U.S. Board on Geographic Names Domestic Names Committee

<u>Six Hundred Seventy-Eighth Meeting</u> <u>Department of the Interior, Room 3004</u> <u>May 11, 2006 – 9:30 a.m.</u>

Members and Deputy Members in Attendance

Robin Bellmard Department of the Interior (Bureau of Indian Affairs)
Eric Berman Department of Homeland Security (Federal Emergency

Management Agency)

Robert Bewley Department of the Interior (Bureau of Land

Management)

Chick Fagan Department of the Interior (National Park Service)
Mike Fournier Department of Commerce (Bureau of the Census)
Bonnie Gallahan Department of the Interior (U.S. Geological Survey)

Tony Gilbert Government Printing Office

Robert Hiatt Library of Congress

Elizabeth Kanalley (Chairwoman) Department of Agriculture (Forest Service)

Sean Killen Department of the Interior (U.S. Fish and Wildlife

Service)

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)
Meredith Westington Department of Commerce (Office of Coast Survey)

Ex-Officio

Trent Palmer, Department of Defense (National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency), and Executive Secretary, Foreign Names Committee

Roger L. Payne, Executive Secretary, U.S. Board on Geographic Names

Staff

Eve Edwards Jennifer Runyon Lou Yost

Guests

Jeff Esko, Urbana Elementary School

T. Wayne Furr, Executive Secretary, Council of Geographic Names Authorities (COGNA), and Oklahoma Board on Geographic Names

Geoffrey Hatchard, National Geographic Society Maps

Lewis L. McArthur, Oregon Geographic Names Board

Jane Messenger, U.S. Geological Survey, Executive Secretary, Missouri Board on Geographic Names

Anne Payne

1. Opening

Chairwoman Kanalley welcomed everyone to the 678th meeting of the Domestic Names Committee (DNC) and asked that each member of the Committee, staff, and guests introduce themselves. The Chairwoman announced that this would be the last meeting at which Roger Payne would serve as Executive Secretary.

2. Minutes of the 677th Meeting

The regular DNC meeting in April was not held, therefore, the minutes of the March 9th meeting were presented for consideration. The minutes were approved, with some minor editorial corrections. It was noted that in the Docket Review section, it should be stated that the name <u>Black Bear Creek</u> was <u>not</u> approved.

3. Communications and Reports

3.1 Chairman's Report (Kanalley for Boughton)

The Chairwoman reported that the Full Board met on April 25th at the Department of State. Kanalley announced the success of the 23rd Conference of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (UNGEGN), which took place March 28 to April 4 in Vienna, Austria. It was noted that many excellent meetings were held with national geographic authorities from around the world and that it was especially helpful in understanding international aspects of geographic names.

Kanalley announced the approval by the Board of the name <u>Mount Payne</u>, in honor of Roger Payne and for the work he performed and contributions made in Antarctica and the field of toponymy. Payne was presented with a framed photograph of the feature.

3.2 BGN Executive Secretary's Report (Payne)

Payne announced that the Pan American Institute of Geography and History (PAIGH) geographic names training course will be held in Santiago, Chile, likely during the last two weeks of August.

Payne thanked the members of the Board for the naming of <u>Mount Payne</u> and for the framed photograph. It was noted that Payne is only the third Executive Secretary of the Board since its reorganization in 1947.

Payne welcomed Ms. Robin Bellmard who was representing the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA). After a discussion regarding the importance of Tribal input in the naming process, Ms. Bellmard offered to see what her office could do to assist in this effort.

Payne announced his retirement as Executive Secretary of the Board on Geographic Names and the Domestic Names Committee (DNC). He noted that he will continue to assist the

staff during the transition period as well as monitoring and responding to e-mails addressed to the GNIS Manager and to the Executive Secretary, as well as continuing to serve as instructor for the PAIGH geographic names courses. Payne's last day of service will be May 23rd, and so Kanalley announced that on the following day Yost will become Executive Secretary of the DNC.

