U.S Board on Geographic Names Domestic Names Committee

<u>Six Hundred Ninety-sixth Meeting</u> <u>Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C., Room 7000A</u> <u>March 13, 2008 – 9:30 am.</u>

Members and Deputy Members in Attendance

Robert Bewley
Douglas Caldwell
Chick Fagan
Michael Fournier

Department of the Interior (Bureau of Land Management)
Department of Defense (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers)
Department of the Interior (National Park Service)
Department of Commerce (Bureau of the Census)

Tony Gilbert Government Printing Office

Robert Hiatt Library of Congress

Elizabeth Kanalley Department of Agriculture (Forest Service)

William Logan Department of Homeland Security (U.S. Coast Guard)

Curtis Loy Department of Commerce (Office of Coast Survey) (Chairman; not voting)

Joseph Marinucci Department of Commerce (Bureau of the Census)
Douglas Vandegraft Department of the Interior (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

Jennifer Runyon, U.S. Geological Survey Penelope Leeth, U.S. Geological Survey

Guests

Rebecca Diaz-Cartagena, Bureau of the Census Nicholas Rosenbach, National Geographic Society

1. Opening

The meeting opened at 9:35 a.m. Loy noted that the February DNC meeting had been canceled because of inclement weather.

2. Minutes of the 695th Meeting

The minutes of the January 10^{th} meeting were approved as submitted.

3. Communications and Reports

3.1 Chairman's Reports (Kanalley)

Kanalley reported on the ESRI Federal Users Conference, held in late February at the Washington Convention Center. The BGN booth, which was set up to promote and publicize the BGN's mission, both for domestic and foreign names, saw many visitors and several new contacts were made. Regrettably, the BGN panel and the Domestic Names Committee meeting, scheduled for the Friday of the conference, had to be canceled due to inclement weather conditions. The BGN's Special Committee on Communications helped plan the exhibit booth for the ESRI Conference, and everyone agreed it was a good first experience. Yost is still interested in updating the exhibit panels for use at future events. The Communications Committee has yet to elect a chair. Kanalley distributed copies of the new BGN informational brochures at today's meeting.

Kanalley reported that a representative from the New Zealand Geographic Board is tentatively scheduled to travel to the Washington D.C. area on or around March 21st for a formal signing of the new U.S. Geological Survey-Land Information New Zealand protocol regarding the naming of geographic features in Antarctica.

There will be a BGN-PCGN meeting April 28th to May 2nd in London. Yost will be in attendance, along with several representatives of the Foreign Names Committee.

3.2 BGN Executive Secretary's Report (Yost)

Yost has received the final version of the BGN's revised bylaws, including editorial changes made by the Executive Committee. He will review the document and forward it to the Secretary of the Interior for his signature.

Earlier in the week, Yost attended the Mid-Year Conference of the National States Geographic Information Council (NSGIC), where he had an opportunity to discuss GNIS data stewardship and partnership agreements with representatives of various Federal and State agencies. Kanalley and Ruth Jones of the Postal Service served on an addressing panel. Several other BGN members were in attendance.

There will be a BGN panel at the upcoming AAG Conference in Boston. Those who will serve on this panel will meet soon to review their presentation. Yost thanked the members for volunteering to staff the AAG exhibit booth.

Roger Payne, BGN Executive Secretary Emeritus, and George Troop of NGA will be conducting the annual PAIGH geographic names training course in Quito, Ecuador during the first two weeks of April.

The Annual Conference of the Council of Geographic Names Authorities will take place September 2-6, 2008 in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. The program is being developed, with an increased emphasis on workshops and fewer papers.

The Annual meeting of the Geographical Names Board of Canada will take place at the end of October in Quebec.

Yost is hoping to attend the Twenty-third Congress of Onomastic Sciences (ICOS 2008) to be held in Toronto this August.

The United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names Working Group on Toponymic Data Files and Gazetteers will meet at the EuroGeoNames Conference, which will be held in Munich, Germany the second week of May.

3.3 Executive Secretary's Report (Yost)

Yost has been in contact with the Texas Geographic Names Authority regarding the possible naming of an island near Houston, <u>Rileys Island</u>. According to a local resident, efforts are underway to name the island for a young child who was kidnapped and whose body washed ashore on this island. However, the caller was advised that it is BGN policy to wait five years after a person has been deceased before considering naming a natural geographic feature for them.

Kanalley and Runyon will meet following this meeting to continue their review of the DNC's *Principles, Policies, and Procedures*. As soon as all corrections and editorial comments are incorporated into the document, it will be sent to the Secretary of the Interior for final review.

The next full BGN meeting will take place at 1:30 p.m. on April 8th at the State Department. It will be preceded in the morning by a Foreign Names Committee meeting.

Yost and Runyon participated in a telecon with the chair and staff researcher of the Arizona Board on Geographic and Historic Names to discuss the status and latest developments regarding the Squaw Peak-Piestewa Peak-Swilling Peak issue.

Yost and Runyon met with Greg Allord (USGS) at the Library of Congress to discuss the scanning of all BGN files and records dating back to 1890. The plan is to have these files accessible online, with each decision file attached to the GNIS entry; this will allow the public and other interested parties to view original documentation. There are many issues to be resolved, including the timeframe and available funding. Some funds have been allocated in the FY08 budget to start the project.

3.4 <u>Staff Report (Runyon)</u>

Runyon reminded the members that the proposals to change the name of <u>Squaw Peak</u> in Arizona to either <u>Piestewa Peak</u> or <u>Swilling Peak</u> will be on the agenda for a vote at the April 10th meeting. She asked that the members review the case summary and advise the staff if any issues still need to be resolved.

The proposal for <u>Lake Rangers Island</u>, Minnesota, on Review List 394, was withdrawn by the proponent after the White Earth Reservation Tribal Council expressed opposition to the name.

