

## Conversation Contents

McKinley letter from 2009

/131. McKinley letter from 2009/1.1 Theuer to BGN 2009.pdf

**"Runyon, Jennifer" <jrunyon@usgs.gov>**

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**From:** "Runyon, Jennifer" <jrunyon@usgs.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri Aug 07 2015 15:43:58 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** Louis Yost <lyost@usgs.gov>  
**Subject:** McKinley letter from 2009  
**Attachments:** Theuer to BGN 2009.pdf

A couple weeks ago I was looking through the Mount McKinley folder (on the shared drive, i.e. random stuff we've collected any time the issue comes up) and came across the attached from 2009. I knew that date sounded familiar when Kim mentioned it earlier.

I honestly don't remember this letter, nor do I know if we (you) answered it. Salazar, Murkowski, etc. were cc:'d. Is it possible we didn't respond but Suzette did? I haven't found a reply from her but the date's right. Kim even said she thought it was around April 2009.

**"Yost, Louis" <lyost@usgs.gov>**

---

**From:** "Yost, Louis" <lyost@usgs.gov>  
**Sent:** Sat Aug 08 2015 05:39:38 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Runyon, Jennifer" <jrunyon@usgs.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: McKinley letter from 2009

This doesn't ring a bell, but I'll look on Monday. The likely response was probably just that there was legislation pending so the BGN wouldn't consider it.

On Fri, Aug 7, 2015 at 5:43 PM, Runyon, Jennifer <jrunyon@usgs.gov> wrote:

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and research of John Greenewald, Jr., creator of:

# The Black Vault



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February 25, 2009

Executive Secretary Lou Yost  
U.S. Geological Survey  
523 National Center  
Reston, VA 20192-0523

Dear Mr. Yost,

I am writing as a lifelong Alaska resident that is uncannily familiar with the current policies of the U.S. Board of Geographic Names, the history of the naming of Mount McKinley, the history of the name of Denali, and the undue disrespect of Alaskan culture by the Ohio Delegation. I am very familiar with Rep. Scott Kawasaki's efforts to pass the House Joint Resolution 15 that urges Congress to rename Mount McKinley its proper and traditional name of Denali. I understand that the Board will not consider renaming a feature that is currently under "consideration" by Congress.

However, it is clear that Congress is not considering maintaining the name of Mount McKinley for the past 35 years that legislation has been pending. This policy is an assault to individuals' rights to change the name of a landmark that has been insulting the state's culture for over a century. I am writing to urge the U.S. Board of Geographic Names to change this policy, and to point out the many violations that have devised since the naming of the mountain, given that the Board was at a primitive level of existence at the time of the mountain's "official" naming in 1897.

The policies of **Chapter 2** work in the favor of changing the name of Mount McKinley to Denali for the following reasons:

1. Principle II: Usage of the word "Denali" and related names have been around for many centuries, long before William Dickey came to Alaska in the 1896 and saw the mountain for the first time. While the Russian map he used was lacking names of the high peaks of the Alaska Range, he took no consideration for the Native names of those mountains, of which he was aware. Alaskans know that Denali = Mount McKinley and millions of people, those who have visited Alaska and those who have not, understand the names to be synonymous.
2. Principle IV: The Alaska Board of Geographic Names officially changed the name of the mountain to Denali in 1980. According to this principle, the U.S. Board should, in theory, change the name of the mountain accordingly so as to discourage conflict with the state board.

**Policy I of Chapter 3** has the potential to act as a permanent filibuster against popular opinion, as is the case with Mount McKinley. Ohio Congressmen use this policy to their advantage, and while it may not be necessarily easy to change the official name of the mountain, this simple policy is enough to discourage any efforts to assert Alaskan interests. Alaskans and supportive non-Alaskans should not be discouraged by non-

Alaskan congressmen. This policy is abused and overlooked as a policy that should be revised. I understand that Rep. Kawasaki proposed a revision of this policy, which entailed a 6-year limit for letting legislation pend on a particular landmark until the Board took action. Please refer to his letter to Secretary Salazar, dated February 16.

**Chapter 3 Policy II sec. 2**, advocating for the conforming to local usage, is directly relevant to this issue, as noted above.

**Chapter 3 Policy III** regarding commemorative names is fully applicable to this circumstance. While this policy was approved in 1981 and the mountain was officially named in 1897, Dickey would have violated these policies *if* they had been established before he named the mountain. William McKinley had only recently been named the Republican candidate for president when Dickey named the mountain after him, and obviously McKinley was living at the time of the naming. In **section 1** of this policy, the U.S. Board notes that an individual must be deceased at least 5 years before a commemorative proposal will be considered. **Section 2** notes that the “person being honored by the naming should have had either some direct and long-term association with the feature or have made a significant contribution to the area or State in which it is located.” Not only is this relevant to Mt. McKinley, but also to Mt. Foraker, a neighboring peak, also named after an Ohio politician. Neither of these gentlemen came to Alaska during their lifetimes and neither of them were associated directly or indirectly with the territory.

These two sections are directly pertinent because at the time of the naming, William McKinley had (and still has) nothing to do with Alaska, nor was he dead. It was pure coincidence that he became president and was assassinated, so it later makes sense to name a landmark after him at all (as in section 3), but it does not make sense that the landmark is located in Alaska, a natural landmark that has maintained an Athabaskan name for many centuries but received no consideration from the U.S. Board, which likely had no knowledge of the name of Denali. It should have been considered and researched more thoroughly when William Dickey proposed this name.

In **Policy X of Chapter 3**, the Board notes that it will “consult with federally recognized tribes having an historic or cultural affiliation with the geographic location of the feature.” **Section 1** establishes the Board’s support of the use of Native American geographic names, and with a name like Denali, which means “The High One” in the Koyukon dialect, it is very difficult to disagree that this is the perfect name for the highest peak on the continent. It is an offense to Native Alaskans to not consult them in the naming of the centerpiece of the Alaskan landscape, a mountain that is largely responsible for much of the climate and land formation in that region, and serves as one of the primary reasons why millions of visitors come to our state.

In **section 4 of Policy X**, the Board notes that proposals to name “unnamed” natural features within areas of Native American tribal jurisdiction must conform to established Board guidelines for such naming and be supported by the tribal government before being considered for approval by the Board. Indeed, the land in which Mount McKinley


resides is not a reservation, nor were there established guidelines for naming features located in such lands. Regardless, it was very clear that many Native Alaskans resided in the area. While the Board was primitively established in 1897, the naming of Mount McKinley was a direct blow to the Native Alaskans at the time, and letting Ohio congressmen dictate what names are appropriate for these mountains could be argued as an act of discrimination, or at least an act of unintended discriminatory neglect.

In addition, **section 5 of Policy X** is directly pertinent to this issue, noting that features "outside" of tribal jurisdiction will be considered when using Native names for those features, and the guidelines of **section 6** are fulfilled when considering the name of Denali.

I understand that as long as Congress has legislation pending, the Board will not consider a name change. However, I believe it is within the scope of the Board to consider these many reasons in accordance with Board policies to consult with Congress. Otherwise, the Board should note that if the Congress does not think preserving the name of Mount McKinley is worth considering on the floor for over 35 years, the Board should consider the name of Denali and what it means to Alaskans for the last several centuries, and the many varied efforts we have endured to fight against these pending acts of legislation.

On behalf of many Alaskans and non-Alaskans that I know agree with me on this subject, I sincerely thank you for your consideration of this sensitive matter. I hope that you will consider these many violations of what is now Board policy, and the 110-year disregard of Alaskan interests. There are many things named for President McKinley, and while Alaska has no disregard for this president, it becomes seems there is an increasing disregard for Alaska Native culture and the symbolic relevance of the name "Denali."

Sincerely and respectfully,



Mercedes Theuer

(b) (6)

(b) (6) @gmail.com

(b) (6)

CC: Secretary Ken Salazar  
Senator Mark Begich  
Senator Lisa Murkowski  
Representative Don Young  
Representative Betty Sutton  
Representative Tim Ryan

# Conversation Contents

Denali and Secretary of the Interior Actions (UNCLASSIFIED)

**"Caldwell, Douglas R ERDC-GRL-VA"**  
**<Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil>**

---

**From:** "Caldwell, Douglas R ERDC-GRL-VA"  
<Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil>  
**Sent:** Thu Aug 27 2015 06:49:22 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Yost, Louis" <lyost@usgs.gov>, "Vandegraft, Douglas"  
<douglas.vandegraft@boem.gov>  
**Subject:** Denali and Secretary of the Interior Actions  
(UNCLASSIFIED)

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED  
Caveats: NONE

Hi!

\*\* Denali and Secretary of the Interior Actions \*\*

Just thinking ahead about questions we might be asked.

Q. Is this the first time the SOI has intervened in the naming process.

A. This is the first time the SOI has intervened in the naming process to resolve a deadlock between the BGN and Congress related to Policy 1: Names Being Considered By Congress.

There is a precedent for direct SOI intervention, as in 1933 the then Secretary of the Interior, Harold Ickes, changed the name of Hoover Dam to Boulder Dam. The name Hoover Dam was later restored by Congress.

[Are there other cases of the SOI either naming a feature or intervening in the naming process?]

More typically, the SOI has asked the BGN to consider a request for a new name or to change a name.

[Is this answer correct?]

Thanks,

Doug Caldwell  
Geospatial Research Laboratory  
Engineer Research and Development Center  
US Army Corps of Engineers  
7701 Telegraph Road  
Alexandria, VA 22315-3864

Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil  
703-428-3594

-----Original Message-----

From: Yost, Louis [mailto:lyost@usgs.gov]  
Sent: Thursday, August 27, 2015 8:22 AM  
To: Vandegraft, Douglas  
Cc: Campbell, Jon; Jennifer Runyon; Caldwell, Douglas R ERDC-GRL-VA; Michael Shelton; Gilbert, Tony N.; Palmer Trent C Mr NGA-PR USA CIV  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: DOI Draft Denali release - BGN review

George removed.

Hey Jon who is George Diller at NASA? He was on your original and Doug's response.

On Thu, Aug 27, 2015 at 8:14 AM, Vandegraft, Douglas  
<douglas.vandegraft@boem.gov> wrote:

I found one small error (U.S. Board of Geographic Names) and tracked it on the attached.

I was tempted to cite the origin of the name "McKinley" but stopped myself.

It will be interesting to see if the President speaks to this decision, or whether the public dialogue will be entirely from the SOI.

I'm bummed that the BGN role is so minor, but elated at the actual outcome.

DV

Chief, Mapping & Boundary Branch

Leasing Division, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management

(703) 787-1312

45600 Woodland Road, VAM-LD

Sterling, VA 20166

On Wed, Aug 26, 2015 at 5:42 PM, Campbell, Jon <joncampbell@usgs.gov> wrote:

This is how the DOI public relations sausage is made. I can relay any comments you have, e.g. 'Mount McKinley' for 'McKinley'. Use track changes on the Moody doc attached.

Rachael Johnson is the lead writer in this group.

I'm relieved they have the Sec's authority clearly stated per our draft. The Board is mentioned (7th par), but we are not credited with any final responsibility for this decision.

Jon Campbell  
U.S. Geological Survey  
Office of Communications and Publishing  
703-648-4180 | m 571-230-6831  
joncampbell@usgs.gov

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

From: Moody, Joan <joan\_moody@ios.doi.gov>  
Date: Wed, Aug 26, 2015 at 4:57 PM  
Subject: Draft Denali release for Rachael review  
To: "Wade, Anne-Berry" <abwade@usgs.gov>  
Cc: Jessica Kershaw <jessica\_kershaw@ios.doi.gov>, April Slayton <april\_slayton@nps.gov>, Rachael Johnson <Rachael\_Johnson@ios.doi.gov>, Jon Campbell <joncampbell@usgs.gov>

Thanks to USGS for a good draft release and the additional information provided by Jon and AB today. I thought your title and quotes were especially great!

Attached please find one copy with tracked changes and the other copy with the changes accepted. The pen is now in Rachael's able hand, so if I have made errors, be sure that she knows about them.

Although there are red marks on the tracked copy, they mostly represent re-arranging of paragraphs and some additions as follows:

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Thanks for your patience. There were alot of partners involved and they all wanted their moment of glory. in reviewing the appropriate materials :)

A.B. Wade

USGS <Blockedhttp://usgs.gov> Press Officer  
703-648-4483 desk

--

Joan Moody  
Senior Public Affairs Specialist  
Office of the Secretary MIB 6226  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
202-208-3280  
Joan\_Moody@ios.doi.gov

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED  
Caveats: NONE

**"Gilbert, Tony N." <tgilbert@gpo.gov>**

---

**From:** "Gilbert, Tony N." <tgilbert@gpo.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu Aug 27 2015 10:38:18 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Caldwell, Douglas R ERDC-GRL-VA" <Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil>, "Yost, Louis" <lyost@usgs.gov>, "Vandegraft, Douglas" <douglas.vandegraft@boem.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: Denali and Secretary of the Interior Actions (UNCLASSIFIED)

What about the "Negro" and "Japanese" names? Didn't Secy. Udall have a hand in that?

Tony Gilbert | CFR Coordinator; GPO Style Board; Vice Chair, U.S. Board on Geographic Names | ph 202.512.0652  
GPO | OFFICIAL | DIGITAL | SECURE 732 North Capitol Street NW., Washington, DC

20401

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-----Original Message-----

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Sent: Thursday, August 27, 2015 8:49 AM

To: Yost, Louis; Vandegraft, Douglas

Cc: Campbell, Jon; Jennifer Runyon; Michael Shelton; Gilbert, Tony N.; Palmer Trent C  
Mr NGA-PR USA CIV

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Doug Caldwell

Geospatial Research Laboratory

Engineer Research and Development Center US Army Corps of Engineers

7701 Telegraph Road

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Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil

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## **"Yost, Louis" <lyost@usgs.gov>**

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**To:** "Gilbert, Tony N." <tgilbert@gpo.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Denali and Secretary of the Interior Actions (UNCLASSIFIED)

Tony,

On the Negro change from what I have read and remember (two different things mind you), Udall sent a memo to USGS telling them that they were to no longer show the pejorative form on topo maps. The DNC took that cue and came up with the policy for the whole federal government. So Udall influenced the BGN but I don't think he ever requested, or directed, or acted in his conjoint capacity.

As for the Japanese change - it's a mystery. We only know of the one reference in the minutes stating the DNC voted that the pejorative form would be handled the same as Negro. Maybe someone should sit next to Orth at the 125th and grill him.

Lou

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[www.gpo.gov](http://www.gpo.gov) | [facebook.com/USGPO](https://facebook.com/USGPO) | [twitter.com/usgpo](https://twitter.com/usgpo)

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Subject: Draft Denali release for Rachael review  
To: "Wade, Anne-Berry" <[abwade@usgs.gov](mailto:abwade@usgs.gov)>  
Cc: Jessica Kershaw <[jessica\\_kershaw@ios.doi.gov](mailto:jessica_kershaw@ios.doi.gov)>, April Slayton <[april\\_slayton@nps.gov](mailto:april_slayton@nps.gov)>, Rachael Johnson <[Rachael\\_Johnson@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Rachael_Johnson@ios.doi.gov)>, Jon Campbell <[joncampbell@usgs.gov](mailto:joncampbell@usgs.gov)>

Thanks to USGS for a good draft release and the additional information provided by Jon and AB today. I thought your title and quotes were especially great!

Attached please find one copy with tracked changes and the other copy with the changes accepted. The pen is now in Rachael's able hand, so if I have made errors, be sure that she knows about them.

Although there are red marks on the tracked copy, they mostly represent re-arranging of paragraphs and some additions as follows:

1. Added new name of Denali to headline, added a subhead to include Presidential endorsement and old name of McKinley.
2. Moved Presidential endorsement up to lede and emphasized Arctic meeting. I realize this may change based on how this is staged.
3. Added Jon Jarvis quote, which includes reference to the name debate.
4. Before Jarvis quote, added information needed as background for his quote (especially for an out-of-state audience) indicating that the mountain is located in a national park and that it has been named one way by the state and one way by the federal government.
5. Thanks to John C, I added info on the meaning of the name Denali and the fact that it is an Athabaskan name (other native groups had other names but this was

the local group near the mountain)

6. rearranged paragraphs so that after the lede, all the graphs about the name appeared together and the ones about the elevation appeared together.

7. added that USGS is part of DOI.

8 Do we have too many hyperlinks? LOL

P.S. Although Sen. Murkowski had a bill to rename the mountain Denali this year, that probably should not go in the release, but I will check the fact sheets now to see if it is there for background.

On Wed, Aug 26, 2015 at 2:09 PM, Wade, Anne-Berry <[abwade@usgs.gov](mailto:abwade@usgs.gov)> wrote:

All,

Attached are

1. Draft news release
2. Q and As for the name change
3. Talking points for the name change
4. Q and As for the elevation.

We had originally talked about having several quotes from partners and they all seemed to dilute the key messages from the Secretary. So, I decided the best way to present both of these topics was to quote just the Secretary.

Happy to hand over the pen but would ask that USGS have an opportunity to review changes.

We are working on our 2 top stories where partner quotes will definitely be included.

Am thinking another phone call may be in order as we sort thru the timing of everything.

Thanks for your patience. There were alot of partners involved and they all wanted their moment of glory. in reviewing the appropriate materials :)

A.B. Wade

USGS <Blockedhttp://[usgs.gov](http://usgs.gov)> Press Officer  
703-648-4483 desk  
703-317-7871 mobile

--

Joan Moody  
Senior Public Affairs Specialist  
Office of the Secretary MIB 6226  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
202-208-3280  
[Joan\\_Moody@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Joan_Moody@ios.doi.gov)

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Caveats: NONE

# Conversation Contents

## New DOI Draft - Denali Release, quick edits

### Attachments:

/86. New DOI Draft - Denali Release, quick edits/1.1 08-30-15 Denali Name Change v4.docx

/86. New DOI Draft - Denali Release, quick edits/2.1 08-30-15 Denali Name Change v4 (MMS Edits).docx

/86. New DOI Draft - Denali Release, quick edits/3.1 08-30-15 Denali Name Change v4 LY (1).docx

## "Campbell, Jon" <joncampbell@usgs.gov>

---

**From:** "Campbell, Jon" <joncampbell@usgs.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu Aug 27 2015 13:38:33 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** Louis Yost <lyost@usgs.gov>, Jennifer Runyon <jrunyon@usgs.gov>, "Caldwell, Douglas R ERDC-TEC-VA" <Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil>, Douglas Vandegraft <Douglas.Vandegraft@boem.gov>, "Gilbert, Tony N." <tgilbert@gpo.gov>, Michael Shelton <michael\_shelton@nps.gov>  
**Subject:** New DOI Draft - Denali Release, quick edits  
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[joncampbell@usgs.gov](mailto:joncampbell@usgs.gov)

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Have at it!

A.B. Wade

[USGS](#) Press Officer  
703-648-4483 desk  
703-317-7871 mobile

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Date: Thu, Aug 27, 2015 at 3:15 PM

Subject: Initial Draft Denali Release - Sending to a small group first; then larger around 6p ET

To: Nikki Buffa <[nicole\\_buffa@ios.doi.gov](mailto:nicole_buffa@ios.doi.gov)>, Kate Kelly <[kate\\_kelly@ios.doi.gov](mailto:kate_kelly@ios.doi.gov)>, Blake Androff <[blake\\_androff@ios.doi.gov](mailto:blake_androff@ios.doi.gov)>, Sarah Harris <[sarah.harris@bia.gov](mailto:sarah.harris@bia.gov)>, Sarah Walters <[sarah\\_walters@ios.doi.gov](mailto:sarah_walters@ios.doi.gov)>, Bret Birdsong <[bret.birdsong@sol.doi.gov](mailto:bret.birdsong@sol.doi.gov)>, John Quinley <[john\\_quinley@nps.gov](mailto:john_quinley@nps.gov)>, Maureen Foster <[maureen\\_foster@nps.gov](mailto:maureen_foster@nps.gov)>, Michael Johnson <[michael\\_johnson@ios.doi.gov](mailto:michael_johnson@ios.doi.gov)>, Jeremy Bratt <[jeremy\\_bratt@ios.doi.gov](mailto:jeremy_bratt@ios.doi.gov)>, Maria Najera <[maria\\_najera@ios.doi.gov](mailto:maria_najera@ios.doi.gov)>, Karen Hyun <[karen\\_hyun@ios.doi.gov](mailto:karen_hyun@ios.doi.gov)>, Miranda Pham <[miranda\\_pham@ios.doi.gov](mailto:miranda_pham@ios.doi.gov)>, Jason Waanders <[jason.waanders@sol.doi.gov](mailto:jason.waanders@sol.doi.gov)>  
Cc: Rachael Johnson <[rachael\\_johnson@ios.doi.gov](mailto:rachael_johnson@ios.doi.gov)>, Joan Moody <[joan\\_moody@ios.doi.gov](mailto:joan_moody@ios.doi.gov)>, April Slayton <[april\\_slayton@nps.gov](mailto:april_slayton@nps.gov)>, Anne-Berry Wade <[abwade@usgs.gov](mailto:abwade@usgs.gov)>

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Please take a look at the Denali release below and let me know if you have concerns - we'll circulate the draft for broader review tonight around 6p ET.

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**ANCHORAGE, AK** – In recognition of the continued strong support from Alaskan state, congressional and local leaders, as well as 40 years' worth of requests for a name change, U.S. Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell, today announced that the highest mountain in North America, formerly known as "Mount McKinley," will be officially given the local native name of 'Denali.'

President Obama endorsed the name change and directed Jewell to take the action to rename Mount McKinley as Denali under authority granted to her by Congress.[JLK1]

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###

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[JLK1] Comfortable with this characterization?

[JLK2] Will make this consistent w/WH fact sheet language.

--

Jessica Kershaw  
Senior Adviser & Press Secretary  
U.S. Dept of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
202-208-6416

---

**"Shelton, Michael" <michael\_shelton@nps.gov>**

---

**From:** "Shelton, Michael" <michael\_shelton@nps.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu Aug 27 2015 13:50:31 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Campbell, Jon" <joncampbell@usgs.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: New DOI Draft - Denali Release, quick edits  
**Attachments:** 08-30-15 Denali Name Change v4 (MMS Edits).docx

Jon:

My two edits are shown on page 2 of the attached.

Thanks,

/s/ Mike

**Michael M. Shelton**  
Program Analyst  
Office of Policy  
National Park Service  
Deputy Member, U.S. Board on  
Geographic Names  
1201 Eye Street NW  
7th Floor / Office 88  
Washington, DC 20005  
(202) 354-3954 (Direct Dial)  
(202) 354-3950 (Gen'l Off. No.)  
(202) 371-5189 (Fax)

"Whatever you do, crush superstition, and love those who love you."  
Voltaire, 1762

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

From: **Kershaw, Jessica** <[jessica\\_kershaw@ios.doi.gov](mailto:jessica_kershaw@ios.doi.gov)>

Date: Thu, Aug 27, 2015 at 3:15 PM

Subject: Initial Draft Denali Release - Sending to a small group first; then larger around 6p ET

To: Nikki Buffa <[nicole\\_buffa@ios.doi.gov](mailto:nicole_buffa@ios.doi.gov)>, Kate Kelly <[kate\\_kelly@ios.doi.gov](mailto:kate_kelly@ios.doi.gov)>, Blake Androff <[blake\\_androff@ios.doi.gov](mailto:blake_androff@ios.doi.gov)>, Sarah Harris <[sarah.harris@bia.gov](mailto:sarah.harris@bia.gov)>, Sarah Walters <[sarah\\_walters@ios.doi.gov](mailto:sarah_walters@ios.doi.gov)>, Bret Birdsong <[bret.birdsong@sol.doi.gov](mailto:bret.birdsong@sol.doi.gov)>, John Quinley <[john\\_quinley@nps.gov](mailto:john_quinley@nps.gov)>, Maureen Foster <[maureen\\_foster@nps.gov](mailto:maureen_foster@nps.gov)>, Michael Johnson <[michael\\_johnson@ios.doi.gov](mailto:michael_johnson@ios.doi.gov)>, Jeremy Bratt <[jeremy\\_bratt@ios.doi.gov](mailto:jeremy_bratt@ios.doi.gov)>, Maria Najera <[maria\\_najera@ios.doi.gov](mailto:maria_najera@ios.doi.gov)>, Karen Hyun <[karen\\_hyun@ios.doi.gov](mailto:karen_hyun@ios.doi.gov)>, Miranda Pham <[miranda\\_pham@ios.doi.gov](mailto:miranda_pham@ios.doi.gov)>, Jason Waanders <[jason.waanders@sol.doi.gov](mailto:jason.waanders@sol.doi.gov)>

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[JLK1]Comfortable with this characterization?

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--

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Senior Adviser & Press Secretary  
U.S. Dept of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
202-208-6416

---

**"Yost, Louis" <lyost@usgs.gov>**

**From:** "Yost, Louis" <lyost@usgs.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu Aug 27 2015 14:22:14 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Campbell, Jon" <joncampbell@usgs.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: New DOI Draft - Denali Release, quick edits  
**Attachments:** 08-30-15 Denali Name Change v4 LY (1).docx

My edits and comments attached.

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Senior Adviser & Press Secretary  
U.S. Dept of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
202-208-6416



OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

**U.S. Department  
of the Interior**

[www.doi.gov](http://www.doi.gov)

## News Release

Date: August 30, 2015

Contacts: Jessica Kershaw (Interior), [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)  
[AB Wade/Other? \(USGS\). XXX.gov](#)  
[John Quinley/Other? \(NPS\). XXX.gov](#)

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The mountain is virtually in the center of traditional Athabaskan territory. The word 'Denali' is an ancient Athabaskan place name. It comes from the Koyukon word '*Deenaalee*,' meaning 'the tall one.'

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Secretary Jewell issued a Secretarial Order to officially make the name 'Denali,' in accordance with her authority under the 1947 federal law that provides for the standardization of geographic names through the U.S Board on Geographic Names. The name change will be reflected in all federal records.

In 1896, a prospector emerged from exploring the mountains of central Alaska and received news that William McKinley had been nominated as a candidate for President of the United States. In a show of support, the prospector declared the tallest peak of the Alaska Range as 'Mt. McKinley' – and the name stuck.

McKinley became our 25th President, and was tragically assassinated just six months into his second term. He never set foot in Alaska – and for centuries, the mountain that rises some 20,000 feet above sea level, the tallest on the North American continent, had been known by another name – 'Denali.'

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OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

**U.S. Department  
of the Interior**

[www.doi.gov](http://www.doi.gov)

## News Release

Date: August 30, 2015

Contacts: Jessica Kershaw (Interior), [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)  
[AB Wade/Other? \(USGS\). XXX.gov](#)  
[John Quinley/Other? \(NPS\). XXX.gov](#)

### **Secretary Jewell Announces North America's Highest Peak Will Now Bear Native Name**

*Endorsed by President Obama, Secretary Jewell Changes Name of Mount  
McKinley to Denali*

**ANCHORAGE, AK** – In recognition of the continued strong support from Alaskan state, congressional and local leaders, as well as 40 years' worth of requests for a name change, U.S. Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell, today announced that the highest mountain in North America, formerly known as "Mount McKinley," will be officially given the local native name of 'Denali.'

President Obama endorsed the name change and directed Jewell to take the action to rename Mount McKinley as Denali under authority granted to her by Congress.

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"This name change recognizes the sacred status of 'Denali' to many Alaska Natives," Secretary Jewell said. "Not only has the name Denali been official for use by the State of Alaska since 1975, but the mountain has been known as 'Denali' generations of Alaskans. With our own sense of reverence for this place, we are restoring an old name in further recognition of the traditions of Alaska Natives.

The mountain is virtually in the center of traditional Athabaskan territory. The word 'Denali' is an ancient Athabaskan place name. It comes from the Koyukon word '*Deenaalee*,' meaning 'the tall one.'

"Recognizing the long history and debate about the name of this iconic American mountain, the time has come to restore the traditional Alaska Native title 'Denali' for this landmark, which holds great significance to the people of Alaska," said National Park Service Director Jonathan B. Jarvis.

Until today, the mountain retained the name 'Mt. McKinley' even though the 1980 Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act incorporated 'McKinley National Park,' into the new

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Secretary Jewell issued a Secretarial Order to officially make the name 'Denali.' in accordance with her authority under the 1947 ~~the~~ federal law that provides for the standardization of geographic names through the U.S Board on Geographic Names. The name change will be reflected in all ~~the~~ federal records.

Commented [SM2]: As per GPO *Style Manual* (2008), Rule 3.19, p. 32.

Commented [SM3]: Ditto.

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President Obama endorsed the name change and directed Jewell to take the action to rename Mount McKinley as Denali under authority granted to her by Congress.

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"This name change recognizes the sacred status of 'Denali' to many Alaska Natives," Secretary Jewell said. "Not only has the name Denali been official for use by the State of Alaska since 1975, but the mountain has been known as 'Denali' to generations of Alaskans. With our own sense of reverence for this place, we are restoring an old name in further recognition of the traditions of Alaska Natives."

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# Conversation Contents

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## "Campbell, Jon" <joncampbell@usgs.gov>

---

**From:** "Campbell, Jon" <joncampbell@usgs.gov>  
**Sent:** Wed Aug 26 2015 15:42:35 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
Louis Yost <lyost@usgs.gov>, Jennifer Runyon <jrunyon@usgs.gov>, "Caldwell, Douglas R ERDC-TEC-VA" <Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil>, Douglas Vandegraft <Douglas.Vandegraft@boem.gov>, Michael Shelton <michael\_shelton@nps.gov>, "Gilbert, Tony N." <tgilbert@gpo.gov>  
**To:**  
**Subject:** DOI Draft Denali release - BGN review  
**Attachments:** Denali Draft Moody changes accepted.docx USGS Denali Draft for DOI.docx

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Office of Communications and Publishing  
703-648-4180 | m 571-230-6831  
[joncampbell@usgs.gov](mailto:joncampbell@usgs.gov)

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From: **Moody, Joan** <[joan\\_moody@ios.doi.gov](mailto:joan_moody@ios.doi.gov)>

Date: Wed, Aug 26, 2015 at 4:57 PM

Subject: Draft Denali release for Rachael review

To: "Wade, Anne-Berry" <[abwade@usgs.gov](mailto:abwade@usgs.gov)>

Cc: Jessica Kershaw <[jessica\\_kershaw@ios.doi.gov](mailto:jessica_kershaw@ios.doi.gov)>, April Slayton

<[april\\_slayton@nps.gov](mailto:april_slayton@nps.gov)>, Rachael Johnson <[Rachael\\_Johnson@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Rachael_Johnson@ios.doi.gov)>, Jon

Campbell <[joncampbell@usgs.gov](mailto:joncampbell@usgs.gov)>

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## **"Yost, Louis" <lyost@usgs.gov>**

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**Sent:** Thu Aug 27 2015 06:21:36 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Vandegraft, Douglas" <douglas.vandegraft@boem.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: DOI Draft Denali release - BGN review

George removed.

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Office of Communications and Publishing  
703-648-4180 | m 571-230-6831  
[joncampbell@usgs.gov](mailto:joncampbell@usgs.gov)

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

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Date: Wed, Aug 26, 2015 at 4:57 PM  
Subject: Draft Denali release for Rachael review  
To: "Wade, Anne-Berry" <[abwade@usgs.gov](mailto:abwade@usgs.gov)>  
Cc: Jessica Kershaw <[jessica\\_kershaw@ios.doi.gov](mailto:jessica_kershaw@ios.doi.gov)>, April Slayton <[april\\_slayton@nps.gov](mailto:april_slayton@nps.gov)>, Rachael Johnson <[Rachael\\_Johnson@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Rachael_Johnson@ios.doi.gov)>, Jon Campbell <[joncampbell@usgs.gov](mailto:joncampbell@usgs.gov)>

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## "Yost, Louis" <[lyost@usgs.gov](mailto:lyost@usgs.gov)>

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**From:** "Yost, Louis" <[lyost@usgs.gov](mailto:lyost@usgs.gov)>  
**Sent:** Thu Aug 27 2015 07:15:19 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Campbell, Jon" <[joncampbell@usgs.gov](mailto:joncampbell@usgs.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: DOI Draft Denali release - BGN review

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**Sent:** Thu Aug 27 2015 07:32:30 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Yost, Louis" <[lyost@usgs.gov](mailto:lyost@usgs.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: DOI Draft Denali release - BGN review

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**Sent:** Thu Aug 27 2015 07:37:07 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** Jenny <jrunyon@usgs.gov>  
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**Sent:** Thu Aug 27 2015 07:51:06 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** Louis Yost <lyost@usgs.gov>, "Caldwell, Douglas R ERDC-TEC-VA" <Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil>, "Vandegraft, Douglas" <douglas.vandegraft@boem.gov>, Jennifer Runyon <jrunyon@usgs.gov>  
**Subject:** Re2: DOI Draft Denali release - BGN review

**Attachments:**

Denali Draft Moody changes accepted USGSedit.docx  
Denali Draft Moody changes accepted USGSedit2.docx

Need to respond to Dept editor promptly or the train will have left.

See my changes attached.

USGSedit - track changes  
USGSedit2 - revisions not marked (interim final)

Most of my changes in 4th par. > State of Alaska ...

Any further suggestions?

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**"Yost, Louis" <[lyost@usgs.gov](mailto:lyost@usgs.gov)>**

**From:** "Yost, Louis" <lyost@usgs.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu Aug 27 2015 08:06:51 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Campbell, Jon" <joncampbell@usgs.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Re2: DOI Draft Denali release - BGN review

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703-648-4180 | m 571-230-6831  
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**Sent:** Thu Aug 27 2015 08:07:48 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Campbell, Jon" <joncampbell@usgs.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Re2: DOI Draft Denali release - BGN review  
**Attachments:** Denali Draft Moody changes accepted  
USGSedits\_DLV.docx

I have two suggested edits (attached).

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**From:** "Campbell, Jon" <[joncampbell@usgs.gov](mailto:joncampbell@usgs.gov)>  
**Sent:** Thu Aug 27 2015 08:08:58 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Yost, Louis" <[lyost@usgs.gov](mailto:lyost@usgs.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Re2: DOI Draft Denali release - BGN review

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Very minor edit. U.S in the second para. on pg. 2 is missing a period.

Jenny

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703-648-4180 | m 571-230-6831  
[joncampbell@usgs.gov](mailto:joncampbell@usgs.gov)

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Leasing Division, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management

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Cc: Jessica Kershaw <[jessica\\_kershaw@ios.doi.gov](mailto:jessica_kershaw@ios.doi.gov)>, April Slayton <[april\\_slayton@nps.gov](mailto:april_slayton@nps.gov)>, Rachael Johnson <[Rachael\\_Johnson@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Rachael_Johnson@ios.doi.gov)>, Jon Campbell <[joncampbell@usgs.gov](mailto:joncampbell@usgs.gov)>

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*Office of the Secretary MIB 6226*

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**Subject:** Re: Re2: DOI Draft Denali release - BGN review

Recent [Denali video](#), in lieu of a BGN fact-finding field trip.

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## News Release

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*Endorsed by President, Interior Secretary Changes Mount McKinley  
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“The citizens of Alaska deserve to have national recognition of the name they favor,” Secretary Jewell said. “Not only has the name Denali been official for use by the State of Alaska since 1975, but the mountain has been known as Denali and held sacred by generations of Alaskans far back into unwritten time. With our own sense of reverence for this place, we are restoring an old name and further recognizing the traditions of Alaska’s native peoples.”

President Obama, Secretary Jewell and other leaders are participating in a meeting of the international [Arctic Council](#) in Anchorage.

The mountain has retained the name “McKinley” even though the 1980 Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act incorporated “McKinley National Park,” into the new larger area named Denali National Park and Preserve. The Alaska Board of Geographic Names calls the mountain “Denali,” while the U.S. Board of Geographic Names, until today, called it “McKinley.”

“Recognizing the long history and debate about the name of this iconic American mountain, the time has come to restore the traditional native Alaskan title ‘Denali’ for this landmark, which holds great significance to the people of Alaska,” said National Park Service Director Jonathan B. Jarvis.

The mountain is virtually in the center of traditional Athabaskan territory. The word “Denali” is an ancient Athabaskan place name. It comes from the Koyukon word *Deenaalee* "the tall one." Athabaskan people have strong ties to their ancestral lands, and they have special reverence for this tallest mountain in the Alaska Range.

Secretary Jewell issued a Secretarial Order to make the name Denali official in accordance with her authority under the 1947 federal law that provides for the standardization of geographic names through the U.S Board on Geographic Names.

Secretary Jewell also announced at the Arctic Council meeting that the mountain’s new precise elevation of 20,xxx feet, calculated by using modern methods of satellite-based surveying technology ([GPS](#)), will become the official elevation. The last official summit survey was conducted in 1953, producing the formerly accepted elevation of 20,320 feet.

“No place draws more public attention to its exact elevation than the highest peak of a continent,” she noted. “Knowing the height of Denali is precisely 20,xxx feet has important value to earth scientists, geographers, mountaineers and the general public. To the mountain-climbing side of me, it is inspiring to think we can measure the limit of this magnificent peak with such accuracy. That’s a feeling everyone can share, whether you happen to be an armchair explorer or an experienced mountaineer,” said Secretary Jewell.

A team of mountaineering and surveying experts from the University of Alaska Fairbanks [Geophysical Institute](#), and [CompassData, Inc.](#) (a specialized imagery company) worked under the direction of the [Department of the Interior’s U.S. Geological Survey](#), NOAA’s [National Geodetic Survey](#) and the [National Park Service](#) to re-measure the height of North America’s mountain.

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In making the announcement Secretary Jewell said, “The citizens of Alaska deserve to have national recognition of the name they favor. Not only has the name Denali been official for use by the State of Alaska since 1975, but the mountain has been known as Denali and held sacred by generations of Alaskans far back into unwritten time. With our own sense of reverence for this place, we are restoring an old name and further recognizing the traditions of Alaska’s native peoples.”

Secretary Jewell’s action was heartily endorsed by President Obama while participating in a meeting of the international Arctic Council in Anchorage,

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A team of mountaineering and surveying experts from the University of Alaska Fairbanks [Geophysical Institute](#), and [CompassData, Inc.](#) (a specialized imagery company) worked under the direction of the [Department of the Interior's U.S. Geological Survey](#), NOAA's [National Geodetic Survey](#) and the [National Park Service](#) to re-measure the height of North America's highest mountain.



OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
**U.S. Department  
of the Interior**

www.doi.gov  
**News Release**

Date: August xx, 2015

Contacts: Jessica Kershaw (Interior), [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)

**DENALI: Old Name, New Elevation  
for ~~Nation's~~ ~~North America's~~ Highest Peak**

*Endorsed by President, Interior Secretary Changes Mount McKinley  
to Native Name at Arctic Meeting*

ANCHORAGE – With the endorsement of President Obama, U.S. Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell announced in Anchorage today that the highest mountain in the United States and North America, formerly known as ~~“Mount McKinley.”~~ will be officially given the local native name of ~~“Denali.”~~ in all federal records. She also announced that the Denali summit has a new, official elevation of 20,xxx feet based on a new survey.

“The citizens of Alaska deserve to have national recognition of the name they favor,” Secretary Jewell said. “Not only has the name Denali been official for use by the State of Alaska since 1975, but the mountain has been known as Denali and held sacred by generations of Alaskans far back into unwritten time. With our own sense of reverence for this place, we are restoring an old name and further recognizing the traditions of Alaska’s native peoples.”

President Obama, Secretary Jewell and other leaders are participating in a meeting of the international [Arctic Council](#) in Anchorage.

~~The mountain has retained the name “McKinley” even though the 1980 Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act incorporated “McKinley National Park.” into the new larger area named Denali National Park and Preserve. The State of Alaska Alaska Board of Geographic Names has called ~~calls~~ the mountain “Denali” since 1975, while the U.S. Board of Geographic Names, until today, specified the name ~~called it~~ “Mount McKinley” for federal publications. The mountain had retained the name Mount McKinley when the 1980 Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act incorporated the former McKinley National Park into the new larger area named Denali National Park and Preserve.~~

“Recognizing the long history and debate about the name of this iconic American mountain, the time has come to restore the traditional native Alaskan title ‘Denali’ for this landmark, which

**Commented [CJC1]:** pushing the national theme in title is more viscerally effective - also shorter. Avoids the whiff of imperialism if someone shouldn't realize that the peak is in US.

**Commented [CJC2]:** Suggest using italics to emphasize differences in first use of the names. Quotations through can be distracting.

**Formatted:** Font: Italic

**Commented [DLV3]:** Suggest has specified the name “Mount McKinley” for federal publications since 1897.

holds great significance to the people of Alaska," said National Park Service Director Jonathan B. Jarvis.

The mountain is virtually in the center of traditional Athabaskan territory. The word <sup>46</sup>Denali<sup>22</sup> is an ancient Athabaskan place name- ~~that stems. It comes~~ from the Koyukon word *Deenaalee* "the tall one." Athabaskan people have strong ties to their ancestral lands, and they have special reverence for this tallest mountain in the Alaska Range.

Secretary Jewell issued a Secretarial Order to make the name Denali official in accordance with her authority under the 1947 federal law that provides for the standardization of geographic names through the U.S Board on Geographic Names.

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## Conversation Contents

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/83. RE: [EXTERNAL] New DOI Draft - Denali Release, quick edits (UNCLASSIFIED)/6.1 Denali TS d0827b.docx

/83. RE: [EXTERNAL] New DOI Draft - Denali Release, quick edits (UNCLASSIFIED)/8.1 Denali TS d0827b (2).docx

/83. RE: [EXTERNAL] New DOI Draft - Denali Release, quick edits (UNCLASSIFIED)/10.1 Denali TS d0827b (MMS Edits).docx

/83. RE: [EXTERNAL] New DOI Draft - Denali Release, quick edits (UNCLASSIFIED)/11.1 McKinley Dickey map.pdf

/83. RE: [EXTERNAL] New DOI Draft - Denali Release, quick edits (UNCLASSIFIED)/11.2 McKinley NY Sun 1897.pdf

**"Caldwell, Douglas R ERDC-GRL-VA"**  
**<Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil>**

---

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<Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil>  
**Sent:** Thu Aug 27 2015 13:55:36 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Campbell, Jon" <joncampbell@usgs.gov>, Louis Yost <lyost@usgs.gov>, Jennifer Runyon <jrunyon@usgs.gov>, Douglas Vandegraft <Douglas.Vandegraft@boem.gov>, "Gilbert, Tony N." <tgilbert@gpo.gov>, Michael Shelton <michael\_shelton@nps.gov>  
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Caveats: NONE

**"Campbell, Jon" <joncampbell@usgs.gov>**

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<Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil>  
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[JLK2] Will make this consistent w/WH fact sheet language.

