

These minutes are provisional until approved
by the Domestic Names Committee.
Any changes will be noted in the
minutes of the next meeting.

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

Six Hundred Eighty-fifth Meeting
Washington D.C. Convention Center, Room 301
January 11, 2007 – 9:30 a.m.

Members and Deputy Members in Attendance

Bob Bewley	Department of the Interior (Bureau of Land Management)
Mike Fournier	Department of Commerce (Bureau of the Census)
Tony Gilbert	Government Printing Office
Robert Hiatt	Library of Congress
Elizabeth Kanalley (Chairwoman)	Department of Agriculture (Forest Service)
Eric Berman	Department of Homeland Security (Federal Emergency Management Agency)
William Logan	Department of Homeland Security (U.S. Coast Guard)
Curtis Loy	Department of Commerce (Office of Coast Survey)
Joseph Marinucci	Department of Commerce (Bureau of the Census)
Doug Vandegrift	Department of the Interior (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)
Meredith Westington	Department of Commerce (Office of Coast Survey)

Ex-Officio

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

Staff

Joan Helmrich, U.S. Geological Survey
Jennifer Runyon, U.S. Geological Survey

Guests

Douglas Batson, National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency
Nancy Blyler, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Rebecca Diaz-Cartagena, Bureau of the Census
Geoffrey Hatchard, National Geographic Society Maps
Carl Zulick, U.S. Geological Survey

1. Opening

Chairwoman Kanalley welcomed everyone to the 685th meeting of the Domestic Names
Committee (DNC) and asked that each member of the Committee, staff, and guests introduce
themselves. She also thanked Berman for making the arrangements for this meeting to be
held at the ESRI Federal Users' Conference. Fournier introduced Rebecca Diaz-Cartagena

of the Census Bureau; it has been suggested that she might be able to contribute to the BGN's ongoing discussions regarding the proper usage of Spanish language names on Federal maps and other products.

2. Minutes of the 683rd Meeting

The minutes of the November 9th meeting were approved with two corrections. Two of the members were listed under the wrong department or agency.

3. Communications and Reports

3.1 Chairman's Report (Kanalley for Boughton)

The full BGN has not met since the last DNC meeting but is scheduled to do so on Tuesday, January 16th, at the U.S. Geological Survey in Reston. Kanalley urged all members and deputies to attend, as it is expected there will be some discussion on the ongoing review and potential revision of the BGN's bylaws. She thanked those members who have provided comments already and reminded the attendees that there will be a review period prior to a final version being approved by the Executive Committee. She further noted that there will likely be a meeting of the Executive Committee before the end of January.

3.2 BGN Executive Secretary's Report (Yost)

Yost reminded the members that the next biennial meeting of the BGN and the British Permanent Committee on Geographical Names (PCGN) will take place April 23 - May 4, 2007, at the State Department in Washington, D.C.

In late August, the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (UNGEGN) will hold its five-year conference in New York.

Yost also reported on a request that the UNGEGN Working Group on the Promotion of Indigenous and Minority Group Names has distributed a request to "interested countries... to submit information showing where activities relating to the collection and promotion of indigenous or minority group place names are taking place." Yost noted that this could be an interesting endeavor but expressed concerns that any publication produced by the BGN could be construed to represent an official endorsement of the names for Federal use. Further discussion is anticipated at the full BGN meeting.

3.3 Report of the Publicity Committee (Kanalley for Wood)

There is no report from the Publicity Committee, but Runyon distributed copies of various news articles related to toponymy that have appeared in the media over the past month. Yost also noted that there was a recent inquiry on the American Name Society listserve regarding the origin of the name of a small community in Kentucky named Typo. This led to the discovery of a website that provides several articles on Kentucky placenames.

3.4 Executive Secretary's Report (Yost)

Yost reported that as a result of the closure last Friday, January 5th of the National Geospatial Technology Operations Center (NGTOC) I in Reston, the majority of the USGS Geographic Names Office have left Federal service, either through a Reduction in Force or retirement. As was noted at the November meeting, the majority of GNIS support functions have been transferred to the USGS in Denver (NGTOC II), and additional BGN support is now being provided by the USGS in Rolla, Missouri (NGTOC III).

Yost introduced Joan Helmrich as a new member of the USGS Geographic Names Office and reported that she would be responsible for establishing and coordinating geographic names partnerships between Federal and State agencies and the GNIS. Several new partnerships and data stewardships are expected to be created and these should result in additional data being collected and incorporated into the official names database.

