

Houle Creek

Kittitas County - New Name

Township: 21N

Range: 12E

Section: 23, 24

USGS Quad: Stampede Pass

Location Description: Stream, 1.3 miles long, heads 8.2 miles SE of the town of Hyak, flows W into the Yakima River.

Proposal Summary: The proposed name honors the trappers and traders of the French Hudson's Bay Company, the first Europeans to utilize the area. "Houle" is a French word meaning ridge or wave that moves across a body of water. The proponent feels this is fitting for a mountain stream. WS DOT is doing construction in the area, and with the increased public awareness of the area, the proponent feels that a name is warranted for this unnamed creek.

Houle Creek: stream; 1.3 miles long; heads 8.2 miles SE of the town of Hyak at 47°18'17.568"N, 121°16'15.295"W, flows W to enter the Yakima River; commemorates the early French trappers that were in the area, "houle" means ridge or wave in French; Kittitas County, Washington; Sec 23 and 24, T21N, R12E, Willamette Meridian; 47°17'56.861"N, 121°17'54.007"W USGS map – Stampede Pass 1:24,000.

Proponent:

Luke Assink

2809 Rudkin Road

Union Gap, WA 98903

Proposal Received: 10/27/2016

Initial Consideration: 5/16/2017

Final Consideration: 10/31/2017

WA Committee Decision: Approved

WA Board Decision:

US Board Decision:

Opinions:

Kittitas County Commissioners - NO RESPONSE

US Forest Service - NO RESPONSE

Kittitas County Historical Society - NO RESPONSE
Northern Kittitas County Historical Society - NO RESPONSE
WA State Historical Society - NO RESPONSE
Colville Conf Tribes - NO RESPONSE
Snoqualmie Indian Tribe - NO OPINION
Yakama Nation - NO RESPONSE

WASHINGTON STATE Geographic Name Application



WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF
Natural Resources

Proposed Name: Houle Creek
County: Kittitas
Township: 21 N Range: 12 E Section(s): 23 and 24
Lat. 47.303541N, Long. 121.272532W (Begin)
Lat. 47.298169N, Long. 121.296875W (End)

- New Name
- Controversial Name
- Name Change
- Location Clarification
- Spelling Clarification

Description

Type of feature (lake, stream, etc.): Stream
Description of feature (location, length, depth, height, size and/or area covered): This stream is located about 10 miles east of Snoqualmie Pass, it is roughly 1.5 miles in length and flows through National Forest land in a southwesterly direction.

If a stream, number of months it flows on a yearly basis: 12

Is this feature identified by other names or spellings? Please list variant names: This creek currently does not have a name but is sometimes referred to as Unnamed Creek (MP 63.7).

Has it ever been signed, posted, or publicized? If so, when? No

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; 4History on how the land is/was used; 5Natural 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: The first European people to use this area were trappers and traders of the French Hudson's Bay Company, they were utilizing Snoqualmie Pass in conjunction with the local Native American tribes before it became widely used as a route across the Cascade Mountain Range. Since French peoples were the first Europeans to utilize this area, a French name seemed appropriate. The creek itself runs year round, and provides habitat for local fish and amphibian species through a nicely wooded area on National Forest land. The creek runs beneath Intersate 90, which is a major east-west corridor, as well as the major route in Washington State across the Cascade Mountains. An upcoming WSDOT construction project will replace the culvert this creek currently crosses through and replace it with a bridge, allowing the creek to return to a more natural state even through this crossing. The word "houle" in french translates to a ridge or wave that moves across a body of water, which is very fitting for a mountain stream like this.

If a commemorative name, provide a brief summary of the ENTIRE life of the person including how and the length of time he/she was associated with the proposed feature: This is not a commemorative name.

Justification of Proposed Name

What is the usage of feature? Currently this creek is used as a habitat for the local fish and terrestrial species in the area. Once the crossing under Interstate 90 has been upgraded this function will become even more important as terrestrial species will use the new bridge to more safely cross under the roadway.

Please state why the proposed name will best serve the public interest: The name Houle Creek will best serve the public interest by giving this creek a name that is fitting for the site. Using a French term pays respect to the French trappers and traders who used to frequent this area and also gives the creek a name that is fitting. Also, since this area is currently the site of major upgrades to the Interstate 90 corridor, the public will be looking more closely at the features in the area. It would be nice to have a name to go with this creek when it is flowing under a large bridge at the I-90 crossing.

How long has the proposed name been in use? By whom? Currently, the creek has no name besides Unnamed Creek (MP 63.7) which is in use by the entities working on the projects in the area. So Houle Creek has not been used by anyone as of yet.

Please list all sources of information used for your research: (maps, books, articles, periodicals, etc. for background history relating to proposed name) The Remarkable History of the Hudson's Bay Company (book), Wikipedia (articles), USGS (maps)

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:

Mike R. Williams, Forest Supervisor

Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest Headquarters

215 Melody Lane

Wenatchee, WA 98801

(509) 664-9200

mrwilliams01@fs.fed.us

Application submitted by:

Name: Luke Assink Address: 2809 Rudkin Rd. City: Union Gap State: WA Zip: 98903
Phone #: (509) 307-6092 Email: AssinkL@wsdot.wa.gov Date of Application: 7/25/2016

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

Printed Name: Luke Assink

Signature:  Date: 10/27/16

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)

Comments

Received

From: Guy Moura (HSY)
To: [MAKI.CALEB \(DNR\)](mailto:MAKI.CALEB@dnr.wa.gov); [Cody Desautel \(L&P ADM\)](mailto:Cody.Desautel@dnr.wa.gov); steve@snoqualmtribe.us; cindy@snoqualmtribe.us; jaimemartin@snoqualmtribe.us; prigdon@yakama.com
Cc: [Crystal Miller \(HSY\)](mailto:Crystal.Miller@dnr.wa.gov); [Guy Moura \(HSY\)](mailto:Guy.Moura@dnr.wa.gov)
Subject: RE: Houle Creek - Geographic Name Opinion Request
Date: Friday, September 8, 2017 5:17:51 PM

Caleb,

We have no opinion on the name change, but we do have some thoughts. Located between two lakes with Indian names, perhaps a native name.

You should also verify the history. The Hudson's Bay Company is not now, and never has been since its founding in 1670, French. It is English. The company rarely employed trappers in Washington state, relying instead on the Native Americans. The nearest trading posts would have been Fort Nisqually (by the City of Dupont) and Fort Okanogan by Brewster Washington.

Might check Kittitas Frontiersman by Glauert and Kunz 1976

From: MAKI, CALEB (DNR) [CALEB.MAKI@dnr.wa.gov]
Sent: Friday, September 08, 2017 2:03 PM
To: Cody Desautel (L&P ADM); Guy Moura (HSY); steve@snoqualmtribe.us; cindy@snoqualmtribe.us; jaimemartin@snoqualmtribe.us; prigdon@yakama.com
Subject: Houle Creek - Geographic Name Opinion Request

The WA State Committee on Geographic Names received requests to make official the name Houle Creek for a geographic feature located in Kittitas County.

We respectfully request that you review the information at the link provided, and share with us any support or concerns regarding this proposals prior to October 20, 2017. You may do so by responding to this letter, or by filling out the attached form. It is also an option to contact Cowlitz Tribal Councilman Mike Iyall directly, who as a tribal representative, sits on the committee. Mike can be reached at (360) 456-8720, or at (360) 628-2677. If you are not the appropriate contact for this request, please forward to the appropriate parties within your Tribe.

For more detailed information regarding these requests, please visit the committee's website at:

<http://www.dnr.wa.gov/about/boards-and-councils/board-natural-resources/committee-geographic-names>

The next Washington State Committee on Geographic Names meeting will be held on October 31, 2017. All meetings are open to the public, and you are invited to attend and give testimony to support your opinions. Attached to this letter are driving directions and a meeting agenda with the date and times.

Caleb A. Maki

Photogrammetrist 3 – Engineering Division

Executive Secretary – Washington State Committee on Geographic Names

DNR RE BOGN

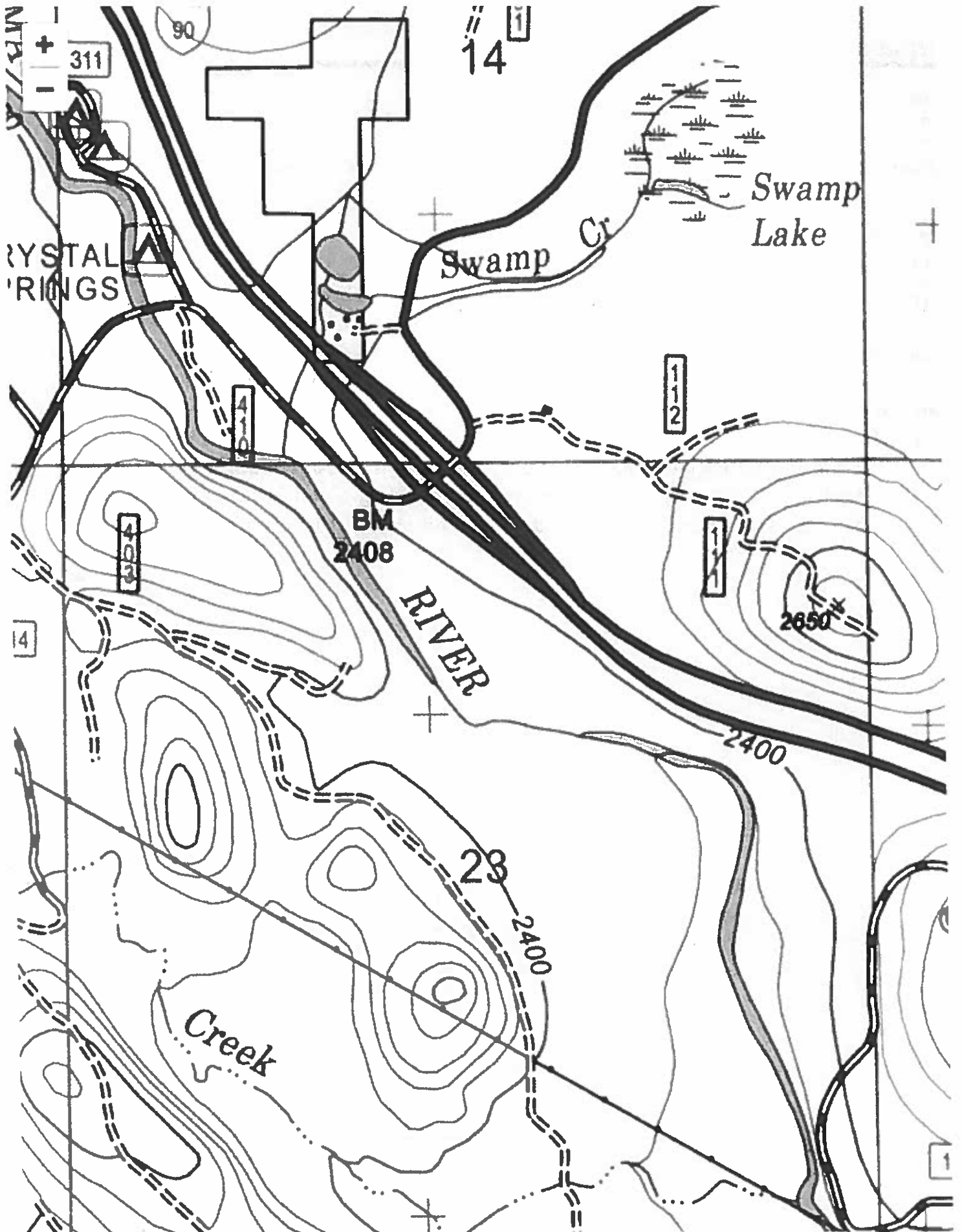
From: John Roper <jka.roper@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, August 21, 2017 5:17 PM
To: DNR RE BOGN
Subject: On Agenda for Washington State Committee on Geographic Names October 31, 2017

WA State Committee on Geographic Names
PO Box 47030
Olympia, WA 98504-7030

Dear Board/Committee,

Items to consider regarding Houle Creek proposal:

1. The creek is less than one-mile long (see map below). This Forest Service map indicates that it is an intermittent stream (not year-round) per the dash-dot.dot.dot-dash map symbol (___ . . . ___ ...). This stream ends (goes underground) per this map before it enters the Yakima River or makes it to I-90, so it is unlikely that it supports fish.



2. Regarding the "History of Snoqualmie Pass," an online search shows:

At https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Snoqualmie_Pass

Snoqualmie Pass was well known to the Native Americans of the region.

Hudson's Bay Company trappers and traders were active in the Snoqualmie and Yakima valleys during the early 19th century. They knew about Snoqualmie Pass but information about their use of it is vague.

A possible early use of the pass was that of A.C. Anderson, who drove cattle across the Cascades in 1841, via a pass he called "Sinahomish Pass".^[1]

George B. McClellan and his lieutenant Abiel W. Tinkham explored the Snoqualmie Pass region in 1853 and 1854. Their goal was to find a pass better suited for a railroad than Naches Pass, where the Naches Trail crossed the Cascade Mountains. They explored from the east side of the mountains, reaching the vicinity of Yakima Pass. Tinkham continued down the west side via the Cedar River. McClellan decided not to examine Snoqualmie Pass itself because of unfavorable reports from Natives.^[1]

At <http://www.alpental.com/history.htm>

"The first white persons to undisputedly cross Snoqualmie Pass were in 1855. Frederick W. Lander's railroad surveying party crossed it in August (from the west)."

3. If there was a French connection, of all the millions of French words, why "Houle?" The English translation given in the proposal is "a ridge or wave that moves across a body of water" which is an unusual concept for a creek. Other translations at <https://www.interglot.com/dictionary/fr/en/search?q=houle> include "swell, waves, sea disturbance, rough seas, swing; oscillation; fluctuation; swinging; nutation; backwash; sea; alluvion; beating of the waves" suggesting that *houle* is more of a sea or ocean term.
4. On this historical map (undated) this feature appears as "Telephone Creek."



Yours truly,

John Roper
Bellevue, Washington



**DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES**

COMMITTEE ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES

PO Box 47030
Olympia, WA 98504-7030

360-902-1280
BOGN@DNR.WA.GOV
WWW.DNR.WA.GOV

March 24, 2017

Luke Assink
2809 Rudkin Road
Union Gap, WA 98903

Dear Luke Assink,

Your proposal to name **Houle Creek** is scheduled for its *initial* hearing with the Washington State Committee on Geographic Names on **5/16/2017** in Olympia. At this time the Committee will decide whether or not to accept your proposed name for consideration. If accepted, the name will then come up for discussion and final decision at subsequent hearing(s) to follow. At the time of the hearing(s), you may wish to be present and speak for your proposal, but attendance is not a requirement.

Between the initial and final hearings, the merits of your proposal will be researched and comments on the proposal from the local historical societies, county governments, state and federal land management agencies, and interested groups and individuals who have some knowledge of the area will be solicited. If there are longtime local residents or adjacent property owners in the area whose addresses you could provide, I will be glad to request their comments as well.

If I can answer any further questions, please call me at (360) 902-1280, or email me at caleb.maki@dnr.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Caleb Maki".

Caleb Maki, Executive Secretary
Washington Committee on Geographic Names
P.O. Box 47030
Olympia, WA 98504-7030
(360) 902-1280
caleb.maki@dnr.wa.gov



**DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES**

COMMITTEE ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES
PO Box 47030
Olympia, WA 98504-7030

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August 15, 2017

Luke Assink
2809 Rudkin Road
Union Gap, WA 98903

Dear Luke Assink,

Your proposal to name **Houle Creek** is scheduled for its final hearing before the Washington State Committee on Geographic Names on **10/31/2017** in Olympia.

Proposed names may receive two or more hearings before the Washington State Committee on Geographic Names. Meetings are usually held twice a year. At the first meeting, the Committee decides whether or not to consider the name, and at the second, the Committee makes a decision to approve, deny, or defer the proposed name.

In the intervening months, the Committee staff solicits opinions and comments from historical societies, county officials, federal agencies, mountaineering clubs, and any other group or person who can provide information or an informed opinion on the proposal. The Committee uses this information to make a decision according to guidelines previously established by the Committee.

If there is additional pertinent information (names and addresses of longtime residents, property owners adjacent to the feature, or historical information to help us in our research) beyond what is provided in the Geographic Name Application, please let me know at your earliest convenience.

You are welcome to attend the hearing on your proposal, and will be given an opportunity to make a statement or provide information or clarification at that time. An agenda for the next Committee on Geographic Names meeting will be mailed to you prior to the meeting.

If you have any questions or additional information to convey, please call me at (360) 902-1280, or email me at caleb.maki@dnr.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Caleb Maki".

Caleb Maki, Executive Secretary
Washington Committee on Geographic Names
PO Box 47030
Olympia, WA 98504-7030
(360) 902-1280
caleb.maki@dnr.wa.gov



**DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES**

COMMITTEE ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES

PO Box 47030
Olympia, WA 98504-7030

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WWW.DNR.WA.GOV

November 1, 2017

Luke Assink
2809 Rudkin Road
Union Gap, WA 98903

Dear Mr. Assink,

At the **October 31, 2017** meeting of the Washington State Committee on Geographic Names, the Committee voted to send your application to name **Houle Creek** located in **Kittitas County** to the Washington State Board on Geographic Names with the Committee's recommendation to approve.

All information on your proposal will be forwarded to the Washington State Board on Geographic Names for their consideration at a future meeting.

When the Board selects a date to hear your proposal, a letter will be sent to you informing you of the date and time your proposal will be heard.

If you have any questions, please call me at (360) 902-1280 or email me at caleb.maki@dnr.wa.gov.

Thank you for your interest in geographic names.

Sincerely,

Caleb Maki, Executive Secretary
Washington Committee on Geographic Names
P.O. Box 47030
Olympia, WA 98504-7030
(360) 902-1280
caleb.maki@dnr.wa.gov

HOULE CREEK - KITTITAS COUNTY



Stream, 1.3 miles long, heads 8.2 miles SE of the town of Hyak, flows W into the Yakima River.

The proposed name honors the trappers and traders of the French Hudson's Bay Company, the first Europeans to utilize the area. "Houle" is a French word meaning ridge or wave that moves across a body of water. The proponent feels this is fitting for a mountain stream. WS DOT is doing construction in the area, and with the increased public awareness of the area, the proponent feels that a name is warranted for this unnamed creek.



HOULE CREEK - KITTITAS COUNTY



Stream, 1.3 miles long, heads 8.2 miles SE of the town of Hyak, flows W into the Yakima River.

The proposed name honors the trappers and traders of the French Hudson's Bay Company, the first Europeans to utilize the area. "Houle" is a French word meaning ridge or wave that moves across a body of water. The proponent feels this is fitting for a mountain stream. WS DOT is doing construction in the area, and with the increased public awareness of the area, the proponent feels that a name is warranted for this unnamed creek.



Libby Creek

Thurston County - New Name

Township: 19N

Range: 2W

Section: 13

USGS Quad: Longbranch

Location Description: Stream, 1.14 miles long. Heads 1.48 miles SE of the town of Boston Harbor. Flows E then N to enter Chapman Bay.

Proposal Summary: Libby Creek: stream; 1.14 miles long; heads 1.48 miles SE of the town of Boston Harbor at 47°7'51.003"N, 122°52'13.564"W, flows E then N to enter Chapman Bay; commemorates the Libby family who homesteaded along the trail that is now Libby Road; Thurston County, Washington; Sec 13, T19N, R2W, Willamette Meridian; 47°8'19.612"N, 122°51'22.591"W USGS map – Longbranch 1:24,000.

This proposal is for an officially unnamed creek, although the feature has been unofficially referred to as "Sleepy Creek". The name would commemorate the Libby family who homesteaded along the trail that is now Libby Road.

Proponent:

Alan Ward

6943 Woodard Bay Road NE

Olympia, WA 98506

Proposal Received: 4/6/2017

Initial Consideration: 5/16/2017

Final Consideration: 10/31/2017

WA Committee Decision: Approved

WA Board Decision:

US Board Decision:

Opinions:

Thurston County Commissioners - NO RESPONSE

Olympia Historical Society - NO RESPONSE

Olympia City Council - NO RESPONSE

Lacey City Council - NO RESPONSE

WA State Historical Society - NO RESPONSE

Squaxin Island Tribe - NO RESPONSE

Cowlitz Indian Tribe - NO CONCERNS

WASHINGTON STATE Geographic Name Application



WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF
Natural Resources

Proposed Name: Libby Creek

New Name

County: Thurston

Controversial Name

Township: 19N Range: 2W Section(s): 13

Name Change

Lat. 47-7-46.65 N, Long. 122-52-29.56 W (Begin)

Location Clarification

Lat. 47-8-20.82 N, Long. 122-51-21.53 W (End)

Spelling Clarification

Description

Type of feature (lake, stream, etc.): stream

Description of feature (location, length, depth, height, size and/or area covered): Perennial stream 1.6 miles in length, mean annual flow 4.7 cubic feet/second, tributary to Chapman Bay and Henderson Inlet, South Puget Sound. Watershed area 1.78 square miles. A documented salmon bearing stream.

If a stream, number of months it flows on a yearly basis: 12

Is this feature identified by other names or spellings? Please list variant names: Sleepy Creek, Honey's Creek, Libbey Creek Stream 13.005

Has it ever been signed, posted, or publicized? If so, when? a private gravel driveway is signed "Sleepy Creek Lane"

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: Stream is tributary to Woodard Bay Natural Resources Conservation Area with a history of Native American usage, middens, and cultural resource trees. Stream was originally named for Libby family, pioneers who settled along trail now known as Libby Road.

If a commemorative name, provide a brief summary of the ENTIRE life of the person including how and the length of time he/she was associated with the proposed feature: Libby Creek is named for Libby family, early residents of this area of Thurston County.

Libby family may include Horace Percival Libby of Olympia, 1885. George A. Libby of Olympia was a lumberman (1879 census) and miner (1892 census) died in Olympia, 1898. Mrs. S.D. Libby of Olympia, 1869 and Willard W. Libby of Olympia, 1879 may have been related. George S. Libby, was clerk of the United States Land Office in Olympia, 1893.

Justification of Proposed Name

What is the usage of feature? perennial stream with significant fish and wildlife habitat(see attached report "Occurrence of Juvenile Salmonids in Libby Creek...")

Please state why the proposed name will best serve the public interest: It standardizes the name of this aquatic feature for various resource studies by state and county agencies who currently collect and report data under different and sometimes confusing stream names. It also commemorates the contributions of the Libby family to settlement and development of this area of Thurston County.

How long has the proposed name been in use? By whom? Libby Creek is the oldest recognized name for this stream, perhaps since the 1930's and still in use by government agencies and local residents today.

Please list all sources of information used for your research: (maps, books, articles, periodicals, etc. for background history relating to proposed name) see attached bibliography, seven references

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:

Alan Wald, 6943 Woodard Bay Road NE, Olympia, WA, 98506, telephone 360-754-7283, local landowner and research hydrologist, Wa Dept of Fish and Wildlife (retired)

Application submitted by:

Name: Alan Wald

Address: 6943 Woodard Bay Road NE City: Olympia State: WA Zip: 98506

Phone #: 360-754-7283 Email: arwald@scattercreek.com Date of Application: 04-06-2017

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

Printed Name: Alan Wald

Signature: Alan R. Wald Date: 04-06-2017

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)

04-06-2017

RE: Geographic Name Application: Libby Creek, Thurston County

References:

Fraser, James. On-Site inspection (Libby Creek) with observations of juvenile steelhead (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) and coho salmon (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*) in the middle reach. Washington Department of Game. Hydraulic Project Application 0036845-01. WRIA 13.0015. Olympia, WA. 1987

Poultridge, Andrew. Boomtime. A History of the Woodard Bay Natural Resources Conservation Area. WA. Department of Natural Resources. Division of Land and Water Conservation. Olympia, WA. 1991

Thurston Regional Planning Council. Woodard Bay Natural Resources Conservation Area. Preliminary Reconnaissance Report. Olympia, WA. June, 1985

U.S. Geological Survey. Longbranch, WASH. NE/4 Olympia 15' Quadrangle Map. Denver, CO. 1959

Wald, Alan and Boessow, Steve. Occurrence of Juvenile Salmonids in Libby Creek (Sleepy Creek), WRIA 13-0015, Northeastern Thurston County, Washington. unpublished report. Olympia, WA. January, 2017

Williams, Walter, et al. A catalog of Washington streams and salmon utilization; volume 1. Puget Sound Region. Washington Department of Fisheries. Olympia, WA. November, 1975.

**Occurrence of Juvenile Salmonids in Libby Creek (Sleepy Creek),
WRIA 13-0015, Northeastern Thurston County, Washington**

**Alan Wald
Steve Boessow**

**Olympia, Washington
January 10, 2017**

Introduction. This report documents a field survey on June 19, 2015 and observation of juvenile salmonids in Libby Creek (Sleepy Creek) in northeastern Thurston County. Observations are based on sampling and identification by Alan Wald, hydrogeologist with the Habitat Program, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (retired) and Steve Boessow, water rights biologist with the Habitat Program, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. Prior investigations document the occurrence of salmonids in Libby Creek in 1980, 1987, and the mid-1990's (Fraser, 1987; Wald, 1995).

Hydrology. Libby Creek is a perennial freshwater stream in northeastern Thurston County tributary to Chapman Bay and Henderson Inlet in South Puget Sound. It drains a large freshwater marsh and beaver dam complex near the center of Section 13, T 19N, R2W. The headwaters drain southwesterly to Gull Harbor, westerly to Boston Harbor, northerly to Fishtrap Cove, and easterly to Chapman Bay depending on high water levels and outlet conditions, particularly due to beaver dams and woody debris that change the direction of outflows. The watershed area based on topography for Libby Creek is 1.78 square miles with a stream length of 1.6 miles and basin relief (maximum - minimum elevation) of 140 feet (USGS, 2015). Figure 1. Watershed Area of Libby Creek shows the topography and watershed boundaries from the headwaters to Chapman Bay (USGS, 2015).

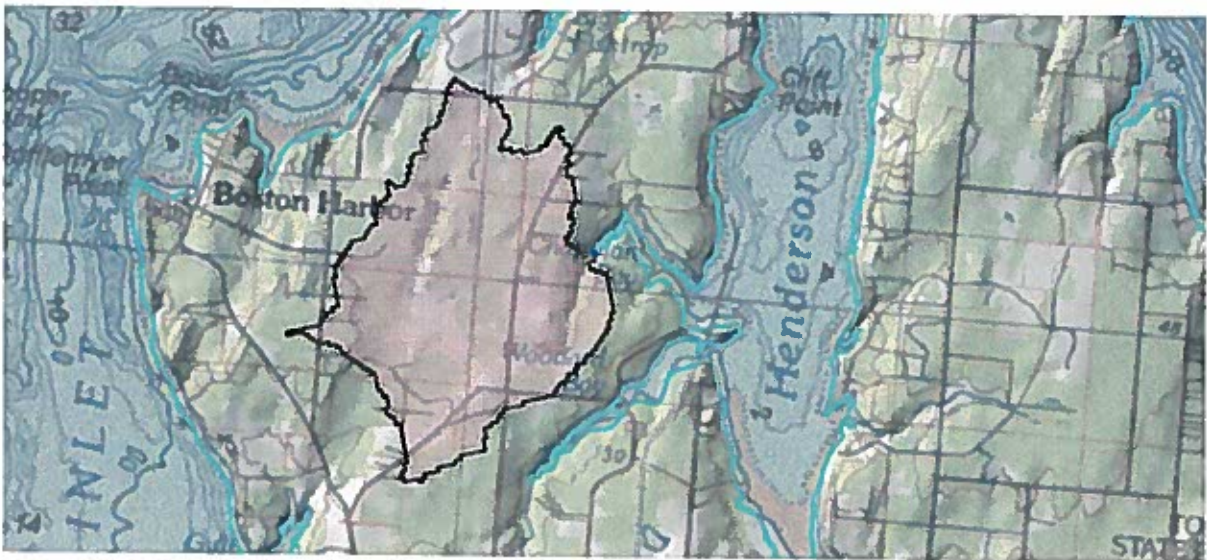


Figure 1. Watershed Area of Libby Creek

Streamflow in Libby Creek varies from late summer baseflows of less than 1 cubic foot per second (cfs) to high flows of greater than 100 cfs during prolonged or high intensity rainfall events. Summer low flows are primarily groundwater discharge from both local aquifers and shallow alluvial deposits in riparian areas. Figure 2. Peak-Flow Streamflow Statistics for Libby Creek shows peak flows calculated by regional regression equations for 2-year to 100-year recurrence intervals and range from 57.4 to 170 cfs, respectively (USGS, 2015).

Peak-Flow Streamflow Statistics

Statistic	Flow (ft ³ /s)	Standard Error (percent)	Equivalent years of record	90-Percent Prediction Interval	
				Minimum	Maximum
PK2	57.4	56	1		
PK10	104	53	1		
PK25	128	53	2		
PK50	151	53	2		
PK100	170	54	3		
PK500	223				

Table 2. Peak-flow Streamflow Statistics for Libby Creek

Stage recordings for Libby Creek during a prolonged rainfall on November 23-26, 1990 varied from 1.1 to 5.6 feet on a 69-inch Cippoletti weir, as shown in Figure 4. Stage Recordings on Libby Creek, November 23-26, 1990 (below).

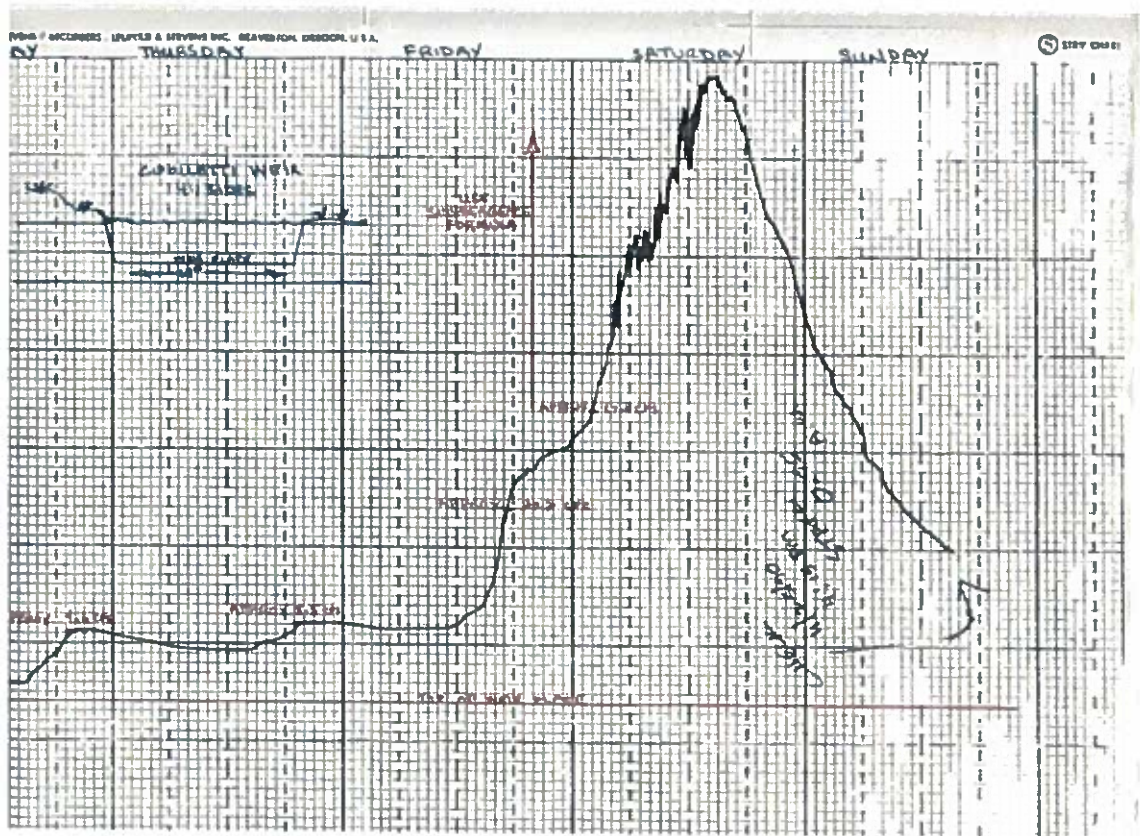


Figure 4. Stage Recordings on Libby Creek, November 23-26, 1990.

Stage was measured with a stilling well and continuous chart recorder and streamflow was calculated with a Cippoletti weir downstream of the stilling well. Streamflow during this period varied from less than 4 cfs before the storm to greater than 100 cfs peak flow. The calculated peak flow has a variability of about 15% due to submergence of the weir during the highest flows.

Total daily rainfall for this period was measured on-site, and shown in the following table:

11-23-1990	3.46 inches
11-24-1990	2.53 inches
11-25-1990	1.40 inches
11-26-1990	0.11 inches
11-27-1990	0 inches

A 24-hour, 10-year recurrence interval rainstorm for northeastern Thurston County is 4 to 5 inches (MGS Engineering, 2003).

Low flows during the summer have been observed during stream walks from 1979 to the present. Low flows in the upper reaches (above Libby Road) may be very low or nearly dry at times, while flow in the middle to lower reaches exhibit groundwater discharge sufficient to maintain pools and shallow riffles (Wald, 2015).

Mean annual flow for Libby Creek based on regression analysis of similar streams in the Puget Sound Region is 4.7 cfs (Kresch, 1998).

In summary, streamflow estimates for Libby Creek show stage and flow conditions during high flows sufficient for upstream migration of adult salmon from Henderson Inlet. Streamflow measurements and observations during low flows show summer baseflows sustained by groundwater discharges sufficient for rearing juvenile salmonids in shaded pools and undercut banks in most years.

Sampling and Observation of Juvenile Salmonids. We sampled for juvenile salmonids in Libby Creek on June 19, 2015 using a fine-mesh, hand held seine net. The seine was stretched across the stream at a riffle, swept upstream, and closed at the streambank. Dip nets were used to collect samples in the seine. Small fish, crayfish, snails, and clams were transferred to a measuring dish and Plexiglas observation box for identification, length measurements, and photographs before returning them to the water.

WDFW and private records confirm cutthroat and rainbow/steelhead trout (williams, 1975). WDFW map layers also confirm the presence of coho salmon with staff observations, and presume the presence of chum and chinook salmon. The latter would likely be juveniles using the estuary for feeding and cover.

The following five plates show juvenile salmonids (cutthroat or rainbow trout) and other aquatic organisms collected from Libby Creek:

Plate 1. Juvenile salmonid *Oncorhynchus* spp. from Libby Creek, Thurston County



Plate 2. Juvenile salmonids *Oncorhynchus* spp. from Libby Creek, Thurston County



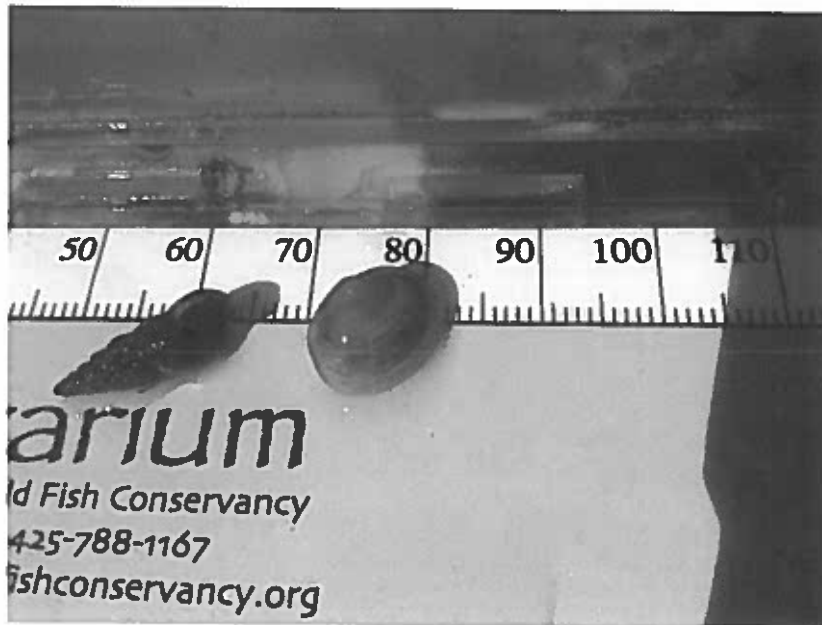
Plate 3. Juvenile salmonid *Oncorhynchus* spp. from Libby Creek, Thurston County



Plate 4. Sculpin *cottus* spp. from Libby Creek, Thurston County



Plate 5. Freshwater snail and bivalve "fingernail clam" from Libby Creek, Thurston County



Summary. This report documents that Libby Creek (Sleepy Creek) in northeastern Thurston County, tributary to Chapman Bay and Henderson Inlet, currently provides adult spawning and juvenile rearing for salmonid species in South Puget Sound. Libby Creek also provides habitat and food for a variety of vertebrates and invertebrates. Animals as diverse as otters and blue heron regularly feed in Libby Creek. Insects and amphibians inhabit the creek for all or part of their life cycles, adding to the complexity and value of the watershed. Libby Creek, its groundwater and surface water, its riparian and upland habitats, are worth protecting and enhancing.

References.

Fraser, James. On-site inspection (Libby Creek) with observations of juvenile steelhead (Oncorhynchus mykiss) and coho salmon (Oncorhynchus kisutch) in the middle reach. Washington Department of Game. Hydraulic Project Application #0036845-01. WRIA 13.0015. Olympia, WA. 1987.

Kresch, David L. Determination of Upstream Boundaries on Western Washington Streams and Rivers Under the Requirements of the Shoreline Management Act of 1971. U.S. Geological Survey. Water Resources Investigations Report 96-4209. Prepared in cooperation with Washington Department of Ecology. Tacoma, WA. 1998

MGS Engineering Consultants, Inc. Regional Precipitation-Frequency Analysis and Spatial Mapping of Precipitation for 24-Hour and 2-Hour Durations in Western Washington. Prepared for Washington State Department of Transportation. Olympia, WA. March, 2002

U.S. Geological Survey. Streamstats program. <http://streamstats.cr.usgs.gov/streamstats/>. Beta version 4 (water.usgs.gov). 2015

Wald, Alan R. Stream surveys and flow measurements on Libby Creek (Sleepy Creek), northeastern Thurston County. Unpublished records. Olympia, WA. 1990-1995

Wald, Alan R. Watershed analysis for stream surveys on Libby Creek (Sleepy Creek), northeastern Thurston County. Personal communication. Olympia, WA. 2015

Williams, Walter, et al. A Catalog of Washington Streams and Salmon Utilization; Volume 1, Puget Sound Region. Washington Department of Fisheries. Olympia, WA. November 1975.

Comments

Received

From: Nathan Reynolds
To: [MAKI, CALEB \(DNR\)](#)
Cc: [wiyall@cowlitz.org](#); [taylor.a@cowlitz.org](#); [talexander@cowlitz.org](#); [culture@cowlitz.org](#); Mike Iyall
Subject: RE: Libby Creek - Geographic Name Opinion Request
Date: Friday, September 8, 2017 6:25:40 PM

Hello Caleb –

Thanks for your outreach on this Libby Creek name opinion request.

The Cowlitz Tribe has no concerns with this proposed name. Mike Iyall will be attending the Oct 31st meeting and can also speak to the request if needed; I've CCed him here.

If new information, or a dissenting response is provided by any other respondent, The Cowlitz Tribe would like to have a chance to review the new material.

Regards,
Nathan

Nathan Reynolds
Ecologist, Cowlitz Indian Tribe
360.575.6226

From: MAKI, CALEB (DNR) [mailto:CALEB.MAKI@dnr.wa.gov]
Sent: Friday, September 08, 2017 2:20 PM
To: [wiyall@cowlitz.org](#); [taylor.a@cowlitz.org](#); [talexander@cowlitz.org](#); [culture@cowlitz.org](#)
Subject: Libby Creek - Geographic Name Opinion Request

The WA State Committee on Geographic Names received requests to make official the name **Libby Creek** for a geographic feature located in Thurston County.