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Jessica Kershaw  
Senior Adviser & Press Secretary  
U.S. Dept of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
202-208-6416

-----Original Message-----

From: Campbell, Jon [mailto:[joncampbell@usgs.gov](mailto:joncampbell@usgs.gov)]  
Sent: Thursday, August 27, 2015 3:39 PM  
To: Louis Yost; Jennifer Runyon; Caldwell, Douglas R ERDC-GRL-VA; Douglas Vandegraft; Gilbert, Tony N.; Michael Shelton  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] New DOI Draft - Denali Release, quick edits

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703-648-4483 desk  
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<[miranda\\_pham@ios.doi.gov](mailto:miranda_pham@ios.doi.gov)>, Jason Waanders <[jason.waanders@sol.doi.gov](mailto:jason.waanders@sol.doi.gov)>  
Cc: Rachael Johnson <[rachael\\_johnson@ios.doi.gov](mailto:rachael_johnson@ios.doi.gov)>, Joan Moody  
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<[abwade@usgs.gov](mailto:abwade@usgs.gov)>

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Endorsed by President Obama, Secretary Jewell Changes Name of Mount McKinley to Denali

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"This name change recognizes the sacred status of 'Denali' to many Alaska Natives," Secretary Jewell said. "Not only has the name 'Denali' been official for use by the State of Alaska since 1975, but the mountain has been known as 'Denali' by generations of Alaskans. With our own sense of reverence for this place, we are restoring an old name in further recognition of the traditions of Alaska Natives.

The mountain is virtually in the center of traditional Athabaskan territory. The word 'Denali' is an ancient Athabaskan place name. It comes from the Koyukon word 'Deenaalee,' meaning 'the tall one.'

"Recognizing the long history and debate about the name of this iconic American mountain, the time has come to restore the traditional Alaska Native title 'Denali' for this landmark, which holds great significance to the people of Alaska," said National Park Service Director Jonathan B. Jarvis.

Until today, the mountain retained the name 'Mt. McKinley' even though the 1980 Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act incorporated 'McKinley National Park,' into the new larger area named Denali National Park and Preserve. The Alaska Board of Geographic Names calls the mountain 'Denali,' while the U.S. Board of Geographic Names, until today, called it 'McKinley.'

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Senior Adviser & Press Secretary  
U.S. Dept of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
202-208-6416

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED  
Caveats: NONE

---

**"Shelton, Michael" <michael\_shelton@nps.gov>**

---

**From:** "Shelton, Michael" <michael\_shelton@nps.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu Aug 27 2015 14:28:07 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Campbell, Jon" <joncampbell@usgs.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] New DOI Draft - Denali Release, quick edits (UNCLASSIFIED)

Mr. Chairman:

If this is like any other Secretarial Order, then yes, there will be an actual document.

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Of course, Ickes also routinely bugged his employees. And beat his first wife.

/s/ Mike

**Michael M. Shelton**  
**Program Analyst**  
**Office of Policy**  
**National Park Service**  
**Deputy Member, U.S. Board on**  
**Geographic Names**  
**1201 Eye Street NW**

7th Floor / Office 88  
Washington, DC 20005  
(202) 354-3954 (Direct Dial)  
(202) 354-3950 (Gen'l Off. No.)  
(202) 371-5189 (Fax)

"Whatever you do, crush superstition, and love those who love you."  
Voltaire, 1762

On Thu, Aug 27, 2015 at 3:59 PM, Campbell, Jon <[joncampbell@usgs.gov](mailto:joncampbell@usgs.gov)> wrote:  
edits noted.

I don't know about the reality of a Secretarial Order. This is proceeding at a 4th hand distance. Unhappy, but resigned face.

Jon Campbell  
U.S. Geological Survey  
Office of Communications and Publishing  
703-648-4180 | m 571-230-6831  
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On Thu, Aug 27, 2015 at 3:55 PM, Caldwell, Douglas R ERDC-GRL-VA  
<[Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil](mailto:Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil)> wrote:

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED  
Caveats: NONE

Jon,

\*\* RE: [EXTERNAL] New DOI Draft - Denali Release, quick edits \*\*

Hi! Thank you for passing this along. I wasn't sure about the proper way to correct these problems, but the use of quotes around the names Denali and Mount McKinley appear to be very inconsistent ... sometimes nothing, sometimes ', and sometimes " with differences in the same sentence. Hopefully you can straighten this out.

U.S. Board of Geographic Names should be U.S. Board on Geographic Names. End of paragraph 6.

McKinley at end of paragraph 6 should be Mount McKinley.

Finally ... just a question ... will their actually be a Secretarial Order that is a document that we can see? Or is this just a verbal statement?

Keep up the good work!! Thanks!

Doug Caldwell  
Geospatial Research Laboratory  
Engineer Research and Development Center  
US Army Corps of Engineers  
7701 Telegraph Road  
Alexandria, VA 22315-3864

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703-428-3594

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202-208-6416

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED  
Caveats: NONE

**"Caldwell, Douglas R ERDC-GRL-VA"**  
**<Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil>**

---

**From:** "Caldwell, Douglas R ERDC-GRL-VA"  
<Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil>  
**Sent:** Thu Aug 27 2015 14:37:38 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Shelton, Michael" <michael\_shelton@nps.gov>,  
"Campbell, Jon" <joncampbell@usgs.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] New DOI Draft - Denali Release, quick  
edits (UNCLASSIFIED)

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED  
Caveats: NONE

Mike,

\*\* RE: [EXTERNAL] New DOI Draft - Denali Release, quick edits \*\*

Thanks for the information ... Mr. Ickes sounds like a very unusual individual.

This got me curious and apparent his multivolume "secret" diaries are available ... at least some online, as well his biography "Righteous Pilgrim: The Life and Times of Harold L. Ickes, 1874-1952" ... for only a penny in paperback. This might make good beach reading at some point in the future.

Best wishes,

Doug Caldwell  
Geospatial Research Laboratory  
Engineer Research and Development Center  
US Army Corps of Engineers  
7701 Telegraph Road  
Alexandria, VA 22315-3864

Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil  
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-----Original Message-----

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/s/ Mike

Michael M. Shelton  
Program Analyst

Office of Policy  
National Park Service  
Deputy Member, U.S. Board on  
Geographic Names  
1201 Eye Street NW  
7th Floor / Office 88  
Washington, DC 20005  
(202) 354-3954 (Direct Dial)  
(202) 354-3950 (Gen'l Off. No.)  
(202) 371-5189 (Fax)

"Whatever you do, crush superstition, and love those who love you."  
Voltaire, 1762

On Thu, Aug 27, 2015 at 3:59 PM, Campbell, Jon <joncampbell@usgs.gov> wrote:

edits noted.

I don't know about the reality of a Secretarial Order. This is proceeding at a 4th hand distance. Unhappy, but resigned face.

Jon Campbell  
U.S. Geological Survey  
Office of Communications and Publishing  
703-648-4180 | m 571-230-6831  
joncampbell@usgs.gov

On Thu, Aug 27, 2015 at 3:55 PM, Caldwell, Douglas R ERDC-GRL-VA  
<Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil> wrote:

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED  
Caveats: NONE

Jon,

**\*\* RE: [EXTERNAL] New DOI Draft - Denali Release, quick edits \*\***

Hi! Thank you for passing this along. I wasn't sure about the proper way to correct these problems, but the use of quotes around the names Denali and Mount McKinley appear to be very inconsistent ... sometimes nothing, sometimes ', and sometimes " with differences in the same sentence. Hopefully you can straighten this out.

U.S. Board of Geographic Names should be U.S. Board on Geographic Names.  
End of paragraph 6.

McKinley at end of paragraph 6 should be Mount McKinley.

Finally ... just a question ... will their actually be a Secretarial Order that is a document that we can see? Or is this just a verbal statement?

Keep up the good work!! Thanks!

Doug Caldwell  
Geospatial Research Laboratory  
Engineer Research and Development Center  
US Army Corps of Engineers  
7701 Telegraph Road  
Alexandria, VA 22315-3864

Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil  
703-428-3594

-----Original Message-----

From: Campbell, Jon [mailto:joncampbell@usgs.gov]  
Sent: Thursday, August 27, 2015 3:39 PM  
To: Louis Yost; Jennifer Runyon; Caldwell, Douglas R ERDC-GRL-VA; Douglas Vandegraff; Gilbert, Tony N.; Michael Shelton  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] New DOI Draft - Denali Release, quick edits

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wrote:

Have at it!

A.B. Wade

USGS <Blockedhttp://usgs.gov> Press Officer



703-648-4483 desk  
703-317-7871 mobile

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From: Kershaw, Jessica <jessica\_kershaw@ios.doi.gov>

Date: Thu, Aug 27, 2015 at 3:15 PM

Subject: Initial Draft Denali Release - Sending to a small group first; then larger around 6p ET

To: Nikki Buffa <nicole\_buffa@ios.doi.gov>, Kate Kelly <kate\_kelly@ios.doi.gov>, Blake Androff <blake\_androff@ios.doi.gov>, Sarah Harris <sarah.harris@bia.gov>, Sarah Walters <sarah\_walters@ios.doi.gov>, Bret Birdsong <bret.birdsong@sol.doi.gov>, John Quinley <john\_quinley@nps.gov>, Maureen Foster <maureen\_foster@nps.gov>, Michael Johnson <michael\_johnson@ios.doi.gov>, Jeremy Bratt <jeremy\_bratt@ios.doi.gov>, Maria Najera <maria\_najera@ios.doi.gov>, Karen Hyun <karen\_hyun@ios.doi.gov>, Miranda Pham <miranda\_pham@ios.doi.gov>, Jason Waanders <jason.waanders@sol.doi.gov>

Cc: Rachael Johnson <rachael\_johnson@ios.doi.gov>, Joan Moody <joan\_moody@ios.doi.gov>, April Slayton <april\_slayton@nps.gov>, Anne-Berry Wade <abwade@usgs.gov>

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Secretary Jewell Announces North America's Highest Peak Will Now Bear Native Name

Endorsed by President Obama, Secretary Jewell Changes Name of Mount McKinley to Denali

ANCHORAGE, AK – In recognition of the continued strong support from Alaskan state, congressional and local leaders, as well as 40 years' worth of requests for a name change, U.S. Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell, today announced that the highest mountain in North America, formerly known as "Mount McKinley," will be officially given the local native name of 'Denali.'

President Obama endorsed the name change and directed Jewell to take the action to rename Mount McKinley as Denali under authority granted to her by Congress.[JLK1]

“This name change recognizes the sacred status of ‘Denali’ to many Alaska Natives,” Secretary Jewell said. “Not only has the name ‘Denali’ been official for use by the State of Alaska since 1975, but the mountain has been known as ‘Denali’ by generations of Alaskans. With our own sense of reverence for this place, we are restoring an old name in further recognition of the traditions of Alaska Natives.

The mountain is virtually in the center of traditional Athabaskan territory. The word ‘Denali’ is an ancient Athabaskan place name. It comes from the Koyukon word ‘Deenaalee,’ meaning ‘the tall one.’

“Recognizing the long history and debate about the name of this iconic American mountain, the time has come to restore the traditional Alaska Native title ‘Denali’ for this landmark, which holds great significance to the people of Alaska,” said National Park Service Director Jonathan B. Jarvis.

Until today, the mountain retained the name ‘Mt. McKinley’ even though the 1980 Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act incorporated ‘McKinley National Park,’ into the new larger area named Denali National Park and Preserve. The Alaska Board of Geographic Names calls the mountain ‘Denali,’ while the U.S. Board of Geographic Names, until today, called it ‘McKinley.’

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McKinley became our 25th President, and was tragically assassinated just six months into his second term. He never set foot in Alaska – and for centuries, the mountain that rises some 20,000 feet above sea level, the tallest on the North American continent, had been known by another name – ‘Denali.’[JLK2]

On March 11, 1975, Governor Jay S. Hammond of Alaska requested the Secretary of the Interior to direct the U.S. Board on Geographic Names (Board) to officially designate Mount McKinley in Alaska as ‘Denali.’ This proposal, never withdrawn, is based on a Resolution that was passed by the Alaska State Legislature. Since 1977, the Board, in deference to potential congressional action, has not considered the case for changing the federally recognized geographic name from Mount McKinley to Denali.

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Jessica Kershaw  
Senior Adviser & Press Secretary  
U.S. Dept of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
202-208-6416

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Senior Adviser & Press Secretary  
U.S. Dept of the Interior  
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202-208-6416

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED  
Caveats: NONE

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Caveats: NONE

**"Shelton, Michael" <michael\_shelton@nps.gov>**

---

**From:** "Shelton, Michael" <michael\_shelton@nps.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu Aug 27 2015 14:59:52 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Caldwell, Douglas R ERDC-GRL-VA"  
<Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] New DOI Draft - Denali Release, quick edits (UNCLASSIFIED)

Mr. Chairman:

It's my understanding that (1) President Truman heartily despised Ickes--who routinely condescended to Truman when he was merely a Senator and then Vice President, and (2) that feeling contributed greatly to the President's signing Pub. L. 80-242, which established the BGN in its present form.

/s/ Mike

**Michael M. Shelton**  
Program Analyst  
Office of Policy  
National Park Service  
Deputy Member, U.S. Board on  
Geographic Names  
1201 Eye Street NW  
7th Floor / Office 88  
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<[Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil](mailto:Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil)> wrote:

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Caveats: NONE

Mike,

\*\* RE: [EXTERNAL] New DOI Draft - Denali Release, quick edits \*\*

Thanks for the information ... Mr. Ickes sounds like a very unusual individual.

This got me curious and apparent his multivolume "secret" diaries are available ... at least some online, as well his biography "Righteous Pilgrim: The Life and Times of

Harold L. Ickes, 1874-1952" ... for only a penny in paperback. This might make good beach reading at some point in the future.

Best wishes,

Doug Caldwell  
Geospatial Research Laboratory  
Engineer Research and Development Center  
US Army Corps of Engineers  
7701 Telegraph Road  
Alexandria, VA 22315-3864

[Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil](mailto:Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil)

703-428-3594

-----Original Message-----

From: Shelton, Michael [mailto:[michael\\_shelton@nps.gov](mailto:michael_shelton@nps.gov)]

Sent: Thursday, August 27, 2015 4:28 PM

To: Campbell, Jon

Cc: Caldwell, Douglas R ERDC-GRL-VA; Louis Yost; Jennifer Runyon; Douglas Vandegrift; Gilbert, Tony N.

Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] New DOI Draft - Denali Release, quick edits (UNCLASSIFIED)

Mr. Chairman:

If this is like any other Secretarial Order, then yes, there will be an actual document.

Interestingly, Secretary Ickes issued Orders for all employee leave, as he insisted on approving it. If you go to the Interior Library, you'll see Orders that read something like "Employee John Doe is excused from work for two hours on September 18, 1936, beginning at 3:00 o'clock, in order to attend the funeral of his late father. /s/ Harold L. Ickes."

Of course, Ickes also routinely bugged his employees. And beat his first wife.

/s/ Mike

Michael M. Shelton  
Program Analyst  
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USGS <Blockedhttp://[usgs.gov](http://usgs.gov)> Press Officer  
703-648-4483 desk  
703-317-7871 mobile

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

From: Kershaw, Jessica <[jessica\\_kershaw@ios.doi.gov](mailto:jessica_kershaw@ios.doi.gov)>

Date: Thu, Aug 27, 2015 at 3:15 PM

Subject: Initial Draft Denali Release - Sending to a small group first;  
then larger around 6p ET

To: Nikki Buffa <[nicole\\_buffa@ios.doi.gov](mailto:nicole_buffa@ios.doi.gov)>, Kate Kelly  
<[kate\\_kelly@ios.doi.gov](mailto:kate_kelly@ios.doi.gov)>, Blake Androff <[blake\\_androff@ios.doi.gov](mailto:blake_androff@ios.doi.gov)>, Sarah Harris  
<[sarah.harris@bia.gov](mailto:sarah.harris@bia.gov)>, Sarah Walters <[sarah\\_walters@ios.doi.gov](mailto:sarah_walters@ios.doi.gov)>, Bret Birdsong  
<[bret.birdsong@sol.doi.gov](mailto:bret.birdsong@sol.doi.gov)>, John Quinley <[john\\_quinley@nps.gov](mailto:john_quinley@nps.gov)>, Maureen Foster  
<[maureen\\_foster@nps.gov](mailto:maureen_foster@nps.gov)>, Michael Johnson <[michael\\_johnson@ios.doi.gov](mailto:michael_johnson@ios.doi.gov)>,  
Jeremy Bratt <[jeremy\\_bratt@ios.doi.gov](mailto:jeremy_bratt@ios.doi.gov)>, Maria Najera <[maria\\_najera@ios.doi.gov](mailto:maria_najera@ios.doi.gov)>,  
Karen Hyun <[karen\\_hyun@ios.doi.gov](mailto:karen_hyun@ios.doi.gov)>, Miranda Pham  
<[miranda\\_pham@ios.doi.gov](mailto:miranda_pham@ios.doi.gov)>, Jason Waanders <[jason.waanders@sol.doi.gov](mailto:jason.waanders@sol.doi.gov)>

Cc: Rachael Johnson <[rachael\\_johnson@ios.doi.gov](mailto:rachael_johnson@ios.doi.gov)>, Joan Moody  
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Please take a look at the Denali release below and let me know if you  
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Thank you,  
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Secretary Jewell Announces North America's Highest Peak Will Now  
Bear Native Name

Endorsed by President Obama, Secretary Jewell Changes Name of  
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the highest mountain in North America, formerly known as "Mount McKinley," will be  
officially given the local native name of 'Denali.'

President Obama endorsed the name change and directed Jewell to take the action to rename Mount McKinley as Denali under authority granted to her by Congress.[JLK1]

“This name change recognizes the sacred status of ‘Denali’ to many Alaska Natives,” Secretary Jewell said. “Not only has the name ‘Denali’ been official for use by the State of Alaska since 1975, but the mountain has been known as ‘Denali’ by generations of Alaskans. With our own sense of reverence for this place, we are restoring an old name in further recognition of the traditions of Alaska Natives.

The mountain is virtually in the center of traditional Athabaskan territory. The word ‘Denali’ is an ancient Athabaskan place name. It comes from the Koyukon word ‘Deenaalee,’ meaning ‘the tall one.’

“Recognizing the long history and debate about the name of this iconic American mountain, the time has come to restore the traditional Alaska Native title ‘Denali’ for this landmark, which holds great significance to the people of Alaska,” said National Park Service Director Jonathan B. Jarvis.

Until today, the mountain retained the name ‘Mt. McKinley’ even though the 1980 Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act incorporated ‘McKinley National Park,’ into the new larger area named Denali National Park and Preserve. The Alaska Board of Geographic Names calls the mountain ‘Denali,’ while the U.S. Board of Geographic Names, until today, called it ‘McKinley.’

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[JLK2]Will make this consistent w/WH fact sheet language.

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Jessica Kershaw  
Senior Adviser & Press Secretary  
U.S. Dept of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
202-208-6416

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED  
Caveats: NONE

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED  
Caveats: NONE



**"Campbell, Jon" <joncampbell@usgs.gov>**

---

**From:** "Campbell, Jon" <joncampbell@usgs.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu Aug 27 2015 17:02:47 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Shelton, Michael" <michael\_shelton@nps.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] New DOI Draft - Denali Release, quick edits (UNCLASSIFIED)  
**Attachments:** Denali TS d0827b.docx

Sorry to ask again for comments. I'm sure there is well warranted review fatigue.

Attached is a draft for the USGS Top Story, a feature article to appear on the USGS homepage Mon. morning. It's designed to provide further background to the DOI press release. After a week or so, the TS will be archived but still readily available. [Past example.](#)

Looking for brief quotes from Doug V. and Doug C. to add some color to text. Lou, too, if he'd like. (Not a requirement. We can play by ear tomorrow.)

Thanks.

Jon Campbell  
U.S. Geological Survey  
Office of Communications and Publishing  
703-648-4180 | m 571-230-6831  
[joncampbell@usgs.gov](mailto:joncampbell@usgs.gov)

On Thu, Aug 27, 2015 at 4:28 PM, Shelton, Michael <[michael\\_shelton@nps.gov](mailto:michael_shelton@nps.gov)> wrote:  
Mr. Chairman:

If this is like any other Secretarial Order, then yes, there will be an actual document.

Interestingly, Secretary Ickes issued Orders for all employee leave, as he insisted on approving it. If you go to the Interior Library, you'll see Orders that read something like "Employee John Doe is excused from work for two hours on September 18, 1936, beginning at 3:00 o'clock, in order to attend the funeral of his late father. /s/ Harold L. Ickes."

Of course, Ickes also routinely bugged his employees. And beat his first wife.

/s/ Mike

**Michael M. Shelton**  
Program Analyst  
Office of Policy  
National Park Service  
Deputy Member, U.S. Board on  
Geographic Names  
1201 Eye Street NW  
7th Floor / Office 88  
Washington, DC 20005

(202) 354-3954 (Direct Dial)  
(202) 354-3950 (Gen'l Off. No.)  
(202) 371-5189 (Fax)

"Whatever you do, crush superstition, and love those who love you."  
Voltaire, 1762

On Thu, Aug 27, 2015 at 3:59 PM, Campbell, Jon <[joncampbell@usgs.gov](mailto:joncampbell@usgs.gov)> wrote:  
edits noted.

I don't know about the reality of a Secretarial Order. This is proceeding at a 4th hand distance. Unhappy, but resigned face.

Jon Campbell  
U.S. Geological Survey  
Office of Communications and Publishing  
703-648-4180 | m 571-230-6831  
[joncampbell@usgs.gov](mailto:joncampbell@usgs.gov)

On Thu, Aug 27, 2015 at 3:55 PM, Caldwell, Douglas R ERDC-GRL-VA  
<[Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil](mailto:Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil)> wrote:

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED  
Caveats: NONE

Jon,

\*\* RE: [EXTERNAL] New DOI Draft - Denali Release, quick edits \*\*

Hi! Thank you for passing this along. I wasn't sure about the proper way to correct these problems, but the use of quotes around the names Denali and Mount McKinley appear to be very inconsistent ... sometimes nothing, sometimes ', and sometimes " with differences in the same sentence. Hopefully you can straighten this out.

U.S. Board of Geographic Names should be U.S. Board on Geographic Names.  
End of paragraph 6.

McKinley at end of paragraph 6 should be Mount McKinley.

Finally ... just a question ... will their actually be a Secretarial Order that is a document that we can see? Or is this just a verbal statement?

Keep up the good work!! Thanks!

Doug Caldwell  
Geospatial Research Laboratory  
Engineer Research and Development Center  
US Army Corps of Engineers  
7701 Telegraph Road  
Alexandria, VA 22315-3864

[Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil](mailto:Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil)

703-428-3594

-----Original Message-----

From: Campbell, Jon [mailto:[joncampbell@usgs.gov](mailto:joncampbell@usgs.gov)]

Sent: Thursday, August 27, 2015 3:39 PM

To: Louis Yost; Jennifer Runyon; Caldwell, Douglas R ERDC-GRL-VA; Douglas Vandegraft; Gilbert, Tony N.; Michael Shelton

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JK

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202-208-6416

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED  
Caveats: NONE

---

**"Vandegrift, Douglas" <douglas.vandegrift@boem.gov>**

**From:** "Vandegrift, Douglas" <douglas.vandegrift@boem.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri Aug 28 2015 06:34:48 GMT-0600 (MDT)

**To:** "Campbell, Jon" <joncampbell@usgs.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] New DOI Draft - Denali Release, quick edits (UNCLASSIFIED)

Happy Friday!

Here is my quote:

*I will never forget the first time I saw Denali. I had been told that on a clear day you could see it from the city, even though it is over 100 miles away. I stepped out of my house one August morning and there it was: a massive mound of white on the horizon, so obviously taller than anything else around it. I stood and stared and said "wow." It truly is 'the high one.'*

Doug Vandegraft, who lived in Anchorage from 1983 – 2000 and is the current Chairman of the Domestic Names Committee, BGN.

The Top Story document looks good to me. No further comments or edits.

On the subject of Sec. Harold Ickes: I have read the ***Righteous Pilgrim*** book. Ickes repeatedly tried to resign his positions (he was not only SOI, but also the Commissioner of the Petroleum Administration for War, among other duties). Every time, FDR would write back "Resignation denied."

Doug

Chief, Mapping & Boundary Branch

Leasing Division, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management

(703) 787-1312

45600 Woodland Road, VAM-LD

Sterling, VA 20166

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/s/ Mike

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**Program Analyst**  
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**Deputy Member, U.S. Board on**  
**Geographic Names**  
**1201 Eye Street NW**  
**7th Floor / Office 88**  
**Washington, DC 20005**  
**(202) 354-3954 (Direct Dial)**  
**(202) 354-3950 (Gen'l Off. No.)**  
**(202) 371-5189 (Fax)**

"Whatever you do, crush superstition, and love those who love you."  
Voltaire, 1762

On Thu, Aug 27, 2015 at 3:59 PM, Campbell, Jon <[joncampbell@usgs.gov](mailto:joncampbell@usgs.gov)> wrote:  
edits noted.

I don't know about the reality of a Secretarial Order. This is proceeding at a 4th hand distance. Unhappy, but resigned face.

Jon Campbell  
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<[Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil](mailto:Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil)> wrote:

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Caveats: NONE

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Keep up the good work!! Thanks!

Doug Caldwell  
Geospatial Research Laboratory  
Engineer Research and Development Center  
US Army Corps of Engineers  
7701 Telegraph Road  
Alexandria, VA 22315-3864

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703-428-3594

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U.S. Dept of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
202-208-6416

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Senior Adviser & Press Secretary  
U.S. Dept of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
202-208-6416

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED  
Caveats: NONE

## **"Gilbert, Tony N." <tgilbert@gpo.gov>**

---

**From:** "Gilbert, Tony N." <tgilbert@gpo.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri Aug 28 2015 06:55:15 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Campbell, Jon" <joncampbell@usgs.gov>, "Shelton, Michael" <michael\_shelton@nps.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] New DOI Draft - Denali Release, quick edits (UNCLASSIFIED)  
**Attachments:** Denali TS d0827b (2).docx

I deleted the period before the Karstens parenthetical reference.

**Tony Gilbert** | *CFR Coordinator; GPO Style Board; Vice Chair, U.S. Board on Geographic Names* |  
ph 202.512.0652

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[www.gpo.gov](http://www.gpo.gov) | [facebook.com/USGPO](https://facebook.com/USGPO) | [twitter.com/usgpo](https://twitter.com/usgpo)

**From:** Campbell, Jon [mailto:[joncampbell@usgs.gov](mailto:joncampbell@usgs.gov)]

**Sent:** Thursday, August 27, 2015 7:03 PM

**To:** Shelton, Michael

**Cc:** Caldwell, Douglas R ERDC-GRL-VA; Louis Yost; Jennifer Runyon; Douglas Vandegraft; Gilbert, Tony N.

**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] New DOI Draft - Denali Release, quick edits (UNCLASSIFIED)

Sorry to ask again for comments. I'm sure there is well warranted review fatigue.

Attached is a draft for the USGS Top Story, a feature article to appear on the USGS homepage Mon. morning. It's designed to provide further background to the DOI press release. After a week or so, the TS will be archived but still readily available. [Past example.](#)

Looking for brief quotes from Doug V. and Doug C. to add some color to text. Lou, too, if he'd like. (Not a requirement. We can play by ear tomorrow.)

Thanks.

Jon Campbell

U.S. Geological Survey

Office of Communications and Publishing

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[joncampbell@usgs.gov](mailto:joncampbell@usgs.gov)

On Thu, Aug 27, 2015 at 4:28 PM, Shelton, Michael <[michael\\_shelton@nps.gov](mailto:michael_shelton@nps.gov)> wrote:

Mr. Chairman:

If this is like any other Secretarial Order, then yes, there will be an actual document.

Interestingly, Secretary Ickes issued Orders for all employee leave, as he insisted on approving it. If you go to the Interior Library, you'll see Orders that read something like "Employee John Doe is excused from work for two hours on September 18, 1936, beginning at 3:00 o'clock, in order to attend the funeral of his late father. /s/ Harold L.

Ickes."

Of course, Ickes also routinely bugged his employees. And beat his first wife.

/s/ Mike

**Michael M. Shelton**  
**Program Analyst**  
**Office of Policy**  
**National Park Service**  
**Deputy Member, U.S. Board on**  
**Geographic Names**  
**1201 Eye Street NW**  
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[JLK2]Will make this consistent w/WH fact sheet language.

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Jessica Kershaw  
Senior Adviser & Press Secretary  
U.S. Dept of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
202-208-6416

-----Original Message-----

From: Campbell, Jon [mailto:[joncampbell@usgs.gov](mailto:joncampbell@usgs.gov)]

Sent: Thursday, August 27, 2015 3:39 PM

To: Louis Yost; Jennifer Runyon; Caldwell, Douglas R ERDC-GRL-VA; Douglas Vandegraft; Gilbert, Tony N.; Michael Shelton

Subject: [EXTERNAL] New DOI Draft - Denali Release, quick edits

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Your comments before 4:30, please. Sorry.

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703-648-4180 | m 571-230-6831  
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Have at it!

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USGS <Blocked<http://usgs.gov>> Press Officer  
703-648-4483 desk  
703-317-7871 mobile

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From: Kershaw, Jessica <[jessica\\_kershaw@ios.doi.gov](mailto:jessica_kershaw@ios.doi.gov)>

Date: Thu, Aug 27, 2015 at 3:15 PM

Subject: Initial Draft Denali Release - Sending to a small group first; then larger around 6p ET

To: Nikki Buffa <[nicole\\_buffa@ios.doi.gov](mailto:nicole_buffa@ios.doi.gov)>, Kate Kelly <[kate\\_kelly@ios.doi.gov](mailto:kate_kelly@ios.doi.gov)>, Blake Androff <[blake\\_androff@ios.doi.gov](mailto:blake_androff@ios.doi.gov)>, Sarah Harris <[sarah.harris@bia.gov](mailto:sarah.harris@bia.gov)>, Sarah Walters <[sarah\\_walters@ios.doi.gov](mailto:sarah_walters@ios.doi.gov)>, Bret Birdsong <[bret.birdsong@sol.doi.gov](mailto:bret.birdsong@sol.doi.gov)>, John Quinley <[john\\_quinley@nps.gov](mailto:john_quinley@nps.gov)>, Maureen Foster <[maureen\\_foster@nps.gov](mailto:maureen_foster@nps.gov)>, Michael Johnson <[michael\\_johnson@ios.doi.gov](mailto:michael_johnson@ios.doi.gov)>, Jeremy Bratt <[jeremy\\_bratt@ios.doi.gov](mailto:jeremy_bratt@ios.doi.gov)>, Maria Najera <[maria\\_najera@ios.doi.gov](mailto:maria_najera@ios.doi.gov)>, Karen Hyun <[karen\\_hyun@ios.doi.gov](mailto:karen_hyun@ios.doi.gov)>, Miranda Pham <[miranda\\_pham@ios.doi.gov](mailto:miranda_pham@ios.doi.gov)>, Jason Waanders <[jason.waanders@sol.doi.gov](mailto:jason.waanders@sol.doi.gov)>

Cc: Rachael Johnson <[rachael\\_johnson@ios.doi.gov](mailto:rachael_johnson@ios.doi.gov)>, Joan Moody <[joan\\_moody@ios.doi.gov](mailto:joan_moody@ios.doi.gov)>, April Slayton <[april\\_slayton@nps.gov](mailto:april_slayton@nps.gov)>, Anne-Berry Wade <[abwade@usgs.gov](mailto:abwade@usgs.gov)>

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Endorsed by President Obama, Secretary Jewell Changes Name of Mount McKinley to Denali

ANCHORAGE, AK – In recognition of the continued strong support from Alaskan state, congressional and local leaders, as well as 40 years' worth of requests for a name change, U.S. Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell, today announced that the highest mountain in North America, formerly known as "Mount McKinley," will be officially given the local native name of 'Denali.'

President Obama endorsed the name change and directed Jewell to take the action to rename Mount McKinley as Denali under authority granted to her by Congress.[JLK1]

"This name change recognizes the sacred status of 'Denali' to many Alaska Natives," Secretary Jewell said. "Not only has the name 'Denali' been official for use by the State of Alaska since 1975, but the mountain has been known as 'Denali' by generations of Alaskans. With our own sense of reverence for this place, we are restoring an old name in further recognition of the traditions of Alaska Natives.

The mountain is virtually in the center of traditional Athabaskan territory. The word 'Denali' is an ancient Athabaskan place name. It comes from the Koyukon word 'Deenaalee,' meaning 'the tall one.'

"Recognizing the long history and debate about the name of this iconic American mountain, the time has come to restore the traditional Alaska Native title 'Denali' for this landmark, which holds great significance to the people of Alaska," said National Park Service Director Jonathan B. Jarvis.

Until today, the mountain retained the name 'Mt. McKinley' even though the 1980 Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act incorporated 'McKinley National Park,' into the new larger area named Denali National Park and Preserve. The Alaska Board of Geographic Names calls the mountain 'Denali,' while the U.S. Board of Geographic Names, until today, called it 'McKinley.'

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Senior Adviser & Press Secretary  
U.S. Dept of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
202-208-6416

Caveats: NONE

**"Caldwell, Douglas R ERDC-GRL-VA"**  
**<Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil>**

---

**From:** "Caldwell, Douglas R ERDC-GRL-VA"  
<Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil>  
**Sent:** Fri Aug 28 2015 07:27:27 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Campbell, Jon" <joncampbell@usgs.gov>, "Shelton,  
Michael" <michael\_shelton@nps.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] New DOI Draft - Denali Release, quick  
edits (UNCLASSIFIED)

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED  
Caveats: NONE

Jon,

\*\* RE: [EXTERNAL] New DOI Draft - Denali Release, quick edits \*\*

Hi! I loved Doug's quote ... mine is not so personal or quotable and Lou may wish to revise or replace. Feel free to edit.

-----  
The 38-year impasse between the BGN and Congress was unique in BGN history, a situation that was not anticipated when the policy was adopted.  
-----

Hopefully this is fairly neutral, doesn't involve the SOI's decision or relationship to the BGN, and leads into the next section.

Thank you for all your work on this ... you must be exhausted!

Best wishes,

Doug Caldwell  
Geospatial Research Laboratory  
Engineer Research and Development Center  
US Army Corps of Engineers  
7701 Telegraph Road  
Alexandria, VA 22315-3864

Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil  
703-428-3594

-----Original Message-----

From: Campbell, Jon [mailto:joncampbell@usgs.gov]

Sent: Thursday, August 27, 2015 7:03 PM

To: Shelton, Michael

Cc: Caldwell, Douglas R ERDC-GRL-VA; Louis Yost; Jennifer Runyon; Douglas Vandegraff; Gilbert, Tony N.

Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] New DOI Draft - Denali Release, quick edits (UNCLASSIFIED)

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Looking for brief quotes from Doug V. and Doug C. to add some color to text. Lou, too, if he'd like. (Not a requirement. We can play by ear tomorrow.)

Thanks.

Jon Campbell  
U.S. Geological Survey  
Office of Communications and Publishing  
703-648-4180 | m 571-230-6831  
joncampbell@usgs.gov

On Thu, Aug 27, 2015 at 4:28 PM, Shelton, Michael <michael\_shelton@nps.gov> wrote:

Mr. Chairman:

If this is like any other Secretarial Order, then yes, there will be an actual document.

Interestingly, Secretary Ickes issued Orders for all employee leave, as he insisted on approving it. If you go to the Interior Library, you'll see Orders that read something like "Employee John Doe is excused from work for two hours on September 18, 1936, beginning at 3:00 o'clock, in order to attend the funeral of his late father. /s/ Harold L. Ickes."

Of course, Ickes also routinely bugged his employees. And beat his first wife.

/s/ Mike

Michael M. Shelton  
Program Analyst  
Office of Policy  
National Park Service  
Deputy Member, U.S. Board on  
Geographic Names  
1201 Eye Street NW  
7th Floor / Office 88  
Washington, DC 20005  
(202) 354-3954 (Direct Dial)  
(202) 354-3950 (Gen'l Off. No.)  
(202) 371-5189 (Fax)

"Whatever you do, crush superstition, and love those who love you."  
Voltaire, 1762

On Thu, Aug 27, 2015 at 3:59 PM, Campbell, Jon <joncampbell@usgs.gov> wrote:

edits noted.

I don't know about the reality of a Secretarial Order. This is proceeding at a 4th hand distance. Unhappy, but resigned face.

Jon Campbell  
U.S. Geological Survey  
Office of Communications and Publishing  
703-648-4180 | m 571-230-6831  
joncampbell@usgs.gov

On Thu, Aug 27, 2015 at 3:55 PM, Caldwell, Douglas R ERDC-GRL-VA  
<Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil> wrote:

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED  
Caveats: NONE

Jon,

**\*\* RE: [EXTERNAL] New DOI Draft - Denali Release, quick edits \*\***

Hi! Thank you for passing this along. I wasn't sure about the proper way to correct these problems, but the use of quotes around the names Denali and Mount McKinley appear to be very inconsistent ... sometimes nothing, sometimes ', and sometimes " with differences in the same sentence. Hopefully you can straighten this out.

U.S. Board of Geographic Names should be U.S. Board on Geographic Names. End of paragraph 6.

McKinley at end of paragraph 6 should be Mount McKinley.

Finally ... just a question ... will their actually be a Secretarial Order that is a document that we can see? Or is this just a verbal statement?

Keep up the good work!! Thanks!

Doug Caldwell  
Geospatial Research Laboratory  
Engineer Research and Development Center  
US Army Corps of Engineers  
7701 Telegraph Road  
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Date: Thu, Aug 27, 2015 at 3:15 PM

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<sarah.harris@bia.gov>, Sarah Walters <sarah\_walters@ios.doi.gov>, Bret Birdsong  
<bret.birdsong@sol.doi.gov>, John Quinley <john\_quinley@nps.gov>, Maureen Foster  
<maureen\_foster@nps.gov>, Michael Johnson <michael\_johnson@ios.doi.gov>, Jeremy  
Bratt <jeremy\_bratt@ios.doi.gov>, Maria Najera <maria\_najera@ios.doi.gov>, Karen  
Hyun <karen\_hyun@ios.doi.gov>, Miranda Pham <miranda\_pham@ios.doi.gov>, Jason  
Waanders <jason.waanders@sol.doi.gov>

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**"Shelton, Michael" <michael\_shelton@nps.gov>**

---

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**Sent:** Fri Aug 28 2015 07:59:47 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Campbell, Jon" <joncampbell@usgs.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] New DOI Draft - Denali Release, quick edits (UNCLASSIFIED)  
**Attachments:** Denali TS d0827b (MMS Edits).docx

Morning, Jon

My suggested edits/emendations are shown on the attached.

Thanks!

/s/ Mike

**Michael M. Shelton**  
**Program Analyst**  
**Office of Policy**  
**National Park Service**  
**Deputy Member, U.S. Board on**  
**Geographic Names**  
**1201 Eye Street NW**  
**7th Floor / Office 88**  
**Washington, DC 20005**  
**(202) 354-3954 (Direct Dial)**  
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Interestingly, Secretary Ickes issued Orders for all employee leave, as he insisted on approving it. If you go to the Interior Library, you'll see Orders that read something like "Employee John Doe is excused from work for two hours on September 18, 1936, beginning at 3:00 o'clock, in order to attend the funeral of his late father. /s/ Harold L. Ickes."

Of course, Ickes also routinely bugged his employees. And beat his first wife.

/s/ Mike

**Michael M. Shelton**  
**Program Analyst**  
**Office of Policy**  
**National Park Service**  
**Deputy Member, U.S. Board on**  
**Geographic Names**  
**1201 Eye Street NW**  
**7th Floor / Office 88**  
**Washington, DC 20005**  
**(202) 354-3954 (Direct Dial)**  
**(202) 354-3950 (Gen'l Off. No.)**  
**(202) 371-5189 (Fax)**

"Whatever you do, crush superstition, and love those who love you."

Voltaire, 1762

On Thu, Aug 27, 2015 at 3:59 PM, Campbell, Jon <[ioncampbell@usgs.gov](mailto:ioncampbell@usgs.gov)> wrote:  
edits noted.

I don't know about the reality of a Secretarial Order. This is proceeding at a 4th hand distance. Unhappy, but resigned face.



Jon Campbell  
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703-648-4180 | m 571-230-6831  
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Caveats: NONE

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\*\* RE: [EXTERNAL] New DOI Draft - Denali Release, quick edits \*\*

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U.S. Board of Geographic Names should be U.S. Board on Geographic Names.  
End of paragraph 6.

McKinley at end of paragraph 6 should be Mount McKinley.

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Keep up the good work!! Thanks!

Doug Caldwell  
Geospatial Research Laboratory  
Engineer Research and Development Center  
US Army Corps of Engineers  
7701 Telegraph Road  
Alexandria, VA 22315-3864

[Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil](mailto:Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil)  
703-428-3594

-----Original Message-----

From: Campbell, Jon [mailto:[joncampbell@usgs.gov](mailto:joncampbell@usgs.gov)]

Sent: Thursday, August 27, 2015 3:39 PM

To: Louis Yost; Jennifer Runyon; Caldwell, Douglas R ERDC-GRL-VA; Douglas Vandegraft; Gilbert, Tony N.; Michael Shelton

Subject: [EXTERNAL] New DOI Draft - Denali Release, quick edits

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703-648-4483 desk  
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Endorsed by President Obama, Secretary Jewell Changes Name of Mount McKinley to Denali

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"Recognizing the long history and debate about the name of this iconic American mountain, the time has come to restore the traditional Alaska Native title 'Denali' for this landmark, which holds great significance to the people of Alaska," said National Park Service Director Jonathan B. Jarvis.