A proposal to name two small islands in the Potomac River, within an area managed by the National Park Service, was withdrawn. The names, <u>Little Naked Island</u> and <u>Big Naked Island</u>, would have recognized the fact that two unclothed sunbathers were seen there last summer. The proponent has indicated she may be submitting alternative names.

One of the two townships contacted on the <u>Neruda Run</u>, Pennsylvania proposal has sent a letter of objection. The township expressed concern that Pablo Neruda, the noted Chilean poet and intended honoree, was a member of the Communist party.

Runyon was asked to participate by telephone in a recent Colorado Board on Geographic Names meeting. The State was seeking guidance on the proposal that the BGN has received to change the name of <u>Kit Carson Peak</u> to <u>Mount Crestone</u>. The name <u>Tranquility Peak</u> has also been proposed for the highest (currently unnamed) point of this summit. The proponent reports that the residents of the nearby town of Crestone are in favor of the name change and new name.

Runyon asked whether the DNC wished to hold another all-day off-site session, as was done in Shepherdstown, West Virginia the past two years. The Chair asked whether there were any overriding issues that needed the DNC's attention. Runyon and Yost indicated there are not, although there continues to be a perpetual backlog of proposals for the Committee to review.

BGN staff has asked that the DNC once again review its policy regarding Tribal consultation on geographic names proposals, possibly at the May meeting. Runyon will provide a summary of the statistics to show how many responses are usually received from Tribal entities. At times, as many as fifty letters are sent regarding just one particular proposal.

3.5 GNIS and Data Compilation Program (Yost)

The GNIS server has been operating sporadically over the past several weeks due in part to a power outage and a broken switch. The server is scheduled to be moved to either Rolla or Denver which should alleviate some of these difficulties and provide a spillover back-up.

The USGS Geographic Names Office has received several large files from the Census Bureau to correct and update GNIS entries for populated places and civil features. Yost thanked Marinucci for his continued dedication to this effort.

The GNIS staff continues to work with USGS liaisons to develop and maintain partnerships for States to maintain their data.

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 Morfield Canyon (FID 179075) (BGN 1934) to Morefield Canyon; Morfield Ridge (FID 179245) to Morefield Ridge; and Morfield Village (FID 179065) to Morefield Village, Colorado (Mesa Verde National Park / Ute Mountain Indian Reservation) (Review List 395)

A motion was made and seconded to consider these three changes as a group, to include the proposal for <u>Morefield Canyon</u> which is a revised decision and hence is listed under Category IV.

Vote: 10 in favor 0 against 0 abstentions

A motion was then made and seconded approve the three changes.

Vote: 10 in favor 0 against 0 abstentions

Change <u>Mud Lake</u> (FID 648270) to <u>Golden Pond</u>, Minnesota (Review List 396)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this change.

Vote: 9 in favor 1 against 0 abstentions

The negative vote was cast in the belief that the proposed name has no connection to the feature in question.

Change <u>Kessler Canyon</u> (FID 1429333) to <u>Kesler Canyon</u>; <u>Kessler Peak</u> (FID 1429334) to <u>Kesler Peak</u>; and <u>Kessler Peak</u> (FID 1442305) to <u>Kesler Peak</u>, Utah (Wasatch National Forest) (Review List 395)

A motion was made and seconded to approve these changes.

Vote: 10 in favor

- 0 against
- 0 abstentions

II. Disagreement on Docketed Names

Change **Grob Lake** (FID 784361) to **Wilderness Lake**, Montana (Review List 393)

A motion was made and seconded <u>not</u> to approve this change, citing a lack of local and State support and in the belief that there was no justification for changing a long-standing commemorative name.

Vote: 10 in favor

0 against

0 abstentions

Change **Squaw Canyon** (FID 1511561) to **Awtskin Canyon**, Washington (Review List 392)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this change.

Vote: 7 in favor

3 against

0 abstentions

The negative votes were cast citing a lack of overwhelming local support for the change.

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

Canty Branch, Kentucky (Review List 395) (FID 2414449)

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

Vote: 10 in favor

0 against

0 abstentions

Dyer Brook, Maine (Review List 396) (FID 2414578)

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

Vote: 10 in favor

0 against

0 abstentions

At this point, the NPS member joined the meeting.

<u>Claribel Creek</u>, <u>East Branch of Euclid Creek</u>, <u>Redstone Run</u>, <u>Stevenson Brook</u>, <u>Verbsky Creek</u>, Ohio (Review List 395) (FIDs 2414570, 2414571, 2414572, 2414573, 2414574)

A motion was made and seconded to consider the five Ohio names as a group, including the two listed below under New Names, Category V.

Vote: 11 in favor 0 against 0 abstentions

A motion was then made and seconded to approve the five names.

Vote: 11 in favor 0 against 0 abstentions

Drafts Branch, South Carolina (Review List 395) (FID 2414575)

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

Vote: 11 in favor 0 against 0 abstentions

Change **Adkins Pond** (FID 1501936) to **Atkins Pond**, Virginia (Review List 396)

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

Vote: 11 in favor 0 against 0 abstentions

Staff noted also that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has agreed that the name of <u>Adkins Dam</u> (FID 1490918) located at the head of this reservoir, should also be renamed to <u>Atkins Dam</u>. Although the dam is not shown on the USGS topographic map, the name does appear in GNIS, so the change will be made as a staff-processed correction.

- **IV. Revised Decisions** none.
- V. New Names agreed to by all interested parties

Suncrest Lake, Alaska (Review List 397) (FID 2414581)

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

Vote: 11 in favor

- 0 against
- 0 abstentions

Taq' Nust'in Mountain, Alaska (Review List 397) (FID 2414582)

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

Vote: 11 in favor

0 against

0 abstentions

West Linda, California (Review List 396) (FID 2414579)

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

Vote: 11 in favor

0 against

0 abstentions

Sedgewick Cove, Maryland (Review List 395) (FID 2414577)

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

Vote: 11 in favor

0 against

0 abstentions

Chickadee Lake, Minnesota (Review List 396) (FID 2414580)

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

Vote: 11 in favor

0 against

0 abstentions

The Talladega, Pennsylvania (Review List 395) (FID 2414576)

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

Vote: 11 in favor

0 against

0 abstentions

<u>Terksaleeze Butte</u>, Washington (Review List 394) (FID 2414569)

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

Vote: 11 in favor 0 against 0 abstentions

5. Location and Time of Next Meeting

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m. The next meeting of the Domestic Names Committee will be held April 10, 2008 at the Department of the Interior, Room 7000A.

