

WASHINGTON STATE
Geographic Name Application



Dec. 17, 2023
WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF
Natural Resources

Spirit Mountain (Wenatchee)

Proposed Name: whatever the Wenatchee Tribe wishes New Name
County: Chelan Controversial Name
Township: 28 N Range: 16 E Section(s): 14, 15 Name Change
Lat. _____ N, Long. _____ W (Begin) Location Clarification
Lat. _____ N, Long. _____ W (End) Spelling Clarification

Description

Type of feature (lake, stream, etc.): Mountain; currently named "CROOK Mountain"
Description of feature (location, length, depth, height, size and/or area covered): The mountain is in the Wenatchee National Forest in Chelan County in Washington State and is 6,930' in height

If a stream, number of months it flows on a yearly basis: _____
Is this feature identified by other names or spellings? Please list variant names: It is currently referred to as "CROOK Mountain"
Has it ever been signed, posted, or publicized? If so, when? Not to my knowledge

History

Please provide a brief history of the feature and its immediate surroundings, this might include information on the following: 1 Native American; 2 First settlers; 3 Historical background pertinent to feature; 4 History on how the land is/was used; 5 Natural disasters (floods, fires, etc.) 6 Any significant cultural events. If appropriate, geology, flora and fauna. Cite sources. Use additional pages if needed.
Origin of name: It was originally called "GOAT MOUNTAIN" but in the late 1930's it was changed to "CROOK Mountain" to honor General George Crook, who, during the 1858 Yakima War, massacred and slaughtered a friendly tribe of Wenatchee Indians (However, he was not the person who committed the act)
If a commemorative name, provide a brief summary of the ENTIRE life of the person including how and the length of time he/she associated with the proposed feature: _____

Justification of Proposed Name

What is the usage of feature? It is a mountain in the Wenatchee National Forest which overlooks the area of the massacre to its south on the White River drainage (see map)

Please state why the proposed name will best serve the public interest: It is to Commemorate and honor those friendly Wenatchi Indians and the tribe itself who were killed in the attack.

How long has the proposed name been in use? By whom? The proposed name should be proposed by the Wenatchi tribe.

Please list all sources of information used for your research: (maps, books, articles, periodicals, etc. for background history relating to proposed name) Please refer to the data enclosed, map, and letters pertaining to the original name changes in 1938 - 1940 at the Wenatchee National Forest office in Wenatchee, WA.

What type of support is there for the proposed name?

List all groups and persons who are familiar with the proposed feature and its usage. Please provide names, addresses, telephone numbers, email addresses and his/her association with knowledge of the geographic feature:

I have contacted the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation namely the Wenatchi Tribe for their involvement.

ALSO PLEASE SEE: The 1858 Yakama WAR... Fort Simco's Story of the 9th U.S. Army's defeat and their Western Prong Attack Campaign. By Steve Plucker Capters 9 and 10

Application submitted by:

Name: Steve Charles Plucker
Address: 9020 Lyons Ferry Rd City: Prescott State: WA Zip: 99348
Phone #: 509-746-2211 Email: PIF@Bmi.net Date of Application: Dec. 17, 23

I am aware that all information submitted is considered to be public information.

Printed Name: Steve Charles Plucker
Signature: Steve Charles Plucker Date: Dec. 17, 2023

Please mail completed form along with copies of any additional materials to:

WA State Board on Geographic Names

PO Box 47030

Olympia, WA 98504-7030

Phone: 360-902-1280 - Fax: 360-902-1778 - Email: bogn@dnr.wa.gov

Domestic Geographic Name Report

1. Use this form to recommend a feature name or to suggest a name change.
2. For features on Federal lands, coordinate requests with the agency (U.S. Forest Service, National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, etc.) for the administrative area in which the feature is located.

3. On the reverse side of this form give information on the local usage and authority for recommended name.
4. For more information about the Geographic Names Information System or the National Gazetteer program, contact the U.S. Board on Geographic Names at 703-648-4552.