The USGS Geographic Names Office staff recently conducted a telecom with representatives of Google Earth, one of whom spoke at the COGNA conference last October. Google Earth has been sent a customized file of geographic names from GNIS and has indicated it would consider offering recognition on its web display to the BGN and/or USGS as the source of the data in its names layer.

Yost thanked Nancy Blyler of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for attending this meeting. It was agreed that the USACE would be a valuable new addition to the DNC (and possibly to the Foreign Names Committee as well), and discussions will be undertaken to add that agency as a new deputy member.

DNC staff and the deputy member from the Bureau of Indian Affairs have initiated procedures whereby opinions and recommendations on name issues are obtained from Tribal authorities. Because of the ongoing transition and the need to formalize the process, it is expected there will be some delay in bringing pending proposals to the DNC for a vote.

Yost reported that there has been considerable correspondence among the members of the Executive Committee of the Council of Geographic Names Authorities regarding COGNA's Annual Conference, scheduled for early October in Lexington, Kentucky. He distributed a sketch of the possible room layout for the DNC meeting and asked for input from the members. Several comments were made and these will be shared with the conference planning committee. The members also agreed with the suggestion that the DNC meeting be divided into two sessions, with the reports and presentations before lunch and the docket in the afternoon.

3.5 Staff Report (Runyon)

Runyon announced that two pending Montana proposals have been withdrawn by the proponents, specifically those to change Squaw Creek and Squaw Lake in Beaverhead County to Jurds Creek and Jurds Lake, respectively (Review List 391).

Runyon shared with the members a copy of a newly-produced Action List and Recommendation List produced by Jane Messenger of the BGN staff in Rolla. These documents are designed to provide a synopsis of the status of all pending proposals, which the members agreed would be very helpful. Once the documents are updated to reflect this meeting's decisions, they will be shared with the members, State Names Authorities, and other interested parties.

Yost introduced a discussion regarding the relevance and importance of hiking and backpacking guides and related websites in the BGN review process. In the past, the USGS Mapping Centers have maintained that these are not valid sources for GNIS compilation. The GNIS staff concurs and has stated that these guides and websites should not be used for GNIS Phase II compilation unless the name can be corroborated through additional and more reliable maps and documents. However, the DNC staff suggested that these guides and websites do serve as evidence of local use of a name, albeit informal and unofficial, and therefore should be noted in the case briefs. Staff also noted that although it is not an official State government agency, the opinion of the Colorado Mountain Club (CMC) is typically sought when a Colorado summit is proposed to be named or renamed. The CMC has had over 90 years of association with the BGN and their input on proposals seems justified as an interested and knowledgeable party. It was agreed that this issue should once again be addressed at the State-Federal Roundtable at the COGNA Conference.

The DNC has received a new proposal, "to change the name of Shutes-Folly Reach in South Carolina to Rear Admiral Richard E. Bennis Reach." The members were asked to consider whether the naming of reaches (portions of shipping channels) falls under the purview of the BGN. It was further noted that the feature in question is listed in GNIS as two separate entities, named Folly Reach and Shutes Reach, but that apparently they were combined into one several years ago with the new unofficial name Shutes-Folly Reach applied collectively to both. This led to a discussion regarding how the GNIS staff should be notified of such renaming efforts and whether either the USACE or NOAA has the authority to make such changes. Blyler noted that the USACE dredges and maintains most navigable channels and that if the activity is authorized by the U.S. Congress, the name of the channel is likely mentioned in the enabling legislation. Yost reminded the members that a simple mention of the name in the legislation is considered incidental language and does not constitute an official designation.

Blyler also noted that the USACE maintains an inventory of the geographic features and facilities that it maintains, including their geolocations, and offered to investigate how best to incorporate these into GNIS.

Staff will forward the specific details of the proposed renaming effort to Blyler for further investigation. Westington also noted that NOAA has received some additional information on the (re)naming of the channel which she will forward to the staff. Yost noted that in this case the intended honoree passed away in 2003, so if the proposal is determined to be under BGN purview, the DNC cannot vote on it until 2008.

3.6 GNIS and Data Compilation Program (Yost)

Yost reported that two additional Phase II GNIS data compilation contracts will be awarded in FY07. These are likely to be for Alaska and the western half of Kentucky.