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On March 11, 1975, Governor Jay S. Hammond of Alaska requested the Secretary of the Interior to direct the U.S. Board on Geographic Names (Board) to officially designate Mount McKinley in Alaska as 'Denali.' This proposal, never withdrawn, is based on a Resolution that was passed by the Alaska State Legislature. Since 1977, the Board, in deference to potential congressional action, has not considered the case for changing the federally recognized geographic name from Mount McKinley to Denali.

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Jessica Kershaw

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Senior Adviser & Press Secretary  
U.S. Dept of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
202-208-6416

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED  
Caveats: NONE

---

**"Yost, Louis" <lyost@usgs.gov>**

---

**From:** "Yost, Louis" <lyost@usgs.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri Aug 28 2015 08:10:07 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Campbell, Jon" <joncampbell@usgs.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] New DOI Draft - Denali Release, quick edits (UNCLASSIFIED)  
**Attachments:** McKinley Dickey map.pdf McKinley NY Sun 1897.pdf

Jon,

Very nice! Two comments though, I don't know if the first one matters, but Sally's quote is



slightly different than it is in the DOI release hyperlinked above it -

“The citizens of the Alaska deserve to have national recognition of the name they favor. Not only has the name Denali been official in Alaska since 1975, but the mountain has been known as Denali and held sacred by generations of Alaskans far back into unwritten time,” Secretary Jewell said. “With our own sense of reverence for this place, we are restoring an old name and further recognizing the ancient traditions of Alaska’s native peoples.”

VS

“This name change recognizes the sacred status of Denali to many Alaska Natives,” Secretary Jewell said. “Not only has the name Denali been official for use by the State of Alaska since 1975, but the mountain has been known as Denali to generations of Alaskans. With our own sense of reverence for this place, we are restoring an old name in further recognition of the traditions of Alaska Natives.

Second comment, under "Denali goes to the federal level" - it was the state board not the legislature that made the name official in AK.

Dickey's article from the 1897 Sun is attached along with another mention (3rd column, middle) of Dickey in the same edition for anyone who is interested. Apparently in addition to prospecting for gold Dickey provided some valuable geographic information about the territory.

Lou

On Thu, Aug 27, 2015 at 7:02 PM, Campbell, Jon <[joncampbell@usgs.gov](mailto:joncampbell@usgs.gov)> wrote:

Sorry to ask again for comments. I'm sure there is well warranted review fatigue.

Attached is a draft for the USGS Top Story, a feature article to appear on the USGS homepage Mon. morning. It's designed to provide further background to the DOI press release. After a week or so, the TS will be archived but still readily available. [Past example.](#)

Looking for brief quotes from Doug V. and Doug C. to add some color to text. Lou, too, if he'd like. (Not a requirement. We can play by ear tomorrow.)

Thanks.

Jon Campbell  
U.S. Geological Survey  
Office of Communications and Publishing  
703-648-4180 | m 571-230-6831  
[joncampbell@usgs.gov](mailto:joncampbell@usgs.gov)

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Jessica Kershaw  
Senior Adviser & Press Secretary  
U.S. Dept of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
202-208-6416

-----Original Message-----

From: Campbell, Jon [mailto:[joncampbell@usgs.gov](mailto:joncampbell@usgs.gov)]

Sent: Thursday, August 27, 2015 3:39 PM

To: Louis Yost; Jennifer Runyon; Caldwell, Douglas R ERDC-GRL-VA; Douglas Vandegraft; Gilbert, Tony N.; Michael Shelton

Subject: [EXTERNAL] New DOI Draft - Denali Release, quick edits

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Endorsed by President Obama, Secretary Jewell Changes Name of Mount McKinley to Denali

ANCHORAGE, AK – In recognition of the continued strong support from Alaskan state, congressional and local leaders, as well as 40 years' worth of requests for a name change, U.S. Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell, today announced that the highest mountain in North America, formerly known as "Mount McKinley," will be officially given the local native name of 'Denali.'

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The mountain is virtually in the center of traditional Athabaskan territory. The word 'Denali' is an ancient Athabaskan place name. It comes from the Koyukon word 'Deenaalee,' meaning 'the tall one.'

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@DOIPressSec  
202-208-6416

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED  
Caveats: NONE

**"Yost, Louis" <lyost@usgs.gov>**

---

**From:** "Yost, Louis" <lyost@usgs.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri Aug 28 2015 08:12:01 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Caldwell, Douglas R ERDC-GRL-VA"  
<Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] New DOI Draft - Denali Release, quick edits (UNCLASSIFIED)

Sounds good to me.

On Fri, Aug 28, 2015 at 9:27 AM, Caldwell, Douglas R ERDC-GRL-VA  
<[Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil](mailto:Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil)> wrote:

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED  
Caveats: NONE

Jon,

**\*\* RE: [EXTERNAL] New DOI Draft - Denali Release, quick edits \*\***

Hi! I loved Doug's quote ... mine is not so personal or quotable and Lou may wish to revise or replace. Feel free to edit.

-----  
The 38-year impasse between the BGN and Congress was unique in BGN history, a situation that was not anticipated when the policy was adopted.  
-----

Hopefully this is fairly neutral, doesn't involve the SOI's decision or relationship to the BGN, and leads into the next section.

Thank you for all your work on this ... you must be exhausted!

Best wishes,

Doug Caldwell  
Geospatial Research Laboratory  
Engineer Research and Development Center  
US Army Corps of Engineers  
7701 Telegraph Road  
Alexandria, VA 22315-3864

[Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil](mailto:Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil)  
703-428-3594

-----Original Message-----

From: Campbell, Jon [mailto:[joncampbell@usgs.gov](mailto:joncampbell@usgs.gov)]  
Sent: Thursday, August 27, 2015 7:03 PM  
To: Shelton, Michael  
Cc: Caldwell, Douglas R ERDC-GRL-VA; Louis Yost; Jennifer Runyon; Douglas Vandegrift; Gilbert, Tony N.  
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] New DOI Draft - Denali Release, quick edits (UNCLASSIFIED)

Sorry to ask again for comments. I'm sure there is well warranted review fatigue.

Attached is a draft for the USGS Top Story, a feature article to appear on the USGS homepage Mon. morning. It's designed to provide further background to the DOI press release. After a week or so, the TS will be archived but still readily available. Past example. <Blocked[http://www.usgs.gov/blogs/features/usgs\\_top\\_story/names-on-the-land-the-role-of-the-u-s-board-on-geographic-names/](http://www.usgs.gov/blogs/features/usgs_top_story/names-on-the-land-the-role-of-the-u-s-board-on-geographic-names/)>

Looking for brief quotes from Doug V. and Doug C. to add some color to text. Lou, too, if he'd like. (Not a requirement. We can play by ear tomorrow.)

Thanks.

Jon Campbell  
U.S. Geological Survey  
Office of Communications and Publishing  
703-648-4180 | m 571-230-6831  
[joncampbell@usgs.gov](mailto:joncampbell@usgs.gov)

On Thu, Aug 27, 2015 at 4:28 PM, Shelton, Michael <[michael\\_shelton@nps.gov](mailto:michael_shelton@nps.gov)> wrote:

Mr. Chairman:

If this is like any other Secretarial Order, then yes, there will be an actual document.

Interestingly, Secretary Ickes issued Orders for all employee leave, as he insisted on approving it. If you go to the Interior Library, you'll see Orders that read something like "Employee John Doe is excused from work for two hours on September 18, 1936, beginning at 3:00 o'clock, in order to attend the funeral of his late father. /s/ Harold L. Ickes."

Of course, Ickes also routinely bugged his employees. And beat his first wife.

/s/ Mike

Michael M. Shelton  
Program Analyst  
Office of Policy  
National Park Service  
Deputy Member, U.S. Board on  
Geographic Names  
1201 Eye Street NW  
7th Floor / Office 88  
Washington, DC 20005  
(202) 354-3954 (Direct Dial)  
(202) 354-3950 (Gen'l Off. No.)  
(202) 371-5189 (Fax)

"Whatever you do, crush superstition, and love those who love you."  
Voltaire, 1762

On Thu, Aug 27, 2015 at 3:59 PM, Campbell, Jon <[joncampbell@usgs.gov](mailto:joncampbell@usgs.gov)>  
wrote:

edits noted.

I don't know about the reality of a Secretarial Order. This is proceeding at a

4th hand distance. Unhappy, but resigned face.

Jon Campbell  
U.S. Geological Survey  
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703-648-4180 | m 571-230-6831  
[joncampbell@usgs.gov](mailto:joncampbell@usgs.gov)

On Thu, Aug 27, 2015 at 3:55 PM, Caldwell, Douglas R ERDC-GRL-VA  
<[Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil](mailto:Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil)> wrote:

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED  
Caveats: NONE

Jon,

**\*\* RE: [EXTERNAL] New DOI Draft - Denali Release, quick edits \*\***

Hi! Thank you for passing this along. I wasn't sure about the proper way to correct these problems, but the use of quotes around the names Denali and Mount McKinley appear to be very inconsistent ... sometimes nothing, sometimes ', and sometimes " with differences in the same sentence. Hopefully you can straighten this out.

U.S. Board of Geographic Names should be U.S. Board on Geographic Names. End of paragraph 6.

McKinley at end of paragraph 6 should be Mount McKinley.

Finally ... just a question ... will their actually be a Secretarial Order that is a document that we can see? Or is this just a verbal statement?

Keep up the good work!! Thanks!

Doug Caldwell  
Geospatial Research Laboratory  
Engineer Research and Development Center  
US Army Corps of Engineers  
7701 Telegraph Road  
Alexandria, VA 22315-3864

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U.S. Dept of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
202-208-6416

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED  
Caveats: NONE

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**"Shelton, Michael" <michael\_shelton@nps.gov>**

---

**From:** "Shelton, Michael" <michael\_shelton@nps.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri Aug 28 2015 08:24:01 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Yost, Louis" <lyost@usgs.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] New DOI Draft - Denali Release, quick edits (UNCLASSIFIED)

Get rid of the "the" in Sally's quote "The citizens of **the** Alaska deserve . . . ."

/s/ Mike

Michael M. Shelton  
Program Analyst  
Office of Policy  
National Park Service  
Deputy Member, U.S. Board on  
Geographic Names  
1201 Eye Street NW  
7th Floor / Office 88  
Washington, DC 20005  
(202) 354-3954 (Direct Dial)  
(202) 354-3950 (Gen'l Off. No.)  
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U.S. Board of Geographic Names should be U.S. Board on Geographic Names. End of paragraph 6.

McKinley at end of paragraph 6 should be Mount McKinley.

Finally ... just a question ... will their actually be a Secretarial Order that is a document that we can see? Or is this just a verbal statement?

Keep up the good work!! Thanks!

Doug Caldwell  
Geospatial Research Laboratory  
Engineer Research and Development Center  
US Army Corps of Engineers  
7701 Telegraph Road  
Alexandria, VA 22315-3864

[Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil](mailto:Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil)  
703-428-3594

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Sent: Thursday, August 27, 2015 3:39 PM

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703-648-4483 desk  
703-317-7871 mobile

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To: Nikki Buffa <[nicole\\_buffa@ios.doi.gov](mailto:nicole_buffa@ios.doi.gov)>, Kate Kelly <[kate\\_kelly@ios.doi.gov](mailto:kate_kelly@ios.doi.gov)>, Blake Androff <[blake\\_androff@ios.doi.gov](mailto:blake_androff@ios.doi.gov)>, Sarah Harris <[sarah.harris@bia.gov](mailto:sarah.harris@bia.gov)>, Sarah Walters <[sarah\\_walters@ios.doi.gov](mailto:sarah_walters@ios.doi.gov)>, Bret Birdsong <[bret.birdsong@sol.doi.gov](mailto:bret.birdsong@sol.doi.gov)>, John Quinley <[john\\_quinley@nps.gov](mailto:john_quinley@nps.gov)>, Maureen Foster <[maureen\\_foster@nps.gov](mailto:maureen_foster@nps.gov)>, Michael Johnson <[michael\\_johnson@ios.doi.gov](mailto:michael_johnson@ios.doi.gov)>, Jeremy Bratt <[jeremy\\_bratt@ios.doi.gov](mailto:jeremy_bratt@ios.doi.gov)>, Maria Najera <[maria\\_najera@ios.doi.gov](mailto:maria_najera@ios.doi.gov)>, Karen Hyun <[karen\\_hyun@ios.doi.gov](mailto:karen_hyun@ios.doi.gov)>, Miranda Pham <[miranda\\_pham@ios.doi.gov](mailto:miranda_pham@ios.doi.gov)>, Jason Waanders <[jason.waanders@sol.doi.gov](mailto:jason.waanders@sol.doi.gov)>

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Hi! Thank you for passing this along. I wasn't sure about the proper way to correct these problems, but the use of quotes around the names Denali and Mount McKinley appear to be very inconsistent ... sometimes nothing, sometimes ', and sometimes " with differences in the same sentence. Hopefully you can straighten this out.

U.S. Board of Geographic Names should be U.S. Board on Geographic Names. End of paragraph 6.

McKinley at end of paragraph 6 should be Mount McKinley.

Finally ... just a question ... will their actually be a Secretarial Order that is a document that we can see? Or is this just a verbal statement?

Keep up the good work!! Thanks!

Doug Caldwell  
Geospatial Research Laboratory  
Engineer Research and Development Center  
US Army Corps of Engineers  
7701 Telegraph Road  
Alexandria, VA 22315-3864

[Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil](mailto:Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil)  
703-428-3594

-----Original Message-----

From: Campbell, Jon [mailto:[joncampbell@usgs.gov](mailto:joncampbell@usgs.gov)]  
Sent: Thursday, August 27, 2015 3:39 PM  
To: Louis Yost; Jennifer Runyon; Caldwell, Douglas R ERDC-GRL-VA;  
Douglas Vandegraff; Gilbert, Tony N.; Michael Shelton  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] New DOI Draft - Denali Release, quick edits

AB asked me to get BGN edits on this DOI version that does not cover the elevation change.

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Your comments before 4:30, please. Sorry.

Jon Campbell  
U.S. Geological Survey  
Office of Communications and Publishing  
703-648-4180 | m 571-230-6831  
[joncampbell@usgs.gov](mailto:joncampbell@usgs.gov)

On Thu, Aug 27, 2015 at 3:19 PM, Wade, Anne-Berry <[abwade@usgs.gov](mailto:abwade@usgs.gov)> wrote:

Have at it!

A.B. Wade

USGS <Blocked<http://usgs.gov>> Press Officer  
703-648-4483 desk  
703-317-7871 mobile

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Please take a look at the Denali release below and let me know if you have concerns - we'll circulate the draft for broader review tonight around 6p ET.

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Endorsed by President Obama, Secretary Jewell Changes Name of Mount McKinley to Denali

ANCHORAGE, AK – In recognition of the continued strong support from Alaskan state, congressional and local leaders, as well as 40 years' worth of requests for a name change, U.S. Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell, today announced that the highest mountain in North America, formerly known as "Mount McKinley," will be officially given the local native name of 'Denali.'

President Obama endorsed the name change and directed Jewell to take the action to rename Mount McKinley as Denali under authority granted to her by Congress.[JLK1]

"This name change recognizes the sacred status of 'Denali' to many Alaska Natives," Secretary Jewell said. "Not only has the name 'Denali' been official for use by the State of Alaska since 1975, but the mountain has been known as 'Denali' by generations of Alaskans. With our own sense of reverence for this place, we are restoring an old name in further recognition of the traditions of Alaska Natives.

The mountain is virtually in the center of traditional Athabaskan territory. The word 'Denali' is an ancient Athabaskan place name. It comes from the Koyukon word 'Deenaalee,' meaning 'the tall one.'

"Recognizing the long history and debate about the name of this iconic American mountain, the time has come to restore the traditional Alaska Native title 'Denali' for this landmark, which holds great significance to the people of Alaska," said National Park Service Director Jonathan B. Jarvis.

Until today, the mountain retained the name 'Mt. McKinley' even though the 1980 Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act incorporated 'McKinley National Park,' into the new larger area named Denali National Park and Preserve. The Alaska Board of Geographic Names calls the mountain 'Denali,' while the U.S. Board of Geographic Names, until today, called it 'McKinley.'

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McKinley became our 25th President, and was tragically assassinated just six months into his second term. He never set foot in Alaska – and for centuries, the mountain that rises some 20,000 feet above sea level, the tallest on the North American continent, had been known by another name – 'Denali.' [JLK2]

On March 11, 1975, Governor Jay S. Hammond of Alaska requested the Secretary of the Interior to direct the U.S. Board on Geographic Names (Board) to officially designate Mount McKinley in Alaska as 'Denali.' This proposal, never withdrawn, is based on a Resolution that was passed by the Alaska State Legislature. Since 1977, the Board, in deference to potential congressional action, has not considered the case for changing the federally recognized geographic name from Mount McKinley to Denali.

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Jessica Kershaw  
Senior Adviser & Press Secretary  
U.S. Dept of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
202-208-6416

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Cc: Rachael Johnson <[rachael\\_johnson@ios.doi.gov](mailto:rachael_johnson@ios.doi.gov)>, Joan Moody <[joan\\_moody@ios.doi.gov](mailto:joan_moody@ios.doi.gov)>, April Slayton <[april\\_slayton@nps.gov](mailto:april_slayton@nps.gov)>, Anne-Berry Wade <[abwade@usgs.gov](mailto:abwade@usgs.gov)>

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U.S. Dept of the Interior  
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202-208-6416

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED  
Caveats: NONE





## USGS Top Story for Aug. 31 – draft

To be posted in tandem with a Top Story about change in summit's elevation

---

# Old Name Restored to Nation's Highest Peak

## Action by the Secretary of Interior ends 40-year controversy

Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell has announced that the highest mountain in the United States and North America, formerly known as *Mount McKinley*, will now be officially designated by the name *Denali* in all federal records.

### DOI release – hyperlink

“The citizens of the Alaska deserve to have national recognition of the name they favor. Not only has the name Denali been official in Alaska since 1975, but the mountain has been known as Denali and held sacred by generations of Alaskans far back into unwritten time,” Secretary Jewell said. “With our own sense of reverence for this place, we are restoring an old name and further recognizing the ancient traditions of Alaska’s native peoples.”

Secretary Jewell issued a Secretarial Order to make the name Denali official in accordance with her authority under the [1947 federal law](#) that provides for the standardization of geographic names through the U.S Board on Geographic Names. Her action was heartily endorsed by President Obama who was participating in a meeting of the international [Arctic Council](#) in Anchorage.

### Origin of the name Mount McKinley

Mount McKinley was named in 1896 by William Andrews Dickey, a prospector who wrote an account of his adventures in Alaska in the January 24, 1897 edition of the *New York Sun*. He named the mountain “after William McKinley of Ohio who had been nominated for the presidency, and that fact was the first news we received on our way out of that wonderful wilderness.” McKinley championed the gold standard, a cause which Dickey supported. This article and an accompanying sketch map made the mountain known to the world outside Alaska.

But the mountain had older names.

### A name before time

The word ‘Denali’ is an ancient Athabaskan place name that stems from the Koyukon word *Deenaalee*, “the tall one.” Obviously, the first use of the name cannot be established; it is lost in the mists of time. The official name record in the [U.S. Board on Geographic Names](#) database lists over 30 variants names for the feature, many of them from Russian and native languages.

The first written record of the Denali massif is by Captain George Vancouver, who when seeing it from Cook Inlet in 1794, referred to the "stupendous snow mountains." The Russians descriptively called the mountain Bolshaya (Bulshaia) Gora, "big mountain." Alfred Mayo and Arthur Harper, pioneer Alaska traders, after a trip up the Tanana River in 1878, reported "a great ice mountain to the south" but did not name it. A prospector, Frank Densmore, spoke so enthusiastically after seeing the mountain from Lake Minchumina in 1889, that it was known for years among prospectors as Densmores Peak.

The summit of the mountain was first reached on April 3, 1913, by Hudson Stuck, Walter Harper, Robert Tatum, and Harry Karstens. (Karstens later served as superintendent of the national park now known as Denali National Park). Each of these first ascenders favored the name Denali for the mountain. Stuck, Episcopal Archdeacon of the Yukon, made a plea in the foreword of a book he wrote about the ascent "for the restoration to the greatest mountain in North America of its immemorial native name [Denali]."

*Vandergraft quote on AK sentiment for the name of the summit – or whatever.*

*Graphic – 1898 Coast Survey map of AK – thanks, Matt*

### **Denali goes to the federal level**

The Alaska state legislature made the name Denali official for state use by a resolution in 1975. Soon afterward, Alaska Governor Jay S. Hammond petitioned the Secretary of the Interior for federal recognition of the name by the U.S. Board on Geographic Names (BGN).

President Benjamin Harrison first established the BGN, the geographic names authority for the Nation, in 1890 by executive order. In 1947 Congress re-established the BGN in its current form. The Board has established several principles and procedures to ensure that its decisions are made consistently through time. The central guiding principle of the Board is that, in standardizing official names for geographic features, the Board will follow established local preferences whenever possible.

The U.S. Board, in accordance with its customary practice, did not act immediately on Hammond's request in order to hear the views of many other interested parties. At its monthly meetings in April and May 1975, the BGN discussed the State resolution and then voted to defer the case for at least six months. The board members felt that the resolution involved making a decision of national importance, and as such, time was needed to inform the American people and receive reaction to the proposal. Due to continued reaction to the name-change proposal by the public and elected officials, the BGN still took no action until its July 1977 meeting, when it was agreed that public meetings should be held. The first meeting was held in October at the Department of the Interior in Washington, D.C.; the second in November in Anchorage, Alaska.

The BGN then indicated that it expected to render a decision on the name change proposal at its December 1977 meeting. Prior to that meeting, however, the Ohio congressional delegation introduced a Joint Resolution in Congress, which if passed, would "retain the name Mount McKinley in perpetuity." As a result, the BGN deferred any action on the issue at that December meeting — and for many years afterward.

### **An impasse with Congress and the Board**

In order to distance itself from political considerations, the BGN had previously adopted a policy in the 1960s that it would not consider geographic name issues that have been introduced as bills in the current Congress, a policy later endorsed by the Secretary of the Interior in 1981.

The consequence of this well-intentioned policy was that the continued introduction of proposed legislation by the Ohio delegation in Congressional sessions since 1977 had the net effect of deferring any further consideration of the McKinley-Denali controversy by the BGN.

*Quote by Doug C. (or Lou) about the unintended consequence of BGN Principle I.*

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Under the 1947 law that enables the BGN to standardize and approve geographic names, the Secretary of the Interior has equal (“conjoint” is the term used in the law) authority with the Board. In fact, under the law, the Secretary is responsible for overseeing the Board’s actions. The law explicitly states that action “may be taken by the Secretary in any matter wherein the Board does not act within a reasonable time.”

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Commented [SM1]: GPO Style Manual (2008), Rule 3 19

### DOI release – hyperlink

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U.S. Department of the Interior  
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## Conversation Contents

**RE: [EXTERNAL] Final review 2 - USGS Top Story on Denali Name Change (details to support press release) (UNCLASSIFIED)**

/78. RE: [EXTERNAL] Final review 2 - USGS Top Story on Denali Name Change (details to support press release) (UNCLASSIFIED)/1.1 Denali TS d0828c no map DRC.docx

/78. RE: [EXTERNAL] Final review 2 - USGS Top Story on Denali Name Change (details to support press release) (UNCLASSIFIED)/2.1 Denali TS d0828c\_JER.docx

**"Caldwell, Douglas R ERDC-GRL-VA"**  
**<Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil>**

---

**From:** "Caldwell, Douglas R ERDC-GRL-VA" <Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil>  
**Sent:** Fri Aug 28 2015 13:26:37 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Campbell, Jon" <joncampbell@usgs.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Final review 2 - USGS Top Story on Denali Name Change (details to support press release) (UNCLASSIFIED)  
**Attachments:** Denali TS d0828c no map DRC.docx

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED  
Caveats: NONE

Jon,

\*\* RE: [EXTERNAL] Final review 2 - USGS Top Story on Denali Name Change (details to support press release) \*\*

Hi! I really like this article ... it captures the story in a poetic way that is difficult for a shorter press release.

We should refer to Denali as "the tall one" or "the high one" but not "the great one."

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Engineer Research and Development Center  
US Army Corps of Engineers  
7701 Telegraph Road  
Alexandria, VA 22315-3864

Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil  
703-428-3594

-----Original Message-----

From: Campbell, Jon [mailto:joncampbell@usgs.gov]

Sent: Friday, August 28, 2015 3:00 PM

To: Shelton, Michael

Cc: Caldwell, Douglas R ERDC-GRL-VA; Yost, Louis; Douglas Vandegraft; Jennifer Runyon; Gilbert, Tony N.

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Final review 2 - USGS Top Story on Denali Name Change (details to support press release)

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U.S. Geological Survey

Office of Communications and Publishing  
703-648-4180 | m 571-230-6831  
joncampbell@usgs.gov

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Caveats: NONE

**"Runyon, Jennifer" <jrunyon@usgs.gov>**

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**From:** "Runyon, Jennifer" <jrunyon@usgs.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri Aug 28 2015 13:51:24 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Caldwell, Douglas R ERDC-GRL-VA"  
<Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Final review 2 - USGS Top Story on Denali Name Change (details to support press release) (UNCLASSIFIED)  
**Attachments:** Denali TS d0828c\_JER.docx

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**"Yost, Louis" <lyost@usgs.gov>**

**From:** "Yost, Louis" <lyost@usgs.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri Aug 28 2015 14:04:43 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Caldwell, Douglas R ERDC-GRL-VA"  
<Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Final review 2 - USGS Top Story on Denali Name Change (details to support press release) (UNCLASSIFIED)

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**Sent:** Fri Aug 28 2015 14:18:47 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Runyon, Jennifer" <jrunyon@usgs.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Final review 2 - USGS Top Story on Denali Name Change (details to support press release) (UNCLASSIFIED)

Comments to your comments - I don't think anyone would quibble about it being a massif. The BGN recognized McKinley as official by policy by being on the Coast Survey map (one of the three primary graphics).

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**From:** "Campbell, Jon" <joncampbell@usgs.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri Aug 28 2015 15:22:06 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Yost, Louis" <lyost@usgs.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXTERNAL] Final review 2 - USGS Top Story on Denali Name Change (details to support press release) (UNCLASSIFIED)

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## USGS Top Story for Aug. 30 – draft

USGS webpage cover image – [NPS photo, Denali](#)

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### Old Name Restored to Nation’s Highest Peak

#### Action by the Secretary of Interior ends 40-year controversy

*DOI release – [hyperlink when available](#)*

Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell has announced that the highest mountain in the United States and North America, formerly known as *Mount McKinley*, will now be officially designated by the name *Denali* in all federal records.

“This name change recognizes the sacred status of Denali to many Alaska Natives,” Secretary Jewell said in a Department of the Interior [news release \[link –td\]](#). “The name Denali has been official for use by the State of Alaska since 1975, but even more importantly, the mountain has been known as Denali for generations far back into the past. With our own sense of reverence for this place, we are restoring an old name in recognition of the traditions of Alaska Natives and the strong support of the people of Alaska.

Secretary Jewell issued a Secretarial Order to make the name Denali official in accordance with her authority under the [1947 federal law](#) that provides for the standardization of geographic names through the U.S Board on Geographic Names. Her action was heartily endorsed by President Obama who was participating in a meeting of the international [Arctic Council](#) in Anchorage.

+++++

**Graphic. Beautiful photo of Denali, sunrise, courtesy NPS.**  
**[Vandegraft quote as caption, a typical reaction to the majesty of the mountain.]**



***I will never forget the first time I saw Denali. Even from Anchorage, over 100 miles away, I could see a massive mound of white on the horizon, so obviously taller than anything else around it. I stood and marveled; it truly is ‘the high one.’***  
***Doug Vandegraft, Chair, Domestic Names Committee, U.S. Board on Geographic Names; resident of Anchorage, 1983-2000.***

+++++

### **Mount McKinley, the name**

Mount McKinley was named in 1896 by William Andrews Dickey, a prospector who wrote an account of his adventures in Alaska in the January 24, 1897 edition of the *New York Sun*. He named the mountain “after William McKinley of Ohio who had been nominated for the presidency, and that fact was the first news we received on our way out of that wonderful wilderness.” McKinley championed the gold standard, a cause which Dickey supported. This article and an accompanying sketch map made the mountain known to the world outside Alaska.

But the mountain had older names.



## A name before time

The word Denali is the accepted English spelling of an Athabaskan name for the mountain, meaning “the tall one.” ~~or “the great one.”~~ Obviously, the first use of the name cannot be established; it is part of a long oral tradition that reaches far into the past. The official record for Denali in the [U.S. Board on Geographic Names](#) database lists over 30 variant names for the feature, many of them from Native languages and from Russian.

The first written record of the Denali massif is by Captain George Vancouver, who when seeing it from Cook Inlet in 1794, referred to the "stupendous snow mountains." The Russians descriptively called the mountain Bolshaya (Bulshaia) Gora, "big mountain." Alfred Mayo and Arthur Harper, pioneer Alaska traders, after a trip up the Tanana River in 1878, reported "a great ice mountain to the south" but did not name it. A prospector, Frank Densmore, spoke so enthusiastically after seeing the mountain from Lake Minchumina in 1889, that it was known for years among prospectors as Densmores Peak.

## Name status at the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century

Recognized by the U.S. Board in 1897, the official name Mount McKinley immediately began to appear on federal maps.

+++++

*The [1898 U.S. Coast Survey map](#) of Alaska is one of the first federal maps to display the name Mount McKinley. (Click the image to go to the NOAA historical map website and then zoom in to see the name.) The Russian variant Bulshaia is shown in parenthesis. The map does not show Anchorage which was not founded at the time.*

+++++

Although President McKinley never set foot in Alaska, his tragic assassination in 1901, just six months into his second term, likely contributed to a shared sense of public commemoration in the name Mount McKinley.

The summit of the mountain was first reached on April 3, 1913, by Hudson Stuck, Walter Harper, Robert Tatum, and Harry Karstens (Karstens later served as superintendent of the park now known as Denali National Park). Each of these first ascenders favored the name Denali for the mountain. Stuck, Episcopal Archdeacon of the Yukon, made a plea “for the restoration to the greatest mountain in North America of its immemorial native name [Denali]” in the foreword of the book he wrote about the ascent.

## Denali goes to the U.S. Board

The Alaska State Board on Geographic Names, acting under state authority, made the name Denali official for state use in 1975. Soon afterward, Alaska Governor Jay S. Hammond petitioned the Secretary of the Interior for federal recognition of the name by the U.S. Board on Geographic Names (BGN), the geographic names authority for the Nation.

President Benjamin Harrison first established the BGN in 1890 by executive order. In 1947 Congress re-established the BGN in its current form. Although the Board has established several principles and procedures to ensure that its decisions are made consistently through time, the central guiding principle of the Board is that, in standardizing official names for geographic features, the Board will follow established local preferences whenever possible.

The U.S. Board, in accordance with its customary practice, did not act immediately on Hammond's request in order to hear the views of many other interested parties. At its monthly meetings in April and May 1975, the BGN discussed the State resolution and then voted to defer the case for at least six months. The board members felt that the resolution involved making a decision of national importance, and as such, time was needed to inform the American people and receive reaction to the proposal. Due to continued reaction to the name-change proposal by the public and elected officials, the BGN still took no action until its July 1977 meeting, when it was agreed that public meetings should be held. The first meeting was held in October at the Department of the Interior in Washington, D.C.; the second in November in Anchorage, Alaska.

### **An impasse with Congress, opposing names, and the Board**

The BGN then indicated that it expected to render a decision on the name change proposal at its December 1977 meeting. Prior to that meeting, however, the Ohio congressional delegation introduced a Joint Resolution in Congress, which if passed, would “retain the name Mount McKinley in perpetuity.” As a result, the BGN deferred any action on the issue at that December meeting — and for many years afterward as the Ohio delegation to Congress continued to introduce legislation to keep the name Mount McKinley.

In order to distance itself from political considerations, the BGN adopted a policy in the 1960s that it would not consider geographic name issues that were the subject of pending congressional legislation, a policy later endorsed by the Secretary of the Interior in 1981. The consequence of this well-intentioned policy was that the repeated introduction of legislation by the Ohio delegation (1977-2015) had the effect of indefinitely deferring any further consideration of the McKinley-Denali controversy by the BGN.

“The 38-year impasse between the BGN and Congress was unique in BGN history, a situation that was never anticipated when the policy was adopted,” said Doug Caldwell, Chair, U.S. Board on Geographic Names.

Meanwhile, Alaskans continued to show their support for the name Denali. Resolutions in support of BGN recognition of the name for federal use were adopted by the Alaska State Board on Geographic Names in **(year, year Lou??)**. The Alaska delegation to Congress offered bills in support of the name through these years; the most recent was entered by Senator Murkowski in January 2015. As recently as August 12, 2015, the Denali Borough Assembly (the local government that encompasses the mountain) adopted a resolution to support “federal designation for the tallest North American peak as Denali.”

+++++

DENALI BOROUGH, ALASKA  
RESOLUTION NO. 15-09

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING FEDERAL DESIGNATION FOR THE  
TALLEST NORTHERN AMERICAN PEAK AS DENALI

WHEREAS, the Denali Borough Assembly is the governing body of the Denali Borough, Alaska; and,

WHEREAS, Denali National Park is located within the Denali Borough; and,

WHEREAS, Denali National Park attracts over 400,000 visitors a year; and,

WHEREAS, visitors are immersed in both the natural and cultural history of the Park; and,

WHEREAS, Mount McKinley, located in Denali National Park, is the federal designation for the mountain, named after then governor of Ohio, William McKinley; and,

WHEREAS, the historic Athabaskan name is "Denali," meaning "the Great One" or "the High One"; and,

WHEREAS, the Alaska Geographic Names Board took action in 1975 to support a name change from Mount McKinley to Denali; and,

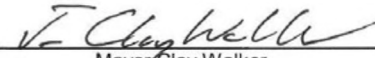
WHEREAS, in 1993 the Alaska Historical Commission was designated by statute to be the geographic names board for the State of Alaska; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Historical Commission has steadfastly supported the name Denali, reaffirming their approval of the name change in 2001 and again in 2009.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Denali Borough Assembly, by this resolution, hereby supports Denali as the designated name of North America's tallest peak.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that while the Denali Borough Assembly supports Senate Bill 319, "A bill to designate a mountain in the State of Alaska as Mount Denali", the Assembly suggests an amendment to Senate Bill 319 to designate the name simply as Denali, and encourages the United States Congress to approve this legislation.

PASSED and APPROVED by the DENALI BOROUGH ASSEMBLY this 12<sup>TH</sup> day of AUGUST, 2015.

SIGNED:   
Mayor Clay Walker

ATTEST:   
Gail Pieknik, Borough Clerk



AYES: SHREEVE, BOELSMA, ZIMMERMAN, DEBLAUW, BURROWS, EVANS, ZAPPONE and CHATFIELD  
NOES: TATUM

+++++

## **Enter the Secretary**

Under the 1947 law that enables the BGN to standardize and approve geographic names, the Secretary of the Interior has equal (“conjoint” is the term used in the law) authority with the Board. In fact, under the law, the Secretary is responsible for overseeing the Board’s actions. The law explicitly states that action “may be taken by the Secretary in any matter wherein the Board does not act within a reasonable time.”

Forty years have passed since former Alaska Governor Hammond first petitioned for a name change in 1975. In view of the expressed will of the people of Alaska and in keeping with the principles of the U.S. Board on Geographic Names, Secretary Jewell has now taken action to rename Mount McKinley as Denali under the authority granted to her office by the law.

---



## USGS Top Story for Aug. 30 – draft

USGS webpage cover image – [NPS photo, Denali](#)

### Old Name Restored to Nation’s Highest Peak

Action by the Secretary of Interior ends 40-year controversy

*DOI release – hyperlink when available*

Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell has announced that the highest mountain in the United States and North America, formerly known as *Mount McKinley*, will now be officially designated by the name *Denali* in all federal records.

“This name change recognizes the sacred status of Denali to many Alaska Natives.” Secretary Jewell said in a Department of the Interior [news release \[link - tbd\]](#). “The name Denali has been official for use by the State of Alaska since 1975, but even more importantly, the mountain has been known as Denali for generations far back into the past. With our own sense of reverence for this place, we are restoring an old name in recognition of the traditions of Alaska Natives and the strong support of the people of Alaska.”

Secretary Jewell issued a Secretarial Order to make the name Denali official in accordance with her authority under the [1947 federal law](#) that provides for the standardization of geographic names through the U.S. Board on Geographic Names. Her action was heartily endorsed by President Obama who was participating in a meeting of the international [Arctic Council](#) in Anchorage.

+++++++

Commented [JER1]: Put word 'designated' on one line. Ditto other hyphenated words throughout the document

Graphic. Beautiful photo of Denali, sunrise, courtesy NPS.  
[Vandegraft quote as caption, a typical reaction to the majesty of the mountain.]



*I will never forget the first time I saw Denali. Even from Anchorage, over 100 miles away, I could see a massive mound of white on the horizon, so obviously taller than anything else around it. I stood and marveled; it truly is 'the high one.'*

*Doug Vandegraft, Chair, Domestic Names Committee, U.S. Board on Geographic Names; resident of Anchorage, 1983-2000.*

+++++

### Mount McKinley, the name

Mount McKinley was named in 1896 by William Andrews Dickey, a prospector who wrote an account of his adventures in Alaska ~~in~~for the January 24, 1897 edition of ~~the~~The New York Sun. He named the mountain "after William McKinley of Ohio who had been nominated for the presidency, and that fact was the first news we received on our way out of that wonderful wilderness." McKinley championed the gold standard, a cause which Dickey supported. This article and an accompanying sketch map made the mountain known to the world outside Alaska.

But the mountain had older names.

Commented [JER2]: Put word 'resident' on one line

Formatted: Font: Italic

Commented [JER3]: typically capitalized?

## A name before time

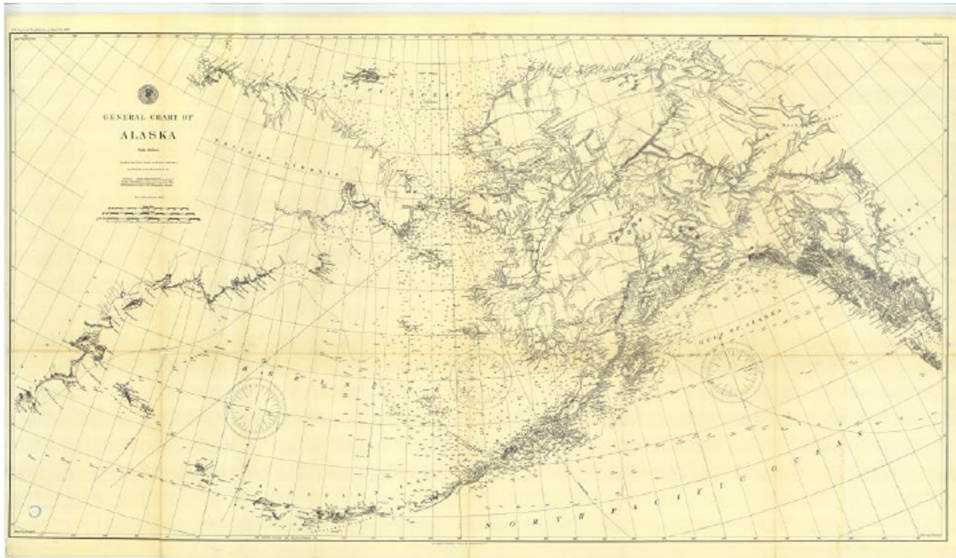
The word Denali is the accepted English spelling of an Athabaskan name for the mountain, meaning “the tall one” or “the great one.” Obviously, the first use of the name cannot be established; it is part of a long oral tradition that reaches far into the past. The official record for Denali in the [U.S. Board on Geographic Names](#) database lists over 30 variant names for the ~~fe-~~  
~~re~~mountain, many of them from Native languages and from Russian.

The first written record of the Denali ~~massif~~ is by Captain George Vancouver, who when seeing it from Cook Inlet in 1794, referred to the “stupendous snow mountains.” The Russians descriptively called the mountain Bolshaya (Bulshaia) Gora, “big mountain.” Alfred Mayo and Arthur Harper, pioneer Alaska traders, after a trip up the Tanana River in 1878, reported “a great ice mountain to the south” but did not name it. A prospector, Frank Densmore, spoke so enthusiastically after seeing the mountain from Lake Minchumina in 1889, that it was known for years among prospectors as Densmores Peak.

## Name status at the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century

Recognized by the U.S. Board in 1897, the official name Mount McKinley immediately began to appear on federal maps.

+++++



The 1898 U.S. Coast Survey map of Alaska is one of the first federal maps to display the name Mount McKinley. (Click the image to [go to visit](#) the NOAA historical map website and then zoom in to see the name.) The Russian variant Bulshaia is shown in parentheses. The map does not show Anchorage which ~~had not yet been~~was not founded at the time.

+++++

Commented [JER4]: Is it a massif? Will the geologists quibble?

Commented [JER5]: Different font for the quotes here

Commented [JER6]: And here

Commented [JER7]: ditto

Commented [JER8]: not true; it's never been a BGN decision

Although President McKinley never set foot in Alaska, his tragic assassination in 1901, just six months into his second term, likely contributed to a shared sense of public commemoration in the name Mount McKinley.

The summit of the mountain was first reached on April 3, 1913, by Hudson Stuck, Walter Harper, Robert Tatum, and Harry Karstens (Karstens later served as superintendent of the park now known as named Denali National Park). Each of these first ascenders individuals favored the name Denali for the mountain. Stuck, Episcopal Archdeacon of the Yukon, made a plea “for the restoration to the greatest mountain in North America of its immemorial native name [Denali]” in the foreword of the book he wrote about the ascent.