Messenger presented Payne with a wooden plaque of Antarctica as a memento of thanks and appreciation for his years of service to the Board.

3.3 Report of the Publicity Committee (Kanalley for Wood)

No report.

3.4 Executive Secretary's Report (Payne)

The Annual Conference of the Council on Geographic Names Authorities (COGNA) will be held October 17-21 in Boulder, Colorado, and hosted by Dr. William (Bill) Bright, member of the Colorado Board on Geographic Names. A preliminary agenda is being formulated and anyone with questions or comments should contact Dr. Bright. Payne indicated that a top priority should be to invite and encourage Google Earth to attend to discuss the application of geographic names to its products.

It was noted that in the past the DNC staff was unofficially responsible for the State-Federal Roundtable discussions at the annual COGNA meetings. However, Tim Norton, member of the Arizona State Board on Geographic and Historic Names, has volunteered to organize the topics for this year's roundtable.

Future COGNA conferences will be held in Lexington, Kentucky in 2007, and Oklahoma City, Oklahoma in 2008.

3.5 Staff Report (Yost)

Due to the cancellation of the April DNC meeting, the members were asked to vote by e-mail on the proposal for <u>Ingstad Mountain</u>, Alaska, on Review List 390. A majority of the members responded by the April 17th deadline, with a unanimous vote for approval.

3.6 GNIS and Data Compilation Program (Yost)

Yost announced that a contract for Phase II compilation of names for the State of New York was awarded the University of Alabama. In addition, the University is also compiling names for top 46 urban areas. A contract for the State of Michigan may be awarded towards the end of the fiscal year if money is available.

Yost reported that an employee of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) inquired about the access to locational information on archaeological sites in GNIS. Bewley noted that the BLM does not release that information and would forward the pertinent legislation to the

staff. Payne stated that these names should be listed in GNIS but not made available to the public.

3.7 Great Heron Wetlands, Maryland (Undocketed Name) (Runyon)

Great Heron Wetlands, Maryland

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

Vote: 14 in favor

0 against 0 abstentions

4. Docket Review (Runyon)

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

Change **Squaw Creek** (FID 1526451) to **Aspen Creek**, Washington

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

Vote: 13 in favor

0 against 1 abstention

II. Disagreement on Docketed Names

Change **Squaw Pass** (FID 791390) to **Cube Iron Pass**, Montana

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

Vote: 14 in favor

0 against 0 abstentions

Caisteal Creek, Oklahoma

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

Vote: 11 in favor

2 against1 abstention

The negative votes were cast in the belief that further information was needed from Tribal authorities.

Lone Creek vs. Winding Creek, Oklahoma

A motion was made and seconded to approve the new name Winding Creek.

Vote: 14 in favor

0 against 0 abstentions

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

Bena Brook, Iowa

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

Vote: 13 in favor

0 against 0 abstentions

Percys Point, Massachusetts

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

Vote: 13 in favor

0 against 0 abstentions

Paget Creek, Oregon

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

Vote: 13 in favor

0 against 0 abstentions

IV. Revised Decisions

Change <u>Daley Lake</u> (BGN 1926) (FID 1162929) to <u>Winema Lake</u>, Oregon

A motion was made and seconded <u>not</u> to approve this name change, citing a lack of a compelling reason for changing a long-standing commemorative name.

Vote: 8 in favor 6 against

0 abstentions

The negative votes were cast in the belief that local support warranted the name change in this case. Some members also noted that the stream that flows into Daley Lake is also named informally <u>Daley Lake Creek</u>, although this name is not yet listed in GNIS.

V. New Names agreed to by all interested parties

Scottie Creek, Oregon

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

Vote: 14 in favor

0 against 0 abstentions

Sweetwater Creek, Washington

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

Vote: 14 in favor

0 against 0 abstentions

5. <u>Location and Time of Next Meeting</u>

The next meeting of the Domestic Names Committee will be held June 5-6, 2006, at 9:00 a.m., at the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service National Conservation Training Center in Shepherdstown, West Virginia.

