

U.S. Board on Geographic Names
Domestic Names Committee
 Six Hundred Seventy-First Meeting
 Department of the Interior, Room 3004
 September 8, 2005, 9:30 a.m.

Members and Deputy Members in Attendance

Bob Bewley	Department of the Interior (Bureau of Land Management)
Chick Fagan (Chairman)	Department of the Interior (National Park Service) – not voting
Tony Gilbert	Government Printing Office
Robert Hiatt	Library of Congress
Betsy Kanalley	Department of Agriculture (Forest Service)
William Logan	Department of Homeland Security (U.S. Coast Guard)
Joseph Marinucci	Department of Commerce (Bureau of the Census)
Douglas Vandegraft	Department of the Interior (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)

Ex Officio

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

Lesley Levi	BGN Administrative Assistant
Lou Yost	
Jennifer Runyon	

Guests

Joan Steber	U.S. Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Region
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1. Opening

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the 671st meeting of the Domestic Names Committee (DNC). The Committee welcomed Joan Steber of the U.S. Forest Service from the Pacific Southwest Region.

2. Minutes of the 670th Meeting

The minutes were approved as written.

3. Communications and Reports

3.1 BGN Chairman's Report (Payne for Loy)

No report.

3.2 BGN Executive Secretary's Report (Payne)

Payne reported that the Pan-American Institute of Geography and History (PAIGH) Geographic Names Course took place August 22 to September 2, 2005, in Panama City, Panama. The course was a complete success.

The next meeting of the United Nations Group of Experts on Geographical Names (UNGEGN) is scheduled for late March and early April 2006 in Vienna, Austria.

Payne reported that the appointment letters for the forthcoming two-year term are at the Secretary of the Interior's office. The Secretary is awaiting clarification regarding information on some appointees before signing the letters. If they are not finalized by October 1, the current members will continue to serve in their present positions.

The next meeting of the full Board is scheduled for Tuesday, October 18th at the U.S. Geological Survey. At that meeting, the new Chair and Vice Chair will be selected; both of these positions must be filled by members, not deputy members.

3.3 Report of the Publicity Committee (Payne for Wood)

Payne noted that he was interviewed by the Salt Lake Tribune on the proposal that the Board has received to rename Chinamans Arch in Utah to Chinese Arch. The reporter also inquired about the status of other proposals pending in Utah and the fact that in the absence of an active State Names Authority, the Governor has become involved in names issues.

3.4 Executive Secretary's Report (Payne)

The August Domestic Names Committee meeting was cancelled due to scheduling conflicts.

The Geographic Names Office staff has been invited to attend and make a presentation on GNIS at the Pennsylvania Mapping Advisory Committee (PAMAP) in State College, Pennsylvania on September 29.

The Department of Homeland Security has been added to the rotation schedule indicating periods of service as chairperson of the Domestic Names Committee.

Payne was pleased to report that the DNC member from the Government Printing Office has completed his review of the *Principles, Policies, and Procedures* (PPP) document. There will be a report and recommendation after the staff has had an opportunity to review and analyze the comments.

Runyon informed the Committee that one of the likely topics of discussion at the forthcoming COGNA conference will be the question of whether the DNC ought to continue to process every proposal it receives (with the exception of commemorative names for living persons or names that are considered obviously derogatory). Several State Board representatives are expected to suggest that the DNC should reserve the right to reject a proposal if it is "obvious" that the name has little to no chance of approval, such as whimsical names or names that might be construed to be "self-serving," or where the proponent has not offered a sufficient rationale for the name. It was reiterated that the policy of the Board has always been and still is to allow every person and proposal due process; that is, the decision for or against approval should only be made after all interested parties have been provided an opportunity to comment. If a State Board elects not to consider a proposal, that will be noted in the case brief, but the DNC is still

obligated to consider the request. It is expected that this topic will generate a lively discussion at COGNA.

Hiatt posed a question regarding whether the entry in the Geographic Names Information System (GNIS) for the Alaskan populated place of Nunapitchuk was the same as the Federally-recognized Native Village of Nunapitchuk. The members were asked to investigate this issue and to forward any findings to the Committee.

3.5 BGN Staff Report (Yost)

The following is a statistical report of the BGN/DNC staff activities since the July 14 meeting:

20 cases written
 272 inquiries received and answered
 210 letters written (answered and initiated)
 414 e-mail messages

Quarterly Review List 390 is expected to be ready for release in the next few weeks. The BGN website has been updated to reflect the change in terminology from “Docket” to “Review List.”