Commented [JER9]: will the Alaska Natives dispute this?

### Denali goes to the U.S. Board on Geographic Names

The Alaska State Board on Geographic Names, acting under State authority, made the name Denali official for State use in 1975. Soon afterward, Alaska Governor Jay S. Hammond petitioned the Secretary of the Interior for federal recognition of the name by the U.S. Board on Geographic Names (BGN), the geographic names authority for the Nation.

Commented [JER10]: I thought we agreed to avoid the use of 'petitioned'?

President Benjamin Harrison first established the BGN in 1890 by executive order. In 1947 Congress re-established the BGN in its current form. Although the Board BGN has established several principles and procedures to ensure that its decisions are made consistently through time, the central guiding principle of the Board is that, in standardizing official names for geographic features, the Board will follow established local preferences whenever possible.

Commented [JER11]: And elsewhere Or Board, or U S Board, just be consistent

The U.S. Board, in accordance with its customary practice, did not act immediately on Hammond’s request, in order to hear the views of many other interested parties. At its monthly meetings in April and May 1975, the BGN discussed the State resolution and then voted to defer the case for at least six months. The board members felt that the resolution involved making a decision of national importance, and as such, time was needed to inform the American people and receive reaction to the proposal. Due to continued reaction to the name-change proposal by the public and elected officials, the BGN still took no further action until its July 1977 meeting, when it was agreed that public meetings should be held. The first meeting was held in October at the Department of the Interior in Washington, D.C.; the second in November in Anchorage, Alaska.

Commented [JER12]: I think this is the first time a State \*Resolution\* is mentioned Above, it's just a petition (proposal? request?)

Commented [JER13]: ditto

Commented [JER14]: so now it's a proposal

### An impasse with Congress, opposing names, and the Board

The BGN then indicated that it expected to render a decision on the name change proposal at its December 1977 meeting. Prior to that meeting, however, the Ohio congressional delegation introduced a Joint Resolution in Congress, which if passed, would “retain the name Mount McKinley in perpetuity.” As a result, the BGN deferred any action on the issue at that December meeting — and for many years afterward, as the Ohio delegation to Congress continued to introduce legislation to keep the name Mount McKinley.

In order to distance itself from political considerations, the BGN adopted a policy in the 1960s that it would not consider geographic name issues that were the subject of pending congressional legislation, a policy later endorsed by the Secretary of the Interior in 1981. The consequence of this well-intentioned policy was that the repeated introduction of legislation by the Ohio delegation (1977-2015) has had the effect of indefinitely deferring any further consideration of the McKinley Denali controversy by the BGN.

Commented [JER15]: strong word Perhaps just 'issue'?



“The 38-year impasse between the BGN and Congress was unique in BGN history, a situation that was never anticipated when the policy was adopted,” said Doug Caldwell, Chair, U.S. Board on Geographic Names.

Meanwhile, Alaskans have continued to show their support for the name Denali. Resolutions in support of BGN recognition of the name for federal use were adopted by the Alaska State Board on Geographic Names in (year, year Lou??). The Alaska delegation to Congress offered bills in support of the name through these years; the most recent was entered by Senator Lisa Murkowski in January 2015. As recently as August 12, 2015, the Denali Borough Assembly (the local government whose jurisdiction that encompasses the mountain) adopted a resolution to support “federal designation for the tallest North American peak as Denali.”

Commented [JER16]: offered? Maybe 'introduced'

++++++

DENALI BOROUGH, ALASKA  
RESOLUTION NO. 15-09

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING FEDERAL DESIGNATION FOR THE  
TALLEST NORTHERN AMERICAN PEAK AS DENALI

WHEREAS, the Denali Borough Assembly is the governing body of the Denali Borough, Alaska; and,

WHEREAS, Denali National Park is located within the Denali Borough; and,

WHEREAS, Denali National Park attracts over 400,000 visitors a year; and,

WHEREAS, visitors are immersed in both the natural and cultural history of the Park; and,

WHEREAS, Mount McKinley, located in Denali National Park, is the federal designation for the mountain, named after then governor of Ohio, William McKinley; and,

WHEREAS, the historic Athabaskan name is "Denali," meaning "the Great One" or "the High One"; and,

WHEREAS, the Alaska Geographic Names Board took action in 1975 to support a name change from Mount McKinley to Denali; and,

WHEREAS, in 1993 the Alaska Historical Commission was designated by statute to be the geographic names board for the State of Alaska; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Historical Commission has steadfastly supported the name Denali, reaffirming their approval of the name change in 2001 and again in 2009.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Denali Borough Assembly, by this resolution, hereby supports Denali as the designated name of North America's tallest peak.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that while the Denali Borough Assembly supports Senate Bill 319, "A bill to designate a mountain in the State of Alaska as Mount Denali", the Assembly suggests an amendment to Senate Bill 319 to designate the name simply as Denali, and encourages the United States Congress to approve this legislation.

PASSED and APPROVED by the DENALI BOROUGH ASSEMBLY this 12<sup>TH</sup> day of AUGUST, 2015.

SIGNED: *Clay Walker*  
Mayor Clay Walker

ATTEST: *Gail Pieknik*  
Gail Pieknik, Borough Clerk



AYES: SHREEVE, BOELSMA, ZIMMERMAN, DEBLAUW, BURROWS, EVANS, ZAPPONE and CHATFIELD  
NOES: TATUM

+++++

## Enter the Secretary

Under the 1947 law that enables the BGN to standardize and approve geographic names, the Secretary of the Interior has equal (“conjoint” is the term used in the law) authority with the Board. In fact, under the law, the Secretary is responsible for overseeing the Board’s actions. The law explicitly states that action “may be taken by the Secretary in any matter wherein the Board does not act within a reasonable time.”

Forty years have passed since former ~~Alaska~~ Governor Hammond first petitioned for a name change ~~in 1975~~. In view of the expressed will of the people of Alaska, and in keeping with the principles of the U.S. Board on Geographic Names, Secretary Jewell has now taken action to re-name Mount McKinley as Denali under the authority granted to her office by the law.

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# Conversation Contents

## Final review 2 - USGS Top Story on Denali Name Change (details to support press release)

/79. Final review 2 - USGS Top Story on Denali Name Change (details to support press release)/1.1 Denali TS d0828c no map.docx

/79. Final review 2 - USGS Top Story on Denali Name Change (details to support press release)/2.1 Denali TS d0828c no map (MMS Edits).docx

/79. Final review 2 - USGS Top Story on Denali Name Change (details to support press release)/4.1 Denali TS d0828c no map.docx

## "Campbell, Jon" <joncampbell@usgs.gov>

---

**From:** "Campbell, Jon" <joncampbell@usgs.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri Aug 28 2015 13:00:05 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Shelton, Michael" <michael\_shelton@nps.gov>  
**Subject:** Final review 2 - USGS Top Story on Denali Name Change (details to support press release)  
**Attachments:** Denali TS d0828c no map.docx

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Office of Communications and Publishing  
703-648-4180 | m 571-230-6831  
[joncampbell@usgs.gov](mailto:joncampbell@usgs.gov)

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Friends,

One more careful review, if you please.

I've been more direct about Ohio actions here. But accurate, I trust. Read closely on that.

Dougs, note your quotes.

Mike, appreciate your diligence. But we use AP (not GPO) style for media releases from my office. ;-)

Thanks,  
Jon

*This will be a memory soon, he kept telling himself.*

## "Shelton, Michael" <michael\_shelton@nps.gov>

---

**From:** "Shelton, Michael" <michael\_shelton@nps.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri Aug 28 2015 13:14:34 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Campbell, Jon" <joncampbell@usgs.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Final review 2 - USGS Top Story on Denali Name Change (details to support press release)  
**Attachments:** Denali TS d0828c no map (MMS Edits).docx

Okay, here are my latest suggested edits.

/s/ Mike

**Michael M. Shelton**  
**Program Analyst**  
**Office of Policy**  
**National Park Service**  
**Deputy Member, U.S. Board on**  
**Geographic Names**  
**1201 Eye Street NW**  
**7th Floor / Office 88**  
**Washington, DC 20005**  
**(202) 354-3954 (Direct Dial)**  
**(202) 354-3950 (Gen'l Off. No.)**  
**(202) 371-5189 (Fax)**

"Whatever you do, crush superstition, and love those who love you."  
Voltaire, 1762

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**From:** "Runyon, Jennifer" <[jrunyon@usgs.gov](mailto:jrunyon@usgs.gov)>  
**Sent:** Fri Aug 28 2015 13:55:37 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Campbell, Jon" <[joncampbell@usgs.gov](mailto:joncampbell@usgs.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Final review 2 - USGS Top Story on Denali Name Change (details to support press release)

My reply to the group, with comments, was undeliverable to Doug C. and Tony due to file size (again, unable to remove embedded graphics). But I suppose it's most critical that Jon get it.

Jenny

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**From:** "Runyon, Jennifer" <[jrunyon@usgs.gov](mailto:jrunyon@usgs.gov)>  
**Sent:** Fri Aug 28 2015 14:00:45 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
Louis Yost <[lyost@usgs.gov](mailto:lyost@usgs.gov)>, Maria McCormick

**To:** <mlmccormick@usgs.gov>

**Subject:** Fwd: Final review 2 - USGS Top Story on Denali Name Change (details to support press release)

**Attachments:** Denali TS d0828c no map.docx

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## **"McCormick, Maria" <mlmccormick@usgs.gov>**

---

**From:** "McCormick, Maria" <mlmccormick@usgs.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri Aug 28 2015 14:10:24 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Runyon, Jennifer" <jrunyon@usgs.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Final review 2 - USGS Top Story on Denali Name Change (details to support press release)

You can get all of the changes ready and hit commit once the announcement is made. Or wait until Monday to commit it.

I guess we'll see how many emails, especially from Ohioans, we get.

The other thing of note is that USTopo made some maps in Denali NP. I don't know if they will want to remake them; it's their call.

This might be the first time we've used a url in the history field. To be honest, I'd leave it out and just paraphrase what happened. The url will be on the webpage itself.

On Fri, Aug 28, 2015 at 2:00 PM, Runyon, Jennifer <[jrunyon@usgs.gov](mailto:jrunyon@usgs.gov)> wrote:

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**Sent:** Fri Aug 28 2015 14:29:23 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Runyon, Jennifer" <jrunyon@usgs.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Final review 2 - USGS Top Story on Denali Name Change (details to support press release)

If the BGN hasn't been told that there will be an announcement, why in the world would we be looking for DOI press release on a Sunday evening? We are supposed to be acting country dumb on this change. The Top Story is going up Sunday night because the communications folks are privy to all kinds of information that us mere mortals aren't. To change it before Monday morning makes us look complicit with this action, which we aren't.

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**Sent:** Fri Aug 28 2015 14:30:49 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "McCormick, Maria" <[mlmccormick@usgs.gov](mailto:mlmccormick@usgs.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Final review 2 - USGS Top Story on Denali Name Change (details to support press release)

We're using a url in the history field???

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Date: Fri, Aug 28, 2015 at 3:00 PM

Subject: Final review 2 - USGS Top Story on Denali Name Change (details to support press release)

To: "Shelton, Michael" <[michael\\_shelton@nps.gov](mailto:michael_shelton@nps.gov)>

Cc: "Caldwell, Douglas R ERDC-GRL-VA" <[Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil](mailto:Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil)>, "Yost, Louis" <[yost@usgs.gov](mailto:yost@usgs.gov)>, Douglas Vandegraft

<[douglas.vandegraft@boem.gov](mailto:douglas.vandegraft@boem.gov)>, Jennifer Runyon <[jrunyon@usgs.gov](mailto:jrunyon@usgs.gov)>, "Gilbert,

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*Mon am - Unprecedented toponymic interest*

Jon Campbell

U.S. Geological Survey

Office of Communications and Publishing

703-648-4180 | m 571-230-6831

[joncampbell@usgs.gov](mailto:joncampbell@usgs.gov)

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Thanks,  
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## **"Runyon, Jennifer" <jrunyon@usgs.gov>**

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**From:** "Runyon, Jennifer" <jrunyon@usgs.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri Aug 28 2015 15:17:25 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Yost, Louis" <lyost@usgs.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Final review 2 - USGS Top Story on Denali Name Change (details to support press release)

No, apparently not. I was thinking for just 24 hours, or even less, to keep people from hounding us (you). But I'm letting you handle all the calls and emails.

On Fri, Aug 28, 2015 at 4:30 PM, Yost, Louis <[lyost@usgs.gov](mailto:lyost@usgs.gov)> wrote:  
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## USGS Top Story for Aug. 30 – draft

USGS webpage cover image – [NPS photo, Denali](#)

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### Old Name Restored to Nation’s Highest Peak

#### Action by the Secretary of Interior ends 40-year controversy

*DOI release – [hyperlink when available](#)*

Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell has announced that the highest mountain in the United States and North America, formerly known as *Mount McKinley*, will now be officially designated by the name *Denali* in all federal records.

“This name change recognizes the sacred status of Denali to many Alaska Natives,” Secretary Jewell said in a Department of the Interior [news release](#) [*link – tbd*]. “The name Denali has been official for use by the State of Alaska since 1975, but even more importantly, the mountain has been known as Denali for generations far back into the past. With our own sense of reverence for this place, we are restoring an old name in recognition of the traditions of Alaska Natives and the strong support of the people of Alaska.

Secretary Jewell issued a Secretarial Order to make the name Denali official in accordance with her authority under the [1947 federal law](#) that provides for the standardization of geographic names through the U.S Board on Geographic Names. Her action was heartily endorsed by President Obama who was participating in a meeting of the international [Arctic Council](#) in Anchorage.

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**Graphic. Beautiful photo of Denali, sunrise, courtesy NPS.**  
**[Vandegraft quote as caption, a typical reaction to the majesty of the mountain.]**



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***Doug Vandegraft, Chair, Domestic Names Committee, U.S. Board on Geographic Names; resident of Anchorage, 1983-2000.***

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### **Mount McKinley, the name**

Mount McKinley was named in 1896 by William Andrews Dickey, a prospector who wrote an account of his adventures in Alaska in the January 24, 1897 edition of the *New York Sun*. He named the mountain “after William McKinley of Ohio who had been nominated for the presidency, and that fact was the first news we received on our way out of that wonderful wilderness.” McKinley championed the gold standard, a cause which Dickey supported. This article and an accompanying sketch map made the mountain known to the world outside Alaska.

But the mountain had older names.

## **A name before time**

The word Denali is the accepted English spelling of an Athabaskan name for the mountain, meaning “the tall one” or “the great one.” Obviously, the first use of the name cannot be established; it is part of a long oral tradition that reaches far into the past. The official record for Denali in the [U.S. Board on Geographic Names](#) database lists over 30 variant names for the feature, many of them from Native languages and from Russian.

The first written record of the Denali massif is by Captain George Vancouver, who when seeing it from Cook Inlet in 1794, referred to the "stupendous snow mountains." The Russians descriptively called the mountain Bolshaya (Bulshaia) Gora, "big mountain." Alfred Mayo and Arthur Harper, pioneer Alaska traders, after a trip up the Tanana River in 1878, reported "a great ice mountain to the south" but did not name it. A prospector, Frank Densmore, spoke so enthusiastically after seeing the mountain from Lake Minchumina in 1889, that it was known for years among prospectors as Densmores Peak.

## **Name status at the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century**

Recognized by the U.S. Board in 1897, the official name Mount McKinley immediately began to appear on federal maps.

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Although President McKinley never set foot in Alaska, his tragic assassination in 1901, just six months into his second term, likely contributed to a shared sense of public commemoration in the name Mount McKinley.

The summit of the mountain was first reached on April 3, 1913, by Hudson Stuck, Walter Harper, Robert Tatum, and Harry Karstens (Karstens later served as superintendent of the park now known as Denali National Park). Each of these first ascenders favored the name Denali for the mountain. Stuck, Episcopal Archdeacon of the Yukon, made a plea “for the restoration to the greatest mountain in North America of its immemorial native name [Denali]” in the foreword of the book he wrote about the ascent.

## **Denali goes to the U.S. Board**

The Alaska State Board on Geographic Names, acting under state authority, made the name Denali official for state use in 1975. Soon afterward, Alaska Governor Jay S. Hammond petitioned the Secretary of the Interior for federal recognition of the name by the U.S. Board on Geographic Names (BGN), the geographic names authority for the Nation.

President Benjamin Harrison first established the BGN in 1890 by executive order. In 1947 Congress re-established the BGN in its current form. Although the Board has established several principles and procedures to ensure that its decisions are made consistently through time, the central guiding principle of the Board is that, in standardizing official names for geographic features, the Board will follow established local preferences whenever possible.

The U.S. Board, in accordance with its customary practice, did not act immediately on Hammond's request in order to hear the views of many other interested parties. At its monthly meetings in April and May 1975, the BGN discussed the State resolution and then voted to defer the case for at least six months. The board members felt that the resolution involved making a decision of national importance, and as such, time was needed to inform the American people and receive reaction to the proposal. Due to continued reaction to the name-change proposal by the public and elected officials, the BGN still took no action until its July 1977 meeting, when it was agreed that public meetings should be held. The first meeting was held in October at the Department of the Interior in Washington, D.C.; the second in November in Anchorage, Alaska.

### **An impasse with Congress, opposing names, and the Board**

The BGN then indicated that it expected to render a decision on the name change proposal at its December 1977 meeting. Prior to that meeting, however, the Ohio congressional delegation introduced a Joint Resolution in Congress, which if passed, would “retain the name Mount McKinley in perpetuity.” As a result, the BGN deferred any action on the issue at that December meeting — and for many years afterward as the Ohio delegation to Congress continued to introduce legislation to keep the name Mount McKinley.

In order to distance itself from political considerations, the BGN adopted a policy in the 1960s that it would not consider geographic name issues that were the subject of pending congressional legislation, a policy later endorsed by the Secretary of the Interior in 1981. The consequence of this well-intentioned policy was that the repeated introduction of legislation by the Ohio delegation (1977-2015) had the effect of indefinitely deferring any further consideration of the McKinley-Denali controversy by the BGN.

“The 38-year impasse between the BGN and Congress was unique in BGN history, a situation that was never anticipated when the policy was adopted,” said Doug Caldwell, Chair, U.S. Board on Geographic Names.

Meanwhile, Alaskans continued to show their support for the name Denali. Resolutions in support of BGN recognition of the name for federal use were adopted by the Alaska State Board on Geographic Names in **(year, year Lou??)**. The Alaska delegation to Congress offered bills in support of the name through these years; the most recent was entered by Senator Murkowski in January 2015. As recently as August 12, 2015, the Denali Borough Assembly (the local government that encompasses the mountain) adopted a resolution to support “federal designation for the tallest North American peak as Denali.”

+++++

DENALI BOROUGH, ALASKA  
RESOLUTION NO. 15-09

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING FEDERAL DESIGNATION FOR THE  
TALLEST NORTHERN AMERICAN PEAK AS DENALI

WHEREAS, the Denali Borough Assembly is the governing body of the Denali Borough, Alaska; and,

WHEREAS, Denali National Park is located within the Denali Borough; and,

WHEREAS, Denali National Park attracts over 400,000 visitors a year; and,

WHEREAS, visitors are immersed in both the natural and cultural history of the Park; and,

WHEREAS, Mount McKinley, located in Denali National Park, is the federal designation for the mountain, named after then governor of Ohio, William McKinley; and,

WHEREAS, the historic Athabaskan name is "Denali," meaning "the Great One" or "the High One"; and,

WHEREAS, the Alaska Geographic Names Board took action in 1975 to support a name change from Mount McKinley to Denali; and,


WHEREAS, in 1993 the Alaska Historical Commission was designated by statute to be the geographic names board for the State of Alaska; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Historical Commission has steadfastly supported the name Denali, reaffirming their approval of the name change in 2001 and again in 2009.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Denali Borough Assembly, by this resolution, hereby supports Denali as the designated name of North America's tallest peak.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that while the Denali Borough Assembly supports Senate Bill 319, "A bill to designate a mountain in the State of Alaska as Mount Denali", the Assembly suggests an amendment to Senate Bill 319 to designate the name simply as Denali, and encourages the United States Congress to approve this legislation.

PASSED and APPROVED by the DENALI BOROUGH ASSEMBLY this 12<sup>TH</sup> day of AUGUST, 2015.

SIGNED:   
Mayor Clay Walker



ATTEST:   
Gail Pieknik, Borough Clerk

AYES: SHREEVE, BOELSMA, ZIMMERMAN, DEBLAUW, BURROWS, EVANS, ZAPPONE and CHATFIELD  
NOES: TATUM

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Under the 1947 law that enables the BGN to standardize and approve geographic names, the Secretary of the Interior has equal (“conjoint” is the term used in the law) authority with the Board. In fact, under the law, the Secretary is responsible for overseeing the Board’s actions. The law explicitly states that action “may be taken by the Secretary in any matter wherein the Board does not act within a reasonable time.”

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ATTEST:   
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## Conversation Contents

**Final review - USGS Top Story on Denali Name Change (details to support press release)**

**Attachments:**

/80. Final review - USGS Top Story on Denali Name Change (details to support press release)/1.1 Denali TS d0828c.docx

/80. Final review - USGS Top Story on Denali Name Change (details to support press release)/2.1 Denali TS d0828c\_DLV.docx

**"Campbell, Jon" <joncampbell@usgs.gov>**

---

**From:** "Campbell, Jon" <joncampbell@usgs.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri Aug 28 2015 12:51:16 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Shelton, Michael" <michael\_shelton@nps.gov>  
**Subject:** Final review - USGS Top Story on Denali Name Change (details to support press release)  
**Attachments:** Denali TS d0828c.docx

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**From:** "Vandegrift, Douglas" <douglas.vandegrift@boem.gov>

**Sent:** Fri Aug 28 2015 13:16:43 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
Michael Shelton <michael\_shelton@nps.gov>, "Tony N." <tgilbert@gpo.gov>, "Yost, Louis" <lyost@usgs.gov>, "Caldwell, Douglas R ERDC-TEC-VA" <Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil>, "Runyon, Jennifer" <jrunyon@usgs.gov>  
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**Subject:** Fwd: Final review - USGS Top Story on Denali Name Change (details to support press release)  
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Forgot to cc.

Chief, Mapping & Boundary Branch

Leasing Division, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management

(703) 787-1312

45600 Woodland Road, VAM-LD

Sterling, VA 20166

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

From: **Vandegraft, Douglas** <[douglas.vandegraft@boem.gov](mailto:douglas.vandegraft@boem.gov)>

Date: Fri, Aug 28, 2015 at 3:12 PM

Subject: Re: Final review - USGS Top Story on Denali Name Change (details to support press release)

To: "Campbell, Jon" <[joncampbell@usgs.gov](mailto:joncampbell@usgs.gov)>

Two minor edits.

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I've been more direct about Ohio actions here. But accurate, I trust. Read closely on that.

Dougs, note your quotes.

Mike, appreciate your diligence. But we use AP (not GPO) style for media releases from my office. ;-)

Thanks,  
Jon

*This will be a memory soon, he kept telling himself.*



## USGS Top Story for Aug. 30 – draft

USGS webpage cover image – [NPS photo, Denali](#)

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### Old Name Restored to Nation’s Highest Peak

#### Action by the Secretary of Interior ends 40-year controversy

*DOI release – [hyperlink when available](#)*

Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell has announced that the highest mountain in the United States and North America, formerly known as *Mount McKinley*, will now be officially designated by the name *Denali* in all federal records.

“This name change recognizes the sacred status of Denali to many Alaska Natives,” Secretary Jewell said in a Department of the Interior [news release \[link – tbd\]](#). “The name Denali has been official for use by the State of Alaska since 1975, but even more importantly, the mountain has been known as Denali for generations far back into the past. With our own sense of reverence for this place, we are restoring an old name in recognition of the traditions of Alaska Natives and the strong support of the people of Alaska.

Secretary Jewell issued a Secretarial Order to make the name Denali official in accordance with her authority under the [1947 federal law](#) that provides for the standardization of geographic names through the U.S Board on Geographic Names. Her action was heartily endorsed by President Obama who was participating in a meeting of the international [Arctic Council](#) in Anchorage.

+++++



**Graphic. Beautiful photo of Denali, sunrise, courtesy NPS.**  
**[Vandegraft quote as caption, a typical reaction to the majesty of the mountain.]**



***I will never forget the first time I saw Denali. Even from Anchorage, over 100 miles away, I could see a massive mound of white on the horizon, so obviously taller than anything else around it. I stood and marveled; it truly is ‘the high one.’***  
***Doug Vandegraft, Chair, Domestic Names Committee, U.S. Board on Geographic Names; resident of Anchorage, 1983-2000.***

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### **Mount McKinley, the name**

Mount McKinley was named in 1896 by William Andrews Dickey, a prospector who wrote an account of his adventures in Alaska in the January 24, 1897 edition of the *New York Sun*. He named the mountain “after William McKinley of Ohio who had been nominated for the presidency, and that fact was the first news we received on our way out of that wonderful wilderness.” McKinley championed the gold standard, a cause which Dickey supported. This article and an accompanying sketch map made the mountain known to the world outside Alaska.

But the mountain had older names.

## A name before time

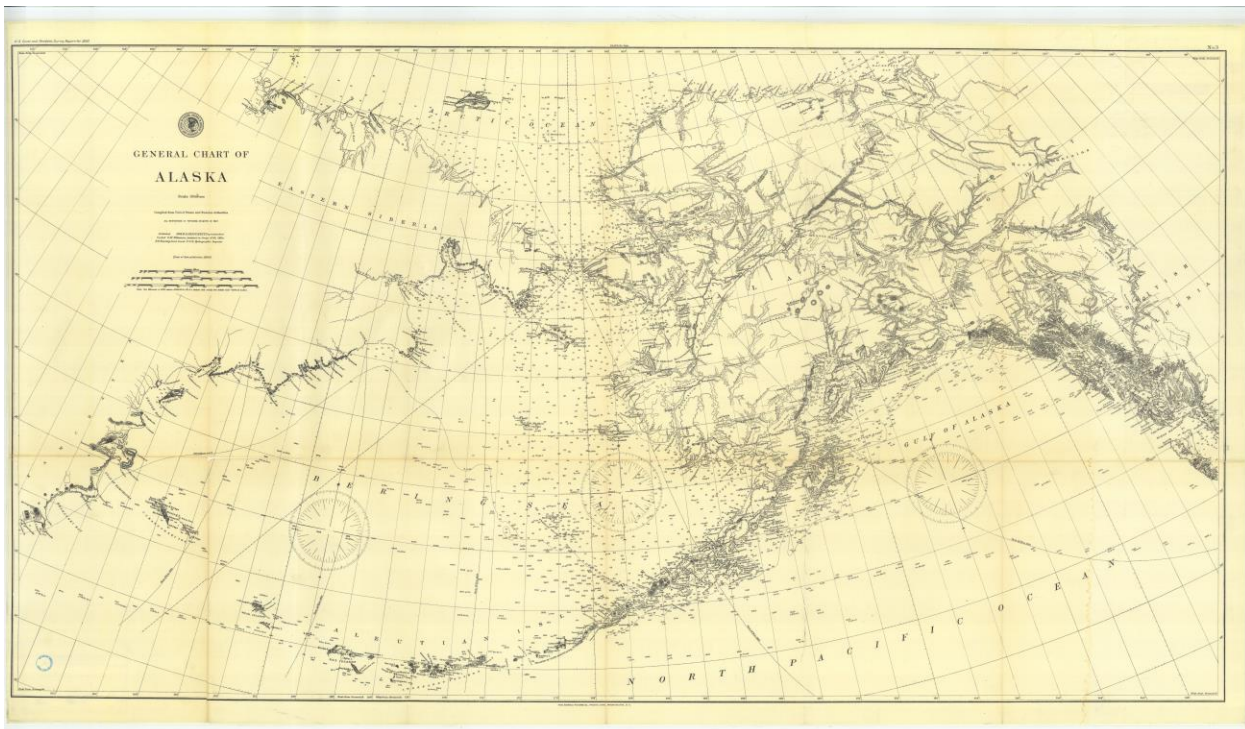
The word Denali is the accepted English spelling of an Athabaskan name for the mountain, meaning “the tall one” or “the great one.” Obviously, the first use of the name cannot be established; it is part of a long oral tradition that reaches far into the past. The official record for Denali in the [U.S. Board on Geographic Names](#) database lists over 30 variant names for the feature, many of them from Native languages and from Russian.

The first written record of the Denali massif is by Captain George Vancouver, who when seeing it from Cook Inlet in 1794, referred to the "stupendous snow mountains." The Russians descriptively called the mountain Bolshaya (Bulshaia) Gora, "big mountain." Alfred Mayo and Arthur Harper, pioneer Alaska traders, after a trip up the Tanana River in 1878, reported "a great ice mountain to the south" but did not name it. A prospector, Frank Densmore, spoke so enthusiastically after seeing the mountain from Lake Minchumina in 1889, that it was known for years among prospectors as Densmores Peak.

## Name status at the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century

Recognized by the U.S. Board in 1897, the official name Mount McKinley immediately began to appear on federal maps.

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*The [1898 U.S. Coast Survey map](#) of Alaska is one of the first federal maps to display the name Mount McKinley. (Click the image to go to the NOAA historical map website and then zoom in to see the name.) The Russian variant Bulshaia is shown in parenthesis. The map does not show Anchorage which was not founded at the time.*

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Although President McKinley never set foot in Alaska, his tragic assassination in 1901, just six months into his second term, likely contributed to a shared sense of public commemoration in the name Mount McKinley.

The summit of the mountain was first reached on April 3, 1913, by Hudson Stuck, Walter Harper, Robert Tatum, and Harry Karstens (Karstens later served as superintendent of the park now known as Denali National Park). Each of these first ascenders favored the name Denali for the mountain. Stuck, Episcopal Archdeacon of the Yukon, made a plea “for the restoration to the greatest mountain in North America of its immemorial native name [Denali]” in the foreword of the book he wrote about the ascent.

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The Alaska State Board on Geographic Names, acting under state authority, made the name Denali official for state use in 1975. Soon afterward, Alaska Governor Jay S. Hammond petitioned the Secretary of the Interior for federal recognition of the name by the U.S. Board on Geographic Names (BGN), the geographic names authority for the Nation.

President Benjamin Harrison first established the BGN in 1890 by executive order. In 1947 Congress re-established the BGN in its current form. Although the Board has established several principles and procedures to ensure that its decisions are made consistently through time, the central guiding principle of the Board is that, in standardizing official names for geographic features, the Board will follow established local preferences whenever possible.

The U.S. Board, in accordance with its customary practice, did not act immediately on Hammond’s request in order to hear the views of many other interested parties. At its monthly meetings in April and May 1975, the BGN discussed the State resolution and then voted to defer the case for at least six months. The board members felt that the resolution involved making a decision of national importance, and as such, time was needed to inform the American people and receive reaction to the proposal. Due to continued reaction to the name-change proposal by the public and elected officials, the BGN still took no action until its July 1977 meeting, when it was agreed that public meetings should be held. The first meeting was held in October at the Department of the Interior in Washington, D.C.; the second in November in Anchorage, Alaska.

### **An impasse with Congress, opposing names, and the Board**

The BGN then indicated that it expected to render a decision on the name change proposal at its December 1977 meeting. Prior to that meeting, however, the Ohio congressional delegation introduced a Joint Resolution in Congress, which if passed, would “retain the name Mount McKinley in perpetuity.” As a result, the BGN deferred any action on the issue at that December meeting — and for many years afterward as the Ohio delegation to Congress continued to introduce legislation to keep the name Mount McKinley.

In order to distance itself from political considerations, the BGN adopted a policy in the 1960s that it would not consider geographic name issues that were the subject of pending congressional legislation, a policy later endorsed by the Secretary of the Interior in 1981. The consequence of this well-intentioned policy was that the repeated introduction of legislation by the Ohio delegation (1977-2015) had the effect of indefinitely deferring any further consideration of the McKinley-Denali controversy by the BGN.

“The 38-year impasse between the BGN and Congress was unique in BGN history, a situation that was never anticipated when the policy was adopted,” said Doug Caldwell, Chair, U.S. Board on Geographic Names.

Meanwhile, Alaskans continued to show their support for the name Denali. Resolutions in support of BGN recognition of the name for federal use were adopted by the Alaska State Board on Geographic Names in **(year, year Lou??)**. The Alaska delegation to Congress offered bills in support of the name through these years; the most recent was entered by Senator Murkowski in January 2015. As recently as August 12, 2015, the Denali Borough Assembly (the local government that encompasses the mountain) adopted a resolution to support “federal designation for the tallest North American peak as Denali.”

++++++

DENALI BOROUGH, ALASKA  
RESOLUTION NO. 15-09

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING FEDERAL DESIGNATION FOR THE  
TALLEST NORTHERN AMERICAN PEAK AS DENALI

WHEREAS, the Denali Borough Assembly is the governing body of the Denali Borough, Alaska; and,

WHEREAS, Denali National Park is located within the Denali Borough; and,

WHEREAS, Denali National Park attracts over 400,000 visitors a year; and,

WHEREAS, visitors are immersed in both the natural and cultural history of the Park; and,

WHEREAS, Mount McKinley, located in Denali National Park, is the federal designation for the mountain, named after then governor of Ohio, William McKinley; and,

WHEREAS, the historic Athabaskan name is "Denali," meaning "the Great One" or "the High One"; and,

WHEREAS, the Alaska Geographic Names Board took action in 1975 to support a name change from Mount McKinley to Denali; and,

WHEREAS, in 1993 the Alaska Historical Commission was designated by statute to be the geographic names board for the State of Alaska; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Historical Commission has steadfastly supported the name Denali, reaffirming their approval of the name change in 2001 and again in 2009.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Denali Borough Assembly, by this resolution, hereby supports Denali as the designated name of North America's tallest peak.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that while the Denali Borough Assembly supports Senate Bill 319, "A bill to designate a mountain in the State of Alaska as Mount Denali", the Assembly suggests an amendment to Senate Bill 319 to designate the name simply as Denali, and encourages the United States Congress to approve this legislation.

PASSED and APPROVED by the DENALI BOROUGH ASSEMBLY this 12<sup>TH</sup> day of AUGUST, 2015.

SIGNED:   
Mayor Clay Walker



ATTEST:   
Gail Pieknik, Borough Clerk

AYES: SHREEVE, BOELSMA, ZIMMERMAN, DEBLAUW, BURROWS, EVANS, ZAPPONE and CHATFIELD  
NOES: TATUM

+++++

## **Enter the Secretary**

Under the 1947 law that enables the BGN to standardize and approve geographic names, the Secretary of the Interior has equal (“conjoint” is the term used in the law) authority with the Board. In fact, under the law, the Secretary is responsible for overseeing the Board’s actions. The law explicitly states that action “may be taken by the Secretary in any matter wherein the Board does not act within a reasonable time.”

Forty years have passed since former Alaska Governor Hammond first petitioned for a name change in 1975. In view of the expressed will of the people of Alaska and in keeping with the principles of the U.S. Board on Geographic Names, Secretary Jewell has now taken action to rename Mount McKinley as Denali under the authority granted to her office by the law.

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## USGS Top Story for Aug. 30 – draft

USGS webpage cover image – [NPS photo, Denali](#)

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Commented [DLV1]: Suggest "I will never forget the first time I saw Denali, which was from Anchorage, over 100 miles away. I saw a massive mound of white on the horizon, so obviously taller than anything else around it. I stood and marveled; it truly is 'the high one.'"



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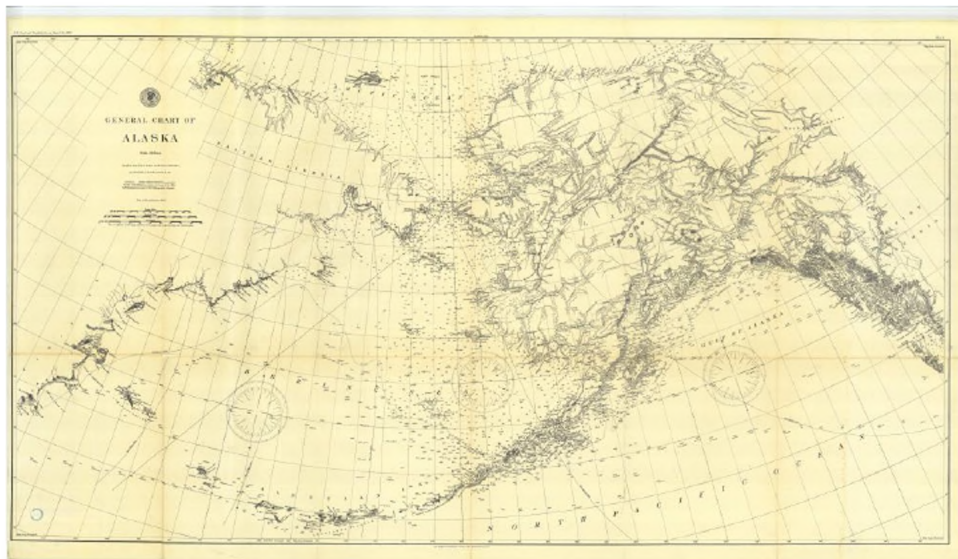
Commented [DLV2]: I thought we put this to rest. The accepted interpretations are the tall one or the high one

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PASSED and APPROVED by the DENALI BOROUGH ASSEMBLY this 12<sup>TH</sup> day of AUGUST, 2015.

SIGNED: *Clay Walker*  
Mayor Clay Walker

ATTEST: *Gail Pieknik*  
Gail Pieknik, Borough Clerk



AYES: SHREEVE, BOELSMA, ZIMMERMAN, DEBLAUW, BURROWS, EVANS, ZAPPONE and CHATFIELD  
NOES: TATUM

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Forty years have passed since former Alaska Governor Hammond first petitioned for a name change in 1975. In view of the expressed will of the people of Alaska and in keeping with the principles of the U.S. Board on Geographic Names, Secretary Jewell has now taken action to re-name Mount McKinley as Denali under the authority granted to her office by the law.

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## Conversation Contents

### **Fwd: For Fatal Flaw Review by Noon Friday: Secretary Jewell Announces North America's Highest Peak Will Now Bear Native Name**

/82. Fwd: For Fatal Flaw Review by Noon Friday: Secretary Jewell Announces North America's Highest Peak Will Now Bear Native Name/1.1 08-30-15 Denali Name Change v5.docx

/82. Fwd: For Fatal Flaw Review by Noon Friday: Secretary Jewell Announces North America's Highest Peak Will Now Bear Native Name/3.1 Dept Natural Resources ltr to Payne USGS 7.2.01 (1).pdf

/82. Fwd: For Fatal Flaw Review by Noon Friday: Secretary Jewell Announces North America's Highest Peak Will Now Bear Native Name/5.1 08-30-15 Denali Name Change v5tpb.docx

/82. Fwd: For Fatal Flaw Review by Noon Friday: Secretary Jewell Announces North America's Highest Peak Will Now Bear Native Name/6.1 08-30-15 Denali Name Change v4 + bcb+bgn.docx

/82. Fwd: For Fatal Flaw Review by Noon Friday: Secretary Jewell Announces North America's Highest Peak Will Now Bear Native Name/7.1 08-30-15 Denali Name Change v5tpb-bgn2.docx

/82. Fwd: For Fatal Flaw Review by Noon Friday: Secretary Jewell Announces North America's Highest Peak Will Now Bear Native Name/8.1 08-30-15 Denali Name Change v5tpb-bgn2.docx

### **"Wade, Anne-Berry" <abwade@usgs.gov>**

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**From:** "Wade, Anne-Berry" <abwade@usgs.gov>  
**Sent:** Thu Aug 27 2015 18:43:41 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** Jon Campbell <joncampbell@usgs.gov>, Louis Yost <lyost@usgs.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: For Fatal Flaw Review by Noon Friday: Secretary Jewell Announces North America's Highest Peak Will Now Bear Native Name  
**Attachments:** 08-30-15 Denali Name Change v5.docx

And again, pls review closely with fatal flaw edits to me NLT 11:45 tomorrow.

Looks like most of the BGN edits from today were accepted.

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

From: **Kershaw, Jessica** <[jessica\\_kershaw@ios.doi.gov](mailto:jessica_kershaw@ios.doi.gov)>

Date: Thursday, August 27, 2015

Subject: For Fatal Flaw Review by Noon Friday: Secretary Jewell Announces North

America's Highest Peak Will Now Bear Native Name

To: Press\_Review <[press\\_review@ios.doi.gov](mailto:press_review@ios.doi.gov)>, Jonathan Jarvis <[Jon\\_Jarvis@nps.gov](mailto:Jon_Jarvis@nps.gov)>, Suzette Kimball <[suzette\\_kimball@usgs.gov](mailto:suzette_kimball@usgs.gov)>, Michael Bean <[michael\\_bean@ios.doi.gov](mailto:michael_bean@ios.doi.gov)>, Jennifer Gimbel <[jennifer\\_gimbel@ios.doi.gov](mailto:jennifer_gimbel@ios.doi.gov)>, Lori Caramanian <[Lori\\_Caramanian@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Lori_Caramanian@ios.doi.gov)>, Nedra Darling <[Nedra\\_Darling@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Nedra_Darling@ios.doi.gov)>, Kevin Washburn <[kevin.washburn@bia.gov](mailto:kevin.washburn@bia.gov)>, Lawrence Roberts <[lawrence\\_roberts@ios.doi.gov](mailto:lawrence_roberts@ios.doi.gov)>, Ann Bledsoe Downes <[ann.bledsoedownes@bia.gov](mailto:ann.bledsoedownes@bia.gov)>

Cc: April Slayton <[april\\_slayton@nps.gov](mailto:april_slayton@nps.gov)>, John Quinley <[john\\_quinley@nps.gov](mailto:john_quinley@nps.gov)>, Bret Birdsong <[bret.birdsong@sol.doi.gov](mailto:bret.birdsong@sol.doi.gov)>, Maureen Foster <[maureen\\_foster@nps.gov](mailto:maureen_foster@nps.gov)>, Anne-Berry Wade <[abwade@usgs.gov](mailto:abwade@usgs.gov)>, Barbara Wainman <[bwainman@usgs.gov](mailto:bwainman@usgs.gov)>, Joan Moody <[joan\\_moody@ios.doi.gov](mailto:joan_moody@ios.doi.gov)>, Miranda Pham <[miranda\\_pham@ios.doi.gov](mailto:miranda_pham@ios.doi.gov)>, Jason Waanders <[jason.waanders@sol.doi.gov](mailto:jason.waanders@sol.doi.gov)>, Michael Johnson <[michael\\_johnson@ios.doi.gov](mailto:michael_johnson@ios.doi.gov)>, Karen Hyun <[karen\\_hyun@ios.doi.gov](mailto:karen_hyun@ios.doi.gov)>, Sarah Walters <[sarah\\_walters@ios.doi.gov](mailto:sarah_walters@ios.doi.gov)>, Sarah Harris <[sarah.harris@bia.gov](mailto:sarah.harris@bia.gov)>

Team -

Please consider this closed hold of course - but the below press release announcing a name change for Mt McKinley to its Native name, Denali, is below for your review.

