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# Minutes

## Washington State Committee on Geographic Names

May 30, 2019

### **COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT**

David Bergvall – Chair  
Mary Schaff – WA State Library Representative  
Putnam Barber – Public Member  
Dean Foster - Public Member  
Dr. Grant Smith – Public Member

### **STAFF PRESENT**

Caleb Maki

### **AUDIENCE PRESENT**

Mark Morgan – LeCuyer Creek  
Lee Dancy – Nason Bach and Wald Bach  
Mark Bozanich – WSDOT  
Terry Curtis – DNR Employee

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Washington State Committee on Geographic Names  
May 30, 2019  
11:00am to 12:00pm  
Department of Natural Resources – Room 172  
1111 Washington St SE - Olympia WA 98504

**Agenda**

- A. CALL TO ORDER**
- B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
- C. NAMES FOR FINAL CONSIDERATION**

**Chelan County**

**Saddle Gap – Name Change - APPROVED**  
**Saddle Rock – New Name - APPROVED**

**Grays Harbor**

**Traitors Islet – Name Change - APPROVED**

**Kitsap County**

**LeCuyer Creek – New Name - APPROVED**

- D. NAMES DEFERRED FOR FINAL CONSIDERATION**

**Spokane County**

**Arturdee Creek – New Name - DENIED**  
**Pincroft Peak – New Name - DENIED**

- E. NAMES FOR INITIAL CONSIDERATION**

**Chelan County**

**Nason Bach – New Name – APPROVED FOR FINAL**  
**Wald Bach – New Name– APPROVED FOR FINAL**

**Clallam County**

**Misty Creek – New Name– APPROVED FOR FINAL**  
**Misty Mountains – New Name– APPROVED FOR FINAL**

**Whatcom County**

**Páatstel Creek – Name Change– APPROVED FOR FINAL**

1 **CALL TO ORDER**

2 The Chair of the Committee David Bergvall called the meeting to order at 11:01am. All of the  
3 Committee members introduced themselves.

4  
5 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

6 The minutes from the October 31, 2018 Committee meeting were approved unanimously.

7  
8 **PUBLIC COMMENT FOR SADDLE GAP**

9 None

10  
11 **SADDLE GAP: FINAL CONSIDERATION (Action Item)**

12 After an overview and history of the proposed name change, David Bergvall asked the Committee  
13 members if they would like to hear each proposal separately. The Committee agreed, and staff  
14 went over the Saddle Gap proposal.

15  
16 MOTION: Dean Foster moved to approve the name Saddle Gap.

17  
18 SECOND: Dr. Grant Smith seconded the motion.

19  
20 ACTION: The motion was approved unanimously to send Saddle Gap to the Board on Geographic  
21 Names with the Committee's recommendation to approve.

22  
23 **PUBLIC COMMENT FOR SADDLE ROCK**

24 None

25  
26 **SADDLE ROCK: FINAL CONSIDERATION (Action Item)**

27 After an overview staff, Dr. Grant Smith made a motion to approve.

28  
29 MOTION: Dr. Grant Smith moved to approve the name Saddle Rock.

30  
31 SECOND: Dean Foster seconded the motion.

32  
33 ACTION: The motion was approved unanimously to send Saddle Rock to the Board on  
34 Geographic Names with the Committee's recommendation to approve.

35  
36 **PUBLIC COMMENT FOR TRAITORS ISLET**

37 None

38  
39 **TRAITORS ISLET: FINAL CONSIDERATION (Action Item)**

40 After an overview by staff, David Bergvall clarified that the feature was in the US Board on  
41 Geographic Names database (GNIS), but had an incorrect identifier.

42  
43 MOTION: Putnam Barber moved to approve the name Traitors Islet.

44

1 SECOND: Dean Foster seconded the motion.

2  
3 ACTION: The motion was approved to send Traitors Islet to the Board on Geographic Names with  
4 the Committee’s recommendation to approve. Mary Schaff abstained from voting.

5  
6 **PUBLIC COMMENT FOR LECUYER CREEK**

7 Mark Morgan addressed the Committee. Mr. Morgan is with the Kitsap PUD, and spoke to the  
8 Committee about the efforts at the PUD to honor Mr. LeCuyer. During a review of USGS and  
9 WA DNR maps, the PUD noticed a small unnamed stream.

10  
11 The PUD thought it fitting to honor Mr. LeCuyer, who spent the last 25 years of his life mapping  
12 and building a database of hydraulic data for Kitsap County.

13  
14 **LECUYER CREEK: FINAL CONSIDERATION (Action Item)**

15 After an overview by staff, Dean Foster asked Mr. Morgan if the Kitsap PUD has any plans to  
16 place signage on the feature. Mr. Morgan said that the Kitsap PUD would pursue signage, and  
17 would send out a notification of their employees of the Committee decision.

18  
19 MOTION: Mary Schaff moved to approve LeCuyer Creek.