The meeting was adjourned at 12 noon.

U.S. BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES DOMESTIC NAMES COMMITTEE DOCKET May 2006

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

Change **Squaw Creek** (FID 1526451) to **Aspen Creek**, Washington (Little Pend Oreille National Wildlife Refuge/Colville National Forest) (Review List 381)

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This proposal was submitted by the Washington State Board on Geographic Names, on behalf of a resident of Colville, to change officially the name of <u>Squaw Creek</u> in Stevens County to <u>Aspen Creek</u>. The proponent, citing ongoing efforts in various other States to replace the "inappropriate and derogatory" word "Squaw" from geographic names, suggests that "it is just a matter of time until Washington and other states follow suit." Rather than "accept [a name] that they assign to us," he believes his neighborhood should be proactive on the issue and propose a name of its choosing. Various names were suggested, but after conducting a poll of local landowners, the name <u>Aspen Creek</u> was selected because of the abundance of aspen trees that grow along the stream.

The stream is 8.8 km (5.5 mi) long and heads just inside the boundaries of the Colville National Forest. It then flows to the south and southwest to join the Pend Oreille River. A portion of the stream also lies within the Little Pend Oreille National Wildlife Refuge and the Little Pend Oreille State Wildlife Recreation Area. The name Squaw Creek has appeared on U.S. Geological Survey topographic maps since 1929, and was on the 1967 Stevens County highway map. There is another stream in Stevens County also named Squaw Creek; it is located 49 km (28 mi) to the north-northwest; no efforts have yet been made to address that name. There are no other geographic features in the county that are known to be named "Aspen."

The proposed change from <u>Squaw Creek</u> to <u>Aspen Creek</u> has the support of the Stevens County Historical Society, as well as a majority of property owners along the stream, while the Stevens County Engineer has stated he has no objection to the change. The Washington State Board has recommended approval of the proposal, as has the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. 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 interested parties offered any objections to the name

change. The U.S. Forest Service, noting that just a small portion of the stream flows through National Forest land, has no objection to the proposal.

II. Disagreement on Docketed Names

Change **Squaw Pass** (FID 791390) to **Cube Iron Pass**, Montana (Lolo National Forest)

(Review List 384)

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This proposal was submitted by Montana's House Bill 412 "Squaw Name Change" Committee, to change the name of <u>Squaw Pass</u>, located in the Lolo National Forest in Sanders County, to <u>Cube Iron Pass</u>. The proposal was submitted to the committee by the supervisor of the Lolo National Forest, on behalf of the Plains/Thompson Falls Ranger District of the Lolo National Forest and the students of Thompson Falls Middle School. The district ranger worked with the local school to provide the students an opportunity to learn about the issue and to assist in the renaming of the feature. Thirty-nine students studied maps, historical notes, and aerial photos, and each prepared a statement justifying the name he or she had chosen to replace <u>Squaw Pass</u>. After the ranger district narrowed the list to three choices, the HB 412 Committee selected and approved the name <u>Cube Iron Pass</u>. It is an associative name, as the gap is located less than a half-mile southeast of Cube Iron Mountain.

The proposed change to <u>Cube Iron Pass</u> has the support of the Sanders County Commissioners, the Montana State Geographic Names Board, Montana State Senator Jim Elliot, and the U.S. Forest Service. The proposal was presented to the BGN for a vote in March 2004, but was deferred because of reports by the Chair of the HB 412 Committee that the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes would likely be submitting an alternative proposal, possibly a name of Salish origin. Despite several e-mail exchanges to and from a representative of the Salish and Kootenai indicating the issue was still under discussion, no formal proposal was ever received. A final letter to the Tribes, with a copy to the HB 412 Committee, was sent in March 2006, with an indication that if no further correspondence was received by early May, the BGN would be asked to vote once again on <u>Cube Iron Pass</u>. The Coeur d'Alene Tribe, another Federally-recognized Tribe, was also asked to comment on the change from <u>Squaw Pass</u> to <u>Cube Iron Pass</u>, but no response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion on the issue.