5. Return this form to:
Executive Secretary for Domestic Geographic Names
U.S. Geological Survey
12201 Sunrise Valley Drive
Reston, VA 20191-0523

Action Requested: Proposed New Name Application Change Name Change Other	Recommended Name	RETURN TO ORIGINAL NAME OF "GOAT MOUNTAIN" OR PREFERRED NAME BY WENATCHEE INDIAN T.
	State	WASHINGTON
	County or Equivalent	CHELAN COUNTY
	Administrative Area	WENATCHEE NATIONAL FOREST

Specific Area Covered:

Latitude: ___° ___' ___" N S Longitude: ___° ___' ___" W E Mouth End Center
 Latitude: ___° ___' ___" N S Longitude: ___° ___' ___" W E Heading End
 Section(s) 14, 15 Township(s) 28 N Range(s) 16 E Meridian _____ Elevation 6930 ft ft/m.

Type of Feature (stream, mountain, populated place, etc.): MOUNTAIN

Is the feature identified (including other names) in the Geographic Names Information System (GNIS)?
 Yes No **Unknown** If yes, please indicate how it is listed: MAYBE AS CROOK MOUNTAIN

Description of Feature (physical shape, length, width, direction of flow, etc.): MOUNTAIN WHICH IS 6930 ft high

Maps and Other Sources Using Recommended Name (include scale and date)	Other Names (variants)	Maps and Other Sources Using Other Names or Applications (include scale and date)
DeLorme; 1 inch = 2.5 miles	INCLUDED	IN THIS REPORT

Name Information (such as origin, meaning of the recommended name, historical significance, biographical data (if commemorative), nature of usage or application, or any other pertinent information):
HISTORICAL INFORMATION AND DATA AND MAP INCLUDED

Is the recommended name in local usage? Yes **No** If yes, for approximately how many years? _____
IT WAS UP TO 1940

Is there local opposition to, or conflict, with the recommended name?

Yes

No

(If yes, explain)

NOT TO MY KNOWLEDGE

For proposed new name, please provide evidence that feature is unnamed:

FEATURE IS CURRENTLY NAMED "CROOK MOUNTAIN"

Additional information:

HAVE INCLUDED RESEARCH ARTICLE AND DATA:
"CROOK AND McCALL MOUNTAINS IN NW CHELAN COUNTY WRONGLY NAMED" BY STEVE PLUCKER
~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

Copy Submitted By (name): STEVE PLUCKER	Title	Telephone (day) 509 749-2211	Date Dec. 17, 2023
Company or Agency	Address (City, State, and ZIPCode) 9020 LYONS FERRY ROAD PRESCOTT, WA 99348		
Copy Prepared By (if other than above):	Title	Phone (day)	Date
Company or Agency	Address (City, State, and ZIPCode)		

Authority for Recommended Name	Mailing Address and Telephone	Occupation	Years in Area

#1

Dec 17, 2023

The U.S. Board on Geographic Names (BGN) is responsible for standardizing the names of geographic features within the 50 States and in other areas under the sovereignty of the United States. The BGN retains the legal authority to promulgate all official names and locations of natural features (e.g. mountains, rivers, valleys), as well as canals, channels, reservoirs, and other select feature types.

This form is to propose a new name or name, spelling, or application change for a geographic feature for Federal use. A proponent should carefully review the proposal prior to submission to ensure that it is consistent with the . Please note all fields with a red outline are required prior to submitting this form.

The proponent should also be aware that the entire proposal—including personal identifying information and any associated correspondence—is in the public domain and may be made publicly available at any time.

- Submit Proposal: 1. Download and email this form and supporting documentation to: OR 2. Send by mail to:
 U.S. BGN Executive Secretary, Domestic Names
 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, MS-523
 Reston, VA 20192
- Contact Us: i. Save PDF using this format: 'State_GeographicNameProposed'
 ii. Email Subject: ST_GeographicName *Please note that anything submitted by mail will be delayed.*

Proposed Name: *Any name that the Wenatchi Indian Tribe of the Colville Indian Reservation wishes to rename the two peaks in question namely "CROOK" and "McCALL" Mountain*

Is this to change an existing name? Y N

Is this name in current local use? Y N

What is the Feature Type? GNIS Name:

Please Select One GNIS ID: *eastern*

Mountain Peaks in the northern part of the Cascade Range in Washington State U.S.A

Where is the feature?
 Section *14, 15*
 Latitude: *T 28 N*
 Longitude: *R 16 E* } *CROOK MT*

General Location:
 State: *WASHINGTON*
 County: *Chelan*
 City/Town/
 Township/
 Borough:

For Linear Features (e.g. stream or valley):
 Mouth/Confluence
 Latitude: *Sec 23*
 Longitude: *T 28 N*
 Source/Headwater: *R 16 E* } *McCALL MT.*

Public Land Survey System:
T 28 N
R 16 E } *CROOK MT*
Sec 14, 15
Sec 23 } *McCALL MT*

Latitude:
Longitude:

MAPS

ENCLOSED #2

Name information.

