

California Advisory Committee on Geographic Names (CACGN)

Minutes

May 30, 2025

Virtual Public Meeting

Sacramento, California

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* Indicates cases that were considered simultaneously with one or more proposals (details provided below).

1. Call to Order – Chair Geneva E.B. Thompson, California Department of Natural Resources

Roll was called.

Committee Members: 8 of 8 voting members were present

Present

- ✓ California Department of Natural Resources (**Geneva E.B. Thompson, Chair**)
- ✓ Native American Heritage Commission (**Steven Quinn, Vice-Chair**)
- ✓ Department of Fish and Wildlife (**Amelia Wright**)
- ✓ Department of Conservation (**Elizabeth Betancourt**)
- ✓ Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (**Helen Lopez**)
- ✓ Department of Water Resources (**Ebenezer Ampah**)
- ✓ Department of Parks and Recreation (**Jim Newland**)
- ✓ California State Library (**Greg Lucas**)
- ✓ California African American Museum (**Susan Anderson**)

Ex-Officio Members:

Absent

- ✗ Select Committee on Native American Affairs (Asm. James C. Ramos); Senior Legislative Black Caucus (Designee TBD); Latino Legislative Caucus (Designee TBD); Asian Pacific Islander Legislative Caucus (Asm. Ash Kalra); Legislative LGBTQ2+ Caucus (Sen. Susan Eggman); Tribal Advisor to the Office of the Governor (Christina Snider-Ashtari); Legislative Women's Caucus (Designee TBD); Assemblymember Reginald Byron Jones-Sawyer, Sr., Legislative Black Caucus (Sarah Meza for Assemblymember); Department of Transportation, CalTrans, (Nailah Pope-Harden)

Federal Advisors:

Present

- ✓ United States Forest Service (Rich Spradling)
- ✓ United States Geological Survey (Drew Decker)
- ✓ National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (Jeffrey Ferguson)
- ✓ United States Board on Geographic Names (Matt O'Donnell)
- ✓ United States Board on Geographic Names (Shelby Bourquein)
- ✓ United States Board on Geographic Names (Shelly Zahniser)

Absent

- ✗ National Park Service (Amanda B. Kaplan)
- ✗ United States Bureau of Land Management (Somer Shaw)

Emeritus Advisors:

Present

- ✓ Jim Trumbly, former Chair, retired, State Parks

Absent

- ✗ Brian Moran, United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service
- ✗ Clayton Guiraud, past member, Department of Water Resources
- ✗ Carol Ostergren, United States Geological Survey
- ✗ Will Patterson, past member, California Department of Fish and Wildlife

CNRA and Committee Staff:

Meagan Flier (CNRA); Araceli Moreno (CNRA); Emma Syftestad (Legal Fellow); Justin Ander (CRNA IT)

2. Agenda Changes

- Correct spelling for item 6c: should be “Straits” and not “Stratis,” and correction on the feature being “named” and not “unnamed.”
- Item 10: the August 22nd CACGN meeting will be moved to either August 29th or September 5th.

3. Announcements

- a) None

4. Meeting Minutes

- a) February 28, 2025 meeting minutes approved

5. Actions made by U.S. BGN since February 28, 2025

If Case Status identifies the recommendation as CACGN, then the case is still pending U.S. BGN decision. (Source: <https://www.usgs.gov/us-board-on-geographic-names/dnc-minutes>)

- | | |
|--------------------------|---|
| a) Proposed Name: | Salamander Creek |
| • Feature Type: | Stream |
| • County: | Humboldt |
| • Review List: | 450 |
| • BGN Decision Date: | Disapproved on May 5, 2025 |
| • Case Status: | <i>CACGN Recommended Disapproval</i> |