We respectfully request that you review the information at the link provided, and share with us any support or concerns regarding this proposals prior to **October 20, 2017**. You may do so by responding to this letter, or by filling out the attached form. It is also an option to contact Cowlitz Tribal Councilman Mike Iyall directly, who as a tribal representative, sits on the committee. Mike can be reached at (360) 456-8720, or at (360) 628-2677. If you are not the appropriate contact for this request, please forward to the appropriate parties within your Tribe.

For more detailed information regarding these requests, please visit the committee's website at:

<http://www.dnr.wa.gov/about/boards-and-councils/board-natural-resources/committee-geographic-names>

The next Washington State Committee on Geographic Names meeting will be held on **October 31, 2017**. All meetings are open to the public, and you are invited to attend and give testimony to support your opinions. Attached to this letter are driving directions and a meeting agenda with the date and times.

MAKI, CALEB (DNR)

From: BERGVALL, DAVID (DNR)
Sent: Tuesday, May 16, 2017 11:16 AM
To: MAKI, CALEB (DNR)
Subject: FW: COGN

From: ZUKERBERG, MICHELE (DNR)
Sent: Tuesday, May 16, 2017 10:22 AM
To: BERGVALL, DAVID (DNR) <DAVID.BERGVALL@dnr.wa.gov>; GAMON, JOHN (DNR) <JOHN.GAMON@dnr.wa.gov>
Subject: RE: COGN

Thanks for the information David,

I am familiar with the proposal. Al Wald, the proponent, is a Woodard neighbor and volunteer site steward. It is nice that the Woodard community is so deeply involved in their landscape.

Michele

From: BERGVALL, DAVID (DNR)
Sent: Tuesday, May 16, 2017 9:27 AM
To: GAMON, JOHN (DNR) <JOHN.GAMON@dnr.wa.gov>; ZUKERBERG, MICHELE (DNR) <MICHELE.ZUKERBERG@dnr.wa.gov>
Subject: COGN

John and Michele

The committee on geographic names is considering a new name for a unnamed creek off Libby Road. The creek flows into Chapman Bay and through a small tip of Woodard Bay NRCA. I don't see this as a big deal at all just giving you a heads up. The proposal is located here

http://file.dnr.wa.gov/publications/bc_geog_libby_creek.pdf

David

DNR RE BOGN

From: John Roper <jka.roper@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, August 21, 2017 1:29 PM
To: DNR RE BOGN
Subject: Agenda for Washington State Committee on Geographic Names October 31, 2017

Dear Board/Committee,

On the October 31, 2017 WSCGN agenda is a proposal to name or re-name a Washington stream Libby Creek.

The name Sleepy Creek appears on Google Maps (satellite view) in this location, and on the map below identifying State land. This is a pleasant name in a bucolic setting.

The Libby family is honored with a road named for them in this area.

Yours truly,

John Roper
Bellevue, Washington



**DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES**

COMMITTEE ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES

PO Box 47030
Olympia, WA 98504-7030

360-902-1280
BOGN@DNR.WA.GOV
WWW.DNR.WA.GOV

May 10, 2017

Alan Ward
6943 Woodard Bay Road NE
Olympia, WA 98506

Dear Alan Ward,

Your proposal to name **Libby Creek** is scheduled for its *initial* hearing with the Washington State Committee on Geographic Names on **5/16/2017** in Olympia. At this time the Committee will decide whether or not to accept your proposed name for consideration. If accepted, the name will then come up for discussion and final decision at subsequent hearing(s) to follow. At the time of the hearing(s), you may wish to be present and speak for your proposal, but attendance is not a requirement.

Between the initial and final hearings, the merits of your proposal will be researched and comments on the proposal from the local historical societies, county governments, state and federal land management agencies, and interested groups and individuals who have some knowledge of the area will be solicited. If there are longtime local residents or adjacent property owners in the area whose addresses you could provide, I will be glad to request their comments as well.

If I can answer any further questions, please call me at (360) 902-1280, or email me at caleb.maki@dnr.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

Caleb Maki, Executive Secretary
Washington Committee on Geographic Names
P.O. Box 47030
Olympia, WA 98504-7030
(360) 902-1280
caleb.maki@dnr.wa.gov



**DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES**

COMMITTEE ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES
PO Box 47030
Olympia, WA 98504-7030

360-902-1280
BOGN@DNR.WA.GOV
WWW.DNR.WA.GOV

August 15, 2017

Alan Ward
6943 Woodard Bay Road NE
Olympia, WA 98506

Dear Alan Ward,

Your proposal to name **Libby Creek** is scheduled for its final hearing before the Washington State Committee on Geographic Names on **10/31/2017** in Olympia.

Proposed names may receive two or more hearings before the Washington State Committee on Geographic Names. Meetings are usually held twice a year. At the first meeting, the Committee decides whether or not to consider the name, and at the second, the Committee makes a decision to approve, deny, or defer the proposed name.

In the intervening months, the Committee staff solicits opinions and comments from historical societies, county officials, federal agencies, mountaineering clubs, and any other group or person who can provide information or an informed opinion on the proposal. The Committee uses this information to make a decision according to guidelines previously established by the Committee.

If there is additional pertinent information (names and addresses of longtime residents, property owners adjacent to the feature, or historical information to help us in our research) beyond what is provided in the Geographic Name Application, please let me know at your earliest convenience.

You are welcome to attend the hearing on your proposal, and will be given an opportunity to make a statement or provide information or clarification at that time. An agenda for the next Committee on Geographic Names meeting will be mailed to you prior to the meeting.

If you have any questions or additional information to convey, please call me at (360) 902-1280, or email me at caleb.maki@dnr.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Caleb Maki".

Caleb Maki, Executive Secretary
Washington Committee on Geographic Names
PO Box 47030
Olympia, WA 98504-7030
(360) 902-1280
caleb.maki@dnr.wa.gov



**DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES**

COMMITTEE ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES
PO Box 47030
Olympia, WA 98504-7030

360-902-1280
BOGN@DNR.WA.GOV
WWW.DNR.WA.GOV

November 1, 2017

Alan Ward
6943 Woodard Bay Road NE
Olympia, WA 98506

Dear Mr. Ward,

At the **October 31, 2017** meeting of the Washington State Committee on Geographic Names, the Committee voted to send your application to name **Libby Creek** located in **Thurston County** to the Washington State Board on Geographic Names with the Committee's recommendation to approve.

All information on your proposal will be forwarded to the Washington State Board on Geographic Names for their consideration at a future meeting.

When the Board selects a date to hear your proposal, a letter will be sent to you informing you of the date and time your proposal will be heard.

If you have any questions, please call me at (360) 902-1280 or email me at caleb.maki@dnr.wa.gov.

Thank you for your interest in geographic names.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Caleb Maki".

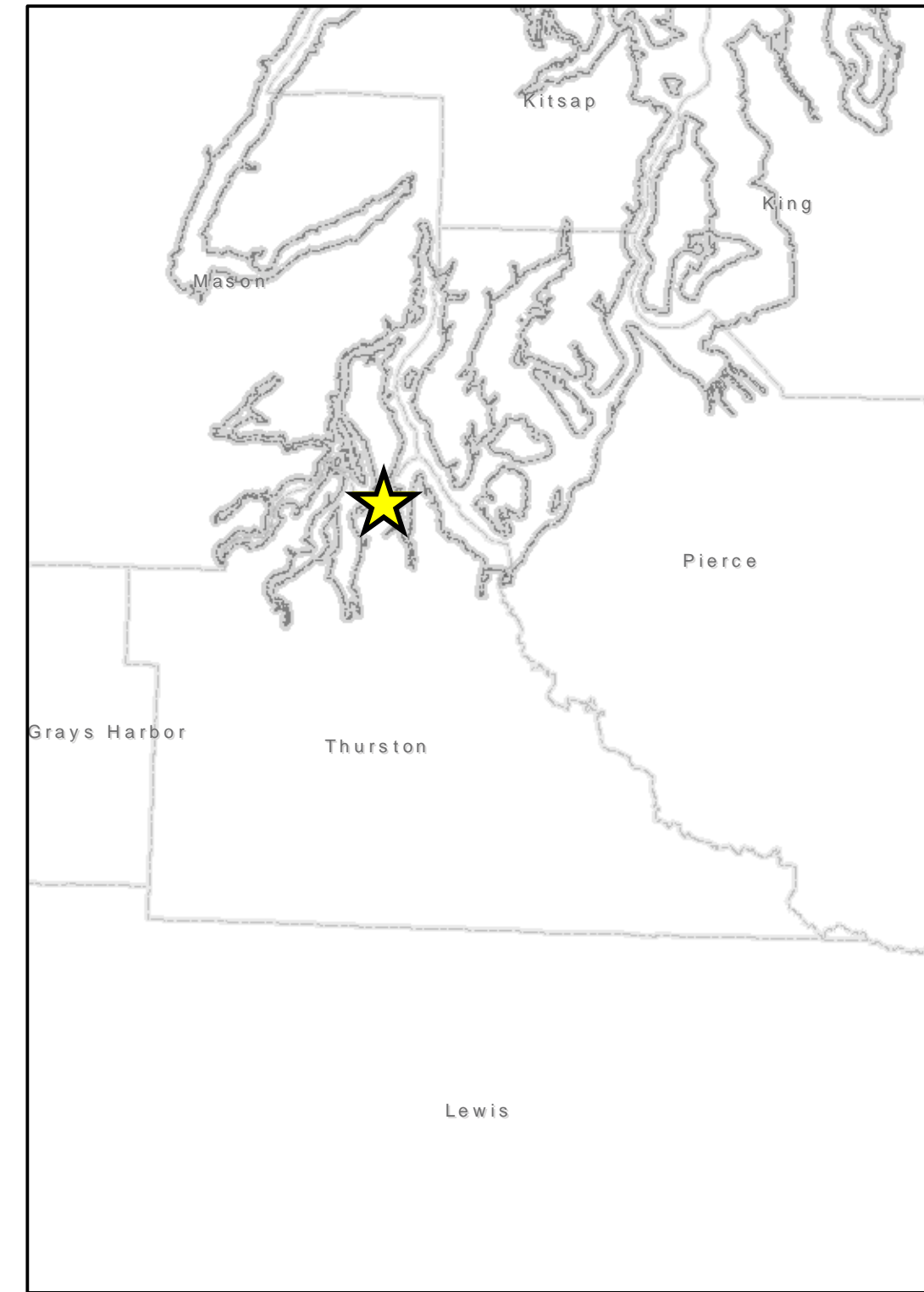
Caleb Maki, Executive Secretary
Washington Committee on Geographic Names
P.O. Box 47030
Olympia, WA 98504-7030
(360) 902-1280
caleb.maki@dnr.wa.gov

LIBBY CREEK - THURSTON COUNTY



Stream, 1.14 miles long. Heads 1.48 miles SE of the town of Boston Harbor. Flows E then N to enter Chapman Bay.

This proposal is for an officially unnamed creek, although the feature has been unofficially referred to as "Sleepy Creek". The name would commemorate the Libby family who homesteaded along the trail that is now Libby Road.

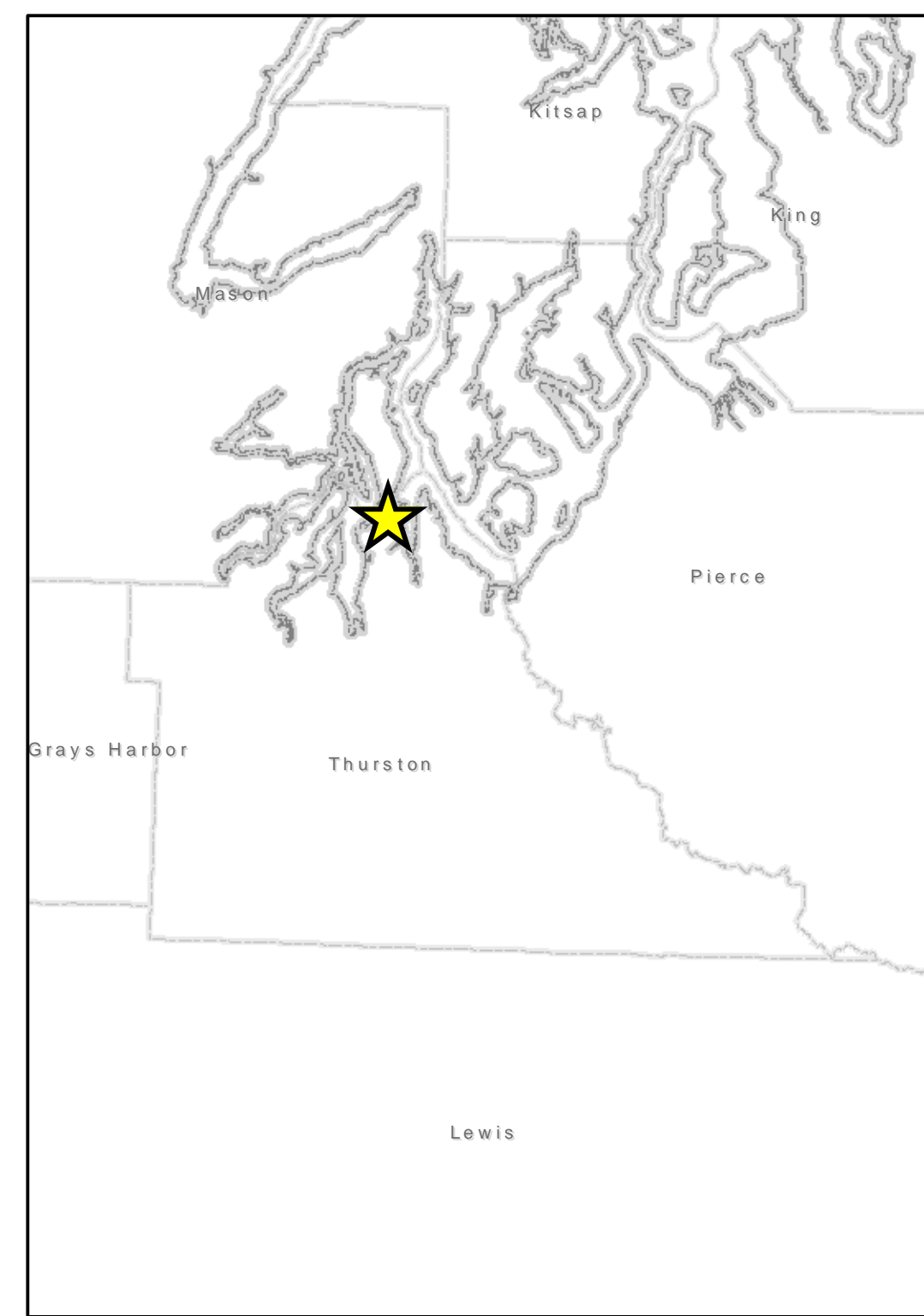


LIBBY CREEK - THURSTON COUNTY



Stream, 1.14 miles long. Heads 1.48 miles SE of the town of Boston Harbor. Flows E then N to enter Chapman Bay.

This proposal is for an officially unnamed creek, although the feature has been unofficially referred to as "Sleepy Creek". The name would commemorate the Libby family who homesteaded along the trail that is now Libby Road.



Steffen Creek

Snohomish County - New Name

Township: 27N

Range: 7E

Section: 7, 8, 16, 17, 21

USGS Quad: Monroe

Location Description: Stream, 3 miles long, heads 3.4 miles SE of the City of Monroe. Flows N then W to enter Riley Slough.

Proposal Summary: Proposed name would commemorate Herman Steffen who purchased the property near the creek in 1900 to raise cattle. Mr. Steffen's descendants still operate Steffen Farms, and own water rights to the creek. The creek is officially unnamed, but does appear on some maps as part of Riley Slough.

Steffen Creek: stream; 3 miles long, heads 3.4 miles SE of the City of Monroe at 47°49'3.414"N, 121°55'19.447"W, then flows N then W to enter Riley Slough; name would commemorate Herman Steffen who homesteaded the land surrounding the creek, and Mr. Steffen descendants still operate Steffen Farms; Snohomish County, Washington; Sec. 7, 8, 16, 17, 21, T27N, R7E W.M.; 47°50'1.456"N, 121°58'6.559"W; USGS map - Monroe.

Proponent:

Wayne D. Steffen
4523 Deer Ridge Way
Antioch, CA 94531

Proposal Received: 11/22/2016

Initial Consideration: 5/16/2017

Final Consideration: 10/31/2017

WA Committee Decision: Approved

WA Board Decision:

US Board Decision:

Opinions:

Snohomish County Council - NO RESPONSE

Monroe City Council - NO RESPONSE

Snohomish County Historical Preservation Society - IN FAVOR

Monroe Historical Society - IN FAVOR

Tualco Grange - IN FAVOR

WA State Historical Society - NO RESPONSE

Snoqualmie Indian Tribe - NO RESPONSE

Swinomish Indian Tribal Community - NO RESPONSE

Tulalip Tribes - NO RESPONSE

WASHINGTON STATE Geographic Name Application



WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF
Natural Resources

Proposed Name: Steffen Creek

New Name

County: Snohomish

Controversial Name

Township: 27N Range: 7E Section(s): 8

Name Change

Lat. _____ N, Long. _____ W (Begin)

Location Clarification

Lat. _____ N, Long. _____ W (End)

Spelling Clarification

Description

Type of feature (lake, stream, etc.): Stream

Description of feature (location, length, depth, height, size and/or area covered): Stream flows north from a large hill, then west along the hill for approximately 1/2 mile where there is an old slough bed that has been dry for 100 years from the Skykomish River, 1/4 mile to the north. This may have been the reason why the entire creek is identified as Riley Slough on some maps. The source of water is not a slough, it is a creek and should be named as such.

If a stream, number of months it flows on a yearly basis: 12 months

Is this feature identified by other names or spellings? Please list variant names: Riley Slough

Has it ever been signed, posted, or publicized? If so, when? No

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: Donald Steffen was assigned the water rights from "an unnamed stream" on February 21, 1975 by the State of Washington, Dept. of Water Resources. The quantity of water claimed was 50 gallons per minute for the purpose of a farm pond and stock water. On November 19, 1981, Don Steffen was issued a Certificate of Water Right by the State of Washington Department of Ecology to use 1.5 cubic feet per second from an "unnamed stream" for the purpose of power generation. The Water Right Claim stated the date of first putting water to use was "January 1900."

If a commemorative name, provide a brief summary of the ENTIRE life of the person including how and the length of time he/she was associated with the proposed feature: See Steffen History file attached

Justification of Proposed Name

What is the usage of feature? Farm pond, stock watering, and potential power generation.

Please state why the proposed name will best serve the public interest: It will recognize an early Monroe area pioneer and multiple generations of a dairy farming family.

How long has the proposed name been in use? By whom? I was born in 1954 and that's how it was referred to by our neighbors along Ben Howard Rd. and in the Tualco Valley.

Please list all sources of information used for your research: (maps, books, articles, periodicals, etc. for background history relating to proposed name) See Steffen History file attached

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:

Tualco Grange, Monroe Swiss Colony, Monroe Kiwanis Club, Evergreen State Fair, Grange Insurance Association, Washington State Holstein Club

Application submitted by:

Name: Wayne D. Steffen

Address: 4523 Deer Ridge Way City: Antioch State: CA Zip: 94531

Phone #: 925.890.0119 Email: stefwd@aol.com Date of Application: 11/22/2016

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

Printed Name: Wayne D. Steffen

Signature: Wayne D. Steffen Date: 11/22/2016

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)

Excerpts taken from:

Pioneering Snohomish County -- Past and Present 1849 - 2002

Ned L. Zaugg

Area Dairy Agent, Washington State University Cooperative Extension

Julie Wakefield, RVT Snohomish County Volunteer Livestock Advisor

Don and Elma Steffen continue the "oldest continually operating registered Holstein herd in the state." Don's grandfather, **Herman**, was born in Germany in 1870 and after many stops along the way, arrived in Monroe on January 27, 1900 with his wife, **Lena Sick**, and their two children. The *Monroe Monitor* recorded, "Herman Steffen has bought Fred Walker's ranch of seventy-five acres, including stock, machinery, and everything except household goods. The price paid was \$1,700."

Clearing land was a continuous necessity. Their income came mostly from selling butter, potatoes, and an occasional steer. "Also, every year there were several weeks' work with a team hauling gravel on the roads. The pay was four dollars a day for ten hours of work by team and driver, who, incidentally, had to help shovel gravel onto the wagon. The shovellers were paid two dollars for ten hours." What a thought-provoking contrast to today's jobs, wages, and an individual's contributions to society!

As a result of the Carnation Milk Company building a condensery in Monroe in 1907, Herman decided he needed to buy some higher producing cows. He found some on the **William Bishop** dairy in Chimacum, Washington, south of Port Townsend. It took two days in 1908 to travel there where he bought "three head; a bull, Jefferson King DeKol, two heifers, Belle Susie DeKol Inka and Jewel of Chimacum." He paid \$300 for them. "He ferried them across [the] Puget Sound and hiked with them from Mukilteo to the farm." Anyone want to retrace his steps today?! Now, that would make headlines with photo on the internet!

Snohomish County Dairy Shrine Hall of Fame (established in 1984)

1984 Pioneer - Herman Steffen

First registered Holstein breeder; Dairyman's Assn. director; Governor's Distinguished Service Award.

1986 Honored Guest - Donald A. Steffen

Lifelong Monroe Holstein breeder; industry and Grange leader; outstanding youth development supporters.

1990 Pioneer - Albert Herman Steffen

Leader of Holstein associations, DHIA, Snohomish County Dairyman's Assn., Grange, etc.

Albert and Don Steffen Family was named the Snohomish County and Washington State Dairy Family of the Year in 1962

Herman Steffen was one of the founders of the Grange Insurance Association in 1928. Herman, Albert, and Donald each served on the Board of Directors at different times over the next 75 years.

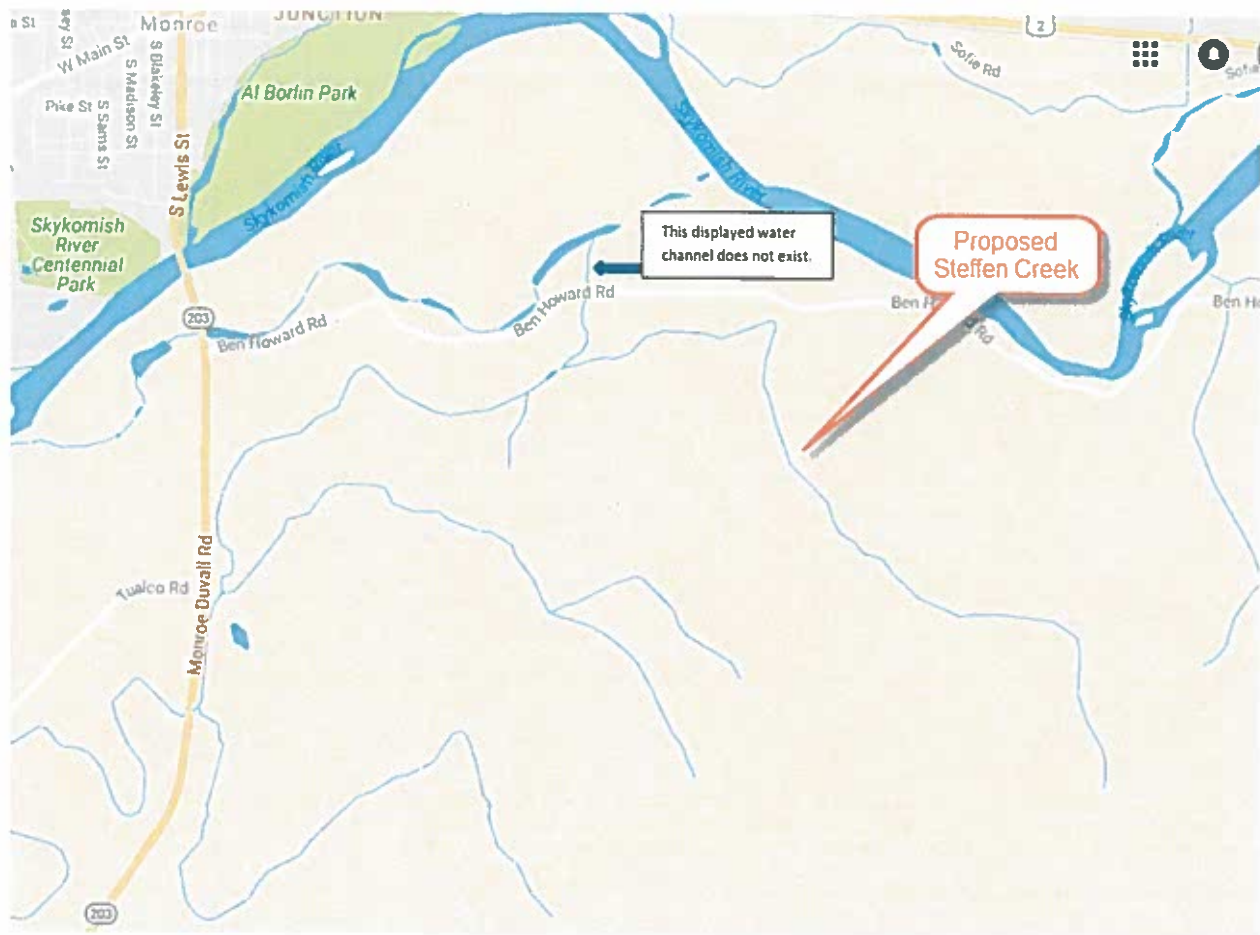
Albert Steffen served on the board of the Evergreen State Fair. Donald Steffen was the Dairy Superintendent of the Evergreen Fair for many years and the dairy barn at the fairgrounds is now named in his honor.

Donald Steffen served on the board of National Holstein Association for 8 years, served as President of the Washington State Holstein Association and the Washington State Purebred Cattle Association. He was inducted into the Washington State PDCA Hall of Fame in the late 1980's. Donald Steffen was Future Farmers of America (FFA) Washington State President in 1941.

Steffen Farms has been recognized as a Centennial Farm in Snohomish County.

STEFFEN FAMILY LAND PURCHASES

Date	Description from the deed
2/6/1900	For \$1100 in gold coins, Herman Steffen purchased from Nancy & Frederick Walker 68.15 acres more or less
?	Herman Steffen purchased from Otto Bogart 88 acres more or less





Everywhere is says "Riley Slough" should be "Steffen Creek".

Dear Sir:

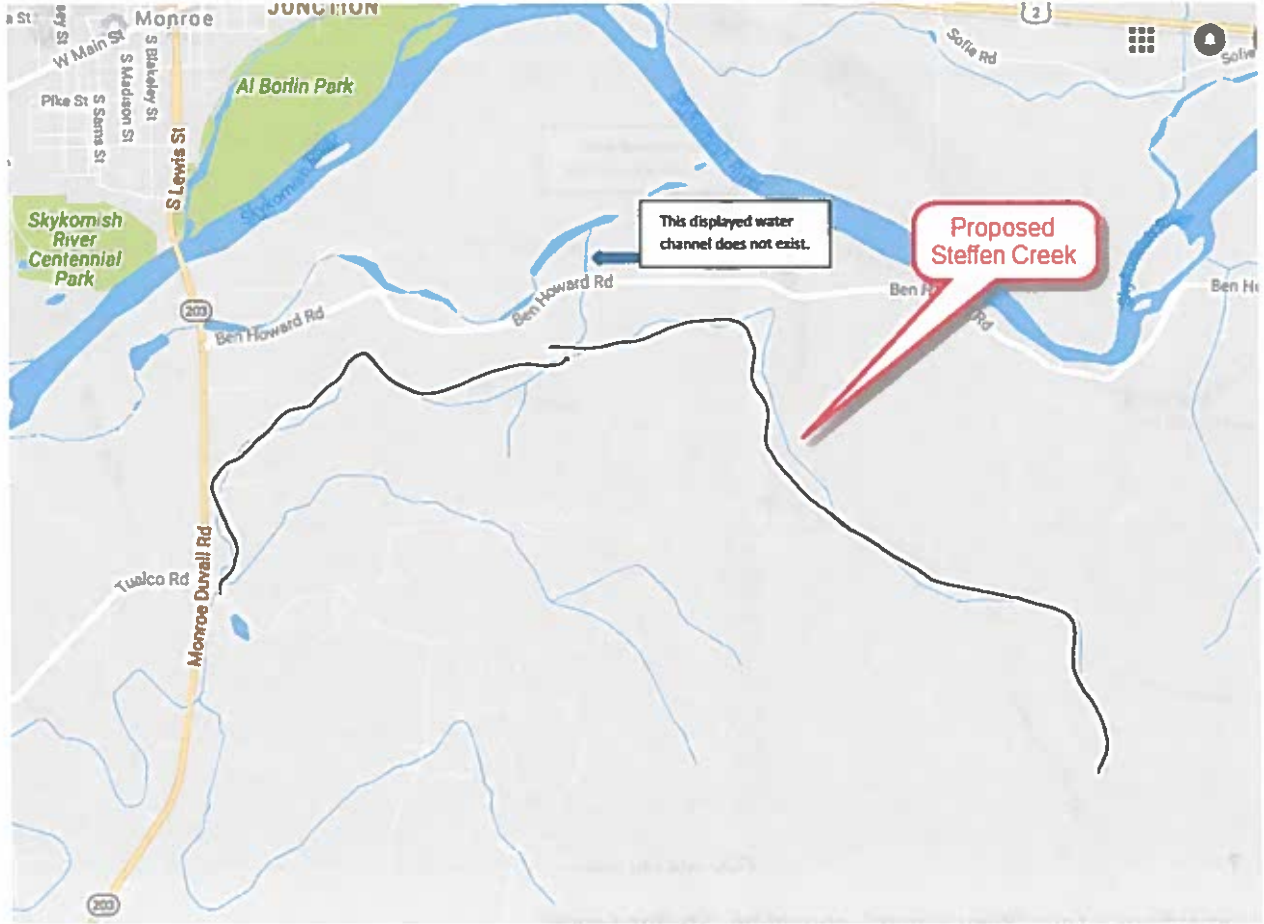
Name change recommendation, the stream which flows thru Steffen farm for ½ mile be changed to Steffen creek.

We have known the Steffen family, Herman, Albert, Donald, Wayne, and their families, from our youth. They have been active members of the community serving in many ways.

We were both born and raised on the Ben Howard Rd. and associate the creek with the Steffen farm. I (Alan) was born in Albert and Alma Steffen's house in 1936. We live on Barr Creek one mile east of the Steffen farm, in our house we had built in 1965. The Steffen's have been good neighbors. They have a community gathering area next to the creek for swimming and picnicking.

We would be in favor of renaming the creek in their honor.

Alan and Harriet Barr
23906 Ben Howard Rd.



Comments

Received

WASHINGTON STATE COMMITTEE ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES

P.O.Box 47030, Olympia WA 98504-7030

Fax (360) 902-1778

Please comment on the following name proposal. Attached you'll find the information regarding this proposed name that will assist you in your comments. If needed, attach additional sheets or information. *Note: The proposed name is not yet official and should not be published on any official documents.*

Proposed Name: Steffen Creek

County: Snohomish County

I'm in favor of this proposal I oppose this proposal I have no objection to proposal

Comments, Please explain: The proposed naming "change" (official County maps include the creek as part of Riley Slough) is an excellent one. The creek completes a total drop of 1400 ft before emerging from the woods onto farmland of the original Steffen property - that in no way fits the definition of a "slough". The proposal is both a great memorial to a centennial farming family, and an appropriate name for such a watercourse.

The flat watercourse further downstream is appropriately called a "slough".

Please sign and return the completed comment sheet to the Washington State Committee on Geographic Names by October 20, 2017.


Signature

Frederick Cruger
Printed Name

03 Oct 2017
Date

abbott1912@aol.com
Email

(425) 334-9078
Telephone Number

Representing: **Self**
Commission Member, Snohomish County
Historic Preservation Commission

It is important to make copies and keep originals of referenced material, historical documentation, articles, and other information relating to the above names.



**Monroe
Historical
Society**

207 East Main Street
PO Box 1044
Monroe, WA 98272

October 3, 2017

Washington State Committee on Geographic Names
PO Box 47030
Olympia, WA 98504-7030

Re: Support in naming of Steffen Creek

Dear Committee Members,

The Monroe Historical Society supports naming the stream that flows through Steffen Farm as Steffen Creek. According to the Society's research, the stream, as defined by Wayne Steffen's Geographic Name Application, has no other historic name, other than locals calling it Steffen Creek.

The Steffen Farm is recognized as a Centennial Farm in Snohomish County. The naming of Steffen Creek is a legacy to the contributions of four generations of Steffens to the dairy and farming industry in the Monroe area.

Very truly yours,

Tami Kinney, Monroe Historical Society President

Monroe Historical Society Board Members



Tualco Grange #284
Leslie Wells, Master/President
18529 State Route 203
Monroe, WA 98272

May 16, 2017

To: Washington State Board of Geographic Names, Washington State Board of Natural Resources

This letter is in support of the request of the Steffen family to change the name of Riley Sough to Steffen Creek. As noted in Wayne Steffen's documentation, at the time the water rights were granted February 21, 1975, this water stream was unnamed. In November of 1981 this water source was still identified as an unnamed stream on the certificate of Water Right by the State of Washington Department of Ecology that was granted to Don Steffen. How or when it became known as Riley Slough is not known to us.

The Steffen family has been recognized as a Pioneer family in the Tualco Valley, an agricultural area just south of Monroe and the Skykomish River. The family has been very active in the local Tualco Grange #284 almost since the Grange was formed in 1909. Don Steffen, Wayne's father, was a valuable contributing member of the Monroe and Tualco Valley area his entire life.

Tualco Grange #284 believes that renaming this waterway would be a fitting honor for a family that has contributed greatly to the area.

Leslie Wells, Master/President

Tualco Grange #284

Dear Sir:

Name change recommendation, the stream which flows thru Steffen farm for ½ mile be changed to Steffen creek.

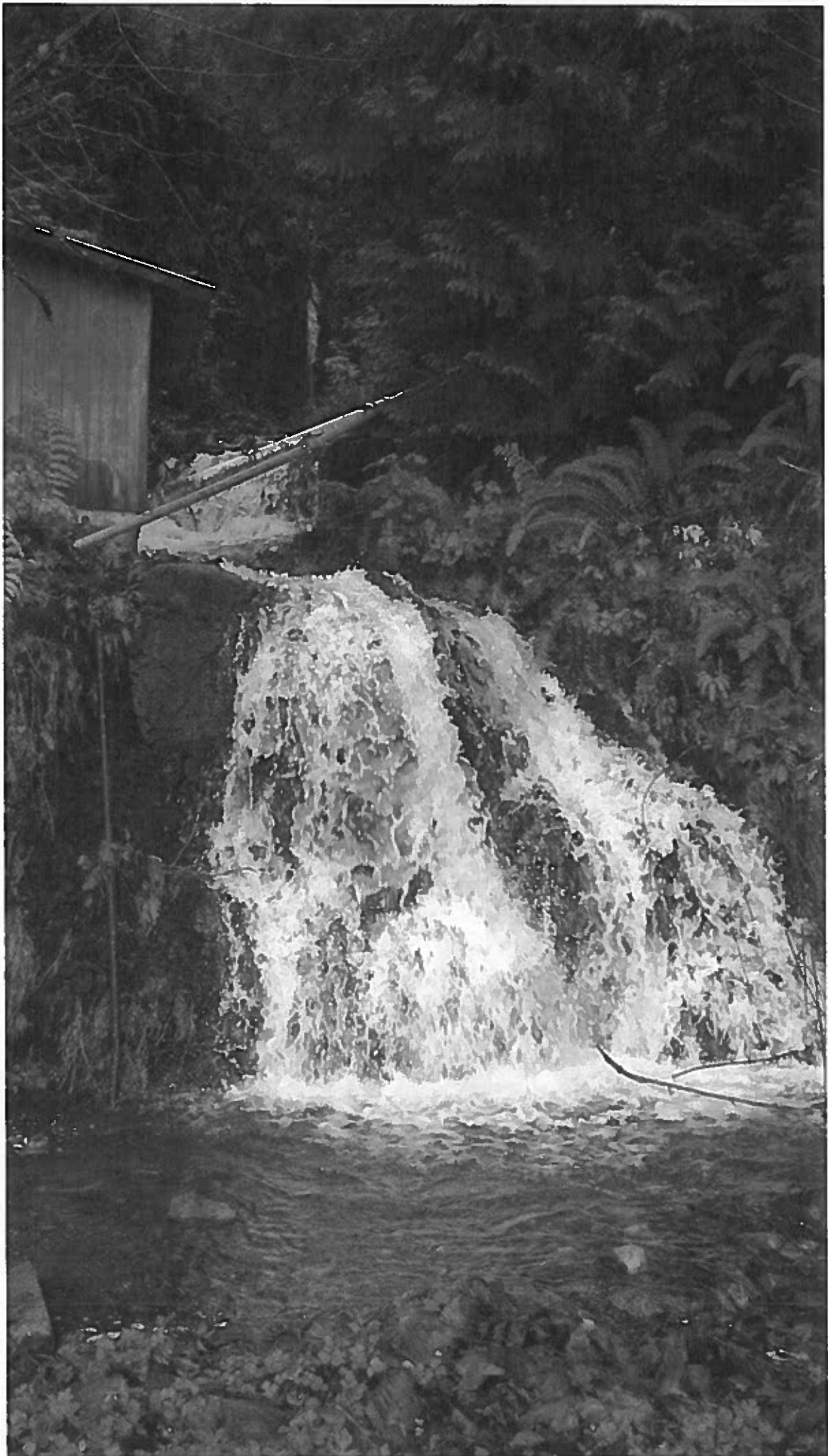
We have known the Steffen family, Herman, Albert, Donald, Wayne, and their families, from our youth. They have been active members of the community serving in many ways.

We were both born and raised on the Ben Howard Rd. and associate the creek with the Steffen farm. I (Alan) was born in Albert and Alma Steffen's house in 1936. We live on Barr Creek one mile east of the Steffen farm, in our house we had built in 1965. The Steffen's have been good neighbors. They have a community gathering area next to the creek for swimming and picnicking.

We would be in favor of renaming the creek in their honor.

Alan and Harriet Barr
23906 Ben Howard Rd.
Monroe, Wa., 98272







**DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES**

COMMITTEE ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES

PO Box 47030
Olympia, WA 98504-7030

360-902-1280
BOGN@DNR.WA.GOV
WWW.DNR.WA.GOV

March 24, 2017

Wayne D. Steffen
4523 Deer Ridge Way
Antioch, CA 94531

Dear Wayne D. Steffen,

Your proposal to name **Steffen Creek** is scheduled for its initial hearing with the Washington State Committee on Geographic Names on **5/16/2017** in Olympia. At this time the Committee will decide whether or not to accept your proposed name for consideration. If accepted, the name will then come up for discussion and final decision at subsequent hearing(s) to follow. At the time of the hearing(s), you may wish to be present and speak for your proposal, but attendance is not a requirement.

Between the initial and final hearings, the merits of your proposal will be researched and comments on the proposal from the local historical societies, county governments, state and federal land management agencies, and interested groups and individuals who have some knowledge of the area will be solicited. If there are longtime local residents or adjacent property owners in the area whose addresses you could provide, I will be glad to request their comments as well.

If I can answer any further questions, please call me at (360) 902-1280, or email me at caleb.maki@dnr.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Caleb Maki".

Caleb Maki, Executive Secretary
Washington Committee on Geographic Names
P.O. Box 47030
Olympia, WA 98504-7030
(360) 902-1280
caleb.maki@dnr.wa.gov



**DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES**

COMMITTEE ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES
PO Box 47030
Olympia, WA 98504-7030

360-902-1280
BOGN@DNR.WA.GOV
WWW.DNR.WA.GOV

August 15, 2017

Wayne D. Steffen
4523 Deer Ridge Way
Antioch, CA 94531

Dear Wayne D. Steffen,

Your proposal to name **Steffen Creek** is scheduled for its *final* hearing before the Washington State Committee on Geographic Names on **10/31/2017** in Olympia.

Proposed names may receive two or more hearings before the Washington State Committee on Geographic Names. Meetings are usually held twice a year. At the first meeting, the Committee decides whether or not to consider the name, and at the second, the Committee makes a decision to approve, deny, or defer the proposed name.

In the intervening months, the Committee staff solicits opinions and comments from historical societies, county officials, federal agencies, mountaineering clubs, and any other group or person who can provide information or an informed opinion on the proposal. The Committee uses this information to make a decision according to guidelines previously established by the Committee.

