

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 Ninetieth Meeting
Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C., Room 2642
July 12, 2007 – 9:30 a.m.

Members and Deputy Members in Attendance

Robert Bewley	Department of the Interior (Bureau of Land Management)
Rebecca Diaz-Cartagena	Department of Commerce (Bureau of the Census)
Chick Fagan	Department of the Interior (National Park Service)
Mike Fournier	Department of Commerce (Bureau of the Census)
Tony Gilbert	Government Printing Office
Susan Hawes	U.S. Postal Service
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)
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
Caitlin Briere, National Park Service

Guests

Geoffrey Hatchard, National Geographic Society
Kathleen Kelm, American Association of University Women

1. Opening

The meeting opened at 9:30 a.m. Chairwoman Kanalley asked the members to introduce themselves and welcomed Ms. Briere, a summer intern with the National Park Service, and Ms. Kelm, representing the American Association of University Women.

2. Minutes of the 689th Meeting

The minutes of the June 11th-12th meeting were approved as submitted.

3. Communications and Reports

3.1 Chairman's Report (Kanalley for Boughton)

Kanalley reported that the Executive Committee has not had an opportunity yet to meet to finalize its review of the BGN's bylaws. There has been some discussion amongst the committee members regarding the suggestion that the Publicity Committee ought to be restructured, but further discussions are needed.

The BGN has received a request from the Executive Secretary of the Council of Geographic Names Authorities (COGNA) for Federal funds to support the upcoming COGNA Annual Conference. It was noted that many Federal agencies as well as the Office of Management and Budget are now restricting such contributions and it was suggested that COGNA may need to seek private donations instead.

3.2 BGN Executive Secretary's Report (Yost)

The next full BGN meeting will take place at 1:30 p.m. on July 17th at the U.S. Geological Survey in Reston. The reappointment letters for the 2007-2009 term are being prepared and members will be notified when they have been sent from the Department of the Interior to their respective departments.

Yost will attend the Annual Meeting of the Geographical Names Board of Canada, to be held August 8-10 in Yellowknife, Northwest Territories.

The Ninth United Nations Conference on the Standardization of Geographical Names will take place August 21-30 in New York. A meeting of the UN Group of Experts on Geographical Names will also take place on August 20th and 31st. A poster exhibit, celebrating the life and accomplishments of Meredith "Pete" Burrill, former BGN Executive Secretary, has been prepared for the conference. Yost extended his appreciation to Richard Randall for his efforts in preparing this exhibit.

3.3 Report of the Publicity Committee (Kanalley for Wood)

The BGN staff distributed a recent article from USA Today, entitled *Schools Taking Names From Nature*, which noted that there appears to be a nationwide trend away from naming new schools for individuals.

An article appeared in *The Spokesman Review* regarding the efforts by the Coeur d'Alene Tribe to eliminate several occurrences of the word "Squaw" from geographic names in Washington. The article noted that there is some local objection to the changes and suggested that one or more counter-proposals might be forthcoming.

3.4 Executive Secretary's Report (Yost)

The aforementioned meeting of the Geographical Names Board of Canada will conflict with the next DNC meeting, so it was suggested that the DNC meeting be canceled. The members concurred, agreeing that the September meeting should take place as scheduled, with a regular monthly docket.

Following discussions at the last meeting, COGNA has nominated Paul Veisze of the California Advisory Committee on Geographic Names to the newly-established National Geospatial Advisory Committee (NGAC). This committee is being created to provide advice and recommendations to the Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) on geospatial issues related to management of Federal geospatial programs. The names of the selected individuals will be announced at a later date.

3.5 Staff Report (Runyon)

Quarterly Review List 395, with 58 new proposals, is to be released within the next week.

Kanalley thanked the staff for conducting a WebEx seminar for the Forest Service regional geographic names liaisons on the use of the GNIS web-based maintenance forms, which took place July 10th.

Runyon distributed for the members' review several copies of a "National Park Adventures" brochure published in 1971 in which were featured several photographs of Carl Sharsmith, the intended honoree of the proposal for Sharsmith Peak.

3.6 GNIS and Data Compilation Program (Yost)

Staff announced that it is now possible to query GNIS for all BGN decisions rendered on a specific date. Users need to conduct this query on the Advanced Search page.

A new GNIS compilation contract was announced in FedBizOps on July 9th. The contract is to gather geographic names data for the State of Alaska, for the western half of Kentucky, and for the East Coast of the United States, along a fifty-mile buffer from Delaware to Florida.

