This Quarterly Review List presents names proposed for geographic features in the United States. The names are offered to (1) identify previously unnamed features, (2) provide official recognition to names in current local usage, (3) resolve conflicts in name spellings, applications, and local usage, or (4) change existing names. Any organization, agency, or person may indicate to the U.S. Board on Geographic Names (BGN) their support or opposition to any name proposed herein by submitting written evidence documenting their position.

The names herein are official for use in Federal publications and on maps upon approval by the BGN. Only one name is official per geographic feature; however, a shortened version of an official name may be authorized, and these are identified by underlining. The use or omission of non-underlined words is optional.

Variant names and spellings discovered in researching a name are listed following the word “Not.” These may include names and spellings that formerly were official, historical names known to have been previously associated with the feature, names that conflict with current policies of the BGN, misspellings, and names misapplied to the subject of the proposal.

If a populated place is incorporated under the laws of its State, it is specified as such in parentheses after the feature designation. Populated places without such designations are not incorporated.

The information following each name indicates the submitting agency or person, the most recent base series map* for locating the feature, the reason for the proposal, and other pertinent background facts needed to assist the BGN in its decision process. Each paragraph also includes a link to available map services showing the location of the feature. A copy of this Review List has also been posted to the BGN’s website at https://usgs.gov/geonames/domestic-names.

Effective immediately, the horizontal datum used for geographic coordinates in all Domestic Geographic Names publications is the North American Datum of 1983. The datum of some geographic coordinates from historical maps may still be the NAD27.

Comments on the name proposals may be sent to: Ms. Jennifer Runyon, research staff, U.S. Board on Geographic Names/Domestic Names Committee, 523 National Center, Reston, VA 20192-0523; telephone (703) 648-4550; fax (703) 648-4722; or e-mail BGNEXEC@usgs.gov.

THE NAMES IN THIS REVIEW LIST MAY BE USED ONLY AFTER APPROVAL BY THE BGN

**ALABAMA**

**Big Cove Creek**: stream; 1.9 mi. long; heads near Gurthery Crossroads at 34°06′53″N, 87°00′26″W, flows NE then E to enter Rock Creek 2.1 mi. N of Lewis Smith Lake; the name is associated with an area known locally as Big Cove or The Cove; Cullman County, Alabama; 34°07′06″N, 86°58′46″W; USGS map – Trimble 1:24,000 (mouth).

Mouth:  [https://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesricoor?p_lat=34.118405&p_longi=-86.979475](https://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesricoor?p_lat=34.118405&p_longi=-86.979475)


Proposal:  new name for unnamed feature
Map:  USGS map - Trimble 1:24,000 (mouth)
Proponent:  Blake Gammon; Cullman, AL
Administrative area:  None
Previous BGN Action:  None
Names associated with feature:
  - GNIS:  None found
  - Local Usage:  None found
  - Published:  None found

Case Summary: This proposal is to apply the new name Big Cove Creek to an unnamed, 1.9-mile-long tributary of Rock Creek in Cullman County. The proponent reports that the name would be associated with an area that local property owners refer to as Big Cove or The Cove. Neither name is recorded in GNIS, nor is there any online evidence to substantiate the proponent’s claim of local usage.

There is a community and a valley named “Big Cove,” along with a number of associated administrative features, in Madison County, approximately 40 miles from the stream in question. There are two streams in the State named Big Cove Creek, one in Madison County and one in Etowah County, 41 miles and 60 miles away, respectively.

**ALASKA**

**Change Seduction Point to Ayiklutu**: cape; approx. 11 acres; on the S tip of Chilkat Peninsula, 11 mi. SE of Haines; the traditional Tlingit name for the feature, meaning “small point of a larger point”; Haines Borough, Alaska; Sec 21, T32S, R60E, Copper River Meridian; 59°04′57″N, 135°18′23″W; USGS map – Skagway A-1 1:63,360; Not: Ayiklutú, Mys Seduktion, Mys Soblanza, Point Seduction, Point Seduction - in part, Seduction Peninsula - in part, Seduction Point, Seduction Point - in part, Seduction Tongue, Seduction Tongue - in part.


Proposal:  to change a name considered offensive
Map:  USGS map – Skagway A-1 1:63,360
Proponent:  Ryan J. Barber; Haines, AK
Administrative area:  Chilkat State Park
Previous BGN Action:  None
Names associated with feature:
  - GNIS:  Seduction Point (FID 1414582)
  - Local Usage:  None found
  - Published:  Ayiklutú (Haa Léel’kw Has Aani Saax’u / Our Grandparents’ Names on the Land); Mys Seduktion (Dictionary of Alaska Place Names, 1967); Mys Soblanza (Dictionary of Alaska Place Names, 1967); Point Seduction (Vancouver, A Voyage of Discovery to the North Pacific Ocean and Round the World, 1798; Coast Pilot of Alaska, Alaska, Part 1, 1869; Pacific Coast Pilot, Alaska, Part 1, 1883, 1891; A Summer in Alaska, 1891; Alaskan Boundary Sheet #17, 1895; “Yukon Map,
Case Summary: This proposal is to change the name of Seduction Point, a cape in Haines Borough, to Ayiklutu, the traditional Tlingit name for the feature. Ayiklutu is translated as “small point of a larger point” or “point inside of it,” which describes the small cape on the end of a larger point. The cape is located within Chilkat State Park at the southern tip of the Chilkat Peninsula where Chilkat Inlet and Chilkoot Inlet merge to form Lynn Canal.

The cape was named in 1794 by Captain George Vancouver, who gave the reason “in consequence of the artful character of the Indians who are said to reside in its neighbourhood.” The GNIS entry, citing Donald Orth’s 1967 Dictionary of Alaska Place Names, notes “because of the designing nature of the Indians whom Joseph Whidbey encountered here, July 16, 1794.”

The change is proposed by the Chilkoot Indian Association (Haines), which states that the current name has an “ugly origin.” There are several Tlingit accounts of an early encounter between military men, probably British sailors, and Native women. One account is that a Kaagwaantaan woman was raped at this spot by British sailors and the place name evokes anger (David Henry, Across the Shaman’s River: John Muir, the Tlingit Stronghold, and the Opening of the North, 2017, pp. 38-40). Another account has three wives raped and killed by military men who put the bodies in a cave while their husbands were away hunting seals.

The proponent adds, “A Kaagwaantaan woman was raped at this spot by British sailors under the command of Joseph Whidbey. The name is meant to imply that she seduced the sailors. Henry’s sources for this account are Klukwan elder Joe Hatch and the notes, later entered in the ship’s logs, written by the ship’s physician Archibald Menzies.” He adds that the cape is important to the Chilkoot people and was used as a fish camp. Further, he wishes to “restore the original Tlingit name for the point. . . Lingit place names. . . are very descriptive. This one word communicates the signature characteristics of that spot. Seduction point does not, it could be any point and really the name is offensive since it acknowledges a very ugly crime that happened there by explorers along with many other similar crimes of that time.” The Alaska Travel Journal of Archibald Menzies adds, “For some Tlingits today, the rocky point’s English name still evokes anger.”

Other historical accounts question the origin of the name, suggesting that Capt. Vancouver gave it to the cape “to commemorate the ‘artful character of the Indians’ who ushered his sailors out of the aani [land].”

The 2010 book Haa Léelk’w Has Aani Saax’u / Our Grandparents’ Names on the Land reported the Tlingit name of the cape as Ayiklúts, with the “uncertain, unconfirmed, or partial” translation of “Point inside of It.”

Seduction Point has been labeled on Office of Coast Survey charts and USGS maps since 1883 and 1948, respectively. It was also listed in Marcus Baker’s 1906 Geographic Dictionary of Alaska, with Seduction Tongue recorded as a variant. Orth [ibid.] included the variants Mys Seduktion (Russian Hydrographic Department, 1848) and Mys Soblazna (Imperial Russian Navy, 1852).

The Alaska Board on Geographic Names (AK BGN) recommends approval of the change. As part of its review, the AK BGN requested input from the Haines Borough Mayor, the Chilkat Indian Village (Klukwan), Sealaska Corporation, the Central Council Tlingit-Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska, and the Alaska Native Language Center. Sealaska Corporation responded in support of the change; no other responses were received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of opinion. The AK BGN also requested
that a notice be posted in the Chilkat Valley News; six emails of support were received from Haines residents. The AK BGN also received support from the Alaska State Parks Southeast Region Superintendent.

Although the cape lies just outside Tongass National Forest, the AK BGN asked for U.S. Forest Service (USFS) input. The USFS supports the proposal, but recommends the form Ayiklutú Point. The USFS noted the Ayiklutú spelling in Haa Léel'kw Has Aani Saax'ú / Our Grandparents’ Names on the Land: “If this spelling is correct the US Forest Service suggests that the proposed name be amended to include the diacritic.” The letter also noted that: “BGN domestic names procedures and tribal policy encourage the use of generic descriptors in geographic names. The US Forest Service understands that the name Ayiklutu means ‘Point inside of It’ . . . and the descriptive term ‘point’ is inherent in the original name. Including the English descriptor ‘point’ after the name would assist those unfamiliar with the Tlingit meaning in connecting the name to the physical feature.”

Change Saginaw Creek to Skanaxhéen Creek: stream; 4.9 mi. long; in Tongass National Forest, heads 8.5 mi. W of Kadake Bay at 56°48’15”N, 134°13’31”W, flows N then NE to enter Skanáx Bay 6 mi. WNW of Gil Harbor; Skanaxhéen is the Tlingit name for the stream and is associated with Skanáx Bay, into which the stream flows, named for either a village on the eastern shore of the bay or the bay itself and translated as “noisy beach,” referring to the sounds of clams in a traditional Tlingit story; T58S, R71E, Copper River Meridian; Prince of Wales-Hyder Census Area, Alaska; 56°50’34”N, 134°09’15”W; USGS map – Port Alexander D-1 1:63,360; Not: Saginaw Creek, Skanaxhéen, West Fork of Saginaw Creek, West Fork Saginaw Creek, West Fork Saginaw.


Proposal: to change a name considered offensive
Map: USGS Port Alexander D-1 1:63,360
Proponent: Russell James; Kake, AK
Administrative area: None
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
GNIS: Saginaw Creek (FID 1414402)
Local Usage: Skanaxhéen (Organized Village of Kake Tlingit-speaking community)
Published: Saginaw Creek (USGS 1948, 1997, 2017; AMS 1951, 1964; NOAA 1976-2014; USFS timber sale contract, 1992; KSFS news article, 2014); Skanaxhéen (Haa Léel'kw Hás Aani Saax’ú, Our Grandparents Names on the Land, 2012); West Fork of Saginaw Creek (USFS documents, 2007); West Fork Saginaw Creek (USFS documents, 2007; Alaska Sustainable Salmon Fund, 2015); West Fork Saginaw (USFS documents, 2007)
Case Summary: This proposal is to change the name of Saginaw Creek, a 4.9-mile tributary of Skanáx Bay in the Prince of Wales-Hyder Census Area, to Skanaxhéen Creek. The proposal was submitted by the Organized Village of Kake following the BGN’s 2019 approval of a proposal to change the name of Saginaw Bay to Skanáx Bay. (Note: in both names, the ƛ is written with a bar below the letter.)