How long has it been in current use, current historical significance, why it requires a name change and why proposed name is appropriate, Documents to support proposal.

This information is included in this submission. #3

Please provide a list of supporting documentation, including any web links:

- ① The 1858 Yakama War... Fort Simcoe's Story of the 9th U.S. Army Infantry and their Western Prong Attack Campaign. By Steve C. Plucher
Chapters 9 and 10.

Name

? Does the name honor or refer to a person or persons? Y N

They will honor those friendly Wenatchi (Wenatchee) Indians who were massacred during the 1858 Yakama War.

Honoree's Date of Birth:

Honoree's Date of Death:

Short biography and significance or association with the geographic feature:

Two mountain peaks in the Chiewisawa Ridge area of the Wenatchee National Forest in Chelan County in Washington State U.S.A.

Namely Crook mt. (6930') and McColl mt. (5765'). Please change these names to any name that commemorates and honors the Wenatchi Indian Tribe that they prefer.

Is the feature in a Wilderness Area or Wilderness Study Area? Y N Unknown

a name you are proposing intended to honor Native Americans, their language, or culture? Y N

Let the Wenatchi Tribe rename those two mountain peaks, "CROOK" and "McCALL" to names that honor this tribe.

Is there any local opposition or conflict with the proposed name? Y N

NOT AT THIS TIME that I know of.

Additional notes, including any Tribal input details

Have submitted some information to the Colville Indian Reservation in Washington State U.S.A.

 Proponent's Name: **STEVE PLUCKER**

Agency or Organization, if applicable:

NONE

 Email: **PIF@Bmi.net**

 Mailing Address: **9020 LYONS FERRY RD.
PRESCOTT, WA 99348**

 Phone: **509-749-2211**

 Are you completing this form for someone else?

Y N

Completed by:

Full Name:

Email:

Mailing Address:

Phone:

Crook and McCall Mountains In NW Chelan County Wrongfully Named by Steve C. Plucker Walla Walla, Washington

**Revision #9
December 13, 2023**

In northwest Chelan County in Washington State there are two mountains, namely Crook Mountain (original name Goat Mountain...Re-named on April 10, 1940) and McCall Mountain (original name Huckleberry Mountain...Re-named on April 10, 1940). These two mountains, within the Wenatchee National Forest, were wrongfully re-named by the United States Department of the Interior, Office of the Secretary, Board on Geographical Names, Washington D. C. on April 10, 1940.

The question then is this...Why were they wrongfully re-named.

So here is the history of the re-naming of these two mountains.

It all started in 1858 in the midst of the 1858 Yakama War when the hostilities of the areas tribes and the United States Army escalated. Colonel George Wright was involved in the Eastern prong attack force (east of the Columbia River) out of Fort Walla Walla; and Major Robert Garnett was involved in the Western prong attack force (west of the Columbia River) out of Fort Simcoe, Washington Territory in which this article is about.

Major Garnett left Fort Simcoe on August 10, 1858 with a fighting force of about 300 U. S. Army Infantry troops consisting of Companies C, G, and I of the 9th U. S. Army Infantry and Company D of the 4th U. S. Army Infantry.

Once the command reached the Yakima River in the vicinity of present day Ellensburg, Washington on August 14, 1858, Major Garnett was informed by his Indian guides that some of the murderers of the miners and Agent Bolon were in a camp of friendly Indians further up the Yakima. Lieutenant Jessie Allen, along with 15 troops, then set out to find the camp, which may have been up the Teanaway River, in an attempt to surprise and capture some of the hostiles. About 3:00 AM the Indians discovered the approach and the troops charged and

surrounded the village. In doing so, Lieutenant Allen was shot and killed by mistake by some of his men.