Caisteal Creek, Oklahoma

(Review List 384)

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The new name <u>Caisteal Creek</u> is proposed for a 2.6 km (1.6 mi) long tributary of Coffee Creek in north-central Oklahoma County, approximately 7.2 km (4.5 mi) north of the Oklahoma City corporate boundary. The proponent reports that the stream heads just outside his property, and

that the word "Caisteal" is Gaelic for "castle." There is a rock formation on his property that resembles a castle. There are no other geographic features in the nation known to be named "Caisteal."

The Oklahoma Board on Geographic Names asked the appropriate city and county governments and State agencies to comment on the proposal; of these, the City of Edmond stated it had no opinion on the issue, while the Oklahoma County Board of Commissioners did not respond to several requests for input. The Oklahoma Water Resources Board is not opposed to the naming of the stream, but questions the use of the Gaelic spelling. Their representative stated, "There is virtually no Gaelic influence in the Edmond area and this spelling is almost certain to cause confusion." However, the Oklahoma State Board voted unanimously to endorse the name. The Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma and the Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma, both of which are Federally-recognized, were asked to comment on the proposal but no response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion on the issue.

Lone Creek vs. Winding Creek, Oklahoma

(Review Lists 379, 387)

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These names have both been proposed for a 3.2 km (2 mi) long tributary of Deer Creek in Oklahoma County. The first name was submitted by the operator of Lone Creek Farms, which is located at the head of the stream. The proponent's attorney states that the proposed name is not intended to be used for commercial purposes; however, one of the proponent's neighbors, who lives further downstream, disputes this, claiming that the portion of the stream that flows through his property is named Winding Creek (his address is Winding Creek Road). He also stated that the name Winding Creek "has been established with the Emergency Management and 911 Directory systems in Oklahoma County."

Representatives of the Oklahoma Water Resources Board; the Oklahoma Historical Society; and the Planning Division and G.I.S. Management Branch of the Oklahoma Department of Transportation all stated initially that they had no objection to the original proposal for Lone Creek. The Oklahoma Board on Geographic Names then voted to recommend approval of that name. However, in February 2002, the BGN deferred a decision, citing the concerns of the proponent's neighbor, and asked that the State Board determine whether that individual wished to submit a counter-proposal. A subsequent proposal for Winding Creek was then submitted and added to Review List 387. The proponent of the latter name reports that the original proposal should no longer be considered.

The Oklahoma State Board asked the Oklahoma County Commissioners on several occasions to comment on the issue, but after no response was received, determined the County did not wish to issue a statement. The State Board has recommended that the name <u>Winding Creek</u> be approved.

Six Federally-recognized Tribes having a possible interest in the area were asked to comment on the issue, specifically, the Cheyenne-Arapaho Tribes of Oklahoma, the Kickapoo Tribe of Oklahoma, the Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma, the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, the Caddo Nation of Oklahoma, and the Wichita and Affiliated Tribes. Of these, only one response was received; the Iowa Tribe of Oklahoma noted it would be in support of either name. The lack of response from the remaining Tribes is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion on the issue.

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

Bena Brook, Iowa

(Review List 391)

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91.58944444444444&datum=nad83&u=6

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This proposal, to make official the name <u>Bena Brook</u>, was submitted by the Director of the Indian Creek Nature Center in Cedar Rapids. The proponent reports that the name is being used by his organization and that it appeared on a recently-published Cedar Greenbelt National Recreation Trails map. The name <u>Bena Brook</u> is intended to honor Carrie Bena (1894-1993), a lifelong resident of the area who lived on a farm adjacent to the stream for 93 years. Mrs. Bena's family built a house on the property and for many years they were instrumental in the protection of the area. According to the application, "They were hardworking and dedicated individuals in the true spirit of pioneers in America. [Prior to her death] Mrs. Bena asked that the property go back to the way it was before she arrived there." One year later, the family donated the land to the Indian Creek Nature Center, which has since preserved it as "a significant riparian forest." Seventeen members of the Bena family signed a petition supporting the naming effort.