If there is additional pertinent information (names and addresses of longtime residents, property owners adjacent to the feature, or historical information to help us in our research) beyond what is provided in the Geographic Name Application, please let me know at your earliest convenience.

You are welcome to attend the hearing on your proposal, and will be given an opportunity to make a statement or provide information or clarification at that time. An agenda for the next Committee on Geographic Names meeting will be mailed to you prior to the meeting.

If you have any questions or additional information to convey, please call me at (360) 902-1280, or email me at caleb.maki@dnr.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Caleb Maki".

Caleb Maki, Executive Secretary
Washington Committee on Geographic Names
PO Box 47030
Olympia, WA 98504-7030
(360) 902-1280
caleb.maki@dnr.wa.gov



**DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES**

COMMITTEE ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES
PO Box 47030
Olympia, WA 98504-7030

360-902-1280
BOGN@DNR.WA.GOV
WWW.DNR.WA.GOV

November 1, 2017

Wayne D. Steffen
4523 Deer Ridge Way
Antioch, CA 94531

Dear Mr. Steffen,

At the **October 31, 2017** meeting of the Washington State Committee on Geographic Names, the Committee voted to send your application to name **Steffen Creek** located in **Snohomish County** to the Washington State Board on Geographic Names with the Committee's recommendation to approve.

All information on your proposal will be forwarded to the Washington State Board on Geographic Names for their consideration at a future meeting.

When the Board selects a date to hear your proposal, a letter will be sent to you informing you of the date and time your proposal will be heard.

If you have any questions, please call me at (360) 902-1280 or email me at caleb.maki@dnr.wa.gov.

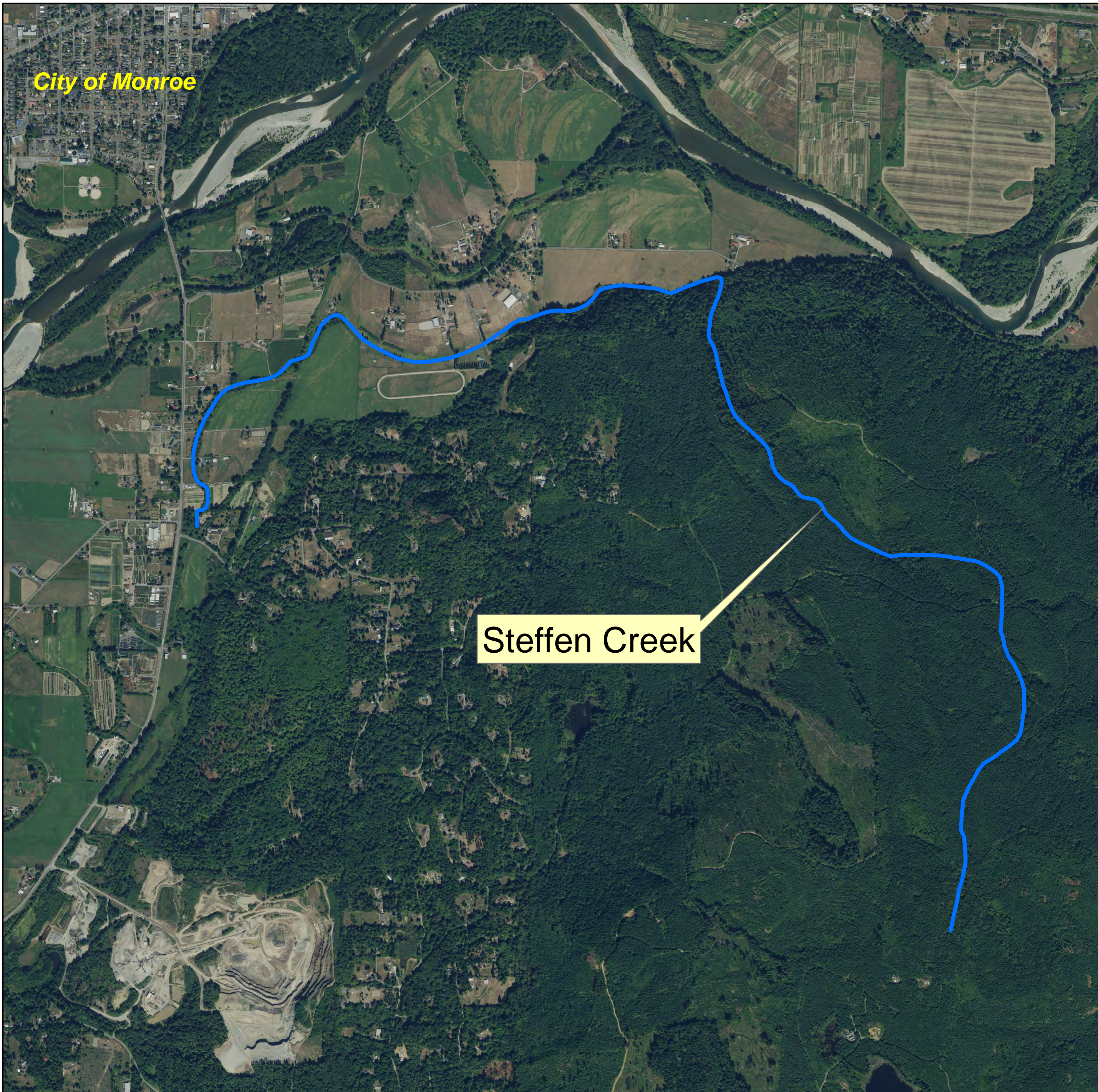
Thank you for your interest in geographic names.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Caleb Maki".

Caleb Maki, Executive Secretary
Washington Committee on Geographic Names
P.O. Box 47030
Olympia, WA 98504-7030
(360) 902-1280
caleb.maki@dnr.wa.gov

STEFFEN CREEK - SNOHOMISH COUNTY



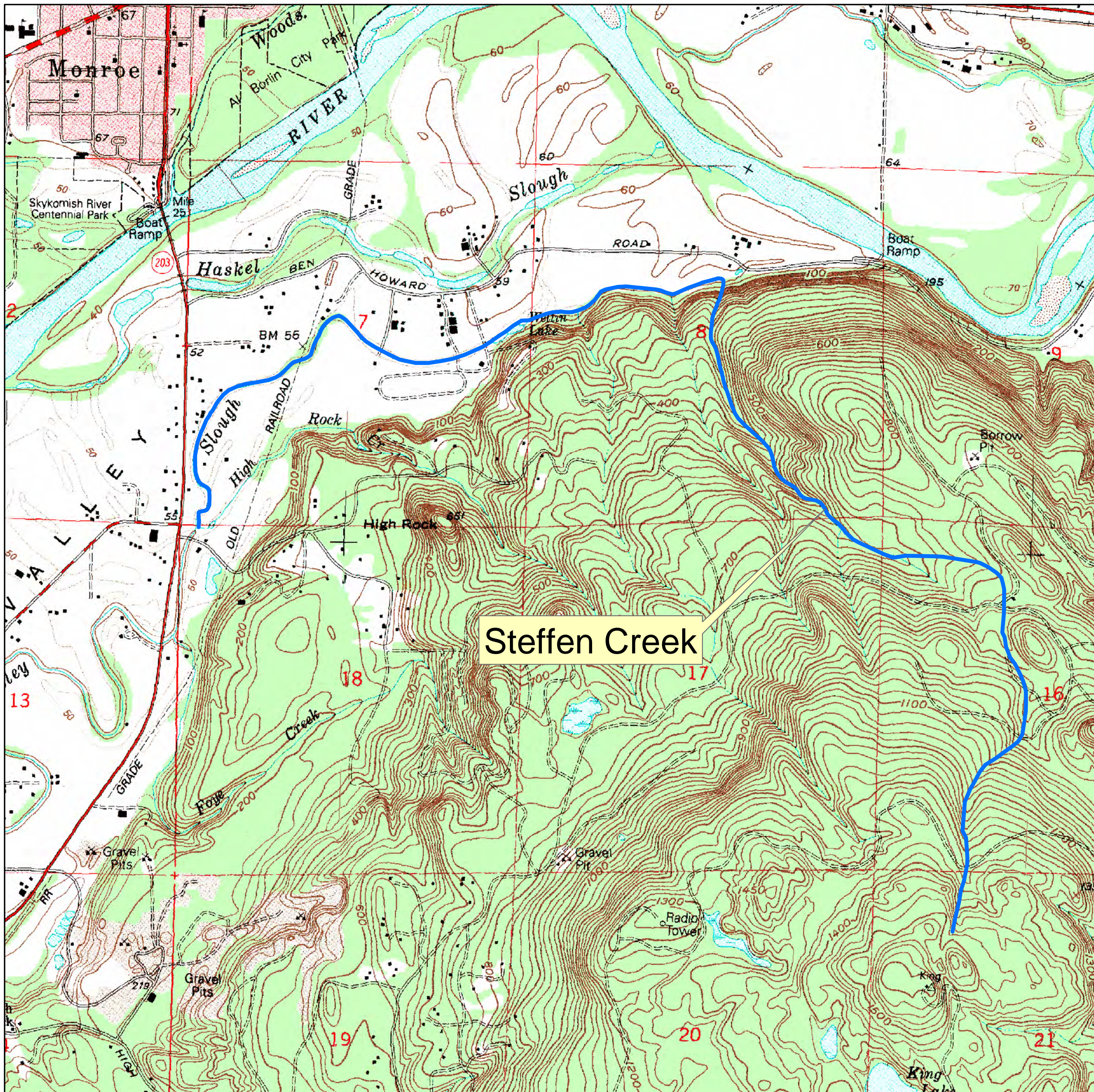
Stream, 3 miles long, heads 3.4 miles SE of the City of Monroe. Flows N then W to enter Riley Slough.

Proposed name would commemorate Herman Steffen who purchased the property near the creek in 1900 to raise cattle. Mr. Steffen's descendants still operate Steffen Farms, and own water rights to the creek.

The creek is officially unnamed, but does appear on some maps as part of Riley Slough.



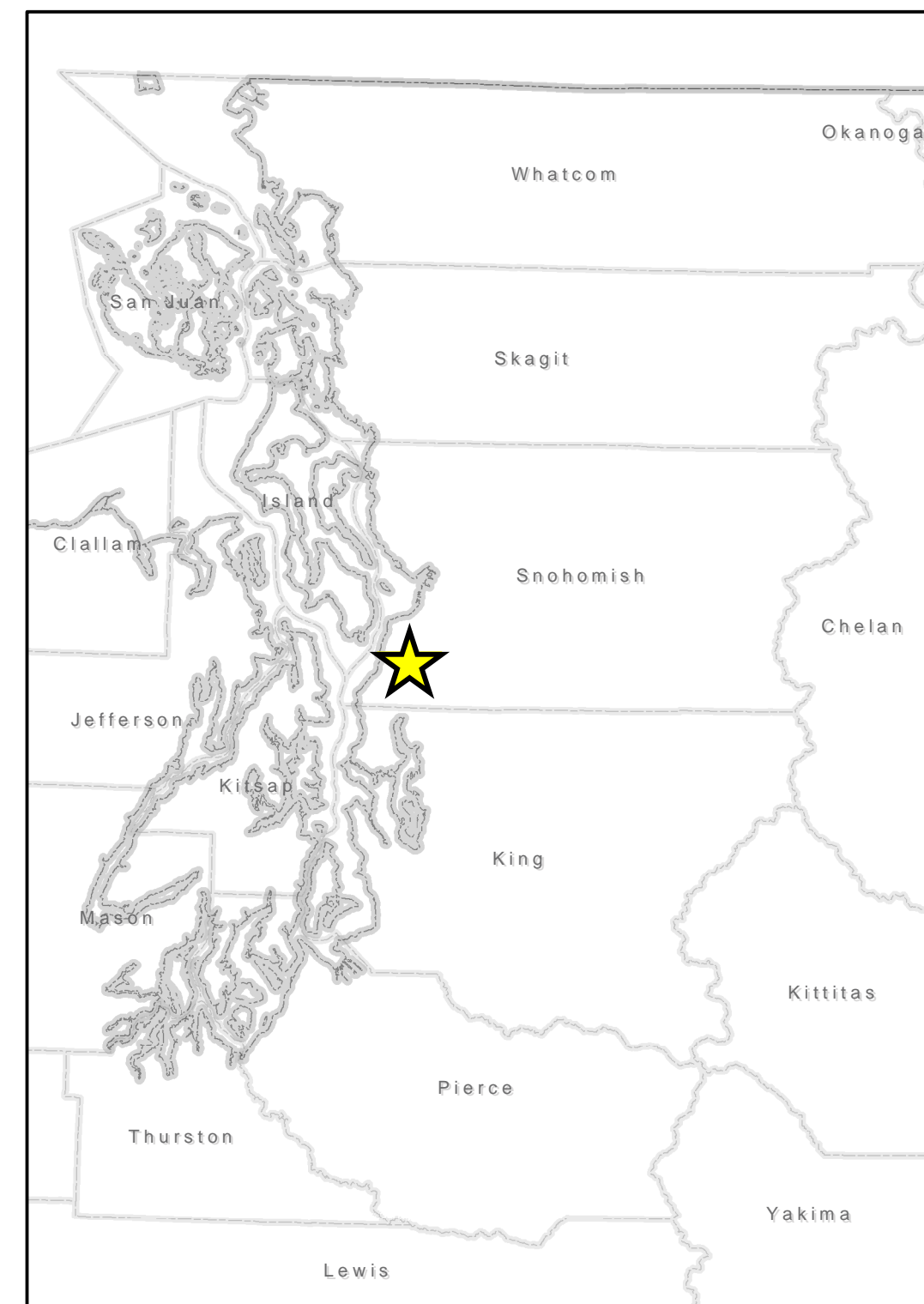
STEFFEN CREEK - SNOHOMISH COUNTY



Stream, 3 miles long, heads 3.4 miles SE of the City of Monroe. Flows N then W to enter Riley Slough.

Proposed name would commemorate Herman Steffen who purchased the property near the creek in 1900 to raise cattle. Mr. Steffen's descendants still operate Steffen Farms, and own water rights to the creek.

The creek is officially unnamed, but does appear on some maps as part of Riley Slough.



Swaram Creek

Okanogan County - Name Change

Township: 30N

Range: 22E

Section:

USGS Quad: Oss Peak & Cooper Mountain

Location Description: Stream, 6.2 miles long. Heads 7.4 miles SW of the City of Methow. Flows E to enter the Methow River.

Proposal Summary: Swaram Creek: stream; 6.2 miles long; heads 7.4 miles SW of the City of Methow at 48°4'40.184"N, 120°8'34.273"W, flows E to enter the Methow River; Changes the name of the creek from "Squaw Creek" to the original name used by the native Methow area people. "Swaram" describes the type of fishing at the creek, "torch light fishing at night"; Okanogan County, Washington; T30N, R22E, Willamette Meridian; 48°5'25.19"N, 120°1'3.874"W USGS map – Oss Peak & Cooper Mountain 1:24,000.

Proposal to change the name of Squaw Creek to "Swaram Creek". Before a mining town was established in the area, native Methow area people called this feature "Swaratatk" or "Swaram Creek". The word "swaram" described the type of fishing at the creek, "torch light fishing at night".

Proponent:

Joanna Bastian
32 Gold Creek Ranch Road
Carlton, WA 98814

Proposal Received: 3/23/2017

Initial Consideration: 5/16/2017

Final Consideration: 10/31/2017

WA Committee Decision: Approved

WA Board Decision:

US Board Decision:

Opinions:

Okanogan County Commissioners - NO RESPONSE
Okanogan County Historical Society - IN FAVOR

City of Pateros - NO RESPONSE
Town of Twisp - NO RESPONSE
US Forest Service - IN FAVOR
WA State Historical Society - NO RESPONSE
Colville Conf Tribes - IN FAVOR
Snoqualmie Indian Tribe - IN FAVOR
Yakama Nation - NO RESPONSE

WASHINGTON STATE Geographic Name Application



WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF
Natural Resources

Proposed Name: Change "Squaw Creek" to "Swaram Creek"

County: Okanogan

Township: 30 North Range: 22 East Section(s): _____

Lat. 48.09004 N, Long. -120.018538 W (Begin)

Lat. 48.096282 N, Long. -120.058653 W (End)

New Name

Controversial Name

Name Change

Location Clarification

Spelling Clarification

Description

Type of feature (lake, stream, etc.): Drainage, Creek, and Road

Description of feature (location, length, depth, height, size and/or area covered): _____

Squaw Creek is a prominent drainage located 7.6 miles north of Pateros on Highway 153. The canyon is roughly five miles long.

If a stream, number of months it flows on a yearly basis: 12

Is this feature identified by other names or spellings? Please list variant names: _____

The original Methow placename was Swaram Creek.

Has it ever been signed, posted, or publicized? If so, when? _____

Squaw Creek was a mining camp in 1886 during the mining boom. The road has a sign and is identified on maps as Squaw Creek.

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: _____

A mining boom town, Squaw Creek, was established in the drainage in 1886. The boom town lasted only a few short years, in 1899 the residents moved the townsite down to the main Methow Valley and named the new town, Methow. Before the miners came, the native Methow people called the place, "Swaratatk", or "Swaram Creek". The word swaram described the type of fishing at the creek, "torch light fishing at night"

If a commemorative name, provide a brief summary of the ENTIRE life of the person including how and the length of time he/she was associated with the proposed feature: _____

Justification of Proposed Name

What is the usage of feature? _____

Squaw Creek is a recreational area, and has a few homes.

Please state why the proposed name will best serve the public interest: _____

The word "squaw" is a derogatory term. Changing the name of the road, creek, and drainage to the original placename of Swaram Creek will honor the Methow descendants who continue to live in the Methow Valley.

In 2015, fire crews refused to use the term "Squaw Creek" to identify the location of the fire, leading to confusion amongst residents.

How long has the proposed name been in use? By whom? _____

Prior to 1886, Squaw Creek was called Swaram Creek by the indigenous Methows. The original place name has fallen out of use.

Please list all sources of information used for your research: (maps, books, articles, periodicals, etc. for background history relating to proposed name) _____

Colville Confederated Tribes tribal elder, historian, and linguist, Elaine Timentwa

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:

Elaine Timentwa Emerson, PO Box 1082, Omak, WA 98841, Elaine.Emerson@ColvilleTribes.com, tribal elder and historian

Dr. Michael Marchand, Gov. Bld. SR 155, Nespelem, WA 99155, Michael.Marchand@ColvilleTribes.com, Chairman, CCT Bus. Cr

Michael Liu, 24 W. Chewuch Rd, Winthrop, WA 98862, mliu@fs.fed.us, 509-996-4027, District Ranger, Okanogan-Wentachee NF

Application submitted by:

Name: Joanna Bastian

Address: 32 Gold Creek Ranch Rd City: Carlton State: WA Zip: 98814

Phone #: 509-341-4617 Email: methowjoanna@gmail.com Date of Application: _____

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

Printed Name: Joanna Bastian

Signature: J Bastian Date: 23 March 2017

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)



The Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation
History/Archaeology Program Telephone: (509) 634-2693
P.O. Box 150, Nespelem, WA 99155 FAX: (509) 634-2694



March 16, 2017

WA State Board on Geographic Names
PO Box 47030
Olympia, WA 98504-7030

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation (CCT), we support the proposal to change the name of Squaw Creek (Okanogan County, WA) to its traditional Salish name, Swaram Creek located in the traditional territory of the Methow tribe. We understand that names have historical and symbolic significance.

Please be advised that the location of the proposed name change lies within the traditional territory of the Methow tribe, one of the twelve tribes that make up the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation (also known as the Colville Confederated Tribes or CCT), which is governed by the Colville Business Council (CBC). The CBC has delegated to the Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO) the responsibility of representing the CCT with regard to cultural resources management issues throughout the traditional territories of all of the constituent tribes under Resolution 1996-29.

Sincerely,

Guy Moura
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer

CC: Chron
CM file

Methow Valley News

SEARCH

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HOME NEWS OPINION SPORTS ARTS VALLEY LIFE CALENDAR CLASSIFIEDS OBITUARIES ABOUT

Today is Thursday, Mar. 23, 2017
METHOW / VALLEY LIFE

Facebook

Lower Valley: February 22, 2017

by ADMIN on Feb 23, 2017 • 4:26 pm

No Comments

MORE



Joanna Bastian

By Joanna Bastian

Elaine Timentwa Emerson is an accomplished artist. Her woven cedar baskets are displayed in museums throughout the Pacific Northwest, and she teaches traditional weaving practices with several organizations. Elaine is also a language instructor for the Colville Confederated Tribes. As an expert linguist and respected elder, Elaine is a valuable resource in preserving history and culture for the Pacific Northwest region.

- BIRTHS
- BUSINESS DIRECTORY
- CRIME
- HARTS PASS
- HISTORY
- LEGAL NOTICES
- NAKED EYE
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- READERS WRITE
- READERS' PICS
- SENIOR CENTER
- SPECIAL FEATURE

Lower Valley

On her mother's side, Elaine is a Methow descendant. Her mother, Julian Timentwa,

was born after the Methow people were moved to the reservation in the Okanogan Valley, but the family maintained close ties to the Methow Valley. Every season, several times a year, the family would come to the Methow Valley to gather food and share stories about this place. As Elaine shared these stories, she paused and smiled. "It was during these times that we learned about the valley, the landscape, and the people," she said.

The Buttermilk area was called the "Gardens," for the plentiful food that grew in the meadows. Gold Creek was known for its abundance of trout and was called "Mountain Trout." Libby Creek was called the "Drying Place," because there were hollowed-out places along the banks that were perfect for drying berries in the sun. Elaine said the Elbow Coulee area was called "The Drum," for its excellent acoustics. During the day, families would gather bitterroot, and at night everyone would come together for a meal.

"After the meal the men would sing, and the songs would echo throughout the coulee," Elaine said, gesturing widely with her arms as she reminisced about these gatherings with family and friends.

Squaw Creek was called "swaR'a-tátkw" (using the International Phonetic Alphabet). The first part of the word, "swaR'a," defines the activity of fishing at night using a lighted torch. The second half of the word, "tátkw," identifies a body of water. Elaine explained, "The

children would gather light-colored rocks and place them in the water, so the fishermen could see the dark colored fish clearly. At night, one person would hold a lighted torch above the water. The fish would swim into the light and the fishermen would catch them," she said, making a jabbing motion with her fist, "with their spears."

In an earlier article, I had referenced a book that was not vetted by the language department of the Confederated Tribes, and incorrectly identified that Squaw Creek was originally named "Frog Creek." This information was in error. Elaine provided a far more detailed and reliable account identifying the original place name of the drainage as "swaR'a-tátkw." It could be that the current name was a mispronunciation of the original name. When I asked if Elaine would support a name change back to the original name, she nodded her head in agreement and clarified that "swara" does not stand alone as a complete word, but if you place an "m" at the end, it does. She suggested the place name be "Swaram Creek." This choice is supported by the Methows who currently live in the Methow Valley just south of Squaw Creek, and by the chairman of the Colville Confederated Tribe business council, Michael Marchand.

It is a mistaken belief that the derogatory word "squaw" is an Indian word meaning woman. The respectful word is either the Chinook trade language word, "kloochiman," or a word from the Salish language. Amongst Methows, there is not a singular Salish word to indicate the fairer sex, but rather a colorful collection of prefixes and suffixes attached to the root word, "tkəlmíxw." The word has a pronounced "ka" at the beginning, and two syllables in the middle with a soft l sound. It sounds a little bit like "kalmilkch."

To change a place name, an application must be filed with the Washington State Committee on Geographic Place Names. With Elaine's approval, I've begun the application process to change the name of Squaw Creek to Swaram Creek. If you would like to add your name to the application in a show of support, send an email to methowjoanna@gmail.com with your name, physical address, phone number, email address, and a brief description of your association with and knowledge of the area.

PREVIOUSLY IN LOWER VALLEY

Email Joanna

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Investigation of Twisp River Pub fire continues; more evidence sought

Youth's death possibly caused by alcohol overdose, coroner says

Marshal investigating death of man found near Winthrop Barn

Yakama Nation joins others in suing Okanogan County over zoning code

Tags: Joanna Bastian, Methow

Previous post

Reddingtons plan motorcycle trip for Alzheimer's awareness

Next post

Twisp: February 22, 2017

Methow Valley News

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HOME NEWS OPINION SPORTS ARTS VALLEY LIFE CALENDAR CLASSIFIEDS OBITUARIES ABOUT

Today is Thursday, Mar. 23, 2017

Facebook

MY TURN

Changing name of Squaw Creek a matter of respect

by ADMIN on Mar 18, 2017 • 2:13 pm

No Comments

MORE

Our readers write



By Lynette Westendorf

The Methow Valley is full of history — from the original Methow Native Americans to pioneers and miners and early settlers. The opening of the valley to white settlers has been well documented, and we have celebrated their stories in several books published by the Shafer Museum in Winthrop.

Fortunately, people are also embracing the history of the valley before the settlers came. Writer Joanna Bastian's recent Lower Valley column (Feb. 22) is a wonderful essay about Elaine Timentwa Emerson, a Methow elder,

artist and linguist. In her article, Joanna states that she has undertaken the process of changing the name of Squaw Creek, in the lower valley, to Swaram Creek, which, according to Ms. Timentwa Emerson is the original Methow Indian name for the drainage. I commend Joanna for her interest in honoring the original and first inhabitants of the valley.

The etymology and original meaning of the word "squaw" have been argued for years. Today, the word is considered to be offensive and is labeled as such in modern dictionaries. It was used for generations, in earlier times, to refer to a Native American woman or wife. Perhaps it wasn't always meant to be insulting, but the context in history books, literature, television and movies always placed the Indian woman as somehow less than elegant, certainly not an educated or skilled woman, definitely not a lady, and she was very often cast as being somehow owned. A "squaw" was not even defined by her motherhood, nor was she a single or independent woman. She was always some man's wife, attending to her man's domestic needs, and she was always placed lower than her white counterpart.

Who knows when the people first began to call the drainage north of Pateros by the name Squaw Creek? The early settlers of the area — hard working and resourceful — have all passed on, but the name remains the same.

Perhaps there was no insult intended when the name was first used, but suffice it to say, Squaw Creek ended up as the official name on maps and road signs. Given the connotation

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- NAKED EYE
- PHOTO GALLERIES
- POLICE BLOTTER
- READERS WRITE
- READERS' PICS
- SENIOR CENTER
- SPECIAL FEATURE

of the word, given that none of us would ever call a Native American woman "squaw" to her face, and given that the Methow were the original and most long-term inhabitants of the valley, the renaming of Squaw Creek to Swaram Creek is entirely appropriate. The name change carries no disrespect for the loggers, miners and settlers — both men and women — who lived there.

The renaming of offensive place names has considerable precedence. From New Zealand to Canada, to the American South, and now throughout the West, offensive place names have been removed from public signs and maps. We all know the words, and if a word is offensive to any group of people, or if it was used to disrespect them at some earlier time in history, then, out of respect for those people — even if they are only a few — then it should be removed from maps and signage. Save these words for literature, when the reality of their power can be discussed honestly in light of both human ignorance and human goodness.

You may find yourself asking, why should we remove a word from a sign or map if we don't personally find it offensive? What if we personally don't carry prejudice against the people who find it offensive? What if we didn't have anything to do with the naming the first place? The simple reason is one of respect. If the term "squaw" was used for a century or two to demean Native American women, then it is only right that we, today, correct that mistake and honor those women by renaming the site by a more appropriate name.

To change a place name, an application must be filed with the Washington State Committee on Geographic Place Names. With Elaine Timentwa Emerson's approval, as well as that of the chairman of the Colville Confederated Tribe's Business Council, Michael Marchand, and other Methows who currently live in the valley, Joanna Bastian has begun the application process to change the name of Squaw Creek to Swaram Creek. If you would like to add your name to the application in a show of support, send an email to methowjoanna@gmail.com with your name, physical address, phone number, email address, and a brief description of your association with and knowledge of the area.

Lynette Westendorf lives in Winthrop.

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Investigation of Twisp River Pub fire continues; more evidence sought

Youth's death possibly caused by alcohol overdose, coroner says

Marshal investigating death of man found near Winthrop Barn

Matters of opinion

Previous post

Local students win at art show

Next post

Matters of opinion

MAKI, CALEB (DNR)

From: Joanna Bastian <methowjoanna@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, May 16, 2017 10:00 AM
To: MAKI, CALEB (DNR)
Subject: Swaram Creek

Hello Caleb,

I received the letter re: the Swaram Creek hearing late yesterday - so will not be able to make the hearing today.

Thank you for the notice, I've scanned the letter and forwarded it to the major interests involved: Elaine Timentwa, Michael Marchand, Michael Liu - contact information is all listed on the application.

I only know of two residents of Squaw Creek: the Keene family, and the Rain family.

I never heard from the Keene family.

The Rains contacted me and were adamant that they did not want the name changed, and they were very attached to "Squaw Creek"

The Rains are the only current residents of the Squaw Creek drainage who contacted me.

The current name is derogatory and has been used to hurt members of the Methow tribe who continue to live in the area (about twenty Methows signed the application and noted their affiliation in the notes) Their original name for that drainage is "Swaram Creek"

The other people who signed the application are either current or past residents of the Methow Valley. Squaw Creek is located in the Methow Valley.

-Joanna Bastian
509-341-4617

Comments

Received

Comments

-

Approve

Name Change



The Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation
History/Archaeology Program Telephone: (509) 634-2693
P.O. Box 150, Nespelem, WA 99155 FAX: (509) 634-2694



June 26, 2017

WA State Board on Geographic Names
PO Box 47030
Olympia, WA 98504-7030

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation (CCT), we support the proposal to change the name of Squaw Creek (Okanogan County, WA) to its traditional Salish name given by Elaine Timentwa Emerson, Swaram Creek located in the traditional territory of the Methow tribe. Traditional names have historical and symbolic significance. Please be advised that the location of the proposed name change lies within the traditional territory of the Methow tribe, a constituent tribe of the CCT.

Sincerely,

Bernie Simpson
bos

Michael Marchand
Colville Business Council Chairman

CC: H/A Chron
CM file

From: Guy Moura (HSY)
To: [MAKI, CALEB \(DNR\)](#); [Cody Desautel \(L&P ADM\)](#); steve@snoqualmtribe.us; cindy@snoqualmtribe.us; jaimemartin@snoqualmtribe.us; prigdon@yakama.com
Cc: [Guy Moura \(HSY\)](#); [Crystal Miller \(HSY\)](#)
Subject: RE: Swaram Creek - Geographic Name Opinion Request
Date: Friday, September 8, 2017 4:51:10 PM

Caleb,

We fully support the name change. We are following the process closely. Thank you for seeking our input. We supplied a letter of support, as has our Tribal Chairman.

Guy Moura
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer

From: MAKI, CALEB (DNR) [CALEB.MAKI@dnr.wa.gov]
Sent: Friday, September 08, 2017 2:09 PM
To: Cody Desautel (L&P ADM); Guy Moura (HSY); steve@snoqualmtribe.us; cindy@snoqualmtribe.us; jaimemartin@snoqualmtribe.us; prigdon@yakama.com
Subject: Swaram Creek - Geographic Name Opinion Request

The WA State Committee on Geographic Names received requests to make official the name **Swaram Creek** for a geographic feature located in Okanogan County.

We respectfully request that you review the information at the link provided, and share with us any support or concerns regarding this proposals prior to **October 20, 2017**. You may do so by responding to this letter, or by filling out the attached form. It is also an option to contact Cowlitz Tribal Councilman Mike Iyall directly, who as a tribal representative, sits on the committee. Mike can be reached at (360) 456-8720, or at (360) 628-2677. If you are not the appropriate contact for this request, please forward to the appropriate parties within your Tribe.

For more detailed information regarding these requests, please visit the committee's website at:

<http://www.dnr.wa.gov/about/boards-and-councils/board-natural-resources/committee-geographic-names>

The next Washington State Committee on Geographic Names meeting will be held on **October 31, 2017**. All meetings are open to the public, and you are invited to attend and give testimony to support your opinions. Attached to this letter are driving directions and a meeting agenda with the date and times.

Caleb A. Maki

Photogrammetrist 3 – Engineering Division
Executive Secretary – Washington State Committee on Geographic Names
Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR)
Phone: 360-902-1280 / Fax: 360-902-1778
caleb.maki@dnr.wa.gov



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest
Methow Valley Ranger District

24 West Chewuch Road
Winthrop, WA 98862
509-996-4000
Fax: 509-996-2208

File Code: 2360
Date: July 6, 2017

The Board on Geographic Names
PO Box 47030
Olympia, WA 98504-7030

Dear Board on Geographic Names,

The USDA Forest Service has a long history of honoring Native American Tribes and indigenous peoples. As such, the Methow Valley Ranger District supports the proposal to change the name Squaw Creek to its traditional name, Swaram Creek.

This change would remove what has become recognized as a derogatory name and replace it with the traditional place name used by the Methow Tribe.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL C. LIU
District Ranger

cc: Joanna Bastian





The
Shafer
Historical Museum
Winthrop, Washington

July 6, 2017

WA State Committee on Geographic Names
Washington Department of Natural Resources
PO Box 47030
Olympia, WA 98504-7030

Dear Washington State Committee on Geographic Names:

I am writing to express our support for the proposed name change for Swaram Creek. The Shafer Historical Museum is a subsidiary museum of the Okanogan County Historical Society. Our previous president, Richard Hart, worked with Joanna Bastian in proposing the current name change.

We understand that there are a number of very good reasons why this creek should be renamed:

1. Racist names do not belong on public roads supported by the tax payers.
2. There are safety concerns. We understand that Native firefighters were rightfully hesitant to use the current name over the radios during the 2015 wildfires.
3. It is the territory of the Methow Tribe, some of whom still live in the area and others who still use plants and other resources in their traditional territory. The word is offensive to them, which Mr. Hart documented over many years of research and interaction among the Methow people.
5. The Methow name for the creek, Swaram, has significant cultural and traditional meaning and will be a cultural benefit to all those in the valley, whether they are native or non-native.

For these reasons we support the proposed name change.

Sincerely,

Peter Donahue
President
Shafer Historical Museum
(a division of the Okanogan County Historical Society)



From: OCHS
To: [MAKI, CALEB \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: Swaram Creek name change
Date: Monday, October 2, 2017 9:51:33 AM

Caleb,

I polled the board and officers of the Okanogan County Historical Society on the matter of changing the name of Squaw Creek to Swaram Creek. The responses came back mostly in favor of the change. A couple were on the side of no objection. None were opposed. So, the official position of OCHS is in favor of changing the name.

Richard Ries, President
Okanogan County Historical Society

Methow Valley News, Letters to the Editor

Cruel, disgusting word

Dear Editor:

Re the recent article by Joanna Bastian in her Lower Valley column: I applaud the efforts of Joanna for her series of articles addressing the pre-white history and culture of Native Americans in the Methow Valley. As the great-grandson of valley pioneers I have always felt that we lacked in our knowledge about those people who were valley "residents" thousands of years before Euro-Americans arrived.

Joanna's recent column addresses the use of the word or term "squaw" and its common use by whites referencing the female gender of the American Indian. She points out a couple of examples in which historians and writers use the word freely and in derogatory tones as though describing a woman or group of women of a lower social order. Unfortunately, the word or term is still heard today.

Over the last few years I have asked many American Indian women about the word/term "squaw." Without exception they find it highly offensive. Their response is commonly high emotion, sadness, tears, and sometimes too upset to respond at all. One distinguished Native elder told me it's as despicable as using the "f" word.

Joanna is correct in calling to attention this cruel and disgusting term that should have no place in our vocabulary. Anyone using it should be shamed.

Chuck Borg, Wenatchee

Not so fast on Squaw Creek

Dear Editor:

I would like to respond to Joanna Bastian's article of Feb. 22.

I don't have a problem with her research on the names of the different drainages in the lower Methow. She went to quite a bit of work to get that information and it's very informative, but I do, however, disagree with her move to get the name of Squaw Creek changed. That is what it has been called as long as I or anyone else in the area can remember. My great-grandfather homesteaded on Squaw Creek in 1894 and that is what it was called then.

Methow started up Squaw Creek in the middle 1890s and it was originally referred to as the "camp up Squaw Creek." One of my great-uncles was born there and that is what he told me many years ago. I really do think that Joanna should have talked to the people who live on the

creek and gotten their opinions. One of these residents is a Native American and I think that she should have been consulted as well as the Native Americans who live 5 or more miles away.

A name change will have an adverse effect on those living on the creek as they will have to go to some expense to have their home and business addresses changed as well as their accounts, drivers licenses, etc. My opinion is that a name change should only take place when the majority of the residents of the drainage are in favor of it.

I don't think that it's right for people to move to this valley because they have fallen in love with it and then try to change everything to what they think it should be, particularly without talking to the people who will be directly affected by those changes.

I want to make it clear that I don't dislike Joanna. I do like her, I just disagree with her. Thanks for the space to state my views.

Bob Tonseth, Methow

The real 'newcomers'

Dear Editor:

I would like to throw in my 2 cents on the matter of renaming Squaw Creek by pointing out who the change-making newcomers to the valley really were, and the cultural sensitivity of the name they (newcomers) gave that stream.

The European-Americans were really the newcomers to the valley, arriving in significant numbers after the Moses Columbia Indian Reservation was opened to non-Indian settlement in 1886. That was only 140 years ago, and a drop in the bucket of time compared to the thousands of years of occupancy by the first inhabitants. If there is a case to be made for "grandfathering" in a name, it would surely go in favor of the longest occupancy.

Then, there is the matter to do with the name imposed by the early whites — Squaw Creek. One should make no mistake about the negative connotation of this word. It ranks right up there with other derogatory place names.

As a kid growing up in Okanogan County I often heard the word "squaw" used by whites in reference to Indian women. It was part of the culture and was usually used in a derogatory tone.

My good friend Bob Tonseth takes a different view of the Squaw Creek renaming, as he stated in his recent letter to the editor. Bob and I go back 70 of our 79 years when we started tromping the mountains of the valley together. I have the highest respect for Bob. He is a natural leader and I salute him for his many years at the helm of the Okanogan County Historical Society and his other significant historical achievements. We just happen to disagree on the Squaw Creek renaming.

Chuck Borg, Wenatchee

Names matter

Dear Editor:

I whole-heartedly agree with Bob Tonseth's statement in his letter last week: "I don't think that it's right for people to move to this valley ... and then try to change everything to what they think it should be, particularly without talking to the people who will be directly affected by those changes."

His sentiment is precisely why Joanna Bastian's application for a name change from Squaw Creek to Swaram Creek is important. This was the mistake made over 100 years ago. We have an opportunity to correct it now.

I feel for Mr. Tonseth's concerns, both about honoring the heritage of his ancestors and about the costs associated with the change. I regret that folks living along the creek will be inconvenienced.

However, these inconveniences are vastly outweighed by the positive impact of a name change. The name Swaram Creek carries stories, memories and legacies for generations, stretching back millennia.

The word "squaw" comes from Algonquian roots, spoken in Massachusetts. It is widely accepted as a derogatory term for a native woman (the dictionary lists it as "offensive"). It reminds us that throughout the history of settlement, native women were barely considered human at all. Already, many local and state municipalities have gone through the trouble of renaming sites called Squaw because of this history.

Violence against native women is epidemic in the United States and Canada. They face rates of sexual and physical assault 2-½ times higher than violence against any other group of women in the United States. They are murdered at a rate 10 times the national average. A larger percent of victimization against these women are committed by white offenders, compared to indigenous offenders.

Changing the name of a creek may seem a small and unrelated thing. Yet names have power. Settlers created the negative stereotype of "squaw." In turn, this fueled the conditions that allow for unspeakable horrors to continue in the lives of indigenous women today.

Changing the name of the creek begins to honor the legacy of native women as survivors, story-carriers, culture-bearers and so much more.

Darcy Ottey, Winthrop

In Support of Swaram Creek

Dear Editor:

It's hard to let go of our own traditions, but sometimes it is necessary.

I'm an herbalist and up until recently, there was a medicinal plant that was commonly referred to with a name that was considered to be both derogatory and offensive, especially to many First Nations people. As more people became aware of the painful connotations of this word, they took it upon themselves to educate people about it, as well as change the common name of the plant from squaw vine to partridgeberry (*Mitchella repens*). Some herbalists had to change their product labels, others had to update their books, articles, etc. But as inconvenient as this was, it's the ethical thing to do.