20  
21 SECOND: Dean Foster seconded the motion.

22  
23 ACTION: The motion was approved unanimously to send LeCuyer Creek to the Board on  
24 Geographic Names with the Committee’s recommendation to approve.

25  
26 **PUBLIC COMMENT FOR ARTURDEE CREEK AND PINECROFT PEAK**

27 None

28  
29 **ARTURDEE CREEK: DEFERRED FOR INITIAL CONSIDERATION (Action Item)**

30 **PINECROFT PEAK: DEFERRED FOR INITIAL CONSIDERATION (Action Item)**

31 After an overview by staff, David Bergvall asked if any more support for the proposed names had  
32 been submitted to the Committee. Staff stated that they had not received any form of support,  
33 although one letter came in asking why such a naming effort was necessary. Staff also mentioned  
34 that several news articles had ran mentioning the naming effort.

35  
36 MOTION: Dean Foster moved to deny the names Arturdee Creek and Pincroft Peak.

37  
38 SECOND: Putnam Barber seconded the motion.

39  
40 ACTION: The motion was approved unanimously to deny the names Arturdee Creek and Pincroft  
41 Peak for lack of support.

42  
43 **PUBLIC COMMENT FOR NASON BACH AND WALD BACH**

44 Lee Dancy addressed the Committee. Mr. Dancy began by informing the Committee that  
45 Leavenworth and the surrounding area have a German theme. Because these two unnamed streams  
46 lie within the same postal code as Leavenworth, Mr. Dancy stated that it is fitting that the features

1 have a German theme as well, hence the unique identifiers.

2  
3 Mr. Dancy said that he is in the process of building a resort in the area, and having two features  
4 with the only “Bach” identifier in the US would add to the German theme. Mr. Dancy said that  
5 there are many German themed towns in America, but if the names are approved, the Leavenworth  
6 area would be the only one with a “Bach” feature.

7  
8 **NASON BACH: INITIAL CONSIDERATION (Action Item)**

9 **WALD BACH: INITIAL CONSIDERATION (Action Item)**

10 After an overview by staff, David Bergvall asked the proponent to clarify the location of the  
11 features. Mr. Dancy provided a description of the area, and then David Bergvall asked Mr. Dancy  
12 about his efforts to show the Committee local support for the proposed names. Mr. Dancy said  
13 that one issue is that most people in the area are second or third home owners, and as such, do not  
14 live in the area year round. Mr. Dancy also said that because most homeowners are not living year  
15 round in the area, crime and theft have become a problem. Mr. Dancy said that naming these  
16 features and promoting the area might change that.

17  
18 Dr. Grant Smith stated that he is opposed to the proposed names due to perceived commercial  
19 interests. Mr. Dancy said that he has no commercial interests in naming these features, he simply  
20 wants to go with the German theme of nearby Leavenworth.

21  
22 Dean Foster said that he too is concerned with the commercial aspects of the proposed names, but  
23 he is curious to see if there is broad local support, and that he feels the names are relevant.

24  
25 MOTION: Dean Foster moved to approve the names Nason Bach and Wald Bach for Final  
26 Consideration.

27  
28 SECOND: Putnam Barber seconded the motion.

29  
30 ACTION: The motion was approved to approve the name Nason Bach and Wald Bach for Final  
31 Consideration. Dr. Grant Smith voted to deny.

32  
33 **MISTY CREEK: INITIAL CONSIDERATION (Action Item)**

34 **MISTY MOUNTAINS: INITIAL CONSIDERATION (Action Item)**

35 After an overview by staff, David Bergvall stated that the proponent did show an amazing effort  
36 to gather local support. Mary Schaff asked staff if residents living along the features submitted  
37 any of the letters of support. Staff confirmed that local residents had sent in letters of support,  
38 even though the Committee does not typically request them at the Initial Consideration stage.

39  
40 MOTION: Mary Schaff moved to approve the names Misty Creek and Misty Mountains for Final  
41 Consideration.

42  
43 SECOND: Dr. Grant Smith seconded the motion.

44  
45 ACTION: The motion was approved unanimously to approve the names Misty Creek and Misty  
46 Mountains for Final Consideration.

1 **PUBLIC COMMENT FOR PÁATSTEL CREEK**

2 **None**

3

4 **PÁATSTEL CREEK: INITIAL CONSIDERATION (Action Item)**

5 After an overview by staff, Putnam Barber asked staff about the policy concerning accent marks  
6 in geographic names. Staff stated that there was some precedent, as the Committee recently  
7 approved Téemux Creek.

8

9 MOTION: Dr. Grant Smith moved to approve the name Páatstel Creek for Final Consideration.

10

11 SECOND: Putnam Barber seconded the motion.

12

13 ACTION: The motion was approved unanimously to approve the name Páatstel Creek for Final  
14 Consideration.

15

16 **ADJOURNMENT**

17 The meeting was adjourned at 11:54 pm.