

California Advisory Committee on Geographic Names (CACGN)

Minutes

August 29, 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: 6 of 8 voting members were present

Present

- ✓ California Department of Natural Resources (**Geneva E.B. Thompson, Chair**)
- ✓ Native American Heritage Commission (**Michelle Carr**)
- ✓ Department of Fish and Wildlife (**Amelia Wright**)
- ✓ Department of Conservation (**Elizabeth Betancourt**)
- ✓ Department of Water Resources (**Ebenezer Ampah**)
- ✓ Department of Parks and Recreation (**Jim Newland**)
- ✓ California African American Museum (**Susan Anderson**)

Absent

- ✗ Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (**Helen Lopez**)
- ✗ California State Library (**Greg Lucas**)

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)
- ✓ United States Board on Geographic Names (Shelly Zahniser)

Absent

- ✗ National Park Service (Amanda B. Kaplan)
- ✗ United States Bureau of Land Management (Somer Shaw)
- ✗ National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (Jeffrey Ferguson)
- ✗ United States Board on Geographic Names (Matt O'Donnell)
- ✗ United States Board on Geographic Names (Shelby Bourquein)

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); Justin Ander (CRNA IT), Heather Baugh (Legal Advisor)

2. Agenda Changes

N/A

3. Announcements

- a) Thank you to Steven Quinn for service
- b) Welcome to Michelle Carr – representative for Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC)

4. Meeting Minutes

- a) Committee member Elizabeth Betancourt asked to amend the description in 6a. Motion to amend meeting minutes for item 6a to change the summary of discussion passed with a 6-0 vote. Summary for description 6a to read:
“Committee balanced considerations between local use or naming of a geographical feature after a historical record of the Boomer family, long term use of the geographic name, and potential Native American rename of the feature.”

5. Actions made by U.S. BGN since May 30, 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:** **Cush-Pii**
- **Current Name:** Stonewall Peak
 - **Feature:** Summit
 - **County:** San Diego
 - **Review List:** 446
 - **CACGN Recommendation:** N/A
 - **BGN Action:** *Proponent withdrew proposal on 7/11/2025*
- b) **Proposed Name:** **Cush-Pii Creek**
- **Current Name:** Stonewall Creek
 - **Feature:** Stream
 - **County:** San Diego
 - **Review List:** 446
 - **CACGN Recommendation:** N/A
 - **BGN Action:** *Proponent withdrew proposal on 7/11/2025*
- c) **Proposed Name:** **Ipuk Spiruk**
- **Current Name:** Little Stonewall Peak
 - **Feature:** Summit
 - **County:** San Diego
 - **Review List:** 446
 - **CACGN Recommendation:** N/A
 - **BGN Action:** *Proponent withdrew proposal on 7/11/2025*
- d) **Proposed Name:** **Ipuk Spiruk Creek**
- **Current Name:** Little Stonewall Creek
 - **Feature:** Summit
 - **County:** San Diego
 - **Review List:** 446
 - **CACGN Recommendation:** N/A
 - **BGN Action:** *Proponent withdrew proposal on 7/11/2025*

- e) **Proposed Name:** **James Wong Howe Creek**
- **Current Name:** **Chinaman Creek**
 - **Feature:** Stream
 - **County:** Tuolumne
 - **Review List:** 440
 - **CACGN Recommendation:**recommended disapproval of proposal to change the name of James Wong Howe Creek stream to Chinaman Creek Stream to the U.S. Board of Geographic Names.
 - **BGN Action:** Pending
- f) **Proposed Name:** **Chinese Miners Creek**
- **Current Name:** Chinaman Creek
 - **Feature:** Stream
 - **County:** Tuolumne
 - **BGN Quarterly Review List:**451
 - **CACGN Recommendation:**recommended approval of proposal to change the name of Chinaman Creek to Chinese Miners Creek to the U.S. Board of Geographic Names.
 - **BGN Action:** Pending
- g) **Proposed Name:** **Kilkenney Valley**
- **Current Name:** Habematolel Valley
 - **Feature:** Valley
 - **County:** Lake
 - **BGN Quarterly Review List:**452
 - **CACGN Recommendation:**recommended disapproval to change to change the name of Habematolel Valley to Kilkenny Valley Basin to the U.S. Board of Geographic Names.
 - **BGN Action:** Pending
- h) **Proposed Name:** **Boomer Creek**
- **Current Name:** N/A
 - **Feature:** Stream
 - **County:** Santa Cruz
 - **BGN Quarterly Review List:**452
 - **CACGN Recommendation:**recommended the U.S. Board on Geographic Names disapprove of naming BGN ID 456-6046 to name the unnamed stream Boomer Creek.
 - **BGN Action:** Pending