If you take just a moment I'll bet you can think of other derogatory terms that were historically used to refer to people but are not acceptable in our modern society. We wouldn't fight to maintain those names on streets, plants or anywhere. This is no different. That's why I support the efforts to change the lower valley road name to Swaram Creek.

Rosalee de la Foret, Carlton

Proposal to revert "Squaw Creek" to the original Methow placename of "Swaram Creek"

Name	Address	Telephone #	Email address	Association/Knowledge of the area
Lewis Miller, Jr.	126 State HWY 153 Pateros, WA 98846	509 923 2732		Residence in area
CHARMAINE MINNIS	132 State Rt 153 Pateros, WA 98846	509-429-8905	chuckjim@ hotmail.com	Live on Methow River
Roberta Hall	132 State Rt. 153 Pateros, WA 98846	509-429-8607	bebbi-bugs@ hotmail.com	Live on Methow River
Tracy Miller	164 B STRT 153 Pateros, WA 98846	509-923-2760	tracymiller36@ gmail.com	Live on Methow River
Tom Miller	164 B, Hwy 153 PATEROS, WA. 98846	509-923-2760	//	Live on Methow River
Cynthia L. Miller	130 Hwy 153 Pateros, WA 98846	509-429-6255	phs.1971@hotmail.com	Colville Tribal member Live on Methow River
Paul J. Myrick	130 HWY 153 Pateros, WA 98846	509-429-6029	paulmyrick98@gmail.com	Colville Tribal Member
Emily Larsen	97 Bill Shaw Rd. Pateros, WA 98846	509-670-0899	emily36994@yahoo.com	Resident who lives on Methow River

Proposal to revert "Squaw Creek" to the original Methow placename of "Swaram Creek"

Name	Address	Telephone #	Email address	Association/Knowledge of the area
Elaine J. Emerson	Box 1082 Omak, Wa. 98841	509-322-2827	elaine.emerson@ olvilleTXIGES.com	Methow Tribe
Crystal Miller	124 Hwy 153 Pateros, WA 98846	509-846-3240	Crystalannmiller@ Outlook.com	Methow descendant
Tony & Chuy	P.O. Box 41 Makat WA, 98829	(509) 429-4154		METHOW
Margaret Byrd	P.O. 264 Malott WA. - 98822 -	509-322-3028		Methow Band
Marianna Charley	P.O. Box 491 Okangoyan WA 98840	509) 429-8568		Methow Band father/grandfather
Tyrone Minnis	11704 SE 58th St. Bellvue, WA 98006	253-976-6375	ty-ming@hotmail.com	The Methow Valley is where I grew up and is a place which has deep family ties for me.
Talicia Miller-Poole	164B S. Rt. 153 Pateros, WA 98846	509-449-0599	taliciamiller@gmail.com	Local Methow Descendant

Proposal to revert "Squaw Creek" to the original Methow placename of "Swaram Creek"

Name	Address	Telephone #	Email address	Association/Knowledge of the area
Bruce Morrison	402 Bridge St. Twisp, WA	997-4805	ovalpeak@gmail.com	Methow Valley Interpretive Center Twisp Valley Grange
MARK A. MILLER	137 St. Rt. 153 PATEROS, WA	509-923-2318	dwarfdeb@hotmail.com	Life Resident methow Valley
Adam J. Descoteaux	137A St Rt 153 Pateros, WA	509-557-5077	adamjaydescoteaux@yahoo.com	Methow Valley Resident
Jamie Descoteaux	137A St. Route 153 Pateros, WA	509-216-8740	jam6bbz1@aol.com	Methow/Pateros Resident
Grace Larsen	97 Bill Shaw Rd Pateros, WA	509-670-1381	lars7@g.com	Pateros resident, full-time
Ernie R. Williams	Box 116 Brewster, Wash	509-322-1810		Methow - Indian Bands.
Dianne Rys Johnson	Box H. Monse RR. Brewster, WA 98812	509-689-3544	djohnson@brewstervars.org	Lifetime resident
J. Arlene Rys	"	"	warys@communitynet.org	lived in area most of life
DEB MILLER	137 SR 153 PATEROS	(509) 733-1875	dwarfdeb@hotmail.com	PATEROS RESIDENT
Jacqueline Cook	PO Box 194 Grand Coulee WA	509 633 8361	camas@bigdam.net	Wnatchee descendant Okanogan County Resident

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Proposal to revert "Squaw Creek" to the original Methow placename of "Swaram Creek"

Name	Address	Telephone #	Email address	Association/Knowledge of the area
Dr. Karen Capuder	28 Brooks Tract Rd. Omak, WA 98841	(509) 634-2876	karen.capuder@colvilletribes.com	Ethnohistorical researcher for Colville Confederated Tribes
Lucille M. Luevano	PO Box 287 Nespelem, WA 99155	(509) 634-1986	lucy.luevano@colvilletribes.com	Historian for the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation
GAROLYN SCHEMEL	18 SECOND MILE RD. TWISP, WA 98856	(509) 997-4904	CLSCHEMEL@gmail.com	DIRECTOR: METHOW VALLEY INTERPRETIVE CTR
Joey Nishida	291 Twisp River Rd Twisp, WA 98856	206-331-0557	jynishida1@gmail.com	
Carolyn Cilek	PO Box 815 Twisp, WA 98856	509-341-4215	CarolynCilek@gmail.com	Methow Valley Interpretive Ctr & respect for First Nations
Swam Gray	PO Box Wintthrop WA 98862			Methow Valley Interpretive Center
Paula Mackrau	PO Box 413 Twisp WA 98856	360 316 0965	pmackrau@gmail.com	Hunter / wood gathering Recreation
Darcy Ottey	PO Box 1023 Wintthrop, WA 98862	509 816 4829	darcy.ottey@gmail.com	concerned resident of the valley
Glenn Schmekel	18 Second Mile Rd Twisp, WA	509-997-4904	harvest4@juno.com	M. Valley Interpretive Center The Love Food Bank
Rob Grandall	19 Aspen Ln	341-4060	methownatives1@gmail.com	Methow Natives

Proposal to revert "Squaw Creek" to the original Methow placename of "Swaram Creek"

Name	Address	Telephone #	Email address	Association/Knowledge of the area
E. RICHARD HART	P.O. Box 1066 WINTHROP, WA 98862	509-796-7419	e.richard.hart @gmail.com	HISTORIAN ETHNOHISTORIAN long term work with Methow Tribe
DON LINNERTZ	P.O. Box 937 Twisp, WA 98856	206-769-1690	dlinnertz@msn.com	Resident Exec. Dir. of TwispWorks
Steve Kern	96 Bally Hill Rd., Twisp, WA	206-941-4827	twisp.kern@ gmail.com	Resident
SARAH PROCHNAUB	PO Box 2173 PATEROS, WA 98844	509-699-0679	S.prochnaub gmail.com	Resident.
Anne Acheson	P.O. Box 1295 Winthrop WA 98862	509 846 5744	ameacheson @ gmail.com	Resident
Sam Curlin	P.O. Box 1061 Twisp, WA 98856	509-311-9102	sdcurlin@hotmail.com	Resident
Carol McCord Tom McCord	P.O. Box 596 Winthrop, WA 98862	509 996-3480 ..	mccordc@aol.com ..	Resident ..
ALISON GILLETTE ANDREW HARRIS	50 LOWER BEAR CR. WINTHROP, WA 98862	248-767-2917	alison.gillette @ gmail.com	Residents

Proposal to revert "Squaw Creek" to the original Methow placename of "Swaram Creek"

Name	Address	Telephone #	Email address	Association/Knowledge of the area
Rebecca Meadows	14 Black Canyon Pateros, Washington 98846	509.923.2687	rebmeadows@gmail.com	My family is a 4th generation to live in the valley. Our family has owned property on Black Canyon for over 80 years. Each generation has grown up with the Miller Family of the Methow Tribe. We not only love them we respect each of them and feel this is a way to honor their family. I also feel strongly that after the 2014 fires, when talking to Forest Service representatives that would not use the words "Squaw Creek" when telling us where the fire was moving down the valley, was very hazardous for each property owner. They kept telling us it was in a different creek/drainage when we knew it was in Squaw Creek, one hillside north of Black Canyon. When I finally cornered a Forest Service rep, he explained why: the term was derogatory and racist and they were told not to use it. I understood why, but hard to understand when our homes were in danger. The Forest Service will change the name at some point, so we need to change the name to the original name of the creek.
Rosalee Dotson	30 Smith Canyon Road	509-557-3660	rosalee@herbalremediesadvice.org	I have lived in the Methow Valley for the past 10 years. As an herbalist who studies historical ethnobotanical knowledge, I have long known of the vulgarity of the word "Squaw". I fully support changing this demeaning road name to Swaram Creek.
Lorah and Don Super	166 Jason Lucas Rd Methow 98834	NA	Lorahwaters@gmail.com	We live across the valley on French Creek, not far from Swaram Creek, and have been here since 2001. The Methow people have a much longer history here, and many of our place names (including Methow, Twisp, Chewuch) reflect their place names. "Squaw" is a derogatory term used by white miners who came here and ultimately displaced the Methow from their home. We support honoring the original inhabitants rather than insulting them.

Proposal to revert "Squaw Creek" to the original Methow placename of "Swaram Creek"

Charles T. Borg	6420 Forest Ridge Dr Wenatchee, WA 98801	509-470-6412	borg10231@aol.com	I grew up in the Squaw Creek area during the 1940s and 50s, my parents before me and grandparents before that. It is time that we restore the name of that creek to that used for thousands of years by the Methow Indians who hunted, gathered, and fished there.
Barbara (Borg) Bechelli	3535 Webster Street San Francisco CA 94123-1716	415-317-4015	bbechelli5@gmail.com	I am completely in favor. Our family was raised 6 miles up the Methow River from Pateros.
Kathy Carney & Randy Thordarson	248 Corral St., Winthrop, WA 98862	(509) 996-3137	carneythor@gmail.com	We have lived in the Methow Valley for 19 years. We've hiked, fished & rafted near this area. Some of our favorite rambling areas is the whole Squaw crk & McFarland Crk area. We watched as fire went near that area in 2015 & checked some of that area later. I support changing the name to Swaram. That's closer to its original name.
Amanda Donohue	11 Doe Road, Mazama 98833	818-640-1459	mandi0459@yahoo.com	I have lived in the Methow Valley for 3 1/2 years. I am familiar with the area as I hike, ski, garden, live and breathe here. Our connection with land is valuable and spirited, and deserves a name that encompasses the recognition, tradition and respect for those that were here long before us.
Gordy Reynaud	26 waxwing lane, Twisp Wa	509-429-2991	gordy@methownet.com	My grandparents homesteaded on Gold Creek. Five generations of the Reynaud family have lived in the valley. My mom grew up on an Orchard near the mouth of Squaw Creek. Please add my name to the application list in support of the place name change of Squaw Creek to Swaram Creek.
Janice Kasala	612 Twisp-Winthrop Eastside Rd, Twisp, WA	509-322-3821	janicekasala@gmail.com	I have resided in the Methow Valley full time for 27 yrs. I am involved with the Colville Confederated Tribes through friendships, the United Pow-Wow, Okanogan Basket Weavers Asso.
Dave Sabold	17 Bean Road Winthrop WA 98862	509 996 2522	methow37@gmail.com	Methow Valley resident

Proposal to revert "Squaw Creek" to the original Methow placename of "Swaram Creek"

Ronda Bradeen	PO box 24 Black Pine Lake Rd. Carlton WA 98814	509-997-0680	redronda@aol.com	Methow Valley resident
Anabel Andres	249 Waring St Winthrop. 98862	509-293-2263	aandrrs@windermere.com	Methow Valley resident
Darla Hussey	2980 Highway 153, Twisp, WA 98856	509.488.5930	darlahussey@yahoo.com	I am a resident of the Methow Valley
Teri J Pieper	39 B Rising Eagle road Twisp, WA 98856	509-997-0995	NA	Methow Valley resident
Tom Forker	PO Box 926 Winthrop, WA 98862	NA	NA	Methow Valley resident
Joanna Marracci	451 Balky Hill Rd Twisp, 98856	509-997-4921	NA	Methow Valley resident
Christi Moore	PO Box 574 Twisp WA 98856	509-997-7170	NA	Methow Valley resident
Susie Kowalczyk	636 C Twisp River Rd Twisp, WA 98856	509-429-1590	susiebeez@icloud.com	Methow Valley resident, business owner
Ruth Dight	210 North Fork Gold Creek Road, Carlton, WA 98814	(509) 923-2683	tooruth@earthlink.net	Methow Valley resident
Ann McCreary	P.O. Box 910 Winthrop, WA 98862	509-341-4664	ann@methowvalleynews.com	Methow Valley resident
Susan Speir	PO Box 192 Twisp, WA 98856	509-341-4650	susanspeir@gmail.com	Methow Valley resident

Proposal to revert "Squaw Creek" to the original Methow placename of "Swaram Creek"

Gary Ott	61 Lower Beaver Creek Twisp, WA 98856	509-997-2190	NA	Methow Valley resident
Rebecca Walker Vaughan	215 C SF Gold Creek Carlton, WA 98814	509-386-3783	NA	Methow Valley resident
Aaron Bueler and Carolyn True	1990 State Route Hwy 153 PO Box 184 Carlton, Wa. 98814	NA	Abct@hotmail.com	Methow Valley resident
Ashley Lodato	290 twin lakes road winthrop 98862	509-996-3363	ashleylodato@alumni.stanford.edu	Methow Valley resident
George Wooten	Twisp, WA	509-997-6010	george232@centurytel.net	Methow Valley resident
Patrick Heim	35 Snowberry Lane, Winthrop Wa 98862	509-341-4120	roversranch@centurylink.net	Methow Valley Resident and business owner
David Moskowitz	40 Rolling Rock Rd Winthrop, WA 98862	425-891-4745	david@davidmoskowitz.net	Methow Valley resident
Sally Ranzau	355 Wister Way Winthrop,WA 98862	509-669-3428	sallyranzau@me.com	Methow Valley resident
Lynette Westendorf	P.O. Box 1066 Winthrop, WA 98862	509-996-3418	lynettewestendorf@gmail.com	Methow Valley resident
Morgan Tate	27 Smith Canyon Rd Carlton, WA 98814	509-429-3282		Methow Valley resident
Sara Ashford	18733 Hwy 20 Winthrop, WA 98862	509-341-4042		Methow Valley resident and business owner

Proposal to revert "Squaw Creek" to the original Methow placename of "Swaram Creek"

Blane Rogers	P.O. Box 1245 Twisp, Wa. 98856	509-997-7485		Methow Valley resident and business owner
Mary Kay Morgan	PO Box 1001, Winthrop, Wa	(509) 996-4490	marymorgan.methow@gmail.com	Methow Valley resident
Sarah Schrock	PO BOX 1241 Twisp 98856		sjschrock@yahoo.com	Methow Valley resident
Susan Crampton	28 Wandling Rd, Winthrop WA	509-342-6383	scrampton@methownet.com	Have been in the Squaw Creek area many times, for forestry review and monitoring, bird and wildlife, botany, controlled burning volunteer, camping and hiking.
Laura Schrager	134 Lower Beaver Creek Road Twisp, WA 98856		laura.schrager@gmail.com	Methow Valley resident
Kay Lee	636C Twisp River Rd., Twisp, WA 98856		kmlsmk@centurylink.net	Methow Valley resident
Amanda Armbrust	PO box 312, Twisp, WA 98856	602-909-2302		Methow Valley resident
Mary Orcutt	PO box 425, Winthrop, WA 98862	509-996-4415		Methow Valley resident
Robin Doggett	PO Box 1174 Twisp, WA 98856	509-449-1081		Methow Valley resident
Steve Love	31 Echo Hill, Methow WA	509-923-2277	stlove_18@hotmail.com	Methow Valley resident I have lived in the lower Methow Valley for thirty-two years.
April L Wertz	408 Lincoln St. Twisp, WA 98856	509-341-4278		Methow Valley resident

Proposal to revert "Squaw Creek" to the original Methow placename of "Swaram Creek"

Mary Kiseau	74 Homestead Rd, Winthrop 98862	996-8242		Methow Valley Resident
Marcy Stamper	5 Riversong Road Twisp, WA 98856	509 997-0700	mstamper@mymethow.com	Methow Valley Resident
Mimi Hogan	1111 Highway 20 #4 Winthrop, WA 988612	907-223-5115	mimihogan@gci.net	I am a part time resident of the Methow and spend most of my year in Alaska. I am a retired wildlife biologist and worked for the Fish and Wildlife Service in Alaska for 25 years. In the mid-90's I conducted meetings around the State regarding changing regulations to allow the traditional hunting of migratory birds in the spring. I went to many rural and remote villages and spoke with people about their waterfowl hunting traditions. I consistently received comments about the duck named the Oldsquaw and how Native peoples, especially women, found the name derogatory. A colleague and I petitioned the American Ornithological Union to change the name to the Long-tailed Duck, a name the bird carries in other parts of its international range. In 2000 the AOU changed the name to Long-tailed Duck.
Jocelyn A. Murray	249 Twisp River Rd Twisp, WA 98856	509-997-2819	Jocelynmurray53@gmail.com	I have lived in MV for 35 years and am pleased to have the opportunity to support this change from an offensive term to an honorable name favored by our predecessors.

When I was approached about this name change I said, "Finally it's about time!"

I'm writing in support of the name change from Squaw Creek to its original Methow location name Swar'am. This issue was brought up before and did not get past the research phase. This time it has been researched, there have been communication between the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation (CCT) Tribal Chairman, CCT History/Archaeology Program, CCT Language Program, US Forest Service, Shafer Historical Museum and communities of the Methow Valley. The news media has also reported the progress of the name change.

As a Methow Indian woman I want to respectfully ask for this name change. These women were my elders and I would like to speak for them: great-great-great grandmother tia,tq^w; great-great grandmothers Chus-chutl Rose Marie and Seecumpeetl; great grandmothers Celian, Lucy Marie, Yapyowet and Christine Pe-el (Quah-nye); grandmothers Agnes Peters and Marianne "Mattie" George, Mary Miller Marchand; mother Elsie Grunlose Miller; and sister Roberta Miller Minnis.

Women have always had a contributing role in our society and need to be recognized for it. This name is disrespectful to a group of Indian women who don't deserve it.

The Carlton Complex fire of 2014 and the McFarland Creek Fire of 2015 caused devastation to us all, we all had to do what we could to fight the fires. But it became glaringly apparent that this Squaw Creek name is wrong! The fire crews found this name offensive and they called the 2015 fire "McFarland Creek Fire." As part of our recovery from these fires, let's change this name back to the Methow location name Swar'am. Make this name change for our future generations and may women be looked upon as standing next to everyone and not have to feel slighted by this word.

Methow people revered the land, so we had spiritual prayers/ceremonies when we hunted, fished and gathered from the land. The word 'squaw' is belittling and derogatory to Indian women, it's a word that is offsetting for such a beautiful part of our valley.

Respectfully,

Cynthia L. Miller

130 Hwy 153

Pateros, WA 98846

Through my mother I am a descendant of the Methow Tribe. I have worked for over 20 years for the Colville Confederated Tribes' Language Preservation Program as a fluent speaker.

I believe changing the name of Squaw Creek to swar'am is long over due.

For many generations before the white military or settlers came into Methow Valley, native names existed all along the course of the valley. Place names to our people give reverence to the land. The name for Squaw Creek is swar'am and it means "Torch Fishing". The name of that particular place simply describes the salmon runs during which young adult men were required to go through a rite of passage by taking charge of the torches.

The white man jingo-word "squaw" is belittling, extremely hurtful, and offensive to all native tribes across the American continent. The word squaw depicts an Indian woman as a whore or a submissive slave.

Two years ago during the devastating Methow Valley fire, fire fighters made their base camp at Squaw Creek. During any major fire, fire fighters set up a base of operations and they name that base camp for a local creek, mountain, road or river. Those fire fighters two years ago did not want to use the name Squaw Creek because they felt it was a derogatory word. They named that base camp MacFarland Creek Camp instead, although MacFarland Creek itself was 5 miles upstream on the Methow River.

That endorsed the fact then that there is something very wrong with that word. And we certainly do need a change.

Those few in denial of change are not in accordance with those fire fighters' belief, or the local people, or Methow tribal members. "Squaw" is a derogatory word.

I find it amusing that those in opposition are pandering such an ugly word yet live at the very gateway of such a beautiful valley. And I say to you, that the cruelest insult that you can foster is to pretend "squaw" is not appropriate and hurtful to the core. Shame, shame on you!

Elaine Timentwa Emerson

MAKI, CALEB (DNR)

From: Darla Hussey <darlahussey@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, September 17, 2017 8:47 PM
To: MAKI, CALEB (DNR)
Subject: Support for restoring the name "Swaram Creek" to the area currently known as Squaw Creek

I support the efforts of the Methow People to restore the original name of Swaram Creek. I recognize that the Methow Valley is the traditional territory of the Methow People. Restoring the original name recognizes their ancestral history, and pays homage and respect to the First People.

While I am not insensitive to the problems a name change may cause current residents, it is my belief that their inconvenience does not outweigh the insult and denigration that the ongoing use of the word "squaw" causes the Methow People. I have read accounts from both Elaine Timentwa and Mark Miller about the pejorative nature of the current name and trust that they are greater authorities on the mindset and sensibilities of the Methow People than folks who have simply lived here for a generation or two. And if length of time residing in the Methow Valley is a factor in deciding the issue, local Native Americans surely claim that victory. Families and businesses survive changing addresses on a daily basis ... it is a hassle, but not insurmountable. The current generation may not be the ones who did visited so many wrongs against the original inhabitants of this land, but we can be the generation that starts to set things right.

I implore you to please respect the position of the Methow People and make the change back to "Swaram Creek."

Thank you,

Darla Hussey
(509) 488-5930

DNR RE BOGN

From: RL davis <davisrich@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, September 19, 2017 12:15 PM
To: DNR RE BOGN
Subject: Squaw Creek/ Swarum Creek name change

As a member of the Methow Valley Interpretive Center , which supports understanding and reconciliation with the Methow Band, My wife Linda Davis and I, Richard Davis, support changing the current name of Squaw Creek in the Methow Valley to Swarum Creek . Thank you---- Rich Davis

From: Joanna Bastian <methowjoanna@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 18, 2017 5:50 PM
To: RL davis
Subject: Thank you!

Hello Rich,

Thank you so much for the tour and information on Friday. I'll let you know when the article is coming out.

To write a letter in support of Swaram Creek name restoration, please send an email to:

bogn@dnr.wa.gov

or snail mail to:
WA State Committee on Geographic Names
PO Box 47030
Olympia, WA 98504-7030

To monitor progress of the name change process, and to view submitted letters, visit <http://www.dnr.wa.gov/about/boards-and-councils/board-natural-resources/committee-geographic-names> and click on the Swaram Creek link.

thank you, Joanna

DNR RE BOGN

From: Rita Hanan <hanan@centurytel.net>
Sent: Tuesday, September 19, 2017 1:25 PM
To: DNR RE BOGN
Subject: Swaram Creek Name Change

I live in Twisp, in the Methow Valley, and I support changing the name of Squaw Creek to Swaram Creek. When I was a child in the 1950's, my father, a logger, told me that squaw was a derogatory word. I have felt awkward ever since in using the name Squaw Creek, especially now that the meaning has become more widely known. I recognize that changing a name on paper doesn't necessarily change the usage of it, and many people will likely have a hard time making the shift, but at least it would be a good-faith effort to right an old wrong.

Lorita Hanan

DNR RE BOGN

From: Steve Eng <seng7955@aol.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 20, 2017 12:36 PM
To: DNR RE BOGN
Subject: Yes on Swaram Creek name change

I support the proposed name change to Swaram Creek. The current name of Squaw Creek is derogatory and offensive, and has no place in our modern society. I have been a Chelan County resident for 51 years and it's time we showed some respect to our Native American neighbors. Thank you.

Steve Eng
Wenatchee, WA

--

Sent with [Postbox](#)

From: laurellegw@gmail.com
To: DNR RE BOGN
Subject: Swaram Creek
Date: Tuesday, September 12, 2017 8:03:01 AM

To the members of the Washington State Committee on Geographic Names:

After long thought and consideration, I am in favor of changing the name of Squaw Creek to Swaram Creek.

Back in the late 19th century, when white settlers named a little creek that flows into the Methow River "Squaw Creek," they gave it a name that was never used by the Methow Tribe who populated the area, and a name that, today, is derogatory to Native American women. Local Native Americans already had a name for the creek, Swaram, which white settlers chose not to respect or use, and some white people still defend in the name of "history."

Today, the people of Washington state and the Washington State Board of Geographic Names have a unique opportunity to right a wrong.

I see that these issues are addressed in the Washington Administrative Code (WAC 332-160-050) pertaining to geographic names. To quote: "When is the change of an existing geographic name appropriate? ... Generally, the following three classes of proposals may justify the change of an existing official name: (1) Proposals made to bring existing official names into agreement with dominant local usage; (2) Proposals made to eliminate existing name problems, as in the case of derogatory names, name duplication creating confusion within a county, and officially recognized names that were based on incorrect information; or (3) Proposals made at the request of persons or organizations for commemorative purposes. Committee decisions to change a name or to adopt any specific name will consider all relevant factors regarding name proposals as well as other committee policies, documented usage, population density, and state, tribal and local government needs."

It is clear that all of the above justifications apply to the request for name change submitted by Joanna Bastian. It is also clear that the people most hurt by Squaw Creek's existing name are local Native Americans, whose testimony should be given most weight.

It is my hope that the Washington Committee on Geographic Names decides in favor of changing Squaw Creek to Swaram Creek.

I am a full-time resident of the Methow Valley. I regularly pass by and recreate near the place called Squaw Creek.

Laurelle Walsh
Winthrop, WA

From: Rosalee de la Foret
To: [MAKI, CALEB \(DNR\)](#)
Subject: In support of Swarum Creek
Date: Tuesday, September 12, 2017 10:28:09 AM

To Whom It May Concern:

I support the efforts of the Methow people to restore the original name of Swarum Creek. I recognize that the Methow Valley is the traditional territory of the Methow People. Restoring the original name recognizes their ancestral history, and pays homage and respect to the First People. We need to remove the current derogatory name as soon as possible.

Rosalee

From: Emily Swogger-Reaves
To: MAKI, CALEB (DNR)
Subject: Swaram Creek
Date: Tuesday, September 12, 2017 2:14:26 PM

To whom it may concern;

I support the efforts of the Methow people to restore the original name of Swaram Creek. I recognize that the Methow Valley is the traditional territory of the Methow People. Restoring the original name recognizes their ancestral history, and pays homage and respect to the First People.

Thank you,
Emily Swogger-Reaves

From: teri pieper
To: MAKI, CALEB (DNR)
Subject: Change the name of Squaw Creek
Date: Tuesday, September 12, 2017 2:17:30 PM

I support the efforts of the Methow people to restore the original name of Swaram Creek. I recognize that the Methow Valley is the traditional territory of the Methow People. Restoring the original name recognizes their ancestral history, and pays homage and respect to the First People.

Thanks very much
Teri J Pieper
39B Rising Eagle Road
Twisp, WA 98856

<https://myeverydayphotos.com/>

From: Bastian, Nathan
To: MAKI, CALEB (DNR)
Subject: Swaram Creek
Date: Wednesday, September 13, 2017 3:40:55 AM

Dear Mr. Maki,

I support the efforts of the Methow people to restore the original name of Swaram Creek. I recognize that the Methow Valley is the traditional territory of the Methow People. Restoring the original name recognizes their ancestral history, and pays homage and respect to the First People.

Kind regards,
Prof. Nate Bastian

Professor Nate Bastian
Head of Research - Astrophysics Research Institute
Liverpool John Moores University
Royal Society University Research Fellow
N.J.Bastian@ljmu.ac.uk <<mailto:N.J.Bastian@ljmu.ac.uk>>
+44 151 231 2933

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MAKI, CALEB (DNR)

From: Joanna Bastian <methowjoanna@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 17, 2017 2:59 PM
To: DNR RE BOGN; MAKI, CALEB (DNR)
Subject: Fwd: Swaram Creek - letters from Colville Business Council, USFS, and Shafer Museum
Attachments: Colville Business Council Swaram Letter.pdf; MV Ranger District Swaram Letter.pdf; Shafer Museum Swaram Letter.pdf; Hart Swaram Letter.docx

Hello,

Just making sure these documents for Squaw Creek to Swaram Creek are received.

We would like to be present at the hearing in October. Is the date of the hearing set?

Here are four more letters of support for the suggested name change of Squaw Creek to Swaram Creek in Okanogan County.

A number of us met together and learned additional information from Elaine Emerson Timentwa, Methow descendant and tribal elder:

"Swaram Creek and the related fishing techniques of torch light fishing at night were considered a rite of passage for stages of youth. The young ones who were given the task of collecting the light colored stones and placing them in the water were of a certain age celebrating a rite of passage, as was the young person who was selected to light the torch. Certain things in certain places at certain times were all part of the rights of passage." – Elaine Emerson Timentwa

Have a nice day, Joanna

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Joanna Bastian <methowjoanna@gmail.com>

Date: Thu, Jul 13, 2017 at 6:22 AM

Subject: Swaram Creek - letters from Colville Business Council, USFS, and Shafer Museum

To: caleb.maki@dnr.wa.gov

Cc: Elaine Emerson <elaine.emerson@colvilletribes.com>, "Guy Moura (HSY)"

<Guy.Moura@colvilletribes.com>, "Crystal Miller (HSY)" <Crystal.Miller@colvilletribes.com>,

dwarfdeb@hotmail.com, Cyndy Miller <phs.1971@hotmail.com>, "Jackie Cook (HSY)"

<Jackie.Cook@colvilletribes.com>, "Liu, Michael C -FS" <mliu@fs.fed.us>, "Michael Marchand (CBC)"

<michael.marchand@colvilletribes.com>, Richard Hart <e.richard.hart@gmail.com>

Good morning Caleb,

Here are three more letters of support for the suggested name change of Squaw Creek to Swaram Creek in Okanogan County.

A number of us met together and learned additional information from Elaine Emerson Timentwa, Methow descendant and tribal elder:

"Swaram Creek and the related fishing techniques of torch light fishing at night were considered a rite of passage for stages of youth. The young ones who were given the task of collecting the light colored stones and placing them in the water were of a certain age celebrating a rite of passage, as was the young person who was selected to light the torch. Certain things in certain places at certain times were all part of the rights of passage." – Elaine Emerson Timentwa

We would like to be present at the hearing in October. Is the date of the hearing set?

MAKI, CALEB (DNR)

From: Joanna Bastian <methowjoanna@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 13, 2017 6:22 AM
To: MAKI, CALEB (DNR)
Cc: Elaine Emerson; Guy Moura (HSY); Crystal Miller (HSY); dwarfdeb@hotmail.com; Cyndy Miller; Jackie Cook (HSY); Liu, Michael C -FS; Michael Marchand (CBC); Richard Hart
Subject: Swaram Creek - letters from Colville Business Council, USFS, and Shafer Museum
Attachments: Colville Business Council Swaram Letter.pdf; MV Ranger District Swaram Letter.pdf; Shafer Museum Swaram Letter.pdf

Good morning Caleb,

Here are three more letters of support for the suggested name change of Squaw Creek to Swaram Creek in Okanogan County.

A number of us met together and learned additional information from Elaine Emerson Timentwa, Methow descendant and tribal elder:

"Swaram Creek and the related fishing techniques of torch light fishing at night were considered a rite of passage for stages of youth. The young ones who were given the task of collecting the light colored stones and placing them in the water were of a certain age celebrating a rite of passage, as was the young person who was selected to light the torch. Certain things in certain places at certain times were all part of the rights of passage." – Elaine Emerson Timentwa

We would like to be present at the hearing in October. Is the date of the hearing set?

Have a nice day, Joanna

Joanna Bastian
509-341-4617

Editor
Methow Valley News

Both my parents and my grandparents were devoted church-goers, worked hard their whole lives to do good, and I am sure never would knowingly have done a thing to hurt any other human being. Nevertheless, they used, and I grew up hearing, words that today we know are offensive to others. They didn't know any better and I didn't know any better either.

Today we all work to make the world a better place for us, our children and our grandchildren. One of the simple things we can do is to cease using words that are found offensive to others.

Today, we have a chance to make a small change that will eliminate an offensive place name from state road signs and replace it with a word that celebrates the heritage of this valley.

The Methow people were in this valley for many, many generations before any white people arrived in the region. There is a creek down valley that was especially important to the Methow people. A Methow elder, Elaine Timentwa Emerson, whom I have known for about twenty years, said this, "Swaram Creek and the related fishing techniques of torch light fishing at night were considered a rite of passage for stages of youth. The young ones who were given the task of collecting the light colored stones and placing them in the water were of a certain age celebrating a rite of passage, as was the young person who was selected to light the torch."

I have worked with Indian tribes in the western United States for about fifty years. The road signs identifying this creek today use a word that is offensive to Native Americans. Today that creek and road name can be changed to "Swaram." This change will celebrate, in a positive way, the heritage we all share in this valley, whether we are White, Native or any other ethnicity. It is something we all should support. Supporting this change does not mean we in any way are criticizing those who originally gave the creek its current name.

Richard Hart

DNR RE BOGN

From: George Wooten <george232@centurytel.net>
Sent: Thursday, August 17, 2017 1:32 PM
To: DNR RE BOGN
Subject: Change Squaw Creek to Swaram Creek

Hello,

I am writing to comment on the proposal to change the name Squaw Creek in the Methow Valley to Swaram Creek. I support this change for the reasons given on the application, (1) that the name is controversial and (2) there was already an existing name. In addition, the word "squaw" is not English and it has several different meanings, depending on which linguistic group used it, among primarily Algonquin cultures.

Counter-claims that the word "squaw" was common jargon to refer to Indian women in a non-offensive manner, are not exactly correct. The word has several offensive meanings depending on the language spoken. Other meanings of related Algonquin dialects include "slave woman", "concubine" and "female genitalia". The usage by early miners implicitly included these other terms, just as their equivalents of today still do in the slang words c*nt, and b*tch.

George Wooten
Twisp, WA
509-997-6010

Joanna Bastian, community member and journalist, requested an interview of me on behalf of the Methow Valley News after the 2014 Carlton Complex fires. That interview led to a series of articles that helped illustrate the "Indian" perspective about the Methow People.

After a time of gained confidence and demonstrated understanding of Indian Culture, she broached the topic of the word, Squaw Creek. Is it offensive? I laughed, which made her uneasy. I quickly apologized. It instantly brought two incidents to mind. First, an explanation by my grandfather when I was age five, then, a bloody nose I received at age 12.

I explained "Squaw" is a white word, not an Indian word. To white people, it means "Indian woman". To Indian women, it is offensive and disrespectful. As a five-year-old traveling up the Methow Valley with my grandfather he explained this to me after I read the sign for Squaw Creek. "So, why is it called Squaw Creek?" I asked. He responded, "Because, the white man couldn't speak Indian very well, so when told the Indian name of the place, 'Swaram', he changed it to 'Squaw'."

Next, at age 12, a senior boy provoked me by saying, "Your sister is going to make a good 'Squaw'." I immediately jumped on him with the fury of an enraged bobcat. We were both bloodied. If you were keeping score, I probably lost. Twelve to fifteen years later at the Pateros Apple Pie Jamboree he approached me, gesturing to let him speak. "I have always been ashamed of what I said about your sister, I respect her and your family. Please accept my apology." We shook hands.

When Joanna opened this issue, she asked, "what is the proper way to start?" I suggested that Elaine Timentwa was the eldest Methow woman that would freely talk to this issue from a language and cultural perspective. Elaine confirmed two points: yes, this word is offensive, and there has always been an Indian name that means "torch light fishing at night". Swaram Creek is the name of the drainage that describes the traditions and history of that place.

After starting this process the proper "Indian" way, Joanna started the process the proper "white" way. Emotions have been stirred!! She has been criticized, threatened, and labeled a "newcomer" and an "outsider". Those opposed cite decades, maybe even 100 years, of history in the Methow Valley. Archaeologist Stan Gough relates that the Methow People have probably lived here for 13,000 years. So, in relative terms of time, Swaram Creek has only been misnamed for about 150 years.

I agreed to support Joanna's efforts. I gave her permission to refer those that would oppose her to talk to me. I have read most of the letters in protest. I recognize many of those names. Only one person has approached me to tell me how the Indian people should "feel." After a brief discussion of our shared school, community events, and raising our families in the Methow – until that day he did not realize that "squaw" was demeaning and disrespectful. His name is not on these letters of protest.

It has been pointed out that an Alaskan Native woman is in protest. She lives on Squaw Creek. My mother befriended her because she was Native and she was so far displaced from her family. I am certain on their initial encounters, if she referred to my mother as a "squaw", they would not have become friends.

I have tried to add some Native perspective to this issue and hope I haven't offended anyone.

Over the past month I have struggled to find an answer considering the protests against change. This River, Valley, and communities are the reason we choose to live here. With these shared commonalities, my unanswered question to the protest argument is this: Why do you fight so hard, to offend the Native Methow People?

Respectfully,

Mark Miller
Descendent of Methow People

6420 Forest Ridge Dr.
Wenatchee, WA 98801

August 31, 2017

WA. State Comm. on Geo. Places
Attn: Caleb Maki
PO Box 47030
Olympia, WA 98504

Re: Renaming Squaw, Okanogan County
Dear Commissioners,

Under provisions of WAC 332-160-050(2) addressing derogatory names of geographical places I urge the Commission to approve the renaming of Squaw Creek in the Methow Valley of Okanogan County.

Before arrival of whites in the late 1800s the drainage and creek in question was known by Native Americans as Swaram Creek. The name goes back hundreds and probably thousands of years describing a place where fishing methods involved placing white stones on the stream bottom allowing salmon to be silhouetted by torch light.


No one knows for sure by whom or when this place was named Squaw Creek. Best guess is that it was named by white settlers and miners who came to the area when the Moses-Columbia Indian Reservation was opened to non-Indian settlement in 1886. **That was only 130 years ago.**

The name squaw is a word packed full of derogatory meanings. It was used by some to refer to female Native Americans. It was used to describe someone of a lower class, someone having lower values, etc. And, it carries even more repugnant connotations too crude to put on this paper.

Several persons have expressed opposition to the renaming. They cite the belief that it (Squaw Creek) has always been Squaw Creek and the name should be retained for historical reasons and personal convenience. They further argue the name squaw is not offensive. (It is interesting to note that these very same arguments were expressed by some when the name Nigger Creek, in the Blewett Pass area, was renamed in the 1960s.)

Finally, I would argue that this proposal is not about renaming. Instead, it is about **returning the rightful name** and bringing to light the pre-white history of this area.

Sincerely,



Charles T. "Chuck" Borg

Hart West & Assoc.
P.O. Box 1066
Winthrop, WA 98862
509-996-3419
e.richard.hart@gmail.com

Washington State Commission on Geographical Names
Attn. Caleb Maki
P.O. Box 47030
Olympia, WA 98504-7030

Dear Washington State Commission on Geographical Names:

I have submitted materials which are part of the application to name **Swaram Creek** already, but would like to make a brief statement at the October 31 final hearing on the subject.

I am an historian who has worked with tribes for fifty years. I have worked closely with the tribe within whose aboriginal territory Swaram Creek is located. The aboriginal homeland of the Methow Tribe has been adjudicated before federal court and there is no question that the Methow and only the Methow occupied this aboriginal territory. I have published a history of the Methow and I am including a complimentary copy of that book for your perusal.

I have also worked as an expert witness for the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation. Methow is one of the confederated tribes. Their history is documented in my book. There are also maps that show that the Methow Valley and Swaram Creek are part of Methow territory.

In my many years working with dozens of tribes I have become aware of how objectionable the word "squaw" is to Native people. There is no question that the creek in question should be renamed.

If I can make an oral statement at the hearing please let me know by letter or email how long I can have. I would like to at least make a short statement summarizing what I have already said in materials attached to the application and what I have said in this letter.