The BLM and USFS are hosting a geospatial conference in May in Portland, Oregon, and have invited the BGN staff to conduct a workshop on GNIS data entry and maintenance. Bewley and Kanalley will coordinate the details with Yost and with Dwight Hughes of the GNIS office.

4. Docket Review (Runyon)

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

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

Change the application of **Sturgeon Rock** (FID 1526653), Washington (Gifford Pinchot National Forest)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this change.

Vote: 11 in favor
0 against
0 abstentions

II. Disagreement on Docketed Names

Change **Pine Tit** (FID 388528) to **Pine Sister** and **South Tit** (FID 391080) to **South Sister**, Idaho (Sawtooth National Forest) (Review List 387)

These proposals were rejected by the DNC at its June 2006 meeting; however, after the proponent raised some concerns that the docket did not adequately describe the situation and that some pertinent information was missing, the members voted in November 2006 to revisit the issue. Included in the docket below is the information as presented at the June meeting, followed by a synopsis of the proponent's concerns and any additional details not mentioned previously.

A motion was made and seconded **not** to approve these changes, once again citing the lack of support by the County government and the land management agency.

Vote: 10 in favor
1 against
0 abstentions

The negative vote was cast in support of the proponent's claims that the names should be changed.

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

Mount Blachnitzky, Alaska (Tongass National Forest) (Review List 392)

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

Vote: 11 in favor
0 against
0 abstentions

Durney Key, Florida (Review List 393)

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

Vote: 11 in favor
0 against
0 abstentions

Change **Gallagher Head** (FID 1519878) to **Gallaher Head** and **Gallagher Head Lake** (FID 1519879) to **Gallaher Head Lake**, Washington (Wenatchee National Forest) (Review List 392)

A motion was made and seconded to approve these changes.

Vote: 10 in favor
0 against
1 abstention

IV. Revised Decisions – none

V. New Names agreed to by all interested parties

Cabin Run, Ohio (Review List 392)

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

Vote: 9 in favor
1 against
1 abstention

The negative vote was cast in the belief that the name could cause confusion because of the existence of other streams named **Cabin Run** in the area.

Possum Creek, Ohio (Review List 389)

A motion was made and seconded **not** to approve this new name, citing concerns that the name could cause confusion because another stream in close proximity is already named Possum Run.

Vote: 6 in favor
5 against
0 abstentions

The negative votes were cast in the belief that the difference in the generic terms would be sufficient to distinguish the two features, as well as the fact that the majority of local officials had no objection to the proposal.

5. Location and Time of Next Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m. The next meeting of the Domestic Names Committee will be held February 8, 2007, at the Department of the Interior, room to be announced.

(signed) *Louis A. Yost*

Louis A. Yost, Executive Secretary

APPROVED

(signed) *Betsy Kanalley*

Betsy Kanalley, Chairwoman
Domestic Names Committee

**U.S. BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES
DOMESTIC NAMES COMMITTEE
DOCKET
January 2007**

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

Change application of **Sturgeon Rock** (FID 1526653), Washington
(Gifford Pinchot National Forest)
(Review List 392)

<http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?z=10&n=5066373&e=558499&s=50&size=1&u=6&datum=nad83&layer=DRG25>

This proposal was submitted by a resident of Vancouver, who believes Federal maps apply the name Sturgeon Rock to the wrong summit. Although the name has been placed on a 946 m (3,103 ft) high summit, wholly within Clark County, since 1954, the proponent claims that a different feature, located 1.7 km (1.1 mi) further to the west and with an elevation of 1,269 m (4,163ft), is in fact Sturgeon Rock. The latter summit straddles the boundary between Clark County and Skamania County, and is also within the Gifford Pinchot National Forest. An advance copy of a USGS 1:48,000 topographic map surveyed in 1934 seems to support the proponent's claim, although the placement of the name on that map is somewhat questionable (and the label for nearby Silver Star Mountain overlaps the summit in question). Several hiking and mountain climbing websites also appear to support the proposal, with photographs confirming that the summit in question resembles the back of a sturgeon fish. The proponent describes the feature as "a prominent basalt rock outcropping rising about 250 feet above the surrounding terrain and extending on an east/west axis about 1,250 feet. It is about 350 feet wide and has columnar basalt columns over 100 feet high on the eastern side."