3.6 GNIS and Data Compilation Program (Yost)

Yost informed the Committee that GNIS maintenance agreements have been signed with the State of Oregon and the State of Florida.

The Phase II extensive data compilation contract for the eastern portion of Kentucky has been awarded to Morehead University in Morehead, Kentucky.

An MOU is being analyzed and will likely be signed between USGS, the General Services Administration (GSA), and the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) regarding geographic location codes in FIPS 55. GSA and OPM will maintain their agency-specific data in GNIS using specially created GNIS maintenance forms.

3.7 Review of October DNC Meeting Agenda (Payne)

The draft agenda and handouts for next month’s DNC meeting were distributed for review.

Payne encouraged members to visit the new GNIS web page. He noted that the webpage has been completely redesigned, and the new GNIS query offers considerably more functions and options, as well as being extremely user-friendly.

4. Docket Review

Please refer to the attached Docket for a description of each proposal. **Please note:** The Chairman left the meeting early, and the remainder of the meeting was chaired by the member from the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, who chose not to vote.

I. Staff-Processed New Names, and Name and Application Changes agreed to by all interested parties – none.

II. Disagreement on Docketed Names

Change Upper Isabel Lake to Lake Confluentus, Montana (Glacier National Park) (Review List 388)

A motion was made and seconded **not** to approve the name change.

Vote: 6 in favor
0 against
0 abstentions

The negative votes were cast citing a reluctance to change a name in long-standing published usage.

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

Change Haines Creek to Haynes Creek, Florida (Review List 389)

A motion was made and seconded to approve the change.

Vote: 6 in favor
0 against
0 abstentions

Kirk Run, Maryland (Review List 388)

A motion was made and seconded **not** to approve the change.

Vote: 4 in favor
2 against
0 abstentions

The negative votes were cast citing a belief that the name did not satisfy the criteria of the Commemorative Names Policy. The members cited an apparent lack of evidence that the intended honorees had any long-term association with the feature, as well as a belief that the name could be construed to honor living persons. The two votes in favor of the name cited the support or lack of objection of the County government and the State Names Authority.

Alex Lowe Peak, Montana (Gallatin National Forest) (Review List 387)

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

Vote: 6 in favor
0 against
0 abstentions

Hardwater Rock, Utah (Bureau of Land Management) (Review List 388)

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

Vote: 6 in favor

0 against
0 abstentions

IV. **Revised Decisions** – none.

V. **New Names agreed to by all interested parties**

Resolute Cove, Alaska (Review List 389)

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

Vote: 6 in favor
0 against
0 abstentions

4.1 **Review of October Docket** (Runyon)

The October Docket for the DNC meeting at COGNA was reviewed and approved. The members were asked to forward any corrections or comments regarding the document to the staff.

5. **Location and Time of Next Meeting**

5.1 The next meeting of the Domestic Names Committee will take place at the Annual Conference of the Council of Geographic Names Authorities, on Wednesday, October 12, at 1 p.m., at the Hilton Hotel Executive Tower, Portland, Oregon.

5.2 The meeting was adjourned at 11:47 a.m.

(signed) *Roger L. Payne*

Roger L. Payne, Executive Secretary

APPROVED

(signed) Chick Fagan

Chick Fagan, Chairman
Domestic Names Committee

**U.S. BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES
DOMESTIC NAMES COMMITTEE**

DOCKET
September 2005

I. Staff-Processed New Names, and Name and Application Changes agreed to by all interested parties - none

II. Disagreement on Docketed Names

Change Upper Isabel Lake to Lake Confluentus, Montana
(Glacier National Park)
(Review List 388)

<http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?z=12&n=5365928&e=314496&s=50&size=l&u=2&layer=DRG25>

This proposal was originally submitted as a request to apply the new name Lake Confluentus to an unnamed lake. The lake is located within the wilderness area of Glacier National Park. The proposal was submitted by an employee of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service who reports that the 15-acre alpine lake needs a name “for identification purposes and for [the] presentation of scientific information.” He claims it is “quite possibly the only lake within the Columbia River drainage that sustains bull trout that has not been previously named.” The proposed name is of Latin origin, with *confluentus* meaning “flowing together.” *Salvelinus confluentus* is also the Latin name for the bull trout, a threatened species of fish that are found in this “remote and pristine” lake and which are likely to have existed for 10,000 years.