We'll accept edits on this until noon tomorrow (Friday).

I know many folks have already seen this and if you have, please know we've worked to incorporate most of your edits. Others, please feel free to send/share your thoughts before noon Fri.

Thank you,  
Jessica

## Secretary Jewell Announces

### North America's Highest Peak Will Now Bear Native Name

*Endorsed by President Obama, Secretary Jewell Changes Name of Mount McKinley to Denali*

**ANCHORAGE, AK** – In recognition of the continued strong support from Alaska state, local and congressional leaders, and in resolution of an official request for a name change pending for 40 years, U.S. Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell, today announced that the highest mountain in North America, formerly known as *Mount McKinley*, will be officially given the Native name of *Denali*.

President Obama endorsed Jewell's decision to issue a Secretarial Order to officially make the name Denali. Jewell is granted the authority as Interior Secretary to make such name changes per the 1947 federal law that provides for the standardization of geographic names through the U.S Board on Geographic Names. The name change will

be reflected in all federal usage.

“This name change recognizes the sacred status of Denali to many Alaska Natives,” Secretary Jewell said. “Not only has the name Denali been official for use by the State of Alaska since 1975, but the mountain has been known as Denali to generations of Alaskans. With our own sense of reverence for this place, we are restoring an old name in further recognition of the traditions of Alaska Natives.

The mountain stands near the center of traditional Athabaskan territory. The word Denali is the accepted English spelling of an ancient Athabaskan place name, usually recorded as *Deenaalee*, meaning ‘the tall one.’ [JLK1]

While the name Denali has been official for use by authority of the State of Alaska since 1975, the [U.S. Board on Geographic Names](#), until today, had specified the name Mount McKinley for federal publications since 1897. The mountain retained the federally authorized name Mount McKinley, even as the name of the national park was changed in 1980 from McKinley National Park into the new (and larger) area named Denali National Park and Preserve under the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act.

“Recognizing the long history and debate about the name of this iconic American mountain, the time has come to restore the traditional Alaska Native title ‘Denali’ for this landmark, which holds great significance to the people of Alaska,” said National Park Service Director Jonathan B. Jarvis.

In 1896, a prospector emerged from exploring the mountains of central Alaska and received news that William McKinley had been nominated as a candidate for President of the United States. In a show of support, the prospector declared the tallest peak of the Alaska Range as Mount McKinley – and the name stuck.

For centuries, the mountain that rises some 20,000 feet above sea level, the tallest on the North American continent, had been known by another name – Denali. McKinley, our 25th President, was tragically assassinated just six months into his second term, but he never set foot in Alaska.

On March 11, 1975, Governor Jay S. Hammond of Alaska requested the Secretary of the Interior to direct the U.S. Board on Geographic Names to officially designate Mount McKinley in Alaska as Denali. This proposal, never withdrawn, is based on a resolution that was passed by the Alaska State Legislature.

Since 1977, the Board, in deference to potential congressional action, had not considered the case for changing the federally recognized geographic name from Mount McKinley to Denali. Secretary Jewell’s action today finally resolves the March 1975 proposal by former Governor Hammond.

[Denali National Park](#), where the mountain is located, was established in 1917 and annually sees more than 500,000 visitors to the 6 million acres that now make up the park and preserve. About 1,200 mountaineers attempt to summit the mountain each year; typically about half are successful.



###

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[JLK1]In WH vetting.

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Jessica Kershaw  
Senior Adviser & Press Secretary  
U.S. Dept of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
202-208-6416

--

A.B. Wade  
[USGS](#) Press Officer  
703-648-4483 desk  
703-317-7871 mobile

**"Yost, Louis" <[lyost@usgs.gov](mailto:lyost@usgs.gov)>**

---

**From:** "Yost, Louis" <[lyost@usgs.gov](mailto:lyost@usgs.gov)>  
**Sent:** Fri Aug 28 2015 05:57:06 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Wade, Anne-Berry" <[abwade@usgs.gov](mailto:abwade@usgs.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: For Fatal Flaw Review by Noon Friday: Secretary Jewell Announces North America's Highest Peak Will Now Bear Native Name

I don't see any fatal flaws. It looks pretty good. Thanks.

On Thu, Aug 27, 2015 at 8:43 PM, Wade, Anne-Berry <[abwade@usgs.gov](mailto:abwade@usgs.gov)> wrote:  
And again, pls review closely with fatal flaw edits to me NLT 11:45 tomorrow.

Looks like most of the BGN edits from today were accepted.

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

From: **Kershaw, Jessica** <[jessica\\_kershaw@ios.doi.gov](mailto:jessica_kershaw@ios.doi.gov)>  
Date: Thursday, August 27, 2015  
Subject: For Fatal Flaw Review by Noon Friday: Secretary Jewell Announces North America's Highest Peak Will Now Bear Native Name  
To: Press\_Review <[press\\_review@ios.doi.gov](mailto:press_review@ios.doi.gov)>, Jonathan Jarvis <[Jon\\_Jarvis@nps.gov](mailto:Jon_Jarvis@nps.gov)>, Suzette Kimball <[suzette\\_kimball@usgs.gov](mailto:suzette_kimball@usgs.gov)>, Michael Bean <[michael\\_bean@ios.doi.gov](mailto:michael_bean@ios.doi.gov)>, Jennifer Gimbel <[jennifer\\_gimbel@ios.doi.gov](mailto:jennifer_gimbel@ios.doi.gov)>, Lori Caramanian <[Lori\\_Caramanian@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Lori_Caramanian@ios.doi.gov)>, Nedra Darling

<[Nedra Darling@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Nedra_Darling@ios.doi.gov)>, Kevin Washburn <[kevin.washburn@bia.gov](mailto:kevin.washburn@bia.gov)>, Lawrence Roberts <[lawrence\\_roberts@ios.doi.gov](mailto:lawrence_roberts@ios.doi.gov)>, Ann Bledsoe Downes <[ann.bledsoedownes@bia.gov](mailto:ann.bledsoedownes@bia.gov)>  
Cc: April Slayton <[april\\_slayton@nps.gov](mailto:april_slayton@nps.gov)>, John Quinley <[john\\_quinley@nps.gov](mailto:john_quinley@nps.gov)>, Bret Birdsong <[bret.birdsong@sol.doi.gov](mailto:bret.birdsong@sol.doi.gov)>, Maureen Foster <[maureen\\_foster@nps.gov](mailto:maureen_foster@nps.gov)>, Anne-Berry Wade <[abwade@usgs.gov](mailto:abwade@usgs.gov)>, Barbara Wainman <[bwainman@usgs.gov](mailto:bwainman@usgs.gov)>, Joan Moody <[joan\\_moody@ios.doi.gov](mailto:joan_moody@ios.doi.gov)>, Miranda Pham <[miranda\\_pham@ios.doi.gov](mailto:miranda_pham@ios.doi.gov)>, Jason Waanders <[jason.waanders@sol.doi.gov](mailto:jason.waanders@sol.doi.gov)>, Michael Johnson <[michael\\_johnson@ios.doi.gov](mailto:michael_johnson@ios.doi.gov)>, Karen Hyun <[karen\\_hyun@ios.doi.gov](mailto:karen_hyun@ios.doi.gov)>, Sarah Walters <[sarah\\_walters@ios.doi.gov](mailto:sarah_walters@ios.doi.gov)>, Sarah Harris <[sarah.harris@bia.gov](mailto:sarah.harris@bia.gov)>

Team -

Please consider this closed hold of course - but the below press release announcing a name change for Mt McKinley to its Native name, Denali, is below for your review.

We'll accept edits on this until noon tomorrow (Friday).

I know many folks have already seen this and if you have, please know we've worked to incorporate most of your edits. Others, please feel free to send/share your thoughts before noon Fri.

Thank you,  
Jessica

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### North America's Highest Peak Will Now Bear Native Name

*Endorsed by President Obama, Secretary Jewell Changes Name of Mount McKinley to Denali*

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President Obama endorsed Jewell's decision to issue a Secretarial Order to officially make the name Denali. Jewell is granted the authority as Interior Secretary to make such name changes per the 1947 federal law that provides for the standardization of geographic names through the U.S Board on Geographic Names. The name change will be reflected in all federal usage.

"This name change recognizes the sacred status of Denali to many Alaska Natives," Secretary Jewell said. "Not only has the name Denali been official for use by the State of Alaska since 1975, but the mountain has been known as Denali to generations of

Alaskans. With our own sense of reverence for this place, we are restoring an old name in further recognition of the traditions of Alaska Natives.

The mountain stands near the center of traditional Athabaskan territory. The word Denali is the accepted English spelling of an ancient Athabaskan place name, usually recorded as *Deenaalee*, meaning ‘the tall one.’ [JLK1]

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“Recognizing the long history and debate about the name of this iconic American mountain, the time has come to restore the traditional Alaska Native title ‘Denali’ for this landmark, which holds great significance to the people of Alaska,” said National Park Service Director Jonathan B. Jarvis.

In 1896, a prospector emerged from exploring the mountains of central Alaska and received news that William McKinley had been nominated as a candidate for President of the United States. In a show of support, the prospector declared the tallest peak of the Alaska Range as Mount McKinley – and the name stuck.

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On March 11, 1975, Governor Jay S. Hammond of Alaska requested the Secretary of the Interior to direct the U.S. Board on Geographic Names to officially designate Mount McKinley in Alaska as Denali. This proposal, never withdrawn, is based on a resolution that was passed by the Alaska State Legislature.

Since 1977, the Board, in deference to potential congressional action, had not considered the case for changing the federally recognized geographic name from Mount McKinley to Denali. Secretary Jewell’s action today finally resolves the March 1975 proposal by former Governor Hammond.

[Denali National Park](#), where the mountain is located, was established in 1917 and annually sees more than 500,000 visitors to the 6 million acres that now make up the park and preserve. About 1,200 mountaineers attempt to summit the mountain each year; typically about half are successful.

###

--  
Jessica Kershaw  
Senior Adviser & Press Secretary  
U.S. Dept of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
202-208-6416

--  
A.B. Wade  
[USGS](#) Press Officer  
703-648-4483 desk  
703-317-7871 mobile

## **"Wade, Anne-Berry" <abwade@usgs.gov>**

---

**From:** "Wade, Anne-Berry" <abwade@usgs.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri Aug 28 2015 08:00:04 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** Jon Campbell <joncampbell@usgs.gov>, Louis Yost <lyost@usgs.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: For Fatal Flaw Review by Noon Friday: Secretary Jewell Announces North America's Highest Peak Will Now Bear Native Name  
**Attachments:** Dept Natural Resources ltr to Payne USGS 7.2.01 (1).pdf

This is an fyi to keep you informed regarding questions the group is asking about some wording in the press release. Bret Birdsong has resolved this question from Nikki.

A.B. Wade  
[USGS](#) Press Officer  
703-648-4483 desk  
703-317-7871 mobile

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

From: **Birdsong, Bret** <[bret.birdsong@sol.doi.gov](mailto:bret.birdsong@sol.doi.gov)>  
Date: Fri, Aug 28, 2015 at 9:49 AM  
Subject: Re: For Fatal Flaw Review by Noon Friday: Secretary Jewell Announces North America's Highest Peak Will Now Bear Native Name  
To: Nicole Buffa <[nicole\\_buffa@ios.doi.gov](mailto:nicole_buffa@ios.doi.gov)>  
Cc: "Kershaw, Jessica" <[jessica\\_kershaw@ios.doi.gov](mailto:jessica_kershaw@ios.doi.gov)>, Press\_Review <[press\\_review@ios.doi.gov](mailto:press_review@ios.doi.gov)>, Jonathan Jarvis <[Jon\\_Jarvis@nps.gov](mailto:Jon_Jarvis@nps.gov)>, Suzette Kimball <[suzette\\_kimball@usgs.gov](mailto:suzette_kimball@usgs.gov)>, Michael Bean <[michael\\_bean@ios.doi.gov](mailto:michael_bean@ios.doi.gov)>, Jennifer

Gimbel <[jennifer\\_gimbel@ios.doi.gov](mailto:jennifer_gimbel@ios.doi.gov)>, Lori Caramanian <[Lori\\_Caramanian@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Lori_Caramanian@ios.doi.gov)>, Nedra Darling <[Nedra\\_Darling@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Nedra_Darling@ios.doi.gov)>, Kevin Washburn <[kevin.washburn@bia.gov](mailto:kevin.washburn@bia.gov)>, Lawrence Roberts <[lawrence\\_roberts@ios.doi.gov](mailto:lawrence_roberts@ios.doi.gov)>, Ann Bledsoe Downes <[ann.bledsoedownes@bia.gov](mailto:ann.bledsoedownes@bia.gov)>, April Slayton <[april\\_slayton@nps.gov](mailto:april_slayton@nps.gov)>, John Quinley <[john\\_quinley@nps.gov](mailto:john_quinley@nps.gov)>, Maureen Foster <[maureen\\_foster@nps.gov](mailto:maureen_foster@nps.gov)>, Anne-Berry Wade <[abwade@usgs.gov](mailto:abwade@usgs.gov)>, Barbara Wainman <[bwainman@usgs.gov](mailto:bwainman@usgs.gov)>, Joan Moody <[joan\\_moody@ios.doi.gov](mailto:joan_moody@ios.doi.gov)>, Miranda Pham <[miranda\\_pham@ios.doi.gov](mailto:miranda_pham@ios.doi.gov)>, Jason Waanders <[jason.waanders@sol.doi.gov](mailto:jason.waanders@sol.doi.gov)>, Michael Johnson <[michael\\_johnson@ios.doi.gov](mailto:michael_johnson@ios.doi.gov)>, Karen Hyun <[karen\\_hyun@ios.doi.gov](mailto:karen_hyun@ios.doi.gov)>, Sarah Walters <[sarah\\_walters@ios.doi.gov](mailto:sarah_walters@ios.doi.gov)>, Sarah Harris <[sarah.harris@bia.gov](mailto:sarah.harris@bia.gov)>, Ted Boling <[Ted.Boling@sol.doi.gov](mailto:Ted.Boling@sol.doi.gov)>

Nikki,

The statement about the State of Alaska officially using the name since 1975 is correct. The citation is the minutes of the August 19, 1975 meeting of the Alaska Board of Geographic Names, which are appended to the attached document, if you scroll down a bit.

Bret

On Fri, Aug 28, 2015 at 8:31 AM, Nicole Buffa <[nicole\\_buffa@ios.doi.gov](mailto:nicole_buffa@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:  
Plus Ted and minus some.

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Also, just a reminder that all Alaskans want this, not just native Alaskans.

Thanks,  
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On Aug 27, 2015, at 4:56 PM, "Kershaw, Jessica" <[jessica\\_kershaw@ios.doi.gov](mailto:jessica_kershaw@ios.doi.gov)> wrote:

Team -

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[JLK1]In WH vetting.

--

Jessica Kershaw  
Senior Adviser & Press Secretary  
U.S. Dept of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
202-208-6416

<08-30-15 Denali Name Change v5.docx>

Bret Birdsong  
Deputy Solicitor -- Land Resources  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-4423 (main)  
202-208-6321 (direct)  
202-208-5584 (fax)  
[Bret.Birdsong@sol.doi.gov](mailto:Bret.Birdsong@sol.doi.gov)

## "Yost, Louis" <[lyost@usgs.gov](mailto:lyost@usgs.gov)>

---

**From:** "Yost, Louis" <[lyost@usgs.gov](mailto:lyost@usgs.gov)>  
**Sent:** Fri Aug 28 2015 08:15:52 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Wade, Anne-Berry" <[abwade@usgs.gov](mailto:abwade@usgs.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: For Fatal Flaw Review by Noon Friday: Secretary Jewell Announces North America's Highest Peak Will Now Bear Native Name

Ha! I'm impressed by Mr. Birdsong.

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703-317-7871 mobile

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

**From:** **Birdsong, Bret** <[bret.birdsong@sol.doi.gov](mailto:bret.birdsong@sol.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** Fri, Aug 28, 2015 at 9:49 AM  
**Subject:** Re: For Fatal Flaw Review by Noon Friday: Secretary Jewell Announces North America's Highest Peak Will Now Bear Native Name  
**To:** Nicole Buffa <[nicole\\_buffa@ios.doi.gov](mailto:nicole_buffa@ios.doi.gov)>  
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<[joan\\_moody@ios.doi.gov](mailto:joan_moody@ios.doi.gov)>, Miranda Pham <[miranda\\_pham@ios.doi.gov](mailto:miranda_pham@ios.doi.gov)>, Jason Waanders <[jason.waanders@sol.doi.gov](mailto:jason.waanders@sol.doi.gov)>, Michael Johnson <[michael\\_johnson@ios.doi.gov](mailto:michael_johnson@ios.doi.gov)>, Karen Hyun <[karen\\_hyun@ios.doi.gov](mailto:karen_hyun@ios.doi.gov)>, Sarah Walters <[sarah\\_walters@ios.doi.gov](mailto:sarah_walters@ios.doi.gov)>, Sarah Harris <[sarah.harris@bia.gov](mailto:sarah.harris@bia.gov)>, Ted Boling <[Ted.Boling@sol.doi.gov](mailto:Ted.Boling@sol.doi.gov)>

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Senior Adviser & Press Secretary  
U.S. Dept of the Interior  
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<08-30-15 Denali Name Change v5.docx>

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Bret Birdsong  
Deputy Solicitor -- Land Resources

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1849 C Street NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-4423 (main)  
202-208-6321 (direct)  
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**"Wade, Anne-Berry" <abwade@usgs.gov>**

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**From:** "Wade, Anne-Berry" <abwade@usgs.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri Aug 28 2015 09:02:27 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** Louis Yost <lyost@usgs.gov>, Jon Campbell <joncampbell@usgs.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: For Fatal Flaw Review by Noon Friday: Secretary Jewell Announces North America's Highest Peak Will Now Bear Native Name  
**Attachments:** 08-30-15 Denali Name Change v5tpb.docx

This version needs your review. Beaudreau (former BOEM director) deleted reference to BGN. I think we will need to push back on it.

A.B. Wade  
[USGS](#) Press Officer  
703-648-4483 desk  
703-317-7871 mobile

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

From: **Beaudreau, Tommy** <[tommy\\_beaudreau@ios.doi.gov](mailto:tommy_beaudreau@ios.doi.gov)>  
Date: Fri, Aug 28, 2015 at 10:47 AM  
Subject: Re: For Fatal Flaw Review by Noon Friday: Secretary Jewell Announces North America's Highest Peak Will Now Bear Native Name  
To: "Birdsong, Bret" <[bret.birdsong@sol.doi.gov](mailto:bret.birdsong@sol.doi.gov)>  
Cc: Nicole Buffa <[nicole\\_buffa@ios.doi.gov](mailto:nicole_buffa@ios.doi.gov)>, "Kershaw, Jessica" <[jessica\\_kershaw@ios.doi.gov](mailto:jessica_kershaw@ios.doi.gov)>, Press\_Review <[press\\_review@ios.doi.gov](mailto:press_review@ios.doi.gov)>, Jonathan Jarvis <[Jon\\_Jarvis@nps.gov](mailto:Jon_Jarvis@nps.gov)>, Suzette Kimball <[suzette\\_kimball@usgs.gov](mailto:suzette_kimball@usgs.gov)>, Michael Bean <[michael\\_bean@ios.doi.gov](mailto:michael_bean@ios.doi.gov)>, Jennifer Gimbel <[jennifer\\_gimbel@ios.doi.gov](mailto:jennifer_gimbel@ios.doi.gov)>, Lori Caramanian <[Lori\\_Caramanian@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Lori_Caramanian@ios.doi.gov)>, Nedra Darling <[Nedra\\_Darling@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Nedra_Darling@ios.doi.gov)>, Kevin Washburn <[kevin\\_washburn@bia.gov](mailto:kevin_washburn@bia.gov)>, Lawrence Roberts <[lawrence\\_roberts@ios.doi.gov](mailto:lawrence_roberts@ios.doi.gov)>, Ann Bledsoe Downes <[ann.bledsoedownes@bia.gov](mailto:ann.bledsoedownes@bia.gov)>, April Slayton <[april\\_slayton@nps.gov](mailto:april_slayton@nps.gov)>, John Quinley <[john\\_quinley@nps.gov](mailto:john_quinley@nps.gov)>, Maureen Foster <[maureen\\_foster@nps.gov](mailto:maureen_foster@nps.gov)>, Anne-Berry Wade <[abwade@usgs.gov](mailto:abwade@usgs.gov)>, Barbara Wainman <[bwainman@usgs.gov](mailto:bwainman@usgs.gov)>, Joan Moody <[joan\\_moody@ios.doi.gov](mailto:joan_moody@ios.doi.gov)>, Miranda Pham <[miranda\\_pham@ios.doi.gov](mailto:miranda_pham@ios.doi.gov)>, Jason Waanders <[jason.waanders@sol.doi.gov](mailto:jason.waanders@sol.doi.gov)>, Michael Johnson

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"This name change recognizes the sacred status of Denali to many Alaska Natives," Secretary Jewell said. "Not only has the name Denali been official for use by the State of Alaska since 1975, but the mountain has been known as Denali to generations of Alaskans. With our own sense of reverence for this place, we are restoring an old name in further recognition of the traditions of Alaska Natives.

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<08-30-15 Denali Name Change v5.docx>

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U.S. Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-4423 (main)  
202-208-6321 (direct)  
202-208-5584 (fax)  
[Bret.Birdsong@sol.doi.gov](mailto:Bret.Birdsong@sol.doi.gov)

## **"Campbell, Jon" <[joncampbell@usgs.gov](mailto:joncampbell@usgs.gov)>**

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**Sent:** Fri Aug 28 2015 10:00:23 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Wade, Anne-Berry" <[abwade@usgs.gov](mailto:abwade@usgs.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: For Fatal Flaw Review by Noon Friday: Secretary Jewell Announces North America's Highest Peak Will Now Bear Native Name  
**Attachments:** 08-30-15 Denali Name Change v4 + bcb+bgn.docx

I folded on the one paragraph we discussed. Boudreau is right. WThe official use of name by AK is mentioned in Sally's first quote.

Jon Campbell  
U.S. Geological Survey  
Office of Communications and Publishing  
703-648-4180 | m 571-230-6831  
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Use this version - BGN2

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1849 C Street NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-4423 (main)  
202-208-6321 (direct)  
202-208-5584 (fax)  
[Bret.Birdsong@sol.doi.gov](mailto:Bret.Birdsong@sol.doi.gov)



**"Campbell, Jon" <joncampbell@usgs.gov>**

---

**From:** "Campbell, Jon" <joncampbell@usgs.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri Aug 28 2015 10:30:30 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** Louis Yost <lyost@usgs.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Re2: For Fatal Flaw Review by Noon Friday: Secretary Jewell Announces North America's Highest Peak Will Now Bear Native Name  
**Attachments:** 08-30-15 Denali Name Change v5tpb-bgn2.docx

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**Date:** Fri, Aug 28, 2015 at 12:13 PM  
**Subject:** Fwd: Re2: For Fatal Flaw Review by Noon Friday: Secretary Jewell Announces North America's Highest Peak Will Now Bear Native Name  
**To:** Jessica Kershaw <[jessica\\_kershaw@ios.doi.gov](mailto:jessica_kershaw@ios.doi.gov)>

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A.B. Wade  
[USGS](#) Press Officer  
703-648-4483 desk  
703-317-7871 mobile

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**From:** **Beaudreau, Tommy** <[tommy\\_beaudreau@ios.doi.gov](mailto:tommy_beaudreau@ios.doi.gov)>  
**Date:** Fri, Aug 28, 2015 at 10:47 AM  
**Subject:** Re: For Fatal Flaw Review by Noon Friday: Secretary Jewell Announces North America's Highest Peak Will Now Bear Native Name  
**To:** "Birdsong, Bret" <[bret.birdsong@sol.doi.gov](mailto:bret.birdsong@sol.doi.gov)>  
**Cc:** Nicole Buffa <[nicole\\_buffa@ios.doi.gov](mailto:nicole_buffa@ios.doi.gov)>, "Kershaw, Jessica" <[jessica\\_kershaw@ios.doi.gov](mailto:jessica_kershaw@ios.doi.gov)>, Press\_Review <[press\\_review@ios.doi.gov](mailto:press_review@ios.doi.gov)>.

Jonathan Jarvis <[Jon\\_Jarvis@nps.gov](mailto:Jon_Jarvis@nps.gov)>, Suzette Kimball <[suzette\\_kimball@usgs.gov](mailto:suzette_kimball@usgs.gov)>, Michael Bean <[michael\\_bean@ios.doi.gov](mailto:michael_bean@ios.doi.gov)>, Jennifer Gimbel <[jennifer\\_gimbel@ios.doi.gov](mailto:jennifer_gimbel@ios.doi.gov)>, Lori Caramanian <[Lori\\_Caramanian@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Lori_Caramanian@ios.doi.gov)>, Nedra Darling <[Nedra\\_Darling@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Nedra_Darling@ios.doi.gov)>, Kevin Washburn <[kevin.washburn@bia.gov](mailto:kevin.washburn@bia.gov)>, Lawrence Roberts <[lawrence\\_roberts@ios.doi.gov](mailto:lawrence_roberts@ios.doi.gov)>, Ann Bledsoe Downes <[ann.bledsoedownes@bia.gov](mailto:ann.bledsoedownes@bia.gov)>, April Slayton <[april\\_slayton@nps.gov](mailto:april_slayton@nps.gov)>, John Quinley <[john\\_quinley@nps.gov](mailto:john_quinley@nps.gov)>, Maureen Foster <[maureen\\_foster@nps.gov](mailto:maureen_foster@nps.gov)>, Anne-Berry Wade <[abwade@usgs.gov](mailto:abwade@usgs.gov)>, Barbara Wainman <[bwainman@usgs.gov](mailto:bwainman@usgs.gov)>, Joan Moody <[joan\\_moody@ios.doi.gov](mailto:joan_moody@ios.doi.gov)>, Miranda Pham <[miranda\\_pham@ios.doi.gov](mailto:miranda_pham@ios.doi.gov)>, Jason Waanders <[jason.waanders@sol.doi.gov](mailto:jason.waanders@sol.doi.gov)>, Michael Johnson <[michael\\_johnson@ios.doi.gov](mailto:michael_johnson@ios.doi.gov)>, Karen Hyun <[karen\\_hyun@ios.doi.gov](mailto:karen_hyun@ios.doi.gov)>, Sarah Walters <[sarah\\_walters@ios.doi.gov](mailto:sarah_walters@ios.doi.gov)>, Sarah Harris <[sarah.harris@bia.gov](mailto:sarah.harris@bia.gov)>, Ted Boling <[Ted.Boling@sol.doi.gov](mailto:Ted.Boling@sol.doi.gov)>

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###

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[JLK1]In WH vetting.

--

Jessica Kershaw  
Senior Adviser & Press Secretary  
U.S. Dept of the Interior  
@DOIPressSec  
202-208-6416

<08-30-15 Denali Name Change v5.docx>

--

Bret Birdsong  
Deputy Solicitor -- Land Resources  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
1849 C Street NW  
Washington, DC 20240  
202-208-4423 (main)  
202-208-6321 (direct)  
202-208-5584 (fax)  
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---

**"Yost, Louis" <lyost@usgs.gov>**

**From:** "Yost, Louis" <lyost@usgs.gov>  
**Sent:** Fri Aug 28 2015 10:49:52 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Campbell, Jon" <joncampbell@usgs.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Re2: For Fatal Flaw Review by Noon Friday: Secretary Jewell Announces North America's Highest Peak Will Now Bear Native Name

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OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

**U.S. Department  
of the Interior**

[www.doi.gov](http://www.doi.gov)

## News Release

Date: August 30, 2015

Contacts: Jessica Kershaw (Interior), [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)  
[AB Wade/Other? \(USGS\). XXX.gov](#)  
[John Quinley/Other? \(NPS\). XXX.gov](#)

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✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓  
return to

**TONY KNOWLES, GOVERNOR**

**DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES**

**DIVISION OF PARKS AND OUTDOOR RECREATION  
OFFICE OF HISTORY AND ARCHAEOLOGY**

550 W. 7TH AVENUE, SUITE 1310  
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501-3565  
PHONE: (907) 269-8721  
FAX: (907) 269-8908

July 2, 2001

Re: 3030-1 USBGN

Roger Payne, Executive Secretary  
Domestic Geographic Names  
U.S. Geological Survey  
523 National Center  
Reston, VA 22092

Dear Roger:

The draft minutes from the June 20-22, 2001 meeting of the Alaska Historical Commission with actions the members took on geographic name proposals are enclosed. Also with this letter, I am forwarding the Domestic Geographic Name Reports with relevant documentation and all review comments received for proposals approved or denied by the commission at the meeting.

If you have any questions about the geographic name proposals or the commission's actions on them, please contact me at e-mail [joa@dnr.state.ak.us](mailto:joa@dnr.state.ak.us) or phone 907-269-8714.

Sincerely,



Joan M. Antonson  
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

enclosures: draft minutes  
geographic name proposals acted upon at 6/20-22/01 AHC meeting

ALASKA HISTORICAL COMMISSION MINUTES  
June 20-22, 2001

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(associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history) and C (embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction), with no special criteria considerations, is of local significance, and is associated with Alaska's historic preservation planning themes of commerce and economic development, transportation and communication, and exploration and settlement. The period of significance is 1925-1942, and the areas of significance are industry, architecture, community planning and development. Beverly Beeton seconded the motion; passed unanimously.

Point Retreat Light Station, Juneau vicinity. The Alaska Lighthouse Association, who has a lease to the light station from the U.S. Coast Guard, prepared the documentation. The U.S. Coast Guard provided review comments too late for the documentation to be revised. Jo Antonson explained the differences of opinion regarding boundaries, to encompass just the buildings or include the viewshed. Several commission members raised questions about the acreage indicated in the nomination not correlating with the maps. Tom Taylor asked if the acreage was computed from mean sea level. Beverly Beeton moved to table the Point Retreat Light Station nomination. Terry Hyer seconded the motion; passed unanimously.

Denali/Mt. McKinley geographic name.

Alaskans have pursued changing the name of Mt. McKinley to Denali since 1975. The U.S. Board of Geographic Names has not acted on the proposal to change the name because of its policy to taken no action when there is legislation pending in Congress, in this case to keep the name Mt. McKinley.

Commission members discussed possible actions they could take to continue efforts to change the name. They decided to re-endorse the state geographic name board's 1976 decision to approve the name change. They directed staff to prepare letters for the Lt. Governor's signature to Alaska's congressional delegation and the U.S. Board on Geographic Names. The letters should reference the commission's discussion, state the commission's position that the name Denali is preferred, and give a brief history of the effort to change the name. Also, members suggested talking with representatives from the Division of Tourism and its boards about the issue and hearing any ideas they might suggest to show Alaskans support for the name Denali. Members thought the fact sheets the State of Alaska has for students, as well as the state's web page, might include sections about the mountain's name. Glenda Carino said she would pursue these avenues. Peter Bowers noted the "Balto connection" between Alaska and Ohio. A suggestion was made to have young Alaskans, particularly Athabaskan children, send letters about the mountain and its name and history to Ohio newspapers. Tom Taylor cited the work by Jim Kari. It was noted that Jim was advised of this meeting. Bob Sattler added that his

ALASKA HISTORICAL COMMISSION MINUTES  
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organization could write to tribal entities in Ohio and bring the subject up with the federal government in a government-to-government conversation.

Other business.

A.C. Brown said fieldwork is underway on the Pribilof Islands mapping project. He hopes geographic name proposals for features on the islands will be submitted this year.

Terry Hyer said a recent National Trust for Historic Preservation publication pictured St. Joseph's Church at Nome. Judy Bittner said she had forgotten to mention the Federal Highway Administration used a photograph of Creamer's Dairy on its new report on the TEA-21 enhancement program.

Peter Bowers said he is not going to seek reappointment to the commission when his term ends in July. He has been on two full terms, plus several years. He said that he enjoyed working with everyone. Lt. Governor Ulmer expressed thanks to Peter for his public service.

Tentative place, date, time of next meeting. The next Alaska Historical Commission meeting is tentatively scheduled for early November in Anchorage, perhaps following the Governor's Conference on Cultural Tourism.

Adjournment. Lt. Governor Ulmer adjourned the meeting at 5:15 p.m., June 22, 2001.

cc: Jim Stratton, Director, Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation

NOTED  
SEP 9 1980  
Executive Secretary  
Domestic Geographic Names

THE ALASKA STATE GEOGRAPHIC BOARD

MEETING MINUTES

August 28, 1980

The meeting of the Alaska State Geographic Board was called to order by Commissioner Lee McAnerney, Chairperson, at 1:30, August 28, 1980. Board members present were: Phyllis DeMuth, State Historical Library; Governor William A. Egan, public member; Gerald Heywood, USFS, Juneau; Jeff Jeffers, Department of Education; Robert Ward, Commissioner, Transportation and Public Facilities, and Hilton Wolf. Staff present: Leanne Pilcher, Board Secretary.

U.S. DOCKET #243

Northwestern Fiord; McCarty Fiord; Harris Bay; Northwestern Glacier; Northwestern Lagoon: Members of the State Board moved to approve listed features. The motion was seconded and carried.

U.S. DOCKET #244

Lutris Pass; Jade Harbor: Same action as on U.S. DOCKET #243.

U.S. DOCKET #247

Matanuska Peak: The State Board moved to approve this proposal. The motion was seconded and carried.

U.S. DOCKET #252

Cheval Narrows; Derby Cove; Fox Island; Iron Door; Halibut Cove; No Name Island; Old Valdez; Twin Rocks; Valdez: The Board members approved this Docket with the exclusion of Halibut Cove, because of the duplication in the area.

↙  
U.S. DOCKET #253

Denali; Johnson's Slough; Kaenus; Manty Mountain; Kunayosh Creek; Nookwastee Spire; Perue Peak: Kaenus and Nookwastee Spire were rejected by the State Board because they did not meet pronunciation guidelines set by the Board. The Board asked the Board Secretary to contact and clarify the background of Perue Peak and Manty Mountain. The other features proposed in the Docket were approved.



**AGNB MINUTES**  
**February 22, 1990**

→The minutes of the November 2, 1989, meeting were approved.

→**Denali/McKinley Controversy - Update**

Since the last meeting, letters have been written to Donald Orth of the U.S. Board on Geographic Names from Commissioner David Hoffman and Governor Steve Cowper, urging the Board to change their internal policy which places name decisions "on hold" when legislation is introduced in Congress.

Senator Ted Stevens wrote Commissioner Hoffman, explaining that the problem runs deeper than just filibustering or federal policy. Congressman Ralph Regula from Ohio is the Ranking Member of the Interior Appropriations Subcommittee (House), and since the early 80s, he has included language in the Interior Appropriations bill forbidding the Board from expending any funds to rename McKinley. Whereas Alaska has added nearly \$100 million in the Interior Appropriations bill for Tongass, ANWR research, etc., Ohio has almost nothing in this bill, except this provision. Stevens explained that Regula has helped obtain funding for Tongass for several years; this is his "bargaining chip" with us. Unless we want to jeopardize millions of dollars of funding for the Denali name, we're at a stand-off right now. Stevens feels that he'll be in a better position to push to rename McKinley after the status of Tongass is resolved.

→**Policy on Suggestive or Vulgar Names**

The AGNB has received a proposal that could be considered suggestive or vulgar. It is a descriptive proposal, "Limberdick Lake." Staff is looking for general guidance from the Board. There is no federal policy on suggestive or vulgar names, only against derogatory or racial name proposals. Can staff dismiss the proposal, or should we follow through with the normal process and let the Board decide on a case-by-case basis? Board members discussed that there should be some screening, similar to the state license-plate policy, which would not allow suggestive or vulgar names. Staff will write the proposer.

→**HCR 44 - Martin Luther King Resolution**

The House has proposed that the AGNB name a mountain in Alaska after Martin Luther King, Jr., but they did not specify a physical location. The resolution was sponsored by Pettyjohn and Collins. The Chairman directed George Bonnett and Tom Taylor to explore possible features to be named, and to get back with the Board. Board members discussed that the mountain should be visible from an access point, road, etc. in the Anchorage-Fairbanks area. There was considerable controversy in naming a man-made feature in Anchorage after King; local sentiments must be taken into consideration when a feature is chosen.

→The next AGNB meeting will be held Thursday, May 24, 1990, in Juneau.

## GENERAL BUSINESS

minutes of the May 17, 1989 of the AGNB meeting were approved.

### Denali/McKinley Debate - Update/new strategies

Back in the files in 1975 or 1976 is when this first started. There was a move by the people in the state to change the name to Denali and the federal board held meetings in Anchorage and hearings in Washington D.C. The proposal was ready to be voted on by the federal board. Then the Ohio delegation put in a proposal in Congress to have the mountain named McKinley in perpetuity. And what that does the federal board had a policy that they cannot render a decision if there is legislation pending in Congress. So for the past 9 years since the federal board wanted to act on it. When legislation is introduced in one session of Congress the next session they have to wait 90 days before the board can act. Every session the Ohio delegation introduces legislation. It works like a procedural filibuster. The federal board has never denied or approved the application; they have never been able to act upon it. Judy Fahys of the Anchorage Times called Vicki Moore about the issue a couple of times and filed several articles regarding it. Senator Ted Steven's office has also contacted the AGNB a couple of times about Denali/McKinley. If the Board on Domestic Names amended their procedure, they could finally act upon the Denali name change proposal. Vicki talked to Ernie Berringer (staff for the federal board), he stated that the Board is getting new appointments. One of the newly organized board's procedures is to review all current procedures to see if any need updating or amending. In February or March of 1990 the board will be doing that. Now is a good time to try to amend the Federal Board's procedure so that a person cannot use the procedure to block a proposal from ever being acted upon. The procedure was never intended to be used to subvert the federal naming procedures. Vicki wrote Senator Ted Steven's office about amending the procedure. The AGNB agreed to continue to pursue this option. The Western States Geographic Names Conference could be asked to lend their support in favor of amending the procedure. This might bring more pressure on the federal board to amend it. The procedure is an internal one, not something that was mandated by Congress.

### WESTERN STATE GEOGRAPHIC NAMES CONFERENCE REPORT

The Western States Geographic Names Conference meets yearly. Members go over issues which are of interest to the western states. One of the topics discussed during the last meeting was GNIS (Geographic Name Information System) and how it works. The federal board would like all states to use GNIS system. There are a number of states who are not in GNIS. They had round table discussions of naming problems, offshore names, Native American names, water rights and university classes in name research. The state that hosts the conference has a number of tours that relate to geographic place names so you get the feel of how that state handles the

# STATE OF ALASKA

JAY S. HAMMOND, Governor

## DEPT. OF COMMUNITY & REGIONAL AFFAIRS

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

POUCH B-JUNEAU 99801

February 19, 1975

NOTED

FEB 25 1975

Executive Secretary  
Domestic Geographic Names

Mr. Donald Orth  
U. S. Board on Geographic Names  
Reston, Virginia 22092

Dear Mr. Orth:

Enclosed you will find a copy of minutes of the Alaska State Geographic Board's February 7 meeting. Those items of business which require the attention of the U. S. Board have an asterisk next to them.

I would like to direct your specific attention to Don Sheldon Amphitheater. It is the wish of the Board that you would act promptly to establish this name for federal usage. Copies of pertinent correspondence are enclosed for your review.

Also, as you will note in the minutes, if you have available for purchase a guide book which defines descriptive words such as peak, mountain, spur, etc., the State Board would be most interested in receiving one.

*Sent ~~2/19/75~~ 3/19/75*

Please feel free to contact me if I may be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

*Lee McAnerney*  
Lee McAnerney  
Chairman  
State Geographic Board

LMcA:1b

Enclosure

\* It was suggested by Dick Engen that the Secretary write to the U. S. Board on Geographic Names and inquire about a publication they may have available that will give a proper definition of peak, spur, lake, etc., which will be of help to the State Board when deciding on properly descriptive names.

\* Mount Raatikainen: Vern Metcalfe moved the name, Mount Raatikainen, be approved by the Board in view of Mr. Raatikainen's efforts in the founding of the City of Pelican. Paul Rogers seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED. The proposer of the name shall be advised of the action taken.

Feature to commemorate Ernest Gruening: It is the wish of the Board that the family of the late Ernest Gruening be contacted again to ask if they have a particular geographic feature they would like named to commemorate Ernest Gruening. Clark Gruening is participating in the legislative session at the present time and it is suggested the chairman of the Board contact him. Paul Rogers moved this proposal be redeferred pending receipt of further information. Vern Metcalfe seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED.

\* Aleutian Range-Alaska Range Boundary Definition: Paul Rogers presented a map to the Board which showed the boundary definition suggested on the name proposal. Dick Engen moved the Board adopt the definition as presented and have prepared a listing of features that are transferred from one range to another and forward this list to the National Board. Vern Metcalfe seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED. *to be sent later*

NEW BUSINESS:

\* Feature to commemorate Don Sheldon: After reviewing material sent to the Commissioner by the Governor and knowing of Don Sheldon's work in the field of aviation, Paul Rogers moved that the name, Ruth Amphitheater, be changed to Don Sheldon Amphitheater and notice of the Board's action be forwarded to the U. S. Board on Geographic Names as well as a press release prepared and distributed Statewide. Vern Metcalfe seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

↘ Senate Joint Resolution 6: It is the wish of the Board to go on record as concurring with SJR 6; however, would prefer to have the feature called simply "Denali." Dick Engen moved the State Geographic Board prepare a letter to John Sackett advising him of the Board's endorsement of his Resolution. It should be noted the Board is not voting at this time to change the name. MOTION CARRIED.