- i) **Proposed Name:** **Klamath Straits Drain**
- **Current Name:** **Klamath Straits and Klamath Strait Drain Outlet**
 - **Feature:** Canal
 - **County:** Klamath and Siskiyou
 - **BGN Quarterly Review List:** 452
 - **CACGN Recommendation:** recommended the U.S. Board on Geographic Names approve naming BGN ID 452-6037 to name the Klamath Strait and Klamath Strait Drain Outlet to Klamath Straits Drain.
 - **BGN Action:** Approved on July 10, 2025
- j) **Proposed Name:** **Fifth of July Hill**
- **Current Name:** **N/A**
 - **Feature:** Summit
 - **County:** San Bernardino
 - **BGN Quarterly Review List:** 453
 - **CACGN Recommendation:** recommended the U.S. Board on Geographic Names disapprove naming BGN ID 453-6119 to name the unnamed summit Fifth of July Hill.
 - **BGN Action:** Disapproved on July 10, 2025
- k) **Proposed Name:** **Hoot Owl Lake**
- **Current Name:** **N/A**
 - **Feature:** Lake
 - **County:** Nevada
 - **BGN Quarterly Review List:** 453
 - **CACGN Recommendation:** recommended the U.S. Board on Geographic Names approve naming BGN ID 453-6141 to name the unnamed lake Hoot Owl Lake.
 - **BGN Action:** Approved on July 10, 2025
- l) **Proposed Name:** **Uypi Creek**
- **Current Name:** **N/A**
 - **Feature:** Stream
 - **County:** Santa Cruz
 - **BGN Quarterly Review List:** 454
 - **CACGN Recommendation:** recommended the U.S. Board on Geographic Names approve naming BGN ID 454-6158 to name the unnamed stream Uypi Creek.
 - **BGN Action:** Pending

m) Proposed Name: Skate Island

- **Current Name:** N/A
- **Feature:** Island
- **County:** Humboldt
- **BGN Quarterly Review List:** 455
- **CACGN Recommendation:** N/A
- **BGN Action:** Proponent withdrew proposal on 6/2/2025

n) Proposed Name: Placer One

- **Current Name:** N/A
- **Feature:** Populated Place
- **County:** Placer
- **BGN Quarterly Review List:** 456
- **CACGN Recommendation:** recommended approval of the naming BGN ID (456-6273) to name the unnamed populated place to Placer One to the U.S. Board on Geographic Names approve.
- **BGN Action:** Approved on July 10, 2025

Copies of U.S. BGN meeting minutes and decisions may be found at <https://www.usgs.gov/us-board-on-geographic-names/dnc-minutes>.

6. BGN Name Proposals for CACGN Review and Recommendation

a) Proposed Name: Cush-pii

- **Current Name:** Stonewall Peak
- **Feature Type:** Summit
- **County:** San Diego
- **Review List:** 459
- **CACGN Case Status:** CACGN voted to recommend approval to change the name of Stonewall Peak to Cush-pii.
- **Voting Results:** 6-yes, 0-no
- The Committee considered the historical record of the name “Stonewall,” the cultural and linguistic significance of the proposed name.

