe State Park, which lies eight miles to the northwest of the cape now proposed to be named Skerrett Point. The ceremony took place in 2005 just a few weeks after Skerrett’s death.

The name Skerrett Point was approved on June 11, 2015 by the Louisiana State Legislature through House Concurrent Resolution 229. The resolution states that Mr. Skerrett was the recipient of the 42nd Governor's State Conservation Achievement Award for his passion to preserve the Atchafalaya Basin and in particular his efforts to implement the Buffalo Cove Water Management unit.

The Iberia Parish Council passed a resolution stating that it had no objection to the proposal. The Louisiana State Names Authority supports the name. According to the NAGPRA Native American Consultation Database, there are no federally recognized tribes with an interest in Iberia Parish.

Change **B Stream** (FID 561384) to **Captain Ambrose Bear Stream**, Maine
(Review List 421)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesrimap?p_lat=46.12874&p_longi=-67.84749&fid=561384

This 16-mile long stream, which flows past B Ridge and near B Lake in Aroostook County, has been labeled on USGS topographic maps as B Stream since 1937. The name likely derives from the old name "B Township" for the Town of Hammond, where the stream originates. Several other features in Maine have single letter names that correspond to current or former townships designated by letters.

The 127th Maine Legislature recently voted to change the name of B Stream to Captain Ambrose Bear Stream. The change was forwarded to the Secretary of the Interior by the Aroostook County Administrator, on behalf of the Aroostook County Commissioners. The legislation stated that in addition to notifying the Secretary and "other public agencies, boards, committees, and other groups responsible for changing names of places," the commissioners of Transportation and Inland Fisheries and Wildlife for the State of Maine were instructed to change all signs, documents, and rules.

The proposed name is intended to honor Captain Ambrose Bear, a Maliseet Indian chief who served in the Revolutionary War. John Bear, who serves as a nonvoting member of the Maine House of Representatives representing the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians, recently discovered written records confirming that Ambrose Bear served under Colonel Jonathan Eddy, an officer in George Washington's Continental Army. Captain Bear is credited for his efforts during the Second Battle of Machias of 1777, in which he led 100 canoes with other tribal members. They were reportedly instrumental in repelling an attack of British warships in what is thought to have been one of the first naval battles of the Revolutionary War. Captain Bear is also credited with serving in a raid on British-held Nova Scotia a year earlier.

Both the Town of Hammond and the Town of Houlton were asked to comment on the proposed name; no responses were received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of opinion. The Maine State Names Authority recommends approval of the name change. A copy of the proposal was forwarded to the Aroostook Band of Micmacs and the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians of Maine, both of which are federally recognized tribes. No responses were received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of opinion.

GNIS lists 114 features in Maine with "Bear" in their names. Of these, 38 are streams, nine of which are in Aroostook County. There is no evidence to suggest that any of these features were named for the Bear family. The proponent has not requested that the nearby B Ridge or B Lake be renamed.

Change **Soil Conservation Service Site 7 Reservoir** (FID 1856934) to **Lake Will Wilson**, Texas
(Review List 420)

http://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesrimap?p_lat=30.5060126&p_longi=-97.7716327&fid=1856934

This proposal is to change the name of the reservoir currently named Soil Conservation Service Site 7 Reservoir to Lake Will Wilson. The reservoir was constructed in 1963 by damming South Brushy Creek. The current name was added to GNIS from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 1981 Dams and Reservoirs List. The reservoir is located within Brushy Creek Lake Park and is managed by the City of Cedar Park; the park's Web site labels it Brushy Creek Lake and that appears to be the name in predominant local use.

The proponent reports that his father, Will Reid Wilson, Sr. (1912-2005), owned the land and donated the easement on which the reservoir was constructed. He helped maintain the reservoir and took action to protect its environmental quality. He also worked to establish parkland surrounding the reservoir. Wilson served in World War II before pursuing a law career. He was a District Attorney for Dallas County, an Associate Justice of the Texas Supreme Court, and the Attorney General of Texas. He later became an Assistant Attorney General in the U.S. Department of Justice. He also owned two ranches, one of which was located at Brushy Creek.

The Upper Brushy Creek Water Control and Improvement District passed a resolution in support of changing the name to Will R. Wilson Lake [sic]. The City of Cedar Park City Council supports the name change. Williamson County was asked to provide an opinion; no response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of opinion. The Texas Geographic Names Board recommends approval of the name change. According to the NAGPRA Native American Consultation Database, there are no federally recognized tribes with an interest in Williamson County.

Criss Creek, Washington
(Review List 422)

Mouth: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic.getesricoor?p_lat=47.8680556&p_longi=-122.6938889
Source: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic.getesricoor?p_lat=47.8930556&p_longi=-122.6961111

The new name Criss Creek is proposed for a currently unnamed stream in eastern Jefferson County. The name would honor Arthur E. Criss (1898-1964), the grandfather of the proponent. The stream mostly flows through private property that is managed for timber and logging, part of which is held by a trust in the Criss family name.

Arthur Criss moved to Jefferson County from Kansas in 1902. He worked many jobs throughout his life, including building the footings for the Space Needle in Seattle, ferrying passengers by motor boat, and captain of the Seattle Fire Department. In 1959, the Criss family purchased a parcel of land along the stream and held "family get-togethers" there. According to the proponent, Mr. Criss "knew this was a very good purchase as the huge trees and black bears were priceless....He always told my mom and dad to keep this in the family -- never sell." The proponent wishes to make the name Criss Creek official "to honor and preserve the Criss family name in addition to possible assistance to search and rescue efforts."

The stream is called Shine Creek by many local and State government and environmental groups. This name is also referenced in county and State legal codes. The U.S. Geological Survey uses Shine Creek for the name of a former water monitoring station along the stream. However, neither GNIS nor the local

county GIS office lists a name for the stream. The Washington Committee on Geographic Names (WCGN) stated that there is no interest in making the name official for State or Federal use.

The WCGN recommends approval of the name. As part of its research, the WCGN contacted the following offices for opinions: the Jefferson County Commissioners, the Jefferson County Public Works Department, JeffCom 911 Communications, the Jefferson County GIS office, the Jefferson County Historical Society, Pope Resources (local timber company and land owner), the Tacoma Public Library, the Washington State Historical Society, Port Ludlow Golf Course, and the Washington Department of Natural Resources Olympic Region office. No responses were received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of opinion.

The WCGN also forwarded the proposal to 29 federally recognized tribes in Washington, including the following six, which according to the NAGPRA Native American Consultation Database, have an interest in Jefferson County: the Hoh Indian Tribe, the Lower Elwha Tribal Community, the Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe, the Quileute Tribe of the Quileute Reservation, the Quinault Indian Nation, and the Skokomish Indian Tribe. No responses were received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of opinion.

According to GNIS, there are no features in Washington that contain the word “Criss” in their names.

IV. Revised Decisions - none

V. New Names agreed to by all interested parties

New Milford Creek, Ohio

(Review List 421)

Mouth: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=41.1048673&p_longi=-81.235274

Source: http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=41.0945132&p_longi=-81.2188045

This 2.1-mile long unnamed tributary of Reed Ditch is proposed to be named New Milford Creek. The stream heads in Rootstown Township, 0.9 miles southwest of the community of New Milford; it then flows under New Milford Road to enter Reed Ditch.

The Rootstown Township Trustees and the Township Historical Society recommend approval of the name. The Portage County Board of Commissioners was asked to comment, but no response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion. The Ohio State Names Authority supports the proposal. According to the NAGPRA Native American Consultation Database, there are no federally recognized tribes with an interest in Portage County.