AK Minutes

2-19-75

JAY S. HAMMOND, Governor

**DEPT. OF COMMUNITY & REGIONAL AFFAIRS**

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER      POUCH B-JUNEAU 99801

August 29, 1975

NOTED *Shelly*  
SEP 25 1975  
Executive Secretary  
Domestic Geographic Names

Mr. Donald Orth  
U.S. Board on Geographic Names  
Reston, Virginia 22092

Dear Mr. Orth:

Enclosed you find a copy of minutes of the Alaska State Geographic Board's meeting August 19.

After your review of the minutes, I'm sure you will take the necessary action as indicated by the Board. Regarding Ledyard Bay, we have written to the proposer of the name for additional information.

Please feel free to contact me if I may be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

*Lee McAnerney*

Lee McAnerney  
Commissioner

LMcA:gw

Enclosure

Denali: Commissioner McAnerney explained Mr. Orth has written to her and would like a letter from Governor Hammond of his concurrence of the resolution he signed changing the name from Mt. McKinley to Mt. Denali. It was moved by Vern Metcalfe that the name change be approved, seconded by Waino Henrickson. MOTION CARRIED.

Heintzleman Mountain: Waino Henrickson moved that the proposed name for this area be approved by the excellent documentation provided by the proposer. Vern Metcalfe seconded. MOTION CARRIED. Proposer to be notified of action.

Duck Cove, Peregrine Point, Petrel Point, Sand Beach Cove: Henry Hall moved that action be deferred until the next meeting as Commissioner McAnerney has not received requested information from The Aleut League regarding this area. Seconded by Waino Henrickson.

Yeti's Cap and The Thorn: It was suggested by the Board that no action be taken on these names until we receive more definite information from the proposer as at this time, the names do not seem appropriate. It was moved by Vern Metcalfe, seconded by George Bonnett.

Mt. Jonathon Ward: It was felt by the board that this seems an appropriate name by the documentation presented and Henry Hall moved that we approve the proposal. It was seconded by Waino Henrickson. MOTION CARRIED. Proposer shall be notified of action.

Joshua Green Peak: After consideration of the documentation presented, the Board felt that this was an appropriate name, it was moved by Vern Metcalfe, seconded by Henry Hall. MOTION CARRIED. Proposer to be advised of action.

Dietrich Pass: Action deferred until the Board can write Alyeska to ask how they came about this name and also it was suggested that we write to the local native association for their thoughts on the matter. Moved by Waino Henrickson, seconded by Vern Metcalfe.

LuLu Fairbanks: The board agreed that something should be named for her. It was suggested that we write the U.S. Board of Geographic Names for feature recommendations. Lee suggested something near Sitka as LuLu was interested in the Pioneer Home there. Write Mr. Nordly, the proposer, for his suggestions. Vern Metcalfe moved the motion, Waino Henrickson seconded. Action deferred until we hear from the above persons.

#### DOCKET 195

Don Sheldon Amphitheater; Salisbury Creek; West Fork Marsh Creek: Vern Metcalfe moved and asked unanimous consent that all proposals for Alaska on Docket 195 be approved; hearing no objection, it was so accepted.

AK minutes

8-19-75

2

# STATE OF ALASKA

JAY S. HAMMOND, GOVERNOR

## DEPT. OF COMMUNITY & REGIONAL AFFAIRS

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

POUCH B - JUNEAU 99811

July 19, 1976

Mr. Donald Orth  
U. S. Board on Geographic Names  
National Center Stop 523  
Reston, Virginia 22092

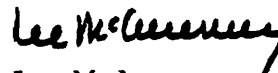
Dear Mr. Orth:

Enclosed you will find a copy of the Alaska Geographic Board minutes of a meeting held July 12, 1976 indicating what actions were taken on agenda items. Also enclosed are the name proposal forms and supporting documents.

I assume you will take whatever action is necessary in approving those names adopted by the Alaska Board. I will forward the Board's decision on items that have been deferred pending comments from native corporations and others.

If there are any questions, please do not hesitate to call me.

Sincerely,



Lee McAnerney  
Commissioner

Rec- 7/23/76  
LMcA

LMcA: mw

Enclosures

✓ Docket 206. Frying Pan Lake was deferred. The Board will write to the Matanuska-Susitna Borough to solicit comments. If the Borough has no objections, the Board will approve the name.

✓ → Docket 207. Bob Johnson Lake deferred until comments are received from DOYON. Denali, no action is necessary. Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden Peaks deferred until comments can be received from the Matanuska-Susitna Borough. East Hayes and West Hayes Creeks deferred until comments can be received from DOYON. Mount LuLu Fairbanks deferred until comments can be received from the Canadian boundary authority.

✓ Docket 209. Bent Tree Lake deferred pending comments from the DOYON Corporation. Hub Mountain deferred pending comments from the NANA Regional Corporation.

Docket 210. Mt. Ernest Patty deferred pending concurrence from DOYON. Diomedea and Inalik are approved.

Docket 211. All names previously approved by the Board. No action is necessary.

Docket 212. All items on this docket were deferred pending comments of the SEAlaska Regional Corporation and/or the community closest to the feature to be named. Mt. Shiels is deferred pending comments from the Chugach Native Association and the City of Cordova.

AK Minutes

7-19-76

12





Docket 207  
(104 Names)

Released February 12, 1976  
For consideration at the  
March 11, 1976 Meeting

Copy sent to NPS 2/18/76

UNITED STATES  
BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Briefs on the following names have been prepared for consideration by the Board on Geographic Names. Any agency or person favoring or opposing the approval of any name or any variant of a name appearing on this list may submit evidence concerning it.

Unapproved variant names and spellings discovered in the research on a name are listed following the word "Variant." These may include former names or spellings, names derived by the application of policies other than those approved by the Board, misspellings, and names misapplied to the subject of the decision.

If one or more words in the proposed name are not underlined, the use or omission of such word or words in that name is optional.

The entries below each name indicate the submitting person, or agency, and the most convenient source for locating the feature. Accompanying each name is a notation of the reason for its submittal, and pertinent facts concerning it.

THE NAMES ON THIS LIST ARE NOT YET DECISIONS AND  
SHOULD NOT BE SO CONSIDERED OR USED

Docket 207

①

ALASKA

ST  
APR 14 1977

Bob Johnson Lake: lake, 8.1 km. (5 mi.) long, 35 km. (22 mi.) W of Chandalar; named for Robert R. Johnson (1919-1974), ~~a well-known Alaskan pilot and chief pilot~~ for the Alaska District of the Department of the Interior's Office of Air Service; Alaska; T 31 N, Rgs. 8 and 9 W, Fairbanks Mer.; 67°30'00" N, 149°24'00" W. Variant: Big Lake.

BLM, Chandalar (B-5) and (C-5) 1:63; proposed commemorative name; "Dictionary of Alaska Place Names" and USGS maps use the variant name; not in a USNF.

ok ST  
DRAWN  
1-8-77

Denali: mountain, highest elevation 6,194 m. (20,320 ft.), in Mount McKinley National Park in the Alaska Range; Denali is the Tanana Indian name meaning "the big one", and was proposed by a Joint Resolution of the Alaska State Legislature on March 7, 1975; Alaska; 63°04'12" N, 151°00'20" W. Variants: Bolshaya Gora, Bulshaia Gora, Densmores Peak, Din-al-ee, Din-az-ee, Doleika, Doleyka, Mount Denali, Mount Doleika, Mount McKinley, Tennaly, To-lah-gah, Traleika, Traleyka.

Alaska State Legislature, Mount McKinley National Park 1:250; name approved by Alaska State Geographic Board on August 19, 1975; all available sources show the name Mount McKinley; not in a NF.

ok  
JAN 13 1977

Denmark Peak: peak, elevation 2,640 m. (8,660 ft.), 20.1 km. (12.5 mi.) SE of Mount Wickersham; Alaska; sec. 10, T 17 N, R 11 E, Seward Mer.; 61°34'35" N, 147°26'55" W.

Dennis Schmitt, Anchorage (C-3) 1:63; proposed new name; not in a USNF.

ok ST  
JAN 13 1977

East Hayes Creek: stream, 12.1 km. (7.5 mi.) long, heads at Hayes Glacier at 63°42'55" N, 146°33'50" W, flows NE to Delta Creek 45 km. (28 mi.) SW of Delta Junction; Alaska; sec. 7, T 13 S, R 7 E, Fairbanks Mer.; 63°48'07" N, 146°28'00" W. Variant: Hayes Creek.

USGS, Mt. Hayes 1:250; to establish name and application; USGS maps apply the name Hayes Creek to this stream and another one to the west, both of which head at Hayes Glacier; by applying the names East and West Hayes Creeks to the two streams, they will be

Alaska Bd.  
DOCKET LIST  
COMMENTS PAGE  
NOTIFIED OF ACTION  
211716

Docket 207

(2)

MASTER

Docket 253  
(77 Names)

Released March 13, 1980  
For consideration at the  
April 10, 1980 Meeting

UNITED STATES  
BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Briefs on the following names have been prepared for consideration by the Board on Geographic Names. Any agency or person favoring or opposing the approval of any name or any variant of a name appearing on this list may submit evidence concerning it.

Unapproved variant names and spellings discovered in the research on a name are listed following the word "Not." These may include former names or spellings, names derived by the application of policies other than those approved by the Board, misspellings, and names misapplied to the subject of the decision.

If one or more words in the proposed name are not underlined, the use or omission of such word or words in that name is optional.

If a populated place is incorporated under the laws of its State, its legal corporate designation (city, town, borough, village), as of the date of the decision, is specified in parentheses. Populated places without such a designation are not incorporated.

The entries below each name indicate the submitting person, or agency, and the most convenient source for locating the feature. Accompanying each name is a notation of the reason for its submittal, and pertinent facts concerning it.

THE NAMES ON THIS LIST ARE NOT YET DECISIONS AND  
SHOULD NOT BE SO CONSIDERED OR USED

Docket 253

①

ALASKA

DOCKET LIST SENT	3/13/80
COMMENTS REC'D	
NOTIFIED OF ACTION	

+ proposed

Denali: mountain, highest elevation 6,194 m (20,320 ft.), in Mount McKinley National Park in the Alaska Range; Denali is the Tanana Indian name meaning "the big one", and was proposed by a joint resolution of the Alaska State Legislature on March 7, 1975; Alaska; 63°04'12" N, 151°00'20" W. Not: Bolshaya Gora, Bulshaia Gora, Densmores Peak, Din-al-ee, Din-az-ee, Doleika, Doleyka, Mount Denali, Mount Doleika, Mount McKinley, Tennaly, To-lah-gah, Traleika, Traleyka.

withdrawn  
to clear  
docket

Alaska State Legislature, Mount McKinley National Park 1:250; name approved by Alaska State Geographic Board on August 19, 1975; see March 13, 1980 summary report.

will be re-docketed at appropriate time  
2/12/10/80

Johnsons Slough: water passage, 0.8 km (0.5 mi.) long, an extension of Kunayosh Creek in the mud flats at its mouth, extends SSE from the mouth of Kunayosh Creek to the Situk River 0.48 km (0.3 mi.) NE of Situk; Alaska; 59°26'45" N, 139°33'10" W (NW end) 59°26'15" N, 139°33'00" W (SE end); 1978 decision revised. Not: Kunayosh Creek.

USFS, Yakutat B-5, 1:63; submitted to establish application; USGS and highway map show recommended name and application; Alaska Dictionary lists Johnsons Slough as variant for Middle Slough which is one mile to the E; 1959 USGS field report confirms recommended description; USFS requests determination if name is in use; in Tongass NF.

Kaenus: peak, elevation 2,015 m (6,610 ft.) in the Coast Range, 6.4 km (4 mi.) S of Baird Glacier and 6.4 km (4 mi.) NW of Devils Thumb; Tlingit Indian word meaning "dogtooth"; Alaska; sec. 6, T 55 S, R 82 E, Copper River Mer.; 57°08'08" N, 132°26'33" W.

ST: DOES NOT meet pronunciation guidelines

James Balog, Sumdum (A-2) 1:63; proposed new name for an unnamed feature; proponent's party made the first ascent of this peak; not in a USNF but shown on the Tongass NF map.

Kunayosh Creek: stream, 14.5 km (9 mi.) long, heads at 59°33'00" N, 139°28'00" W, flows SW to a point where it continues as Johnsons Slough 1 km (0.6 mi.) N of Situk; Alaska; 59°26'45" N, 139°33'10" W; 1978 description

9/8/80  
ST  
NPS

OK 9/9/80  
Def ST  
APPROVED  
9/11/80

ISSPP 9/9/80  
ST  
FS  
SEP 11 1980  
10/22/80

OK 9/9/80  
ST  
SEP 11 1980  
OK FS

Docket 253

2



OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

U.S. Department of the Interior

www.doi.gov

# News Release

Date: August 30, 2015

Contacts: Jessica Kershaw (Interior), [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)  
[AB Wade/Other? \(USGS\). XXX.gov](#)  
[John Quinley/Other? \(NPS\). XXX.gov](#)

## Secretary Jewell Announces North America's Highest Peak Will Now Bear Native Name

*Endorsed by President Obama, Secretary Jewell Changes Name of Mount McKinley to Denali*

ANCHORAGE, AK – In recognition of the ~~continued~~long history of strong support from Alaska state, ~~local~~tribal and congressional leaders, and in resolution of an official request for a name change pending for 40 years, U.S. Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell, today announced that the highest mountain in North America, formerly known as *Mount McKinley*, will be officially given the traditional Native name of *Denali*. The word Denali is the accepted English spelling of an Athabaskan name for the mountain, meaning "the great one" or "the tall one."

Commented [TB1]: Pretty sure Denali is sometimes translated as "the great one". I'm fine, though, just using "the tall one" if folks would prefer that.

President Obama endorsed Jewell's decision to issue a Secretarial Order that officially changes the mountain's to officially make the name to Denali. Jewell is granted the authority as Interior Secretary to make such name changes per the 1947 federal law that provides for the standardization of geographic names through the U.S Board on Geographic Names. The name change will be reflected in all federal usage.

"This name change recognizes the sacred status of Denali to many Alaska Natives," Secretary Jewell said. ~~Not only has~~The name Denali has been official for use by the State of Alaska since 1975, but even more importantly the mountain has been known as Denali ~~to~~for generations of Alaskans. With our own sense of reverence for this place, we are officially renaming the mountain Denali restoring an old name in further recognition of the traditions of Alaska Natives and the strong support of the people of Alaska.

The mountain stands near the center of traditional Athabaskan territory. The word Denali is the accepted English spelling of an ancient Athabaskan place name, usually recorded as Daenaalee, meaning "the tall one."

Commented [JLK2]: In WH vetting.

While the name Denali has been official for use by authority of the State of Alaska since 1975, the U.S. Board on Geographic Names, "Since 1897 and until today, the official name of the

Commented [TB3]: I moved this up to the first paragraph and modified a bit to avoid unnecessary and potentially disputable points about geography and spelling.

Commented [TB4]: This point is made above.

~~mountain in federal publications has been had specified the name~~ Mount McKinley ~~for federal publications since 1897~~. The mountain retained the federally authorized name Mount McKinley, even as the name of the national park was changed in 1980 from McKinley National Park into the new (and larger) area named Denali National Park and Preserve under the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act.

“Recognizing the long history and ~~discussion~~ ~~debate~~ about the name of this iconic American mountain, the time has come to restore the traditional Alaska Native title ‘Denali’ for this landmark, which holds great significance to the people of Alaska,” said National Park Service Director Jonathan B. Jarvis.

In 1896, a prospector emerged from exploring the mountains of central Alaska and received news that William McKinley had been nominated as a candidate for President of the United States. In a show of support, the prospector declared the tallest peak of the Alaska Range as Mount McKinley – and the name stuck.

For centuries, the mountain that rises some 20,000 feet above sea level, the tallest on the North American continent, had been known by another name – Denali. McKinley, our 25th President, was tragically assassinated just six months into his second term, but he never set foot in Alaska.

On March 11, 1975, Governor Jay S. Hammond of Alaska requested the Secretary of the Interior to direct the U.S. Board on Geographic Names to officially designate Mount McKinley in Alaska as Denali. This proposal, never withdrawn, is based on a resolution that was passed by the Alaska State Legislature.

Since 1977, the Board, in deference to potential congressional action, had not ~~considered~~ ~~resolved~~ the ~~case~~ ~~proposal~~ for changing the federally recognized geographic name from Mount McKinley to Denali. Secretary Jewell’s action today finally resolves the March 1975 ~~petition~~ ~~proposal~~ by former Governor Hammond.

[Denali National Park](#), where the mountain is located, was established in 1917 and annually sees more than 500,000 visitors to the 6 million acres that now make up the park and preserve. About 1,200 mountaineers attempt to summit the mountain each year; typically about half are successful.

###



OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

U.S. Department of the Interior

www.doi.gov

# News Release

Date: August 30, 2015

Contacts: Jessica Kershaw (Interior), [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)  
[AB Wade/Other? \(USGS\). XXX.gov](#)  
[John Quinley/Other? \(NPS\). XXX.gov](#)

## Secretary Jewell Announces North America's Highest Peak Will Now Bear Native Name *Endorsed by President Obama, Secretary Jewell Changes Name of Mount McKinley to Denali*

ANCHORAGE, AK – In recognition of the continued strong support from Alaskan state, congressional and local leaders, ~~and in resolution of as well as an official request for a name change pending for 40 years worth of requests for a name change.~~ U.S. Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell today announced that the highest mountain in North America, formerly known as ~~“Mount McKinley,”~~ will be officially given the local native name of ~~“Denali.”~~

Commented [CJC1]: All the quote marks look too cute. Italicize first use of names for emphasis, quotes only for definitions, etc. later.

President Obama endorsed ~~the name change and directed Jewell's decision to take the action~~ issue a Secretarial Order to officially make the name Denali. She may do so with authority granted to her office under the 1947 federal law that provides for the standardization of geographic names through the U.S Board on Geographic Names. The name change will be reflected in all federal usage. ~~to rename Mount McKinley as Denali under authority granted to her by Congress.~~

Commented [JLK2]: Comfortable with this characterization?

“This name change recognizes the sacred status of ~~“Denali”~~ to many Alaska Natives,” Secretary Jewell said. “Not only has the name Denali been official for use by the State of Alaska since 1975, but the mountain has been known as ~~“Denali”~~ to generations of Alaskans. With our own sense of reverence for this place, we are restoring an old name in further recognition of the traditions of Alaska Natives.

Commented [BCB3]: Not comfortable with this unless WH wants to say this. Nikk/Jessica – if you want an explanation, I can provide if you call.

Commented [CJC4]: Agree. BCB edit is fine.

The mountain ~~is virtually in~~ stands near the center of traditional Athabaskan territory. The word ~~“Denali”~~ is the accepted English spelling of an ancient Athabaskan place name. ~~It comes from the Koyukon word usually recorded as “Deenaalee,”~~ meaning ‘the tall one.’

Commented [BCB5]: Other Athabaskan dialects have similar names. Do we want to single out Koyukon when the name (pronounced differently) is used by other Athabascans? According to the name change report from 1980, the name Denali represents the English language spelling that most closely represents the pronunciation of the word by people speaking Koyukon Athabacan.

~~Recognizing the long history and debate about the name of this iconic American mountain, the time has come to restore the traditional Alaska Native title “Denali” for this landmark, which~~

~~holds great significance to the people of Alaska.” said National Park Service Director Jonathan B. Jarvis.~~

~~Until today, the mountain retained the name ‘Mt. McKinley’ even though the 1980 Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act While the -incorporated ‘McKinley National Park.’ into the new larger area named Denali National Park and Preserve. The name Denali has been official for use by authority of the State of AlaAlaska since 1975. Board of Geographic Names calls the mountain ‘Denali.’ while the U.S. Board on Geographic Names, until today, -called it ‘McKinley.’ had specified the name Mount McKinley for federal publications since 1897. The mountain retained the federally authorized name Mount McKinley, even as the name of the national park was changed in 1980 from McKinley National Park into the new (and larger) area named Denali National Park and Preserve under the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act.~~

Commented [CJC6]: Mount McKinley should be spelled out whenever possible – official BGN name. [til now]

Commented [CJC7]: Mount McKinley should be spelled out whenever possible – official BGN name. [til now]

~~“Recognizing the long history and debate about the name of this iconic American mountain, the time has come to restore the traditional Alaska Native title ‘Denali’ for this landmark, which holds great significance to the people of Alaska.” said National Park Service Director Jonathan B. Jarvis.~~

~~Secretary Jewell issued a Secretarial Order to officially make the name ‘Denali.’ in accordance with her authority under the 1947 federal law that provides for the standardization of geographic names through the U.S. Board on Geographic Names. The name change will be reflected in all federal records usage.~~

Commented [CJC8]: Re-positioned to 2nd par.

In 1896, a prospector emerged from exploring the mountains of central Alaska and received news that William McKinley, a champion of the gold standard, had been nominated as a candidate for President of the United States. In a show of support, the prospector declared the tallest peak of the Alaska Range as ‘~~Mtount-~~ McKinley’ – and the name stuck.

Commented [CJC9]: deletable

~~McKinley became our 25th President, and was tragically assassinated just six months into his second term. He never set foot in Alaska – and fFor centuries, the mountain that rises some 20,000 feet above sea level, the tallest on the North American continent, had been known by another name – ‘Denali.’ McKinley, our 25th President, was tragically assassinated just six months into his second term, but he never set foot in Alaska.~~

Commented [JLK10]: Will make this consistent w/WH fact sheet language.

On March 11, 1975, Governor Jay S. Hammond of Alaska requested the Secretary of the Interior to direct the U.S. Board on Geographic Names (~~Board~~) to officially designate Mount McKinley in Alaska as ‘Denali.’ This proposal, never withdrawn, is based on a ~~R~~resolution that was passed by the Alaska State Legislature.

Since 1977, the Board, in ~~an effort to distance itself from political considerations and in deference to potential congressional action, hasd~~ not considered the case for changing the federally recognized geographic name from Mount McKinley to Denali.

Commented [CJC11]: The BGN had a defensible reason not to act.

~~Taken in careful consideration of an act of Congress in 1947, in view of the expressed preference of the citizens of Alaska, and in keeping with the principles of the U.S. Board on Geographic~~

Commented [CJC12]: Again, deletable



Names. Secretary Jewell's action today finally resolves the March 1975 proposal by former ~~G~~Governor ~~Jay S. Hammond~~ of Alaska.

Denali National Park, where the mountain is located, was established in 1917 and annually sees more than 500,000 visitors to the 6 million acres that now make up the park and preserve. About 1,200 mountaineers attempt to summit the mountain each year; typically about half are successful.

###

DRAFT



OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

U.S. Department of the Interior

www.doi.gov

# News Release

Date: August 30, 2015

Contacts: Jessica Kershaw (Interior), [Interior\\_Press@ios.doi.gov](mailto:Interior_Press@ios.doi.gov)  
[AB.Wade@usgs.gov](mailto:AB.Wade@usgs.gov) (USGS), [XXX.gov](mailto:XXX.gov)  
[John.Quinley@nps.gov](mailto:John.Quinley@nps.gov) (NPS), [XXX.gov](mailto:XXX.gov)

## Secretary Jewell Announces

### ~~North America~~ation's Highest Peak Will Now Bear Native Name

*Endorsed by President Obama, Secretary Jewell Changes Name of Mount McKinley to Denali*

ANCHORAGE, AK – In recognition of the ~~continued~~long history of strong support from Alaska state, ~~local~~tribal and congressional leaders, and in resolution of an official request for a name change pending for 40 years, U.S. Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell, today announced that the highest mountain in ~~the United States and~~North America, formerly known as *Mount McKinley*, will be officially given the traditional Native name of *Denali*. The word Denali is the accepted English spelling of an Athabaskan name for the mountain, meaning "the tall one" or "the great one." or "the tall one."

President Obama endorsed Jewell's decision to issue a Secretarial Order that officially changes the name, mountain's to officially make the name to Denali. Jewell is granted the authority as Interior Secretary to make such ~~name changes~~ in certain cases per the 1947 federal law that provides for the standardization of geographic names through the U.S Board on Geographic Names. The name change will be reflected in all federal usage.

"This name change recognizes the sacred status of Denali to many Alaska Natives," Secretary Jewell said. ~~Not only has t~~The name Denali has been official for use by the State of Alaska since 1975, but even more importantly, the mountain has been known as Denali ~~to~~for generations far back into the past of Alaskans. With our own sense of reverence for this place, we are restoring an old name ~~officially renaming the mountain Denali~~ restoring an old name in further recognition of the traditions of Alaska Natives and the strong support of the people of Alaska.

The mountain stands near the center of traditional Athabaskan territory. The word Denali is the accepted English spelling of an ancient Athabaskan place name, usually recorded as Deenaalee, meaning "the tall one."

Commented [CJC1]: "Nation s" is more patriotic, more viscerally effective. Some alliteration with Native Avoids the whiff of imperialism should anyone not know the peak is in AK. International audience at Arctic Council.

Commented [TB2]: Pretty sure Denali is sometimes translated as "the great one". I m fine, though, just using "the tall one" if folks would prefer that.

Commented [TB3]: Pretty sure Denali is sometimes translated as "the great one". I m fine, though, just using "the tall one" if folks would prefer that. Jc – "the tall one" is the translation from AK linguist James Kari. Let s use it first. Agree that steering clear of linguistic details is preferable.

Commented [CJC4]: Context for the name is clear from 1<sup>st</sup> par.

Commented [CJC5]: Avoiding possessive for an object.

Commented [CJC6]: Sec. can only act when the Board does not "in a reasonable time."

Commented [CJC7]: This phrase is more poetic, more palatable to Ohioans, more understandable to general audience.

Commented [JLK8]: In WH vetting.

Commented [TB9]: I moved this up to the first paragraph and modified a bit to avoid unnecessary and potentially disputable points about geography and spelling.

~~While the name Denali has been official for use by authority of the State of Alaska since 1975, the U.S. Board on Geographic Names, since 1897, and until today, the official name of the mountain in federal publications has been had specified the name Mount McKinley for federal publications since 1897.~~ The mountain retained the federally authorized name Mount McKinley, even as the name of the national park was changed in 1980 from McKinley National Park into the new (and larger) area named Denali National Park and Preserve under the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act.

Commented [TB10]: This point is made above.

Commented [CJC11]: BGN request this par. remain unchanged.

“Recognizing the long history and ~~discussion~~<sup>debate</sup> about the name of this iconic American mountain, the time has come to restore the traditional Alaska Native title ‘Denali’ for this landmark, which holds great significance to the people of Alaska,” said National Park Service Director Jonathan B. Jarvis.

In 1896, a prospector emerged from exploring the mountains of central Alaska and received news that William McKinley had been nominated as a candidate for President of the United States. In a show of support, the prospector declared the tallest peak of the Alaska Range as Mount McKinley – and the name stuck.

For centuries, the mountain that rises some 20,000 feet above sea level, the tallest on the North American continent, had been known by another name – Denali. McKinley, our 25th President, was tragically assassinated in 1901, just six months into his second term, but he never set foot in Alaska.

On March 11, 1975, Governor Jay S. Hammond of Alaska requested the Secretary of the Interior to direct the U.S. Board on Geographic Names to officially designate Mount McKinley in Alaska as Denali. This proposal, never withdrawn, is based on a resolution that was passed by the Alaska State Legislature.

Since 1977, the Board, in deference to potential congressional action, had not ~~considered~~<sup>resolved</sup> the ~~ease proposal~~ for changing the federally recognized geographic name from Mount McKinley to Denali. Secretary Jewell’s action today finally resolves the March 1975 ~~petition proposal~~ by former Governor Hammond.

Denali National Park, where the mountain is located, was established in 1917 and annually sees more than 500,000 visitors to the 6 million acres that now make up the park and preserve. About 1,200 mountaineers attempt to summit the mountain each year; typically about half are successful.

###

## Conversation Contents

Mount McKinley name changed to Denali

"Yost, Louis" <lyost@usgs.gov>

**From:** "Yost, Louis" <lyost@usgs.gov>  
**Sent:** Sun Aug 30 2015 15:57:02 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
"Caldwell, Douglas R ERDC-TEC-VA" <Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil>, "Runyon, Jennifer" <jrunyon@usgs.gov>, Trent Palmer <(b) (6)>, Mark DeMulder <mdemulder@usgs.gov>, Michael Shelton <michael\_shelton@nps.gov>, Brian Mueller <bmueller@blm.gov>, Douglas Vandegraft <Douglas.Vandegraft@boem.gov>, Jon C Campbell <joncampbell@usgs.gov>, Lee Fleming <lffleming2@bia.gov>, Monique Fordham <mfordham@usgs.gov>, Ron Salz <ron\_salz@fws.gov>, "curtis.loy@noaa.gov" <curtis.loy@noaa.gov> <curtis.loy@noaa.gov>, "Meredith westington@noaa.gov" <Meredith.westington@noaa.gov> <Meredith.westington@noaa.gov>, "andrew.h.flora@census.gov" <andrew.h.flora@census.gov> <andrew.h.flora@census.gov>, "michael.r.fournier@census.gov" <michael.r.fournier@census.gov> <michael.r.fournier@census.gov>, "john.t.fitzwater@census.gov" <john.t.fitzwater@census.gov> <john.t.fitzwater@census.gov>, "john.t.fitzwater@state.gov" <dillonli@state.gov> <dillonli@state.gov>, "Doomboser@state.gov" <Doomboser@state.gov>, "Blyler, Nancy J HQ02" <Nancy.J.Blyler@usace.army.mil>, Marcus W Allsup <(b) (6)>, "Patrick Abbott" <(b) (6)> <Patrick.Abbott@b (6)>, "Marianne Petty" <(b) (6)> <Marianne.Petty@b (6)>, "marvin m lindroth" <(b) (6)>, "steven.hunter" <(b) (6)> <steven.hunter@b (6)>, "dctatar" <(b) (6)> <dctatar@b (6)>, "ingerjk" <(b) (6)> <ingerjk@b (6)>, "ingern" <(b) (6)> <ingern@b (6)>, "davidwz" <(b) (6)> <davidwz@b (6)>, "franchd" <(b) (6)> <franchd@b (6)>, "JustinT" <JustinT@b (6)> <justint@b (6)>, eric berman <eric.berman@dhs.gov>, "Patarozzi, Victor" <victor.patarozzi@hq.dhs.gov>, "Ehrenberg, Ralph" <rehr@loc.gov> <rehr@loc.gov>, "Johnson, Bruce" <bjoh@loc.gov> <bjoh@loc.gov>, "Sokol, Donna" <dsokol@loc.gov>, "Nolan, Jacqueline" <jnol@loc.gov>, "eblount@fs.fed.us" <eblount@fs.fed.us> <eblount@fs.fed.us>, Betsy Kanalley <bkanalley@fs.fed.us>, "Milton, Gail - Memphis, TN" <gail.milton@usps.gov> <gail.milton@usps.gov>, "Lawson, Angela D - Memphis, TN" <Angela.D.Lawson@usps.gov> <Angela.D.Lawson@usps.gov>, "Tony N. Gilbert" <tgilbert@gpo.gov> <tgilbert@gpo.gov>, "Forrest, Brenda-Anne C." <bforrest@gpo.gov>, Gerard J Walter <(b) (6)>, sborg <sborg@nsf.gov>, Gunn David A NGA-SRGC USA CIV <(b) (6)>, Hagan Brian L Mr NGA-S2 USA CIV <(b) (6)>, "Holeva, Paul D ERDC-GRL-VA" <Paul.D.Holeva@usace.army.mil>, Jane Messenger <jmessenger@usgs.gov>, Matthew O'Donnell <MJODONNELL@usgs.gov>, Maria McCormick <mimccormick@usgs.gov>, Sean Killen <sean\_killen@fws.gov>, Deborah Nordeen <deb\_nordeen@nps.gov>, "Campbell, Laurie A -FS" <lacampbell@fs.fed.us>, "James, Kate" <kjam@loc.gov>, George Troop <(b) (6)>, Mark Rockmore <(b) (6)> @gmail.com, Amaudor <amaudorv@state.gov>, Jerry Mullins <(b) (6)> @yahoo.com, "Neumann, Tom (GSFC-6150)" <thomas.neumann@nasa.gov>, Pete Bermel <(b) (6)> @verizon.net, Ray Amaudor <(b) (6)> @yahoo.com, "Nerantzis, Jimmy" <Nerantzis.J@state.gov>, Sandy Shor <Shor@soest.hawaii.edu>, "Taylor, Christine" <Christine.Taylor@boem.gov>, "Conklin, Julie R" <Julie.Conklin@boem.gov>, Norman Cherkis <(b) (6)> @yahoo.com, John McDonough - NOAA Federal <john.mcdonough@noaa.gov>, Michael Tischler <mtischler@usgs.gov>, Tara Wallace - NOAA Federal <tara.wallace@noaa.gov>, Patrick Mahoney <patrick\_mahoney@blm.gov>, Roger Payne <rpayne@usgs.gov>, Susan Russell-Robinson <SRussell@usgs.gov>

**Subject:** Mount McKinley name changed to Denali

BGN,

The Secretary of the Interior has changed the name of Mount McKinley to Denali by Secretarial Order. We are not authorized to speak on any action taken by the Secretary, or how or why this action was taken.

Therefore, if you receive any inquiries about this do not comment, and refer them to Jon Campbell at 703-648-4180. Jon is the DOI Communications contact on this matter. Jon will either answer the questions or direct them to the person responsible for that information.

You are also cautioned not to give any personal opinions, pro or con, on the name change or how the matter was handled. Answering these type of questions has caused embarrassment for members (and the BGN) who have answered such questions in the past.

Marcus - I don't think the NGS Public Affairs/Communication Office will get any calls, but you may want to give them a heads up anyway.

Again, this was a Secretarial action, not a DNC/BGN action. For more information see the DOI Press Release at <https://www.doi.gov/pressreleases/secretary-jewell-announces-nation%E2%80%99s-highest-peak-will-now-bear-native> and the USGS Top Story at [http://www.usgs.gov/blogs/features/usgs\\_top\\_story/old-name-restored-to-nations-highest-peak/?from=title](http://www.usgs.gov/blogs/features/usgs_top_story/old-name-restored-to-nations-highest-peak/?from=title)

Thanks,

Lou

postmaster@state.gov

To: [lyost@usgs.gov](mailto:lyost@usgs.gov)  
Subject: Undeliverable: Mount McKinley name changed to Denali

**Delivery has failed to these recipients or groups:**

[Nerantzis\\_Jimmy\\_\(NerantzisJ@state.gov\)](mailto:Nerantzis_Jimmy_(NerantzisJ@state.gov))

The e-mail address you entered couldn't be found. Please check the recipient's e-mail address and try to resend the message. If the problem continues, please contact your helpdesk.

**Diagnostic information for administrators:**

Generating server: state.gov

<p>NerantzisJ@state.gov  
#550 5.1.1 RESOLVER.ADR.RecipNotFound; not found ##rfc822;NerantzisJ@state.gov

**Original message headers:**

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Received: by DSCSBIMCMAIL02.localdomain (Postfix, from userid 600) id 3n47p15gGXzlvbN; Sun, 30 Aug 2015 21:57:52 +0000 (UTC)  
Received: from stimson.state.gov (unknown [192.168.90.43]) by DSCSBIMCMAIL02.localdomain (Postfix) with ESMTMP id 3n47nW0XGHZlvcBp for <NerantzisJ@state.gov>; Sun, 30 Aug 2015 21:57:51 +0000 (UTC)  
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Received: from smtp22.smgs.doi.gov (10.10.134.22) by smtp23.doi.gov (10.10.134.13) with Microsoft SMTP Server (TLS) id 14.2.347.0; Sun, 30 Aug 2015 16:57:51 -0500  
DKIM-Signature: v=1; a=rsa-sha256; d=usgs.gov; s=mail; c=relaxed/simple; q=dns/txt; i=@usgs.gov; t=1440971868; x=1443563868; h=From:Sender:Reply-To:Subject:Date:Message-ID:To:Cc:MIME-Version:Content-Type:Content-Transfer-Encoding:Content-ID:Content-Description:Resent-Date:Resent-From:Resent-Sender:Resent-To:Resent-Cc:Resent-Message-ID:In-Reply-To:References:List-Id:List-Help:List-Unsubscribe:List-Subscribe:List-Post:List-Owner:List-Archive; bh=aFR58dNE5K2GODCSiod/wGbfEvG/fN/CSNCKzRGJWA=; b=5ks0Ept7+5XOrBtD3WV6ZXQU2fo6Hjjm1uGfLCTWxD2JjVArWRq8bwxcV+i6TjOX TZY+W31cDj33Dzcs9nskFI4pFGwrqYox0FTADNKXMTbxDhq/2dUoMUoIq5N5tKMMS PLRPN0PhTf0K+AH+AXzB6zniZHpZj3bXIurjt9HgZME=;  
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Received: by obbf1 with SMTP id frlso80291974obb.1 for <NerantzisJ@state.gov>; Sun, 30 Aug 2015 14:57:46 -0700 (PDT)  
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**"Yost, Louis" <lyost@usgs.gov>**

---

**From:** "Yost, Louis" <lyost@usgs.gov>  
**Sent:** Sun Aug 30 2015 16:03:59 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Campbell, Jon" <joncampbell@usgs.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Mount McKinley name changed to Denali

I figured as much.

On Sun, Aug 30, 2015 at 5:59 PM, Campbell, Jon <joncampbell@usgs.gov> wrote:  
Sounds good, Lou.

Got distracted with other calls before I could send you the links.

Still have to transmit some font and hyperlink correction for TS.

Later.

Jon Campbell  
U.S. Geological Survey  
Office of Communications and Publishing  
703-648-4180 | m 571-230-6831  
[joncampbell@usgs.gov](mailto:joncampbell@usgs.gov)

On Sun, Aug 30, 2015 at 5:57 PM, Yost, Louis <lyost@usgs.gov> wrote:  
BGN,

The Secretary of the Interior has changed the name of Mount McKinley to Denali by Secretarial Order. We are not authorized to speak on any action taken by the Secretary, or how or why this action was taken.

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Thanks,

Lou

**"Yost, Louis" <lyost@usgs.gov>**

---

**From:** "Yost, Louis" <lyost@usgs.gov>  
**Sent:** Sun Aug 30 2015 16:04:32 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Nerantzis Jimmy Mr NGA-SRPB USA CIV <(b) (6)>" <(b) (6)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Mount McKinley name changed to Denali

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

**From:** Yost, Louis <lyost@usgs.gov>

**Date:** Sun, Aug 30, 2015 at 5:57 PM

**Subject:** Mount McKinley name changed to Denali

To: "Caldwell, Douglas R ERDC-TEC-VA" <Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil>, "Runyon, Jennifer" <jrunyon@usgs.gov>, Trent Palmer <(b) (6)>, Mark DeMulder <mdemulder@usgs.gov>, Michael Shelton <michael\_shelton@nps.gov>, Brian Mueller <bmueller@bim.gov>, Douglas Vandegraft <Douglas.Vandegraft@boem.gov>, Jon C Campbell <joncampbell@usgs.gov>, Lee Fleming <lfleming2@bia.gov>, Monique Fordham <mfordham@usgs.gov>, Ron Salz <ron\_salz@fws.gov>, "curtis.loy@noaa.gov" <curtis.loy@noaa.gov>, "Meredith.westington@noaa.gov" <Meredith.westington@noaa.gov>, "andrew.h.flora@census.gov" <andrew.h.flora@census.gov>, "michael.r.foumier@census.gov" <michael.r.foumier@census.gov>, "john.t.fitzwater@census.gov" <john.t.fitzwater@census.gov>, "john.t.fitzwater@census.gov" <dillonli@state.gov>, "Dillon, Leo" <dillonli@state.gov>, "Doomboser@state.gov" <Doomboser@state.gov>, "Blyler, Nancy J HQ02" <Nancy.J.Blyler@usace.army.mil>, Marcus W Allsup <(b) (6)>, "Patrick.Abbott@ (b) (6)" <Patrick.Abbott@ (b) (6)>, "Marianne.Petty@ (b) (6)" <Marianne.Petty@ (b) (6)>, "marvin.m.lindroth" <(b) (6)>, "steven.hunte@ (b) (6)" <steven.hunter@ (b) (6)>, "dctatar@ (b) (6)" <dctatar@ (b) (6)>, "dctata@ (b) (6)" <ingerjk@ (b) (6)>, "ingerjk@ (b) (6)" <ingerjk@ (b) (6)>, "davidwz@ (b) (6)" <davidwz@ (b) (6)>, "franchid@ (b) (6)" <franchid@ (b) (6)>, "JustinT" <(b) (6)>



"Nolan, Jacqueline" <jnol@loc.gov>, "eblount@fs.fed.us" <eblount@fs.fed.us> <eblount@fs.fed.us>, Betsy Kanalley <bkanalley@fs.fed.us>, "Milton, Gail - Memphis, TN" <gail\_milton@usps.gov> <gail\_milton@usps.gov>, "Lawson, Angela D - Memphis, TN" <Angela.D.Lawson@usps.gov> <Angela.D.Lawson@usps.gov>, "Tony N. Gilbert" <tgilbert@gpo.gov> <tgilbert@gpo.gov>, "Forrest, Brenda-Anne C." <bforrest@gpo.gov>, Gerard J Walter <(b) (6)>, sborg <sborg@nsf.gov>, Gunn David A NGA-SRGC USA CIV <(b) (6)>, Hagan Brian L Mr NGA-S2 USA CIV <(b) (6)>, "Holeva, Paul D ERDC-GRL-VA" <Paul.D.Holeva@usace.army.mil>, Jane Messenger <jmessenger@usgs.gov>, Matthew O'Donnell <MJODONNELL@usgs.gov>, Maria McCormick <mlmccormick@usgs.gov>, Sean Killen <sean\_killen@fws.gov>, Deborah Nordeen <deb\_nordeen@nps.gov>, "Campbell, Laurie A - FS" <lacampbell@fs.fed.us>, "James, Kate" <kjam@loc.gov>, George Troop <(b) (6)>, Mark Rockmore <(b) (6)@gmail.com>, Amaudor <amaudorv@state.gov>, Jerry Mullins <(b) (6)@yahoo.com>, "Neumann, Tom (GSFC-6150)" <thomas.neumann@nasa.gov>, Pete Bermel <(b) (6)@verizon.net>, Ray Amaudor <(b) (6)@yahoo.com>, "Nerantzis, Jimmy" <NerantzisJ@state.gov>, Sandy Shor <Shor@soest.hawaii.edu>, "Taylor, Christine" <Christine.Taylor@boem.gov>, "Conklin, Julie R" <Julie.Conklin@boem.gov>, Norman Cherkis <(b) (6)@yahoo.com>, John McDonough - NOAA Federal <john.mcdonough@noaa.gov>, Michael Tischler <mtischler@usgs.gov>, Tara Wallace - NOAA Federal <tara.wallace@noaa.gov>, Patrick Mahoney <patrick\_mahoney@blm.gov>, Roger Payne <rpayne@usgs.gov>, Susan Russell-Robinson <SRussell@usgs.gov>

BGN,

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Marcus - I don't think the NGS Public Affairs/Communication Office will get any calls, but you may want to give them a heads up anyway.