(signed) Louis A. Yost

Louis A. Yost, Executive Secretary

APPROVED (signed) Curtis Loy

Curtis Loy, Chairman Domestic Names Committee

U.S. BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES DOMESTIC NAMES COMMITTEE DOCKET March 2008

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

Change Morfield Ridge (FID 179245) to Morefield Ridge, and Morfield Village (FID 179065) to Morefield Village, Colorado (Mesa Verde National Park / Ute Mountain Indian Reservation)

(Review List 395)

Ridge: http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=37.2356&lon=-108.4032&datum=nad83&u=5&layer=DRG25&size=l&s=50
Village: http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=37.29833&lon=-108.41564&datum=nad83&u=5&layer=DRG&size=l&s=50

These are two of three proposals submitted by a geologist with the U.S. Geological Survey in Denver, who in the course of conducting studies in the area of Mesa Verde National Park, discovered that the names of three geographic features, named currently "Morfield," should be spelled "Morefield." (The third proposal is to change the name of Morfield Canyon to Morefield Canyon (q.v.), but because the latter name was the subject of a 1934 BGN decision, it is listed under Category IV below.)

There is no information in the BGN's 1934 file to indicate that the spelling was in dispute, and it states only that the name "Morfield" was in local use. However, the proponent of these changes reports that the valley and associated features were named for Oregon Territory Morefield, a pioneer settler in the 19th century. The ridge in question is 4 km (2.5 mi) long, and like the valley lies within both Mesa Verde National Park and the Ute Mountain Indian Reservation, while the locale lies wholly within the park. Although the name Morfield Ridge has appeared on USGS topographic maps since 1967, the proponent reports that the proposed spelling is already used by the National Park Service (NPS); its 1999 park brochure labeled the feature Morefield Mesa, while a more recent edition applied the name Morefield Ridge. A report published in 1993 by the Wright Paleohydrological Institute also referred to the feature as Morefield Ridge.

The locale of <u>Morfield Village</u> has been labeled as such on USGS maps since 1957; it serves as the site of the primary campground for the park (the NPS refers to the campground itself as <u>Morefield Campground</u>). NPS reports and maps published in 2004 referred to the feature as <u>Morefield Village</u>, as do most online references to visiting and camping in the park.

The proponent notes that the proposed spelling has the support of a biological services technician in the park, and that the NPS has already changed the spelling on its park brochures. The NPS is in support of the change to "Morefield." The Montezuma County Commissioners and the Colorado Board on Geographic Names also recommend approval of the changes. A copy of the three proposals was sent to the Navajo Nation; the Ute Indian Tribe of the Uintah and Ouray Reservation; and the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, all of which are Federally-recognized, but no response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion on the issue.

Change Mud Lake (FID 648270) to Golden Pond, Minnesota

(Review List 396)

http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=45.95385&lon=-95.58004&datum=nad83&u=6&layer=DRG25&size=l&s=50

This proposal is to change officially the name of <u>Mud Lake</u> in Douglas County to <u>Golden Pond</u>. The 27-acre lake is one of five bodies of water in the county and 195 in the State that are named <u>Mud Lake</u>, and so the proponents suggest a name change would eliminate some of the duplication. The proponents are residents of the nearby community of Brandon; they recently purchased property on the lake. They also believe the change would help to avoid confusion, because the lake is sometimes known as <u>Long Lake</u>, <u>Pud Lake</u>, or <u>Skrove Lake</u>. The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) *Public Waters Inventory*, published in 1988, lists the lake as <u>Mud (Long) Lake</u>. Following a newspaper notice and a public hearing at which no objections were received, the Douglas County Board of Commissioners passed a resolution in support of the change to <u>Golden Pond</u>. The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, which serves as the State Names Authority, supports the change as well. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has no objection to the name change.

Since 1933, the BGN has approved changes to 32 other lakes throughout Minnesota named <u>Mud Lake</u>; of these, one in St. Louis County was also renamed to <u>Golden Pond</u> (1999). According to GNIS, this is the only other lake in the State with that name.

A copy of this proposal was forwarded to the following Federally-recognized Tribes: the Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council; the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe; the Prairie Island Indian Community; the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community of Minnesota; the Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate Tribe of the Lake Traverse Reservation; the Spirit Lake Dakotah Sioux; the Upper Sioux Community of Minnesota; and the Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska. Of these, the Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate Tribe responded with a letter of support, while the Upper Sioux Community indicated they had "no problem" with the proposal. The lack of response from the remaining Tribes is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion.

Change <u>Kessler Canyon</u> (FID 1429333) to <u>Kesler Canyon</u>, change <u>Kessler Peak</u> (FID 1429334) to <u>Kesler Peak</u>, change <u>Kessler Peak</u> (FID 1442305) to <u>Kesler Peak</u>, Utah (Wasatch National Forest)

(Review List 395)

Valley Mouth: http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=40.70606&lon=-112.16689&datum=nad83&u=5&layer=DRG&size=l&s=50

Source: http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=40.6781&lon=-

112.20242&size=l&u=6&datum=nad83&layer=DRG

Summit (1): http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=40.6755&lon=-

112.20272&datum=nad83&u=5&layer=DRG&size=l&s=50

Summit (2): http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=40.62505&lon=-

111.66884&datum=nad83&u=6&layer=DRG25&size=1&s=50

These three proposals were submitted by a member of the Kesler family, to change officially the spelling of three geographic features from "Kessler" to "Kesler." The proponent reports that the valley and two summits were named for his ancestor and so the spelling should be corrected.