The Skamania County Commissioners have stated they have no objection, while the Clark County Commissioners are in support of the change. The U.S. Forest Service recommends approval, as does the Washington State Board on Geographic Names. The USFS and State Board have acknowledged that if this proposal is approved, the former location would become unnamed and so they are making inquiries as to whether the "unnamed" summit needs an alternative name. In researching the issue, the State Board forwarded the proposal to the Cowlitz Indian Tribe and the Yakama Nation, both of which are Federally-recognized. No response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion on the issue.

II. Disagreement on Docketed Names

Change **Pine Tit** (FID 388528) to **Pine Sister**
and **South Tit** (FID 391080) to **South Sister**, Idaho
(Sawtooth National Forest)
(Review List 387)

<http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?z=11&n=4657857&e=731021&s=50&size=1&u=6&datum=nad83&layer=DRG25>
<http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?z=11&n=4662511.99984157&e=734691.000242376&datum=nad83&u=6>

Note: these proposals were disapproved by the BGN at its June 2006 meeting; however, after the proponent raised some concerns that the docket did not adequately describe the situation and that some pertinent information was missing, the BGN voted in November 2006 to revisit the issue. Included here is the information as presented at the June meeting, followed by a synopsis of the proponent's concerns and any additional details not mentioned previously.

These proposals were submitted by the chair of the Geographic Names Project of the Idaho American Association of University Women. The proponent, whose organization has been involved in ongoing efforts to remove derogatory names from geographic features in Idaho, specifically the "Squaw" names, suggests the existing generic term is offensive and is requesting the names be changed from Pine Tit to Pine Sister and from South Tit to South Sister. She offers the less commonly used generic "Sister" as a replacement because there are already summits in Idaho named Pine Mountain, Pine Butte, Pine Knob, and Pine Summit. She also notes the existence of summits named Three Sisters in Oregon and Twin Sisters in Colorado. The features in question are located within the Sawtooth National Forest, in the southwestern corner of Cassia County, approximately 65 km (40 mi) south-southwest of Burley. The current names have appeared on Federal maps since 1949, and were also on the 1976 Cassia County highway map.

The Cassia County Commissioners have stated they "strongly reject the proposed names." After discussing the issue with local residents, the County determined that "not once was there any indication of offense regarding the current name, but there was a sense of being offended by "outsider-individuals" looking to create controversy or change the local flavor of life in our rural county." Further, "we believe that these changes lie outside of the intent of the legislative action encouraging individuals or governments to propose name changes for those names found to be offensive." The Idaho Geographic Names Advisory Council (IGNAC) also received two letters from local residents strongly opposed to the changes; one of these was from a Snake River sportsmen's association, which regards the renaming effort as an "undue waste of time." The Forest Service District Ranger also is opposed to the proposals.

Citing this local opposition, the IGNAC recommended, by a vote of 10-2, against the changes. However, the Idaho State Historical Society voted 4-2 to approve the new names. A copy of the proposal was sent to the Northwestern Band of Shoshoni Nation of Utah and to the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes of the Fort Hall Reservation of Idaho, both of which are Federally-recognized Tribes, but no response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion on the issue.

In October 2006, the proponent submitted a letter to the BGN asking that it revisit its decision to reject the proposed changes. It was noted that "letters supporting our proposal were not mentioned"; "statewide organizations which have local affiliates were not recognized as evidence of local support"; and "the Idaho State Historical Society Board was not identified as the Idaho Geographic Names Board, which provides the official recommendation from Idaho."

The proponent continues, "The Idaho Women's Network (IWN) supported our proposals; [the network] is a coalition of 25 organizations including Church Women United, Idaho Education Association, Business and Professional Women; Zonta Club of Boise, The League of Women Voters, Mujeres Unidas de Idaho, and Idaho A.A.U.W." She further expressed concern that the comments of a Snake River sportsmen's association, a group with which she is unfamiliar, were included, while those of the IWN were not. Another letter of support from a local resident was also not mentioned.

The letter further stated that the BGN's decision seemed to be based more heavily on the negative recommendation of the Idaho Geographic Names Advisory Council rather than on the letter of support from the Idaho State Historical Society, whose Board of Trustees serve as the official State Names

Authority. Finally, the proponent expressed concern that the Forest Service was represented as being opposed to the changes, whereas in her communications with the district ranger, she was advised the USFS felt the new names were acceptable.

In November 2006, the BGN forwarded a copy of the proponent's letter, along with an additional letter of support from the Idaho Women's Network, to the Cassia County Commissioners, the U.S. Forest Service, and the Idaho Geographic Names Advisory Council, asking that if any of these offices had any additional comments that they be submitted to the BGN by January 9th. To date, no further communication has been received.