- b) Proposed Name:** **Kilkenny Valley**
- Feature Type: Basin
 - County: Lake
 - Review List: 452
 - BGN Decision Date: No Decision to Date
 - Case Status: ***CACGN Recommended Disapproval***
- c) Proposed Name:** **China Wall Overlook**
- Feature Type: Summit
 - County: Nevada
 - Review List: 453
 - BGN Decision Date: Proponent Withdrew Proposal on September 9, 2025
 - Case Status: ***CACGN Recommended Approval.***
- d) Proposed Name:** **Hidden Heart Falls**
- Feature Type: Falls
 - County: Riverside
 - Review List: 450
 - BGN Decision Date: Approved on December 12, 2024
 - Case Status: ***CACGN Recommended Approval***
- e) Proposed Name:** **James Wong Howe Creek**
- Feature Type: Stream
 - County: Tuolumne
 - Review List: 440
 - BGN Decision Date: No Decision to Date
 - Case Status: ***CACGN Recommended Disapproval***
- f) Proposed Name:** **Chinese Miners Creek**
- Feature Type: Stream
 - County: Tuolumne
 - Review List: 451
 - BGN Decision Date: No Decision to Date
 - Case Status: ***CACGN Recommended Approval***

6. BGN Name Proposals for CACGN Review and Recommendation

a) **Proposed Name:** **Boomer Creek**

- Current Name: N/A
- Feature Type: Creek
- County: Santa Cruz
- Review List: 452
- CACGN Case Status: CACGN voted to recommend disapproval of the proposed name of Boomer Creek and recommend approval of Uypi Creek for the unnamed stream in Santa Cruz County.
- Voting Results: 5-yes, 4-no
- The Committee balanced considerations between local use or naming of a geographic feature after a historical family name. Some considerations discussed included the historical record of the Boomer family, long term use of the geographic name, and potential Native American rename of the feature.

b) **Proposed Name:** **Uypi Creek**

- Current Name: N/A
- Feature Type: Creek
- County: Santa Cruz
- Review List: 454
- CACGN Case Status: CACGN voted to recommend disapproval of the proposed name of Boomer Creek and recommend approval of Uypi Creek for the unnamed stream in Santa Cruz County.
- Voting Results: 5-yes, 4-no
- The Committee balanced considerations between local use or naming of a geographic feature after a historical family name. Some considerations discussed included the historical record of the Boomer family, long term use of the geographic name, and potential Native American rename of the feature.

c) **Proposed Name:** **Klamath Straits Drain**

- Current Name: Klamath Straits and Klamath Strait Drain Outlet
- Feature Type: Canal
- County: Klamath and Siskiyou
- Review List: 452
- CACGN Case Status: CACGN voted to recommend approval of the proposed name Klamath Straits Drain for the geographic features containing both the name of “Klamath Straits” and “Klamath Strait Drain Outlet” in Klamath and Siskiyou County.
- Voting Results: 7-yes, 1-absent
- The Committee considered the local use of the proposed name.

d) Proposed Name: Fifth of July Hill

- Current Name: N/A
- Feature Type: Summit
- County: San Bernardino
- Review List: 453
- CACGN Case Status: CACGN voted to recommend disapproval of the proposed name Fifth of July Hill for the unnamed summit in San Bernardino County.
- Voting Results: 8-yes, 0-no
- The Committee considered and determined the new name could potentially cause confusion due to a nearby feature with a similar name and lack of significant rationale for establishing the proposed new name.

e) Proposed Name: Hoot Owl Lake

- Current Name: N/A
- Feature Type: Lake
- County: Nevada
- Review List: 453
- CACGN Case Status: CACGN voted to recommend approval of Hoot Owl Lake for the unnamed lake in Nevada County.
- Voting Results: 8-yes, 0-no
- The Committee considered local support of the name and habitat location of the species.

f) Proposed Name: Placer One

- Current Name: N/A
- Feature Type: Populated Place
- County: Placer
- Review List: 456
- CACGN Case Status: CACGN voted to recommend approval of Placer One for the unnamed unincorporated populated place in Placer County.
- Voting Results: 6-yes, 2-no
- The Committee balanced considerations on whether naming this community was helping commercial operations, such as housing development. Due to the Board of Supervisors support for the name proposal, most of the Committee members voted in favor of the name proposal.