Sincerely,



E. Richard Hart

SWARAM CREEK

Statement to the Washington State Commission on Geographical Names

Thank you for the opportunity to briefly address the application to name Swaram Creek.

I am an historian who has worked with tribes for fifty years. I have worked closely with the tribe within whose aboriginal territory Swaram Creek is located. The aboriginal homeland of the Methow Tribe has been adjudicated before federal court and there is no question that the Methow and only the Methow occupied this aboriginal territory. I recently published a book on the history of the Methow Tribe.

I have provided expert testimony before federal courts in a number of cases on behalf of tribes, including the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation (Methow is one of the Confederated Tribes). I have served as an expert witness in behalf of tribes for the United States Department of Justice over a period of nearly forty years.

In the course of my work I have worked with dozens of tribes and have become aware of how objectionable the word Asquaw@ is to most Native people. I have interviewed and spoken with many enrolled members of the Methow Tribe. All of the Methow people I have talked to object to the use of that word.

Anthropologists have pointed out that terms like Asquaw@ and Abuck@ have been used to dehumanize ethnic groups of people. Today, the use of the term Asquaw@ can simply represent a long-standing pattern of use passed down by families and communities (my own parents and grandparents, though highly educated, sometimes unknowingly used objectionable words). However, the use can also be prejudiced and even racist.

In any case, the word should be erased from Washington State geography because it is objectionable, especially to the people who first lived in the Methow Valley, and for whom the valley was named. ASwaram@ is an appropriate name that indicates the use of the creek in question by its first inhabitants.

E. Richard Hart
October 31, 2017

From: Emma Noyes
To: [DNR RE BOGN](#)
Subject: Swaram Creek
Date: Tuesday, October 10, 2017 12:49:32 PM

Dear Committee on Geographic Names,

Lim limtx (thank you) for the time that you are taking to carefully review the comments and petitions regarding Swaram Creek. Myself and my family are in full support of changing the name of Squaw Creek to Swaram Creek. We are Colville tribal members and descendants and would like to see our children grow up spending time on our traditional homeland without the shadow of a derogatory name for Native American women. We live in a nation and state that faces an epidemic of murdered and missing Native American women. Native American women are diminished and de-valued to an extent that derogatory words for Native women have been written into the colonized landscape.

I have read in newspaper articles that there is some debate as to whether the word squaw is offensive. I urge you to take a moment to think about the images that the word squaw conjures up. You need not use your imagination - please search the word "squaw" on google and search images. There are some historical photographs taken by non-Natives that refer to women as squaws, but the vast array of images are offensive and eye-roll worthy images of women in tacky costumes, tattoos of "Indian Maidens", and screenshots from movies or scantily clad modeling shoots. It is not a word without meaning and the meaning is truly unpleasant. I did not realize until writing this letter how difficult it is for me to type out the word squaw or squaw creek - it is for this reason that many Native people consider squaw to be the S-word and why it is considered to be on par with what mainstream society refers to as the C-word.

Changing the name of a waterway traditionally used by the Methow people will not change current and past injustices. It will not end the use of the word squaw in local bullying and hate crimes. However, it provides an opportunity to recognize the historical importance of the creek/area and to infuse the landscape with a word from a language that is highly endangered. A word that is not meant to be divisive.

Way' Lim limtx,

Emma Noyes

1224 W. Providence
Spokane, WA 992015

From: Susan Crampton
To: [DNR RE BOGN](#)
Subject: committee on geographic names
Date: Friday, October 13, 2017 9:34:09 AM

Dear Committee Members/

I would like to add public support for the name change in the Methow Valley of Squaw Creek to Swaram Creek. I have known for many years before I lived in the Methow Valley that the name squaw was a crude and offensive name for Native American women, with meaning as that of a whore.

I have lived and worked in the Methow Valley for 25 years, in North Central Washington for 30 years, and born and raised in Oregon more than 70 years ago. I volunteer at the Methow Valley Interpretive Center that works to understand and also to educate others about Native and Natural History in the Methow Valley.

I support the change of this offensive Methow Valley place name to a name of worth and value to the Native Americans who were in the Methow Valley for thousands of years before white people arrived. Thank you for your attention to this issue.

Sincerely/
Susan Crampton
Twisp/WA

Statement to the Washington State Commission on Names of Geographic Places

Oct 31, 2017

I am a fourth generation white Methow who grew up very near the Squaw Creek drainage. That area was my playground growing up in the 1940s and 50s.

I would like to make a few quick points before the Commission.

-1) The opposition to renaming Squaw Creek seems to be an overlay to the opposition to renaming of Nigger Creek in the Blewett Pass area in the 1960s. People opposed the renaming citing that the name Nigger Creek should be retained for historical purposes. The initiative went ahead and the creek is now named Etienne Creek.

-2) The opposition argues the same about Squaw Creek. That argument fails to recognize the name given by whites when the Moses Columbia Reservation was opened to non-Indian settlement in 1886 is only 130 years ago. It also fails recognize there was a name held by Natives for thousands of years before.

-3) The Native name carries true cultural significance because it describes a method of subsistence fishing.

-4) The restoration of Native names is a common undertaking this day and age. The first class city of Barrow, Alaska, America's northern-most city with a population of 4200, was recently restored to its original name one year ago. It is now officially named by its Inupiat name, Utqiagvik, meaning place where wild roots were dug and place of the snowy owl.

-5) Also in Alaska, Mt McKinley, North America's highest mountain, has been restored to the ancient Koyukon Athabaskan name, Denali, meaning high one.

I urge the commission to restore the name Swaram to this historically important place in the Methow Valley as it was known by the Valley's ancient people.



Julian Timentwa - Elaine's mother



Elaine Timentwa Emerson

From: Dianne Edmonds
To: [DNR RE BOGN](#)
Subject: Renaming of Squaw Creek in Okanogan County
Date: Sunday, October 15, 2017 8:23:34 PM

To: Washington State Committee on Geographic Names

I am in favor of renaming Squaw Creek to Swaram Creek, a traditional Native name for the place. Place names should honor a people, individual, or culture, not demean or offend them.

If the naming was done without knowledge of its negative impact on others, the unintended harm can be corrected by changing that name.

It is equivalent to saying to another person that you are sorry for hurting them, even unintentionally, by your actions, and that you will no longer act in a hurtful way. Refusing to make changes because you've "always done it that way" demonstrates malice and a self-centered disregard for others.

People should learn from their mistakes and then not repeat them. Respecting others, a core value we should all live by, needs to underlie all our actions.

Please approve the change in this inappropriate place name.

Dianne Edmonds
Winthrop & Seattle

From: Sara Mounsey
To: [DNR RE BOGN](#)
Subject: Fwd: Swaram Creek comment
Date: Monday, October 16, 2017 6:40:45 AM

To Whom it May Concern:

As a teacher in the Methow Valley, I have been watching the discussion in the newspaper regarding the name change proposal for Swaram Creek. My class, a high school mixed age group of juniors and seniors, has been learning about the history of that place and the multiple perspectives included in the newspapers.

Through this process, I have realized that the name "Squaw" is a derogatory term offensive to native women. For many women, this term means the same thing as the English word "whore". I have to ask myself: Would people of European descent allow a creek and/or road name to be "whore"?

Not only is this term derogatory, it is not the term used by Methow people for that place. Swaram Creek is, and was (probably for thousands of years), the original name of the place. In the educated place from where we stand, it is crucial that we use our power to honor to the Methow people for whom this place was home.

It is understandable that, for a hundred years, the name Squaw Creek was commonly used. It takes time for habits to change. We must consider the context of the time in which it was deemed "Squaw" by the European settlers. We do not know their intentions at the time, but likely they were not malicious intentions. It's likely that for the past hundred years the majority of people using that name have not meant disrespect to Methow people by calling it such.

Now we know, though. It would be dishonorable for us to not change it now.

Thank you for your consideration of my comment.

Sara Mounsey
Twisp, WA

--

Sara

From: Camden Shaw
To: [DNR RE BOGN](#)
Subject: Squaw creek
Date: Monday, October 16, 2017 8:14:57 AM

To whom it may concern,

Please change the name of squaw creek to a more suitable and inclusive name. I would hope you would consider all Native American name possibilities first.

Camden Shaw

--

Camden Shaw
509.341.4133
Plantas Co.

From: Kim Odell
To: [DNR RE BOGN](#)
Subject: name change
Date: Monday, October 16, 2017 2:26:51 PM

Hello,

Im strongly in favor of a name change that honors the first people of this valley. **Swaram Creek is a name that both represents the history of the creek as well as tells a story of how it was used by the native people. I believe it is time for the pioneers of this valley to honor the history of the people who came here before them.**

Thank you,

Kim Odell
Twisp, WA

From: Deken Smith
To: [DNR RE BOGN](#)
Subject: creek name change.
Date: Monday, October 16, 2017 2:39:53 PM

Hi I am a ninth grade student at the ILC Alternative school in Twisp Washington. I have been hearing about the situation with the name change of "Squaw Creek". My name is Deken Smith. I am from the Colville Confederated Tribes from my moms side of the family. I personally think that the name should be changed because the word "Squaw" meant slave and whore.

I think they should should change the name to Swaram creek because the native women and other people take the word "Squaw" offensively.

Sincerely,
Deken Smith

Comments

-

Against

Name Change

NAME CHANGE

10-4-17

HAS ANYONE CONSIDERED THE COST OF
CHANGING THE NAME SQUAW TO SWARAM
COST TO LEAVE AS IS = 0 DOLLARS
COST TO CHANGE NAME = THOUSANDS & MORE.
THERE HAS BETTER WAYS TO WASTE MONEY
THAN ON THIS PROJECT.

DECISIONS SHOULD BE MADE TO
BENEFIT THE MANY AND NOT TO
PLEASE A FEW.

THE CHANGE DOESN'T AFFECT YOU
BUT IT DOES ME, THE TAX PAYER
AND PROPERTY OWNER.

RECEIVED BY
DEPT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

OCT 11 2017

ENGINEERING DIVISION
OLYMPIA 09504-7030

CITIZEN OF SQUAW CREEK

SEP 25 2017

ENGINEERING DIVISION
OLYMPIA 09504-7030

SEPT. 19, 2017

TO: COMMITTEE ON GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES

REGARDING Squaw Creek NAME CHANGE

I WAS BORN AND RAISED IN OKANOGAN
County and now am a Property owner in
CHELAN County.

PLEASE! DO NOT CHANGE THE
NAME OF Squaw Creek.

I WAS raised near and on the INDIAN
Reservations and the name was never a
problem with the people I knew.

DO NOT TRY TO CHANGE History,
(and cause Confusion and expense to
us all), WE NEED CORRECT History.

THANK YOU

PH
509 670 8786

Clyde L Zabreznik

CLYDE L. ZABREZNIK

649 SALLY DRIVE, WENATCHEE WA. 98901

DEAR SIRs:

I AM STRONGLY OPPOSED TO THE CHANGE OF NAMES OF ANY GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATIONS. THEY WERE NAMED THAT FOR A REASON AND THE NAME SQUAW CREEK HONORS THE AMERICAN INDIAN WIFE. ATTACHED IS A RESEARCH COPY THAT CLEARLY STATES THE SQUAW IS NOT A VULGAR WORD. THEY HAVE CONVINCED THEMSELVES THAT IT IS AND THEY ARE WRONG. LOOK IT UP IN THE DICTIONARY IT SAYS AN "AMERICAN INDIAN WIFE". THAT'S WHAT IT MEANS AND IT IS NOT VULGAR. THE GAME DEPARTMENT HAS ALREADY CAVED IN AND CHANGED THE NAME OF SQUAW FISH TO PIKE MINNOW. THERE IS NO END TO THIS NONSENSE. THEN THEY WILL WANT TO CHANGE OTHER NAMES.

WHEN I GREW UP I WATCHED THE LONE RANGER LIKE EVERY OTHER KID. TONTO AND KEMOSABE. DO YOU KWON WHAT TONTO MEANS. IT MEANS "IDIOT STUPID". KEMOSABE MEANS "ASSHOLE". WHEN THEY WERE TALKING THEY WERE CUSSING AT EACH OTHER USING VULGARITY.

THERE IS A BOOK AND MOVIE CALLED "SQUAW MAN". ABOUT A WHITE MAN THAT MARRIES A INDIAN WOMAN. THEY PROBABLY WANT TO BURN THAT BOOK AND RECALL THE MOVIE. THAT DESTROYS HISTORY BY CHANGES THE NAMES. THERE ARE ADDRESS, SIGNAGE, LEGAL DOCUMENT AND MANY OTHER THINGS EFFECTED BY A NAME CHANGE. PLEASE LEAVE STUFF ALONE.

ERN

ERN

Is "squaw" an obscene insult?

March 17, 2000

Dear Cecil:

Here in Maine, the state legislature is taking up a bill to ban the use of the word *squaw* in place names. Native Americans contend that it is a vulgarity, meaning prostitute or c*** rather than woman. Was this a general word that was used in many languages, or was it specific to one or two? Are there any old Native American songs or poems that might use this word in a more ordinary sense, revealing that it is not as degrading as they might contend, or is it absent from N.A. literature, indicating that it is indeed vulgar? If it is found in the literature, are other "vulgar" words used as well?

— Paul Mattor, Hollis, Maine

Cecil replies:

Let's cut the pretense of scholarship, Paul. What you really want to know is, DOES SQUAW MEAN C***, OR WHAT?

Answer: No. I'm not saying it's not an insult. It's just not an *obscene* insult.

The idea that *squaw* means vagina (to use the polite term) first found its way into print in a polemical 1973 book, *Literature of the American Indian*, by Thomas E. Sanders and Walter W. Peek. Sanders and Peek, without offering evidence, advanced the theory that *squaw* derived from the Mohawk word *ojiskwa'* (sources vary on spelling), meaning vagina. This notion appealed to a certain mind-set and was circulated widely in the activist community. In 1992 it was revealed to the world at large on Oprah by Native American spokesperson Suzan Harjo: "The word *squaw* is an Algonquin [sic] Indian word meaning vagina, and that'll give you an idea of what the French and British fur trappers were calling all Indian women, and I hope no one ever uses that term again." This marked the beginning of organized efforts to remove the word *squaw* from place names, a campaign that continues today, so far with mixed success.

Hey, free country. Except that *squaw* doesn't mean vagina. "It is as certain as any historical fact can be that the word *squaw* that the English settlers in Massachusetts used for 'Indian woman' in the early 1600s was adopted by them from the word *squa* that their Massachusetts-speaking neighbors used in their own language to mean 'female, younger woman,' and not from Mohawk *ojiskwa'*, 'vagina,' which has the wrong shape [sound], the wrong meaning, and was used by people with whom they then had no contact. The resemblance that might be perceived between *squaw* and the last syllable of the Mohawk word is coincidental." This comes to us from Ives Goddard, a specialist in linguistics and curator at the Smithsonian Institution. writing in *News From Indian Country*, mid-April 1997.

Massachusett (no *s*), one of the Algonquian family of languages, was spoken by Native Americans in eastern Massachusetts. As is common with "first contact" languages, Massachusett and its Algonquian cousins contributed many terms, including *papoose*, *sachem*, *skunk*, *opossum*, and *raccoon*, that thereafter became standard English words, even in parts of North America where Algonquian languages weren't spoken. The first recorded use of *squaw* in English dates from 1622, and it had been adopted into the

language by 1634. The Mohawks were 200 miles away, spoke a completely different language (Mohawk is part of the Iroquoian family of languages, not Algonquian, Harjo's statement notwithstanding), and were hostile to the Massachusetts Indians.

Having deep-sixed ... hmm, not the best choice of terms. Having dispatched the squaw = c*** angle, let's turn to the more general issue: is *squaw* considered an insult by Native American women? Lots of them sure think it is, although to what extent that's due to misinformation about the term's origin is debatable. "Documented uses of the word *squaw* in clearly derogatory senses are in fact hard to find," writes University of Colorado linguistics expert William Bright in a forthcoming article. One early example: "the crafty 'squaw' ... the squalid and withered person of this hag," from James Fenimore Cooper's *Last of the Mohicans*. (Squaw, squalid — you can see a problem right there.) On the other hand, tribes such as the Navajo use terms like *squaw dance* to this day.

One doesn't want to get overly PC about it, but the protesters have a point when they say special terms for minority women are inherently demeaning. Think about it. Negress. Jewess. Sixty years ago these terms were in common use. Now they make your flesh creep. Next picture some pot-bellied slob in a cowboy hat: "Why, if it ain't a injun and his squaw." In 1967, 143 place names containing the word *nigger* were changed to *Negro* by order of the U.S. Board on Geographic Names. Squaw Valley may not be in the same league as Nigger Lake on the offensiveness scale. But it's up there with Pickaninny Creek.
— Cecil Adams

DO NOT CHANGE THE NAME OF SQUAW CREEK.
ITS BEEN CALLED THAT FOR OVER 100 YEARS. IT DIDN'T
BOTHER THEM THEN AND IT SHOULDN'T BOTHER THEM NOW.
ONCE THE NAME OF SQUAW FISH WAS CHANGED TO
PIKE MINNOW THAT JUST GAVE THEM AMMUNITION TO
CHANGE ANY NAME THEY DON'T LIKE. YOU NEED TO
SAY NO, THIS WILL JUST SNOWBALL INTO MANY OTHER
CHANGES.

PIKE (*ESOX LUCIUS*) IS IN THE ESOCIDAE FAMILY
SQUAW FISH (*PTYCHOCARILLUS OREGONENSIS*) IS IN THE
CYPRINIDAE FAMILY.

SQUAW FISH IS NOT A PIKE BUT IT IS IN THE MINNOW
FAMILY. PIKE MINNOW IS A POOR NAME FOR THAT FISH.
IT SHOULD BE CHANGED BACK & I WOULD LIKE TO
KNOW HOW TO DO THAT.

THE WAY THE INDIANS FISHERY WAS BY SNAGGING &
NETTING. THE SAME WAY THEY DO TODAY. THAT MADE
UP WORD THEY CAME UP WITH - SWARAM. LOOK IT
UP ON THE INTERNET IT SAYS:

1. ITS A MUSICAL NOTE PLAYED ON AN INSTRUMENT
CALLED CARNATIC.
2. ITS A FUNDRAISING ORGANIZATION IN SACRAMENT
TO HELP ELIMINATE ILLITERACY.
3. ITS A HEMINGWAY AIDE CENTER OVERSEAS.

I HAVE NEVER SEEN THAT WORD "SWARAM" ON ANY
HISTORICAL DOCUMENT. SOUNDS MORE LIKE A MADE
UP NAME. BY THEM.

WHAT'S NEXT SWASH CREEK. THERE ARE MANY NAMES THAT MIGHT BE CONSIDERED OFFENSIVE. SUICIDE, CARP, COOT AND A DUCK CALLED OLD SQUAW. THERE'S SQUAW CURRANT (RUBUS CEREUM). WHEN THEY NAMED THESE THINGS THEY PAID HONOR TO HONOR THAT NAME. IF YOU LOOK UP SQUAW IN THE DICTIONARY ITS AN INDIAN WIFE A SPOUSE. BUT THEY HAVE TAKEN THAT NAME SQUAW TO MEAN SOMETHING IT DOESN'T MEAN.

THERE HAVE BEEN EFFORTS TO CHANGE THE NAME OF PROFESSIONAL SPORTS TEAMS AND MASCOTS. THAT FAILED. BECAUSE THE OWNERS HAVE THE ABILITY TO SAY NO. ITS TOO COSTLY AND ALL THAT WILL BE ACCOMPLISHED IS TO OFFEND OTHER PEOPLE.

KEEP THE NAME THE SAME.

ERNIE BUCHANAN

PLEASE DO NOT PUBLISH OR SAY MY NAME FOR FEAR OF RETALIATION.

From: Debbie Behymer
To: [DNR RE BOGN](#)
Subject: Squaw Creek name change
Date: Thursday, October 5, 2017 7:39:12 AM

I do not support the name change. It should remain as it is.

From: Rod-Lynn Lentz
To: [DNR RE BOGN](#)
Subject: Squaw Creek name change
Date: Friday, September 29, 2017 1:51:11 PM

Leave the name unchanged. Squaw Creek means a place in the minds of most of us, not a comment on native American women. Realistically the terms original meaning is so antiquated that it can hardly be considered a slur anymore. It is a place, a place where people grew up and even now live, a place where interesting mining features can be seen, a place for hiking, a place to hunt. "Swaram" won't mean anything to anyone. Rod and Lynn Lentz

Dear Washington State Committee on Geographic Names ,

Here are some facts we would like you to consider while deliberating the petition to change the geographical names related to and including Squaw Creek in Okanogan County, Washington:

The residents and landowners of Squaw Creek passionately reject the proposed name change from Squaw Creek to Swaram Creek. In addition, locals do not support the name change as indicated by petitions with over 500 signatures. Many have strong family ties to Squaw Creek, dating back hundreds of years.

Squaw Creek is a place, not a word. It has a rich history. One that includes a gold and silver boom town, homesteaders, farmers, ranchers, artists, naturalists, firefighters and generations of families. All the people who have resided in this valley have left an imprint. It is currently home to numerous families and is not just a recreational area as indicated on the petition to change the name.

Squaw Creek has been listed on Washington State maps as far back as detailed maps can be found in the archives, at least since the mid 1800's. Erasing Squaw Creek from the map effectively erases its history.

Renaming a long-established region creates confusion for post offices, local government, utility, law enforcement, fire departments and the public. It creates a real hardship for those who reside in the Squaw Creek Valley. They will be forced to suffer the financial burden associated with changing everything linked to their home address. For those with home based businesses on the road, it is significant. They will also lose a significant part of their identity.

We are a small community that was devastated in 2014 by the second largest wildfire in Washington State history. Squaw Creek was one of the hardest hit. We lost many of our neighbors whose homes burned to the ground, our forest, the wildlife, our beauty, not to mention property values by half, structures, fencing, irrigation, etc. Losing the name of the valley, creek, road feels like another assault.

Two families that currently reside at Squaw Creek are Native American and do not find Squaw Creek an offensive name. There are many supporters of keeping the name who are also Native American.

We are sensitive to the concern that some find the word "squaw" derogatory. After extensive research, this is our conclusion:

According to the Smithsonian Institute the word was borrowed as early as 1621 from the Algonquian Tribe. In those languages, it meant simply "young woman".

Supporting documents show that the earliest historical references of the term, favor a non-offensive definition of the meaning of Squaw. "The first recorded version of Squaw was found in a book called Mourt's Relation: A Journey of the Pilgrims at Plymouth, written in 1622. The term was not used in a derogatory fashion but spoke of the "Squa Sachim or Massachusetts Queen" in the September 20, 1621 journal." Many Native Americans think it is important to reclaim and carry on the original meaning of the word, which is woman. Most historians and linguists support this non-derogatory meaning. (www.indiancountrymediannwork.com)

Many words can be derogatory if they are used with the intent to cause insult. Squaw Creek was respectfully named using a Native American word. Many places in Okanogan County use Native American words as name places.

The proponent of renaming Squaw Creek never contacted landowners or residents of Squaw Creek to open a dialog or even disclose her proposal to change its name. She submitted a request to have the name be changed from Squaw Creek to Swaram Creek. She states that it is a Native American word that means fishing with lights. If you Google the word Swaram you will find it is an Indian (Hindu) name meaning musical tone. It is not a Native American word. If a name change is inevitable we ask that the community of Squaw Creek be allowed significant input to choose the name.

Thank you for considering our request to keep the geographical name of Squaw Creek.

Warm regards,

Residents and Previous Residents of Squaw Creek

Dave and Barbara Rains

Lorette Alpers

Gene Booth

Howard and Kathleen LeFabvre

Brian Keene

Mark Carey

Heidi Kristofferson

Tammy Divis

Taylor Rains

Garrett Rains

Barb Rains

To: Barb Rains
Subject: Sent from Snipping Tool

Washington State Committee on Geographic Names
P.O. Box 47030
Olympia, WA 98504

(c) Proposals should be consistent with the form and substance expressed in this chapter and may be returned or ultimately denied if being inconsistent. The committee may accept for consideration proposals on a United States Board of Geographic Names Form when the proposal is forwarded by the U.S. board.

(2) Adequacy of proposal information: The burden to gather and submit information regarding a proposal is on the proponent. "Proponents are encouraged to contact the landowner or agency that the geographic feature is located on."

(a) The committee may, in its discretion, request proponents submit more information and defer further committee action pending receipt.

*... There it is & Sh. News ...
contacted us not 1 time*

Subject: Sent from Snipping Tool

The person who applied to have the name Squaw Creek changed to Swaram Creek had previously written was originally Frog Creek, which she has since recanted. According to the applicant's own admission, the are partly descendant of the Methow tribe, did not initiate the request to change the name of Squaw Creek the family who, "suggested the place name be Swaram Creek." This was not the original name of Squaw elder. According to the article, the elder said the original name of the creek was "swaR'a-tátk" Note: If Swaram it is an East Indian (India) word meaning musical tone. The article the applicant wrote can be vies here. <http://methowvalleynews.com/2017/02/23/lower-valley-february-22-2017/>

Lower Valley: February 22, 2017 | Methow Valley News <http://methowvalleynews.com/2017/02/23/lower>

Barb Rains

Subject:

Sent from Snipping Tool

The person who applied to have the name Squaw Creek changed to Swaram Creek stated that she is offer and that is why she wants the name changed. She is not a Native American and only recently moved to ti families who are long-time residents of Squaw Creek ARE Native American and are not offended by the name of the creek changed. None of the other residents landowners of Squaw Creek wish to see the nam longtime inhabitants of the Methow Valley, Squaw Creek is a place-not an offensive word. It's been part least the 1800's.

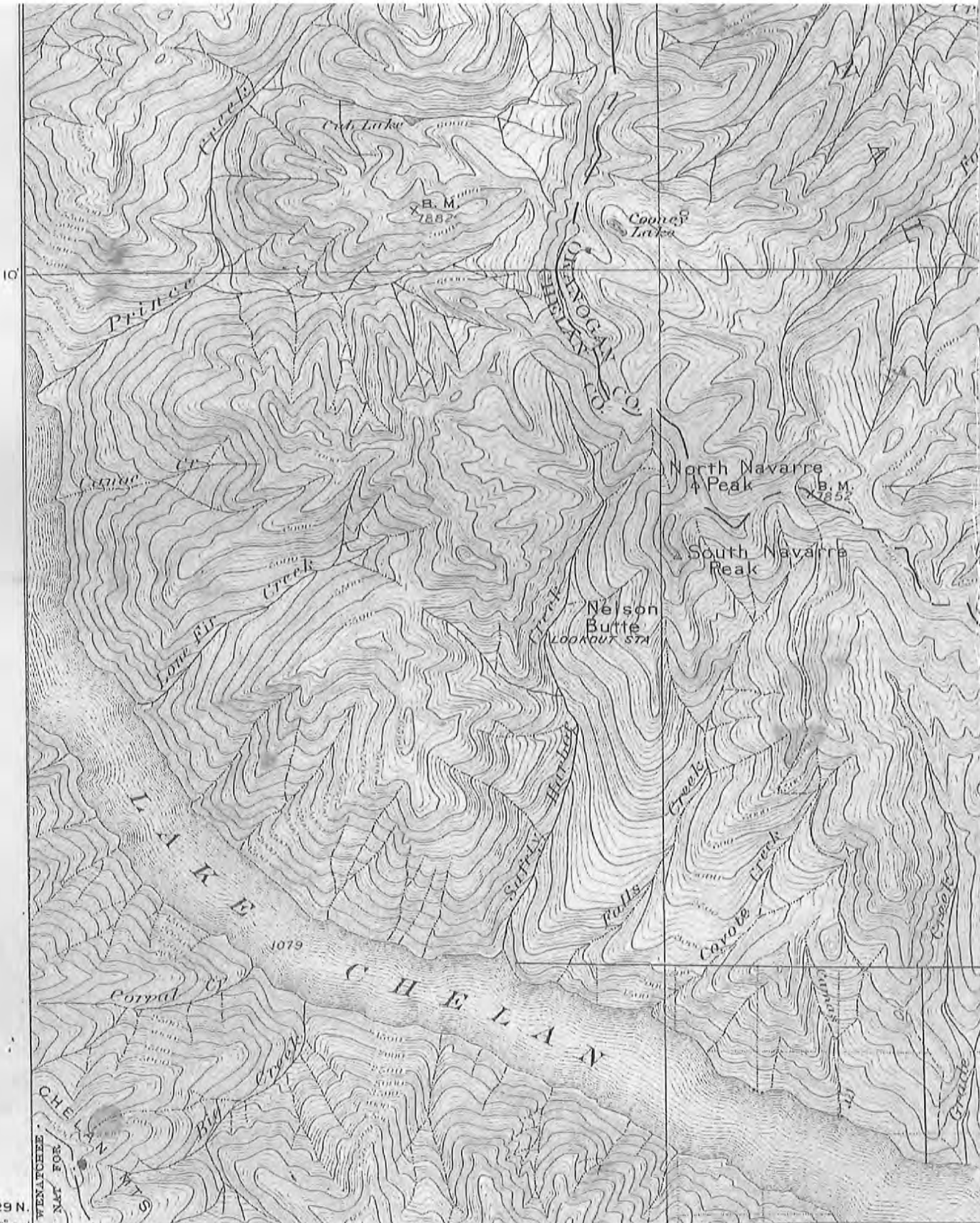
It is our preference to keep the current name of Squaw Creek. We have close to 500 names on our petition Methow Valley locals that do not want the name to change. Many of them are Native American.

If the Washington State Committee on Geographic Names does decide that the name of historic Squaw C request some input. It is the consensus of the landowners/residents, those most affected by a name chang to Hunter Creek, after the adjacent Hunter mountain.

Thank you for your consideration.

Lorette Alpers

Spokesperson for Squaw Creek Residents



T.29 N.
48° 00' 120° 30'

ENGRAVED OCT. 1900 BY U.S.G.S.

20° R.20 E.

(Chiswanthum)

R.U.Goode, Geographer in charge.
Triangulation by A.H.Sylvester
Topography by W.T.Griswold and R.A.Farmer.
Surveyed in 1897 and 1899.



Contours: into
Datum is m



T.31 N.

10'

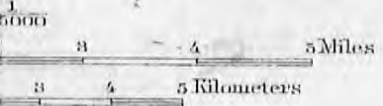
T.30 N.

T.29 N.

48' 00"
120' 00"

R.21 E.

10'



100 feet,
sea level.

DIAGRAM OF TOWNSHIP

6	5	4	3	2	1
7	8	9	10	11	12
18	17	16	15	14	13
19	20	21	22	23	24
30	29	28	27	26	25
31	32	33	34	35	36

Edition of Mar. 1901, reprinted 1934

Polyconic projection.

METHUEN WASH.

WE DO NOT SUPPORT THE PROPOSAL TO CHANGE THE NAME OF SQUAW CREEK TO SWARAM CREEK

	NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE	EMAIL ADDRESS	COMMENTS
1	Tim Harvey	Pateros	(509) 923-0228	-	Squaw Creek
2	Tanya Gibson	Methow	509 8853945	timygibsonky53@gmail.com	Squaw Creek
3	Richard Miller	Chelan	509-449-8870		Keep Squaw Creek
4	John Asmussen	Pateros	733-2203		Keep it Squaw Creek
5	David Ehnkebach	Pateros	509-923-2581		" " " "
6	Amber Heen	Pateros	923-2395		Keep it the same
7	Paul Bergantz	Twisp	429-2737	srxautos@yahoo.com	
8	Matt Moore	Twisp	997-7170		
9	PETE BOLINGER	METHOW	923-2643	-	IF IT IS CHANGED I WON'T KNOW WHERE MY FATHER WAS BORN - 1898
10	Ross Bolinger	Methow	923-2643		no name change Keep it the same

These names are in addition to the 347 ones previously sent


WE DO NOT SUPPORT THE PROPOSAL TO CHANGE THE NAME OF SQUAW CREEK TO SWARAM CREEK

	NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE	EMAIL ADDRESS	COMMENTS
11	Jack Wood	Box 505	509 923 2026		
12	John Garner	2557 Captains Ct. Ferndale WA 98248	360 922-0070	Johnthebusman@ Yahoo.com	
13	KURT ANDERSON	SWOQUALMIE WA	425-922-6657		
14	Charles H. McClain Moutenseus	WA	509-552-9623		
15	Ryan May	Methow WA	509 923 2360	_____	
16	Jennifer Wasy	Methow WA	509 923 2300	_____	
17	Anne Hays	Methow WA	509-923-2360	_____	
18	Wayne Billy	METHOW WA	509 670-5800	_____	
19	Brenda Brady	Pateros	509-923-2326		
20	Carl By	Methow	509-881-7661		

WE DO NOT SUPPORT THE PROPOSAL TO CHANGE THE NAME OF SQUAW CREEK TO SWARAM CREEK

	NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE	EMAIL ADDRESS	COMMENTS
21	Michelle Swainey	400 Udenlye Drive Grandview 8000	509-880	MSwar.Kios@gnail.com	
22	JANORA MESES	BREWSTER WA 2081	509-689 2081	N/C	
23	GEORGE H. DRISKELL III	P.O. Box 173 BREWSTER, WA 98812	509-689 2081	NA	
24	Karen Bird	P.O. B 526 Methow WA	509 204-3263	NA	I'm Indian
25	JOE Hays	P.O. BOX 676 METHOW, WA	509 923-2360	NA	Please Dont Change The NAME
26	Neil Kerr	45 McFarland CMC Methow	509-990 5728	Nkerr@ Excite.com	
27	Albarrt (Bud) Willis	2294 Admiral Rd NE. Mesa Lake, WA	509 765 6166	NA	Do not Change
28	Rich Cole	4141 Luebber Ln Maha ga Wa. 98828	509 881-5395	Rich8102 @gmail.com	Keep The Name Squaw Creek
29	TON LARSEN	1938 CASTLE ROCK AVE WEN, WA 98901	509-885-5745	tlarsen@ nwl.net	LIVED AT METHOW FOR 20YRS
30	Liz Verne Bergstrom	1560 N. 2 Ashland E. Wenatchee	509-884 3865		

WE DO NOT SUPPORT THE PROPOSAL TO CHANGE THE NAME OF SQUAW CREEK TO SWARAM CREEK

	NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE	EMAIL ADDRESS	COMMENTS
31	Ryan Greene	134 Kellys PATEROS	509-264-7350		LEAVE IT ALONE 
32	Tracy Greene	134 Kelly PATEROS	509-264-7350		I Lived up Squaw Creek for 7 years. Leave it and the lovely people up there alone
33	Charlene Knox	206 Twining Ave Spt 98813	509-449-0279		Don't change history!
34	Tom Smith	Box 635 BREWSTER WA 98812	509-670-1130		LEAVE IT ALONE!
35	Wendy Wilmore	P.O. Box 521 Methow, WA	206-954-4263		Leave it Alone
36	Mattie	po 521			Let the people who live there
37	Deborah Cota	13628 129th PINE Kirkland, WA 98034		206-919-9335 dcote785 outlook.com	leave it alone
38	Gary Cote	895-C Hwy 153 Methow	925 991 4882	garycote22@gmail.com	Leave It
39	Alex Kerr	PO Box 504 Methow wa		agkerr@msn.com	Just leave it
40	Greg Nordang	Po Box 1194 Twisp, WA 98856	509-997-1717		leave it as is !!!

WE DO NOT SUPPORT THE PROPOSAL TO CHANGE THE NAME OF SQUAW CREEK TO SWARAM CREEK

	NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE	EMAIL ADDRESS	COMMENTS
41	Art Nordberg	Methow	509-923-2704	—	
42	Wendell	Wendell	509 662-6645		
43	Mike Warfield	Methow	253 304 4566		
44	Art Zwick	Carleton	206-398-2334		
45	Peter Steffen	Pateros	360-708-8678		
46	Priscilla Steffen	Pateros	360 395-8547		We don't need a change
47	Ann Rippner	Methow	509-923-2516		
48	Jerry Rippner	Methow	509-923-2516	1Rippner@msi.com	
49	Mary Shedd	Methow	509-923-2698		
50	Colin Lundell ✓		509 923 2137		

WE DO NOT SUPPORT THE PROPOSAL TO CHANGE THE NAME OF SQUAW CREEK TO SWARAM CREEK

	NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE	EMAIL ADDRESS	COMMENTS
51	Betty Lundell	1301 B Hwy 153 Methow	923-2137		Leave as is
52	Dick Wehler	Methow	509 923 2698	—	V V V
53	Robin Hendricks	1059 Hwy 153 Methow	425 870 9747	—	LEAVE AS SQUAW CREEK
54	Ryan Hendricks	1059 Hwy 153 Methow	206 459-5075	—	LEAVE AS SQUAW CREEK
55	Doris Tonseth	1031B Hwy 153 Methow	509 923-2513	—	"
56	William Tonseth	1031B Hwy 153	509-923 2513	—	"
57	Victoria Zambrano	1 Murphy Road Methow	509 463 6889	—	LEAVE AS Squaw Creek
58	Duey Hadfield	695 Twisp Coule Rd.	997-5334		Leave as Squaw Creek
59	Charles D Prewitt	182 Frost Rd Twisp	997 2500		ALWAYS SQUAW CR. Leave it same
60	Ina Marie Remsberg	993 Twisp Carlton Rd	997-7362		leave as squaw creek

WE DO NOT SUPPORT THE PROPOSAL TO CHANGE THE NAME OF SQUAW CREEK TO SWARAM CREEK

	NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE	EMAIL ADDRESS	COMMENTS
61	Nolan Tonseth NOLAN TONSETH	1031 A ST 153	509-327-6248		
62	Mark Stennes MARK STENNES	1378 HWY 153 METHUEN WA 98834	509-923-2110		
63	Robin Stennes Robin Stennes	1378 Hwy, 153 Methuen, WA 98834	509-923-2120		
64	Jason Getzin Jason Getzin	P.O. Box 674 Methuen, WA 98834	509-923-2782		
65	Mariah Getzin Mariah Getzin	P.O. BOX 674 Methuen, WA 98834	509-923-2782		
66	Austin Yancey Austin Yancey	246 Warren Ave Pateros WA 98846	530-401-5584		
67	Bob Tonseth Bob Tonseth	P.O. Box 476 Methuen WA 98834	509-923-2382	bttonseth@gmail.com	An East Indian name? leave it alone!!
68	James Tonseth James Tonseth	P.O. Box 476 Methuen, WA 98834	509-923-2382		Leave as Squaw Creek
69	Darrell Steele Darrell Steele	P.O. Box 697 Methuen, WA 98834	509-923-2382		leave name as Squaw Creek
70	Pat Steele Pat Steele	PO Box 687 Methuen, WA 98834			leave name as Squaw Cr.