The proposal for <u>Bena Brook</u> has the support of the Cedar Rapids Commissioner of Parks and Public Property, the Linn County Board of Supervisors, and the Iowa State Geographic Names Authority. A copy of the proposal was sent to the Sac and Fox Tribe of the Mississippi in Iowa; the Sac and Fox Nation of Missouri in Kansas and Nebraska; and to the Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska, all of which are Federally-recognized. Of these, only the Sac and Fox Nation responded, with a letter expressing support for the proposal. The lack of response from the other two Tribes is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion on the issue.

Percys Point, Massachusetts (Review List 379)

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This proposal is to make official a commemorative name reported to be in local use, for a cape located on the northwest shore of Pelham Lake in the Town of Rowe in Franklin County. The name <u>Percys Point</u> would honor Percy Whiting Brown (1887-1958), who in 1955 donated the

lake and 400 acres to the people of the Town of Rowe for the establishment of Pelham Lake Park. The proponent, who is Commissioner of the Town's Park Department, reports that a monument to Percy Brown was placed at the cape in 1960, and since then, the area has been referred to as "Percy's Point." A plaque in memory of Mr. Brown's contributions was erected on the site in 1985, and the July 2001 issue of *Pelham Lake ParkNews*, published on the occasion of the park's 45th anniversary, stated that the monument was "dedicated on the lake shore at "Percy's Point." A map included in the newsletter also labeled the feature "Percy's Point." Percy Brown authored three editions of *A History of Rowe, Massachusetts*, which were published in 1921, 1935, and in 1960.

A resolution in support of the name <u>Percys Point</u> was submitted by the Town of Rowe Board of Selectmen. County governments in Massachusetts were dissolved in 2000. The Massachusetts State Geographic Names Authority has no objection to the proposal. There are no Federally-recognized Tribes having a current or historical interest in the vicinity of the feature.

<u>Paget Creek</u>, Oregon (Review List 391)

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The new commemorative name <u>Paget Creek</u> is proposed for a 1.3 km (0.8 mi) long tributary of Tryon Creek. The stream straddles the boundary between Multnomah County and Clackamas County and also flows partially through the communities of Englewood and Lake Oswego. The proposed name is intended to honor Lowell Caples Paget (1898-1967), a lawyer, Oregon delegate to the Republican National Convention between 1936 and 1948, and member of the local freemasons and shriners organizations. In 1938, Lowell Paget and his wife acquired 16 acres along the stream, where they raised horses and worked to improve the stream. In the 1960's, when two new housing developments were constructed nearby, the Pagets fought successfully to keep the stream flowing above ground as the developers wanted to divert it underground.

A local preservation group named The Friends of Tryon Creek passed a resolution recommending approval of the name <u>Paget Creek</u>, and the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department, which manages Tryon Creek State Park at the stream's mouth, submitted a letter of support as well. After the Clackamas County Planning Division expressed support for the proposal, the Oregon Geographic Names Board voted to recommend approval. The City of Lake Oswego has no objection to the request. The Oregon Legislative Commission on Indian Services forwarded a copy of the proposal to all Tribes having a possible interest in the area, but no response was received which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion.

IV. Revised Decisions

Change <u>Daley Lake</u> (BGN 1926) (FID 1162929) to <u>Winema Lake</u>, Oregon (Review List 391)

(Nestucca Bay National Wildlife Refuge)

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This proposal is to change officially the name of <u>Daley Lake</u>, a 17-acre lake in Tillamook County, to <u>Winema Lake</u>. The feature lies just east of Kiwanda Beach and 6.4 km (4 mi) south of Pacific City. The swamp wetlands at the southern end of the lake also fall inside the recently-expanded boundaries of the Nestucca Bay National Wildlife Refuge. A Christian camp named Wi-Ne-Ma Camp is located along the west side of the lake, and the camp's website already refers to the feature as <u>Winema Lake</u>. The road that runs alongside the lake is named Winema Road and the nearby beach is Winema Beach.