Five of the men who were believed to have been part of the attack on the miners last April, were then tied to trees and shot. One of the men somehow survived his wounds and was later rescued by other Indians in the area.

Lieutenant Allen's body was then taken back to Fort Simcoe by his friend and Captain, Captain Frazer, who later returned to the command on August 21, 1858.

After an exploration up around Lake Cle Elum, the troops then headed towards the Wenatchee River by going up Swauk Creek then going through Swauk Pass thus reaching the Wenatchee River on August 20, 1858, in the vicinity of present-day Cashmere, Washington and made camp for the next 10 days.

It was soon discovered by Major Garnett's Indian guides that some of the hostiles were in a camp up the Wenatchee River. So on August 21, 1858, just before dusk, he dispatched Lieutenant George Crook, Lieutenant Thomas E. Turner and Lieutenant James K. McCall, all of the 4th U. S. Army Infantry, along with 60 troops of the command and the Indian guides, to go up the Wenatchee River (Chumstick Creek) to search for the reported Indian camp where 8 to 10 of the hostile Indians were camped with a friendly camp of Wenatchi Indians who were fishing and collecting berries.

In the afternoon of August 22, 1858, Crook's command finally reached the area near the Indian camp. Here they met some of the Indians of the Wenatchi tribe who told Crook and his command that the hostiles were actually in their camp. Crook wanted to attack the camp but devised a plan with the friendlies in capturing the hostiles the next day. So the command went into camp to wait the next morning.

About 10:00 AM the following day, August 23, 1858, the plan succeeded in the capture of four (4) of the hostiles. These men were thus hung and shot according to Major Garnett's orders. One of the men survived his wounds and lived to a good old age. However of the bunch that were in camp, three escaped to the north.

Crook and his command then returned to the main camp on August 24, 1858.

(The above account is from Crook's own autobiography and makes no mention of a "battle" or even wiping out an entire village of friendly Wenatchi Indians).

According to the U. S. Army records, Major Garnett wrote of Lieutenant Crook's "scout", as they termed it, in his report on August 30, 1858: **"On the following day (August 21, 1858) I dispatched a party of sixty men under Lieutenant Crook, 4th Infantry with Lieutenants McCall and Turner of the same Regiment to follow up the principal branch (Chumstick Creek) of this stream (Wenatchee River) into the mountains where it was understood some eight or ten hostile Indians were secreted. On the third day out (August 23, 1858), this party through the instrumentality of the friendly Chief Skinarwan and some of his people, succeeded in entrapping five of these men. They were shot in compliance with my orders, some incorrect information as to the locality of the remaining hostiles and a shortness of rations compelled this party to return (August 24, 1858)".**

According to some research by Mr. A. H. Sylvester, a retired Supervisor for the Wenatchee Forest Service in 1940, he indicated the following: "I have since identified this place as a point on the Wenatchee River (a famous fishing place) near the present crossing of the river below the town of Plain (Washington) by the Great Northern Railroad". (See Map) This railroad crossing is today's Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad bridge.

If this is true, then this puts Lieutenant's Crook, Turner, McCall and their command, no where near the mountains that Crook and McCall are named for (See Map). As a matter of fact, the mountains are about 16 miles north and west of the bridge and to go that much more distant, taking into the fact of the terrain, there is no way they could have gone that far in the amount of time that they had.

On August 25, 1858, Major Garnett ordered Captain Frazer, Lieutenant Camp, along with 60 fresh troops of Company C of the 9th U. S. Army Infantry, to go after the remaining hostiles who escaped to the north.

Now comes one of the biggest mysteries of Pacific Northwest history what is called "The White River Indian Massacre".

This is not to be confused with the White River Massacre which happened on the White River west of the Cascade Mountains in October 1855 concerning the massacre of whites by the Indians, but on the White River flowing into Lake Wenatchee on the east side of the Cascade Mountains where it concerned the massacre of Indians by the whites.

The story goes, and I say "story" because there is no known written account to date that has surfaced, no diaries by the white participants nor any positive archeological evidence to tell us so, none what-so-ever, except the sighting of graves in the area. Again, the only account of this expedition, or "scout", of Captain Frazer's was what Major Garnett wrote about on August 30, 1858 and the story's of the event which have been passed down by Native Americans over the years.