The proponent reports that the name Skanaxhéen Creek is the traditional Tlingit name for the stream. In Tlingit, “héen” means stream or river. He adds “Skanáx translates to ‘noisy beach’ and the original people who lived there were called Skanáx.eidi.” The meaning comes from a Tlingit story about Raven, which is recorded in the 1909 Tlingit Myths and Texts: “Coming to a large bay, Raven talked to it in order to make it into [make it just like the] Nass [River]. . . but, when the tide was out great numbers of clams on the flats made so much noise shooting up at him that his voice was drowned, and he could not succeed. He tried to put all kinds of berries there but in vain. After many attempts, he gave it up and went away saying, ‘I tried to make you into Nass, but you would not let me.’ So you can be called Skana’x [Skanáx].” A 2019 paper titled “Raven’s Work in Tlingit Ethno-geography” contains the
following statement: “[Raven’s] human descendants still... collect intertidal resources at Skánáx (Noisy Beach, in Saginaw Bay, where Raven found the squirting bivalves cacophonous...”

The current name references the USS Saginaw, which in February 1869 shelled and destroyed several Kake villages and campsites. No direct deaths from the shelling were recorded (although oral Kake history records the death of one elderly woman who stayed in the village on the bay), but the loss of food and shelter led to many deaths during that winter. Survivors were forced to join other communities, and many settled in the area of present-day Kake. The proposal states that the name Saginaw Creek “is seen as similarly offensive in nature” to the former name Saginaw Bay and quotes the 2012 book Haa L’éelk’w Hás Aani Saax’ú: Our grandparents’ names on the land: “This horrific incident (a reprisal for the murder of a white man) invests the English name for the bay with distinctly negative connotations for Kake Tlingits, and some would like to see it officially changed back to its original Tlingit name.”

The accented syllable differs between the proposed name Skanaxhéen Creek and Skanáx Bay due to Tlingit pronunciation rules. The 2018 Sneaky Sounds: A Non-Threatening Introduction to Tlingit Sounds and Spelling published by Sealaska Heritage describes “stolen stress” or “stolen tone” in Tlingit compound words: “For many speakers of Tlingit, in a compound noun formed by a sequence of two nouns with long, high vowels, the tone is ‘stolen’ from the first word.” The stressed “á” in “Skanáx” representing the long, high “a” sound is dropped due to the stressed “é” in “héen” representing the long, high “e” sound.

For more details on the history of the “Saginaw” name, see the Skanáx Bay proposal on BGN Review List 437.

The name Saginaw Creek has been labeled on USGS topographic maps since 1948 and on Coast Survey nautical charts since 1976. The aforementioned 2012 volume records the name as Skanaxhéen with a translation of “Skanáx Creek.”

In an U.S. Forest Service (USFS) document published in 2007 and updated in 2012 titled “Saginaw Creek Watershed Restoration Plan” used the name Saginaw Creek in addition to West Fork of Saginaw Creek, West Fork Saginaw Creek, and West Fork Saginaw for the upper portion of the stream (the names “South Fork of Saginaw Creek,” “South Fork Saginaw Creek,” and “South Fork Saginaw” were used for an unnamed tributary of Saginaw Creek). The 2007 USFS “Kuiu Timber Sale Area Final Environmental Impact Statement” also used Saginaw Creek in addition to West Fork of Saginaw Creek, West Fork Saginaw Creek (instead of “South Fork”), this document used the names “East Fork of Saginaw Creek” and “East Fork Saginaw Creek” for the unnamed tributary. More recent USFS documents and notices in the Petersburg Pilot referred to the “South Fork Saginaw Creek Restoration Project.” The BGN staff asked the USFS to clarify usage of these names. Tongass National Forest hydrologists who authored the 2007 document reported “From a working perspective, myself and others have found it convenient to refer to the various stream reaches as the West Fork, South Fork, and downstream of the junction of these two, the Mainstem.” The Regional USFS geographic names coordinator wrote “While it’s possible that the USFS may reference the south fork of the stream in future documents, if this happens it would be rare. I do not think this would be an issue if there is no official name for the south fork, these streams are very small/short in a remote and relatively inaccessible location so the need/demand for detailed names is low” and is recommending that the BGN only address the proposed name change from Saginaw Creek to Skanaxhéen Creek.
CONNECTICUT

**Pulaski Lake**: reservoir; approx. 6 acres; in the Town of Monroe, just east of the Pequonnock River, 1 mi. W of Bug Hill; the name commemorates the Pulaski family, specifically Stephen M. Pulaski (1863-1947), Stephen Pulaski (1895-1974), and Frederick Pulaski (1930-2013), who farmed the land for many years; Fairfield County, Connecticut; 41°19’24”N, 73°14’12”W; USGS map – Long Hill 1:24,000. [https://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesricoor?p_lat=41.323229&p_longi=-73.236681](https://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesricoor?p_lat=41.323229&p_longi=-73.236681)

Proposal: new commemorative name for an unnamed feature

Map: USGS map – Long Hill 1:24,000

Proponent: Fred Pulaski, Jr.; Monroe, CT

Administrative area:

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: None found

Local Usage: None found

Published: None found

Case Summary: This proposal is to apply the new commemorative name Pulaski Lake to an approximately six-acre reservoir in the Town of Monroe, just east of the Pequonnock River. The name would commemorate the Pulaski family, specifically Stephen M. Pulaski (1863-1947), Stephen Pulaski (1895-1974), and Frederick Pulaski (1930-2013). The older Pulaski immigrated from Czechoslovakia to Connecticut and purchased the farm in 1894. Frederick Pulaski converted the property to dairy production, and in 1986, he constructed the reservoir for the irrigation of blueberries. The proponent, who is the current owner of the property, reports that the farm is the only one that still exists in the town. It is licensed as a commercial dairy operation.
GEORGIA

**Turtle Creek**: stream; 1.7 mi. long; heads 1.7 mi NNE of Candler Lake at 33°49'22"N, 84°18'15"W, flows generally NNW into the City of Chamblee to enter North Fork Peachtree Creek 1.7 mi. SSW of Echo Lake; named for a large snapping turtle found by students on their first visit to the stream; DeKalb County, Georgia; 33°50'33"N, 84°18'50"W; USGS map – Northeast Atlanta 1:24,000; Not: North Fork Peachtree Creek Tributary 5 - in part, North Fork Peachtree Creek Tributary 5.1 - in part.


Proposal: new name for an unnamed feature
Map: USGS Northeast Atlanta 1:24,000
Proponent: Stephanie Spencer; Atlanta, GA
Administrative area: None
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
  - GNIS: No record
  - Local Usage: None found
  - Published: North Fork Peachtree Creek Tributary 5 - in part (FEMA 2019); North Fork Peachtree Creek Tributary 5.1 - in part (FEMA 2019)

Case Summary: The new name Turtle Creek is proposed for a 1.7-mile-long tributary of North Fork Peachtree Creek in DeKalb County. The mouth of the stream is in the City of Chamblee.

The proponent, a teacher at Sagamore Hills Elementary School, which is adjacent to the stream, states that the name was chosen by the school’s students through a naming contest. The students have been participating in the Georgia Adopt-A-Stream program with the DeKalb County Department of Watershed Management. On the students’ first visit, they found a large snapping turtle, which inspired the name.

The DeKalb County Board of Commissioners and the Sagamore Hills Civic Association recommend approval of the proposal.

HAWAII

**Change Hopukani Springs to Houpoōkāne**: spring; a pair of springs on the NW side of Pōhakuloa Gulch, 2.8 mi. NE of Pu‘upōhakuloa Kilohana, 3.2 mi. SE of Nau; the traditional Hawai‘ian name for the spring, which means “the chest or bosom of Kāne,” the most important Hawai‘ian god who is associated with creation and waters of life; Hawaii County, Hawaii; 19°47'05"N, 155°30'07"W; USGS map – Ahumoa 1:24,000; Not: Hopukani, Hopukani Spring, Hopukani Springs, Houpoōkāne, Houpo Kāne, Houpu o Kane, Kahoupokani, Ka Houpo Kane, Upper Waihu Spring, Waihu Springs (in part). [https://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesrimap?p_lat=19.7847371&p_longi=-155.5019559&fid=359437](https://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesrimap?p_lat=19.7847371&p_longi=-155.5019559&fid=359437)

Proposal: name change to recognize historical and local use
Map: USGS map – Ahumoa 1:24,000
Proponent: Hawai‘i Board on Geographic Names
Administrative area:
Previous BGN Action: Hopukani Springs
Names associated with feature:
  - GNIS: Hopukani Springs (FID 359437)
  - Local Usage: None found
  - Published: Hopukani (USGS 1926; Uluku: the Hawaiian Electronic Library Hawaiian Place Names 2019; “Mauna Kea - Ka Piko Kaulana o Ka ‘Āina” 2005); Hopukani Spring (Hawai‘i Department of Land & Natural Resources 2013); Hopukani Springs (USGS 1956, 1980, 1982, 1992, 2013,
Case Summary: This proposal is to change the name of Hopukani Springs to Houpookāne to recognize historical and local use. The feature is a pair of springs in Hawaii County at the head of Pōhakuloa Gulch and located within Mauna Kea Forest Reserve, managed by the Hawai‘i Department of Land and Natural Resources. The springs are 3.3 miles southwest of Mauna Kea at an elevation of approximately 10,400 feet.

The springs are at the top of an aqueduct that provides water to the U.S. Army’s Pōhakuloa Training Area and Mauna Kea Recreation Area (in GNIS and the Protected Areas Database of the United States (PAD-US) as “Mauna Kea State Park,” but now administered by Hawaii County). According to PAD-US, the aqueduct and springs are within a small strip of land managed by the Pōhakuloa Training Area.

The proposal was submitted by the Hawai‘i Board on Geographic Names (HBGN) as part of its effort to correct and standardize Hawai‘ian place names. According to the HBGN, the name should be spelled as Houpookāne. The HBGN October 2018 meeting minutes read:

Hopukani Springs on Registered Map 1641 ca. 1891 it is labeled as “Houpo o Kāne” then later in 1926 on a USGS quad map and on State Survey CSF 18645 it shows up as “Hopukani.” [HBGN member Meyer] Cummins found in Ulukau a number of references to Houpookāne, that note it has been misspelled in other references as Hopukani. This is one of several springs that provides water to the Pōhakuloa training area and the county park.
“Houpo” means diaphragm, chest, solar plexus. Pursuant to the HBGN Style Guide, the words should be concatenated, Houpookāne, and the word “Springs” removed from the Feature Name.

The spring is not included in the 1974 volume Place Names of Hawaii or in the 2002 Hawai‘i Place Names. The name Hopukani Springs has been labeled on USGS maps since 1956.