<u>Kessler Canyon</u> has been named as such on USGS topographic maps since 1972 and is also shown on the 1993 Salt Lake County highway map. The first of the two summits named <u>Kessler Peak</u> lies

along the boundary between Salt Lake County and Tooele County, and at the head of Kessler Canyon. Kessler Peak has appeared as such on USGS topographic maps since 1972, and it was also labeled on the 1943 General Land Office map of Utah. The second summit, also named Kessler Peak, is located in the Wasatch Range, approximately 16 km (10 mi) southeast of the center of Salt Lake City. This summit has been labeled Kessler Peak on USGS topographic maps since 1925 and was also on the 1993 Salt Lake County highway map. The two summits are 45 km (28 mi) apart, but according to the proponent, both were named for the same individual, specifically Frederick Kesler, a native of Pennsylvania, who traveled west in 1847 with one of the early parties of Mormon settlers.

According to an article published in 2005 in the *Tooele Transcript Bulletin*, "Frederick Kesler (1816-1899) was the architect responsible for the construction of Mormon mills [beginning in the early 1850's]." Also, "Frederick Kesler was active in church organizations -- he served as bishop of the Sixteenth Ward [for 43 years]. He was director of the penitentiary sixteen years and also served for a time as warden. He was a justice of the peace for eight years and district school trustee for many years." Mr. Kesler had three wives and thirty children; many of his descendants still live in the Salt Lake City area. One of the holdings at the University of Utah's Marriott Library is "The Frederick Kesler Collection 1855-1900," in which are included copies of Kesler's correspondence and diaries, tax records, cemetery lot certifications, and numerous Mormon church records; all of the file headings spell the name "Kesler." The proponent reports that the Bishop Frederick Kesler Family Organization supports the change.

A letter of support for the change from Kessler Peak to Kesler Peak was received from the Tooele County Commission, while the Salt Lake County Council has no objection to the change for all three feature names. The Utah Geographic Names Committee recommends approval of the three changes, and the U.S. Forest Service, which manages the more easterly summit as part of the Wasatch National Forest, supports the change from Kessler Peak to Kesler Peak. A copy of the three proposals was sent to the Confederated Tribes of the Goshute Reservation; the Shoshone Tribe of the Wind River Reservation; the Skull Valley Band of Goshute Indians; the Southern Ute Indian Tribe; the Ute Indian Tribe of the Uintah and Ouray Reservation; and the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, all of which are Federally-recognized, but no response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion on the issue.

II. Disagreement on Docketed Names

Change **Grob Lake** to **Wilderness Lake**, Montana

(Review List 393)

http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=48.93222&lon=-115.13667&datum=nad83&u=6

This proposal is to change officially the name of <u>Grob Lake</u>, located in north-central Lincoln County, to <u>Wilderness Lake</u>. The lake in question has an area of approximately 30 acres and lies just east of Koocanus Lake. The existing name has appeared on Federal maps since 1963 and was also labeled on the 1958 Lincoln County highway map, but the new owners of the property, a development company based in Eureka, have asked that it be renamed in recognition of the new resort community that is being constructed at the lake. The new community is named Wilderness Club, and upon completion in 2008 is expected to comprise 272 homesites and 47 luxury cabins, along with a golf course, canoe club, and nature camp. Although it has not been determined when the lake's current name first came into local use, there is some evidence that there was a family named Grob living in Lincoln County in the 1950's. The name <u>Grob Lake</u> also appears at the websites of the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

When asked to comment on the proposed name change, the Lincoln County Commissioners responded with a letter of opposition, stating, "Grob Lake has a lot of historical significance to the Eureka area. It was named after a family that lived in the area for many years. Although this name change may help the developers of the resort community make their development more attractive, we are strongly against the change." The Montana Geographic Names Authority, citing the county's opposition and a concern that "changing names for business purposes sets a bad precedent," also does not endorse the proposal. A copy of the proposal was forwarded to the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation; and the Kalispel Indian Community, all of which are Federally-recognized. Of these, only the Kalispel Community responded, with a letter indicating that the lake falls outside its ceded lands. The lack of response from the other two Tribes is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion on the issue.

According to GNIS, there are no other lakes in Montana named <u>Wilderness Lake</u>, but there are two small bodies of water in Valley County, approximately 620 km (385 mi) away, named <u>Wilderness</u> Reservoir.

Change **Squaw Canyon** (FID 1511561) to **Awtskin Canyon**, Washington (Review List 392)

http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?z=11&n=5233828.09685004%20&e=467220.470223269&u=6&datum=nad83

The name <u>Awtskin Canyon</u> is proposed as a replacement for <u>Squaw Canyon</u>. The current name applies to a locale located along the former Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul and Pacific Railroad line, 5.1 km (3.2 mi) northwest of Rosalia, at the northern edge of Whitman County. It is the first of two proposed replacement names offered by the Coeur d'Alene Tribe for geographic features in the State of Washington and within their aboriginal territory. According to the proponents, "Awtskin" is a Coeur d'Alene word that means "(we) looked out (for our enemy)." Although very little remains today of the locale named <u>Squaw Canyon</u>, it is mentioned at several websites, including one for a local pheasant hunting company and another that refers to grain elevators in Whitman County. No information has been uncovered regarding the origin of the current name, but the hunting website suggests it dates from the late 1800's. A variant name listed in GNIS for the feature is <u>Squaw Canyon Station</u>.