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

Mount Blachnitzky, Alaska
(Tongass National Forest)
(Review List 392)

<http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?z=8&n=6517579&e=534899&s=63.360&size=l&u=6&datum=nad83&layer=DRG50>

This proposal would make official the new commemorative name Mount Blachnitzky for an unnamed 1,997 m (6,552 ft) summit in the Coast Mountains. The feature lies south of Gilkey Glacier, north of Avalanche Canyon, and within Tongass National Forest. The name would honor Klaus Peter Blachnitzky (1921-1988), a native of the Silesia region of Germany (now Poland), who became a noted field and air surveyor, geodesist, and glaciologist. He was known for his contributions to the field of geodesy, authoring numerous technical publications and devising many improvements to the practice of surveying. In 1987 and 1988, Mr. Blachnitzky was the head surveyor for the Juneau Icefield Research Program (JIRP), which was established in 1946 "to pursue long-term field research on the interrelationships of scientific disciplines to understand the total environment of arctic and mountain regions." Much of his work was conducted in the vicinity of the unnamed summit in question. According to the proponent, "His surveying leadership led to greater understanding of surface glacial movement... [which] has significantly enhanced the knowledge of southeast Alaska's glacier systems and has provided insights into the mass balance of glaciers and their use as a sensitive indicator of climate change."

In August 1988, having completed almost two seasons instructing student surveyors and scientists in the science and practice of terrestrial field surveying and geodesy, he was killed when he slipped from a rock cleaver on the slope of Vaughan Lewis Glacier. The site of his death is 6.4 km (4 mi) from the summit now proposed to be named in his honor. In 2004, four climbers, including the proponent, made a memorial climb of the unnamed and previously unclimbed summit, leaving at the peak some surveying mementos from Mr. Blachnitzky's life. Two accounts of the expedition have since been published, in the *Mazama Annual Journal* of 2004 and in an issue of *American Alpine Journal* in 2005. Both articles refer to the summit informally as Mount Blachnitzky.

The government of the City and Borough of Juneau recommend approval of this proposal, as does the Alaska State Geographic Names Board. The U.S. Forest Service has no objection to the name. In researching the issue, the State Board contacted the following Alaska Native groups: the Sealaska Corporation; Central Council Tlingit and Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska; Goldbelt, Incorporated; and the Aukquan Traditional Council. Of these, only the Sealaska Corporation responded, with a letter indicating it had no comment on the proposal. The lack of response from the other groups is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion on the issue.

Durney Key, Florida

(Review List 393)

<http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=28.28262&lon=-82.75207&datum=nad83&u=6&layer=DRG100&size=1&s=100>

This proposal is make official the name Durney Key for a small manmade island located off the west coast of Florida, just to the northwest of the community of Port Richey and west of Boggy Bay. The name would honor John H. Durney (1917-2001), a local businessman and mayor of Port Richey from 1967 to 1975 and New Port Richey from 1978 to 1980. While in office, Mr. Durney petitioned successfully for the dredging of the Pithlachascotee River Channel, a project that resulted in the creation of this spoil island. The members of the Pithlachascotee River Improvement Association, a local citizens' advocacy group, soon began to refer to the island as Durney Key and since then the name has come into widespread local use.

In August 1975, the name was endorsed by a resolution of the Port Richey City Council, and on September 1 of that year, a dedication ceremony took place, with a new sign erected naming it "Durney Key." Shortly thereafter, the community submitted a request to the BGN to make official the name, but they were advised that the island could not be named for a living person. The name continued to be used locally and a search of the Internet now yields numerous references to the name. As the five-year anniversary of Mr. Durney's death has just passed, the proponent is asking the Board to once again consider the proposal. Letters of support for the name Durney Key have been received from the Pasco County Administrator, the Pasco County Board of Commissioners, and the Port Richey City Council. The proponent also provided a copy of a U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary report requesting an update to nautical charts to show the name Durney Key. The Florida State Geographic Names Authority has no objection to the name.