The 1891 map referred to by the HBGN (Registered Map 1641, “Kaohe and Humula, Hawaii,” Hawaii State Survey Office by C.J. Lyons) used the label “Houpo o Kane” for the general area at the head of Pōhakuloa Gulch. This is the earliest published use of the name.

Hawaii State Survey Office Registered Map 1641 (1891)

The identification of “Houpo o Kane” as a name for the area is supported by Kepa Maly’s 1999 “Mauna Kea Science Reserve and Hale Pohaku Complex Development Plan Update: Oral History and Consultation Study, and Archival Literature Research,” which presented the following about the meaning of the name:

**Houpo-o-Kāne also written Ka-houpo-o-Kāne –**

May be literally translated as “The chest (bosom) of Kāne.” The god Kāne is believed to be foremost of the Hawaiian gods, and is credited with creation, procreation, light, waters of life, abundance, and many other attributes. A land being likened to the chest of Kāne, can imply that the land was cherished and blessed by the god Kāne. S. N. Hale‘ole’s tradition of Lā‘ie-i-ka-wai (In Kū ‘Oko‘a 1862-1863), records that “Kahoupokane” was one of three companions of Poli‘ahu. The other two companions were Lilinoe and Waiau.

The area identified as Ka-houpo-o-Kāne is situated below Waiau, on the southwestern slopes of Mauna Kea, in the land of Ka‘ohe (see Register Map 1641). One of the primary attributes of Kāne are the wai ola (life giving waters), sacred springs and water sources made by Kāne around the islands, to provide for the welfare of the people and the land (cf. Kamakau 1976 and Beckwith 1970). Interestingly, at Ka-houpo-o-Kāne are found the waters of Pōhakuloa, Hopukani, and Waihū (also known by the name “Ka-wai-hū-a-Kāne”).

The 1926 USGS 1:31,600-scale Ahumoa map used the name Hopukani for these springs.
The 1945 Hawaii Division of Hydrography Bulletin 9 titled “Geology and ground-water resources of the island of Hawaii” used the name Waihu Springs for the group of springs at the head of Pōhakuloa Gulch and specifically referred to Hopukani Springs as Upper Waihu Spring.

The 1979 State of Hawaii Department of Accounting and General Services Survey Division Copy of Survey Furnished (C.S.F.) map 18,645, part of State of Hawaii Executive Order 3101, used the name Hopukani Springs. The latter name was also used in the 1997 USGS Professional Paper 1557 titled “The Geology and Petrology of Mauna Kea Volcano, Hawaii - A Study of Postshield Volcanism.”


A 2005 report by Kepa Maly and Onaona Maly, prepared for the University of Hawaii - Hilo titled “Mauna Kea - Ka Piko Kaulana o Ka ʻĀina (Mauna Kea - The Famous Summit of the Land): A Collection of Native Traditions, Historical Accounts, and Oral History Interviews for: Mauna Kea, the Lands of Kaʻohe, Humuʻula and the ʻĀina Mauna on the Island of Hawaiʻi,” provides many references and historical citations about the spring:

- “the name Houpu Kāne (also Houpu-a-Kāne), is an important one, as a place of that name is also situated on Mauna Kea, in the vicinity of the springs - which in native tradition are fed by the waters of Waiau. Houpo-a-Kāne, erroneously written as “Hopukani,” on maps dating from the 1930s.”
- “springs on the side of the mountain - presumably Houpo o Kāne (Hopukani) and Wai hū a Kāne” (cited from George Bowser’s 1880 “The Hawaiian Kingdom Statistical and Commercial Directory and Tourists Guide).
- “Ka-houpo-o-Kāne (literally, The-bosom-of-Kāne), is the sacred region of Mauna Kea (between 10,000-11,000 foot elevation), in which are found the springs fed by Ka-wai-hū-a-Kāne; by a rivulet from Waiau to the head of Pōhakuloa Gulch.”
• “A spring on the southern side of the mountain, called “Wai Hu” is believed by the natives to be connected with this lake [Waiau]” (cited from “Report of W.D. Alexander on the Mauna Kea Trip of 1892”).

• Among the early efforts of the ranches to develop water from Mauna Kea sources, were the tapping of springs at Waikahālulu Gulch and Houpoākane-Waihū, on the Pōhakuloa Gulch. . . the Houpoākane-Waihū springs were tapped and fed the Pōhakuloa sub station, near the present-day Mauna Kea State Park.”

• “On the Southerly slope of Mauna Kea there are three springs. Waihu is the lowest. . . The third spring, called Kahoupokani [Ka Houpo Kane], is at an elevation of 10,500 feet.” (cited from a 1900 “Report of an Inspection of the Springs on Mauna Kea”)

• “development of the springs. . . at Houpo Kāne (Hopukani) and Waihū”

A 2013 report prepared for the Hawai‘i Department of Land & Natural Resources, Division of Forestry & Wildlife titled “Archaeological Inventory Survey of the Mauna Kea Ice Age Natural Area Reserve” used the names Hopukani Spring and Hopukani Springs for the spring, in addition to “the entire Hopukani Spring area” and “the Hopukani Springs area.” The report also referred to Waihu Spring and Liloe Spring.

The Hawaiian Place Names collection, on the Ulukau: The Hawaiian Electronic Library website, has an entry for the spring with the name Hopukani and describes the feature as “Two springs, highest of three serving the Pohakuloa Training Area. Elev. about 10,420 ft.” The entry refers to the use of Upper Waihu Spring in the 1945 Hawaii Division of Hydrography Bulletin 9. The Ulukau web site uses the name Waihū for Waihū Spring and Lilinoe Spring for Liloe Spring.

IDAHO

White Mountain: summit; elevation 10,442 ft.; in Salmon-Challis National Forest on the boundary of the Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness, SW of Twin Creek Lakes, 4 mi. SW of White Valley Mountain; named for the bright white volcanic deposits on the north and west slopes of the mountain that can be seen from long distances; Secs 5&6, T14N, R17E and Secs 31&32, T15N, R 17E, Boise Meridian; Custer County, Idaho; 44°34’30”N, 114°29’45”W; USGS map – Twin Peaks 1:24,000; Not: White Mountain West.


Proposal: to change the application of a name to recognize local use

Map: USGS Twin Peaks 1:24,000

Proponent: Russell Durrant; Preston, ID

Administrative area: Salmon-Challis National Forest / Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: White Mountain (Idaho climbing community, many years)

Published: White Mountain (Summitpost website 2019; Idaho: A Climbing Guide website 2018); White Mountain West (Peakbagger website 2019)

Case Summary: This proposal would change the application of the name White Mountain in Custer County. The name applies currently to a 9,870-foot summit in Salmon-Challis National Forest in Sec 5, T14N, R17E. According to the proponent and many online climbing sources, the name should apply to a 10,442-foot summit located 0.8 miles to the north-northwest and along the boundary of the Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness.
The proponent states that the name refers to the bright white volcanic rocks that make up the northwestern ridge that descends from the summit.

In 2018, the website accompanying the book *Idaho: A Climbing Guide* reported “There is a pending request to officially move the name White Mountain to this summit,” but the BGN did not receive any request to do so until this current proposal was submitted.

The online climbing and hiking website Summitpost uses the name White Mountain for this summit. However, the Peakbagger website applies the name to the feature referenced in GNIS and uses the name White Mountain West for the 10,442-foot summit.

The current location of White Mountain as recorded in GNIS was confirmed by U.S. Geological Survey field mapping in 1986. The map editing Names & Information sheet has the following note: “The original location as shown on the 15' map [the current location in GNIS] is correct and was verified in 1986. USFS updated the Challis NF map (1986) to show location as shown on USFS 7.5’ and 15’.”

**ILLINOIS**

**Change Negro Lake to Sand Lake:** lake; 70 acres; an intermittent lake in a topographic depression 2 mi SE of Havana; the name is presumed to refer to the sandy lake bed; Secs 8,7,18&17, T21N, R8W, Third Principal Meridian; Mason County, Illinois; 40°16’37”N, 90°02’07”W; USGS map – Havana 1:24,000; Not: Negro Lake, Nigger Lake.


Proposal: to change a name considered offensive and make official a name in local use
Map: USGS Havana 1:24,000
Proponent: Bill Blessman; Havana, IL
Administrative area: None
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
GNIS: Negro Lake (FID 414341)
Local Usage: Sand Lake (Mason County, local geocachers)
Published: Negro Lake (USGS 1947, 1948, 1949, 2012, 2015, 2018; Peoria Audubon Society 1988; The Mason County Democrat 1974, 1993); Nigger Lake (*The Weekly Pantagraph* [Bloomington, IL] 1883, 1885; local interview, 1975); Sand Lake (Illinois Department of Natural
Case Summary: This proposal is to change the name of Negro Lake, a 70-acre intermittent lake in a topographic depression in Mason County, to Sand Lake. It was submitted by the Mason County Administrator in response to a proposal to change the name to Woodson Lake (Review List 437). He reports that the name Sand Lake has been in local use since 1993.

During the end of the Great Flood of 1993, Negro Lake flooded and overflowed into the nearby community of Havana. In the course of applying for Federal relief money, Mason County changed the name of the lake to Sand Lake. On July 6, 1994, The Mason County Democrat reported “[Since the 1993 flooding] ‘Sand’ Lake has been a constant question for local officials, whose first action was to give it a more acceptable name than the derogatory slang term it was commonly known by.” It is not clear why the name Sand Lake was chosen, but Mason County maps and documents have continued to use it. The Peoria Audubon Society, which reports on bird sightings whenever the lake is flooded, used the name Negro Lake prior to the 1993 flooding and Sand Lake thereafter.

The name Negro Lake has appeared on USGS maps since 1947 and the lake has always been shown as intermittent. The lake periodically floods and was drained as early as 1883 when it was known by the pejorative form of the word, as reported in The Weekly Pantagraph of Bloomington. Local stories and interviews also attest to this original name. In the mid to late 1800s, an African-American man operated a grocery store near Negro Lake. Some stories suggest that he may have been a circus wagon driver who got stuck in the mud while trying to cross the lake. In a 1975 interview, a resident born in the area in 1895 reported that a man named “Nigger Ben” lived at the lake but did not mention his occupation.

IOWA

Freidhof Creek: stream; 1.9 mi. long; heads 19 mi. NW of Lake Meyer at 43°14’57”N, 92°16’28”W, flows S then SW to enter Crane Creek; the name commemorates Vincent G. Freidhof (1919-1979), who owned property at the head of the stream; Howard County, Iowa; Secs 8,9,&4, T97N, R12W, Fifth Principal Meridian; 43°13’44”N, 92°17’19”W; USGS map – Jerico 1:24,000. Mouth: https://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesricoor?p_lat=43.22882&p_longi=-92.28863 Source: https://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesricoor?p_lat=43.24917&p_longi=-92.27432

Proposal: new commemorative name for an unnamed feature

Map: USGS map – Jerico 1:24,000

Proponent: Bradley Freidhof; Coralville, IA

Administrative area: Crane Creek Wildlife Area (Howard County)

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: None found

Local Usage: None found

Published: None found

Case Summary: This proposal is to apply the new commemorative name Freidhof Creek to a 1.9-mile-long tributary of Crane Creek in Howard County. The stream flows partly through the Crane Creek Wildlife Area, managed by the Howard County Conservation Board.