As the story goes, *in short*, Captain Frazer and his "scout" left the command on August 25, 1858 to track down the remaining hostiles. Up Chumstick Creek they went to the mouth of the Chiwawa River (**See Map**). From there, the army went up that river. At the time there was a camp of Indians at Chikamin Flats at the mouth of Chikamin Creek. Hearing of the approaching Army command, half of the Indians decided to move up the Chiwawa River and into the headwaters of the Raging Creek Canyon and the other half apparently moved over the Chiwawa Ridge, thus passing today's Crook and McCall Mountains, and down into the White River Canyon.

The army continued to follow the Indians into this wilderness. Some accounts say that the army split up accordingly to follow both groups. Those Indians who were in the Raging Creek basin soon came to a fifty-foot deep gorge. Knowing that they were trapped, they felled trees across the gorge, crossed, and escaped to the other side thus destroying the "bridge" before the troops arrived.

Missing out there, (some say there was a battle, some say there was not and according to the U. S. Army records...there was no "battle" recorded within their records) the troops then went after those Indians who went towards the White River.

The Indian story of the event, that has been passed down over the years is this by Moses George January 30, 1975:

"I am one of the few survivors with knowledge of the White River Indian Massacre. My recollections of this event brings me back in time to my days as a youngster when I first listened to my elders telling me...I also heard these unvarying descriptions when I was an adult".

"It was our privilege to listen to the descriptions given us in the Wenatchi Indian language of this infamous event".

"These Indians, comprising of approximately 10 teepees, possibly 60-75 individuals, adults and children".

"The elders were busy gathering berries, nuts, fish and medicinal herbs, storing for winter use. At all events, this tribal faction was totally unaware of any wars, troubles or malfeasance as committed by Yakamas".

*"The day was horrible when the soldiers surrounded the encampment and ordered the males to line up and be shot down totally, some were hung, and to complete the decimation women and children then shot or **slashed to death with sabers**".*

"The only survivors were a few lads (William Harmelt) tending horses a short distance from camp".

The boys "hid and fled after the soldiers left the area. These boys were the only survivors and what they saw was handed down through generations. This encampment was a Wenatchi logistical clan and not Yakamas, therefore they were not fleeing as the Yakamas were".

"There were no burials by the soldiers...another group of Indians found the site and only a few of the skeletons were evident...they prayed and left the area untouched. They did not return".

Another account of the event was by Joe Atkins, June 8, 1976:

"When...William Harmelt was a boy, about 9 years old, he belonged to a small band of Wenatchi Indians which lived near Lake Wenatchee".

"One summer the whole band went up to White River Valley to gather berries, roots, and medicinal herbs. They put up their tule-mat covered tepees to stay awhile".

"William was looking after horses on a nearby hill. While he was up there, he saw white soldiers on horseback come where the people were camped. As William watched, he saw the soldiers shoot all the Wenatchi Indian men. They also killed (shot) the Yakama Indian who was with the Wenatchee's".

"The Yakama Indian, knew about the trouble and fighting in Yakima, and he was hiding among the Wenatchi Indians without telling them why he was there. The Lake Wenatchee Indians were innocent. They knew nothing about the Indian trouble at Yakima".

"After the white soldiers shot and killed all of the Indian men, they killed all the women and children too, even though some of the Indian women tried to fight back".

"While William watched, all of William Harmelt's band of Wenatchi Indians, men, women, and children, were wiped out completely".

"After the white soldiers were gone, William Harmelt followed down the Wenatchee River. When he came to (present day) Cashmere, the Indians living there took him in and raised him. They were Wenatchi Indians too. When he was a grown young man, they made him their chief".

Once this was done, the troops headed back to the main command thus reaching the camp on August 29, 1858 without any of the hostiles.

According to the U. S. Army records, Major Garnett wrote of Captain Frazer's "scout", as they termed it, in his report on August 30, 1858: **"I put another party of 60 men under Captain Frazier (Frazer) and Lieutenant Camp, 9th Infantry, to hunt up these remaining men (August 25, 1858). After clambering over mountain trails the difficulties of which only can be conceived by one acquainted with this region of the country, this party came upon the hiding place of these fugitives (at Chikamin Flats at the mouth of Chikamin Creek), but only a few hours after they had been warned and taken flight. They were followed through the mountains with great labor for two days but on the third day their trail was lost and could not be recovered. This party returned yesterday (August 29, 1858)".** Said and done...but was it?