The Whitman County Commissioners have no objection to the change from <u>Squaw Canyon</u> to <u>Awtskin Canyon</u>, while the Washington Board on Geographic Names supports the change. As part of its research, the State Board forwarded the proposal to the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation and the Spokane Tribe of Indians, both of which are Federally-recognized, but no response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion on the issue. The Whitman County Historical Society does not support the change to <u>Awtskin Canyon</u>, citing evidence of local opposition and a preference for a name that has more significance in the area. Another proposal, to change the locale's name to <u>Jack Pine Canyon</u>, has been initiated by a local resident. This name has the support of the Historical Society and many local residents, but it was submitted only to the State Board. Since it was rejected by the State Board in favor of <u>Awtskin Canyon</u>, it will not be forwarded to the U.S. BGN and cannot be considered at the Federal level.

The nearby stream, named <u>Squaw Creek</u>, was originally proposed by the Coeur d'Alene Tribe to be renamed to <u>Shewtem Creek</u>, but that name was withdrawn by the Tribe in favor of <u>Awtskin Creek</u>, so that the new names would be consistent. However, several members of the local community, including the property owners along the stream, have stated they believe the name "Awtskin" has no local significance and would not be accepted by the majority of area residents, so the Tribe decided once again to withdraw its proposal. They have since agreed to endorse a third proposal, submitted

by a local landowner, for the new name <u>John Paulson Creek</u>. The latter name has been forwarded to the U.S. BGN and added to Review List 397; the State Board continues to conduct its research and will vote on <u>John Paulson Creek</u> at its May meeting.

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

Canty Branch, Kentucky

(Review List 395)

Mouth: http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=38.15156&lon=84.81779&datum=nad27&u=4&layer=DRG25&size=l&s=50

The new name <u>Canty Branch</u> is proposed for a 1.5 km (0.9 mi) long unnamed tributary of Glenns Creek in Woodford County. It was submitted by a resident of Chandler who wishes to honor his wife's ancestors, John, Patrick, and Owen Canty, who in 1865 purchased property alongside the majority of the stream. The property is still owned by the Canty family. The Woodford County Commissioners and the Kentucky Geographic Names Committee are in support of this new name. A copy of this proposal was sent to the Wea Indian Tribe of Indiana, a State-recognized group, but no response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion on the issue.

Dyer Brook, Maine

(Review List 396)

Mouth: http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?latd=43&latm=35&lats=38&lond=-

70&lonm=16&lons=25&datum=NAD83&u=6

Source: http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=43.60611&lon=70.26556&datum=nad83&u=6&layer=DRG&size=l&s=50

This proposal is to apply the new name <u>Dyer Brook</u> to an unnamed 1.6 km (1 mi) long tributary of an unnamed tributary to Spurwink River in Cumberland County. It would honor James Dyer (1721-1797), William Dyer (1768-1844), and Nathaniel Dyer (1771-1837), early owners of land along the stream. The proponent reports that the name is not in local usage, but that there is no apparent opposition to naming it <u>Dyer Brook</u>. He adds that he currently owns land along the stream and that his house, having been built by William Dyer, is believed to be the oldest remaining home in Cape Elizabeth.

The Town of Cape Elizabeth recommends approval of the proposal, while the Cumberland County Commissioners did not respond to two requests for comment. The second letter indicated that if no response was received, the Board would assume the county did not have an opinion. The Maine State Names Authority "can find no information in the state files to either support or oppose the new name. Therefore, the State will defer to the wisdom of the local governing body." There are no Federally-recognized Tribes with an interest within 50 miles of the stream.

According to GNIS, there are 46 features in Maine with names containing the word "Dyer," nine of which are in Cumberland County. These comprise two bays, a lake, two cemeteries, two communities (<u>Dyer Corner</u> and <u>Dyer Cove</u>), a school, and a cape. Phillip R. Rutherford, in his 1970 volume *Dictionary of Maine Place Names*, suggests these features were named for the numerous Dyer families in the area, most notably Ed and Enoch Dyer, who lived in Cape Elizabeth in the early 1800's. There are four streams in the State named <u>Dyer Brook</u>, the closest in Androscoggin County, 47 km (29 mi) away.

Stevenson Brook, Ohio

(Review List 395)

Mouth: http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=41.5458&lon=-bttp://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=41.54338&lon=-bttp://www.topozone.com/map.asp?la

81.49738&size=1&u=6&datum=nad83&layer=DRG

This is the first of five proposed names submitted by the Director for Economic Development for the City of Richmond Heights. These names would apply to unnamed streams that are located within the city's boundaries, and which according to the proponent need to be protected and restored. Two of the names are commemorative, while the remaining three are listed under Category V below.

The first proposal would apply the new name <u>Stevenson Brook</u> to an unnamed 2.9 km (1.8 mi) long stream which flows northwest through Richmond Heights before entering another tributary proposed to be named <u>East Branch of Euclid Creek</u> (q.v.). The new name would honor the Stevenson family, natives of England who came to Ohio in 1837, operating several sandstone quarries in the area until 1930. Stone from these quarries was used in many structures throughout Richmond Heights and the Hillcrest area. Letters of support for this proposal were received from the Cuyahoga Soil and Water Conservation District and the Euclid Landmark Commission. GNIS lists eleven other features in Ohio named "Stevenson"; none are streams and none are in Cuyahoga County. The Ohio State Geographic Names Authority recommends approval of the name.

A copy of the five stream name proposals was forwarded to the following Federally-recognized Tribes: the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma; the Bay Mills Indian Community; the Chippewa-Cree Indians of the Rocky Boy's Reservation; the Citizen Potawatomi Nation; the Delaware Nation; the Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma; the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians; the Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council; the Hannahville Indian Community; Huron Potawatomi, Inc.; the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community; the Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas; the Kickapoo Tribe of Indians of the Kickapoo Reservation in Kansas; the Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma; the Match-e-be-nash-she-wish Band of Pottawatomi Indians; the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma; the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians; the Prairie Band of Potawatomi Nation; the Quechan Tribe of the Fort Yuma Indian Reservation; and the Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians of Minnesota. Of these, a letter of support was received from the Eastern Shawnee Tribe, while the Keweenaw Bay Community responded that it did not have an opinion on the issue. The lack of response from the other Tribes is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion on the issue.