The new name would honor the proponent’s grandfather, Vincent G. Freidhof (1919-1979), who acquired property near the head of the stream in 1957, which he farmed for the next 20 years. Mr. Freidhof also served in the U.S. Army during WWII, and was employed as a local construction/carpentry laborer. The farm continues to be owned by the Freidhof family today and the proponent reports that they are restoring the stream’s natural habitat.
**KANSAS**

**Ne con He con Creek**: stream; 6 mi. long; heads in the City of Bonner Springs 4.8 mi. SW of Wyandotte County Lake at 39°06′43″N, 94°51′40″W, flows N into the City of Kansas City, then NW and generally SW back into the City of Bonner Springs to enter Wolf Creek 8.4 mi. NW of Quivira Lake; the name commemorates Ne-con-He-Con (1809-1863), a Chief of the Wolf Band of the Delaware Indians, who is buried near the source of the stream; Leavenworth County and Wyandotte County, Kansas; T11S, Rgs22&23E, Sixth Principal Meridian; 39°05′18″N, 94°55′07″W; USGS map – Bonner Springs NE 1:24,000 (mouth); Not: Neconhecon, Ne con he con Creek, Wolf Creek Tributary 4.


**Proposal:** to make official a name in historic use

**Map:** USGS map – Bonner Springs NE 1:24,000 (mouth)

**Proponent:** Brad Harrington; Basehor, KS

**Administrative area:**

**Previous BGN Action:** None

**Names associated with feature:**

GNIS: None found

Local Usage: None found

**Published:** Ne con he con Creek (Heisler & McGee, *Map of Wyandotte County, Kansas*, 1870); Neconhecon (William G. Cutler, *History of the State of Kansas*, 1883); Wolf Creek Tributary 4 (FEMA, 2015)

**Case Summary:** This proposal is to make official the historic name Ne con He con Creek for a 6-mile-long unnamed tributary of Wolf Creek which flows through the City of Bonner Springs in Leavenworth County and the City of Kansas City in Wyandotte County. The proponent is the Vice-President of the Bonner Springs Historic Preservation Society.

The name would honor Ne-Con-He-Con (1809-1863), a Chief of the Wolf Band of the Delaware Indians, who is buried 1.4 miles northwest of the head of the stream. Chief Ne-Con-He-Con, who also used the name Bounding Ahead, is recorded as one of the chiefs to sign the Delaware Indians Land Cession Treaty on May 6, 1854. In 1860, in a treaty between the U.S. Government and the Delaware Nation, he was allotted a 320-acre tract of land “In consideration of the long and faithful services of the chiefs of the Delaware [N]ation.”

Although the chief’s name was typically recorded with the hyphens, the stream was labeled Ne con he con Creek on a 1870 map of Wyandotte County and so that is the form preferred by the proponent, albeit with an uppercase “H.” The stream is also referenced as Neconhecon in William G. Cutler’s *History of the State of Kansas* (1883), in a chapter describing the natural features of Wyandotte County. A 2015 Federal Emergency Management Administration map labeled the stream Wolf Creek Tributary 4.

An online search yielded a number of references to Chief Ne-Con-He-Con and the use of his name. In 1869, a description of a boating regatta in the Potomac River, published in the *Baltimore Sun*, noted that one of the 15-foot vessels was named Ne-con-he-con, while in 1909 the Olathe, Kansas newspaper stated, “Ne-con-he-con will be the name of the first locomotive on the Union Pacific Railway.” Reports from the 1930s described three separate attempts over the years by relic hunters to rob the chief’s tomb “where he had been buried according to tribal customs with many desirable relics, and a blanket, a silk sash and a gold braid.” His tombstone is inscribed “In memory of Capt. Ne-Con-He-Con; He was a true friend to his people and to the U.S. Government. An honest upright man.”
KENTUCKY

Boys Island: island; approx. 3.5 acres; in the Greasy River, 2.7 mi. S of Jamestown, 2.0 mi. NNE of Wright Hollow; the name recognizes that the community of Burnside (25 mi. to the E in Pulaski County) was the “Birthplace of the Boy Scouts of America”; Russell County, Kentucky; 36°56′54″N, 85°03′37″W; USGS map – Jamestown 1:24,000.


Proposal: new name for an unnamed feature
Map: USGS map – Jamestown 1:24,000
Proponent: Vanessa McDermott; Louisville, KY
Administrative area: Lake Cumberland (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers)
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
GNIS: None found
Local Usage: None found
Published: None found

Case Summary: This proposal is to apply the new name Boys Island to a small unnamed island in Greasy Creek near the Cumberland River. The feature is located within the Cumberland Recreation Area, managed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

The proposal was initially submitted in an effort to recognize the proponent’s family’s 30 years of camping, fishing, and boating on Lake Cumberland. Citing the BGN’s Commemorative Names Policy, which does not allow names that could be construed to honor living persons, the staff determined that the proposal could not be accepted. The proponent amended the meaning of the proposal to recognize that the community of Burnside is considered “the Birthplace of Boy Scouts in America.” Burnside is located 25 miles to the east in Pulaski County. A historical marker in the town records the location of “the First Boy Scout Troop,” which was formed in 1908, two years prior to the establishment of the Boy Scouts of America organization.

MAINE

Pollock Cove: bay; 4.5 acres; in the Town of Robbinston on the W side of the Saint Croix River 0.75 mi. SSE of Brooks Bluff; named for Cindy Lou Pollock (1957-2009), who grew up along the bay; Washington County, Maine; 45°04′52″N, 67°06′29″W; USGS map – Robbinston 1:24,000.


Proposal: new commemorative name for an unnamed feature
Map: USGS Robbinston 1:24,000
Proponent: Gregory Pollock; Robbinston, ME
Administrative area: None
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
GNIS: No record
Local Usage: None found
Published: None found

Case Summary: The new commemorative name Pollock Cove is proposed for a small bay on the west side of the Saint Croix River in the Town of Robbinston in Washington County. The name is proposed by a resident of land along the bay to commemorate his wife, Cindy Lou Pollock (1957-2009), who grew up along the bay. According to her obituary, “Cindy was employed for over 30 years with Maine Indian Education as a fiscal director for Head Start. She was a Master Gardener and a member of the local gardening club that planted Meridian Park in Calais, and a member of the St. Croix Quilting Guild. Cindy started the costume shop in Calais which she operated for many years, helped her husband start his
plumbing business A&E Plumbing, and operated the J.C. Penney Catalog Store in Calais.” The cove in question is located approximately 11 miles southeast of Calais. The land along the north shore of the bay is owned by the Maine Bureau of Parks and Lands.

MICHIGAN

Vincent Lake: lake; 12 acres; in Caledonia Township, 0.6 mi. SW of Riley Lake, 0.6 mi. E of Barber Lake; the name is associated with Vincent Avenue SE, along which the lake is located; Kent County, Michigan; Sec 25, T5N, R10W, Michigan Meridian; 42°47'32"N, 85°26'08"W; USGS map – Alto 1:24,000.


Proposal: new associative name for unnamed feature
Map: USGS map – Alto 1:24,000
Proponent: Cindy LaBaza; Alto, MI
Administrative area: None
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
GNIS: None found
Local Usage: None found
Published: None found

Case Summary: This proposal is to apply the new name Vincent Lake to an unnamed 12-acre lake, located along Vincent Avenue SE in Caledonia Township in Kent County. The proponent wishes to name the feature to aid in its identification and to allow it to be entered into the Michigan Clean Water Corps Cooperative Lakes Monitoring Program (CLMP).

MINNESOTA

Change Fag Lake to Standing in the Northern Lights Lake: lake; 8.5 acres; in Superior National Forest, 2.5 mi. SW of Hungry Jack Lake; the name is the English translation of the Ojibwe name of George Morrison (1919-2000), a Cook County artist; Sec 16, T64N, R1W, Fourth Principal Meridian Extended; Cook County, Minnesota; 48°01'33"N, 90°27'38"W; USGS map – Hungry Jack Lake 1:24,000; Not: Fag Lake, Flag Lake.


Proposal: change a name considered offensive
Map: USGS Hungry Jack Lake 1:24,000
Proponent: Elizabeth Paulhus; Ellington, CT
Administrative area: None
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
GNIS: Fag Lake (FID 656188)
Local Usage: None found
Published: Fag Lake (USGS 1959, 2011, 2013, 2016, 2019; USFS 2015; Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, 2019; Minnesota Department of Education map, 2010); Flag Lake (Minnesota DNR Protected Waters Inventory, 1985)

Case Summary: This proposal is to change the name of Fag Lake, an 8.5-acre lake in Cook County and Superior National Forest, to Standing in the Northern Lights Lake.

The proponent does not state why the existing name should be changed, but in a related online petition, she noted that the lake “has a homophobic slur as its name which causes great harm.” The proposed name would commemorate George Morrison (1919-2000), a Cook County artist. Standing in the Northern
Lights is an English translation of one of his Ojibwe or Anishinaabe names. The 2013 volume Modern Spirit: The Art of George Morrison, a book accompanying a museum tour of Morrison’s works, stated that in 1986: “In response to Morrison’s desire to participate in healing ceremonies, Walter Caribou, his cousin and an elder of the Grand Portage Band of the Chippewa Tribe, becomes concerned that Morrison had never been given an Indian name. Subsequently, Caribou dreams two names for him: Wah Wah Teh Go Nay Go Bo (Standing in the Northern Lights) and Quay Ke Ga Nay Ga Bo (Turning the Feather Around).”

Some sources report his name as Wah Wah Teh Go Nay Ga Bo, while others incorrectly state that Morrison was born with the Ojibwe name and later adopted the name George Morrison.

In 1990, Morrison’s first retrospective exhibition, Standing in the Northern Light: George Morrison, A Retrospective, opened at the Minnesota Museum of Art. In 1998, Morrison’s autobiography was published as Turning the Feather Around: My Life in Art.

Morrison was a member of the Grand Portage Band of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe and was born in Chippewa City, approximately 20 miles southeast of the lake. He studied art in New York and Paris and taught art several U.S. universities and art schools. In the 1970s, he moved to a studio near Grand Portage in eastern Cook County. He was known for abstract and modernist landscapes and wood collages.

USGS maps have applied the name Fag Lake since 1959; the origin is unknown. A 1985 list of protected waters in Cook County, compiled by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, listed the lake as Flag Lake. The Minnesota State Names Authority has not been able to determine why the State used name differs from the official Federal name.