As the years went by, Andrew J. Splawn wrote a book called "Ka-mi-akin: The Last Hero of the Yakimas". This was about the history of the Yakima and Kittitas Valley's and the surrounding area including the major events concerning the development of the valley, the white population, the U. S. Army and the Indians in warfare. Mr. Splawn passed away in 1917 so any information that was included in the book was before 1917. Not one mention of The White River Indian Massacre in the book.

Other "white" thoughts about the attack, for which the "Frazer scout" is about, have occurred over the years by Mr. A. H. Sylvester, and Mr. John Ware. But their accounts added nothing more

It was also reported that the Wenatchi Indian men, women and children, who were supposedly massacred on the White River, were all killed by not only shooting, but by the slashing to death with sabers. This brings up a fact. Before Major Garnett left Fort Simcoe and according to Post Orders No. 17, August 5, 1858, Rule # 12, it stated that ***"The Companies of the 9th Infantry will leave behind their sword bayonets and scabbards. All officers will provide themselves with rifles, and if possible, with revolvers. They will dispense with swords"***. So if this is true, there were no sword bayonets or even sword's taken on the expedition. Did that apply to 4th U. S.? That is unknown, but it was not the 4th U. S. that supposedly went up into this area, but it was the 9th U. S. Also if this is true, then where is the archeological data to prove the point of the slashing to death with sabers?

However, on the other hand, maybe the 9th did take them ("sabers") when they may have suddenly remembered (at Fort Simcoe) what had happened to Colonel Steptoe's command and his defeat, near present day Rosalia, just a few months before in May 1858... "Oh my God for a Saber" was what some in his command had said!

Taking into consideration of all of the above, very few books about Pacific Northwest History have even mentioned this mysterious massacre by the U. S. Army. One book which comes to mind is "The Wenatchi Indians: Guardians of the Valley" by Richard D. Scheuerman...but was it that group of U. S. Army troops that did the deed? Could it not have been another group of men such as the Oregon or Washington Mounted Volunteers, who were also in the country, who did the deed in another year? A possibility. It could have also been a "pay-back" to what had happened on the White River on the west side of the Cascade Mountains in October 1855.

Also to, since this was Captain Frazer's "scout", he very well could have been disturbed over the death of his friend Lieutenant Jessie Allen. Did Captain Frazer inform Major Garnett of the possibility that they may have killed innocent Indians up the White River? Possibly. But if so, no record of that fact has ever been found and since it has never been found, it may very well have been a cover-up by the U. S. Army at the time.

If in fact it was the U. S. Army, then it was a major cover-up by the Army for whom massacred an entire group of friendly Wenatchee Indians.

Unfortunately, there are still many unanswered questions that may never be truly answered about this incident. No known written reports, diaries or letters are known to support the massacre of these innocent people.

Now, the two mountains in question, Crook (Goat) Mountain and McCall (Huckleberry) Mountain.

Up to the late 1930's Crook Mountain was called Goat Mountain and McCall Mountain was called Huckleberry Mountain. Both in the Raging Creek Drainage of the Wenatchee National Forest.

On November 30, 1938, Mr. Gilbert D. Brown wanted to change the names of these mountains to commemorate Crook and McCall, who later became Generals themselves in the U. S. Army, because "they pursued Indians in the Raging Creek Drainage and that a battle was fought on Raging Creek between the Indians and Soldiers". That was the reason for the name change. ***There was no "battle"...It was a "slaughter" of innocent Wenatchi Indians who had nothing to do with the 1858 Yakama War.***

This recommendation was then "submitted to the chief" of the U. S. Board on Geographical Names for submission on February 13, 1939 and February 16, 1939.

On February 23, 1939 a letter from Mr. Gilbert D. Brown was sent to the Regional Forester in Portland, Oregon to correct the spelling of Crook and McCall as they were not spelled correctly in the initial communication.

On May 22, 1939, the names, along with other names being submitted for change, were finally officially submitted to the U. S. Board on Geographical Names by James Frankland, Assistant Regional Forester, Division of Engineering.