At the time the proposal was submitted, there was no listing for the lake in the Geographic Names Information System (GNIS). When asked to comment on the name Lake Confluentus, the National Park Service (NPS) indicated it did not recommend approval of the name, citing the restrictions of the Wilderness Naming Policy and an apparent lack of evidence that the lake needed an official name. The NPS also indicated that the “informal” name Upper Isabel Lake was “sufficient for its administration purposes” (the lake is just upstream from Lake Isabel), but the agency did not wish to submit a formal proposal for that name. The proponent attempted to solicit support from the Park’s management but was told the wilderness policy precluded approval of the name. There are no other geographic features in Montana known to be named “Confluentus.”

Subsequent research by the Geographic Names Office has determined that the name Upper Isabel Lake should be considered official for Federal use, and that name has been entered into GNIS. The name appears in both a U.S. Geological Survey listing of fish populations and in a conservation bulletin published in 1941 by the Department of the Interior.

The Montana State Board on Geographic Names contacted the Flathead County Commissioners regarding the proposal for Lake Confluentus and was advised the county supported the proposal. However, citing the NPS opposition and the restrictions of the Wilderness Policy, the State Board does not recommend approval. The State Board has been informed of the addition of Upper Isabel Lake to GNIS. A copy of the proposal was forwarded to the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Reservation and to the Blackfeet Tribe of the Blackfeet Indian Reservation of Montana, both of which are Federally-recognized, but no response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion on the issue.

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

Change Haines Creek to Haynes Creek, Florida
(Review List 389)

Mouth:<http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?z=17&n=3191909.57277723%20&e=426078.998808879&u=6&datum=nad83>

Source:<http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?z=17&n=3196126&e=419251&s=100&size=l&u=6&datum=nad83&layer=DRG100>

This proposal was submitted by the President of the Lake County Historical Society to change officially the spelling of the name Haines Creek to Haynes Creek. The stream is approximately 9.5 km (5.9 mi) long and connects Lake Griffin and Lake Eustis. The existing name has appeared on U.S. Geological Survey topographic maps since 1965, but all evidence suggests the stream was named for Captain Melton Haynes (d. 1883), widely regarded as one of Lake County's most prominent early citizens. Haynes' biography describes him as "a statesmen, civil engineer, surveyor, distinguished citizen, citrus industry pioneer, and Civil War cavalry officer, who commanded the 5th Battalion, Company H, attached to the command of Florida's famous "Swamp Fox", Captain J.J. Dickison."

Shortly after his arrival in the area in 1845, Capt. Haynes homesteaded on property along the stream in question, and the house he constructed in 1871 is still standing. He was commissioned as a militia captain in 1849, and in 1854, was elected to serve in the Florida House of Representatives. Following his Civil War service, Haynes became a State Senator. According to the proponent, "his many business adventures included citrus groves, a general store, post office, dredging, real estate, surveying for the county, and a large shipping depot at Lake Griffin and Haynes Creek." He also introduced the "sweet orange" to the region. When Capt. Haynes died in 1883, his funeral was reported to be the largest ever seen in South Florida.

The proponent included with his proposal letters of support for the change from Haines Creek to Haynes Creek from the Lake County Board of Commissioners; the Lake County Water Authority; the mayors of the cities of Tavares, Leesburg, Eustis, and Mount Dora; Florida Senator Carey Baker; the Superintendent of Lake County Schools; the Lake County Sheriff; the Lake County Department of Growth Management; the Lake County Historical Museum; Historic Mount Dora; the Leesburg Heritage Museum; the Rotary Club of Tavares;

the Rotary Club of Leesburg; the Leesburg Heritage Society; the Tavares Historical Museum; Leesburg Lodge No. 58 and Umatilla Lodge No. 65 (Capt. Haynes served as the first master of both lodges when they opened in 1868 and 1873, respectively); and numerous descendants of Melton Haynes. Several other local genealogical and historical organizations in the area submitted petitions in support of the change. The name Haynes Creek was listed in an EPA listing of Lake County waterbodies, and was also mentioned in two histories of Lake County published in 1929 and 1994. Another volume, *About Some Lakes and More in Lake County* (Sime, 1995), included a reference to Haines Creek, but suggested the name was derived from that of Melton Haynes. The Florida Board on Geographic Names, citing the overwhelming historical evidence and the widespread local support, recommends approval of the change to Haynes Creek. A copy of the proposal was forwarded to the Seminole Indian Tribe of Florida, which is Federally-recognized, but no response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion on the issue.