NEBRASKA

Change Sachs-Palmer Creek to Thompson Creek: stream; 3.2 mi. long; heads within Offutt Air Force Base Communications Annex #2, 2.1 mi. SE of Elk City at 41°20′37″N, 96°14′54″W, flows SE then generally E to enter North Branch West Papillion Creek 4 mi. NW of Standing Bear Reservoir; named for Warren (1930-1981) and Betty (1934-2010) Thompson, who farmed land along the stream for many years; Secs 31&25, T16N, R11E and Sec 24, T16N, R10E, Sixth Principal Meridian; Douglas County, Nebraska; 41°19′52″N, 96°12′04″W; USGS map – Elkhorn 1:24,000; Not: Sachs-Palmer Creek.

Proposal: to change a name in commemoration
Map: USGS Elkhorn 1:24,000
Proponent: Anne Thompson; Douglas County, NE
Administrative area: Offutt Air Force Base Communications Annex #2
Previous BGN Action: Sachs-Palmer Creek (BGN 2009)
Names associated with feature:
    Gnis: Sachs-Palmer Creek (FID 2573466)
    Local Usage: None found
    Published: None found
Case Summary: This proposal is to change the name of Sachs-Palmer Creek (BGN 2009), a 3.2-mile-long tributary of North Branch West Papillion Creek and Flanagan Lake (constructed in 2018), to Thompson Creek. The name would commemorate Warren (1930-1981) and Betty (1934-2010) Thompson, who farmed land along the stream. The stream heads on the Offutt Air Force Base Communications Annex #2.
Warren’s parents Lester and Irene Thompson purchased the farm along the stream sometime before 1920 when they built the first house on the property. Following military service, Warren and his new wife Betty took over the farm operations. Warren died in a hunting accident when their children were still young, after which Betty and their oldest son Robert, still a teenager, took over the work of the farm. Robert managed the farm until his death in 2019. Warren’s grandson now manages the farm with his mother.

The proponent, the daughter-in-law of Warren and Betty Thompson, states that the name would not only commemorate the couple for posterity but would ensure that “the legacy of a hardworking American farm family will not be lost to development.”

In 2009, the BGN approved the name Sachs-Palmer Creek for this stream. The name was proposed, along with 66 other stream names and four reservoir names, by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – Omaha District Flood Risk and Floodplain Management Section/Hyrdologic Engineering Branch. The names were required for a new floodplain study for the Papillion Creek Watershed. The name Sachs-Palmer Creek came from Sachs-Palmer Reservoir and Sachs-Palmer Dam (which the stream flows through), names that were in use by the Papio-Missouri River Natural Resources District but of unknown origin (online genealogy records list many individuals in the county named Sachs and Palmer but it is not clear which, if any, are associated with the reservoir and dam). The proponent is aware that the current name is a relatively recent BGN decision but is asking that it be changed to one with more local significance.

Although the name Sachs-Palmer Creek was added to GNIS in 2009, it was not added to the National Hydrography Dataset (NHD). USTopo maps and The National Map obtain hydrographic names from NHD rather than GNIS, so the name has never been applied to USGS products. The name also does not appear on any Federal, State, or local sources.

The 71 names approved in 2009 also included Thompson Creek for a tributary of Big Papillion Creek, 4.5 miles to the southeast in Sarpy County. This name was found to be in local use by the City of La Vista but also of unknown origin or meaning. The name is in current widespread use as part of a local flood control project.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Change Hodgson Brook to Hodgdon Brook: stream; 2.5 mi. long; in the City of Portsmouth, heads 1.7 mi. NE of Browns Hill at 43°05′09″N, 70°48′16″W, flows SE then NE to enter North Mill Pond 0.8 mi. W of South Mill Pond; named for the Hodgdon family who lived along the stream since the 1700s until relocated when Pease Air Force Base was built; Rockingham County, New Hampshire; 43°04′21″N, 70°46′18″W; USGS map – Portsmouth 1:24,000; Not: Hodgson Brook.


Proposal: change name to recognize family name
Map: USGS Portsmouth 1:24,000
Proponent: Cliff Hodgdon; Portsmouth, NH
Administrative area: None
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
GNIS: Hodgson Brook (FID 867533)
Local Usage: Hodgdon Brook (City of Portsmouth); Hodgson Brook (City of Portsmouth)
Published: Hodgson Brook (USGS 1916, 1918; AMS 1952; USACE 1941; City of Portsmouth, 2018; Seacoast online news website, 2010); Hodgson Brook (USGS 1956, 2012, 2015, 2018; Pease

Case Summary: This proposal is to change the name of Hodgson Brook, a 2.5-mile-long stream that flows into North Mill Pond in the City of Portsmouth in Rockingham County, to Hodgdon Brook. The stream flows in part through the Portsmouth International Airport at Pease.

The proponent, a member of the Hodgdon family, is asking that the name be changed to recognize his family’s long-time association with the stream. He reports that the family lived and worked the land around the stream from the 1700s until 1953, when they were forced to move when Pease Air Force Base was constructed.

USGS maps applied the name Hodgdon Brook from 1916 and 1918; Army Map Service and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers maps also used the name in 1941 and 1952. In 1956, USGS maps began using the name Hodgson Brook. The proponent comments, “Most likely this was done unintentionally by the cartographer.” There is no evidence that the BGN was involved in the change.

Local news articles have used both forms of the name. The City of Portsmouth’s Annual Storm Water Report for Calendar Year 2017, submitted to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, uses both names; the 2019 Portsmouth Capital Improvement Plan FY 2020 to FY 2025 used only Hodgson Brook. In 1995, the Pease Air Force Base, Disposal and Reuse Environmental Impact Statement used the name Hodgson Brook. The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services website lists the “Hodgson Brook Restoration Project.” A short street near the stream is called Hodgdon Lane.

NEW MEXICO

Change Rincon Valley to Hatch Valley: valley; approx. 40 mi. long, 0.2 mi.-3 mi. wide; valley of the Rio Grande between Caballo Dam and Leasburg Dam; named in association with the Village of Hatch, located in the approximate center of the valley; Doña Ana County and Sierra County, New Mexico; Tps21-6S Rgs1-5W, New Mexico Meridian; 32°29′54″N, 106°55′45″W; USGS map – Leasburg (mouth) 1:24,000; Not: Hatch-Rincon Valley, Rincon Valley.


Proposal: to change a name to recognize local use
Map: USGS map – Leasburg (mouth) 1:24,000
Proponent: Preston Mitchell; Las Cruces, NM
Administrative area: U.S. Bureau of Reclamation / Bureau of Land Management / New Mexico State Parks / State Trust Land,
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
GNIS: Rincon Valley (FID 893957)
Local Usage: Hatch Valley (proponent, local farmers)
Case Summary: This proposal is to change the name of Rincon Valley, an approximately 40-mile-long valley in Doña Ana County and Sierra County, to Hatch Valley. The current name refers to the unincorporated community of Rincon located near the middle of the valley. The proposed name refers to the Village of Hatch, five miles west of Rincon.

The proponent is a Board Member of the Hatch Chile Association and co-founder of The Hatch Chile Store. He states that “The Hatch Valley is a term used to describe the area around the town of Hatch, NM in which Hatch Chile is grown.” The association is a group of local farmers who are attempting to certify the Hatch name and limit its use to products grown in the area they call the Hatch Valley. The proponent’s store website describes the association as “a non-profit formed to combat the prevalence of chile sold as ‘Hatch’ that isn’t grown here in the Hatch Valley.”

The proponent defines the Hatch Valley as “the section of the Rio Grande Valley stretching from Caballo Dam in the north to Tonuco Mountain in the South, inclusive of the Las Uvas flat [sic] (officially Uvas Valley) just to the west of the town of Hatch.” However, a 2016 Las Cruces Sun-News article reported that the Hatch Chile Association defines it “as stretching from the Caballo Dam roughly 35 miles down the valley, ending just north of the Leasburg Dam, also encompassing the Uvas Valley.” And in 2018, the proponent gave the definition as the valley area “about 14 miles around the village of Hatch. . . .”

The specific definition of the Rincon Valley extents has varied since the early 1900s. According to GNIS, Rincon Valley is the area along the Rio Grande between Caballo Dam and Leasburg Dam; the Uvas Valley is a separate feature. (See below for more discussion about the use of the names Rincon Valley and Hatch Valley.)

A 2016 U.S. Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals ruling stated “The Hatch Valley may be to chiles what the Napa Valley is to grapes.” This ruling came from a trademark dispute over the use of “HATCH” between Hatch Chile Company, Inc. and El Encanto, Inc. The ruling written by then Tenth Circuit Court Judge Neil Gorsuch, stated:

“One thing we know about life and the law is that where value lurks litigation will soon follow — and the Hatch Valley chile pepper supplies no exception. After the Hatch Chile Company sought to trademark the term “Hatch” for its exclusive use, a chile producing rival, El Encanto, objected. Before the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board (TTAB), a division of the Patent and Trademark Office (PTO), El Encanto argued that “Hatch” can’t be trademarked both because it refers to a place and because Hatch Chile has used the term in a misleading manner. To prove its case of deception, El Encanto sought to show that Hatch Chile’s products regularly include chiles that aren’t even from the Hatch Valley.”

The ruling itself concerned subpoenas that El Encanto, Inc. requested of Hatch Chile Company, Inc. to show the provenance of their chiles, not the use of the brand “HATCH” by any company. In a 2016 Las Cruces Sun-News article, the proponent reported that the Hatch Chile Association and Hatch Chile Company were in settlement talks and that “the association’s goal was simply to get the Hatch certification on those products that could be traced back to the Hatch valley. The certification is moving forward and should be seen on shelves and restaurants this year, he said.” According to that article:

“To gain certification as authentic Hatch Valley-grown chile, producers, processors and manufacturers would pay a fee, Mitchell [the proponent] said. The ultimate goal is from field to store to restaurant, consumers will have assurance that chile being sold as coming from the Hatch Valley.”
Valley will carry the mark. Large companies with multiple products would have the option of labeling any of those products that hail from the valley after certification.”

In response to the court ruling, the Hatch Chile Company stated “Our trademark dispute with another competitor is about the Hatch Chile Company protecting its branding and intellectual property rights dating back to 1987. Hatch Chile Company has never tried to prohibit others from simply using the word ‘Hatch’ when selling green chile products.”

In 2017 the New Mexico Senate and the New Mexico House of Representatives passed memorials “Recognizing the Hatch Chile Association for Its Contributions to the Culture and Economy of New Mexico Through the Promotion of Hatch Farm-Grown Chile” which stated that “chile grown in the Hatch valley region has become known and famous as chile of the highest quality” and that “in 2012, the United States senate recognized the Hatch valley region of New Mexico as the ‘chile capital of the world.’” [U.S. Senate Resolution 585 “Recognizing the extraordinary history and heritage of the State of New Mexico” on the State’s centennial].” The memorials cited the Hatch Chile Association certification process to ensure that only chiles grown in the Hatch Valley may be labeled and sold as such.