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 **Saint Marys Nipple** (FID 374866) to **Saint Marys Knoll**, Idaho (Review List 390)

After considerable discussion, a motion was made and seconded to approve this name change.

Vote: 5 in favor
5 against
0 abstentions

The negative votes were cast in the belief that the existing name is not offensive and that to change it would be to change history. There was some discussion regarding the need to obtain additional local opinion, which the guest from the AAUW offered to do. The members also asked the staff to ask the Idaho State Historical Society if they can locate any additional details regarding the history or origin of the current name. The tie vote resulted in the issue being deferred to the next meeting.

Change **Squaw Creek** (FID 777121) to **Skl-ow-kin Creek**, Montana (Bureau of Land Management) (Review List 389)

A motion was made to approve this change.

Vote: 10 in favor
0 against
0 abstentions

Change **Woodward Creek** (FID 1528307) to **Woodard Creek**, Washington (Undocketed) (Columbia River Gorge Scenic Area)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this change.

Vote: 10 in favor
0 against
0 abstentions

II. Disagreement on Docketed Names

Bessie Creek, Illinois (Review List 393)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this proposal.

Vote: 10 in favor
0 against
0 abstentions

III. New Commemorative Names and Changes agreed to by all interested parties – none.

IV. Revised Decisions

Change English Bay (BGN 1952) (FID 1412986) to Nanwalek, Alaska (Undocketed)

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

Vote: 10 in favor
0 against
0 abstentions

V. New Names agreed to by all interested parties

Shingle Mill Peak, Utah (Uinta National Forest) (Review List 393)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this name.

Vote: 10 in favor
0 against
0 abstentions

5. Location and Time of Next Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m. The next meeting of the Domestic Names Committee will be held September 13, 2007, at the Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C., room to be determined.

(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
July 2007

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

Change Saint Marys Nipple (FID 374866) to Saint Marys Knoll, Idaho
(Review List 390)

<http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?z=12&n=4811366.83181378%20&e=379231.903726563&u=6&datum=nad83>

The proposal to change officially the name of Saint Marys Nipple to Saint Marys Knoll was submitted by a representative of the Pocatello Chapter of the American Association of University Women (AAUW). The proponent reports that AAUW members believe the current name is “disrespectful to religious groups as well as to women in general.” She adds, “the proposed change of using knoll instead of nipple would not affect the ability of anyone to locate or identify the area not would it impact any historical significance the current name may carry.”

The summit lies within the Snake River Plain in the southwestern corner of Bonneville County, west of an extensive area of lava fields and 37 km (23 mi) west of Idaho Falls. The area is managed by the Idaho Department of Lands and just outside Bureau of Land Management administration. The current name has appeared on U.S. Geological Survey topographic maps since 1964 and was also on the official Bonneville County highway map of 1971, but the origin of the name is unknown; there is no mention of the feature in any of the available Idaho placename books.

Letters of support for the proposed change to Saint Marys Knoll have been received from the Idaho Women’s Network and from a pastor representing the Holy Spirit Catholic Community in Pocatello. The Bonneville County Commissioners also support the change, as do the Idaho Geographic Names Board and the Bureau of Land Management. A copy of the proposal was sent to the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes of the Fort Hall Reservation of Idaho, a Federally-recognized Tribe, but no response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion on the issue.

Following a 4-4 vote on this proposal at the June 2007 meeting, the issue was automatically deferred to the next meeting. Since then, an additional letter of support was received, from the Roman Catholic Diocese of Boise. The Geographic Names Project of the American Association of University Women also submitted a follow up letter after learning of the BGN’s tie vote; the group’s representative indicated her surprise, noting that “there has never been any expressed opposition.” A representative of the Washington D.C. office of the AAUW also telephoned the BGN staff to state their support for the change.

Change Squaw Creek (FID 777121) to Skl-ow-kin Creek, Montana
(Bureau of Land Management)
(Review List 389)

Mouth:<http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?z=12&n=4974030.60943154%20&e=377072.210091466&u=6&datum=nad83>

Source:<http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?z=12&n=5294113&e=290390&s=50&size=1&u=6&datum=nad83&layer=DRG25>

This proposal was submitted by the Chair of the Montana House Bill 412 Advisory Committee, to rename Squaw Creek in Beaverhead County. The existing name, which has appeared on U.S. Geological Survey topographic maps since 1965, is considered by some to be offensive. The proposed replacement name, Skl-ow-kin Creek, is the Salish name for “Beaverhead.”