On July 17, 1939, it was reported that "The Regional Forester at Portland (Mr. E. E. Carter) has submitted recommendations for decisions on 13 features in the Wenatchee National Forest, Washington" for name changes. Of the 13 mentioned, numbers 11 and 12 were for McCall (Huckleberry) Mountain and Crook (Goat) Mountain.

It was also interesting to note the following statement: ***"Those in a position to know the history of the country agree that the name(s) should be changed to McCall (and Crook). Local sentiment, in general, favor this change. This recommendation is made to commemorate General McCall, who, with General Crook, pursued Indians in the Raging Creek drainage"***.

The letter went on to say, ***"The Forest Service believes it desirable to have the mountains at the head of Raging Creek named in honor of the Indian fighters McCall and Crook in preference to the retention of the names Huckleberry and Goat, in the commemoration of the skirmish or battle in the drainage, and recommends decisions by the Board accordingly"***.

If those, at the time, who were in a "position" to know the history of this event, and if they would of done their research, they would of known that this tribe that was slaughtered by the U. S. Army were "friendly Wenatchi Indians" and NOT those for whom the U. S. Army was actually chasing in 1858, as there was no actual "battle" fought then, maybe they would of thought twice on the re-naming of these two mountains. However, it appears that the "Local sentiment" among the white race during this time cared not about the Indians what-so-ever...thus the name changes because "Local sentiment" warranted it.

By March 1, 1940, Mr. George C. Martin informed Mr. E. E. Carter, Department of Agriculture, Washington D.C. that "the new names McCall Mountain in place of Huckleberry Mountain and Crook Mountain in place of Goat Mountain" had been approved.

On June 15, 1940, Mr. E. E. Carter, Acting Chief, Forest Service, reported to Dr. George C. Martin, Executive Secretary, Department of the Interior, Washington D. C. that on "April 10, 1940, the Executive Committee approved the recommendations of the Forest Service for McCall Mountain and Crook Mountain within the Wenatchee National Forest but requested better identification of the soldiers for whom the mountains were named".

So the question is...just why were Crook and McCall Mountains wrongfully named?

Those who initially requested the mountains name changes back in the late 1930's and early 1940's, knew nothing of what happened during Major Garnett's expedition, let alone the two "scouts" that happened while they were camped on the Wenatchee River in August of 1858.

It was not Crook and McCall who were supposedly involved in the Raging Creek drainage, but it was Captain Frazer and Lieutenant Camp. If anything, the mountains in question should have been named for them and not Crook and McCall.

However, on the other hand, why on earth were those two mountains named "in honor...in commemoration" of two soldiers, any soldiers as that fact goes, who supposedly came into the Raging Creek drainage, then on down into the White River drainage with their troops, who then, apparently, wiped out and slaughtered an entire peaceful Indian village of friendly Wenatchi Indians and thus not report on it? Then have two mountains named after the "soldiers" who did the killing?!

If anything, those two mountains should honor and commemorate the friendly camp of Wenatchi Indian's who were slaughtered and wiped out.

Was there a White River Indian Massacre? Again, that is a question that I think will never be truly answered, but to commemorate those two mountains, and to honor the two individuals who supposedly led the attack, whether they became U. S. Army Generals or not, is an injustice to those Native Americans, especially the Wenatchi Indian tribe, who had nothing to do with the 1858 Yakama War, for whom the United States Army supposedly massacred and without even reporting the incident itself.

Therefore, I, Steve Charles Plucker, propose to the U. S Department of the Interior and the United States Board on Geographic Names; and to the Washington State Department of Natural Resources and the Washington State Board on Geographic Names, that the two mountains in question, Crook Mountain and McCall Mountain, whose position is in the Wenatchee National Forest in Chelan County within Washington State, USA, be changed to "Spirit Mountain" (currently Crook Mountain) **"To honor and commemorate those friendly Wenatchi Indians who were killed and massacred in the attack"** and "Sacred Mountain" (currently McCall Mountain) **"To honor and commemorate the land for which the camp of friendly Wenatchi Indians were massacred on"**. The Wenatchi Tribe, here in Washington State, are now located within the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation.

Or to names that the proud Wenatchi Tribe wishes to name them.