Change **Gallagher Head** (FID 1519878) to **Gallaher Head**

Change **Gallagher Head Lake** (FID 1519879) to **Gallaher Head Lake**, Washington

(Wenatchee National Forest)

(Review List 392)

Summit:

<http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?z=10&n=5256813.74305391%20&e=651878.715749392&u=6&datum=nad83>

Lake:

<http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?z=10&n=5256372.0001875%20&e=652417.000023579&u=6&datum=nad83>

These proposals were submitted by a resident of Seattle, to correct the spelling of the names of a lake and a summit located in the Wenatchee Mountains of northwestern Kittitas County. Although the name has been spelled "Gallagher" on Federal maps since 1961, and the lake was also listed as such in the 1964 and 1973 editions of *Lakes of Eastern Washington* (Wolcott), the proponent reports that the features were named for his ancestors, James Gallaher (1834-1909) and his wife Eliza (1835-1901), natives of Pennsylvania who relocated to the Roslyn area in the late nineteenth century. He provided copies of mining claims dating from the period 1895 to 1905 in which the name was spelled Gallaher and the family signed its name as such. In addition, he included a copy of a stock sale for Gallaher Mining and Milling Company and a copy of the family's genealogical records confirming their longtime association with the area.

None of these early documents specifically mentioned the geographic features, although an article in *The Cle Elum Tribune* of 1985 described the family's association with Gallaher's Head [sic]. Numerous hiking and backpacking websites refer to Gallagher Head Lake, but none specifically

mention the origin of the name. The 1964 edition of *Lakes of Eastern Washington* [sic] listed Enis Lake and Fortune Lake as variant names for the feature, but no information was included regarding the history of these names.

The County Commissioners of Kittitas County have no objection to the changes, while the Washington State Board on Geographic Names and the U.S. Forest Service are in support. As part of its routine investigation into all name proposals, the State Board contacted the appropriate Tribal authorities for input on the issue. Although the State is unable to provide copies of its correspondence, it reports that none of the Tribes offered any objections to the proposed name. There are no other geographic features in Washington known to be named “Gallaher.”

IV. Revised Decisions - none

V. New Names agreed to by all interested parties

Cabin Run, Ohio (Review List 392)

Mouth: <http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=39.1769444444444&lon=-84.5786111111111&datum=nad83&u=6>

Source: <http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?latd=39&latm=11&lats=20&lond=84&lonm=34&lons=43&datum=NAD83&u=6>

This proposal was submitted by a USGS hydrologist in Columbus, who reports that official names are needed for various streams on which the USGS has established streamflow gaging stations. The new name Cabin Run would apply to a 1.3 km (0.8 mi) long tributary of Shepherd Creek. The name was chosen because an early settler’s old log cabin once stood alongside the stream; although the building no longer exists, it was long regarded as a local landmark. An e-mail was sent to the City of Cincinnati Planning Department, the Hamilton County Commissioners, and the Green Township Board of Trustees, asking that if there was any objection to the name, these organizations let the BGN know. No response was received. Citing this apparent lack of opposition, the Ohio State Names Authority also has no objection to the proposal.

There are three other streams in Ohio named “Cabin,” two named Cabin Run and one named Cabin Creek. The closest is Cabin Run in Clermont County, 45 km (28 mi) to the east-southeast of the stream in question.

Possum Creek, Ohio (Review List 389)

Mouth: <http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?z=17&n=4499349.00011428&e=386666.999998721&datum=nad83&u=6>

Source: <http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?z=17&n=4499011&e=387030&s=50&size=1&u=6&datum=nad83&layer=DRG25>

The new name Possum Creek is proposed for a 0.5 km (0.3 mi) long stream that heads in Hanover Township in Ashland County, then flows into the south side of Pleasant Hill Lake in Worthington Township in Richland County.

The Hanover Township Trustees have no objection to the proposed name, and the Ashland County Commissioners support it. The Worthington Township Trustees have no opinion, while the Richland

County Commissioners expressed some concern that another “more historically-significant” name might be more appropriate. They noted also that there is another stream named Possum Run just a few miles to the west of the stream in question and also in Richland County. When asked whether they wished to submit an alternative proposal, no response was received. A follow up e-mail stated that if no further comments were received, the BGN would proceed with a decision on Possum Creek. The Ohio State Names Authority has stated it has no objection to the proposal. A copy of the proposal was forwarded to the Delaware Tribe of Oklahoma, the Delaware Nation, the Ottawa Tribe, the Potawatomi Nation, and the Wyandotte Nation, all of which are federally-recognized. Of these, the Delaware Tribe of Oklahoma responded that it had no objection to the name, while the Ottawa Tribe supports the proposal. In addition to the aforementioned Possum Run, there are six other streams in the State named either “Possum” or “Opossum”. Only one, in Monroe County, includes the generic term “Creek.”