The Beaverhead County Commissioners have indicated they support this proposal, as do the Montana Board on Geographic Names and the Bureau of Land Management. A copy of the proposal was sent to the following Federally-recognized Tribes: the Bishop Paiute Tribe, the Death Valley Timbi-sha Shoshone Band of California, the Duckwater Shoshone Tribe of the Duckwater Reservation, the Ely Shoshone Tribe of Nevada, the Fort McDermitt Paiute and Shoshone Tribes of the Fort McDermitt Indian Reservation, the Lac Vieux Desert Band of the Lake Superior Chippewa Indians, the Northwestern Band of Shoshone Nation, the Paiute-Shoshone Indians of the Lone Pine Community of the Lone Pine Reservation, the Shoshone Tribe of the Wind River Reservation, and the Te-Moak Tribe of the Western Shoshone Indians of Nevada. Of these, only the Duckwater Shoshone Tribe responded, with a letter of support for the name change. The lack of response from the other organizations is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion on the issue.

A decision on this proposal was deferred at the June 2007 meeting, citing concerns regarding the use of hyphens in indigenous names. Since then, the staff has uncovered additional information on the topic; at its February 2004 meeting, the DNC considered two proposals with hyphens. The meeting minutes state, “After further research and input from Dr. William Bright, noted toponymist and linguist, it has been suggested that hyphens should not be prohibited from such names. The note regarding hyphens in indigenous names will be struck from the PPP chapter on Editorial Guidelines and Writing Marks.”

Also since the June meeting, the BGN received a new online proposal “to change the name of Squaw Creek to Skl-ow-kin Creek.” The application form was submitted by a Consultant with the Salish-Pend d’Oreille Culture Committee on behalf of the Chairman of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes. The proposal appears to provide the same information offered in the initial application, but does include names of additional individuals and groups which support the proposed change. In addition to the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, the new proposal states that the change is supported by “the American Indian Caucus of the Montana state legislature, comprised of Senators and Representatives from six of Montana’s seven reservations, including the Blackfeet Reservation (Sen. Carol Juneau and Rep. Shannon Augare), the Crow Reservation Sen. Gerald Pease and Rep. Veronica Small-Eastman), the Fort Peck Reservation (Sen. Frank Smith and Rep. Margaret Campbell), the Northern Cheyenne Reservation Rep.

Norma Bixby), the Flathead Reservation (Rep. Joey Jayne), and the Rocky Boy Reservation (Rep. Jonathan Windy Boy), as well as Rep. Douglas Cordier of Columbia Falls.”

Change Woodward Creek (FID 1528307) to Woodard Creek, Washington
(Columbia River Gorge Scenic Area)
(Undocketed)

Mouth: <http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=45.61944&lon=-122.01944&datum=nad83&u=5&layer=DRG&size=l&s=50>

Source: <http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=45.67932&lon=-122.06972&size=l&u=6&datum=nad83&layer=DRG>

This change was submitted by the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) Regional Geographic Names Coordinator, who in the course of revising the forest visitor map, determined that the name of Woodward Creek should in fact be spelled “Woodard.” There is no information to explain the origin of either name, but the Forest Service reports that local usage has long recognized the name as proposed. The Washington Board on Geographic Names concurs with the request.

A decision on this proposal was deferred at the June 2007, citing concerns that the existing spelling has been in longstanding published usage and that it appears in various legal documents published by State agencies. Further research confirms that both names are in fact used in county and State documents and that the road that runs alongside the stream is named Woodard Creek Road. The City of Stevenson also uses the spelling “Woodard.”

II. Disagreement on Docketed Names

Bessie Creek, Illinois
(Review List 393)

Mouth:

<http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?z=16&n=4669303&e=338884&datum=nad83&u=6>

Source: <http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=42.14826&lon=-89.01082&datum=nad83&u=6&layer=DRG25&size=l&s=50>

The new commemorative name Bessie Creek is proposed for an unnamed, 8 km (5 mi) long tributary of the South Branch Kishwaukee River in southern Winnebago County. The proponent, a resident of Rockford, suggests naming the stream would be an appropriate way to honor Bessie (Aavang) Worm (1917-1976), a lifetime resident of the area. Mrs. Worm and her family were active dairy farmers since the 1930's, and according to the proponent, “she and her husband were active in the county and state Farm Bureaus, the Dairyman's Association, FFA, 4H Clubs, and the local Grange. They actively promoted agriculture as a career for youth and acted as advocates and mentors for many young persons contemplating the farm way of life. Bessie was an accomplished piano player and yodeler and was featured regularly on the local Rockford radio station WROK. Her direct association with the community is not specifically in the immediate geographic community but rather in the specific demographic community, [the] farm community. Having promoted farming as a way of life all her life, encouraging young people to pursue that path, she would be proud that this creek runs through, actually originates on an old farm, now being run in part by

Bessie and Lawrence's great-grand children, returning an abandoned farm into a working farm once again to the delight of other local farmers.”