The proposal to rename <u>Daley Lake</u> was submitted by the camp's executive director, although initially as <u>Wi-Ne-Ma Lake</u>. He reports that the camp's name was derived from that of a young woman of the Modoc Tribe who was known for her ability to moderate contacts between her tribe and the U.S. Cavalry. The current name, <u>Daley Lake</u>, was the subject of a 1926 BGN decision; that name was submitted by the Oregon State Highway Department in an effort to eliminate confusion between it and another name, <u>Fletcher Lake</u>, which had come into recent local use. The 1926 BGN file suggests that <u>Daley Lake</u> took its name from one of the members of the 1843 Oregon emigrant party, who took up a land claim near the lake around 1875. It was noted that the Fletcher family had moved into the area many years after Daley but left sometime later, and "there appears to be no sentimental reason why the name of Fletcher should be perpetuated" (BGN file).

Following the 1926 decision, the name <u>Daley Lake</u> appeared on most Federal and local maps, although the 1954 Tillamook County map labeled it <u>Winema Lake</u> (the 1969 edition applied the name <u>Daley Lake</u>). The Oregon State Engineer's inventory of lakes and streams published in 1939 included listings for both <u>Daley Lake</u> and <u>Fletcher Lake</u> at the same location, with no explanation for the duplicate entries.

The Oregon Geographic Names Board approved the proposal to rename <u>Daley Lake</u> to <u>Winema Lake</u>, provided the hyphens were removed; the proponents agreed with this request. The Tillamook County Commissioners also expressed support for the proposal, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has no objection. The stream that flows through the lake is listed as <u>Daley Lake Creek</u> on a State of Oregon online listing of streams, but that name is not listed in GNIS nor was a proposal submitted to change that name. The Oregon Legislative Commission on Indian Services forwarded a copy of the proposal to all Tribes having a possible interest in the area, but no response was received which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion.

V. New Names agreed to by all interested parties

Scottie Creek, Oregon (Review List 391)

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The new name Scottie Creek is proposed for a 0.6 km (0.4 mi) long stream that flows from east to west into Mount Scott Creek in the community of Happy Valley. The proponent, a local resident, reports that she is involved in wetlands renovation and preservation, and has been unable to locate any name for the stream. The new name would recognize the fact that the stream is a tributary of Mount Scott Creek. The latter feature was named in association with Mount Scott, which was in turn named for Harvey Scott, an editor of *The Oregonian* in the late 19th century who worked diligently to clear many acres of land in the area. The Clackamas County Planning Division is in support of the proposal, and the Oregon Geographic Names Board has voted to recommend approval as well. The Oregon Legislative Commission on Indian Services forwarded a copy of the proposal to all Tribes having a possible interest in the area, but no response was received which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion.

<u>Sweetwater Creek</u>, Washington (Review List 381)

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The name Sweetwater Creek is proposed for a 1.4 km (0.9 mi) long stream that flows into Lynch Cove at the north end of Hood Canal. The proponent, who serves as the Executive Director of the Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group, reports that the stream is used for raising and restoring salmon and trout populations, as well as for educational research. In 1988, the Hood Canal Wetlands Project was organized and the stream became the focus of many of its research projects. It also has served for many years as an important source of Belfair's drinking water. The Salmon Enhancement Group is described as a grass roots organization that collaborates with landowners, private citizens, and civic organizations to provide interaction in the restoration and preservation efforts.

The proponent reports that the proposed name has been known to area residents since the 1950's and that it is used by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. The name was mentioned in a 1996 article in the *Mason County American* and also in a 1992 letter from the Skokomish Indian Tribe to a local archaeologist. Numerous websites also refer to the stream by the proposed name.

The Washington Board on Geographic Names recommends approval of this proposal. As part of its routine investigation into all name proposals, the State Board contacted the appropriate County and Tribal authorities for input on the issue. Although the State is unable to provide copies of its correspondence, it reports that none of the interested parties offered any objections to the name.