Kirk Run, Maryland

(Review List 388)

Mouth:<http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?latd=39&latm=39&lats=25&lond=78&lonm=48&lons=47&datum=NAD83&u=6>

Source:<http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?z=17&n=4391679&e=684350&s=50&size=1&u=6&datum=nad83&layer=DRG25>

This proposal would apply the new commemorative name Kirk Run to an unnamed, 3.7 km (2.3 mi) long stream in western Allegany County. It was submitted by the Field Office Chief for the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) Water Resources Division office in Frostburg, on behalf of a resident of Cumberland. The stream in question flows from the east side of Piney Mountain, and enters an unnamed tributary of Braddock Run approximately 4 km (2.5 mi) west of Cumberland.

The proponent has asked that the stream be named in honor of his two children, Robert Kirk, III, and Susan Lorraine Kirk, both of whom were lifetime residents of the area and who both died as youngsters of cystic fibrosis. Robert died in 1983 at the age of 19, while Susan died in 1975, just before her tenth birthday. Following the deaths of each of his children, Mr. Kirk, who since 1971 has been the basketball coach at Allegany Community College, helped establish an endowment that awards athletic scholarships in their memory. The proponent added that numerous members of the Kirk family have lived along the unnamed stream for “nearly half a century, caring for it, preserving it and enjoying its natural attributes.”

The proposal was submitted originally as Kirk Creek and was placed on the Board’s Review List as such. The County Council of Allegany County, when asked to comment on the proposal, responded that while it had no objections to the effort to honor Robert and Susan Kirk, it would prefer that the generic term “Run” be used, suggesting it was more appropriate to the local topography and consistent with other names in the area. The proponent was informed of this suggestion and agreed to amend his proposal. The Maryland State Names Authority has no objection to the name. There are no Federally-recognized tribes with a current or historical interest in the area.

Alex Lowe Peak, Montana
(Gallatin National Forest/Wilderness Study Area)
(Review List 387)

<http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=45.42722222222222&lon=-111.01444444444444&datum=nad83&u=6>

This proposal, to name an unnamed summit in Gallatin National Forest, Alex Lowe Peak, was submitted by a columnist for an outdoors magazine in Bozeman. The summit in question has an elevation of 3,057 m (10,031 ft), and lies in eastern Gallatin County, 1.7 km (1.1 mi) south-southwest of Mount Blackmore and 28 km (17 mi) south of Bozeman.

The proposed name would honor Stewart Alexander “Alex” Lowe (1958-1999), a renowned rock and ice climber, backcountry skier, and mountaineer. A statement on the Alex Lowe Charitable Foundation website (<http://www.alexlowe.org/>) reads: “Widely recognized as one of the world’s strongest, experienced and most able climbers, climber Alex Lowe was killed in an avalanche on Tibet’s Shishipagma on October 5, 1999. He had succeeded on difficult alpine climbs all over the world, including new routes on Nepal’s Kwangde and Kusum Kanguru, and had twice summited Mount Everest.” The website also describes Lowe’s dedication and passion for the mountains of Montana, and states, “Alex was also legendary among climbers for his positive attitude and his willingness to help other climbers while in need. He was a respected member of the Bozeman, Montana community where [he] lived.” In the 1980’s, Lowe and a companion climbed the summit now proposed to be named in his honor and also skied down the north-facing slope, considered a unique accomplishment (*Select Peaks of the Greater Yellowstone*; Turiano, 2003). Lowe also made the first solo ascent of the north face of Wyoming’s Grand Teton, and made numerous first ascents in Antarctica. In 2004, plans were underway to open a training school in the Himalayas in Alex Lowe’s memory; at the school, Sherpas are to be taught Western high-altitude mountaineering skills.