b) Proposed Name: Cush-pii 'Estik

- Current Name: Little Stonewall Peak
- Feature Type: Summit
- County: San Diego
- Review List: 459
- CACGN Case Status: CACGN voted to recommend approval to change the name of Little Stonewall Peak to Cush-pii 'Estik.
- Voting Results: 6-yes, 0-no
- The Committee considered the historical record of the name "Stonewall," the cultural and linguistic significance of the proposed name.

c) Proposed Name: Kwettap Cush-pii

- Current Name: Stonewall Creek
- Feature Type: Stream
- County: San Diego
- Review List: 459
- CACGN voted to recommend approval to change the name of Stonewall Creek to Kwettap Cush-pii.
- Voting Results: 6-yes, 0-no
- The Committee considered the historical record of the name "Stonewall," the cultural and linguistic significance of the proposed name.

d) Proposed Name: Kwettap 'Ekwii Emak

- Current Name: Little Stonewall Creek
- Feature Type: Stream
- County: San Diego
- Review List: 459
- CACGN Case Status: CACGN voted to recommend approval to change the name of Little Stonewall Creek to Kwettap 'Ekwii Emak.
- Voting Results: 6-yes, 0-no
- The Committee considered the historical record of the name "Stonewall," the cultural and linguistic significance of the proposed name.

e) Proposed Name: Curran Canyon

- Current Name: Kern Canyon
- Feature Type: Valley
- County: Stanislaus
- Review List: 454
- CACGN Case Status: CACGN voted to recommend approval to change the name of Curran Canyon to Kern Canyon.

- Voting Results: 6-yes, 0-no
- The Committee considered the documentation provided regarding the correct spelling of the name.

f) Proposed Name: Curran Creek

- Current Name: Kern Creek
- Feature Type: Stream
- County: Stanislaus
- Review List: 454
- CACGN Case Status: CACGN voted to recommend approval to change the name of Curran Creek to Kern Creek.
- Voting Results: 6-yes, 0-no
- The Committee considered the documentation provided regarding the correct spelling of the name.

7. Name Proposals Deferred for Future CACGN Review and Discussion

- a) **Proposed Name:** **Black Miners Bar**
- Current Name: Negro Bar
 - Feature Type: Bar
 - County: San Diego
 - Review List: 446
- b) **Proposed Name:** **mxqawlay'ba knowin xyoykith**
- Current Name: N/A
 - Feature Type: Ridge
 - County: Lake
 - Review List: 453
- c) **Proposed Name:** **Konocti**
- Current Name: Kelseyville
 - Feature Type: Populated place (unincorporated)
 - County: Lake County
 - Review List: 454
- d) **Proposed Name:** **Mitchell Ridge**
- Current Name: N/A
 - Feature Type: Ridge
 - County: Contra Costa
 - Review List: 455
- e) **Proposed Name:** **Sacred Buttes**
- Current Name: Sutter Buttes
 - Feature Type: Butte
 - County: Sutter
 - Review List: 455
- f) **Proposed Name:** **Paramount Hill**
- Current Name: N/A
 - Feature Type: Summit
 - County: Placer
 - Review List: 456
- g) **Proposed Name:** **Blue Heron Lake**

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

h) Proposed Name: Mount George

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

i) Proposed Name: dukMé?em wát'a

- Current Name: General Creek
- Feature Type: Stream
- County: El Dorado
- Review List: 458

j) Proposed Name: Engagement Point

- Current Name: N/A
- Feature Type: Summit
- County: Shasta
- Review List: 459

k) Proposed Name: Middle Mountain

- Current Name: Sutter Buttes
- Feature Type: Mountain Range
- County: Sutter
- Review List: 459

8. New Proposals on Pending Review Lists to be Introduced

- a. **Proposed Name:** Challenger Peak
Current Name: N/A
Feature: Summit
County: Alameda
BGN Quarterly Review List No. 460

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

9. General Public Comment

- N/A

10. Time and Place of Next Meetings:

Regularly Scheduled CACGN Meeting, Quarter 4:

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

Regularly Scheduled CACGN Meeting, Quarter 1:

March 6, 2026, 10:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.

11. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at approximately 11:34 A.M.