WE DO NOT SUPPORT THE PROPOSAL TO CHANGE THE NAME OF SQUAW CREEK TO SWARAM CREEK

	NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE	EMAIL ADDRESS	COMMENTS
71	Arijana Wall	13628 129th PL NE Kirkland WA 98034	206-550 9918	ArijanaWall@a hotmail.com	Keep as is
72	Howard Lefebvre	15208 Westwick Rd. Snohomish 98290	360 568 0394		Keep as is Land owner 209 Squaw Cr Kirkland
73	Gene Booth	415 (PO) Box Patterson 98846	509 223-1969		Live on Squaw Cr Keep as is
74	DAVE RAINS	122 SQUAW CREEK ROAD	509-322-1611		I LOVE THE NATIVES AND WOULD BE THE FIRST TO CHANGE IT. IF IT WAS MEANT TO BE HATEFUL.
75	Valarie Winkelkottler	181 Chelan Ave Chelan WA	5094491514		Keep as is. - Support homeowners/landowners!
76	Jeff Berdan	243 Bohart Rd Wenatchee	509 663-2419		Keep as is!
77	Jessie Welch	376S Lovell RD Wenatchee	509 679 8713		I support local land owners
78	Ray Zarter	221 S Chelan Chelan	509 670-7449		Keep as is
79	Brian Schmidt	22 Walnut St Mansfield	509-770-5047		Land owners should decide Keep name
80	John Scheller	1652 Zebur	509-881-2474		Support wants of landowners

WE DO NOT SUPPORT THE PROPOSAL TO CHANGE THE NAME OF SQUAW CREEK TO SWARAM CREEK

	NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE	EMAIL ADDRESS	COMMENTS
81	DEVIN POFF	1872 SE SODEN E. WEN WA	509-669-4526		RESPECT YOUR LAND OWNERS.
82	CRAIG TIMMERMANS	1220 S Union Ave E. Wenatchee, WA	509-860-7302		Don't Take our heritage for "good feelings"
83	Mike Prey	13969 B US2 Orondo, WA	509-784-1085		
84	SAM Lopez	696 E WAPATO LAKE ROAD MANSON WA	509 881 5408		SAVE SQUAW CREEK ROAD
85	DICK SHAW	86 GRANGE RD 98812 BREWSTER WA	509-733-3357		SAVE SQUAW CREEK
86	Faircl Nichols	507 Webster Chelan WA	509 885-8695		Save Squaw Creek Native and not offend
87	Karl Schulke	18 Golf Course Dr Pateros, WA	509-860-5059		Respect the locals wishes
88	Josh Pieratt	516 Lacey PLW E. Wenatchee, WA	509-860-0444		Save Squaw Creek
89	Bev Weddle	PO Box 2247 Pateros 100 Pryor Drive	509-449-5961		Save the Name of Squaw Creek
90	Jim Weddle	Box 2247 Pateros 100 Pryor Dr	509 449 6079		Save The Name of Squaw Creek




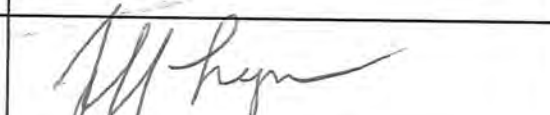
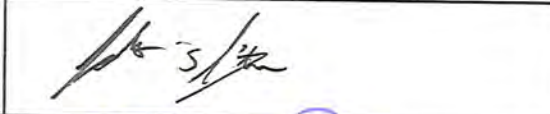
WE DO NOT SUPPORT THE PROPOSAL TO CHANGE THE NAME OF SQUAW CREEK TO SWARAM CREEK

	NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE	EMAIL ADDRESS	COMMENTS
91	Donn Mills	Snohomish, WA 19209 99 Ave SE	360 608 6535	msn. DonnMills@com	Good Luck
92	Keith Holt	Method WA	509-923-2584	—	If the people who live up there want to change it, so be it.
93	Chuck Kisner	1538 Hwy 153 Method WA	509-923-2584	—	IT'S GOOD ENOUGH FOR THE LAST 100 YRS.
94	Janel Buelbach	1538 Hwy 153 Method, WA	509-923-2584	—	Apparently, the residents of Squaw Creek don't want a change - enough said!
95	Lorne Sponberg	119 McFarland Ct. Method, WA 98053	509-860-1499	—	
96	Kerry Sponberg			—	It should be left up to the people it affects. Otherwise it seems like a hassle.
97	Leo Miller	Call Center Carton WA			Keep Squaw Creek as is.
98	Rolly Miller	Postal Creek			
99	Melissa Kand K. Williams	Wenatchee Squamish PO Box 2124 Dufur, WA 98816			Our family's Home
100					

WE DO NOT SUPPORT THE PROPOSAL TO CHANGE THE NAME OF SQUAW CREEK TO SWARAM CREEK

	NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE	EMAIL ADDRESS	COMMENTS
101	George Brady	Box 535 Pateros	509-322-6844	cascadecb@ televerr.com	
102	Forrest E. Zahn	PO Box 778 Methow,	509 670 8404	forrestez3@gmail. com	
103	Helen A. Zahn	Box 478 Methow, WA.	509 923 2763	Ø	
104	Marda J. Crites	998 Skelton 153 Pateros, WA	509-669-0439	Ø	
105	STEVIE Luchte	100 GOLD CR. RD CARTON	509-923- 2520	NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS	SQUAW CR. IS A GREAT NAME. NEW PEOPLE SHOULD ACCEPT THE HERITAGE OF LEAVE
106	Garrett Rains	461 N. Keller Ave East Wenatchee	509-733-2157	GarrettRains78@ gmail. com	
107	Bruce Basker	123 Timothy Lane	509 689 3155		I wish the liberals would leave things alone!!
108	Kristine Oules	PO Box 2303 9166 Buzzard Torch Lane	(509) 860-7316	oulesschelan @gmail.com	Just because she is offended doesn't make her right!
109	Tyson Varechman	Pateros WA.	509 423-6615	TJVarechman@yahoo .com	No Need To Change...
110	Vicki Lamar	514 E. Trow Ave Chelan, WA 98816	509-682-2747		Keep Squaw ^{SQUAW} CR. name

WE DO NOT SUPPORT THE PROPOSAL TO CHANGE THE NAME OF SQUAW CREEK TO SWARAM CREEK

	NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE	EMAIL ADDRESS	COMMENTS
111	D. Wilton	13 Fern Rd	923-2320	—	
112	PARRY HAMSHAW	62 Golf Course Dr PATEROS	425-218 4521	—	
113	Scott Lindsay	Lot 1 Deep Mt Rd	360 333-1609	—	Scott Lindsay
114	Leanna Notland	13 Old Carlbur Carlton, WA	509 917-9080	—	
115	Jeff Lyman	2256 Hwy 153 Carlbur, WA 9804	509 9979022	—	
116	SIVA THIXTON	53 PRARIE FLWS RD METHUEN, WA 98831	923-1977	—	Siva Thixton
117	JEFF THIXTON	33 PO Box 776 METHUEN, WA 98834	(509) 923-2223	—	
118	Whitney Dixon	1555 SWEETWOOD rd, MANSON WA	(509) 607-1544	—	Whitney Dixon
119	JAMES V YANCEY	107 Bill Shaw Rd PATEROS WA	509-923-2622	—	James V Yancey
120					

WE DO NOT SUPPORT THE PROPOSAL TO CHANGE THE NAME OF SQUAW CREEK TO SWARAM CREEK

	NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE	EMAIL ADDRESS	COMMENTS
131	Ryan Windle	██████████ ██████████	509-449- 6481	Ryanaw225 @gmail.com	
132	Melissa Baker	Pateros	509-449-3698		
133	Jennifer Larson	███ Bridgeport	509-860-2538	jenorbuff@outlook.com	
134	Carla McCarley	Twisp/Anas	509 881 4660	carlamccarley1 @me.com	██████████
135	Virgil Yancey	Pateros	509 680 6910		
136	Shane Kelly	Pateros	509-449- 3919		
137	Randy Moore	Methow	509 923-2572		Stupid
138	ADAM BURNETT	EAST WENATCHEE	(509) 470-4340		
139	Michelle Holling	Spokane WA	(509) 860-9572		
140	Rosa C Yancey	Pateros WA	(509) 923-1909		

WE DO NOT SUPPORT THE PROPOSAL TO CHANGE THE NAME OF SQUAW CREEK TO SWARAM CREEK

	NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE	EMAIL ADDRESS	COMMENTS
141	Steve Arndt methow		509 953 2649		Stupid
142	Jayson White	Poderos	360-631-6166		
143	Dave Hiltner	DIKAWOCAIN	509-422-7144		Another "feel good" exercise that dis regards historical significance
144	Alan Neuneker	Methow			There is too much "Political correctness"!
145					
146					
147					
148					
149					
150					



This petition has collected
363 signatures
using the online tools at iPetitions.com

Printed on 2017-09-12

Save Squaw Creek

About this petition

We do NOT support the Proposal to change the name of Squaw Creek to Swaram creek

Signatures

1. Name: Barbara Rains on 2017-07-13 21:17:26
Comments: Barbara Rains a proud native American woman and home owner of Squaw creek

2. Name: Tammy Divis on 2017-07-13 21:30:48
Comments: I do not support the name change of Squaw Creek to Swaram Creek.

3. Name: Lyle Blackburn on 2017-07-13 21:32:23
Comments:

4. Name: Tom Hook on 2017-07-13 21:36:49
Comments: Leave it alone! It IS Squaw Creek!

5. Name: Alyssa White on 2017-07-13 21:40:34
Comments: SAVE SQAW CREEK

6. Name: Allison Cornwall on 2017-07-13 21:41:05
Comments:

7. Name: Susan Robinette on 2017-07-13 21:45:23
Comments: Leave historical places alone!

8. Name: Harley Dobson on 2017-07-13 21:52:47
Comments:

9. Name: Renee Lewis on 2017-07-13 21:56:11
Comments:

10. Name: Destiny Walsh on 2017-07-13 22:05:25
Comments:

11. Name: Lisa Gregory on 2017-07-13 22:05:55
Comments: Keep its name always known it as akid...

12. Name: Monica Palmer on 2017-07-13 22:09:59
Comments:

13. Name: Jennifer Dooms on 2017-07-13 22:13:30
Comments:

14. Name: Matthew Neuneker on 2017-07-13 22:16:36
Comments:
-
15. Name: Emily Buzzard on 2017-07-13 22:20:51
Comments:
-
16. Name: Richard Sedlik on 2017-07-13 22:32:09
Comments:
-
17. Name: Kim Kimmel on 2017-07-13 22:35:04
Comments: As a native American I see no harm, leave the name alone. It's a creek will always be a creek leave the name alone.
-
18. Name: Jackie Routien on 2017-07-13 22:36:47
Comments: Do not change the name squaw creek!
-
19. Name: Thomas Sampson on 2017-07-13 22:46:07
Comments:
-
20. Name: Curtis Reed on 2017-07-13 22:47:21
Comments: Family lived up Squaw creek for years
-
21. Name: ambrosia dick on 2017-07-13 22:47:47
Comments: this name is part of the valley history please don't change it.
-
22. Name: Lynnette Blackburn on 2017-07-13 22:49:11
Comments: Our emergency responders know the creek as Squaw Creek, for safety purposes you need to leave the name Squaw Creek.
-
23. Name: Renae Sampson on 2017-07-13 22:51:05
Comments:
-
24. Name: John Perazzo on 2017-07-13 22:51:53
Comments:
-
25. Name: Sheryl Hook on 2017-07-13 22:53:53
Comments:
-
26. Name: Bob Rankin on 2017-07-13 22:59:24
Comments:
-
27. Name: Jen Rankin on 2017-07-13 22:59:53

Comments: Squaw Creek is a historical name in the Methow valley. Please don't change it.

28. Name: Lisa O'Hara-Bromiley on 2017-07-13 23:07:04
Comments: As a Native American who was raised up Squaw Creek, I don't find the name offensive. What I find offensive is someone who feels the need to change the name with no regard of the opinions of those who actually live there. Squaw Creek is full of history, memories, and has sentimental value to many people, changing the name is like taking that away from those of us who actually have an attachment to it.

29. Name: EmmaLee Luft on 2017-07-13 23:12:22
Comments:

30. Name: Katrina Bailey on 2017-07-13 23:18:06
Comments: This is BS one person shouldn't have the power to change the name!

31. Name: Angelia smith on 2017-07-13 23:20:46
Comments:

32. Name: Melissa Hunt on 2017-07-13 23:21:08
Comments: Leave Squaw Creek alone! This area which had a substantial Colville Tribe presence has never had an issue with the name. Some outside who has no understanding of the Methow Valley Community should not have a say!

33. Name: Stacy Gonzalez on 2017-07-13 23:24:10
Comments: It's racist to assume someone would be offended by THEIR OWN LANGUAGE or SKIN COLOR. Good grief.

34. Name: Barlow on 2017-07-13 23:24:15
Comments:

35. Name: Marianne LeSage on 2017-07-13 23:24:47
Comments:

36. Name: Carolyn Burch on 2017-07-13 23:26:01
Comments:

37. Name: Darren Moore on 2017-07-13 23:27:02
Comments: Stop letting the minority have their way. The name is fine, just like the pledge of allegiance being rapidly removed from our schools because of a few dummies. Stand your ground!

38. Name: Raven Rich on 2017-07-13 23:37:33
Comments:

-
39. Name: Kyle Pomrankey on 2017-07-13 23:42:41
Comments: Please keep the name as it is.
-
40. Name: Amy Williams on 2017-07-13 23:42:52
Comments:
-
41. Name: Alison Viebrock on 2017-07-13 23:48:00
Comments:
-
42. Name: Kimberly Gormley on 2017-07-13 23:51:50
Comments: Seriously?? You can't think of anything else to spend our money on? This is DUMB!
-
43. Name: Victoria Zambrano on 2017-07-13 23:52:05
Comments: This name is our history. Please do not change it on the whim of some passing motorist.
-
44. Name: Kerlyn on 2017-07-13 23:56:59
Comments: It is a symbol of home that should not be changed.
-
45. Name: Cari Davies on 2017-07-14 00:02:27
Comments:
-
46. Name: Tara Sligar on 2017-07-14 00:21:29
Comments: This name change would only hurt business owners in the area.
-
47. Name: Karl word on 2017-07-14 00:37:32
Comments: Leave the name as it is, that name was there when she moved there if she was offended then maybe it isn't the place for her no rephrase that this Valley isn't the place for her or she would understand how this works. I'm 1/4 Native and have no problem with the name Squaw Creek. I would be willing to donate money for a IHaul for her to find another dwelling like Snowflake ville
-
48. Name: Sheila Norris on 2017-07-14 00:40:02
Comments: I grew up knowing and enjoying the Methow Valley. Squaw Creek is an important part of the Methow Valley. This should not change. Absolutely ridiculous
-
49. Name: Karen P Dick on 2017-07-14 00:43:43
Comments: I am Alaskan Native, my sister has lived there for 34 years. We do not want to see the name changed.
-
50. Name: Tina Holan on 2017-07-14 00:45:21

Comments:

-
51. Name: Elizabeth Shepard on 2017-07-14 00:46:15
Comments:
-
52. Name: Michael Morales on 2017-07-14 00:47:51
Comments:
-
53. Name: Cal Diksen on 2017-07-14 00:51:23
Comments: Been that name for years doesn't mean anything but a name so get over it
-
54. Name: Michael Doenes on 2017-07-14 00:51:36
Comments: Leave it alone
-
55. Name: William R Word Jr on 2017-07-14 00:52:37
Comments: I am sick of PC.
-
56. Name: John Davis on 2017-07-14 00:56:35
Comments: Don't change the name squaw Creek
-
57. Name: Nicole Behrens Davis on 2017-07-14 01:03:30
Comments:
-
58. Name: Darin Reed on 2017-07-14 01:22:27
Comments: Radiculious your not changing the names of 60% of western Washington names that are all Indian indigenous of native names totally radiculious. Learn the history of this creek first before you change the name. Plain and simple keep the name fire the reporter
-
59. Name: Janice Woda on 2017-07-14 01:23:19
Comments: What is wrong with civilization?! There is nothing wrong with this word.
-
60. Name: Lynda allen on 2017-07-14 01:26:31
Comments: Let's leave the name as is . We love this name
-
61. Name: Terri Burnett on 2017-07-14 01:34:22
Comments: Leave the name Squaw Creek!
-
62. Name: Kathy Wadsworth on 2017-07-14 01:39:08
Comments: Every place in Wa state is either in our next to a reservation! Good grief!
Enough with the PC everything to death!
-

63. Name: Lynn Schluneger on 2017-07-14 01:45:48
Comments:
-
64. Name: Samantha Rains on 2017-07-14 01:47:19
Comments: The people petitioning to change the name of Squaw Creek (that they have no connection to) have no idea the hoops the actual residents would have to jump through to change their addresses with every institution they have ever done business with, as well as with their businesses that have been operating for well over 20 years. It is absolutely ridiculous for a woman relatively new to the Methow Valley to think she has the right to change the name of a creek that has been home to many others for decades. The only way the name should be changed is if the residents agree to move forward, as they will be the ones bearing the burden of the change.
-
65. Name: Jarett holbrook on 2017-07-14 01:48:23
Comments:
-
66. Name: Melissa Klokow on 2017-07-14 02:01:54
Comments:
-
67. Name: Janet Roach on 2017-07-14 02:02:08
Comments:
-
68. Name: Carma Daniels on 2017-07-14 02:02:32
Comments: Squaw Creek a great name with history.
-
69. Name: Dedric Bates on 2017-07-14 02:04:50
Comments:
-
70. Name: Del Riggan on 2017-07-14 02:07:53
Comments: Leave the name alone. Send the people that want to change it away!!!
-
71. Name: Angela Anderson on 2017-07-14 02:09:20
Comments: As a Native American who grew up there, I was never offended nor am I now. Leave the name as it is. NO
-
72. Name: Shannon Nestaval on 2017-07-14 02:10:19
Comments: I spent a lot of time up SQUAW creek with the Rains family. I enjoyed every ounce of it. I know the pride my Native American friends have in their treasured town, valley and Squaw Creek. Please do not change what is not broken.
-
73. Name: Jennifer Bach on 2017-07-14 02:10:21
Comments:
-
74. Name: Art Smyth on 2017-07-14 02:11:41

Comments: Leave the name alone.

-
75. Name: Eric Hammons on 2017-07-14 02:12:20
Comments: Many people have grown up with the name and were never offended. Leave it for history sake.
-
76. Name: Geof Collins on 2017-07-14 02:13:14
Comments:
-
77. Name: Melissa bottemiller on 2017-07-14 02:15:32
Comments:
-
78. Name: Becky White on 2017-07-14 02:16:44
Comments:
-
79. Name: Annie Neuneker-Liles on 2017-07-14 02:20:52
Comments:
-
80. Name: Rebecca Nowka on 2017-07-14 02:21:22
Comments:
-
81. Name: Jace Thompson on 2017-07-14 02:22:21
Comments:
-
82. Name: Rachel Brown on 2017-07-14 02:24:09
Comments: This is stupid.
-
83. Name: Taylor Rains on 2017-07-14 02:24:20
Comments:
-
84. Name: Shanna Rodriguez on 2017-07-14 02:25:19
Comments:
-
85. Name: Tim Johnson on 2017-07-14 02:28:25
Comments: Lots of great memories!!!! Has anyone asked the creek if it's offended?
-
86. Name: Tim tuengel on 2017-07-14 02:29:14
Comments:
-
87. Name: Jody Coles on 2017-07-14 02:29:27
Comments:
-

88. Name: Bob Van Lith on 2017-07-14 02:31:10
Comments:
-
89. Name: Renee James on 2017-07-14 02:32:00
Comments:
-
90. Name: Mike Stennes on 2017-07-14 02:33:21
Comments:
-
91. Name: Louis Trim on 2017-07-14 02:39:27
Comments: The Methow valley is rich in Native American history with many names of creeks, roads and towns representing this History out of respect for what the Native Americans mean to the area including Squaw Creek. Please keep this and all historical names
-
92. Name: Becky Brown on 2017-07-14 02:39:36
Comments: Historic!
-
93. Name: Troy Keene on 2017-07-14 02:40:09
Comments:
-
94. Name: Jennifer Stennes on 2017-07-14 02:42:58
Comments:
-
95. Name: Katrina J See on 2017-07-14 02:44:47
Comments: The name Squaw Creek has worked just fine since the 1800s. People living at Squaw Creek are happy with the name. No one living there has complained. In fact even a Native American living there says she is not offended. Tell the pc police they need to move if they don't like things on our side of the mountains. This is change we DON'T need.
-
96. Name: Grace Sagaribay on 2017-07-14 02:45:32
Comments:
-
97. Name: Tanner Hinderer on 2017-07-14 02:49:08
Comments:
-
98. Name: Candy Jones on 2017-07-14 02:50:18
Comments: This is ridiculous! It's becoming more important to appease those few than to protect our history/ heritage.
-
99. Name: Lois Brown on 2017-07-14 02:50:22
Comments:

-
100. Name: Rosemary Crawford on 2017-07-14 02:51:11
Comments: This is really political correctness run amuck! Please don't change the historical name of this road!
-
101. Name: Eric mudgett on 2017-07-14 02:51:32
Comments: Leave it the way it is.
-
102. Name: Desiree Stutheit on 2017-07-14 02:51:48
Comments:
-
103. Name: Amy Smith on 2017-07-14 02:52:15
Comments:
-
104. Name: Julie Johnson on 2017-07-14 02:55:33
Comments: Leave the name Squaw Creek alone!! It has been this way for years and I like it!!
-
105. Name: Laura Burwell on 2017-07-14 02:59:42
Comments: I grew up in the valley I am native and I disagree with changing this
-
106. Name: Josh Geithman on 2017-07-14 03:01:41
Comments:
-
107. Name: Grant Whitehall on 2017-07-14 03:03:57
Comments:
-
108. Name: Shelby Hotchkiss on 2017-07-14 03:06:27
Comments:
-
109. Name: Jennifer Shuler on 2017-07-14 03:06:38
Comments:
-
110. Name: Amber Varrelman on 2017-07-14 03:09:11
Comments:
-
111. Name: Derek Hunter on 2017-07-14 03:09:32
Comments:
-
112. Name: Sara Ward on 2017-07-14 03:10:48
Comments:
-

113. Name: Ashley Scott on 2017-07-14 03:11:02
Comments:
-
114. Name: Lonnie Petersen on 2017-07-14 03:11:47
Comments: Stop the madness! None of these names were meant as derogatory so let's just not go there!!
-
115. Name: Tyson Gilsoul on 2017-07-14 03:13:09
Comments:
-
116. Name: Denise Archer on 2017-07-14 03:13:11
Comments:
-
117. Name: Matthew prouty on 2017-07-14 03:17:07
Comments: This was my home for many years. People need to grow a pair and deal with it.
-
118. Name: Amy Williams on 2017-07-14 03:19:34
Comments:
-
119. Name: Nicole Smith on 2017-07-14 03:20:27
Comments:
-
120. Name: Greg Bolinger on 2017-07-14 03:24:58
Comments: It is not ok to change the name of Squaw Creek. It has been called that for over 100 years. My great grandfather moved there from Ruby Washington. My grandfather was born in a cabin just up the canyon from Rains Trout farm. The Methow is rich with Native American culture and names.
Please do the right thing and leave things as they are. It's too bad when things are changed due to someone being offended by something they don't understand.
-
121. Name: Tamra Avey on 2017-07-14 03:27:11
Comments:
-
122. Name: Alice Precht on 2017-07-14 03:37:58
Comments:
-
123. Name: Beau Strutzel on 2017-07-14 03:44:50
Comments: do not change Name just because one person is not happy with it.
-
124. Name: Monte Stevens on 2017-07-14 03:45:17
Comments:
-

125. Name: Kara on 2017-07-14 03:45:33
Comments:
-
126. Name: Brandi on 2017-07-14 03:52:51
Comments:
-
127. Name: Amy kenney on 2017-07-14 03:56:44
Comments:
-
128. Name: Tiffany Broyhill on 2017-07-14 03:57:04
Comments:
-
129. Name: Chad Frost on 2017-07-14 03:59:58
Comments:
-
130. Name: David Patterson on 2017-07-14 04:00:27
Comments:
-
131. Name: arlene swartz on 2017-07-14 04:03:37
Comments:
-
132. Name: Allie Burgett on 2017-07-14 04:06:36
Comments:
-
133. Name: Kerry Coonan on 2017-07-14 04:09:42
Comments: Stupid liberals. Time to stop them
-
134. Name: Matthew prouty on 2017-07-14 04:21:17
Comments: I lived up there for several years. Love that place.
-
135. Name: David Valley on 2017-07-14 04:24:25
Comments: If it is not broken !
-
136. Name: Rod Hammons on 2017-07-14 04:27:25
Comments: This is our history, Martin Luther king way is a insult to me so keep your liberal shit on the other side of the mountains
-
137. Name: Roberta Hyland on 2017-07-14 04:31:07
Comments:
-
138. Name: Clara on 2017-07-14 04:36:50
Comments: Ridiculous! Leave the name alone its not hurting ANYONE!

-
139. Name: Kathleen Cazimero on 2017-07-14 04:40:21
Comments: I am an Alaskan Indian and am proud that my sister Barb Rains lives on this road..
-
140. Name: Susan varrelman on 2017-07-14 04:44:45
Comments: Don't change it. Locals of the area for decades do NOT AGREE!
-
141. Name: Joe Kitzman on 2017-07-14 04:45:27
Comments: Squaw creek is a big part of the history of our town of Methow. Leave it alone.
-
142. Name: Ahna Coonan on 2017-07-14 04:46:44
Comments: There is no reason to change the name. It is a part of the local history, and it needs to remain.
-
143. Name: Sadie on 2017-07-14 04:57:58
Comments:
-
144. Name: Dawn Blacknall on 2017-07-14 05:06:08
Comments: Please keep this area free from unreasonable pc changes and leave the name alone.
-
145. Name: Nicole Vintin on 2017-07-14 05:08:59
Comments:
-
146. Name: Misty Clark on 2017-07-14 05:10:06
Comments:
-
147. Name: Gina Flemens on 2017-07-14 05:11:39
Comments: Do not change the name!
-
148. Name: Brian Paine on 2017-07-14 05:14:09
Comments:
-
149. Name: Crystal shenyer on 2017-07-14 05:20:05
Comments: No way, not ever.
-
150. Name: Michelle Weaver on 2017-07-14 05:26:03
Comments:
-
151. Name: Jessie yockey on 2017-07-14 05:31:05

Comments: Nope not going to change it. It doesnt mean what they think it does.

152. Name: Karen Patterson on 2017-07-14 05:46:49
Comments: Why change history just to be politically correct!

153. Name: William Keene on 2017-07-14 05:51:05
Comments: Squaw Creek Road is my home and I am tired of people, groups, and activists feeling offended over the name of a road they only learned about because they moved into our area. Washington state is well know for many of it towns and cities, bearing Native names. The term Squaw is even as far south as central California, "Squaw Valley" and no one there is raising a stink about it. Leave Squaw Creek Road alone!

154. Name: Angela Deishl on 2017-07-14 06:04:15
Comments:

155. Name: Maribel welch on 2017-07-14 06:05:55
Comments:

156. Name: Linda Zahn on 2017-07-14 06:16:59
Comments:

157. Name: Ross Bolinger on 2017-07-14 06:24:34
Comments: My family has lived in this area for over 120 year's. Have a lot of history here. No need to change the name of "Squaw creek" just because someone is suddenly offended.

158. Name: Nicole Hook on 2017-07-14 06:43:23
Comments: Leave Squaw Creek the way it is!

159. Name: Katie Michael on 2017-07-14 06:53:33
Comments:

160. Name: Isabel Lopez-Owsley on 2017-07-14 06:54:43
Comments: The name has a Historical reason, you can not change over a 100 years of History. Sensitivities don't come into play where History is involved.

161. Name: Isabella Lopez on 2017-07-14 07:05:26
Comments: Squaw Creek is an area full of History. By saying this name, nobody is throwing slurs or insulting anyone, it is simply naming a place. Wanting to change the name is tantamount to wanting to change or destroy History.

162. Name: Carey Requa on 2017-07-14 07:14:31
Comments:

-
163. Name: Joan Curtis Wissmann on 2017-07-14 07:43:16
Comments: The name should remain the same. The local residents should have the final vote not outsiders.
-
164. Name: Brandon Owsley on 2017-07-14 07:45:36
Comments: So stupid to change it!
-
165. Name: Kristi Jensen on 2017-07-14 07:59:51
Comments:
-
166. Name: Randy Dahl on 2017-07-14 09:50:42
Comments:
-
167. Name: Orvie Dobson on 2017-07-14 10:34:51
Comments:
-
168. Name: Justin Jensen on 2017-07-14 11:15:40
Comments:
-
169. Name: Leann miller on 2017-07-14 11:50:01
Comments:
-
170. Name: Cynthia Wallin on 2017-07-14 12:05:15
Comments:
-
171. Name: Elizabeth Darwood on 2017-07-14 12:22:31
Comments:
-
172. Name: Rocky Mulliken on 2017-07-14 12:24:23
Comments: I have Native American blood
-
173. Name: Chris Young on 2017-07-14 12:38:22
Comments: Keep history Ali e
-
174. Name: Carolyn Kim Landon on 2017-07-14 12:43:15
Comments:
-
175. Name: jeanette palmer on 2017-07-14 12:51:59
Comments:
-
176. Name: Jacqueline H on 2017-07-14 12:58:21

Comments: People need to focus on real problems get a job go to work

177. Name: Christy Mayo on 2017-07-14 13:02:40
Comments: This should be left as it is...

178. Name: Corey haywood on 2017-07-14 13:20:06
Comments:

179. Name: Michelle Randolph on 2017-07-14 13:28:01
Comments:

180. Name: Tara Varrelman Gokey on 2017-07-14 13:36:26
Comments: There is something stupid like this going on in kittitas county too. Guess I better find out what name is trying to get changed here too. To the woman who is officially wasting my time with this right now....get a hobby, get a freaking job, get a damn LIFE! Better yet go back to where you came from. Your ideas are probably at the least entertained wherever that is!

181. Name: Jamie Simpson on 2017-07-14 13:44:44
Comments: No we do Not want to change the name of OUR road because 1 person is offended. Squaw Creek MUST stay Squaw creek! As a Native American I must say no to this non native who is offended by the name Squaw I am a Squaw and I am PROUD of it. Leave our Community Alone!

182. Name: Brad Van Wey on 2017-07-14 13:47:33
Comments: Signing to keep name. PC needs to stop!!!

183. Name: Mysti O'Brien-Tollackson on 2017-07-14 13:57:59
Comments:

184. Name: Ray Bechtol on 2017-07-14 14:10:09
Comments:

185. Name: keith zweigle on 2017-07-14 14:11:29
Comments: Enough is enough!

186. Name: Brandee Perazzo on 2017-07-14 14:19:15
Comments:

187. Name: kassia daniels on 2017-07-14 14:19:29
Comments: leave the name of the road alone if dont live in the area then u have no say

188. Name: Erika Varrelman on 2017-07-14 14:19:54

Comments:

-
189. Name: Nancy Burks on 2017-07-14 14:25:07
Comments: Do not change the name!!!!!!
-
190. Name: Fran Laws on 2017-07-14 14:26:20
Comments: I do NOT support the name change from Squaw Creek Road to Swaram
Creek Road. The name has been this for years and we do NOT agree to change history!!!
Thank you,
Fran Laws
-
191. Name: Karol Gibson on 2017-07-14 14:36:15
Comments: Why do we keep changing history? Keep the name.
-
192. Name: Ryan Greene on 2017-07-14 14:36:26
Comments:
-
193. Name: Kara Schierscher on 2017-07-14 14:37:21
Comments:
-
194. Name: Tracy Greene on 2017-07-14 14:39:55
Comments:
-
195. Name: Barbara Hogan on 2017-07-14 14:53:24
Comments: I have lived in this area my whole life and have never found any of the names
of our town's, rivers, and Creek's to be offensive.
-
196. Name: LaiLee Daling on 2017-07-14 14:53:25
Comments:
-
197. Name: Lorette on 2017-07-14 14:55:25
Comments: I live on Squaw Creek. It's history is rich. Please don't change the name of
our road. We lost so much in the already in the 2014 fire.
-
198. Name: Veronica Jarrell on 2017-07-14 15:00:54
Comments:
-
199. Name: Veronica Jarrell on 2017-07-14 15:01:42
Comments:
-
200. Name: Amber Westerdahl on 2017-07-14 15:01:43
Comments: Keep it the way it should be.
-

201. Name: Kimberly a lee on 2017-07-14 15:10:49
Comments:
-
202. Name: Anthony Armstrong on 2017-07-14 15:11:53
Comments:
-
203. Name: Sabrina O'Connell on 2017-07-14 15:12:17
Comments:
-
204. Name: Hunter Riggan on 2017-07-14 15:14:03
Comments:
-
205. Name: Scott Worsham on 2017-07-14 15:26:34
Comments:
-
206. Name: Geri Hough-Elsensohn on 2017-07-14 15:26:40
Comments:
-
207. Name: Earnest Johnson on 2017-07-14 15:27:11
Comments: Save the name, save the history of the Methow area.
-
208. Name: Marla Herdeck on 2017-07-14 15:29:19
Comments:
-
209. Name: Dori Batson on 2017-07-14 15:37:40
Comments: Leave Squaw Creek as is!!!!
-
210. Name: Tina Daling on 2017-07-14 15:42:08
Comments:
-
211. Name: Aaron Alpers on 2017-07-14 15:53:37
Comments: Keep the name
-
212. Name: Kelsey Gill on 2017-07-14 15:53:48
Comments:
-
213. Name: Kathy Scott on 2017-07-14 15:58:32
Comments:
-
214. Name: Trina Zweigle on 2017-07-14 16:05:57
Comments: Squawk Creek is part of history and part of us all that have lived here. LEAVE THE NAME!

-
215. Name: Kathryn Rodiek on 2017-07-14 16:16:46
Comments:
-
216. Name: Eric foyle on 2017-07-14 16:27:58
Comments:
-
217. Name: Amy fitterer on 2017-07-14 16:33:00
Comments:
-
218. Name: Kyle Steveson on 2017-07-14 16:35:07
Comments:
-
219. Name: Amanda Davis on 2017-07-14 16:40:09
Comments:
-
220. Name: Sarah Jones on 2017-07-14 16:41:02
Comments:
-
221. Name: Mistaya Johnston on 2017-07-14 16:47:47
Comments:
-
222. Name: Kayla Knowlton on 2017-07-14 16:50:04
Comments:
-
223. Name: Lisa Kingsley on 2017-07-14 16:52:48
Comments:
-
224. Name: Jillian Rush on 2017-07-14 16:54:42
Comments:
-
225. Name: Haley Henson on 2017-07-14 16:57:12
Comments:
-
226. Name: Riley Davis on 2017-07-14 17:08:00
Comments:
-
227. Name: Andrew Gavin on 2017-07-14 17:12:31
Comments:
-
228. Name: BreAnna Stockdale on 2017-07-14 17:21:19
Comments:

-
229. Name: Sarah pugh on 2017-07-14 17:38:15
Comments:
-
230. Name: Jo Crossland on 2017-07-14 17:50:12
Comments:
-
231. Name: Kayla Carlson on 2017-07-14 17:54:38
Comments:
-
232. Name: Kelly Peterman on 2017-07-14 18:12:37
Comments:
-
233. Name: Robert Buhl on 2017-07-14 18:13:52
Comments: Absolutely no on the name change. I'm sick of these " I'm offended" people.....
-
234. Name: Adam jones on 2017-07-14 18:16:30
Comments: Leave it as it is
-
235. Name: Carrie Austin on 2017-07-14 18:20:51
Comments:
-
236. Name: Manthy Salcido on 2017-07-14 18:26:59
Comments:
-
237. Name: Thomas Kearney on 2017-07-14 19:01:01
Comments: Why do these people keep moving into the Methow and think they have the right to change what has always been there. Leave it alone!
-
238. Name: Sue Morehouse on 2017-07-14 19:23:12
Comments: The name should remain the same!
-
239. Name: Will Peterman on 2017-07-14 19:31:30
Comments: If they don't like the name of the street go back to where they came from, it was their choice to move there they need to except it
-
240. Name: John Divis on 2017-07-14 19:50:33
Comments:
-
241. Name: Danielle Batson on 2017-07-14 19:54:02
Comments:

-
242. Name: IRENE SEIDLER on 2017-07-14 20:01:09
Comments: I think that barring any native objections the creek should keep the historical name...
-
243. Name: Leesa peterman on 2017-07-14 20:06:10
Comments: This is extremely sad and infuriating all at the same time!
-
244. Name: George Pearson on 2017-07-14 20:08:26
Comments: The next sound you hear is Seattle being flushed down the sewers.
-
245. Name: Gloria on 2017-07-14 20:22:30
Comments: Keep the name Squaw Creek
it is a name that should remain!
How is this offensive or racist?
OMG it is heratige. Leave the Methow Vally if it offends you!!
This is a peaceful place and this nonsense is far more offensive than the name Squaw Creek
-
246. Name: Kelly Gourde on 2017-07-14 20:38:09
Comments:
-
247. Name: Patti Luchte on 2017-07-14 20:51:53
Comments: I say no change. Thank you
-
248. Name: Jennifer Arnett on 2017-07-14 20:53:53
Comments:
-
249. Name: Jennifer Evans on 2017-07-14 21:12:01
Comments:
-
250. Name: Korie Johansen on 2017-07-14 22:12:30
Comments: Ridiculous to change to the name. Get over it people.
-
251. Name: Crystal Semanko on 2017-07-14 22:13:50
Comments:
-
252. Name: Alex Thompson on 2017-07-14 22:42:04
Comments:
-
253. Name: Susan Farrow on 2017-07-14 22:53:51
Comments: This is a part of our valley and history...can we just stop this maddness
-

254. Name: Vince Hogan on 2017-07-14 23:22:08
Comments: Leave the name alone!
-
255. Name: Michael Pomrankey on 2017-07-14 23:47:34
Comments:
-
256. Name: Thomas Tasakos on 2017-07-14 23:54:13
Comments:
-
257. Name: Theresa Milner on 2017-07-15 00:02:40
Comments:
-
258. Name: Ashley Greene on 2017-07-15 00:13:30
Comments:
-
259. Name: Allison McPherson on 2017-07-15 00:16:54
Comments:
-
260. Name: Jenny Adams on 2017-07-15 00:34:35
Comments:
-
261. Name: Andrew lange on 2017-07-15 00:39:06
Comments: Squaw creek has been a part of the valley for many years its grandfathered in leave it alone
-
262. Name: Scott Pouliott on 2017-07-15 01:12:44
Comments:
-
263. Name: Zane Giesen on 2017-07-15 01:22:54
Comments: I agree. Y change a name when it been here for along time. We don't go into other city's and change names y come here and mess with the little towns?
-
264. Name: Sally Hallowell Criswell on 2017-07-15 01:58:49
Comments: Maybe the offended party, and that State of Washington should research the word "Squaw". According to the Smithsonian Institute the word was borrowed as early as 1621 from the Algonquian Tribe. In those languages it meant simply "young woman". In 1992 Oprah invited a Native American activist onto her show. Suzan Harjo stated the word meant vagina. This purported etymology has been widely adopted as the rationale for removing the word from maps, signs, history books, and other public uses. I would think the curator and linguist in the anthropology department at the Smithsonian Institute has more knowledge and credit than some of the supposedly offended. Do your research before removing history.
-
265. Name: Jordan Andrews on 2017-07-15 02:01:26

Comments:

-
266. Name: Kit Huntington on 2017-07-15 02:11:24
Comments:
-
267. Name: Diane Petersen on 2017-07-15 02:20:14
Comments:
-
268. Name: Kristin Maas on 2017-07-15 02:31:20
Comments:
-
269. Name: Kris Herdeck on 2017-07-15 02:35:31
Comments:
-
270. Name: Bob Bromiley on 2017-07-15 02:41:20
Comments: Leave Squaw Creek as is.
-
271. Name: Deanna Woolworth on 2017-07-15 02:58:52
Comments:
-
272. Name: Theresa Martin on 2017-07-15 03:00:09
Comments: Save Squaw Creek name
-
273. Name: Shae Parker on 2017-07-15 03:00:37
Comments:
-
274. Name: Shelda Winschell on 2017-07-15 03:08:20
Comments:
-
275. Name: Becky Earls on 2017-07-15 03:20:33
Comments:
-
276. Name: Angela Richmond on 2017-07-15 03:22:00
Comments:
-
277. Name: Tony Holan on 2017-07-15 03:26:54
Comments:
-
278. Name: Jeramiah Preugschat on 2017-07-15 03:37:59
Comments:
-
279. Name: Lisa Clough on 2017-07-15 03:47:03

Comments: Quit changing our history!!!

280. Name: Paul Arnold on 2017-07-15 03:48:17
Comments:

281. Name: Billye Tollackson on 2017-07-15 04:07:08
Comments:

282. Name: Heather Brown on 2017-07-15 04:28:49
Comments: I do not support changing the name of Squaw Creek.

283. Name: Christie Rush on 2017-07-15 04:29:54
Comments:

284. Name: Shelly Barnett on 2017-07-15 04:37:09
Comments:

285. Name: Tina Griffith on 2017-07-15 04:37:15
Comments:

286. Name: Heidi Hendrickson on 2017-07-15 04:40:07
Comments:

287. Name: Bailey Bromiley on 2017-07-15 05:33:45
Comments: Keep Squaw creek as the name.

288. Name: Casey Daling on 2017-07-15 06:00:54
Comments:

289. Name: Tiena Sheridan on 2017-07-15 06:02:34
Comments:

290. Name: Ernest Pettit on 2017-07-15 06:07:21
Comments:

291. Name: Danielle Sanford on 2017-07-15 06:08:56
Comments:

292. Name: Kaitlin Soost on 2017-07-15 07:23:41
Comments:

293. Name: Mark Curtis on 2017-07-15 08:36:34

Comments: Keep the historical name.