Verbsky Creek, Ohio

(Review List 395)

Mouth: http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=41.56013&lon=-

81.53065&size=1&u=6&datum=nad83&layer=DRG

Source: http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=41.54548&lon=81.51667&datum=nad83&u=6&layer=DRG25&size=m&s=50

This proposal, to apply the new name <u>Verbsky Creek</u> to an unnamed stream in the City of Richmond Heights, was also submitted by the city's Director for Economic and Community Development. This stream is 2.6 km (1.6 mi) long and flows northwest through Richmond Heights to enter an unnamed stream proposed to be named <u>East Branch of Euclid Creek</u> (q.v.). The new name would honor the Verbsky family, who emigrated from Bohemia to settle in Richmond Heights in 1861. The family later built a home and sawmill along the stream, and for many years they were active members of the community. Letters of support for this proposal were received from the Cuyahoga Soil and Water

Conservation District and the Euclid Landmark Commission. The Ohio State Geographic Names Authority recommends approval of the name.

Drafts Branch, South Carolina

(Review List 395)

Mouth: http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=34.0159&lon=-

81.16978&size=l&u=6&datum=nad83&layer=DRG25

Source: http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=34.01661&lon=-

81.15344&size=1&u=6&datum=nad83&layer=DRG25

This proposal is to apply the new commemorative name <u>Drafts Branch</u> to a 1.5 km (0.9 mi) long tributary of Twelvemile Creek in Lexington County. The name would honor Jefferson Luther Drafts (1838-1904) and his wife Pauline Buff Drafts (1840-1921), longtime owners of the land through which the stream flows. Jefferson's father, Jacob Drafts, was also a founding member of nearby Zion Lutheran Church. The proponent states, "Because development is erasing the evidence of rural historic origins in our county, this family simply wishes to memorialize a short stream which had been totally encompassed by Drafts lands for almost 150 years." Members of the Drafts family still own land along the stream.

The Lexington County Council and the South Carolina Geographic Names Authority are both is support of this proposal, and there are no Federally-recognized Tribes within fifty miles of the feature. There are three ponds in Richland County named <u>Drafts Pond</u>, but no other geographic features in South Carolina known to be named "Drafts."

Change Adkins Pond to Atkins Pond, Virginia

(Review List 396)

http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=37.11126&lon=-76.99246&datum=nad83&u=5&layer=DRG&size=l&s=50

This proposal would change officially the name of Adkins Pond, an 18-acre manmade lake located along Johnchecohunk Swamp in west-central Surry County, to Atkins Pond. Although the current name has appeared on USGS topographic maps since 1969, and was also included in a 1974 listing of Geographic and Cultural Names in Virginia (Virginia Department of Conservation and Economic Development/Division of Mineral Sources, Circular 20), the proponent reports that the body of water was in fact named for his late father Edward M. Atkins, who in 1946 acquired a deed to the lake and the surrounding property. He provided a copy of the deed, along with a listing of all property owners dating back to 1805, noting that no individual or family named Adkins has ever resided in the area. The Virginia Department of Transportation, which forwarded the proposal to the BGN on behalf of the proponent, has stated that it has no information regarding the history of the reservoir's name, but if the name is changed officially at the Federal level, it would reflect the correction on its county highway maps.

The Surry County Board of Supervisors is in support of the change to <u>Atkins Pond</u>, as is the Virginia State Names Authority. A copy of the proposal was sent to the Mattiponi Indian Nation and the Pamunkey Indian Nation, both State-recognized groups, but no response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), which includes an entry for <u>Adkins Dam</u> in its reservoir and dam inventory, has no objection to the spelling change. Although the proponent did not mention the dam in his proposal, the USACE and the State Names Authority both suggest the entry in GNIS should be changed to <u>Atkins Dam</u> in order to be consistent.

IV. Revised Decisions

Change Morfield Canyon (FID 179075) (BGN 1934) to Morefield Canyon, Colorado (Mesa Verde National Park / Ute Mountain Indian Reservation)
(Review List 395)

Mouth: http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=37.30502&lon=108.42356&size=l&u=6&datum=nad83&layer=DRG25

This is the third of the three proposals to correct the spelling of geographic features named currently "Morfield." The name Morfield Canyon applies currently to a 19 km (12 mi) long valley that heads in Mesa Verde National Park before trending to the south onto the Ute Mountain Indian Reservation. The current spelling has appeared on USGS topographic maps since 1915, and was also the subject of a 1934 BGN decision (in 1933, the National Park Service had submitted a request to make official the name that had been applied to the 1915 USGS map of the park). There is no information on the research card to indicate that the spelling was in dispute, and it states only that the name "Morfield" was in local use. However, the proponent of the change reports that the valley and associated features were named for Oregon Territory Morefield, a pioneer settler in the canyon in the 19th century. He notes that the proposed spelling has the support of a biological services technician in the park, and that the NPS has already changed the spelling on its park brochures. A report published in 1993 by the Wright Paleohydrological Institute, and co-authored by the park's former chief archaeologist, also referred to the feature as Morefield Canyon.

V. New Names agreed to by all interested parties

Suncrest Lake, Alaska

(Review List 397)

http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=61.68939&lon=-150.10477&datum=nad83&u=6&layer=DRG50&size=l&s=63.360

The new name <u>Suncrest Lake</u> is proposed for a 45-acre lake in Matanuska-Susitna Borough, 8 km (5 mi) south-southwest of the community of Willow. The southern tip of the lake also extends into the Nancy Lake State Recreation Area. The proponent, who owns the majority of the property surrounding the lake, suggests the new name would be appropriate as the lake lies immediately to the east of Sunbeam Lake, a name that was approved by the BGN in 1999. In 1997, the BGN received a proposal to name this unnamed lake <u>Boots Lake</u>, but it was rejected due to the existence of another lake with a duplicate name nearby. The Matanuska-Susitna Borough Land Manager has no objection to the proposal for <u>Suncrest Lake</u>. According to GNIS, there are no other features in Alaska named "Suncrest." The Alaska Historical Commission (AHC), which serves as the State Names Authority, contacted the following four Native groups for comment: Alexander Creek, Inc.; Cook Inlet Region, Inc.; Eklutna, Inc.; and Knikatnu, Inc. No response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion on the issue. The AHC recommends approval of the name.