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Thanks,

Lou

Jenny <jrunyon@usgs.gov>

**From:** Jenny <jrunyon@usgs.gov>  
**Sent:** Sun Aug 30 2015 16:39:28 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Yost, Louis" <lyost@usgs.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Mount McKinley name changed to Denali

So when I update GNIS does it get a BGN 2015 decision or not? Or a short blurb in the history? Or neither?

I just ran out to the grocery store and heard it on NPR. It seems to be the teaser to report on Obama's visit.

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Sent from my iPhone

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Lou

**"Yost, Louis" <lyost@usgs.gov>**

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**From:** "Yost, Louis" <lyost@usgs.gov>  
**Sent:** Sun Aug 30 2015 16:42:03 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** Jenny <jrunyon@usgs.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Mount McKinley name changed to Denali

Yes put 2015 decision for now. Will talk about what else.

On Sun, Aug 30, 2015 at 6:39 PM, Jenny <jrunyon@usgs.gov> wrote:

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Thanks,

Lou

**"Yost, Louis" <lyost@usgs.gov>**

---

**From:** "Yost, Louis" <lyost@usgs.gov>  
**Sent:** Sun Aug 30 2015 16:44:12 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** Tom Patterson <Tom\_Patterson@nps.gov>  
**Subject:** Mount McKinley name changed to Denali

Tom,

We will update GNIS tomorrow.

See the DOI Press Release at <https://www.doi.gov/pressreleases/secretary-jewell-announces-nation%E2%80%99s-highest-peak-will-now-bear-native> and the USGS Top Story at [http://www.usgs.gov/blogs/features/usgs\\_top\\_story/old-name-restored-to-nations-highest-peak/?from=title](http://www.usgs.gov/blogs/features/usgs_top_story/old-name-restored-to-nations-highest-peak/?from=title)

Lou

**Jenny <jrunyon@usgs.gov>**

---

**From:** Jenny <jrunyon@usgs.gov>  
**Sent:** Sun Aug 30 2015 16:54:22 GMT-0600 (MDT)

It's the lead story on the Google News app.

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 30, 2015, at 6:42 PM, Yost, Louis <[lyost@usgs.gov](mailto:lyost@usgs.gov)> wrote:

Yes put 2015 decision for now. Will talk about what else.

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**"Yost, Louis" <[lyost@usgs.gov](mailto:lyost@usgs.gov)>**

**From:** "Yost, Louis" <[lyost@usgs.gov](mailto:lyost@usgs.gov)>  
**Sent:** Sun Aug 30 2015 16:55:24 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** Jenny <[jrunyon@usgs.gov](mailto:jrunyon@usgs.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Mount McKinley name changed to Denali

It was on CBS Evening News.

On Sun, Aug 30, 2015 at 6:54 PM, Jenny <[jrunyon@usgs.gov](mailto:jrunyon@usgs.gov)> wrote:

It's the lead story on the Google News app.

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 30, 2015, at 6:42 PM, Yost, Louis <[lyost@usgs.gov](mailto:lyost@usgs.gov)> wrote:

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Thanks,

Lou

---

**"Yost, Louis" <[lyost@usgs.gov](mailto:lyost@usgs.gov)>**

**From:** "Yost, Louis" <[lyost@usgs.gov](mailto:lyost@usgs.gov)>  
**Sent:** Sun Aug 30 2015 17:17:08 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "T. Wayne Furr" <[twfurr@cogna50usa.org](mailto:twfurr@cogna50usa.org)>, "Antonson, Joan (DNR)" <[jo.antonson@alaska.gov](mailto:jo.antonson@alaska.gov)>  
**Subject:** Mount McKinley name changed to Denali

Jo and Wayne,

We will update GNIS tomorrow.

See the DOI Press Release at <https://www.doi.gov/pressreleases/secretary-jewell-announces-nation%E2%80%99s-highest-peak-will-now-bear-native> and the USGS Top Story at [http://www.usgs.gov/blogs/features/usgs\\_top\\_story/old-name-restored-to-nations-highest-peak/?from=title](http://www.usgs.gov/blogs/features/usgs_top_story/old-name-restored-to-nations-highest-peak/?from=title)

Lou

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**"Yost, Louis" <[lyost@usgs.gov](mailto:lyost@usgs.gov)>**

**From:** "Yost, Louis" <[lyost@usgs.gov](mailto:lyost@usgs.gov)>  
**Sent:** Sun Aug 30 2015 18:08:50 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "T. Wayne Furr" <[twfurr@cogna50usa.org](mailto:twfurr@cogna50usa.org)>, "Antonson, Joan (DNR)" <[jo.antonson@alaska.gov](mailto:jo.antonson@alaska.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Mount McKinley name changed to Denali

I should have added that this was a Secretarial action; not a DNC/BGN action, and as such we won't have much to say since we're not authorized to comment on Secretarial actions. As Jo knows we provided background/history on the matter. Jon Campbell, wearing his USGS Communications Office hat, has been designated the DOI geographic names contact for media inquires. Jon's number is 703-648-4180 should you be asked. Thanks.

On Sun, Aug 30, 2015 at 7:17 PM, Yost, Louis <[lyost@usgs.gov](mailto:lyost@usgs.gov)> wrote:

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Lou

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**"Runyon, Jennifer" <[jrunyon@usgs.gov](mailto:jrunyon@usgs.gov)>**

**Sent:** Sun Aug 30 2015 18:17:12 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Yost, Louis" <lyost@usgs.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Mount McKinley name changed to Denali

You need to be thinking too about what date to use for the decision: Friday, when the Secretarial Order was signed; today when the White House announced it; or tomorrow when Obama announces it and supposedly we first heard about it.

How long before we hear from Roger??????? :-)

On Sun, Aug 30, 2015 at 6:42 PM, Yost, Louis <lyost@usgs.gov> wrote:  
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Thanks,

Lou

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**"Yost, Louis" <lyost@usgs.gov>**

**From:** "Yost, Louis" <lyost@usgs.gov>  
**Sent:** Sun Aug 30 2015 18:30:30 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Runyon, Jennifer" <jrunyon@usgs.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Mount McKinley name changed to Denali

It became official when she signed it, not when we heard about it. I wonder if she ever plans on giving us an official notification? Probably not.

I'd say as soon as he hears about it or reads his email, and I'll bet you a quarter that the first words are **Kowabunga, Buffalo Bob**.

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Lou

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**"McCormick, Maria" <[mlmccormick@usgs.gov](mailto:mlmccormick@usgs.gov)>**

**From:** "McCormick, Maria" <[mlmccormick@usgs.gov](mailto:mlmccormick@usgs.gov)>  
**Sent:** Sun Aug 30 2015 18:30:57 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Yost, Louis" <[lyost@usgs.gov](mailto:lyost@usgs.gov)>, Jennifer Runyon <[jrunyon@usgs.gov](mailto:jrunyon@usgs.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Mount McKinley name changed to Denali

I let NGTOC management know what we will be doing even though half already know. I just forwarded your email to them. They can decide if all the quads need to be remade as soon as I change them all.

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**From:** "Runyon, Jennifer" <[jrunyon@usgs.gov](mailto:jrunyon@usgs.gov)>  
**Sent:** Sun Aug 30 2015 18:32:23 GMT-0600 (MDT)

That's what I thought too, so Aug. 28th. Thanks.

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On Sun, Aug 30, 2015 at 8:17 PM, Runyon, Jennifer <[jrunyon@usgs.gov](mailto:jrunyon@usgs.gov)> wrote:

You need to be thinking too about what date to use for the decision: Friday, when the Secretarial Order was signed; today when the White House announced it; or tomorrow when Obama announces it and supposedly we first heard about it.

How long before we hear from Roger??????? :-)

On Sun, Aug 30, 2015 at 6:42 PM, Yost, Louis <[lyost@usgs.gov](mailto:lyost@usgs.gov)> wrote:

Yes put 2015 decision for now. Will talk about what else.

On Sun, Aug 30, 2015 at 6:39 PM, Jenny <[jrunyon@usgs.gov](mailto:jrunyon@usgs.gov)> wrote:

So when I update GNIS does it get a BGN 2015 decision or not? Or a short blurb in the history? Or neither?

I just ran out to the grocery store and heard it on NPR. It seems to be the teaser to report on Obama's visit.

I notice that not one of the stories, nor the USGS Top Story, mentions the resurveyed elevation. A few seem to include a new figure in the write-up. If I recall, 20,237 ft.? Guess it's not enough to get excited about.

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 30, 2015, at 5:57 PM, Yost, Louis <[lyost@usgs.gov](mailto:lyost@usgs.gov)> wrote:

BGN,

The Secretary of the Interior has changed the name of Mount McKinley to Denali by Secretarial Order. We are not authorized to speak on any action taken by the Secretary, or how or why this action was taken.

Therefore, if you receive any inquiries about this do not comment, and refer them to Jon Campbell at 703-648-4180. Jon is the DOI Communications contact on this matter. Jon will either answer the questions or direct them to the person responsible for that information.

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Marcus - I don't think the NGS Public Affairs/Communication Office will get any calls, but you may want to give them a heads up anyway.

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Thanks,

Lou

---

## "Yost, Louis" <[lyost@usgs.gov](mailto:lyost@usgs.gov)>

**From:** "Yost, Louis" <[lyost@usgs.gov](mailto:lyost@usgs.gov)>  
**Sent:** Sun Aug 30 2015 18:36:33 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "McCormick, Maria" <[mlmccormick@usgs.gov](mailto:mlmccormick@usgs.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Mount McKinley name changed to Denali

Thanks, and I'm betting they re-do them. Newell said that Kari was aware of the change a week or so ago.

On Sun, Aug 30, 2015 at 8:30 PM, McCormick, Maria <[mlmccormick@usgs.gov](mailto:mlmccormick@usgs.gov)> wrote:

I let NGTOC management know what we will be doing even though half already know. I just forwarded your email to them. They can decide if all the quads need to be remade as soon as I change them all.

On Sunday, August 30, 2015, Yost, Louis <[lyost@usgs.gov](mailto:lyost@usgs.gov)> wrote:

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Thanks,

Lou

---

**"Yost, Louis" <lyost@usgs.gov>**

**From:** "Yost, Louis" <lyost@usgs.gov>  
**Sent:** Sun Aug 30 2015 19:07:10 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "McCormick, Maria" <mlmccormick@usgs.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Mount McKinley name changed to Denali

Make that the one(s) depicting Denali, I'm not venturing a bet on the ones just named Mount McKinley.....

On Sun, Aug 30, 2015 at 8:36 PM, Yost, Louis <lyost@usgs.gov> wrote:

Thanks, and I'm betting they re-do them. Newell said that Kari was aware of the change a week or so ago.

On Sun, Aug 30, 2015 at 8:30 PM, McCormick, Maria <mlmccormick@usgs.gov> wrote:

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Thanks,

Lou

---

**Mark Rockmore <(b) (5) @gmail.com>**

**From:** Mark Rockmore <(b) (5) @gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sun Aug 30 2015 20:25:29 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Yost, Louis" <lyost@usgs.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Mount McKinley name changed to Denali

just more politics at work here.. with the Prez in AK waiting for the ice to melt, another weekend set-up press release.

On Sun, Aug 30, 2015 at 5:57 PM, Yost, Louis <lyost@usgs.gov> wrote:

> BGN,

>

> The Secretary of the Interior has changed the name of Mount McKinley to  
> Denali by Secretarial Order. We are not authorized to speak on any action



> them to Jon Campbell at 703-648-4180. Jon is the DOI Communications contact  
> on this matter. Jon will either answer the questions or direct them to the  
> person responsible for that information.  
>  
> You are also cautioned not to give any personal opinions, pro or con, on the  
> name change or how the matter was handled. Answering these type of questions  
> has caused embarrassment for members (and the BGN) who have answered such  
> questions in the past.  
>  
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> Again, this was a Secretarial action, not a DNC/BGN action. For more  
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> <https://www.doi.gov/pressreleases/secretary-jewell-announces-nation%E2%80%99s-highest-peak-will-now-bear-native>  
> and the USGS Top Story at  
> [http://www.usgs.gov/blogs/features/usgs\\_top\\_story/old-name-restored-to-nations-highest-peak/?from=title](http://www.usgs.gov/blogs/features/usgs_top_story/old-name-restored-to-nations-highest-peak/?from=title)  
>  
> Thanks,  
>  
> Lou

**"Patterson, Tom" <tom\_patterson@nps.gov>**

---

**From:** "Patterson, Tom" <tom\_patterson@nps.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon Aug 31 2015 04:32:56 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Yost, Louis" <lyost@usgs.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Mount McKinley name changed to Denali

Thanks. The map change made last week now all make sense.

Tom

On Sunday, August 30, 2015, Yost, Louis <[lyost@usgs.gov](mailto:lyost@usgs.gov)> wrote:

Tom,

We will update GNIS tomorrow.

See the DOI Press Release at <https://www.doi.gov/pressreleases/secretary-jewell-announces-nation%E2%80%99s-highest-peak-will-now-bear-native> and the USGS Top Story at [http://www.usgs.gov/blogs/features/usgs\\_top\\_story/old-name-restored-to-nations-highest-peak/?from=title](http://www.usgs.gov/blogs/features/usgs_top_story/old-name-restored-to-nations-highest-peak/?from=title)

Lou

—  
Tom Patterson  
67 Mather Place  
Harpers Ferry, WV 25425-0050

304-535-6020 (Office)  
304-535-6085 (Fax)

Website (work): [www.nps.gov/carto](http://www.nps.gov/carto)  
Website (personal): [www.shadedrelief.com](http://www.shadedrelief.com)

**Tara Wallace - NOAA Federal <tara.wallace@noaa.gov>**

---

**From:** Tara Wallace - NOAA Federal <tara.wallace@noaa.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon Aug 31 2015 04:46:46 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Yost, Louis" <lyost@usgs.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Mount McKinley name changed to Denali

Thanks Lou -

Tara

On Sun, Aug 30, 2015 at 5:57 PM, Yost, Louis <[lyost@usgs.gov](mailto:lyost@usgs.gov)> wrote:  
| BGN,

Therefore, if you receive any inquiries about this do not comment, and refer them to Jon Campbell at [703-648-4180](tel:703-648-4180). Jon is the DOI Communications contact on this matter. Jon will either answer the questions or direct them to the person responsible for that information.

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Thanks,

Lou

—  
Tara Wallace, Branch Chief  
Nautical Data Branch, Marine Chart Division  
Office of Coast Survey, National Ocean Service  
(301) 713-2737 ext. 123

**Michael Tischler <[mtischler@usgs.gov](mailto:mtischler@usgs.gov)>**

---

**From:** Michael Tischler <[mtischler@usgs.gov](mailto:mtischler@usgs.gov)>  
**Sent:** Mon Aug 31 2015 06:10:56 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Yost, Louis" <[lyost@usgs.gov](mailto:lyost@usgs.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: Mount McKinley name changed to Denali

Aw, man! I was hoping the BGN would have the honor of renaming!

Michael Tischler, Ph.D  
Director

National Geospatial Program  
USGS  
703-648-4725  
703-344-4348 (cell)

On Aug 30, 2015, at 5:57 PM, Yost, Louis <[lyost@usgs.gov](mailto:lyost@usgs.gov)> wrote:

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Thanks,

Lou

**"Yost, Louis" <[lyost@usgs.gov](mailto:lyost@usgs.gov)>**

---

**From:** "Yost, Louis" <[lyost@usgs.gov](mailto:lyost@usgs.gov)>

**Subject:** Re: Mount McKinley name changed to Denali

Yeah I know, but Sally thought she'd do it herself.

On Mon, Aug 31, 2015 at 8:10 AM, Michael Tischler <[mtischler@usgs.gov](mailto:mtischler@usgs.gov)> wrote:  
Aw, man! I was hoping the BGN would have the honor of renaming!

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Thanks,

Lou

---

#### "Yost, Louis" <[lyost@usgs.gov](mailto:lyost@usgs.gov)>

**From:** "Yost, Louis" <[lyost@usgs.gov](mailto:lyost@usgs.gov)>  
**Sent:** Mon Aug 31 2015 06:45:54 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** Maria McCormick <[mlmccormick@usgs.gov](mailto:mlmccormick@usgs.gov)>, Jennifer Runyon <[jrunyon@usgs.gov](mailto:jrunyon@usgs.gov)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Mount McKinley name changed to Denali

NPS changed their maps. I was told last week by Jon's boss last week that they were having new signs made too.

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

From: **Patterson, Tom** <[tom\\_patterson@nps.gov](mailto:tom_patterson@nps.gov)>  
Date: Mon, Aug 31, 2015 at 6:32 AM  
Subject: Re: Mount McKinley name changed to Denali  
To: "Yost, Louis" <[lyost@usgs.gov](mailto:lyost@usgs.gov)>  
Cc: Michael Shelton <[michael\\_shelton@nps.gov](mailto:michael_shelton@nps.gov)>

Thanks. The map change made last week now all make sense.

Tom

On Sunday, August 30, 2015, Yost, Louis <[lyost@usgs.gov](mailto:lyost@usgs.gov)> wrote:

Tom,

We will update GNIS tomorrow.

See the DOI Press Release at <https://www.doi.gov/pressreleases/secretary-jewell-announces-nation%E2%80%99s-highest-peak-will-now-bear-native> and the USGS Top Story at [http://www.usgs.gov/blogs/features/usgs\\_top\\_story/old-name-restored-to-nations-highest-peak/?from=title](http://www.usgs.gov/blogs/features/usgs_top_story/old-name-restored-to-nations-highest-peak/?from=title)

Lou

—  
Tom Patterson  
67 Mather Place  
Harpers Ferry, WV 25425-0050

304-535-6020 (Office)  
304-535-6085 (Fax)

Website (work): [www.nps.gov/carto](http://www.nps.gov/carto)  
Website (personal): [www.shadedrelief.com](http://www.shadedrelief.com)

**"Yost, Louis" <[lyost@usgs.gov](mailto:lyost@usgs.gov)>**

---

**From:** "Yost, Louis" <[lyost@usgs.gov](mailto:lyost@usgs.gov)>  
**Sent:** Mon Aug 31 2015 07:02:38 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** Jennifer Runyon <[jrunyon@usgs.gov](mailto:jrunyon@usgs.gov)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Mount McKinley name changed to Denali

I guess that Mike wasn't in the loop as far as I thought.

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

**From:** Yost, Louis <[lyost@usgs.gov](mailto:lyost@usgs.gov)>  
**Date:** Mon, Aug 31, 2015 at 8:24 AM  
**Subject:** Re: Mount McKinley name changed to Denali  
**To:** Michael Tischler <[mtischler@usgs.gov](mailto:mtischler@usgs.gov)>

Yeah I know, but Sally thought she'd do it herself.

On Mon, Aug 31, 2015 at 8:10 AM, Michael Tischler <[mtischler@usgs.gov](mailto:mtischler@usgs.gov)> wrote:

Aw, man! I was hoping the BGN would have the honor of renaming!

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Director

National Geospatial Program  
USGS  
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On Aug 30, 2015, at 5:57 PM, Yost, Louis <[lyost@usgs.gov](mailto:lyost@usgs.gov)> wrote:

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Thanks,

Lou

## Conversation Contents

Fwd: Mount McKinley Name Change

"BGNEEXEC, GS-N-MAC" <bgnexec@usgs.gov>

---

**From:** "BGNEEXEC, GS-N-MAC" <bgnexec@usgs.gov>  
**Sent:** Sun Aug 30 2015 18:09:23 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** Louis Yost <lyost@usgs.gov>, Jon Campbell <joncampbell@usgs.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Mount McKinley Name Change

To answer these or not? I'm sure you've seen them too, but this is typical of many of the comments in the news stories. No great surprise, I guess. I sure don't want to debate these people.

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

**From:** John <constable1529@yahoo.com>  
**Date:** Sun, Aug 30, 2015 at 6:33 PM  
**Subject:** Mount McKinley Name Change  
**To:** "BGNEEXEC@usgs.gov" <BGNEEXEC@usgs.gov>

Please block Obama's plan to change the name of Mount McKinley. Obama likes to flex his muscles with his drastic changes and is well along the road to becoming America's worst president. There is no valid reason to change the name.

Thank You

John Hazel

(b) (6)

Sent from my iPad

"Yost, Louis" <lyost@usgs.gov>

**From:** "Yost, Louis" <lyost@usgs.gov>  
**Sent:** Sun Aug 30 2015 18:20:07 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "BGNEEXEC, GS-N-MAC" <bgnexec@usgs.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Mount McKinley Name Change

No debate. We just tell him/them it is a Secretarial Order by SOI and not an Executive Order by the Prez and out of the BGN's hands. Then point them to the DOI Press Release and Top Story.

On Sun, Aug 30, 2015 at 8:09 PM, BGNEEXEC, GS-N-MAC <bgnexec@usgs.gov> wrote:

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Thank You

John Hazel

(b) (6)

Sent from my iPad

**"Campbell, Jon" <joncampbell@usgs.gov>**

---

**From:** "Campbell, Jon" <joncampbell@usgs.gov>  
**Sent:** Sun Aug 30 2015 18:35:51 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Yost, Louis" <lyost@usgs.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Mount McKinley Name Change

Agree.

Relatedly, AP has corrected their story that Pres. did this on his own authority.

Jon Campbell  
U.S. Geological Survey  
Office of Communications and Publishing  
703-648-4180 | m 571-230-6831  
[joncampbell@usgs.gov](mailto:joncampbell@usgs.gov)

On Sun, Aug 30, 2015 at 8:20 PM, Yost, Louis <[lyost@usgs.gov](mailto:lyost@usgs.gov)> wrote:

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**Date:** Sun, Aug 30, 2015 at 6:33 PM  
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John Hazel

(b) (6)

Sent from my iPad

**"BGNEXEC, GS-N-MAC" <bgnexec@usgs.gov>**

**From:** "BGNEXEC, GS-N-MAC" <bgnexec@usgs.gov>  
**Sent:** Sun Aug 30 2015 18:41:25 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Campbell, Jon" <joncampbell@usgs.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Mount McKinley Name Change

Sounds good, thanks much.

On Sun, Aug 30, 2015 at 8:35 PM, Campbell, Jon <[joncampbell@usgs.gov](mailto:joncampbell@usgs.gov)> wrote:

Agree.

Relatedly, AP has corrected their story that Pres. did this on his own authority.

Jon Campbell  
U.S. Geological Survey  
Office of Communications and Publishing  
703-648-4180 | m 571-230-6831  
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Sent from my iPad

## Conversation Contents

Denali: The Aftermath (UNCLASSIFIED)

**"Caldwell, Douglas R ERDC-GRL-VA" <Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil>**

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**From:** "Caldwell, Douglas R ERDC-GRL-VA" <Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil>  
**Sent:** Mon Aug 31 2015 07:37:49 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Campbell, Jon" <joncampbell@usgs.gov>, Louis Yost <lyost@usgs.gov>, Jennifer Runyon <jrunyon@usgs.gov>, Douglas Vandegraft <Douglas.Vandegraft@boem.gov>, Michael Shelton <michael\_shelton@nps.gov>, "Gilbert, Tony N." <tgilbert@gpo.gov>  
**Subject:** Denali: The Aftermath (UNCLASSIFIED)

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED  
Caveats: NONE

Hi!

**\*\* Denali: The Aftermath \*\***

It was interesting watching this last night ... shortly after 5pm I saw a single CNN report on the subject and by the time I went to bed there were hundreds. Thankfully many seemed to track closely with the information that Jon prepared.

This all does raise a couple questions ... likely more as time goes on.

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Engineer Research and Development Center  
US Army Corps of Engineers  
7701 Telegraph Road  
Alexandria, VA 22315-3864

Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil  
703-428-3594

-----Original Message-----

From: Campbell, Jon [mailto:joncampbell@usgs.gov]  
Sent: Friday, August 28, 2015 5:30 PM  
To: Louis Yost; Jennifer Runyon; Douglas Vandegraft; Caldwell, Douglas R ERDC-GRL-VA; Michael Shelton; Gilbert, Tony N.  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Denali translation for DOI release



Jon Campbell  
U.S. Geological Survey  
Office of Communications and Publishing  
703-648-4180 | m 571-230-6831  
joncampbell@usgs.gov

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From: Campbell, Jon <joncampbell@usgs.gov>  
Date: Fri, Aug 28, 2015 at 5:27 PM  
Subject: Denali translation for DOI release  
To: Anne-Berry Wade <abwade@usgs.gov>

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**"Yost, Louis" <lyost@usgs.gov>**

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**From:** "Yost, Louis" <lyost@usgs.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon Aug 31 2015 08:14:53 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Caldwell, Douglas R ERDC-GRL-VA" <Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil>  
**Subject:** Re: Denali: The Aftermath (UNCLASSIFIED)

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Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Denali translation for DOI release

fyi

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**Sent:** Mon Aug 31 2015 09:19:09 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Campbell, Jon" <joncampbell@usgs.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Re: Denali: The Aftermath (UNCLASSIFIED)

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**\*\* RE: [EXTERNAL] Re: Denali: The Aftermath \*\***

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Hope you are well!

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**"Shelton, Michael" <michael\_shelton@nps.gov>**

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**Sent:** Mon Aug 31 2015 12:41:37 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Yost, Louis" <lyost@usgs.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Denali: The Aftermath (UNCLASSIFIED)

All that I can add from Williamsburg is that modern Secretarial Orders do "disappear." They are usually converted into chapters of the Departmental Manual for ongoing policies or procedures. In this case, though, if the GNIS is changed to reflect the new name, and if the entry cites the order number and date, then the Order itself could go away.

And Lou told me he was going to notify Tom Patterson of our Harpers Ferry Center of the change in GNIS by email late yesterday, so the NPS is officially "notified."

Best to all,

/s/ Mike

P.S. (b) (6)

Michael M. Shelton  
Program Analyst  
Office of Policy  
National Park Service  
Deputy Member, U.S. Board on  
Geographic Names  
1201 Eye Street NW  
7th Floor / Office 88  
Washington, DC 20005  
(202) 354-3954 (Direct Dial)  
(202) 354-3950 (Gen'l Off. No.)  
(202) 371-5189 (Fax)

"Whatever you do, crush superstition, and love those who love you."  
Voltaire, 1762

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Maybe Mike can shed some light on the phrasing ... I would think the Order changing the name would remain in effect permanently.

On another note, I opened the Washington Post this morning and noticed that they got the name wrong on the front page and on A4, calling it Mount Denali, not Denali:-(

I realize that we can't possibly track down every factual error (I am at peace with references to the U.S. Board of Geographic Names, such as the quote from Sally Jewell in recent articles), but it seems it would benefit us to get out in front of this one and others from major newspapers, as they will likely be writing about it in the future as the story unfolds.

Jon ... how are these kinds of issues handled.

Thanks to all for the work on this ... it will be interesting to see how it unfolds.

Best wishes,

Doug Caldwell  
Geospatial Research Laboratory  
Engineer Research and Development Center  
US Army Corps of Engineers  
7701 Telegraph Road  
Alexandria, VA 22315-3864

[Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil](mailto:Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil)  
703-428-3594

-----Original Message-----

From: Campbell, Jon [mailto:[joncampbell@usgs.gov](mailto:joncampbell@usgs.gov)]

Sent: Friday, August 28, 2015 5:30 PM

To: Louis Yost; Jennifer Runyon; Douglas Vandegraft; Caldwell, Douglas R ERDC-GRL-VA; Michael Shelton; Gilbert, Tony N.

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: Denali translation for DOI release

fyi

Jon Campbell  
U.S. Geological Survey  
Office of Communications and Publishing  
703-648-4180 | m 571-230-6831  
[joncampbell@usgs.gov](mailto:joncampbell@usgs.gov)

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

From: Campbell, Jon <[joncampbell@usgs.gov](mailto:joncampbell@usgs.gov)>

Date: Fri, Aug 28, 2015 at 5:27 PM

Subject: Denali translation for DOI release

To: Anne-Berry Wade <[abwade@usgs.gov](mailto:abwade@usgs.gov)>

AB,

BGN members are firm in their belief that the English translation 'the Great One' should not be included in the release.

Preferred sentence >>

The word Denali is the accepted English spelling of an Athabaskan name for the mountain, meaning "the tall one."

The reasoning

We should refer to Denali as "the tall one" or "the high one" but not "the great one."

According to James Kari in "Shem Pete's Alaska: The Territory of the Upper Cook Inlet Dena'ina" "high" or "tall" are appropriate, but "great" is not.

---

factually correct. Dickey recorded the Russian word for "big" from some Dena'ina men, but I have never heard that term applied to Denali by Dena'ina speakers.

-----

There is a section in the book devoted on "Names for Denali/Mt. McKinley in Alaska Native Languages."

Dr. Kari is recognized as an expert in this area and it is best to defer to him so we don't look like outsiders (which we are).

+++++

Jon Campbell  
U.S. Geological Survey  
Office of Communications and Publishing  
703-648-4180 | m 571-230-6831  
[joncampbell@usgs.gov](mailto:joncampbell@usgs.gov)

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED  
Caveats: NONE

## Conversation Contents

RE: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: USGS Top Story, 8/30 - Old Name Restored to Nation's Highest Peak (UNCLASSIFIED)

**"Caldwell, Douglas R ERDC-GRL-VA" <Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil>**

---

**From:** "Caldwell, Douglas R ERDC-GRL-VA" <Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil>  
**Sent:** Mon Aug 31 2015 08:18:56 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Runyon, Jennifer" <jrunyon@usgs.gov>, "Nolan, Jacqueline" <jnol@loc.gov>, "Meredith westington@noaa.gov" <Meredith.westington@noaa.gov> <Meredith.westington@noaa.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: USGS Top Story, 8/30 - Old Name Restored to Nation's Highest Peak (UNCLASSIFIED)

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED  
Caveats: NONE

Jenny,

**\*\* RE: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: USGS Top Story, 8/30 - Old Name Restored to Nation's Highest Peak \*\***

> What do you think, will the link to the  
>125th Anniversary event draw a few folks  
>who might not otherwise have shown up?

Hi! If folks hear about it, I would think so. It certainly is interesting. Wonder if the DOI welcome from the Acting Deputy Director of USGS will mention it.

>I wonder if Mark Monmonier will tweak his >presentation now

I will send out information to the speakers later today or tomorrow, with links to the White House, SOI Order, and Jon's great Top Story article.

>I see that the Wikipedia page has already  
>been updated.

You do have to credit social media for some of the most current news. Twitter has been abuzz

Rob Portman (Ohio) has been critical of the change  
<https://twitter.com/senrobportman>

and Facebook is not far behind with coverage

Lisa Murkowski's thank you to the President is at  
<https://www.facebook.com/SenLisaMurkowski>

Usual comments ... for, against, and some wondering why consider names at all when there are so many other pressing issues in the world.

Best wishes,

Doug Caldwell  
Geospatial Research Laboratory  
Engineer Research and Development Center  
US Army Corps of Engineers  
7701 Telegraph Road  
Alexandria, VA 22315-3864

Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil  
703-428-3594

-----Original Message-----

From: Runyon, Jennifer [mailto:jrunyon@usgs.gov]  
Sent: Sunday, August 30, 2015 9:43 PM  
To: Caldwell, Douglas R ERDC-GRL-VA; Nolan, Jacqueline; Meredith.westington@noaa.gov <Meredith.westington@noaa.gov>  
Cc: Louis Yost; Jon C Campbell  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Fwd: USGS Top Story, 8/30 - Old Name Restored to Nation's Highest Peak

What do you think, will the link to the 125th Anniversary event draw a few folks who might not otherwise have shown up?

I wonder if Mark Monmonier will tweak his presentation now. I'd forgotten he mentioned the controversy in his book(s).

I see that the Wikipedia page has already been updated.

From: Campbell, Jon <joncampbell@usgs.gov>  
Date: Sun, Aug 30, 2015 at 9:35 PM  
Subject: USGS Top Story, 8/30 - Old Name Restored to Nation's Highest Peak  
To: GS-DO-OCAP-OC-Cong <cong\_liaison@usgs.gov>, GS-DO-OCAP-OC-PA <gs-do-ocap-oc-pa@usgs.gov>, GS-DO-OCAP-SIS-All <gs-do-ocap-sis-all@usgs.gov>, GS-DO-OCAP-COLT <gs-do-ocap-colt@usgs.gov>, Suzette Kimball <suzette\_kimball@usgs.gov>, Judy Nowakowski <jnowakowski@usgs.gov>, Joanne Taylor <jctaylor@usgs.gov>, William Lukas <wlukas@usgs.gov>, Kevin Gallagher <kgallagher@usgs.gov>, Joan Moody <joan\_moody@ios.doi.gov>, GS-CLU Principals <gs-clu\_principals@usgs.gov>, GS Water Senior Staff <gs\_water\_senior\_staff@usgs.gov>, GS-DO-OCAP-OC-Web-SocMedia <gs-do-ocap-oc-web-socmedia@usgs.gov>, Michael Tischler <mtischler@usgs.gov>  
Cc: "Caldwell, Douglas R ERDC-TEC-VA" <Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil>, "Runyon, Jennifer" <jrunyon@usgs.gov>, Trent Palmer <(b) (6)>, Mark DeMulder <mdemulder@usgs.gov>, Michael Shelton <michael\_shelton@nps.gov>, Brian Mueller <bmueller@blm.gov>, Douglas Vandegraff <Douglas.Vandegraff@boem.gov>, Jon C Campbell <joncampbell@usgs.gov>, Lee Fleming <lfleming2@bia.gov>, Monique Fordham <mfordham@usgs.gov>, Ron Salz <ron\_salz@fws.gov>, "curtis.loy@noaa.gov" <curtis.loy@noaa.gov>, "andrew.h.flora@census.gov" <andrew.h.flora@census.gov>, "michael.r.fournier@census.gov" <michael.r.fournier@census.gov>, "john.t.fitzwater@census.gov" <john.t.fitzwater@census.gov>, "Dillon, Leo" <dillonli@state.gov>, "Doornboser@state.gov" <Doornboser@state.gov>, "Blyler, Nancy J HQ02" <Nancy.J.Blyler@usace.army.mil>, Marcus W Allsup <(b) (6)>, "Patrick.Abbott@ (b) (6)" <Patrick.Abbott@ (b) (6)>, "Marianne.Petty@ (b) (6)" <Marianne.Petty@ (b) (6)>, "marvin m lindroth" <(b) (6)>, "steven.hunter@ (b) (6)" <steven.hunter@ (b) (6)>, "dctatar@ (b) (6)" <dctatar@ (b) (6)>, "ingerjk@ (b) (6)" <ingerjk@ (b) (6)>, "davidwz@ (b) (6)" <davidwz@ (b) (6)>, "franchd@ (b) (6)" <franchd@ (b) (6)>, "JustinT" <JustinT@ (b) (6)>, "eric berman" <eric.berman@dhs.gov>, "Pattarozzi, Victor" <victor.pattarozzi@hq.dhs.gov>, "Ehrenberg, Ralph" <rehr@loc.gov>, "Johnson, Bruce" <bjohn@loc.gov>, "Sokol, Donna" <dsokol@loc.gov>, "Nolan, Jacqueline" <jnol@loc.gov>, "eblount@fs.fed.us" <eblount@fs.fed.us>, "Betsy Kanalley" <bkanalley@fs.fed.us>, "Milton, Gail - Memphis, TN" <gail.milton@usps.gov>, "Lawson, Angela D - Memphis, TN" <Angela.D.Lawson@usps.gov>, "Angela.D.Lawson@usps.gov", "Tony N. Gilbert" <tgilbert@gpo.gov>, "Forrest, Brenda-Anne C." <bforrest@gpo.gov>, Gerard J Walter <(b) (6)>, sborg <sborg@nsf.gov>, Gunn David A NGA-SRGC USA CIV <(b) (6)>, Hagan Brian L Mr NGA-S2 USA CIV <(b) (6)>, "Holeva, Paul D ERDC-GRL-VA" <Paul.D.Holeva@usace.army.mil>, Jane Messenger <jmessenger@usgs.gov>, Matthew O'Donnell <MJODONNELL@usgs.gov>, Maria McCormick <mlmccormick@usgs.gov>, Sean Killen <sean\_killen@fws.gov>, Deborah Nordeen <deb\_nordeen@nps.gov>, "Campbell, Laurie A -FS" <lacampbell@fs.fed.us>, "James, Kate" <kjam@loc.gov>, George Troop <(b) (6)>, Mark Rockmore <(b) (6)>@gmail.com>, Arnaudor <arnaudorv@state.gov>, Jerry Mullins <(b) (6)>@yahoo.com>, "Neumann, Tom (GSFC-6150)" <thomas.neumann@nasa.gov>, Pete Bermel <(b) (6)>@verizon.net>, Ray Arnaudor <(b) (6)>@yahoo.com>, "Nerantzis, Jimmy" <NerantzisJ@state.gov>, Sandy Shor <Shor@soest.hawaii.edu>, "Taylor, Christine" <Christine.Taylor@boem.gov>, "Conklin, Julie R" <Julie.Conklin@boem.gov>, Norman Cherkis <(b) (6)>@yahoo.com>, John Mcdonough - NOAA Federal <john.mcdonough@noaa.gov>, Tara Wallace - NOAA Federal <tara.wallace@noaa.gov>, Patrick Mahoney <patrick\_mahoney@blm.gov>, Roger Payne <rpayne@usgs.gov>, Susan Russell-Robinson <SRussell@usgs.gov>

Old Name Restored to Nation's Highest Peak <[http://www.usgs.gov/blogs/features/usgs\\_top\\_story/old-name-restored-to-nations-highest-peak/](http://www.usgs.gov/blogs/features/usgs_top_story/old-name-restored-to-nations-highest-peak/)>

Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell has announced that the highest mountain in the United States and North America, formerly known as Mount McKinley, will now be officially designated by the name Denali in all federal records.

"This name change recognizes the sacred status of Denali to many Alaska Natives," Secretary Jewell said in a Department of the Interior news release. "The name Denali has been official for use by the State of Alaska since 1975, but even more importantly, the mountain has been known as Denali for generations far back into the past. With our own sense of reverence for this place, we are restoring an old name in recognition of the traditions of Alaska Natives and the strong support of the people of Alaska."

More <[http://www.usgs.gov/blogs/features/usgs\\_top\\_story/old-name-restored-to-nations-highest-peak/](http://www.usgs.gov/blogs/features/usgs_top_story/old-name-restored-to-nations-highest-peak/)> ...

U.S. Department of the Interior press release <<https://www.doi.gov/pressreleases/secretary-jewell-announces-nation%E2%80%99s-highest-peak-will-now-bear-native>>

---

Jon Campbell  
U.S. Geological Survey  
Office of Communications and Publishing  
703-648-4180 | m 571-230-6831  
joncampbell@usgs.gov

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED  
Caveats: NONE

**"Caldwell, Douglas R ERDC-GRL-VA" <Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil>**

**From:** "Caldwell, Douglas R ERDC-GRL-VA" <Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil>

**Subject:** RE: [EXTERNAL] Re: USGS Top Story, 8/30 - Old Name Restored to Nation's Highest Peak (UNCLASSIFIED)

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED  
Caveats: NONE

Hi!

\*\* RE: [EXTERNAL] Re: USGS Top Story, 8/30 - Old Name Restored to Nation's Highest Peak \*\*

National Geographic has a nice article on this ... Juan Valdes (our final speaker at the BGN 125th features prominently).

<http://news.nationalgeographic.com/2015/08/150831-denali-mount-mckinley-name-change-geography-maps/>

Google has the name wrong ... Mount Denali:-( OpenStreetMap has it right. Don't see it labeled on Esri maps. National Map Viewer ... Geographic Names layer still has Mount McKinley.

Jon ... thanks for keeping us in the loop.

Best wishes,

Doug Caldwell  
Geospatial Research Laboratory  
Engineer Research and Development Center  
US Army Corps of Engineers  
7701 Telegraph Road  
Alexandria, VA 22315-3864

Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil  
703-428-3594

-----Original Message-----

From: Campbell, Jon [mailto:joncampbell@usgs.gov]  
Sent: Monday, August 31, 2015 3:02 PM  
To: Vandegraft, Douglas  
Cc: Yost, Louis; Caldwell, Douglas R ERDC-GRL-VA; Runyon, Jennifer; Michael Shelton  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: USGS Top Story, 8/30 - Old Name Restored to Nation's Highest Peak

New elevation figure to be announced on Wed.

Initially, name change and elev were to be combined in one press release.

The DOI (possibly WH) wanted separate announcements. Consternation followed.

But I think the name change would have completely overshadowed the elev revision in any case. A separate release is probably best.