In 2018, the proponent was recorded as stating: “Our certification mark is for fresh, pod-type long green chile grown in the Hatch Valley of southern New Mexico, which extends for about 14 miles around the village of Hatch. . . . So if you see fresh chile on a shelf and above it it says ‘Hatch’ and below it it says ‘product of Mexico,’ or ‘product of Arizona,’ or if it was grown in New Mexico but 75 miles away from Hatch — that’s what we’re looking to combat.”

The Hatch Chile Association apparently has not yet received permission to use their certification mark and the status of the settlements with Hatch Chile Company is unknown.

The proponent was asked to address the Commercial Names Policy; he replied that he does not foresee any promotional or financial benefits for the Hatch Chile Association and that the area has long been known locally as the Hatch Valley. It is unknown if this geographic name proposal is intended to prove that “Hatch” refers to a place or region and thus cannot be trademarked.

Heated debate about Hatch chiles occurs online and in publications. Some writers claim that the Hatch Chile Association is attempting to market Hatch chiles as if they are a single variety only grown in one region. Multiple chile varieties are grown in the Hatch area. These writers also point to USGS maps that show Rincon Valley, not Hatch Valley, so “no chiles can be designated as Hatch Valley chiles.” Critics worry that the certification mark would prevent farmers just outside the potentially arbitrary “Hatch Valley” delineation but who grow the same chiles in the same soil would be excluded from the lucrative branding that could come from the Hatch certification.

Parts of Rincon Valley fall within lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management lands and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. Caballo Lake State Park, Percha Dam State Park, and Leasburg Dam State Park are also located within or adjacent to the valley. The Village of Hatch is the only incorporated jurisdiction within the valley.

Current local use is predominantly Hatch Valley, although references to Rincon Valley can be found. The proposed name has been popularized through the annual Hatch Chile Festival which promotes chiles grown around Hatch.

Regarding the application of the name Rincon Valley, Robert Julyan’s 1996 *The Place Names of New Mexico* limits it to “the floodplain of the Rio Grande SE of Hatch and SW of Rincon.” Some older
sources limit the Rincon Valley to the area north of Selden Canyon, with the canyon separating Rincon Valley from Mesilla Valley.

A 1917 *Las Cruces Sun-News* article stated that “the Hatch Valley is part of the Rincon Valley. . . .” The 2015 volume *Hatch Valley: Images of America* reported that

“Before the designation of the area as Hatch Valley, territorial newspapers documented the history of this particular section of southwestern New Mexico as the Rincon Valley. In the December 13, 1923, edition of the Rio Grande Farmer, the US Reclamation Service designated the Rincon Valley as the ‘irrigable land north of the Leasburg diversion dam and extending up the river to the head of the local irrigation system, the Percha diversion dam.’ At the suggestion of local historians, the communities as far north as Garfield and as far south as Rincon have been designated as the Hatch Valley for the purposes of this historical perspective. . . Rincon Valley, of which the Hatch Valley was a part. . . .”

A letter sent in 2016 by the Hatch Chile Festival to potential sponsors referred to it as the “Hatch Valley Chile Festival” but stated in the text that “The Festival produces an important boost to the economy of the Rincon Valley. . . .”

The earliest published use of the name Hatch Valley is in the 1918 *Seventeenth Annual Report of the Reclamation Service*, but it is unclear if Hatch Valley is the same as or just part of the Rincon Valley, a name also used in the text. A Hatch Valley arroyos watershed project was referred to in a 1956 hearing before the U.S. Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry. Widespread references to the larger Hatch Valley do not appear until the 1990s.

A query of GNIS found several records for features in the Rincon Valley area that include “Hatch Valley” in their names: six dams from the aforementioned arroyos project and three schools in the Hatch Valley School District. GNIS does not list any features in New Mexico with “Rincon Valley” in their names besides Rincon Valley.

**NEW YORK**

**Change Halfway Creek to Halfway Brook:** stream; 31 mi. long; heads in the Town of Queensbury at Wilkie Reservoir at 43°21'08"N, 73°45'21"W, flows SE then generally NE through the Town of Kingsbury and the Town of Fort Ann to enter the Champlain Canal at Fort Ann; named for the stream’s location about halfway along a military road between Fort William Henry on Lake George and Fort Edward on the Hudson River; Washington County and Warren County, New York; 43°24'59"N, 73°29'05"W; USGS map – Fort Ann 1:24,000 (mouth); Not: Bloody Brook, Clear River, Forks Creek, Half Way Brook, Half Way Creek, Half Way Run, Halfway Creek, Halfway Run, Half-Way Brook, Half-Way Creek, Half-Way Run, Helf Creek, Seven Mile Creek, Schoone Creek; Scoon Creek, Scoune Creek, Shone Creek.


Proposal: to change a name to recognize longstanding local use
Map: USGS Fort Ann 1:24,000 (mouth)
Proponent: Teri Rogers; Queensbury, NY
Administrative area: None
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
GNIS: Halfway Creek (FID 952035)
Local Usage: Halfway Brook (local residents)

Case Summary: This proposal is to change the name of Halfway Creek, a 31-mile-long tributary of the Champlain Canal in Washington County and Warren County, to Halfway Brook. The proponent is asking that the name be changed to reflect current and longstanding local use.

References to this stream date back to at least the 1750s. The stream acquired its name because it was about halfway along a military road between Fort William Henry on Lake George and Fort Edward on the Hudson River. The crossing at the stream was a strategic point during the French and Indian War and the American Revolutionary War.

As is typical with such old names, there have been many variant names recorded: Bloody Brook, Clear River, Forks Creek, Seven Mile Creek, Schoone Creek; Scoune Creek, Scoune Creek, and Shone Creek. In addition, the name has been represented in many forms throughout history including: Half Way Brook, Half Way Creek, Half Way Run, Halfway Brook, Halfway Creek, Half-Way Brook, Half-Way Creek, Half-Way Run, and Helf Creek.
USGS maps have shown the name Halfway Creek since 1895. Some local documents use both names, Halfway Creek and Halfway Brook, but the predominant local use is Halfway Brook. State sources tend to use the name Halfway Creek, but some also use Halfway Brook. Forms of the name using the generic “Creek” (such as Half-Way Creek) date to at least 1878, although most older sources used versions of both “Creek” and “Brook.” The proponent notes that a letter written by Major General Philip Schuyler to George Washington in 1776 referred to the stream as Halfway Brook. New York State memorial signs and plaques placed along the stream in 1905 and 1932 used the name Half Way Brook, and the use of the generic “Brook” seems to have been fairly consistent in most local and state sources until later in the 1900s.

A paper titled “The Half-Way Brook in History” by James Austin Holden and presented at the Seventh Annual Meeting of the New York State Historical Association outlines the history of the name and the events that occurred at the stream. He wrote that the stream had “the popular name of ‘Half-Way Brook,’ bestowed upon it we know not by whom nor when, but which appearing in contemporary diaries, documents, letters and official despatches [sic] of ‘The Seven Years War,’ has ever since clung to it, and will while its waters run to the sea.” He also reported that “The U. S. Geological Survey, in its map of this section of New York State, published about 1895, has labeled the brook as ‘Half-Way Creek,’ [sic] which, while it may be technically correct, will never be recognized in local usage or by faithful historians.” The proponent speculates that perhaps “the ENGLISH called it ‘creek’ and the AMERICAN COLONISTS called it ‘brook?’” Given this, I believe that the AMERICAN term ‘brook’ should carry through on maps and signage to today.”

**OHIO**

**Malicki Creek**: stream; 1.5 mi. long; heads in the City of Bedford Heights 2 mi. SW of Neptune Lake at 41°24’06”N, 81°29’50”W, flows generally S through the Village of Oakwood, back into the City of Bedford Heights, to enter Hawthorne Creek 3.1 mi. SW of Briar Hill Lake; named for members of the Malicki family, whose homestead was located along the stream; T6N, R11W, Connecticut Western Reserve and Firelands; Cuyahoga County, Ohio; 41°23’06”N, 81°29’58”W; USGS map – Chagrin Falls 1:24,000.


Proposal: new commemorative name for an unnamed feature

Map: USGS Chagrin Falls 1:24,000

Proponent: Kate Chapel; Twinsburg, OH

Administrative area: None

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: No record

Local Usage: None found

Published: None found

Case Summary: The new name Malicki Creek is proposed for a 1.5-mile-long tributary of Hawthorne Creek in Cuyahoga County. The stream heads in the City of Bedford Heights, flows for short distance through the Village of Oakwood, and back into Bedford Heights.

The name is proposed by the Tinkers Creek Watershed Partners to commemorate the Malicki family; according to the proponent, the stream runs behind the former Malicki homestead. The Transportation Supervisor for the Bedford City School District reports that John Malicki (1908-1974) acquired the property in 1941 and the family was supportive of efforts to restore a section of the stream; in recommending approval of the name, he cites their “long-term dedication to the homestead and commitment to the stream.”
OREGON

**Governor Snell Ridge**: ridge; elevation 5,977 ft.; 0.5 mi. long; in Fremont National Forest, approx. 3.1 mi. W of Dog Lake; 2 mi. NE of Alberton Reservoir; the name commemorates Governor Earl Wilcox Snell (1895-1947), who was killed in a plane crash on the ridge; Lake County, Oregon; Sec 25, T40S, R16W, Willamette Meridian; 42°04′08″N, 105°13′59″W; USGS map - Strawberry Butte 1:24,000.  
https://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesricoor?p_lat=42.068777&p_longi=-120.778322

Proposal: new commemorative name for unnamed feature  
Map: USGS map - Strawberry Butte 1:24,000  
Proponent: Ted Curphey; Cheney, WA  
Administrative area: Fremont-Winema National Forest  
Previous BGN Action: None  
Names associated with feature:  
GNIS: None found  
Published: Governor’s Ridge (Forest Service memorial plaque)  
Case Summary: This proposal is to apply the new name Governor Snell Ridge to a 0.5-mile-long ridge with an elevation of 5,977 feet in Fremont National Forest in Lake County.

According to the proposal, “On October 28th, 1947, Governor Earl W. Snell and his party, including the Secretary of State, Robert Farrell, and the President of the Oregon Senate, Marshall Cornett, as well as the pilot Cliff Hogue, died when their plane, a 1945 built Beechcraft Bonanza, struck this ridge. They were out for a one-day goose-hunting trip at the Warner Valley ranch of Snell’s friend Oscar Kittredge. Bad weather and a low cloud ceiling apparently caused Hogue, an experienced pilot, to misjudge safe altitude, and the plane smashed into a remote mountain on the Fremont National Forest.”

In 2018, the Governor Earl W. Snell Aircraft Crash Site was added to the National Register of Historic Places. The nomination form described the site as “located in dense timber, not visible from the nearby road, but the location is known to the local community. In 1995 the Forest Service installed a commemorative metal plaque at the site.” It was determined that the site had statewide significance, “in part because the shock of the dramatic loss of Oregon’s top political leaders – a loss stemming from the personal desire and decision of the three individuals to enjoy a day of goose hunting – led to prohibition of such figures from traveling in the same airplane in the future. Of more substance, the site is significant as a tangible reminder of the loss of these three political leaders at a critical time in Oregon history.”