-
294. Name: Rachel West on 2017-07-15 13:28:25
Comments:
-
295. Name: Lou Ann Bromiley on 2017-07-15 14:20:39
Comments: Save Squaw Creek
-
296. Name: Erika odion on 2017-07-15 14:32:24
Comments:
-
297. Name: Zack Odion on 2017-07-15 15:05:22
Comments: "Squaw Creek" is on my birth certificate. Should I change that too?
-
298. Name: Veronica Hosfeld on 2017-07-15 15:24:57
Comments: Leave it!
-
299. Name: Jim Davies on 2017-07-15 15:43:04
Comments:
-
300. Name: Jenny Schlaman on 2017-07-15 16:12:18
Comments:
-
301. Name: Rhyan Barnhart on 2017-07-15 17:05:52
Comments:
-
302. Name: Jimmy Barnhart on 2017-07-15 17:11:10
Comments:
-
303. Name: Laura Bromiley on 2017-07-15 17:12:50
Comments:
-
304. Name: Melissa Tindall on 2017-07-15 17:18:26
Comments: Leave Squaw Creek alone!
-
305. Name: Carolee addis on 2017-07-15 17:58:20
Comments:
-
306. Name: ShaylieD on 2017-07-15 18:11:35
Comments:
-
307. Name: Morgan on 2017-07-15 19:11:10

Comments: Save Squaw Creek!!!!

308. Name: Vickie Fairchild on 2017-07-15 19:30:53
Comments: I don't think the name should be changed.

309. Name: Carla Boyd on 2017-07-15 20:42:02
Comments: Good grief. Let history be history!

310. Name: Taerrah badten on 2017-07-15 20:59:51
Comments:

311. Name: Martin D Young on 2017-07-15 23:00:57
Comments: Thanks Lisa for keeping us informed.

312. Name: Linda on 2017-07-16 01:41:11
Comments: Keep Squaw Mill's name!

313. Name: Carolyn Edson on 2017-07-16 02:09:01
Comments: Leave it alone. There is nothing wrong with it. If outsiders move here and are offended by a road sign naming a road, they can move back to where they came from!

314. Name: Ed Holmes on 2017-07-16 02:51:27
Comments:

315. Name: Brian Keene on 2017-07-16 03:16:40
Comments: Why is Joanna really looking to change the name "Squaw Creek"?
Is it really to preserve the history and culture of the Pacific Northwest region?
Why start with Squaw Creek?
Wouldn't a more historically prominent area be of greater impact to draw the public's attention to preserving the history and culture of the Pacific Northwest region?
Does she want to change just the name of the creek, the road, or the ridge? Or all 3? (They are separate entities.) Would all be renamed, Swaram Creek?
Will she be submitting an application to rename other creeks/roads such as Black Canyon, French Creek, Gold Creek, Pete Creek etc. Will they be next?
Are there private property owners on Squaw Creek?
Did Joanna talk with them?
If so what are their thoughts/ feelings about the proposed changes?
If not, why not?
Who pays for all of this?
Isn't it true that changes in the names of roads, creeks, ridges etc. not only create confusion for the Post Offices, local government, utility, law enforcement, fire and the public but also deprive people a sense of history.
When and where is this political correctness-mania going to end? Will changing the name on a sign, on a map really change what the local community calls Squaw Creek?
The name "Squaw Creek" is not just the name of a road, a creek or a ridge. It's a bit like

your own name. Its part of your identity and one gets attached to it. Therefore, when it 's needlessly and abruptly changed it can and is gut wrenching. Squaw Creek should remain "Squaw Creek" to the local history and the community for many lifetimes to come.

316. Name: Laurel M Mc Daniel on 2017-07-16 03:56:36
Comments:

317. Name: Shaunna Martinez on 2017-07-16 05:01:05
Comments:

318. Name: Barry Hodges on 2017-07-16 06:05:05
Comments: Ridiculous, keep it Squaw Creek!

319. Name: Taza Keene on 2017-07-16 12:33:18
Comments: Squaws did all the work and held the families together in a tribe. Just because white people used the title in a derogatory manner is no reason to change. The name is a history lesson in the making when a child asks why the road has that name. Keep Squaw Creek!

320. Name: Brian Woody on 2017-07-16 12:39:24
Comments:

321. Name: Kjersten Nickleby on 2017-07-16 13:05:59
Comments:

322. Name: Jenn Biggar on 2017-07-16 13:59:28
Comments:

323. Name: Ann Lewis on 2017-07-16 15:15:50
Comments:

324. Name: Karen Denton on 2017-07-16 17:05:53
Comments: I believe Squaw Creek should remain "Squaw Creek" to the local history and the community to pass down to the generations to come!

325. Name: Devin Barnhart on 2017-07-16 17:10:24
Comments: Don't change it, this is ridiculous!

326. Name: Paulette Whitehall on 2017-07-16 17:33:34
Comments:

327. Name: Chris Willoughby on 2017-07-16 18:01:08

Comments: Squaw is not derogatory. It is not racist. It is an Algonquin Indian term that means "woman." There is no prejudice in the term as some people would believe. It is no different than calling a woman, well, woman in english. Only people who "want" to find offense in things will be offended, and those who do not look for offensive things are people with a meaningful life.

328. Name: Hailey Jo Bergstrom on 2017-07-16 18:15:10
Comments:

329. Name: Erica Stoddard on 2017-07-16 18:16:58
Comments:

330. Name: Rich Burgett on 2017-07-16 18:35:20
Comments:

331. Name: Susan Barnhart on 2017-07-16 19:38:12
Comments: Leave will enough alone people. If you don't like the name move.

332. Name: Sharon Long on 2017-07-16 20:00:16
Comments:

333. Name: Gina Mullendore on 2017-07-16 22:40:39
Comments: no need to change the name of Squaw Creek. There is history being lost everyday because someone may be offended. How sad.

334. Name: Elena Hunter on 2017-07-17 00:27:21
Comments:

335. Name: Jaylene Soriano on 2017-07-17 02:28:42
Comments:

336. Name: Judy Brown on 2017-07-17 03:40:36
Comments: Keep history

337. Name: Marianne Henderson on 2017-07-17 03:51:02
Comments:

338. Name: Tara Brownlee on 2017-07-17 05:04:46
Comments:

339. Name: John Arrabito on 2017-07-17 05:28:08
Comments:

340. Name: Glenn Varrelman on 2017-07-17 12:07:35
Comments: Leave it alone.
-
341. Name: Samantha D Norton on 2017-07-17 20:44:14
Comments:
-
342. Name: Kelsey browning on 2017-07-17 22:56:03
Comments:
-
343. Name: Tracy Greene on 2017-07-17 23:13:40
Comments: I was blessed to have owned a home and property up Squaw Creek for 7 years. There is a lovely community of people who are minding there business helping the community and just trying to enjoy the lands they have proudly developed that they call home. This person has no right to come up our Valley and think because she is offended she can change the name of Squaw creek which at one time was a small mining town. Why don't you go back to the other side or wherever you came from. You offend me!
-
344. Name: Crista Davis on 2017-07-18 00:44:29
Comments:
-
345. Name: Sabrina O'Neel on 2017-07-18 00:44:38
Comments:
-
346. Name: Hillary Nelson on 2017-07-18 02:00:07
Comments:
-
347. Name: Devin Coonan on 2017-07-18 04:21:29
Comments:
-
348. Name: Erin poff on 2017-07-18 16:04:56
Comments:
-
349. Name: Jackie Jo Shaw on 2017-07-18 16:43:42
Comments: Squaw Creek is a part of our history, please do not allow the name to be changed.
-
350. Name: Dick Shaw on 2017-07-18 16:53:15
Comments: Leave the name as it is, Squaw Creek.
-
351. Name: Jeremy Farrington on 2017-07-18 19:25:14
Comments: Leave the name as it is.
-
352. Name: Rob Johnson on 2017-07-18 20:52:58

Comments: Quit trying to rewrite history. Leave the name as it is.

353. Name: Stefani Johnson on 2017-07-18 21:42:08
Comments: Give me a break

354. Name: Kathy Luft on 2017-07-19 13:04:03
Comments:

355. Name: John A Neumann on 2017-07-20 00:35:37
Comments: Who thinks up these name changing things?

356. Name: Lisa Jackson on 2017-07-20 04:29:00
Comments:

357. Name: Kemberly Tonseth on 2017-07-20 13:58:23
Comments:

358. Name: Lorette Alpers on 2017-07-21 02:08:28
Comments:

359. Name: jennifer tuengel on 2017-07-23 01:13:49
Comments:

360. Name: Eagle on 2017-07-24 16:36:58
Comments: Leave squaw creek alone

361. Name: Taber Murphy on 2017-07-25 02:17:21
Comments:

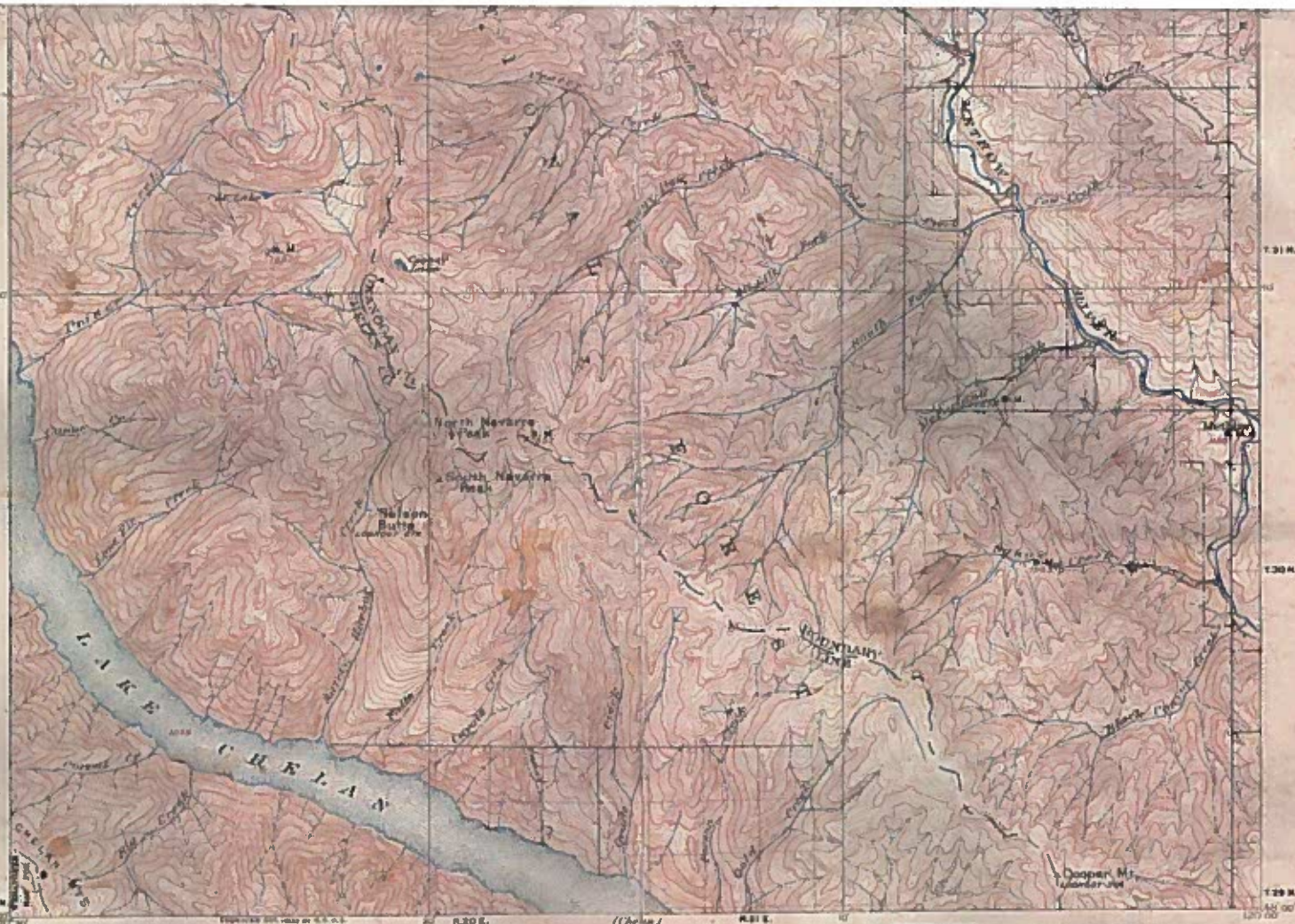
362. Name: Rebecca Konrad on 2017-07-25 18:10:49
Comments:

363. Name: Jeff Adams on 2017-07-27 00:50:44
Comments:

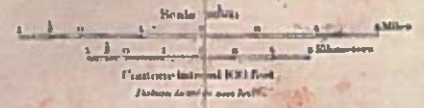
I'd like to fill out an appeal on the name change the person who filed to have the name of our road that goes to our farm and others neighbors have never been approached with or asked what we thought of this name change Joanna Bastian did this behind our backs not once considering our thoughts or how it will affect us personally and business wise . I am a Native American woman who has never been offended by the word Squaw yet she never asked me my thoughts only of those down the road 6 miles ,Plus the fact that she never even asked us what we thought of the name she chose Swarum Creek ?? are you serious? Why weren't we asked if the name has to be changed why shouldn't we the land owners have some say in what it will be changed to??

We have lived up Squaw creek since 1976 and have established ourselves in the Methow Valley Joanna has moved into our valley only 6 yrs ago because she loved the beauty of the place now she is trying to change the valley. I have a map dated 1887 that is was surveyed and it shows there were more buildings/residences up Squaw creek at that time then there was up in the big town of Twisp or Winthrop , Squaw creek was a thriving town at the time there is a lot of history up here and before the 2014 Cariton complex fire there was a lot of historical cabins still standing. Please advise me on what steps I can take to stop this process or at least have some say in what the name change will be. Also is there any documentation that Squaw creek was ever named Swarum creek ? Also what about all of the maps that list it as Squaw creek and the mountain range behind us. Thank you I'd appreciate your response

Barbara Rains 122 Squaw creek road Pateros Wa. 98846



R. M. Goode, Geographer in charge.
 Triangulation by A. H. Sylvester.
 Topography by W. T. C. Swick and H. A. Farner.
 Surveyed in 1897 and 1899.



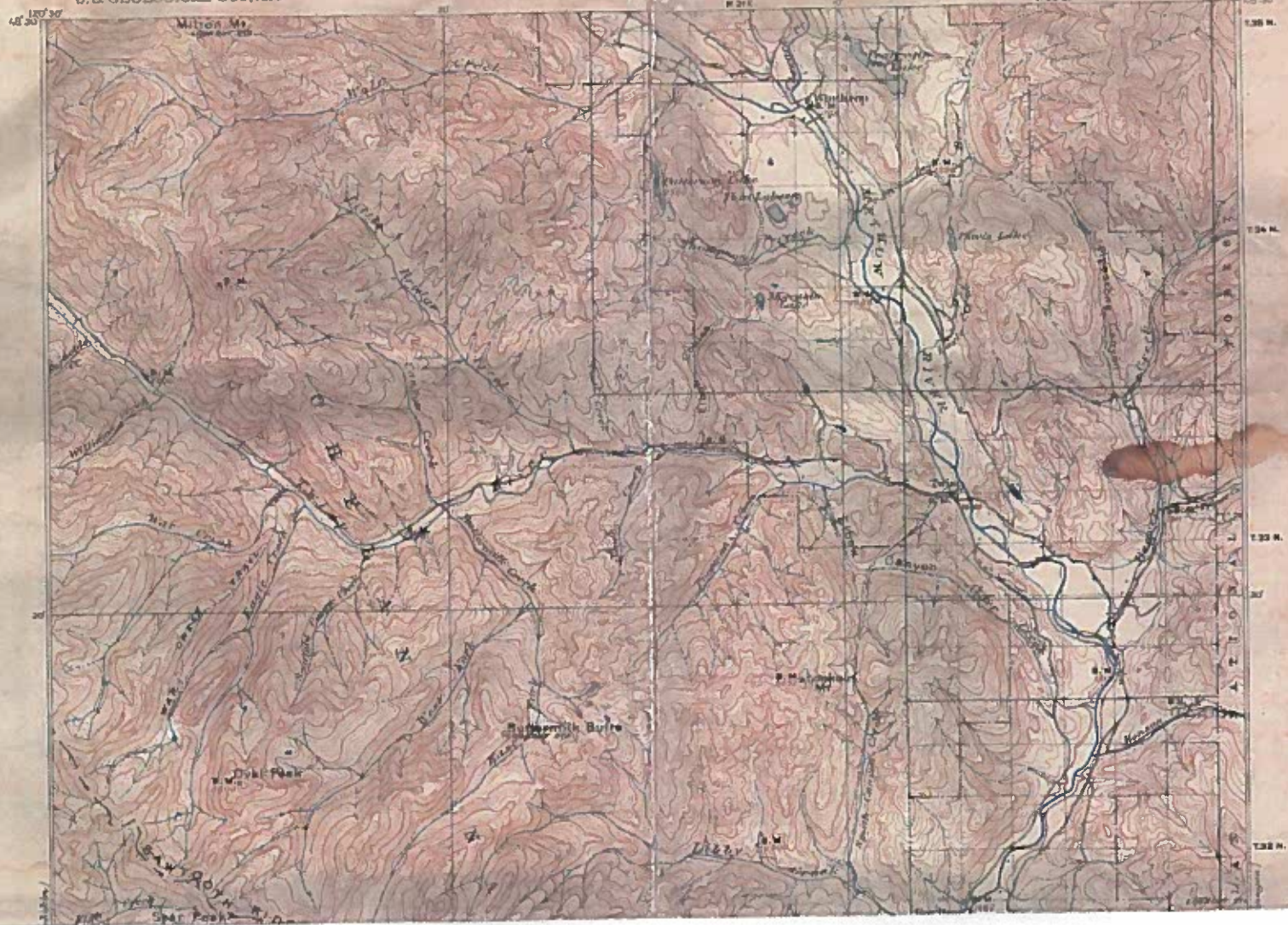
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75	80	85	90	95
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175	180	185	190	195
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225	230	235	240	245
250	255	260	265	270
275	280	285	290	295
300	305	310	315	320
325	330	335	340	345
350	355	360	365	370
375	380	385	390	395
400	405	410	415	420
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450	455	460	465	470
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500	505	510	515	520
525	530	535	540	545
550	555	560	565	570
575	580	585	590	595
600	605	610	615	620
625	630	635	640	645
650	655	660	665	670
675	680	685	690	695
700	705	710	715	720
725	730	735	740	745
750	755	760	765	770
775	780	785	790	795
800	805	810	815	820
825	830	835	840	845
850	855	860	865	870
875	880	885	890	895
900	905	910	915	920
925	930	935	940	945
950	955	960	965	970
975	980	985	990	995
1000	1005	1010	1015	1020

Edition of Mar. 1901, reprinted 1934.
 Polyconic projection.

METHUEN WASH

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

WASHINGTON
METHOW QUADRANGLE



DNR RE BOGN

From: Barb Rains <BarbR@dcpud.org>
Sent: Tuesday, July 11, 2017 3:00 PM
To: DNR RE BOGN
Subject: Squaw Creek Pateros Wa. name change

Wa. State Committee of Geographic Names:

I have to tell you I was shocked to hear only about 2 months ago that there was someone who I have never met or heard of that was trying to change the name of our beautiful valley we have lived in for the last 34 yrs because she finds the word Squaw offensive.

I am a Native American woman I have been proud to call Squaw creek my home I have lived here with my husband since 1983, we have raised our family here and several other kids that were in need of a home for maybe only a few months to a couple of years. We established a business that has put Squaw creek on the map raising trout stocking private ponds and being the only Brown trout farmer in the tri-states, we have trained over 500 Wild land fire fighters at our training facility known as Fire training up Squaw creek, our family is known in the Valley and we have contributed to the area whole heartedly, I have to question the motive of this lady who I understand has only lived here a few years claims she loves it here but wants to see some changes she does not know us or anyone of us that this will effect.

I'm really curious if this woman has made such an attempt to have the locals sign the petition as to why she never contacted us or our neighbors that live on Squaw creek what our thoughts were of changing the name let alone to a name that can't be pronounced by half the people we show it to, she would like to see it changed to Swarum creek I'd really like to see the history books or evidence it was ever called that like she has claimed?

I realize some people consider Squaw to be a derogatory word that is their right but I for one don't I have never been offended by it and as Native American woman should my opinion be taken in consideration if it doesn't offend me why should a person who lives 15 miles up the road care? I've come to terms we might lose our identity or name of our valley Squaw creek but PLEASE let us the landowners have some say it what it should be changed to that will soften the blow we have received when we heard of her plans thru the grape vine.

If there is to be a name change why weren't we brought into consideration of what we thought would be a good replacement name? We are the land owners not Joanna Bastian she has nothing to do with Squaw creek, we are the ones that live up there and have enjoyed the beauty of the place for 34 yrs we have taken many hikes and discovered long lost cabins from the old mining days found old tools used by the miners the Black Smith shop still stands on our land we have found many artifacts from the past I don't understand how you can just wipe out a name that has so much history to it I have a map from 1880 's showing it was called Squaw creek where does the history go when you change the name. Changing the name of our home place should be a mutual decision not based on one person's desire to make her voice be heard or for whatever reason she has made the decision to do this.

As land owners up Squaw creek we have all lost so much our small valley was devastated by the Carlton complex fire in 2014 - 4 homes were lost, our beautiful lush forest GONE, the wildlife has disappeared, the creek have over flowed causing major damage due to the lack of vegetation, lives have been changed forever after that fire and now some person who doesn't know us or made any attempt to meet us doesn't know or care what we all went thru wants to take away our identity the place we call HOME because she thinks it the "respectful" thing to do? Respect respect?? Joanna has not shown any of the landowners one bit of respect not one bit of consideration of how we feel the respectful thing to do would have been to make an attempt to contact us that to me is deceitful.

We would appreciate the opportunity to have some input on any changes that may occur regarding our home.

Thank you for your consideration,

creek rd Pateros Wa.

From: Barb Rains
To: CNB.BE.FOGN
Subject: Squaw creek
Date: Thursday, July 13, 2017 1:26:09 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

SQUAW CREEK

This is in response to Joanna Bastian's article in the paper of September 28th. There is no known record of how Squaw Creek got its name. The word is only "offensive and disparaging" if you make it so. She should have also included the opinion of a Native American woman who lives on the creek,

The mining camp up Squaw Creek was named Methow by the miners and got its Post Office on November 8, 1894, not when it moved to its present location (Postmarked Washington). Neither was it a rough crowd. The only recorded violence in the town was a dispute between two miners in which one got a broken arm and the other a black eye. As to U.E. Fries, please read his book and decide for yourself whether or not he was an evil man. Whites cheated Whites and Whites cheated Indians, Indians cheated each other and also Whites in those days and it still goes on today.

"The mindset of a drunken fraternity"? I think not. Most of the 300 or so men who made up the miners were settlers, farmers, and business men. W.A Bolinger, Tommy Young, Jack Healam, Charley Grant, D. D. Tonseth, L. M. Tonseth, Nels Johnson, Pete Averill, The Murray's, Jim West, Frank Minnix, John Truax, Alec Watson, Alec McKinnon, Theo and Earl Mills, Thomas Madden and the names go on and on. These men were all solid citizens. The town never did have the name of being a "Wild" town. Many men worked in the mines to earn a little cash money to go on farming.

If it weren't for people like U. E. Fries, the Robinson brothers, Alexander Ross, John (Jack) Healam, Isabel Healam, Olive Cook, Frank Heath, Mabel Whitney Tonseth and daughter Helen and Georgia Miller, who had the foresight to write of their experiences we would not have any record of how people lived in the early days. We shouldn't paint them as being anything but what they were...Pioneers.

The thought crossed my mind that her article should better have appeared in an editorial column or a letter to the editor as an opinion rather than as a news article.....That's my opinion. Bob Tonseth

From: Barb Rains
To: [ONE RE BORN](#)
Subject: letter about Squaw creek
Date: Thursday, July 13, 2017 1:24:10 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

>
> On Fri, Feb 24, 2017 at 8:21 AM, Taylor Rains <taylorrains01@gmail.com>
> <<mailto:taylorrains01@gmail.com>>> wrote:
> Joanna,
>
> I recently read your article on the possible name changing of Squaw Creek. You
> have couple of references in your argument but it seems you did not ask or speak
> with anyone that actually lives in the creek bottom. Instead you spoke with
> people "south of Squaw Creek" I can tell you that as a person that is native
> American and that still considers Squaw Creek home i am not in support of the
> motion. I admit that there is bias and sentimental reasoning behind that. My
> parents moved to Squaw creek in the spring of 83 and have lived there ever since.
> My mother is nearly full blooded native and also not in support of the name
> change. I know we are but one family in a large and diverse community but as the
> family that has been there for 34 years it does hurt us that others can just come
> in and change the name of our home. We have see many families come and go but we
> remain. Even through the Carlton Complex fires we stayed and fought to protect

https://mail.nwi.net/webmail/src/printer_friendly_bottom.php?passed_ent_id=0&mailbox=... 2/27/2017

Fwd: squaw creek

Page 2 of 2

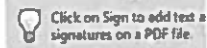
our home. It may seem arbitrary to you and other but it is a bit of a slap in the
face to us. It may just be passing glance in the paper or something people want
to bandwagon on to only forget about the next day after they feel part of
something ever so briefly but to my family it is part of us, it is who we are, it
is part of our identity. I thank you for your time and if my father were to call
you please be patient. He is passionate man that at times can let his temper get
the best of him.

> Feel free to call me if you are so inclined.
> Taylor Rains
> 509-860-9495 <<tel:509-860-9495>>

Attachments:
untitled-[2]
Size: 7.2 k
Type: text/html

From: Barb Rains
To: DNV.BE.BOGG
Subject: Keep Squaw creek
Date: Thursday, July 13, 2017 1:23:03 PM
Attachments: image001.png

Squaw Creek — to change the name or not?



To make an argument for or against this name change, we have to look at the evidence and where the word "Squaw" originated. Unfortunately, this is almost impossible to do because most articles I find when Googling "Where did the word Squaw come from" have conflicting evidence to support the origin of the word "Squaw". Some say it's a English loan word, others say it comes from Massachuset Algonquian tribe meaning an American Indian woman or wife.

Further Googling "Is the word Squaw offensive" also came back with contradicting viewpoints and opinions, though I would have to say that most of the results on the first page say the word is not offensive. Yet some people have stated that "Squaw" is a rather offensive name to Native Americans. However, the problem here is that there hasn't been a study indicating that it is offensive even to a significant minority of Native Americans.

Squaw Creek has a long, important, and colorful place in the history of the Methow Valley. I am amazed that our system allows anyone to start the paperwork process to change that history. To change addresses, to force state and local government, local tax payers, myself and neighbors to incur financial expenses without consideration to how this change will cause confusion for years to come without having some kind of discussion within the community first.

Where is this political correctness-mania going to end? Changing the name on a road sign and on a map is not going to change what we call the road that I live on. Squaw Creek will remain Squaw Creek to the local history and the community for many lifetimes to come. If you believe that erasing a word from our local history will change anything it won't, it just makes people ignorant.

Some great reading here: <http://www.nativeweb.org/pages/legal/squaw.html>

To show your support for keeping the name Squaw Creek send your emails to keepquawcreek@outlook.com

From: Barb Kano
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Any info re Swaram creek
Date: Thursday, July 13, 2017 1:22:20 PM
Attachments: [REDACTED]

Why is Joanna really looking to change the name "Squaw Creek"?

Is it really to preserve the history and culture for the Pacific Northwest region?

Why start with Squaw Creek? Wouldn't a more historically prominent area be of greater impact to draw the public's attention to preserving the history and culture for the Pacific Northwest region?

Will she be submitting application to rename other creeks/roads such as, Black Canyon, French Creek, Gold Creek, Pete Creek etc, will they be next?

Any private property owners on Squaw Creek? Did Joanna talk with them? If not, why not?

If so what are their thoughts/ feelings about the proposed changes?

Does she want to change just the name of the creek, the road, or the ridge? Or all 3? (They are separate entities.) Would all be renamed Swaram Creek?

Who pays for all of this?

Is the real motivation for the renaming "Squaw Creek" because Joanna still believes that the word "Squaw" is *offensive*.

Wasn't "Squaw" the preferred term to refer to an American Indian woman or wife at the time the creek was named?

Isn't it true that changes in the names of roads, creeks, ridges etc. not only create confusion for the Post Offices and the public, but also deprive people a sense of history.

When and where is this political correctness-mantra going to end? Will changing the name on a sign, on a map really change what the local community calls Squaw Creek?

The name "Squaw Creek" is not just the name of a road, a creek or a ridge. It's a bit like your own name. Its part of your identity and one gets attached to it. Therefore, when it 's needlessly and abruptly changed it can and is gut wrenching.

Squaw Creek will remain "Squaw Creek" to the local history and the community for many lifetimes to come.

The residents of Squaw Creek approve of this message: The Kcene Family & The Rains Family.

Show your support email:

keepsquawcreek@outlook.com

With your Name, Address, Phone and Email address.

From: Fran Laws
To: [DNR RE BOGN](#)
Subject: Swaram Creek -Okanogan County
Date: Wednesday, June 14, 2017 6:48:00 PM

Please DO NOT change the name of a road from Squaw Creek to Swaram Creek, a name that has held that name since 1880, just because a newcomer moves there and decides she wants the name changed. Should not this be a vote for ALL landowners to vote on the name change with an overwhelming majority?? Please allow a vote and not allow landowners to voice their opinion to change a name so old!

Thank you,
Fran Laws
Wenatchee, WA

From Fran Laws
To DNR RE BOGN

Date 6/14/2017 6:47:59 PM

Cc
Subject Swaram Creek -Okanogan County

Please DO NOT change the name of a road from Squaw Creek to Swaram Creek, a name that has held that name since 1880, just because a newcomer moves there and decides she wants the name changed. Should not this be a vote for ALL landowners to vote on the name change with an overwhelming majority?? Please allow a vote and not allow landowners to voice their opinion to change a name so old!

Thank you,
Fran Laws
Wenatchee, WA

DNR RE BOGN

From: Suz Lady <ladyfoz_suz@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 12, 2017 8:51 AM
To: DNR RE BOGN
Subject: Keep Squaw Creek Name!

To the Name Change "busy bodies in other people's communities business" committee, I was born-raised in the Methow and Pateros area. No one I have ever known has ever been offended or worried one bit about the name Squaw Creek, until just one non-Methow valley raised, "outsider" person, Joanna, complained and wrote a proposal and helped spread a rumor that a fireman "just couldn't say the name" in a serious emergency. Social Media was the culprit trying to cause the so-called derogatory name issue during the 2015 fire season!!

It is a ridiculous proposal to change it just because of Joanna's idea of it being derogatory. Derogatory is an opinion, and we don't simply change Map locations based on a little, non-local raised opinion. How about if I am offended at a street named Boot Street because I say it means to kick someone out of their home? Ridiculous. We all know boot can mean cowboy boot, boot your laptop, etc.

The name Squaw Creek means to me "a place of peace and beauty". I don't know where Joanna gets her definition. Too bad she is being so negative to try and cause an uproar towards the name Squaw Creek when there was NONE, besides the rumor started on social Media about firefighters.

Go ahead and name all your new pets Joanna, not a place you barely came to know long long long after all of us locals have lived here happily and free of busy bodies like you.

Susan Varrelman
Pateros, WA

Sent from my iPad

DNR RE BOGN

From: Ron and Rosemary Crawford <ronandrosi@msn.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 12, 2017 7:39 AM
To: DNR RE BOGN
Subject: Squaw Creek Name Change

Dear Sirs,

I sincerely hope you will NOT change the name of Squaw Creek in Eastern Washington just because some newcomer finds the name "offensive". Changing the name of a road is a serious thing to do and has a big effect on the people who actually live on that road. My brother and sister-in-law, David and Barbara Rains, have lived on this road for over 30 years and have established a serious identity for their business that uses the name of the road. It would create a hardship for them to have to reestablish their entire identity with a new name. Changing business cards, signs, advertising, car decals, bank accounts, address for everyone they deal with - all of these factors create a huge expense. I hope that changes like this aren't done routinely every time someone decides that a name isn't to their liking. It seems a frivolous attempt to bring political correctness to every corner of our world.

Sincerely,
Rosemary Crawford (425) 344-8877 ronandrosi@msn.com
PO Box 833
Granite Falls, WA 98252

Sent from [Outlook](#)

DNR RE BOGN

From: Tammy Divis <tammy_divis@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 12, 2017 5:11 AM
To: DNR RE BOGN
Subject: 'No' to Swaram Creek--name change from Squaw Creek

To whom it may concern,

We are land owners in the Methow valley at the bottom of the Squaw Creek road (781 Highway 153) and we Do Not support the name change of Squaw Creek. I have grown up in this valley and watched our valley forever change from the wildfires of 2014. 4 homes were lost up Squaw Creek and this name change is the last thing any of us want. There have been enough changes. No one who lives up Squaw Creek nor locals who have lived here are in the least bit offended by the term Squaw, which means, 'Indian woman'. Our vote is No on the changing of Squaw Creek to Swaram Creek. If there must be a name change, please ask the land owners what they would prefer, not someone who moved here a few years ago and appears to be offended by our history.

Thank you,

Sterling and Tammy Divis
781 Hwy 153
Mailing: PO Box 370, Brewster, Washington 98812
509-733-1953

tammy_divis@yahoo.com

DNR RE BOGN

From: Burgett, Alexandria A <aburgett@zagmail.gonzaga.edu>
Sent: Thursday, July 13, 2017 8:33 AM
To: DNR RE BOGN
Subject: Attn. Washington State Board on Geographic Names - Squaw Creek

My name is Alexandria Burgett, a Brewster, WA native, and I am writing on behalf of myself, my family, and my father, Richard Burgett, a Pateros, Washington native. I have heard of the growing concern of this Joanna Bastian over the name change of Squaw Creek to Swaram Creek. As a family who was born and raised in this area and who went through the times and trials this valley has put all the locals through, it is upsetting and frustrating when someone from the outside comes in and tries to make changes to things they do not care to put any effort into learning about. I read Dave and Bard Rains' letter that they and other land owners up Squaw Creek were not even contacted by Ms. Bastian in regard to this matter. Barb Rains brought up extremely valid points such as the actual land owners' experiences and memories up Squaw Creek, not to mention the steadfast history the name hold. The lack of respect for the people who call Squaw Creek home prove Ms. Bastian's claim that their home's name is offensive to her to be invalid. Not to mention her lack of research and concern for the history of the name and its meaning to Native American people. We vote NO to change the name of Squaw Creek to Swaram Creek, and if you ask any other long-time, born and raised locals, I can assure you they will most all say the same. Thank you.

*Alexandria Burgett
Gonzaga University Class of 2017*

DNR RE BOGN

From: Judy Nordang <judynordang@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 13, 2017 5:50 AM
To: DNR RE BOGN
Subject: Re: Squaw Creek

The Nordang family votes NO to changing the name of Squaw Creek to Swaram Creek.
Thank you, Judy & Greg Nordang

Sent from my iPad

DNR RE BOGN

From: Amber Varrelman <amber.varrelman@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 12, 2017 8:30 PM
To: DNR RE BOGN
Subject: Squaw Creek name change proposal

I grew up approximately two miles up from the Squaw Creek turn off and my best friend lived up Squaw Creek Road. I spent a good portion of my youth up Squaw Creek and am OFFENDED that a new comer has moved to the Methow Valley (relatively recently) and she finds it an offensive name. I **never** found it offensive or derogatory and my best friend is also Native American. So which one of us is correct to be offended? I'm so tired of everyone finding everything so damn offensive. **I vote to retain the name Squaw Creek.**

Amber Varrelman.

Sent from my iPhone

DNR RE BOGN

From: Yvonne Bussler White <underthestarsandmoon@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 12, 2017 6:31 PM
To: DNR RE BOGN
Subject: No vote to changing the name of Squaw Creek!

Hi,

No vote to changing the name of Squaw Creek!

Yvonne Bussler White

DNR RE BOGN

From: Tom hook <thook1943@live.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 12, 2017 5:37 PM
To: DNR RE BOGN
Subject: Name Change

Leave Squaw Creek as Squaw Creek. Do not change it to Swaram Creek as being petitioned. The locals call it Squaw Creek, it has always been Squaw Creek and I have never met anyone who feels offended by the name. I would hope that the locals would have a say in this.

Tom Hook
Brewster, WA

DNR RE BOGN

From: Jen H <jen.hoveland@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 12, 2017 10:43 AM
To: DNR RE BOGN
Subject: Name change of historical Squaw Creek in the Methow Valley.

I am writing in reference to this situation.

Please count my vote as a resounding NO. The name should NOT be changed, because a relatively new resident to The Valley finds this historical place name offensive.

Thank you.

Jen Dooms, LVT
Tacoma Cat Hospital
253.473.2287

DNR RE BOGN

From: LORETTE ALPERS <LORETTE-A@msn.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 13, 2017 7:34 PM
To: DNR RE BOGN
Subject: Changing the name Squaw Creek Road (by a resident of Squaw Creek Road)

To the Washington State Committee of Geographic Names,

My name is Lorette Alpers. I have had a home on Squaw Creek since 2006. I was drawn to the Squaw Creek Valley's pristine beauty and fascinating past. You can see and feel the history of this place. A history that has encompassed indigenous people, miners and homesteaders, farmers and artists, naturalists and traditionalists. All the people who have resided in this valley have left an imprint.

I purchased the property from Richard Beyer, the famous artist whose foundry was in Pateros. One of his sculptures that remains on the property is that of a Native American woman's face carved into a six-foot-high stone. It's rustic beauty always makes me feel reverent. It's named Squaw Rock. The name squaw holds only positive connotations for me. I think of; a strong woman, a healing woman, a woman who understands nature and is one with the earth.

When I heard through the grapevine that someone submitted a petition to change the name of our road, I felt saddened. We lost so much to the fires in 2014. We lost many of our neighbors whose homes burned to the ground, our forest, the wildlife, our beauty, not to mention property values by half, structures, fencing, irrigation, etc. Losing the name of the valley, creek, road feels like another assault.

The topic of the name of the road being offensive to some came to my attention during the fires in 2015. A second year of a huge fire threatening our property. If it wasn't for the firefighters working day and night, including our neighbor Dave Rains we might have lost our home this time. Even though the area burning was in the Squaw Creek drainage, someone put pressure to drop the name Squaw Creek because they felt offended by it and referred only to the neighboring McFarland Creek drainage instead-leaving residents feeling removed from the event happening in their back yard.

I am aware that my viewpoint is shaped by my experiences and that other people/groups have been affected by theirs. To understand the extent that the word squaw was offensive to Native Americans I began by asking two of my neighbors on Squaw Creek that are both of Native American heritage, how they felt. Both said it held no negative meaning for them. Since learning of the proposed name change I have done some research and have found the data to be inconclusive of the meaning, the origin and the feeling about the word by Native Americans.

If Native Americans had approached us with their common concern over the road being named Squaw Creek Road, we would have listened. However, the person who filed the petition never contacted anyone who lives on the road to open a dialog. Her contacts with local Native Americans have been minimal and she has also proposed what the new name will be. I find myself upset.

I would like to see more research done to see if there is an agreement among Native Americans that the name squaw is now considered offensive. I know it was part of their original language meaning, "the whole of being a woman". As a woman, I delight in the name.

If the consensus is that most Native Americans feel our road's name should be changed because it is offensive to them, as a resident of Squaw Creek I would like to be given a voice to help select that name. If out of respect to Native Americans it is decided the name is to be changed to the Methow Band's original name for the creek, I think it would be fitting to change all the drainages/creeks in the Methow to their indigenous names. I would appreciate seeing the historical records that document those names before any changes occur.

Thank you for your time.