Taq' Nust'in Mountain, Alaska

(Review List 397)

http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=59.85544&lon=-155.01746&datum=nad83&u=6&layer=DRG50&size=l&s=63.360

This proposal is to make official the Dena'ina name <u>Taq' Nust'in Mountain</u> for a 722 m (2,370 ft) summit in Lake and Peninsula Borough, just west of the Newhalen River and approximately 16 km

(10 mi) northwest of the village of Iliamna. The proponent, a Professor of Linguistics Emeritus at the University of Alaska Fairbanks, reports the name is of Dena'ina origin and means "the one that extends across the timbered lowlands." As part of its research, the Alaska Historical Commission (AHC) contacted the government of Lake and Peninsula Borough, but no response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion. The AHC also forwarded the proposal to six Native groups: the Iliamna Village Council; the Newhalen Tribal Council; the Bristol Bay Native Corporation, the Iliamna Natives Limited; the Kijik Corporation; and the Nondalton Tribal Council. Of these, only the Bristol Bay Corporation responded, with a letter of support for the name.

West Linda, California (Review List 396)

http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=39.11941&lon=-121.57917&datum=nad83&u=6&layer=DRG25&size=1&s=50

This proposal was submitted by the District Supervisor for the Yuba County Board of Supervisors, to apply the new name West Linda to an unincorporated community in Yuba County. The name Linda is applied currently to a community, also unincorporated, that straddles State Highway 70, midway between Marysville and Olivehurst and just east of the Feather River. Until recently, those residents living to the west of the highway (the area proposed to be named West Linda) were served by the Marysville Post Office (with Linda as an acceptable mailing address), but due to increased suburban development, the postal boundaries have been redrawn and the homes on the west side will in the future be served by the Olivehurst facility, with residents being required to use an Olivehurst address. Many individuals have asked that this area be given the official name of West Linda, which according to the U.S. Postal Service would allow the population to use that name as an acceptable mailing address.

As the proponent notes, "Linda is over 150 years old [and] is the largest community in Yuba County." A local resident added, "I don't want Linda to evaporate." There is some evidence that the proposed name is already used locally, as indicated by the existence of the Sheriff Department's West Linda Substation and West Linda Park. The County Animal Shelter lists its location as West Linda, and there is an organization named Home Owners of West Linda. The California Advisory Committee on Geographic Names (CACGN) has determined that "the County's administrative and decision making process [is] sufficient in cases of unincorporated community names. Thus, with regard to the West Linda name proposal, CACGN defers to the County."

Sedgewick Cove, Maryland (Review List 395)

 $\underline{\text{http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?z=18\&n=4305506\&e=397291\&s=50\&size=1\&u=6\&datum=nad8}}\\ 3\&layer=DRG25$

This proposal is to apply the new name <u>Sedgewick Cove</u> to a small bay located along the Wye River in southern Queen Anne's County. According to the proponent, "Sedgewick" is the historical name of the property adjacent to the bay. She had initially proposed the commemorative name <u>Whites Cove</u> be made official for the body of water, as that is the name used by her family, longtime owners of the property. A proposal for <u>Whites Cove</u> was placed on BGN Review List 391; however, it was withdrawn after the Queen Anne's County Council expressed concerns that there is already another bay named White Cove in the county.

The proponent then amended her proposal to <u>Sedgewick Cove</u>. According to an online article entitled *Catholics on the Eastern Shore of Maryland* (Peterman), "Sedgewick at Bennett's Point was the home of Alfred Bryan." The Queen Anne's County Council has since endorsed the new proposal for

<u>Sedgewick Cove</u>, while the Maryland Geographic Names Authority has no objection. There are no Federally-recognized Tribes within fifty miles of this feature.

Chickadee Lake, Minnesota

(Review List 396)

http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=47.51381&lon=93.60868&size=l&u=6&datum=nad83&layer=DRG

This proposal is to apply the new name <u>Chickadee Lake</u> to an unnamed 20-acre lake in Itasca County. The proponent, a longtime resident of Grand Rapids, is an avid kayaker whose ambition is to kayak in every lake in the county and to write a book about them. In the course of her travels, she learned that this lake was unnamed and suggested <u>Chickadee Lake</u> would be appropriate as there is abundant wildlife, particularly chickadees, in the area.

A petition signed by 39 area residents who are in favor of the name was included with the application. After holding a public hearing at which no objections were raised, the Itasca County Board of Commissioners passed a resolution in support of the proposal. The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, which serves as the State Names Authority, is also in support of the name. A copy of the proposal was forwarded to the following Federally-recognized Tribes: the Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe of South Dakota; the Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council; the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe; the Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians of Minnesota; the Santee Sioux Nation; the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community of Minnesota; the Spirit Lake Dakotah Sioux; and the Upper Sioux Community of Minnesota, but no response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion on the issue. There is one other lake in the State named Chickadee Lake; it is located in Lake County, approximately 188 km (117 mi) from the unnamed lake in Itasca County.