Although the name Governor’s Ridge has been in local use for some time and was the name originally proposed, the Snell family has requested that it be amended to Governor Snell Ridge. The U.S. Forest Service expressed support for the name Governors Ridge and has been asked to consider the amended proposal.

SOUTH CAROLINA

**Change Rawls Pond to Lake Amelia**: reservoir; 14 acres; on Giddy Swamp Creek, 2.8 mi. S of Lucas Ponds, 4.5 mi. NE of Wagener; named for Amelia Elena Rawls (1944-1956), the sister of the individual who built the reservoir; Aiken County, South Carolina; 33°41′37″N, 81°18′14″W; USGS map – Wagener 1:24,000. Not: Rawls Pond.  

Proposal: to change a name to recognize local use  
Map: USGS map – Wagener 1:24,000  
Proponent: Clay Killian, County Administrator; Aiken, SC
Administrative area:
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
  GNIS: Rawls Pond (FID 1237976)
  Local Usage: Lake Amelia (Aiken County, since 1962)
  Published: Amelia Lake (Aiken County highway map 1968); Lake Amelia (Aiken County Road Atlas 2019); Rawls Pond (USGS 2011, 2014, 2017)
Case Summary: This proposal, submitted by the Aiken County Administrator, is to change the name of Rawls Pond, a 14-acre reservoir in Aiken County, to Lake Amelia. It is the second of two proposals to change the names of reservoirs along Giddy Swamp Creek; see also Browns Pond.

The proponent reports that the name Lake Amelia has been in local use since the reservoir was constructed in 1962 by the landowners, Malcolm and Kathryn Rawls, and that it commemorates Amelia Elena Rawls, the sister of Malcolm Rawls, who died in 1956 at the age of 12. Kathryn Rawls, who serves on the Aiken County Council, is requesting the change “in her capacity as County Council member, as a Rawls family member, and as co-owner of the reservoir.” The reservoir is located along Lake Amelia Road.

The name Rawls Pond was added to GNIS in 1992 from the 1981 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Dams and Reservoirs list. It was not shown on USGS maps until 2011, when the USTopo acquired names from GNIS.

Aiken County passed a resolution in April 2019 requesting the correction from Rawls Pond to Lake Amelia; the resolution states that the county became aware of the discrepancy in 2018, when its county road atlas acquired data from the National Hydrography Dataset. The 2019 edition of the atlas shows the name as Lake Amelia. A 1986 Aiken County highway map published by the South Carolina Department of Transportation used the name Amelia Lake. The 2004 Edisto River Basin Watershed Water Quality Assessment, published by the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SCDHEC), reported the presence of a reservoir named Amelia Lake within the watershed, but did not note the exact location. The 2019 road atlas also shows a reservoir and surrounding neighborhood named Amelia Lake 28 miles to the west-southwest; these features are not listed in GNIS.

The South Carolina State Names Authority has no objection to the proposed change.

Change Amelia Lake to Browns Pond: reservoir; 19 acres; on Giddy Swamp Creek, 3.2 mi. S of Lucas Ponds, 3.9 mi. NE of Wagener; Aiken County, South Carolina; 33°41′13″N, 81°18′41″W; USGS map – Wagener 1:24,000; Not: Amelia Lake.

Proposal: to change a name to recognize local use
Map: USGS map – Wagener 1:24,000
Proponent: Clay Killian, County Administrator; Aiken, SC
Administrative area: None
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
  GNIS: Amelia Lake (FID 1238074)
  Local Usage: Browns Pond (Aiken County)
  Published: Amelia Lake (USGS 2011, 2014, 2017); Browns Pond (Aiken County Road Atlas, 2019)
Case Summary: This proposal is to change the name of Amelia Lake, a 19-acre reservoir on Giddy Swamp Creek in Aiken County, to Browns Pond. The reservoir is located along Browns Pond Road.
The proposal is one of two submitted by the Aiken County Administrator to change the names of reservoirs along Giddy Swamp Creek. According to the proponent, local usage is Browns Pond and Lake Amelia, rather than Amelia Lake and Rawls Pond, respectively.

The origin of the name Browns Pond is unknown, although online genealogy records list a number of individuals with the surname Brown in the county in the first half of the 20th century.

The names Amelia Lake and Rawls Pond were added to GNIS in 1992 from the 1981 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Dams and Reservoirs list. Neither name appeared on USGS maps until the new USTopo map was published in 2011.

The current USACE National Inventory of Dams lists the dams that form the reservoirs as Starnes/Brown Dam and Malcolm B Rawls Dam, respectively. The proponent of the reservoir name changes has been advised that the BGN does not have purview over the names of dams; any such changes would need to be submitted to USACE by the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, which oversees dams within the State.

The South Carolina State Names Authority has no objection to the proposed change.

TENNESSEE

Change Injun Creek to Engine Creek: stream; 3.7 mi. long; in Great Smoky Mountains National Park, heads E of Grapeyard Ridge, N of Lookout Rock at 35°41’47”N, 83°25’40”W, flows NE to enter the Little Pigeon River 1 mi. SSE of Pinnacle; the name refers to a steam engine that was used to power saws and which fell into the stream in the 1920s; Sevier County, Tennessee; 35°44’00”N, 83°24’31”W; USGS map – Mount Le Conte 1:24,000; Not: Indian Creek, Injun Creek.  
Proposal: to change a name considered offensive  
Map: USGS Mount Le Conte 1:24,000  
Proponent: Tennessee Committee on Geographic Names  
Administrative area: Great Smoky Mountains National Park  
Previous BGN Action: Injun Creek (BGN 1932)  
Names associated with feature:
GNIS: Injun Creek (FID 1289015)
Local Usage: Injun Creek, Injune Creek, In-June Creek (local hikers)

Case Summary: This proposal is to change the name of Injun Creek, a 3.7-mile-long tributary of the Little Pigeon River in Great Smoky Mountains National Park in Sevier County, to Engine Creek. The Tennessee Committee on Geographic Names (TCGN) submitted the name in response to a proposal to change the name to Atali Creek (Review List 436). The latter name was proposed to “remove a racial slur” and to honor the Atali Tsalagi, groups of Cherokees who lived in the mountains.

The TCGN “fully supports changing offensive names” but believes Engine Creek would be a better alternative. Allen R. Coggins, a member of the TCGN, wrote in the 1999 volume Place Names of the Smokies, that Injun Creek is “Believed to be named for a steam engine that wrecked here in the 1920s and ended up in the creek. In this case, injun should probably be spelled ‘engine.’” He added, “This stream was formerly called Indian Creek. However, the name change may have been misheard or misunderstood by cartographers who likely got it verbally from locals. Or, some of the blame may be attributed to one of the two Smoky Mountain nomenclature committees who worked in the 1930s and 1940s to standardize the names of places with more than one name or to eliminated duplicate names within the park. . . . What should have been called ‘Engine’ Creek (if that was its intended origin) was mistakenly given the derogatory moniker of Injun Creek.” Several online sources about hiking in the Great Smoky Mountains affirm this account, with one adding “the creek name is not slang for Indian, but a result of an uneducated surveyor trying to spell Engine.”

In 1932, the Tennessee Nomenclature Committee submitted a request to the BGN to change the name of Indian Creek to Injun Creek. No reason for the change was recorded.

Another local source (a blog post on the Go Smokies website, “A social network for fans of the Great Smoky Mountains”) lays out the possible origins of the name. It suggests “Injun” may refer to a rumored Cherokee burial site along the stream, or the steam engine wreck, or a misspelling of “In-June” which was the name given to a couple who got married “in June” and settled along the stream. This source also states that the name Indian Creek was established on maps as early as 1926, “all before the National Park nomenclature committee eliminated duplicate names by assigning new names to these features. . . one can imagine some committee member coming up with ‘Injun’ because of the steam engine and thinking himself rather clever.” (There is no evidence that the name was changed to eliminate duplication; indeed, the park contains two streams named Indian Creek, two others named Indian Camp Branch, one Indian Camp Creek, and one named Indian Flats Prong.) The stream is variously called “In-June Creek” or “Injune Creek” by some of the site’s commenters.

TENNESSEE

Change Dead Negro Draw to Buffalo Soldier Draw: valley; 3 mi. long; heads 16 mi. SE of Tahoka at 33°02’44”N, 101°33’26”W, trends N to enter the valley of Double Mountain Fork Brazos River 12 mi SW of Post; according to local history, an expedition of Buffalo Soldiers from the 10th U.S. Calvary got lost in the area between northwestern Texas and eastern New Mexico; Garza County and Lynn County, Texas; 33°04’56”N, 101°33’15”W; USGS map – Grassland SE 1:24,000; Not: Dead Negro Draw.

Proposal: to change a name considered offensive
Map: USGS Grassland SE 1:24,000
Proponent: Mike Braddock; Tahoka, TX

TEXAS

Change Dead Negro Draw to Buffalo Soldier Draw: valley; 3 mi. long; heads 16 mi. SE of Tahoka at 33°02’44”N, 101°33’26”W, trends N to enter the valley of Double Mountain Fork Brazos River 12 mi SW of Post; according to local history, an expedition of Buffalo Soldiers from the 10th U.S. Calvary got lost in the area between northwestern Texas and eastern New Mexico; Garza County and Lynn County, Texas; 33°04’56”N, 101°33’15”W; USGS map – Grassland SE 1:24,000; Not: Dead Negro Draw.

Proposal: to change a name considered offensive
Map: USGS Grassland SE 1:24,000
Proponent: Mike Braddock; Tahoka, TX
Administrative area: None
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
  GNIS: Dead Negro Draw (FID 1334143)
  Local Usage: None found

Case Summary: This proposal would change the name of Dead Negro Draw, a valley that runs along the boundary of Garza County and Lynn County, to Buffalo Soldier Draw. It was submitted by the Lynn County Judge in response to two proposals to change the name to McCreary Draw and Shootout Valley, (Review List 437).

The Lynn County Judge reports that as a young man he worked on the ranch where the valley is located. He initially responded that he “would prefer to keep it simple with minimal change and to not lose sight of the history of the draw. . . . The proper renaming would be DEAD MAN DRAW.” However, after conferring with the Garza County Judge, the Lynn County Judge stated “After more research. . . we had agreed on the name change to be BUFFALO SOLDIER DRAW” to preserve the history of the valley. According to local history, an expedition of Buffalo Soldiers from the 10th U.S. Calvary got lost in the Llano Estacado (between northwestern Texas and eastern New Mexico) while pursuing members of the Comanche Tribes during the Texas-Indian wars. Four Buffalo Soldiers perished during the expedition, but it is unknown where they died.

In 2005, the BGN approved the name Buffalo Soldier Hill to replace Dead Negro Hill in Roosevelt County, New Mexico, 100 miles to the northwest.