7. Name Proposals Deferred for Future CACGN Review and Discussion

- a) **Proposed Name:** **Ipuk Spiruk**
- Current Name: Little Stonewall Peak
 - Feature Type: Peak
 - County: San Diego
 - Review List: 446
- b) **Proposed Name:** **Ipuk Spiruk Creek**
- Current Name: Little Stonewall Creek
 - Feature Type: Creek
 - County: San Diego
 - Review List: 446
- c) **Proposed Name:** **Cush-Pii**
- Current Name: Stonewall Peak
 - Feature Type: Peak
 - County: San Diego
 - Review List: 446
- d) **Proposed Name:** **Cush-Pii Creek**
- Current Name: Stonewall Creek
 - Feature Type: Creek
 - County: San Diego
 - Review List: 446
- e) **Proposed Name:** **Black Miners Bar**
- Current Name: Negro Bar
 - Feature Type: Bar
 - County: San Diego
 - Review List: 446
- f) **Proposed Name:** **mxqawlay'ba knowin xyoykith**
- Current Name: N/A
 - Feature Type: Ridge
 - County: Lake
 - Review List: 453

- g) Proposed Name: Curran Canyon**
- Current Name: Kern Canyon
 - Feature Type: Canyon
 - County: Stanislaus
 - Review List: 454
- h) Proposed Name: Curran Creek**
- Current Name: Kern Creek
 - Feature Type: Creek
 - County: Stanislaus
 - Review List: 454
- i) Proposed Name: Konocti**
- Current Name: Kelseyville
 - Feature Type: Populated place (unincorporated)
 - County: Lake County
 - Review List: 454
- j) Proposed Name: Mitchell Ridge**
- Current Name: N/A
 - Feature Type: Ridge
 - County: Contra Costa
 - Review List: 455
- k) Proposed Name: Sacred Buttes**
- Current Name: Sutter Buttes
 - Feature Type: Butte
 - County: Sutter
 - Review List: 455
- l) Proposed Name: Skate Island**
- Current Name: N/A
 - Feature Type: Island
 - County: Humboldt
 - Review List: 455
- m) Proposed Name: Paramount Hill**
- Current Name: N/A

- Feature Type: Summit
- County: Placer
- Review List: 456

n) Proposed Name: Blue Heron Lake

- Current Name: Stow Lake
- Feature Type: Reservoir
- County: San Francisco
- Review List: 457

o) Proposed Name: Mount George

- Current Name: N/A
- Feature Type: Summit
- County: Trinity
- Review List: 457

8. New Proposals on Pending Review Lists to be Introduced

- a. **Proposed Name:** dukMéʔem wáʔa
Current Name: General Creek
Feature: Stream
County: El Dorado
BGN Quarterly Review List No. 458

- b. **Proposed Name:** Cush-pii
Current Name: Stonewall Peak
Feature: Summit
County: San Diego
BGN Quarterly Review List No. 459

- c. **Proposed Name:** Kwettap Cush-pii
Current Name: Stonewall Creek
Feature: Stream
County: San Diego
BGN Quarterly Review List No. 459

- d. **Proposed Name:** Cush-pii 'Estik
Current Name: Little Stonewall Peak
Feature: Summit

County: San Diego
BGN Quarterly Review List No. 459

- e. **Proposed Name:** Kwettap 'Ekwii Emak
Current Name: Little Stonewall Creek
Feature: Stream
County: San Diego
BGN Quarterly Review List No. 459
- f. **Proposed Name:** Engagement Point
Current Name: N/A
Feature: Summit
County: Shasta
BGN Quarterly Review List No. 459
- g. **Proposed Name:** Middle Mountain
Current Name: Sutter Buttes
Feature: Mountain Range
County: Sutter
BGN Quarterly Review List No. 459

BGN quarterly review lists can be accessed on the BGN's website at: [DNC Review Lists | U.S. Geological Survey](#).

9. General Public Comment

- CACGN received 1 public comment regarding the Kelseyville to Konocti name proposal.

10. Time and Place of Next Meetings:

Regularly Scheduled CACGN Meeting, Quarter 3:

August 29, 2025, 10:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.

Regularly Scheduled CACGN Meeting, Quarter 4:

December 12, 2025, 10:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.

11. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at approximately 3:32 P.M.