Claribel Creek, Ohio

(Review List 395)

Mouth: http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=41.56833&lon=81.50917&datum=nad83&u=6&layer=DRG&size=l&s=50

Source: http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=41.54646&lon=-

81.48519&size=x&u=6&datum=nad83&layer=DRG

This proposal is another of the five new names submitted by the Director for Economic Development for the City of Richmond Heights. The name <u>Claribel Creek</u> would apply to a 3.5 km (2.2 mi) long tributary of a stream that is known locally and proposed to be named officially as <u>East Branch of Euclid Creek</u> (q.v.). According to *The Encyclopedia of Cleveland History* (1987), Richmond Heights was known at one time as <u>Claribel</u>. The application states the name was given in 1892 in honor of the daughter of one of its first postmasters, although another source spelled the young lady's name Clara Bell. The proponent states, "The name was later attached to Claribel School, Claribel Corners, and the Village of Claribel, until the Village [name] was changed formally to Richmond Heights in 1918." Letters of support for this proposal were received from the Cuyahoga Soil and Water Conservation District and the Euclid Landmark Commission. A copy of the proposal was also forwarded to the City of Highland Heights, with a note indicating that if the City did not respond, the BGN would assume there was no objection to Richmond Heights' naming efforts. No response was received. The Ohio State Geographic Names Authority also recommends approval of the name.

East Branch of Euclid Creek, Ohio

(Review List 395)

Mouth: http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=41.5612&lon=81.53108&datum=nad83&u=5&layer=DRG25&size=l&s=50

Source: http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=41.57079&lon=81.44059&size=l&u=6&datum=nad83&layer=DRG

This proposal, to make official the name <u>East Branch of Euclid Creek</u>, was submitted by the Director for Economic Development for the City of Richmond Heights. The proponent reports that the name has been in local use for at least fifty years, and there are numerous local, county, and State governments that mention the name at their websites. The 1951 *Cleveland Bird Calendar* also referred to the stream as <u>East Branch of Euclid Creek</u>. Letters of support for this proposal were received from the Cuyahoga Soil and Water Conservation District and the Euclid Landmark Commission. A copy of the proposal was also forwarded to the City of Willoughby Hills, with a note that if the City did not respond, the BGN would assume there was no objection to Richmond Heights' naming efforts. No response was received. The Ohio State Geographic Names Authority recommends approval of the name.

Redstone Run, Ohio

(Review List 395)

Mouth: http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=41.55683&lon=-

81.52701&size=1&u=6&datum=nad83&layer=DRG25

Source: http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=41.54338&lon=-

81.49738&size=1&u=6&datum=nad83&layer=DRG

This proposal, to apply the new name <u>Redstone Run</u> to an unnamed stream in the City of Richmond Heights, was submitted by the city's Director for Economic and Community Development. The stream in question is 3.5 km (2.2 mi) long and flows through the City of Richmond Heights before entering an unnamed stream proposed to be named <u>Verbsky Creek</u> (q.v.). The proposed name recognizes the fact that Berea red sandstone formations were once quarried in the area. Letters of support for this proposal were received from the Cuyahoga Soil and Water Conservation District and the Euclid Landmark Commission, and the Ohio State Names Authority supports the name as well. There are no other geographic features in Ohio known to be named "Redstone." The Ohio State Geographic Names Authority recommends approval of the name.

The Talladega, Pennsylvania (Review List 395)

http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=41.11028&lon=-77.38028&datum=nad83&u=6&layer=DRG&size=l&s=50

This proposal is to make official a name that is reported to have been in local use for ten years. The feature in question is a 7.8 km (3.6 mi) long ridge, with characteristics that lead to a phenomenon that resembles the high banked turns of the Talladega Superspeedway. According to the proponent, the name first came into local use after a world record setting glider pilot discovered that a micrometeorological phenomenon, which occurs at the ridge following the passage of a cold front, would allow pilots to soar at high speeds along its crest "without stopping to climb." He adds, "This name has been used to describe the feature and the phenomenon to pilots competing in Soaring Society of America Regional and National competitions held at the Mifflin County Airport for more than 10 years. Its use has also been adopted by local and visiting glider pilots flying from the nearby Ridge Soaring Gliderport and Eagle Field private airport." The name, although spelled "Talledaga," is mentioned at the Mifflin County Gliders website.

The Lamar Township Supervisors have expressed support for the proposal, while the Castanea Township Supervisors and the Clinton County Commissioners did not respond to two requests for comment. The second letter noted that no response would indicate a lack of an opinion on the issue. The Pennsylvania Board on Geographic Names has no objection to the proposal. The management of Talladega Superspeedway responded with a letter of support for the name. A copy of the proposal was forwarded to the following Federally-recognized Tribes: the Cayuga Nation of New York; the Oneida Indian Nation of New York; the Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin; the Seneca Nation of Indians; the Seneca-Cayuga Tribe of Oklahoma; the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe, New York; the Tonawanda Band of Seneca Indians of New York; and the Tuscarora Nation of New York, but no response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion on the issue.

<u>Terksaleeze Butte</u>, Washington (Review List 394)

http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=46.99948&lon=-118.2053&datum=nad83&u=6&layer=DRG25&size=l&s=50

This proposal is to make official a name that is reported to have been in local usage for 40 years. The feature is a flat-topped butte of approximately 70 acres in size and is clearly identifiable on topographic maps. It lies on property owned by the proponent's family for three generations. The proponent claims the name <u>Terksaleeze Butte</u> was given to the feature in the 1960's by a child of the current property owners and says it was likely a mispronunciation of "Hercules." He notes that there has long been a dearth of official placenames in the area. He adds also that the proposed name was mentioned in an unpublished dissertation entitled <u>Prehistoric Utilization in the Channeled Scablands of Eastern Washington</u> (Washington State University, 1975).

The Adams County Board of Commissioners and the Adams County Department of Public Works both responded they have no objection to the proposal, while a representative of the Ice Age Floods Institute is in support of it. A professor emeritus of geology at Eastern Washington University noted, "[The name] is a bit awkward and difficult to spell but is acceptable because of its connection with a pioneering family." As part of its research, the Washington Board on Geographic Names forwarded the proposal to the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation and the Spokane Tribe of Indians, both of which are Federally-recognized, but no response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion on the issue. Citing an apparent lack of opposition to the proposal, the State Board voted to approve the name.