The name Dead Negro Draw has appeared on USGS maps since 1969. The Handbook of Texas Online states that it was formerly known as Dead Nigger Creek, and this name was also listed in the 1919 USGS Water-Supply Paper 448, “Gazetteer of Streams of Texas.” There is no published evidence that the valley was ever named “Dead Nigger Draw,” although some online sources have reported this. A 2011 Newsweek article refers to a Texas location known as “Dead Nigger Draw,” but no specific details were provided.

Heritage Creek: stream; 1 mi. long; in the City of Fredericksburg, heads 2.4 mi. SW of Kordzik Hills at 30°15’01”N, 98°51’17”W, flows SE then S to enter Barons Creek; the name is associated with the Heritage Hill Country community; Gillespie County, Texas; 30°14’21”N, 98°50’50”W; USGS map – Cain City (mouth) 1:24,000; Not: Barons Creek Tributary, Stream FB-2.
Proposal: to make official a name in local use
Map: USGS map – Cain City 1:24,000 (mouth)
Proponent: James M. McCrae; Fredericksburg, TX
Administrative area:
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
  GNIS: None found
  Local Usage: Heritage Creek (proponent and local community, 5 years)
  Published: Barons Creek Tributary (FEMA 2001); Stream FB-2 (Texas Water Development Board Flood Protection Planning Study for the Fredericksburg Area, 1997)

Case Summary: This proposal is to make official the name Heritage Creek for a one-mile-long tributary of Barons Creek in the City of Fredericksburg. The name is associated with Heritage Hill Country, a community through which the stream flows. The proponent, who serves as director of the Heritage Hill Country Association, reports that the name has been used by the community for five years.
The proposal included resolutions of support from the City of Fredericksburg, Texas State Representative Kyle Biederman, the Heritage Hill Country Association, and the Hill Country Underground Water Conservation District.

A 2001 FEMA map labeled the stream as Barons Creek Tributary, while the 1997 Texas Water Development Board Flood Protection Planning Study for the Fredericksburg Area referred to it as Stream FB-2.

**Change Bowser Lake to Lake Arthur:** reservoir; 6 acres; on Fall Branch, 0.9 mi. W of Comanche Harbor Lake, 2.2 mi. NE of Comanche Peak; the name commemorates Arthur Taliaferro (1908-1999), who constructed the reservoir in the early 1950s; Hood County, Texas; 32°24′33″N, 97°47′11″W; USGS map – Granbury 1:24,000; Not: Bowser Lake.


**Proposal:** to change a name to recognize family ownership
**Map:** USGS map – Granbury 1:24,000
**Proponent:** Brian and Kristie Gibson; Fort Worth, TX
**Administrative area:**
**Previous BGN Action:** None
**Names associated with feature:**
- **GNIS:** Bowser Lake (FID 1864402)
- **Local Usage:** None found
**Published:** Bowser Lake (USGS 2013, 2016, 2019)

**Case Summary:** This proposal is to change the name of Bowser Lake, a six-acre reservoir in the City of Granbury in Hood County, to Lake Arthur. The name would honor the grandfather of the proponent’s wife, Arthur Taliaferro (1908-1999), who according to the proponent, constructed the reservoir in the early 1950s for use as a cattle stock pond and for personal recreation. The proponent provided a copy of the deed history dating back to 1949, indicating Arthur Taliaferro as an owner. He notes that “the surname Bowser never appears in this history.”

The associated dam is listed in GNIS as Bowser Lake Dam; this name was compiled from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Dams and Reservoirs list. The current National Inventory of Dams entry records the owner as G W Bowser and the date of construction as 1961. The proponent has provided an update from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality showing the name has been changed to Lake Arthur Dam.

**Wisdom Creek:** stream; 1.4 mi. long; heads 3 mi. W of Startz Hill at 29°49′16″N, 98°20′35″, flows generally NW to enter an unnamed tributary of Miller Creek; the name refers to the wisdom one can gain by observing nature in this location; Comal County, Texas; 29°49′55″N, 98°21′24″W; USGS map – Smithson Valley 1:24,000.

**Source:** https://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesricoor?p_lat=29.82116&p_longi=-98.34293

**Proposal:** new name for an unnamed feature
**Map:** USGS map – Smithson Valley 1:24,000
**Proponent:** Jorge Talamas; Spring Branch, TX
**Administrative area:** None
**Previous BGN Action:** None
**Names associated with feature:**
- **GNIS:** None found
- **Local Usage:** None found
Case Summary: This proposal is to apply the new name Wisdom Creek to a 1.4-mile-long unnamed stream that flows into an unnamed tributary of Miller Creek near the City of Spring Branch.

The proponent states that the stream is a good location to grow in wisdom by observing nature: “Observing Mother Nature is a magnificent way human beings can grow in Wisdom and this creek is a wonderful place to do so.”

VERMONT

Change Little Mud Pond to Little Cow Pond: lake; 1.2 acres; in the Town of Granby, 0.3 mi. E of Cow Mountain Pond, 0.5 mi. NE of Cow Mountain; named in association with nearby features named “Cow”; Essex County, Vermont; 44°33’42”N, 71°41’42”W; USGS map – Stone Mountain 1:24,000; Not: Little Mud Pond.

Proposal: name change to eliminate duplication and recognize local use
Map: USGS Stone Mountain 1:24,000
Proponent: Bruce Berryman; North Concord, VT
Administrative area: None
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
GNIS: Little Mud Pond (FID 1458246)
Local Usage: Little Mud Pond (Granby Town Plan 2016)

Case Summary: This proposal is to change the name of Little Mud Pond, a 1.2-acre pond in the Town of Granby in Essex County, to Little Cow Pond. It was submitted by the Vermont Board of Libraries, which serves as the State Geographic Names Authority, on behalf of a member of the Town of Granby Cow Mountain Municipal Forest Committee.

The proponent states, “This request results from the confusion about the name of this pond that was encountered by [the committee] while it worked with many groups (local, state, and national) on the successful application for a large area surrounding this small pond to become the nation’s first National Forest Legacy Area.” Further, “A verbal survey of about 50 of the town’s population (total town population is about 75) indicates that this pond has been known as “Little Cow Pond” by at least four generations of Granbyans. In fact, it came as a surprise to most of those surveyed that many maps list this pond as Little Mud Pond! The Town feels that changing the name to one which is unique and descriptive is within this responsibility: enjoyment is enhanced by making it easier for visitors to find the pond and safety is enhanced by making it easier for emergency personnel to find the pond in case of medical emergencies.”

According to the Granby Town Plan of 2016, Little Mud Pond is one of three areas in the town designated as conservation land. The pond lies just east of Cow Mountain Pond and northeast of Cow Mountain. According to Vermont Place-Names (Swift, 1977), “it is thought that [these] names derive from a cow having been lost in the area.”

Little Mud Pond has been labeled on USGS topographic maps since 1933 and is shown on a number of maps and reports produced by local and State agencies. In addition to this feature, GNIS lists five other
bodies of water in Essex County named “Mud” and there are 40 such features (“Mud” or “Muddy”) in the State. A larger Mud Pond is located 2.4 miles to the northwest and also within the Town of Granby.

After conducting a public hearing, the Town of Granby Selectboard voted to support the change from Little Mud Pond to Little Cow Pond. The Vermont Board of Libraries also recommends approval.

Other than Cow Mountain Pond, there is one other body of water in the State with “Cow” in its name; Cow Hill Pond is in Caledonia County, 28 miles from the pond in question.

**VIRGINIA**

*** Note: the following proposal has been withdrawn in support of the name Nokes Hill instead (Review List 440)

**Change Negro Hill to Douglass Hill:** summit; elevation 417 ft.; 0.6 mi. long; located on the S side of Route 7, in the unincorporated community of Sterling, just N of Claude Moore Park; named for American abolitionist Frederick Douglass (1818-1895); Loudoun County, Virginia; 39°01’21”N, 77°24’15”W; USGS map – Sterling 1:24,000; Not: Mount Sterling, Negro Hill, Nigger Hill, Signal Hill. [https://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesrimap?p_lat=39.0226242&p_longi=-77.4041125&fid=2027183](https://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesrimap?p_lat=39.0226242&p_longi=-77.4041125&fid=2027183)

Proposal: to change a name considered offensive
Map: USGS Sterling 1:24,000
Proponent: Henry Anderson; Alexandria, VA
Administrative area: None
Previous BGN Action: None
Names associated with feature:
GNIS: Negro Hill (FID 2027183)
Local Usage: Mount Sterling (local residents), Signal Hill (local residents)
Published: Mount Sterling (Claude Moore Park website; PeakVisor website), Negro Hill (USGS 2016)

Case Summary: This proposal is to change the name of Negro Hill, a 417-foot, 0.6-mile-long hill in eastern Loudoun County, to Douglass Hill. The proponent, a resident of Alexandria who works in the vicinity of the feature, believes the existing name is “antiquated, and as the 1967 book Black Power: The Politics of Liberation in America argues, is racist as it is a term that implies black inferiority. ‘Douglass Hill’ pays homage to the great American abolitionist Frederick Douglass. Renaming the hill would recognize the strides made by this great American and remove the association of ‘Negro Hill’ with Sterling, VA.”

Mr. Douglass is described as “an American social reformer, abolitionist, orator, writer, and statesman. After escaping from slavery in Maryland, he became a national leader of the abolitionist movement in Massachusetts and New York, gaining note for his oratory and incisive antislavery writings.” Despite his early connection to Maryland and having spent his final years in Washington, DC, there is no evidence that he had any direct association with Loudoun County or the hill in question. Frederick Douglass Elementary School, which opened in 2012, and the Douglass Center, an educational facility and community center established in 1941, are both located in Leesburg, approximately 10 miles northwest of the hill.

The name Negro Hill was added to the GNIS database in 2004, citing local knowledge, along with the variant name Nigger Hill. The hill was first labeled on USGS topographic maps in 2016.
Research suggests that other names that have been applied to the hill include Mount Sterling, Mirror Ridge, and Signal Hill. The 1968 and 1994 USGS maps show a survey benchmark named “MT STERLING” close to the peak of the hill; the National Geodetic Survey triangulation disk was placed in the woods just off Potomac View Road in 1954. Recent efforts to develop property at the top of the hill are being managed by Mount Sterling LLC (planning documents submitted to the county refer to the property as Mount Sterling), and a website called PeakVisor labels the feature Mount Sterling. A 2014 article posted on the website of Claude Moore Park, which abuts the hill to the south, instructs visitors to enjoy an “interpretative tree trail [and] walk up a short hill to Mount Sterling where the Union [Army] had a signal station and Confederate Colonel John Mosby’s men spied on Union supply convoys.” This historical account has led some area residents to refer to the feature as Signal Hill, and also explains the similarly informal use of the name Mirror Ridge, although local knowledge suggests the latter name applies to a smaller hill on the north side of Route 7 (also the location of Mirror Ridge Shopping Center). An article published in 1999 in The Washington Post referenced Mirror Ridge: “named for the spot 354 feet above sea level from which soldiers in training for the Spanish-American War relayed signals.”