The County Commissioners of Gallatin County and the Mayor of the City of Bozeman have expressed support for the proposal for Alex Lowe Peak, as have the Headwaters Group of the Sierra Club, the Alex Lowe Charitable Foundation, and several individuals. The proponent has asked that the honoree’s full name be used, because it is “short and euphonious,” “to make the referent person unmistakable,” and to avoid possible confusion with nearby Lone Mountain or Lowe Peak in Utah.

The Montana State Board on Geographic Names and the U.S. Forest Service have both expressed support for the new name. However, the Crow Tribe of Montana, a Federally-recognized tribe, responded that they would require additional time to research the issue as the area is of historical significance to the Apsaalooke (Crow) Nation. The Board’s staff responded that a vote would be deferred until the September 8th meeting to allow the Tribe time to determine whether the summit might have an indigenous name. The proponent tried on several occasions to schedule a meeting with the Tribe to present his proposal, but did not receive a response. He also has requested that if possible a vote be taken prior to the end of

September, that is, the close of the climbing season, so that if the name is approved, the Lowe family and friends can schedule a climb to the summit. The Tribe was advised that if no response was received by September 2, the Board would presume they had not located another name for the feature and would proceed with a vote on Alex Lowe Peak.

Hardwater Rock, Utah
(Bureau of Land Management)
(Review List 388)

<http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?latd=38&latm=23&lats=47&lond=109&lonm=27&lons=06&datum=NAD27&u=2>

This proposal was submitted by the Utah State Geographic Names Committee, on behalf of a resident of Layton who wishes to make official the name Hardwater Rock for a rock formation located along the west side of State Highway 191, opposite Kane Springs, and 21 km (13 mi) south-southeast of Moab. The area is administered by the Bureau of Land Management.

The proponent reports that for many years local residents have commented that the shape of the feature bears a strong resemblance to the face of her uncle, Arthur Ray “Hardwater” Knight (1924-1998). Mr. Knight was a lifetime resident of the area, having been born in Moab, where he was employed as a truck driver. For many years, he hauled uranium ore from the area’s mines to mills nearby, and during this time, would pass by this rock formation several times a day. Later, he used his trucks to haul sand and gravel, and he also worked as a mechanic for other truckers. The proponent reports that the family has several theories regarding the origin of his nickname “Hardwater,” including the fact that as a youngster Arthur would spend many hours with a man who drove the team of horses that pulled the ice (“hardwater”) wagon. Another long-time friend of the family claims it came about because the youngster traveled into town one day unwashed after a day at the family’s coal mine, and when asked why he hadn’t cleaned himself up, responded that the water at the mine was too hard to wash in. For years, Arthur wore a cap bearing the Hardwater Castile Soap logo. The proponent reports that her uncle was a well-known and well-liked member of the community. Fifteen area residents signed a petition indicating they were familiar with the name Hardwater Rock and were in support of the proposal. The San Juan County Commissioners also submitted a letter in favor of the name. The Utah State Geographic Names Committee has been temporarily abolished, so the Governor of Utah was asked to provide input on the proposal on behalf of the State. The Governor’s office recommends approval of the name. The Bureau of Land Management also supports the proposal. A copy of the proposal was sent to the Ute Tribe of 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. There are no other geographic features in Utah known to be named “Hardwater.”

IV. Revised Decisions – none.

V. New Names agreed to by all interested parties

Resolute Cove, Alaska
(Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge)
(Review List 389)

<http://www.topozone.com/map.asp?lat=60.0313888888889&lon=-149.0447222222222&u=2>

This proposal was submitted by the Alaska Historical Commission, which serves as the State Geographic Names Authority, on behalf of a resident of Seward, who would like the Board to make official the name Resolute Cove for a small bay located at the north end of Day Harbor. The proponent reports that after he moved to the area in the early 1970's, he learned that in order to survive the daily challenges of living in such a remote place, the local people must have a resolute character. He claims the proposed name has come into local use over the past few years. The bay lies within the boundaries of the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge and adjacent to the Chugach National Forest.

The Historical Commission, as part of its research, contacted the government of Kenai Peninsula Borough and several local historical societies, as well as the Chugach Heritage Foundation and the Qutekcak Native Tribe, both of which represent the area's Alaska Native communities. Of these, only the Resurrection Bay Historical Society responded, with a letter in support of the name. Citing the apparent lack of objection, the Historical Commission recommends approval of the proposal. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the U.S. Forest Service have both also expressed support for the name. There are no other geographic features in Alaska known to be named "Resolute."