Respectfully,

Lorette Alpers

Squaw Creek resident

DNR RE BOGN

From: Patti Luchte <pluchte@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, July 19, 2017 11:25 PM
To: DNR RE BOGN
Subject: Squaw Creek, Okanogan County

Please do not agree with changing the name of Squaw Creek in Okanogan County. It has been named that since then 1800's. Say no to the white people who think it is offensive. Squaw literally means, North American Indian Woman...what is so offensive about that? Is it North American Indian women that are asking for the change? Doubtful.. Is it the people that live up Squaw Creek that are asking for the change? Again doubtful...

There are people in this world that need to have babies so they are occupied with raising a family, rather than putting their noses in other people's business..

Thank you, P Luchte

DNR RE BOGN

From: Iris B <underseaim@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, July 14, 2017 10:45 PM
To: DNR RE BOGN
Subject: Squaw Creek, Okanogan County

I am requesting that the name of Squaw Creek NOT be changed. Not only does it have historical meaning, but also personal meaning of the residents of the Methow Valley, both past and present.

I would also like to point out the the word "squaw" is not derogatory in any way. It's meanig is "an American native Indian woman or wife". Saying that squaw is derogatory is like saying senora is derogatory when they have similar meaning.

Thank you for your time,

Iris Bradshaw
1986 Pateros graduate
Past resident of Methow and Pateros.

DNR RE BOGN

From: JUDY PICARD <jpicard@centurytel.net>
Sent: Friday, July 14, 2017 6:48 PM
To: DNR RE BOGN
Subject: Squaw Creek name change

To Whom:

This is in reference to the movement by a few idiots to change the name of Squaw Creek in the Methow Valley to Swaram Crk. I am sending this message to vote ABSOLUTELY NO to the name change.

NO NO NO TO CHANGE THE NAME OF SQUAW CREEK IN THE METHOW VALLEY, WASHINGTON.

Thank you for listening,

Judy Picard
POB 494
Twisp, Wa. 98856

jpicard@centurytel.net



Virus-free. www.avast.com

DNR RE BOGN

From: Sammy Peterman <samanthajpeterman@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, July 14, 2017 10:07 AM
To: DNR RE BOGN
Subject: SQUAW Creek

To whom it may concern,

The proposal to change the name of Squaw Creek to Swaram Creek should be denied.

The reasoning behind the change is unjustified as not one of the longstanding residents have been consulted nor have they ever reported offense to the name. Residents of Squaw Creek would have to contact every institution they have ever done business with to alert them of the change. There are businesses that have been operating for over 20 years with a Squaw Creek address that may suffer from a change. The group that initiated the change has no right to create so much work for people that did not ask for it.

Being part of the DNR, you are clearly aware of the history of wildfires in the area. My father in law runs a private contracting unit with the Forest Service, and does the wildland training for the WCFA up Squaw Creek. I can't even begin to tell you how hard not only him, but all the residents and numerous other firefighters that he's trained along the way came together and fought to save their home, Squaw Creek, during the wildfires in 2014 and 2015, just to have it named offensive to someone that has not known the area as anything more than a name.

On the subject of safety, changing the name of a well established road in a valley that is served by volunteer emergency services is dangerous. The volunteers are Valley residents who know Squaw Creek, but would have no idea where Swaram Creek is. If my parents have an emergency and help does not get to them in time, who would be responsible? I definitely would not lay blame to the volunteers.

Lastly, I am unsure of the reasoning behind choosing the name "Swaram". If the intentions were to keep it "Native American" then it was chosen mistakenly. Swaram is a Hindu name which has its own beautiful meaning, however, is offensive as a choice as it seems the words "Indian names that start with S" was googled. That alone shows the lack of true consideration put into this action.

Squaw Creek is more than just a name. It is Home.

Samantha
122 Squaw Creek Rd
Pateros, WA

DNR RE BOGN

From: Mark Carey <markcarey5@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 20, 2017 8:29 AM
To: DNR RE BOGN
Subject: Fwd: Squaw Creek Pateros Wa. name change

WA. State Board on Geographic Names
P.O. Box 47030
Olympia Wa.98504-7030
bogn@dnr.wa.gov

Dear Board,

As landowner on Squaw Creek Road in Okanogan County, we wholeheartedly echo Dave and Barb Rains comments about opposing a name change to Squaw Creek Road. Squaw Creek Road is not only a county road, but also a beautiful, productive creek as well, serving both federal and private lands. While we are relatively new to the Squaw Creek valley, compared to our neighbors, we were nevertheless completely destroyed by the devastating 2014 Carlton Complex fire, also known as Presidentially Declared Disaster #4188. Our beloved home, outbuildings, equipment and property were a total loss. Not only was our home and property burned to the ground, but our dream of soon retiring to the Squaw Creek valley was destroyed as well. A senseless name change to our valley only adds insult to our on-going injury and pain.

As a professional land use planner and emergency manager, I know all too well the significance of place, geography and land identity. I've worked in similar disasters across the entire nation and fully understand how disasters such as ours impact people's lives. What may seem likely a simple name change, to disaster survivors such as us, this type of geographic upheaval significantly retards our continued recovery. The loss in geographic identity cannot be understated to our long-term healing as a proud and resilient community of Squaw Creek residents.

Our valley is still grieving over the horrible loss incurred as a result of the fire. Our valley residents are still struggling to come to grips with our collective devastation and changing the name of our valley, road and water source is beyond belief. We strongly urge to deny the name

change of this wonderful place and assist us in our we continue to rebuild our valley. Thank you.

Mark Carey
Heidi Kristofferson
221 Squaw Creek Road
Pateros, WA

From: Barb Rains
Sent: Tuesday, July 11, 2017 3:00 PM
To: 'bogn@dnr.wa.gov'
Subject: Squaw Creek Pateros Wa. name change

Wa. State Committee of Geographic Names:

I have to tell you I was shocked to hear only about 2 months ago that there was someone who I have never met or heard of that was trying to change the name of our beautiful valley we have lived in for the last 34 yrs because she finds the word Squaw offensive.

I am a Native American woman I have been proud to call Squaw creek my home I have lived here with my husband since 1983, we have raised our family here and several other kids that were in need of a home for maybe only a few months to a couple of years. We established a business that has put Squaw creek on the map raising trout stocking private ponds and being the only Brown trout farmer in the tri-states, we have trained over 500 Wild land fire fighters at our training facility known as Fire training up Squaw creek, our family is known in the Valley and we have contributed to the area whole heartedly, I have to question the motive of this lady who I understand has only lived here a few years claims she loves it here but wants to see some changes she does not know us or anyone of us that this will effect.

I'm really curious if this woman has made such an attempt to have the locals sign the petition as to why she never contacted us or our neighbors that live on Squaw creek what our thoughts were of changing the name let alone to a name that can't be pronounced by half the people we show it to, she would like to see it changed to Swarum creek I'd really like to see the history books or evidence it was ever called that like she has claimed?

I realize some people consider Squaw to be a derogatory word that is their right but I for one don't I have never been offended by it and as Native American

woman should my opinion be taken in consideration if it doesn't offend me why should a person how lives 15 miles up the road care? I've come to terms we might lose our identity or name of our valley Squaw creek but PLEASE let us the landowners have some say it what it should be changed to that will soften the blow we have received when we heard of her plans thru the grape vine.

If there is to be a name change why weren't we brought into consideration of what we thought would be a good replacement name ? We are the land owners not Joanna Bastian she has nothing to do with Squaw creek, we are the ones that live up there and have enjoyed the beauty of the place for 34 yrs we have taken many hikes and discovered long lost cabins from the old mining days found old tools used by the minors the Black Smith shop still stands on our land we have found many artifacts from the past I don't understand how you can just wipe out a name that has so much history to it I have a map from 1880 's showing it was called Squaw creek where does the history go when you change the name . Changing the name of our home place should be a mutual decision not based on one person's desire to make her voice be heard or for whatever reason she has made the decision to do this.

As land owners up Squaw creek we have all lost so much our small valley was devastated by the Carlton complex fire in 2014 – 4 homes were lost , our beautiful lush forest GONE , the wildlife has disappeared , the creek have over flowed causing major damage due to the lack of vegetation ,lives have been changed forever after that fire and now some person who doesn't know us or made any attempt to meet us doesn't know or care what we all went thru wants to take away our identity the place we call HOME because she thinks it the "respectful " thing to do ? Respect respect?? Joanna has not shown any of the landowners one bit of respect not one bit of consideration of how we feel the respectful thing to do would have been to make an attempt to contact us that to me is deceitful.

We would appreciate the opportunity to have some input on any changes that may occur regarding our home.

Thank you for your
consideration ,

Dave & Barb Rains 122
Squaw creek rd Pateros Wa.

DNR RE BOGN

From: Tammy Divis <tammy_divis@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 13, 2017 10:59 AM
To: DNR RE BOGN
Subject: Meeting Date and Time on Squaw Creek Name Change

Good Morning,

I would like to attend the upcoming, scheduled, October meeting that discusses the changing of Squaw Creek to Swaram Creek. Could you please let me know if this is open to the public, and if so, then what is the time and date for this meeting?

I live at 781 HWY 153, which is about 0.2 miles from Squaw Creek. I do not support this change and neither do any land owners and residents of Squaw Creek. Many Methow Valley land owners were not aware of this proposed change until a couple of days ago, and now feel quite deceived and left out of this decision that will directly affect them.

Several residents would like to sign a petition to retain the name Squaw Creek. What is the process for local land owners to have their say. Especially those who reside there. I know some have been emailing this address, but is that enough? Should they sign a petition as well?

Thanks in advance for your help!

Tammy Divis
509-733-1953

Thank you,

Tammy Divis, Broker
Windermere R.E. Lake Chelan
115 E. Woodin Ave.
PO Box 2382
Chelan, Washington 98816
509-733-1953 Cellular
tammydivis@windermere.com E-mail
www.tammydivis.withwre.com Website
866-663-9702 E-fax

JUL 07 2017

ENGINEERING DIV. ST-11
OLYMPIA 09504-7030

Caleb Maki,

I am not offended by the name Squaw Creek for the creek in the Methow because my elders did not use the word "squaw" in a derogatory manner. Sacajawea was known as a squaw as well as notable and accomplished women such as Christine Quintasket, Whist-alks and Marie Dorian.

B.F. Manring, an historian, writes, "On witnessing this turn of affairs, the squaw, who proved to be the wife of Qualchien, the daughter of Saulot-kin, in a frenzy of chagrin dexterously twirled her decorated lance over her head, and uttering a shrill cry, drove it into the ground, where she left it and rode away."

I do not know the details of Manring's genetic makeup or bio, but I believe from what I have read that he did not disrespect Native women.

I have Chinook blood in me and the women in Indian families work very hard to care for everyone and garner respect.

The word "squaw" can be used in a derogatory fashion such as "squaw tit," a moniker for Mount Washington in Oregon. If political correctness wins the day, I don't object to the name Swaram Creek as it is a good name also.

What I want to know is; are we going to object to Buck Creek now?

Someday, if time runs on, the noun "squaw" will be resurrected. It is the victors that write history and word use is changing all the time. It would not trouble me to report a fire on Squaw creek or Buck Creek or White Trash Creek for that matter.

Tina Davis
4 Iris Lane
Twisp, WA

Tina Davis

From: P Luchte
To: [DNR RE BOGN](#)
Subject: Okanogan County Methow Valley Squaw Creek
Date: Friday, October 27, 2017 9:09:06 AM

Please say NO to changing the name Squaw Creek to swaram creek. History is in jeopardy in the United States because political correctness is out of balance in our country. Say no to the nonsense of 'the offended'....Make a statement and stand up to people who have nothing better to do than stick their noses in other people's business. If the word Squaw is offensive, blink when you drive by. The whole world and history shouldn't have to change and adjust to the whims of the offended. Crimany, here's a better idea, Get a Life!

Thank you, Patti Luchte

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

From: Barb Rains
To: [DNR RE BOGN](#)
Subject: Wenatchee World about Squaw creek name change
Date: Monday, October 30, 2017 2:42:19 PM
Attachments: [201710301415.pdf](#)

Hello there I saw this article in the Wenatchee Worlds face Book page

If you take note you can see there was **165** responses to the article

There was **127** replies

85 % were in favor of saving the name Squaw creek I have sent you only a few of the pages of responses so you can see for yourself what people s thoughts are on the matter .

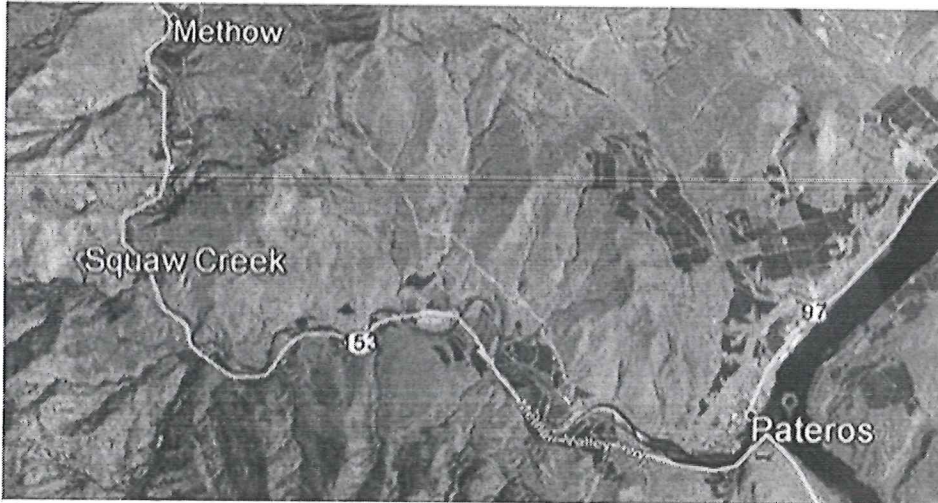
The original petition to change the name of Squaw creek to swaram creek only had 90 signatures The original petition to Save Squaw creek say NO to swaram creek was 511, the majority of the signatures were from local people all who grew up in the Methow valley or Pateros area or have family and friends here , our voice was strong as we came together as one to support Save Squaw creek.

This Wenatchee world article added another huge amount of local supporters estimated to be another 140 people we all have one thing in common say NO to swaram creek , I'm sorry to say that is a very unappealing name to be labeled with every time I tell this story of the name change I have to repeat and spell the name so I ask you to please don't re-name our beautiful valley with such an undesirable name . Thank You Barb Rains

Barb Rains

Subject: Sent from Snipping Tool

The word "squaw" was given to the creek by white explorers and is considered to be a derogatory name that connotes a whore or a slave. Others consider it part of their history.



Committee to consider Squaw Creek name change

METHOW — When Mark Miller was a young boy growing up in Pateros, he got into a fight with an older boy who had referred to his sister as a ...

WENATCHEEWORLD.COM

Like Comment Share

Vickie Nysether, Alison Viebrock Steveson and 165 others Top Comments

32 Shares

Write a comment... 😊 📷 GIF 🗨️

Barbara Rains My name is Barbara Rains I have proudly called Squaw creek my home since 1983 I am a Native American woman the word "Squaw" to me means Native American woman or wife of a native man never have I found it offensive or derogatory in any way shouldn't my opinion matter ?? How come my thoughts were never considered I'm the one who has paid property taxes on Squaw creek for the last 34 yrs I have \$ invested in the land, we're the ones that stayed and fought the fires of 2014 to save Squaw creek, My biggest complaint now is that Wenatchee world wrote this article and not once contacted any of the land owners of Squaw creek on what their thoughts were on this matter yet they interview people that have maybe been up Squaw creek once in the last 20 yrs and live 10 miles away like this affects their lives in any way?? The Wen world said we had 363 supporting to save the name the total is 500 which was my goal when I started the petition "Save Squaw creek say NO to Swaram creek" and if anything I'm offended by the name Swaram I have to say it about 3 times to try and get it right I'm sorry to say it is not a very appealing name try saying that a few times you know you are going to be constantly asked how to spell it. Frankly I'm offended that people find the word Squaw offensive because I for one don't.

Q


Vi

F
P
C
E


1165 Responses
127 replies
85% are
for Squaw Creek

Barb Rains


Subject: Sent from Snipping Tool

 Barbara Rains My name is Barbara Rains I have proudly called Squaw creek my home since 1983 I am a Native American woman the word "Squaw " to me means Native American woman or wife of a Native man never have I found it offensive or derogatory in any way shouldn't ... See More


Like · Reply ·  47 · September 19 at 9:43am

 Denise Archer Well said Barb. I sure hope the name stays the same...as it should.

Like · Reply ·  1 · September 19 at 12:15pm

 Brian Kelly Good on you Barbara Rains, well said.

Like · Reply ·  1 · September 19 at 1:42pm

 Kevin Peterson Thank you for a well written bit of common sense!

Like · Reply ·  1 · September 20 at 6:48am

Top Comments is selected, so some replies may have been filtered out.



Write a reply...




https://www.facebook.com/pg/WenatcheeWorld/posts/?ref=page_internal


Barb Rains

Subject:


Sent from Snipping Tool

 Kevin Schmidt Black canyon is just down the road from squaw creek. Isn't that offensive too? Political correctness has gone too far! Nowhere does it say you have the right to not be offended.


Like · Reply · 🗳️ 4 · September 19 at 4:13pm

 Barbara Rains What about Beaver creek or Indian Dan canyon

Like · Reply · September 19 at 5:27pm

 Kevin Schmidt Barbara Rains 😊


Like · Reply · September 19 at 10:03pm

 Don Craig How much money goes into all of this politically correct bs is this really worthy of our tax money I'm sure they could find better places for it to go


Like · Reply · September 20 at 7:41am

 Write a reply...



 Vickie Nysether This should be voted on by the public not a governmental group! Leave things alone and work on something that can help the land, people and wildlife that occupy it!

Like · Reply · 🗳️ 3 · September 19 at 8:32am


 Eagle-Star Bowen These folks that want to change the name are dumbasses, sticking their nose where it doesn't need to be and it's not wanted

Like · Reply · 🗳️ 2 · September 19 at 7:43am

↳ [View all 2 replies](#)


 Write a reply...



 Marlon Browne I give up on people and intelligence anymore. While we are at it....let's change Niger too. Way to close to the N word. And get rid if White Paint....its a sign of supremacy. And black clothing it is a sign of slavery. And yellow clothing its a signal to remember communist China. Oh....and also grey clothing....that is a symbol of depression

Like · Reply · 🗳️ 68 · September 19 at 4:44am

↳ 23 Replies


 Debbie Hesse If nobody had told us it was considered derogatory, we wouldn't know that, it's been around so long. I always just thought it meant the female (as opposed to a brave, the males). Meanings of words do change over time and usage ... that is how our language works...

Like · Reply · 🗳️ 37 · September 18 at 10:02pm


Subject:

Sent from Snipping Tool


Top Comments is selected, so some replies may have been filtered out.


 Justin Vinson Well that about covers it... well said


Like · Reply ·  3 · September 19 at 4:53am

 Dave Ingraham Niger creek is now Howard creek, changed a few years ago, Lets change fire cracker while we are making all these low life's feel good inside


Like · Reply ·  4 · September 19 at 5:52am

 Rick Lewis Your ignorance and cultural insensitivity are showing. Please read the article before commenting. It is about showing respect for a group of people, and women, in general.


Like · Reply ·  8 · September 19 at 6:34am


 Rachel Scott Pure ignorance.


Like · Reply ·  1 · September 19 at 7:18am

 Marlon Browne Hahaha. And the flakes show up. Ignorance is folks that think anyone looks at these places and take offense. And what is the ratio of folks offended to those not for these things to require change? One person? 18? An nation? Who decides when the amount of folks offended is enough to effect change?


Like · Reply ·  9 · September 19 at 7:36am


 Marlon Browne I am offended by Planned parenthood. Its an insult to parents and children and murders. How come my offenses are not enough for them to go away? Odd


Like · Reply ·  12 · September 19 at 7:37am

 Cristal Renteria Maybe because as a man who doesn't have to carry a child for 9 months, you should have no say as to what happens to a woman's body. Hmm odd how that works.


Like · Reply ·  1 · September 19 at 10:36am


 Marlon Browne Odd. But you can talk about a black or race perspective? And tell me again of how most children are conceived? Are all the abortions for rape victims or for fear of mothers health? Please give me stats. As a man then I demand relief from child support of a child I did not want but the female did. You gonna back that request? My wallet my choice


Like · Reply ·  5 · September 19 at 10:40am

 Tyler James Lesko For the win


Like · Reply · September 19 at 11:52am

 Randy Wayne Cooper Moron.


Like · Reply ·  1 · September 19 at 11:58am

 Marlon Browne Randy Wayne Cooper of whom do you speak? If it is I, please expound why

Like · Reply · September 19 at 12:38pm

 Brian Kelly Dave Ingraham FYI, Niger is a country in Africa.

Like · Reply · September 19 at 1:37pm

 Brian Kelly Randy Wayne Cooper Brilliant retort.

Sent from Snipping Tool

↳ 18 Replies

Kelly Jo Hill Please show me that this was in response to Native Americans asking...not a bunch of do gooders who think they are fixing the world
Like · Reply · 👍 35 · September 18 at 11:37pm

↳ 8 Replies

Perrin Cornell Funny in 72 years I thought a Squaw was a female Native American never once did I associate it with whore or slave. Wikipedia says it is derived from an eastern Algonquin n or adj for woman. Amazing how memories get refreshed after someone plants the seed. Go pound sand.
Like · Reply · 👍 22 · September 19 at 4:32am

↳ 25 Replies

Matthew Smith Relax guys, they're just changing the offensive name to a place you've never been back to what it was originally called. Save your whining for when they build a roundabout up there.
Like · Reply · 👍 22 · September 19 at 6:31am

↳ 3 Replies

Mike Ellis I love it when the definition of a word is rewritten. It's an Algonquian word that means 'woman'. So by changing the name you are saying you are against women? and native women at that? Hmmm. Liberals. Maybe you should know your history before you try to change it.
Like · Reply · 👍 16 · September 19 at 6:13am

↳ 3 Replies

Steve Tucker I am glad that we have solved all the other problems in our region and now we can tackle this. May I suggest we change it to Northern Pikeminnow Creek?
Like · Reply · 👍 8 · September 18 at 10:59pm

↳ 1 Reply

Greg Bolinger They can call it Swam creek or butt hole ave. It will always be Squaw Creek to me. The whiners will be whiners. That will never change. Our society, it's so sensitive, I'm disgusted with the whole of it.
Like · Reply · 👍 6 · September 19 at 8:28am · Edited

Kathy Hixon Harding There's a native lady who lives on Squaw creek and she wants them to leave it be. She's not offended! Some idiot white liberal (probably a western Washington transplant) is causing all the hoopla over it.
Like · Reply · 👍 5 · September 19 at 8:28am

↳ 5 Replies

Leidi Cope Oh my god. Where does it end??!! Why are all these names an
153576702354077/le people have nothing better to do with their lives other
than search for things to be offended by?

Barb Rains

Subject:

Sent from Snipping Tool



Like · Reply · 3 · September 19 at 1:56am

↳ 1 Reply



Sharon Crites This is ridiculouswhy is it that only the younger generations things all of this is derogatory....the older generation never thought this way at all. Where did it all come from. SO SICK OF THIS CRAP!! By the way, I have indian blood in my veins, and I don't feel offended by any of the words...just the people trying to change what has always been. THEY OFFEND ME!

Like · Reply · 4 · September 19 at 10:22am · Edited

↳ 1 Reply



Laurence Lance I grew up next to a rez and I never heard the word (squaw) used. And yes I know what it means, although I won't use it here) so I'm fine with changing it. We aren't erasing history and it's not like removing statues of decent people who were on the wrong side of a conflict.

Like · Reply · 2 · September 19 at 6:02am



Sharon Stone Jackson So sick of PC!!!! Next will be our state name as George Washington had slaves! Such a whining society of liberals we have now!!

Like · Reply · 4 · September 19 at 7:51am

↳ 2 Replies



Yvonne Webb-Johnson The [name] was not originally meant as an insult but became one when it was used in a derogatory manner. Shows how malicious intent can f*** up something so simple as a word, almost as simple as the people who use it. And for the record...I have never been called a squaw unless the speaker wanted to insult me so then it becomes derogatory.

Like · Reply · 1 · September 19 at 11:31am



Charles M. Heinlen Why not change the name to "Politically Correct Creek?"

Like · Reply · 20 · September 18 at 10:34pm



KC Hello What happens when somehow time makes the name Squaw respectable again? At one time, the PC crowd demanded the term Indian be abolished and Native American was to be used instead. Now American Indian is the most PC term.

Like · Reply · 1 · September 19 at 8:38am



Wade Hawkins Jesus Christ another coon lake fiasco. Change the name of methow because tweakers are gross and the word meth is offensive. Also change Wenatchees name since it was named after an Indian chief and white men totally butchered his name and spelled in imp... See More

Like · Reply · September 20 at 6:25am · Edited



Steven Featherkile The PC crowd has already changed the name of Cathouse Flats to something boring. It's near the summit of old Blewett Pass. I went to several Boy Scout Camporees there. Good memories. 😊

Like · Reply · 2 · September 18 at 10:29pm



Tony Goedde Most of us couldn't give a bleep. Leave old names alone and from

now on no more new naming of anything but safe little flowers.


Like · Reply · 1 · September 19 at 7:55pm

/10153576702354077/


Barb Rains

Subject:

Sent from Snipping Tool


 identify as fish. This naming concept objectifies us and further promotes violence upon my fish bretheran.

Like · Reply ·  1 · September 19 at 1:05pm


 Greg Turner Some people need more yard work or something to occupy their time.....


Like · Reply ·  7 · September 19 at 7:36am · Edited

↳ 2 Replies


 Scot Worden Mount Baldy is near me I'm not offended, but some may be.

Like · Reply ·  3 · September 19 at 8:08am

 Matt Pryor Well, this is retarded!


Like · Reply ·  4 · September 19 at 6:35am


↳ 2 Replies


 Shondra Hattaway In that case Mt Rainier needs to go back to Mt Tahoma.

Like · Reply ·  4 · September 18 at 10:28pm


↳ 3 Replies

 Jerry Ingram When do we change the name of salmon creek, a creek with no salmon in it?


Like · Reply ·  4 · September 19 at 7:06am

 Nan Bruce Longtin Spend money where needed... not wasted on this


Like · Reply ·  3 · September 19 at 9:26am

 Angie Mitchell Ellis When is this ever going to stop! Do you people not have anything better to do with your life?


Like · Reply ·  3 · September 19 at 5:05am


 Kelly Baird Decker Stop already. This is ridiculous and a waste of money.


Like · Reply ·  3 · September 19 at 11:29am

 Malinda Benitez Later they are gonna want to change our name to just because they dont like the way it sounds or spelled ????. This is total BS

Like · Reply ·  2 · September 18 at 10:38pm · Edited


 Tim Gellatly This country is so screwed up, I can't believe it.

Like · Reply ·  2 · September 19 at 6:19am

 Laurelle Walsh Thanks, KC, for your excellent reporting on a locally divisive issue.

Like · Reply · September 20 at 8:30pm

↳ 1 Reply

 Ron Childress Lets just cut to the chase and call it the squaw committee

Like · Reply · September 18 at 11:21pm

[View more comments](#)

Write a comment...



Vis

Er
Fr
Pr
Cc
Fa

Barb Rains

Subject:

Sent from Snipping Tool



Like · Reply · 1 · September 19 at 11:53pm



Maria Mathews Stop wasting our money on stupid stuff

Like · Reply · 1 · September 20 at 2:49am



Patrick Hough You could all maybe stand up and support dignity for others for a change.

Like · Reply · 1 · September 19 at 10:50pm



Josias Navarro Restore the ancestral name, native history has been erased for too long

Like · Reply · 1 · September 19 at 2:02pm



Joel Martin Better petition to have Squaw Valley in Tahoe changed too!! Hurry before someone cries!!!!!!

Like · Reply · 1 · September 19 at 5:15am



Andy Jagla Northern Pike "minnow" ---- squawfish

Like · Reply · 1 · September 19 at 12:27am



Terry McMaster Let's just rename everything. I am sure we will all feel better in the morning.

Like · Reply · 1 · September 19 at 5:19pm

↳ 1 Reply



Kathleen Winkel Atwell God agian with renaming crap. Give this kind crap a rest.

Like · Reply · 1 · September 18 at 10:30pm



Pete Ringen I believe that the name committee is one more government agency that is not necessary and we should do without.

Like · Reply · 1 · September 20 at 6:23am



Shawnmarie W Sullivan Oh brother. Wonder if someone will eventually want to change my name as well.

Like · Reply · September 19 at 11:33am



Frank Neef I have never heard that squaw was anything other than a female native American.

Like · Reply · September 19 at 7:11pm



Tina Irvine what the hell is going on with all this name change ideas.... why

Like · Reply · September 19 at 2:05pm · Edited



Das Wilky Haus Wow such important things going on...

Like · Reply · September 19 at 8:47pm



Shirley Archer Name should stay the same! Those that live there are fine with it.

Like · Reply · September 19 at 2:37pm



Renae Lau here we go again, we have so much more important things in this world to CHANGE

Like · Reply · September 19 at 8:15am



Tina Rush Oh, my gosh will all of this nonsense ever end???

Like · Reply · September 19 at 10:26am



Dylan B Who cares, the world has real issues!

Like · Reply · September 19 at 2:46pm

Subject:

Sent from Snipping Tool

several boy scout campfires there. Good memories. 😊

Like · Reply · 2 · September 18 at 10:29pm



Tony Goedde Most of us couldn't give a bleep. Leave old names alone and from now on no more new naming of anything but safe little flowers.

Like · Reply · 1 · September 19 at 7:55pm



Aaron Abbott OMG -- the Seattle Libs who moved to the Methow Valley are at it again with all their liberal PC BS! If they are so offened by the name, then they are free to move back to Seattle, it was called that LONG before they moved there!

Like · Reply · 1 · September 19 at 9:30pm

↳ 2 Replies



Gregory Howard It is a coarse, vulgar FRENCH word that specifically means a woman's genitalia... there is a corresponding Anglo-Saxon term that means the same thing and is used the same way. When I first heard this, I laughed hysterically at Walt Disney's "Peter Pan" because the word was in constant use at one point and mentally I was translating it. And there's "Squaw Valley" and several other landmarks with this name...

Like · Reply · 5 · September 18 at 11:01pm

↳ 4 Replies



Chris Mangold We should just number everything and then noone could get offended. Start at the NW corner of the stat and name that mountain, creek and school #1 and work south and west 😊

Like · Reply · September 19 at 8:08am

↳ 3 Replies



Wayne Loranger This all seems like a cry for attention from someone that needs a life. No one else really cares. A squaw is a female Indian. Get over it!

Like · Reply · 1 · September 22 at 3:51pm



Ross Bolinger Also my grandfather was born up SQUAW CREEK, how are my descendants supposed to find his birth place if they change the name

Like · Reply · 2 · September 19 at 8:58am



John Patrick Descoteaux If you change it, a lot of us will be lost. Why change it? We used "Squaw" growing up. Natives used it. If you find it offensive, don't use it. Just leave me t'F alone.

Like · Reply · September 22 at 4:48pm



Tracy Smith what i dont get... as conquerors of this land...by right of conquest we get to name what we want, take what we want, and live where we want....

if we take away the winners rights we will have to re-name and map the world

Like · Reply · September 19 at 8:17am

↳ 1 Reply



David Tapia I think changing it to the original native name is a great idea. An no, I don't think Squaw is a derogatory word.

Like · Reply · 1 · September 19 at 6:26am

↳ 2 Replies



Visite



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Lik



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Lik



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Lik

Engl Fran

Priva Cool Face



**DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES**

COMMITTEE ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES
PO Box 47030
Olympia, WA 98504-7030

360-902-1280
BOGN@DNR.WA.GOV
WWW.DNR.WA.GOV

May 10, 2017

Joanna Bastian
32 Gold Creek Ranch Road
Carlton, WA 98814


Dear Joanna Bastian,

Your proposal to name **Swaram Creek** is scheduled for its *initial* hearing with the Washington State Committee on Geographic Names on **5/16/2017** in Olympia. At this time the Committee will decide whether or not to accept your proposed name for consideration. If accepted, the name will then come up for discussion and final decision at subsequent hearing(s) to follow. At the time of the hearing(s), you may wish to be present and speak for your proposal, but attendance is not a requirement.

Between the initial and final hearings, the merits of your proposal will be researched and comments on the proposal from the local historical societies, county governments, state and federal land management agencies, and interested groups and individuals who have some knowledge of the area will be solicited. If there are longtime local residents or adjacent property owners in the area whose addresses you could provide, I will be glad to request their comments as well.

If I can answer any further questions, please call me at (360) 902-1280, or email me at caleb.maki@dnr.wa.gov.

Sincerely,


Caleb Maki, Executive Secretary
Washington Committee on Geographic Names
P.O. Box 47030
Olympia, WA 98504-7030
(360) 902-1280
caleb.maki@dnr.wa.gov



**DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES**

COMMITTEE ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES
PO Box 47030
Olympia, WA 98504-7030

360-902-1280
BOGN@DNR.WA.GOV
WWW.DNR.WA.GOV

August 15, 2017

Joanna Bastian
32 Gold Creek Ranch Road
Carlton, WA 98814

Dear Joanna Bastian,

Your proposal to name **Swaram Creek** is scheduled for its final hearing before the Washington State Committee on Geographic Names on **10/31/2017** in Olympia.

Proposed names may receive two or more hearings before the Washington State Committee on Geographic Names. Meetings are usually held twice a year. At the first meeting, the Committee decides whether or not to consider the name, and at the second, the Committee makes a decision to approve, deny, or defer the proposed name.

In the intervening months, the Committee staff solicits opinions and comments from historical societies, county officials, federal agencies, mountaineering clubs, and any other group or person who can provide information or an informed opinion on the proposal. The Committee uses this information to make a decision according to guidelines previously established by the Committee.

If there is additional pertinent information (names and addresses of longtime residents, property owners adjacent to the feature, or historical information to help us in our research) beyond what is provided in the Geographic Name Application, please let me know at your earliest convenience.

You are welcome to attend the hearing on your proposal, and will be given an opportunity to make a statement or provide information or clarification at that time. An agenda for the next Committee on Geographic Names meeting will be mailed to you prior to the meeting.

If you have any questions or additional information to convey, please call me at (360) 902-1280, or email me at caleb.maki@dnr.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

Caleb Maki, Executive Secretary
Washington Committee on Geographic Names
PO Box 47030
Olympia, WA 98504-7030
(360) 902-1280
caleb.maki@dnr.wa.gov



**DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES**

COMMITTEE ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES
PO Box 47030
Olympia, WA 98504-7030

360-902-1280
BOGN@DNR.WA.GOV
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November 1, 2017

Joanna Bastian
32 Gold Creek Ranch Road
Carlton, WA 98814

Dear Joanna Bastian,

At the **October 31, 2017** meeting of the Washington State Committee on Geographic Names, the Committee voted to send your application to name **Swaram Creek** located in **Okanogan County** to the Washington State Board on Geographic Names with the Committee's recommendation to approve.

All information on your proposal will be forwarded to the Washington State Board on Geographic Names for their consideration at a future meeting.

When the Board selects a date to hear your proposal, a letter will be sent to you informing you of the date and time your proposal will be heard.

If you have any questions, please call me at (360) 902-1280 or email me at caleb.maki@dnr.wa.gov.

Thank you for your interest in geographic names.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Caleb Maki".

Caleb Maki, Executive Secretary
Washington Committee on Geographic Names
P.O. Box 47030
Olympia, WA 98504-7030
(360) 902-1280
caleb.maki@dnr.wa.gov

SWARAM CREEK - OKANOGAN COUNTY



Stream, 6.2 miles long. Heads 7.4 miles SW of the City of Methow. Flows E to enter the Methow River.

Proposal to change the name of Squaw Creek to "Swaram Creek". Before a mining town was established in the area, native Methow area people called this feature "Swaratatk" or "Swaram Creek". The word "swaram" described the type of fishing at the creek, "torch light fishing at night".



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I would like to clarify what transpired prior to the board hearing Swaram Creek. Listening to the video it was obvious there were misconceptions.

1. We had not been aware that Squaw Creek was generally considered an offensive place name. Joanna says that it was well known because she wrote a few columns about it in The Methow Valley News over a period of six years. This is a very small paper that caters to the upper Methow valley. Squaw Creek is in the lower Methow valley. I've only picked up The Methow Valley News while in Twisp a couple of times in the nine years I have been a resident of Squaw Creek. I had never heard of Joanna or read one of her columns until she submitted the petition to change the name. The first time I heard that someone objected to the word squaw was during the 2015 fires. No one from the Colville Tribes or Methow Band had expressed this view about Squaw Creek to our knowledge, the two Native American families who live on Squaw Creek didn't find it offensive and it was not my experience of the word or that of the community. I thought it was an isolated incident. All our energy, both physically and emotionally, was being spent picking up the pieces after the fire. When the petition was filed by Joanna, the residents of Squaw Creek felt blindsided.
2. The board questioned why we wanted to hang on to a name that was hurtful to so many Native Americans. Again, we were not aware that Squaw Creek was offensive to Native Americans. In fact, my attachment to the name was because, in my mind, it was a Native American word that represented a *historical* Native American woman caring for the earth and her family in traditional ways. Two landowners are Native American and felt the same. More than 500 LOCAL community members signed a petition that supported our views. The community is not racist towards Native Americans-they are attached to their local history. From my research, the word squaw being considered an offensive place name is a recent phenomenon. However, we do not wish to offend or hurt Native Americans that have negative feelings about the word and have come to terms with changing the name.
3. From my understanding, the fire chief that objected to the name of our road was from California and his views were not shared by the local firefighters. Quite frankly, I was surprised that he still had a job after the 2015 fire. Asserting his political beliefs during an active fire put everyone one at risk. In my opinion, that was a bigger issue than being offended by a place name. It wasn't the time.
4. We submitted our own petition for Hunter Creek at the last minute because we were informed that the board would not consider keeping a place name with the word squaw in it. Prior to that, our efforts were put towards saving the name. We chose to submit a name that related to a landmark near us on the current map (Hunter Mountain) and was more palatable to us than Swaram. It was never about wanting it to be a "white man's word." Note: the petitioner is Native American.
5. We believed that by offering an alternative to Swaram the board could replace the word squaw and still show consideration and compassion for the residents of Squaw Creek. We are still trying to recover from our losses after the devastating Carlton Complex fire. Not considering us when selecting a new name feels like salt in a wound-being burned again.

6. I didn't know that the board would hear dialog from the petitioners at the meeting. Had we known this, we would have been in attendance. I thought the board reviewed all the letters, comments and petitions sent to them to make their decision. I was under the impression, from later watching the board discuss Squaw Bay, that there was a protocol that allowed more time for discussion and examination if two names are submitted for the same location.

7. It is the policy of Native American Tribes to support changing a place name to a Native American word anytime the door is opened to do so. I understand that and would feel the same if I were Native American. The problem is the name chosen. Joanna speaks of fishing with lights being a tradition of the Methow Band. From my understanding, they were a nomadic tribe that moved through the Methow Valley seasonally to fish, forage and hunt. Squaw Creek is one of the smallest creeks in the Methow Valley. Have you ever seen Squaw Creek? It would be surprising if it was the location of this tradition since it would be important for them to obtain enough fish to sustain them through the winter. Joanna wrote that Elaine Timentwa Emerson said the word SwaR'a-tátk was the Methow word for this fishing with lights tradition. This, according to her, is a translation using the International Phonetic Alphabet. How accurate is the translation from SwaR'a-tátk to Swaram Creek? When I google Swaram, it says it is an East Indian (India) name meaning musical tone. Is that really what the Methow Band wish to name the creek? Listening to Joanna speak about Elaine's hesitation and Mark speak about how the word would be pronounced differently, it seemed to me that Swaram was not a Methow word but a compromise to eliminate the word squaw. Is there a process to vet a Native American word? If the intention is to replace Squaw Creek with a Methow word, could other Methow words be considered, like maybe Methow Creek? The town of Methow was originally located next to Squaw Creek, the creek flows into the Methow river, Methow Creek would honor the Methow People. Just a thought.

How the issue was addressed was unfortunate. We would have responded positively if we were approached by someone from the Colville Tribes or Methow Band. Together, we could have come to an agreement on a name that respected the Methow People *and* those of us that live on Squaw Creek.

This has been an eye-opening experience.

Note: I have attached before and after pictures of the hill behind Squaw Creek from my property, so you can see why we are feeling the way we do.