The Cherry Valley Township Trustees recommend approval of this name, while the Winnebago County Commissioners responded that they have no opinion on the issue. The Illinois Board on Geographic Names is in support of the proposal.

A copy of the proposal was sent to the following Federally-recognized Tribes: the Bay Mills Indian Community, the Citizen Potawatomi Nation, the Ho-Chunk Nation of Wisconsin, the Kickapoo Tribe of Indians, the Peoria Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma, the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians, the Sac and Fox Tribe of the Mississippi in Iowa, the Sac and Fox Nation of Missouri, and the Winnebago Tribal Council. Of these, two responses were received. The Sac and Fox Tribe of the Mississippi responded that they had no opinion on the issue, while the Sac and Fox Nation of Missouri stated they do not support the proposal. No reason was provided, so the BGN staff responded with a request for further explanation; no further details were forthcoming, so the staff indicated that if a response was not received prior to the July meeting, the BGN would proceed with a vote. The lack of response from the other Tribal organizations is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion on the issue.

IV. New Commemorative Names and Changes agreed to by all interested parties - none

V. Revised Decisions

Change English Bay (FID 1412986) to Nanwalek, Alaska
(Undocketed)

<http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=59.35639&lon=-151.92083&datum=nad83&u=5&layer=DRG50&size=l&s=63.360>

This name change was initiated as a result of an inquiry submitted to the USGS Geographic Names Office. The name English Bay is applied currently to a small unincorporated community in Kenai Peninsula Borough along the east shore of Cook Inlet. Although the name was made official by a decision of the BGN in 1952, the Names Office was advised by a representative of the Geophysical Institute of the University of Alaska that the community has since been renamed to Nanwalek. According to the community's website, "The village was originally the site of a Russian Trading Post called Alexandrovsk. It was later called "Odinochka," meaning "a person living in solitude." A Russian Orthodox Church was built in the community in 1870. In 1930, a replacement Church was constructed, and it is a designated national historic site. In 1991, locals changed the community name of English Bay to Nanwalek, meaning "place by [the] lagoon." Many of the current residents are of mixed Russian and Sugpiaq (Alutiiq) lineage. Villagers speak Sugtestun, a dialect of Eskimo similar to Yup'ik. A Federally recognized tribe is located in the community -- the Native Village of Nanwalek. 93.2% of the population are Alaska Native or part Native. Nanwalek is a traditional Alutiiq village." The Alaska Historical Commission, which serves as the State Names Authority, confirms that the Kenai Peninsula Borough uses the new name, and the State and the Bureau of the Census also concur with the change. The BIA Tribal

Leaders' Directory lists Nanwalek as the mailing address for the Village of Nanwalek, and the U.S. Post Office has confirmed that the name has been changed in its records also.

VI. New Names agreed to by all interested parties

Shingle Mill Peak, Utah
(Uinta National Forest)
(Review List 393)

<http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=40.2693&lon=-111.54017&datum=nad83&u=6&layer=DRG&size=l&s=50>

This proposal is to make official the name Shingle Mill Peak for a 3,258 m (10,690 ft) summit in Uinta National Forest, approximately 13 km (8 mi) east of the center of Provo. The proponent, a resident of nearby Orem, reports that the proposed name has been in local use for approximately 100 years, ever since a lumber mill was located there. A search of the Internet yielded several references to the name, including a Boy Scouts Association listing of Utah County peaks, and an entry at www.summitpost.org. The proponent notes also that Shingle Mill Canyon, Shingle Mill Hollow, and Shingle Mill Creek are located nearby.

The Utah County Commission is in support of the proposal, as is the Utah Committee on Geographic Names and the U.S. Forest Service. A copy of the proposal was sent to the Ute Indian Tribe of the Uintah and Ouray Reservation, a Federally-recognized Tribe, but no response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion on the issue. In addition to the three features in Utah County, GNIS lists 14 other geographic features in the State named "Shingle Mill," although none of them are summits.