Anyway, Denali (like using that name) will be in the news a few more days.

Jon Campbell  
U.S. Geological Survey  
Office of Communications and Publishing  
703-648-4180 | m 571-230-6831  
joncampbell@usgs.gov

On Mon, Aug 31, 2015 at 2:49 PM, Vandegraft, Douglas <douglas.vandegraft@boem.gov> wrote:

Hi Jon,

I am still enjoying this moment! Thank you again for all of your hard work. It really paid off!

The only thing I haven't seen yet is the revised elevation. Will that be announced soon?

Doug

Chief, Mapping & Boundary Branch  
Leasing Division, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management

(703) 787-1312

45600 Woodland Road, VAM-LD

Sterling, VA 20166

Old Name Restored to Nation's Highest Peak <Blocked[http://www.usgs.gov/blogs/features/usgs\\_top\\_story/old-name-restored-to-nations-highest-peak/](http://www.usgs.gov/blogs/features/usgs_top_story/old-name-restored-to-nations-highest-peak/)>

Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell has announced that the highest mountain in the United States and North America, formerly known as Mount McKinley, will now be officially designated by the name Denali in all federal records.

"This name change recognizes the sacred status of Denali to many Alaska Natives," Secretary Jewell said in a Department of the Interior news release. "The name Denali has been official for use by the State of Alaska since 1975, but even more importantly, the mountain has been known as Denali for generations far back into the past. With our own sense of reverence for this place, we are restoring an old name in recognition of the traditions of Alaska Natives and the strong support of the people of Alaska."

More <Blocked[http://www.usgs.gov/blogs/features/usgs\\_top\\_story/old-name-restored-to-nations-highest-peak/](http://www.usgs.gov/blogs/features/usgs_top_story/old-name-restored-to-nations-highest-peak/)> ...

U.S. Department of the Interior press release <Blocked<https://www.doi.gov/pressreleases/secretary-jewell-announces-nation%E2%80%99s-highest-peak-will-now-bear-native>>

---

Jon Campbell  
U.S. Geological Survey  
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joncampbell@usgs.gov

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED  
Caveats: NONE

## Conversation Contents

BGN 125th Anniversary Symposium: - A couple of things ... (UNCLASSIFIED)

Attachments:

/28. BGN 125th Anniversary Symposium: - A couple of things ... (UNCLASSIFIED)/1.1 smime.p7s

**"Caldwell, Douglas R ERDC-GRL-VA" <Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil>**

---

**From:** "Caldwell, Douglas R ERDC-GRL-VA" <Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil>  
**Sent:** Tue Sep 01 2015 17:02:39 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** Mark Monmonier <mon2ier@maxwell.syr.edu>, Helen Kerfoot <hkerfoot@rogers.com>, Albert E Theberge - NOAA Federal <albert.e.theberge.jr@noaa.gov>, "sishaw2@verizon.net" <sishaw2@verizon.net>, "Ibermudez@opengeospatial.org" <Ibermudez@opengeospatial.org>, David Stage <(b) (6)@gmail.com>, Juan Valdes <jvaldes@ngs.org>  
**Subject:** BGN 125th Anniversary Symposium: - A couple of things ... (UNCLASSIFIED)  
**Attachments:** smime.p7s

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Caveats: NONE

Hil

**\*\* BGN 125th Anniversary Symposium: - A couple of things ... \*\***

Am just checking in with a reminder that slides for the BGN 125th Anniversary are due next Tuesday, 8 September. Thanks to those who have already sent them in!

When you use the SAFE File Transfer System, you will be sent an email asking you to confirm that you are sending the information ... just wanted to let you know as sometimes this is confusing.

**\*\* Denali Name Change \*\***

The news this week was the name change from Mount McKinley to Denali. If you are interested in more details I would recommend ...

– Government Sources

Department of Interior Press Release

<https://www.doi.gov/pressreleases/secretary-jewell-announces-nation%E2%80%99s-highest-peak-will-now-bear-native>

Secretarial Order

<https://www.doi.gov/sites/doi.opengov.ibmcloud.com/files/press-release/Denali%20Name%20Change.pdf>

USGS Top Story (In depth article by BGN member Jon Campbell)

[http://www.usgs.gov/blogs/features/usgs\\_top\\_story/old-name-restored-to-nations-highest-peak/](http://www.usgs.gov/blogs/features/usgs_top_story/old-name-restored-to-nations-highest-peak/)

– National Geographic Article

<http://news.nationalgeographic.com/2015/08/150831-denali-mount-mckinley-name-change-geography-maps/>

Explains how National Geographic is handling the change.

[NOTE: For security reasons, our email server puts BLOCKED at the start of each URL ... you will have to remove this to have the URL work.]

Am very much looking forward to your presentations and meeting you on the 18th.

I will be writing next week with specifics on the event. If you have any questions or need more information, please let me know.

Best wishes,

Doug Caldwell

US Army Corps of Engineers  
7701 Telegraph Road  
Alexandria, VA 22315-3864

Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil  
703-428-3594

Classification: UNCLASSIFIED  
Caveats: NONE



## Conversation Contents

### August DNC meeting minutes

- /5. August DNC meeting minutes/1.1 DNC Aug13\_2015 Minutes draft.docx
- /5. August DNC meeting minutes/2.1 DNC Aug13\_2015 Minutes draft LY.docx
- /5. August DNC meeting minutes/3.1 DNC Aug13\_2015 Minutes draft LY\_JER.docx

---

### "O'Donnell, Matthew" <mjodonnell@usgs.gov>

**From:** "O'Donnell, Matthew" <mjodonnell@usgs.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue Sep 01 2015 14:17:07 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** Jennifer Runyon <jrunyon@usgs.gov>, Louis Yost <lyost@usgs.gov>  
**Subject:** August DNC meeting minutes  
**Attachments:** DNC Aug13\_2015 Minutes draft.docx

The draft minutes are attached. Please let me know if you have any additions you'd like me to make.

Matt

---

### "Yost, Louis" <lyost@usgs.gov>

**From:** "Yost, Louis" <lyost@usgs.gov>  
**Sent:** Sun Sep 06 2015 08:18:28 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** Jennifer Runyon <jrunyon@usgs.gov>  
**Subject:** Fwd: August DNC meeting minutes  
**Attachments:** DNC Aug13\_2015 Minutes draft LY.docx

See attachment.

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

**From:** O'Donnell, Matthew <mjodonnell@usgs.gov>  
**Date:** Tue, Sep 1, 2015 at 4:17 PM  
**Subject:** August DNC meeting minutes  
**To:** Jennifer Runyon <jrunyon@usgs.gov>, Louis Yost <lyost@usgs.gov>

The draft minutes are attached. Please let me know if you have any additions you'd like me to make.

Matt

---

### "Runyon, Jennifer" <jrunyon@usgs.gov>

**From:** "Runyon, Jennifer" <jrunyon@usgs.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon Sep 07 2015 18:30:18 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Yost, Louis" <lyost@usgs.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: August DNC meeting minutes  
**Attachments:** DNC Aug13\_2015 Minutes draft LY\_JER.docx

Yours with my edits added.

Jenny

On Sun, Sep 6, 2015 at 10:18 AM, Yost, Louis <lyost@usgs.gov> wrote:  
See attachment.

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

**From:** O'Donnell, Matthew <mjodonnell@usgs.gov>  
**Date:** Tue, Sep 1, 2015 at 4:17 PM  
**Subject:** August DNC meeting minutes  
**To:** Jennifer Runyon <jrunyon@usgs.gov>, Louis Yost <lyost@usgs.gov>

The draft minutes are attached. Please let me know if you have any additions you'd like me to make.

Matt

"Yost, Louis" <[lyost@usgs.gov](mailto:lyost@usgs.gov)>

---

**From:** "Yost, Louis" <[lyost@usgs.gov](mailto:lyost@usgs.gov)>  
**Sent:** Mon Sep 07 2015 19:46:54 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Runyon, Jennifer" <[jrunyon@usgs.gov](mailto:jrunyon@usgs.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: August DNC meeting minutes

Looks good to me except for Rain Dance Pond - take out the word "is" in the reason for the negative vote.

On Mon, Sep 7, 2015 at 8:30 PM, Runyon, Jennifer <[jrunyon@usgs.gov](mailto:jrunyon@usgs.gov)> wrote:  
Yours with my edits added.

Jenny

On Sun, Sep 6, 2015 at 10:18 AM, Yost, Louis <[lyost@usgs.gov](mailto:lyost@usgs.gov)> wrote:  
See attachment.

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

**From:** O'Donnell, Matthew <[miodonnell@usgs.gov](mailto:miodonnell@usgs.gov)>  
**Date:** Tue, Sep 1, 2015 at 4:17 PM  
**Subject:** August DNC meeting minutes  
**To:** Jennifer Runyon <[jrunyon@usgs.gov](mailto:jrunyon@usgs.gov)>, Louis Yost <[lyost@usgs.gov](mailto:lyost@usgs.gov)>

The draft minutes are attached. Please let me know if you have any additions you'd like me to make.

Matt

**U.S. BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES  
DOMESTIC NAMES COMMITTEE**

Seven Hundred and Seventy Fourth Meeting  
Department of the Interior, Kiowa Room  
August 13, 2015 – 9:30 a.m.

Members and Deputy Members in Attendance

Eric Berman	Department of Homeland Security (Federal Emergency Management Agency)
Douglas Caldwell	Department of Defense (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers)
Jon Campbell	Department of the Interior (U.S. Geological Survey)
Laurie Campbell	Department of Agriculture (U.S. Forest Service)
Mark DeMulder	Department of the Interior (U.S. Geological Survey)
Lee Fleming	Department of the Interior (Bureau of Indian Affairs)
Andrew Flora	Department of Commerce (Bureau of the Census)
Monique Fordham	Department of the Interior (U.S. Geological Survey) (by teleconference)
Michael Fournier	Department of Commerce (Bureau of the Census)
Tony Gilbert	Government Publishing Office
Bruce Johnson	Library of Congress
Sean Killen	Department of the Interior (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service) (by teleconference)
Curtis Loy	Department of Commerce (Office of Coast Survey)
Jacqueline Nolan	Library of Congress
Victor Pattarozzi	Department of Homeland Security
Michael Shelton	Department of the Interior (National Park Service)
Douglas Vandegraft	Department of the Interior (Bureau of Ocean Energy Management) (Chairman)

Ex-Officio

Lou Yost, Executive Secretary, U.S. Board on Geographic Names/Domestic Names Committee

Staff

Maria McCormick, U.S. Geological Survey (by teleconference)  
Jane Messenger, U.S. Geological Survey (by teleconference)  
Matthew O'Donnell, U.S. Geological Survey  
Jennifer Runyon, U.S. Geological Survey

Guests

Lola Ajilore, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management  
Estelle Bowman, U.S. Forest Service  
Paul Holeva, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Myron Pourier, Black Elk Development

1. Opening

Chairman Vandegraft opened the meeting at 9:29 a.m. He welcomed visitors and asked all BGN members, staff, and visitors to introduce themselves.

2. Minutes of the 773<sup>rd</sup> Meeting

The minutes of the 773<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Domestic Names Committee (DNC), held July 9<sup>th</sup>, were approved as submitted.

### 3. Reports

#### 3.1 BGN Chairman (Caldwell)

The next full BGN meeting will take place on Tuesday, October 20<sup>th</sup> at the Department of the Interior in Washington D.C. Caldwell thanked BGN staff, both on the DNC and FNC for preparing the agenda and other materials.

Caldwell reported that the revised BGN bylaws and the revised *Principles, Policies, and Procedures* of both the DNC and the FNC are still in review by the Secretary of the Interior.

The U.S. Geological Survey's historical map site still uses base maps provided by Esri. Caldwell noted that the map displays a derogatory name that the BGN had formerly changed. He contacted Esri who will amend the name. Caldwell mentioned the general issue of government agency use of third-party mapping services. There is no guarantee that they will use BGN approved names even though government agencies are required to use approved names in all their products, applications, and reports. A list of the most significant approved BGN names, both domestic and foreign, will be compiled and sent to Esri and other third-party mapping services. It is hoped that any name discrepancies will be corrected.

#### 3.2 BGN Executive Secretary (Yost)

Some members and prospective members still have not submitted biographies for review and vetting by the White House. These biographies are needed for the reappointment process. Although the new term ends in September, the BGN bylaws state that all members keep serving until reappointed or replaced by another representative. Runyon is compiling all biographies.

Yost asked if any attendees had access to a 5.25-inch disk drive which he could use to read an old disk that contains BGN member photos. These photos were meant to be included in Orth's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary document on the history of the BGN. Sandra Shaw, former BGN chair, would like these pictures for her upcoming presentation at the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary symposium.

Ralph Ehrenberg and Roger Payne received a request from Stanley D. Brunn, a retired professor who is editing a book titled The Changing World Language Map which will include "chapters on important, interesting and cutting-edge topics related to language use, culture, policy, representation and mapping." He is requesting chapter submissions. Yost will forward the email to the entire BGN as well as some of the geographic name boards of other countries.

#### 3.3 Special Committee on Communication (Caldwell for Westington)

The BGN's 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration will be Friday, September 18<sup>th</sup> at the Library of Congress. Caldwell thanked the Library of Congress staff for all their work to prepare for hosting the event. All speakers have been approved, although opening speakers from the Department of the Interior and the Library of Congress have not been confirmed. Yost mentioned that the Secretary of the Interior and the

Assistant Secretary of the Interior have conflicts and will not be able to speak but that the director of the U.S. Geological Survey may be able speak.

The commemorative pins have arrived. Caldwell passed around pins for members to view. The pins will be distributed next month after recoding who will be receiving one. He thanked Forrest for her work in designing and ordering the pins. Donations for the cost of the pins are still being accepted. Orders have been placed for commemorative polo shirts.

Caldwell reminded the committee that the SCC would meet at 1 p.m., also in the Kiowa Room, and invited all to attend.

Upon the entrance of Myron Pourier, Vandegrift asked him to introduce himself. Vandegrift also asked all members and guests to introduce themselves again for the benefit of Mr. Pourier.

Two members joined the meeting.

#### 3.4 Executive Secretary (Yost)

The decision about renaming a populated place and related administrative features in Kansas from Saint John to St. John appearing in several smaller newspapers around the country.

#### 3.5 Staff (Runyon)

Review List 421, comprising 35 new names and name change proposals, was released on August 10<sup>th</sup>.

Staff has received correspondence about several high profile cases to rename features including Devils Tower, Harney Peak, and Mount McKinley. A few new proposals have been submitted.

Yost thanked Runyon, J. Campbell, Shelton, Vandegrift, and Caldwell for their input and edits to the Mount McKinley/Denali white paper recently submitted to the Secretary of the Interior. Members briefly discussed some issues surrounding the name controversy and the recent resurveying of the summit's elevation the results of which will soon be released.

#### 3.6 GNIS and Data Compilation Program (McCormick)

There are still issues with developers working on GNIS tools. Many developers have been leaving for other jobs so progress has been slow.

The landform tool relies on The National Map (TNM) services which have recently been unreliable. Issues have been documented and reported to TMN help desk and seem to have been fixed.

A GNIS server went down for a few hours one day last week towards the end of the day.

As part of a web re-engineering project, the USGS will be moving all its Web pages to a new Google-based format. The GNIS pages are being re-inventoried, but as part of the project, the USGS will require their banner at the top of the page. A few years ago, the BGN requested that this be removed to eliminate confusion that the BGN worked for the USGS directly. The BGN will need to discuss how to handle this request.

New GNIS download files were posted on August 11<sup>th</sup>. McCormick provided the Antarctic dataset to Doug Moore at the NGA, who will pull out features that will be maintained in GNS. Once this is done, these features will be removed from GNIS.

On August 27<sup>th</sup>, McCormick will present a need-to-know session about the landform tool to Denver NGTOC.

McCormick and Messenger will be in Reston on September 17<sup>th</sup> and will attend the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary symposium.

Yost mentioned that planning for FY 2016 included the Geographic Names Improvement Program. GNIS gave a list of checks and improvements to existing data to NGTOC which, based on developer availability should be worked on in the coming year.

### 3.7 Harney Peak, South Dakota name change (Pourier)

passed out bundles with brochures and book Black Elk Speaks.

Mr. Pourier thanked the Board for the opportunity to speak. He began by describing his connection to the movement to rename Harney Peak as Black Elk Peak. He described the movement as peaceful, prayerful, and apolitical. He alluded to the various names that have been suggested throughout the process besides Black Elk Peak, one of which is Hinhan Kaga.

According to Pourier, in the Sioux language “hinhan” means “owl” and “kaga” mean “imitating” or “mocking”. This descriptive name given by Sioux ancestors comes from the sound of wind blowing through large granite spires that form groups within parts of the Black Hills. They would refer to this portion of the Black Hills as Hinhan Kaga.

Pourier mentioned another original name for the mountain, Wicincala Sakowin, which means “seven girls” or “seven stars” and refers to a group of seven stars near the constellation Taurus known as the Pleiades. In the Lakota Sioux star knowledge, the Pleiades or Wicincala Sakowin is the name of the original celestial mountain that corresponds to the highest point in the Black Hills. This is the center of the world according to the Sioux. Pourier explained that the two names, Hinhan Kaga and Wicincala Sakowin, are used by the younger and older generations within various Sioux tribes, respectively.

Pourier described how Black Elk, his great-great grandfather, traveled alone to the top of the highest point in the Black Hills, set up an altar, and prayed for four days. Black Elk had a vision which he later related to John G. Neihardt. In the vision, Black Elk saw the connectedness of the whole world and all peoples. The name Black Elk Peak would be “synonymous with the beauty and sacredness of the Black Hills” and would be “respectful toward all walks of life and a neutral name.”

A brief discussion ensued about the South Dakota Board of Geographic Names’ review process and public hearings. Runyon asked about the general perception that naming features after people is not a tradition among American Indian tribes. Pourier mentioned Crazy Horse Mountain (officially known as Thunderhead Mountain) in the Black Hills and Piestewa Peak in Arizona (named for a Hopi woman who was killed in action during the Iraq War). Although the practice not widespread, features can be named for native individuals when appropriate. There are many tribes and many opinions.

Vandegraft thanked Pourier for his presentation to the Board.

#### 4. Docket

Please refer to the attached Docket for a description of each proposal. For new names approved at this meeting, the newly assigned GNIS Feature ID (FID) has been noted following the name.

### **I. Staff-Processed New Names, and Name and Application Changes agreed to by all interested parties**

Change application of **Ninety Percent Spring** (FID 394954), Idaho (Review List 418)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this change. Members briefly discussed the origin of the name “Ninety Percent.”

Vote:	17 in favor
	0 against
	0 abstention

Change **Reservoir Number 2** (FID 517270) to **Lake Fontaine**, Kentucky (Review List 419)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this change. Members briefly discussed an earlier commemorative proposal for the same name for this feature which was withdrawn.

Vote:	17 in favor
	0 against
	0 abstentions

### **II. Disagreement on Docketed Names**

**Fenway Pond**, Connecticut (Review List 418)

A motion was made and seconded to not approve this name. Members questioned the Town of Glastonbury’s requirements for naming features and whether or not the five-year waiting period for commemorative names applied in the case of pets.

Vote:	16 in favor
	1 against
	0 abstention

The negative votes cited the lack of local support from both the Town of Glastonbury and the Connecticut State Names Authority. The five-year waiting period for commemorative names was also cited.

### **III. New Commemorative Names and Changes agreed to by all interested parties**

**Lee Island**, Washington (Review List 418) (FID 2772203)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this change.

Vote:           16 in favor  
                   0 against  
                   1 abstention

#### **IV. Revised Decisions**

Change **Cedar Creek Reservoir** (BGN 1988) (FID 1377461) to **Lake Fayette**, Texas (Review List 405)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this change.

Vote:           17 in favor  
                   0 against  
                   0 abstention

#### **V. New Names agreed to by all interested parties**

**Little Smelt Creek**, Michigan (Review List 420) (FID 2772204)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this name. One member pointed out that the name is redundant because all smelts are little. Staff suggested the word “little” might refer to the stream’s length.

Vote:           16 in favor  
                   0 against  
                   1 abstentions

**Rain Dance Pond**, New York (Review List 420) (FID 2772205)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this name.

Vote:           15 in favor  
                   1 against  
                   1 abstentions

The negative vote was cast in the belief that the name is still representing a former business and is disingenuous.

**Lamprey Creek**, Oregon (Review List 420) (FID 2772206)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this name.

Vote:           17 in favor  
                   0 against  
                   0 abstentions

**Freudenberg Falls**, Tennessee (Review List 419) (FID 2772207)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this name.



Vote:           17 in favor  
                   0 against  
                   0 abstentions

**Mount El Shaddai**, Texas (Review List 416) (FID 2772208)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this name.

Vote:           10 in favor  
                   5 against  
                   2 abstentions

The negative votes were cast in the opinion that this was a commemorative name and that there is a lack of association between the deity and the feature.

5. Other Business

Fournier announced that this would be his last DNC meeting and has plans to retire from the Census Bureau at the end of November. At present, no replacement member has been selected and Flora will be the sole Census Bureau member. The Foreign Names Committee (FNC) will temporarily lack a Census Bureau representative.

Fleming also announced that the next DNC meeting will be his last. He will be replaced by Dr. Wendy Star Brown.

Vandegraft thanked both for their service to the DNC and BGN as well as their comments and wisdom. Members gave them a round of applause.

Yost announced that next month's meeting would feature a presentation on the Black Elk Peak proposal given by a relative of General Harney.

6. Closing

The meeting adjourned at 11:25 p.m. The next Domestic Names Committee meeting will be held September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2015, at 9:30 a.m. at the Department of the Interior, Kiowa Room.

(signed) Louis A. Yost

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Louis A. Yost, Executive Secretary

APPROVED  
 (signed) Douglas Vandegraft

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Douglas Vandegraft, Chairman  
 Domestic Names Committee

**U.S. BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES  
DOMESTIC NAMES COMMITTEE  
DOCKET  
August 2015**

**I. Staff-Processed New Names, and Name and Application Changes agreed to by all interested parties**

Change application of **Ninety Percent Spring** (FID 394954), Idaho  
(Review List 418)

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=42.677476&p\\_longi=-111.627072](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=42.677476&p_longi=-111.627072)

This proposal is to change the application of the name **Ninety Percent Spring** in Caribou County from its current location to another spring approximately half a mile to the southeast. The spring at the proposed location has not been labeled on any USGS topographic maps; its current location has been shown and labeled **Ninety Percent Spring** since 1982.

According to the proponent, the proposed location is the site of the former Natural Mineral Water Company bottling plant where the spring's water was marketed under the brand name "Idanha" or "Idan-ha." Mixed with carbon dioxide pumped in from the nearby spring, the water was sold around the world and won prizes at national and international fairs. Numerous contemporary sources from the 1890s to the 1910s link the Idanha water with **Ninety Percent Spring**; the name of the spring was often given as both "Ninety Percent" and "Idanha." The plant shut down during the 1930s and all remains of the bottling plant were removed in the 1950s. The proponent states that the Caribou County Historical Society, of which he is the president, has an easement to the site of the bottling plant.



Several Idaho tourism guidebooks provide directions to the spring and historic bottling plant site. Two volumes, *The Ultimate Idaho Atlas and Travel Encyclopedia* and *Travel the Oregon Trail in Caribou County*, both undated, direct tourists to a site at the proposed location. A map in the latter document places the spring at a spot south-southeast of the proposed location.

USGS field notes provide no information as to why the name has been applied to its current location since 1982; it is presumed the name was found to be in local use.

The Caribou County Board of Commissioners was asked to comment on the proposal, but no response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion. The Idaho Geographic Names Board recommends approval of the application change. A copy of the proposal was forwarded to the Shoshone Tribe of the Wind River Reservation and the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes of the Fort Hall Reservation, both

of which are federally recognized. No responses were received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion.

Change **Reservoir Number 2** (FID 517270) to **Lake Fontaine**, Kentucky  
(Review List 419)

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesrimap?p\\_lat=38.0066456&p\\_longi=-84.4653292&fid=517270](http://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesrimap?p_lat=38.0066456&p_longi=-84.4653292&fid=517270)

The name Lake Fontaine is proposed to be applied to a reservoir in the City of Lexington that is currently named Reservoir Number 2. The reservoir is the middle of a series of three reservoirs along West Hickman Creek. According to the proponent and historical maps, dams were built by the Lexington Hydraulic & Manufacturing Company in 1893, thus creating Reservoir Number 1, Reservoir Number 2, and Reservoir Number 3. The latter name was changed by the BGN to Lake Hickman at its June 2015 meeting.

According to the proponent of the name change, Reservoir Number 2 was sold in 1963 to a development company. The proponent serves as secretary of the Lakeview Estates Lake Association, Inc., which now owns the reservoir. He states that many local residents mistakenly believe it is owned by Kentucky American Water and that it is still a drinking water source. The new name will “dispel this myth and enhance the value of the lake.” The name is proposed in association with nearby Fontaine Road.

The Mayor of Lexington and Fayette County and the Councilmember who represents this area of Lexington submitted letters in support of this proposal, as did the Blue Grass Trust for Historic Preservation. The Kentucky Geographic Names Committee also recommends approval of the change.

According to the NAGPRA Native American Consultation Database, there are no federally recognized tribes with an interest in Fayette County.

## II. Disagreement on Docketed Names

**Fenway Pond**, Connecticut  
(Review List 418)

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic.getesricoor?p\\_lat=41.732962&p\\_longi=-72.519927](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic.getesricoor?p_lat=41.732962&p_longi=-72.519927)

This 2.6-acre reservoir, proposed to be named Fenway Pond, is located near the 8<sup>th</sup> green of the Minnechaug Golf Course in the Town of Glastonbury. According to the proponent, the 8<sup>th</sup> green is considered “the signature hole of the course” and the reservoir is a central feature of the neighborhood. Although the reservoir has been shown on topographic maps since 1964 and is mentioned prominently at the Minnechaug Golf Course Web site, it has remained unnamed since it was constructed sometime between 1953 and 1964.

According to the proponent, his Labrador retriever, named Fenway of Minnechaug, was beloved in the golfing community. Each day for his 13 years, he greeted grade school children at the bus stop near the reservoir. He was “a kids’ favorite and everyone in the golfing community knew Fenway.” He was seen almost every day in the community “visiting most neighbors’ homes (and kitchens), chasing geese away from the 8<sup>th</sup> tee, and making himself available to children to stroke and play. He served as a sort of mascot and was an icon for the Village at Minnechaug.” The proponent states that Fenway was often referred to as “The Mayor of Minnechaug” or “The Ambassador” because he was “an extremely gentle and outgoing soul.” Fenway acted as a “big brother” to many other dogs in the community, teaching patience and

tolerance in a way that according to the proponent “you’d have to see to believe.” When Fenway passed away in 2014, the neighbors decided to honor him with the planting of a tree. These neighbors also helped pay for his final medical expenses. The proponent says he knows of no one (person or animal) in this golfing community of nearly 140 homes who has ever received such an honor.

The proponent further states that the community supports the proposal for Fenway Pond. He provided ten letters from locals in support of the name. However, the Town of Glastonbury, which owns the golf course, wrote that they do not support the proposal, stating “the proposed name [does not meet our] requirements for a name.” The Connecticut State Names Authority also recommends disapproval, citing the Town’s opposition. According to the NAGPRA Native American Consultation Database, there are no federally recognized tribes with an interest in Hartford County.

### III. New Commemorative Names and Changes agreed to by all interested parties

Lee Island, Washington  
(Review List 418)

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=48.4781261&p\\_longi=-123.0685121](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=48.4781261&p_longi=-123.0685121)

This approximately 0.5-acre unnamed island, located off the southern shore of San Juan Island at the mouth of False Bay, is proposed to be named Lee Island in honor of Emelia “Lee” Bave (1910-2008). In 1958, Ms. Bave and her husband moved to San Juan Island, where they operated the Mar Vista Resort, located opposite the unnamed island. In addition to running the resort until her death in 2008, Ms. Bave often did paintings of the island. She was also active in the local community, where she founded a performance and children’s theater and established a teen club. She wrote a book and a play on the Pig War of 1859, which took place on San Juan Island; she also established the local Pig War Museum, for which she donated the building. A representative of the San Juan Historical Museum reports that Lee worked tirelessly, earning her the nicknames “Mad Woman of Mar Vista” and “Looney Lee.” Another individual stated, “Lee was a visionary. She rallied many people for support and for that we in the community are so grateful. She took action to preserve our Island History. She is a real TOWN HERO.”

Although the island is small and uninhabited, the proponent believes it needs a name to distinguish it from others at the mouth of False Bay.

The San Juan County Council recommends approval of the proposal, as does the Washington State Committee on Geographic Names (WSCGN). The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has no opinion on the matter, the Department of Homeland Security has no objection, and the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration supports the name. As part of its investigation, the WSCGN contacted the Lummi Tribe of the Lummi Reservation, a federally recognized tribe. No response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion.

### IV. Revised Decisions

Change Cedar Creek Reservoir (BGN 1988) (FID 1377461) to Lake Fayette, Texas  
(Review List 405)

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesrimap?p\\_lat=29.9301113&p\\_longi=-96.7343255&fid=1377461](http://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesrimap?p_lat=29.9301113&p_longi=-96.7343255&fid=1377461)

This proposal is to change the official name of Cedar Creek Reservoir in Fayette County to Lake Fayette. The request was submitted by a map editor at Yahoo! Maps, who reports that one of its users claimed the proposed name is in local use.

The name Cedar Creek Reservoir was made official for Federal use by the BGN in 1988, following an inquiry from the Texas office of the U.S. Geological Survey Water Resources Division. Although USGS maps published in the early 1980s had applied the name Lake Fayette, as did the 1988 State Highway map, the official name endorsed by the State of Texas was Cedar Creek Reservoir. When the Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA) obtained a permit for construction of the dam and reservoir in 1978, the Texas Water Rights Commission referred to it as Cedar Creek Reservoir.

Prior to the 1988 BGN decision, the LCRA was asked by the Texas State Names Authority to confirm the name, and they responded that although they had no objection if local residents wished to continue to use Lake Fayette, they recommended that the name on Federal maps should agree with the name on the permit.

Cedar Creek Reservoir is named on the latest edition of the USGS topographic maps and also on the Texas Department of Transportation Fayette County highway map, published in 1982 and revised in 1996. In addition to Lake Fayette, the GNIS entry for Cedar Creek Reservoir lists the name FPP Cooling Pond as a variant. Other names found online include Fayette Power Plant Lake, Fayette County Reservoir, and Fayette Lake.

According to a Web site dedicated to local fishing sites, "Fayette County Lake [sic] was constructed by the Lower Colorado River Authority and the City of Austin [as] a 2,400-acre cooling pond for the Fayette Power Project." The LCRA's own Web site uses the names Lake Fayette and Fayette Lake interchangeably, but does not appear to use the name Cedar Creek Reservoir. The La Grange Area Chamber of Commerce and Google Maps also label the feature Lake Fayette. As of December 2014, Yahoo! Maps had already changed the name to Lake Fayette.

There is another reservoir in Texas named Cedar Creek Reservoir. It was impounded in 1965 and is located in Henderson County, approximately 160 miles from the one in Fayette County. It is also a popular recreation site because of its proximity to the Dallas metropolitan area.

The Fayette County Judge was asked to comment on the proposed name change; however, no response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has no opinion on the proposal. The Texas Geographic Names Committee contacted the LCRA and the Texas Water Development Board; neither has "any issues with the name change because most critical documents have already been revised to reflect the name change." The Texas *Commission on Environmental Quality* was also asked to comment, but did not respond to the State Names Committee by the deadline provided to them. The State Names Committee recommends approval of the change. According to the NAGPRA Native American Consultation Database, there are no federally recognized tribes with an interest in Fayette County.

## V. New Names agreed to by all interested parties

**Little Smelt Creek**, Michigan  
(Review List 420)

Mouth: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=45.93861&p\\_longi=-86.28172](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=45.93861&p_longi=-86.28172)

Source: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=45.9385&p\\_longi=-86.28538](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=45.9385&p_longi=-86.28538)

The new name Little Smelt Creek is proposed for a 0.23-mile-long stream that flows into Lake Michigan south of Manistique in Thompson Township in Schoolcraft County.

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources identifies the smelt as *Osmerus mordax*, a small fish native to the northern Atlantic Coast of North America. It was introduced into Lake Michigan in the 1930s and residents of Michigan have caught them for decades. Smelt populations have declined since the 1970s for unknown reasons. According to the proponent, the land through which the stream flows was purchased by Schoolcraft County in 2002, “with the intention of preserving the creek for the sake of remembering its past significance as a valued smelt resource.” The county sold the land to the proponent earlier this year. The proponent wishes to name the stream Little Smelt Creek “in keeping with the tradition that goes with the property.”

The Thompson Township Board and the Schoolcraft County Board of Commissioners both support the proposal. The Michigan State Names Authority also recommends approval. A copy of the proposal was forwarded to the following federally recognized tribes: the Bay Mills Indian Community, the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians, the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians, the Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians, and the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians. No responses were received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion.

According to GNIS, the only features that include the word “Smelt” in their names are located in New England or Alaska.

**Rain Dance Pond**, New York  
(Review List 420)

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=43.089703&p\\_long=-74.656431](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=43.089703&p_long=-74.656431)

This approximately three-acre pond is proposed to be named Rain Dance Pond, a name that according to the proponent describes the way rain “dances” across the surface of the pond during a storm. The name was originally proposed to the BGN in 2003, but despite having the support of the Town of Oppenheim and Fulton County and no objection from the New York State Names Committee, it was not approved citing concerns that the name could be construed to be commercial in nature. At the time, the proponent owned an alpaca farm called Rain Dance Pond, LLC. The BGN also expressed a concern that the words “Rain Dance” could have spiritual significance to the American Indian community.

The proponent asked again in 2008 if the BGN would revisit its decision, but the request was denied citing a lack of any new evidence to warrant reopening the case. The proponent has since sold the business (he still owns the property), and so he believes the potential commercial implications should no longer be a concern.

The Town of Oppenheim and Fulton County were once again contacted for their opinions; the letters reminded them that they had endorsed the name in 2003 but that the BGN staff was requesting an updated opinion. The Town and County were told that no response would indicate a lack of an opinion on the matter. No responses were received. The New York State Names Committee has affirmed that it has no objection to the name, although does have a concern that the feature is too small to receive an official name. According to the NAGPRA Native American Consultation Database, there are no federally recognized tribes with an interest in Fulton County.

**Lamprey Creek**, Oregon

(Review List 420)

Mouth: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=44.57181&p\\_longi=-123.31108](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=44.57181&p_longi=-123.31108)

Source: [http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=44.5995&p\\_longi=-123.31623](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=44.5995&p_longi=-123.31623)

This 2.3-mile-long stream heads one mile south of Dimple Hill and flows south to enter Oak Creek west of Corvallis. The Mary River Watershed Council is proposing the name Lamprey Creek because the stream provides habitat to Pacific and brook lampreys. The council believes that naming the stream will assist emergency responders and ensure citizen awareness of the stream through the use of signage.

The name Lamprey Creek was selected because lamprey, commonly called “eels,” have a special meaning to the native people that have lived in the area for thousands of years. Lamprey are a dietary staple for the Kalapuyan people. In addition, the name will acknowledge the globally recognized lamprey research conducted at the Oregon State University. The proponent believes that naming this stream for “a special fish that predates the dinosaurs and all other fish in the Pacific Northwest will provide an opportunity for both inspiration and challenge to protect and restore this tributary to improve the chances of more lamprey returning to this special place.”

The proposed name is supported by Oregon State University, the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission, Freshwaters Illustrated, the Marys Peak Chapter of the Sierra Club, the Skyline West Neighborhood Association, and the Native Fish Society. The Benton County Commissioners and the Oregon Geographic Names Board (OGNB) also recommend approval of the new name.

As part of its investigation, the OGNB forwarded the proposal to the State Legislative Commission on *Indian Services*, which in turn shared it with the following federally recognized tribes: the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians of Oregon, the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde Community of Oregon, and the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation. No responses were received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion.

According to GNIS, Lampa Creek in Coos County, approximately 110 miles south-southwest of the stream in question, has a variant name of Lamprey Creek.

### **Freudenberg Falls, Tennessee**

(Review List 419)

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=35.1938007&p\\_longi=-85.2858258](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=35.1938007&p_longi=-85.2858258)

This proposal is to make official the name Freudenberg Falls for two waterfalls in Falling Water Falls Natural Area in Hamilton County. According to the proponent, “The upper portion of the falls are approximately 30 feet high, and the lower falls drop 10 feet more from the ledge that separates the upper and lower falls.” The proponent reports that he first heard the name as a child 42 years ago. His mother told him the name refers to Freudenberg, Germany, the home town of many of the area’s early settlers. The name has not been found on any published sources.

The Mayor of Hamilton County and the Tennessee Division of Natural Areas (Tennessee Tower) both recommend approval of the name, as does the Tennessee State Names Committee. A copy of the proposal was forwarded to the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians of North Carolina, which is a federally recognized tribe. No response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion.

### **Mount El Shaddai, Texas**

(Review List 416)

[http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p\\_lat=29.514722&p\\_longi=-100.145278](http://geonames.usgs.gov/pls/gazpublic/getesricoor?p_lat=29.514722&p_longi=-100.145278)

This proposal is to apply the new name Mount El Shaddai to an unnamed 1,913-foot summit in Kinney County. According to the proponent, who owns the property on which the summit is located, “the name means Almighty.” “El Shaddai” is one of the many names applied to God in the Hebrew scriptures. Some scholars have suggested that “Shaddai” refers to mountains, although this translation is not widely accepted.

The Kinney County Judge supports the new name, as does the Texas Geographic Names Committee. A copy of the proposal was forwarded to the Mescalero Apache Tribe of the Mescalero Reservation, New Mexico, which is a federally recognized tribe. No response was received, which is presumed to indicate a lack of an opinion.

According to GNIS, there are no other physical features in Texas with names that contain the word “Shaddai.” Four churches in Texas are named “El Shaddai,” but the closest is 100 miles to the east in San Antonio.



**U.S. BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES  
DOMESTIC NAMES COMMITTEE**

Seven Hundred and Seventy Fourth Meeting  
Department of the Interior, Kiowa Room  
August 13, 2015 – 9:30 a.m.

Members and Deputy Members in Attendance

Eric Berman	Department of Homeland Security (Federal Emergency Management Agency)
Douglas Caldwell	Department of Defense (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers)
Jon Campbell	Department of the Interior (U.S. Geological Survey)
Laurie Campbell	Department of Agriculture (U.S. Forest Service)
Mark DeMulder	Department of the Interior (U.S. Geological Survey)
Lee Fleming	Department of the Interior (Bureau of Indian Affairs)
Andrew Flora	Department of Commerce (Bureau of the Census)
Monique Fordham	Department of the Interior (U.S. Geological Survey) (by teleconference)
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Curtis Loy	Department of Commerce (Office of Coast Survey)
Jacqueline Nolan	Library of Congress
Victor Pattarozzi	Department of Homeland Security
Michael Shelton	Department of the Interior (National Park Service)
Douglas Vandegraft	Department of the Interior (Bureau of Ocean Energy Management) (Chairman)

Ex-Officio

Lou Yost, Executive Secretary, U.S. Board on Geographic Names/Domestic Names Committee

Staff

Maria McCormick, U.S. Geological Survey (by teleconference)  
Jane Messenger, U.S. Geological Survey (by teleconference)  
Matthew O'Donnell, U.S. Geological Survey  
Jennifer Runyon, U.S. Geological Survey

Guests

Lola Ajilore, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management  
Estelle Bowman, U.S. Forest Service  
Paul Holeva, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Myron Pourier, Black Elk Development

1. Opening

Chairman Vandegraft opened the meeting at 9:29 a.m. He welcomed visitors and asked all BGN members, staff, and visitors to introduce themselves.

2. Minutes of the 773<sup>rd</sup> Meeting

The minutes of the 773<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Domestic Names Committee (DNC), held July 9<sup>th</sup>, were approved as submitted.

### 3. Reports

#### 3.1 BGN Chairman (Caldwell)

The next full BGN meeting will take place on Tuesday, October 20<sup>th</sup> at the Department of the Interior in Washington D.C. Caldwell thanked BGN staff, both on the DNC and FNC for preparing the agenda and other materials.

Caldwell reported that the revised BGN bylaws and the revised DNC Principles, Policies, and Procedures ~~of both the DNC and the FNC~~ are still in review by the Secretary-Department of the Interior.

The U.S. Geological Survey's historical map site still uses base maps provided by Esri. Caldwell noted that the map displays a derogatory name that the BGN had formerly changed. He contacted Esri who will amend the name. Caldwell mentioned the general issue of government agency use of third-party mapping services. There is no guarantee that they will use BGN approved names even though government agencies are required to use approved names in all their products, applications, and reports. A list of the most significant approved BGN names, both domestic and foreign, will be compiled and sent to Esri and other third-party mapping services. It is hoped that any name discrepancies will be corrected.

#### 3.2 BGN Executive Secretary (Yost)

Some members and prospective members still have not submitted biographies for review and vetting by the White House. These biographies are needed for the reappointment process. Although the new term ends in September, the BGN bylaws state that all members keep serving until reappointed or replaced by another representative. Runyon is compiling all biographies.

Yost asked if any attendees had access to a 5.25-inch disk drive which he could use to read an old disk that contains BGN member photos. These photos were meant to be included in the "Diary of Actions, Policies, Policies and Events: 1890 – 1990" (aka "The 100 Year History") ~~Orth's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary document on the history of the BGN.~~ Sandra Shaw, former BGN chair, would like these pictures for her upcoming presentation at the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary symposium.

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#### 3.3 Special Committee on Communication (Caldwell for Westington)

The BGN's 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration will be Friday, September 18<sup>th</sup> at the Library of Congress. Caldwell thanked the Library of Congress staff for all their work to prepare for hosting the event. All speakers have been approved, although opening speakers from the Department of the Interior and the

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The commemorative pins have arrived. Caldwell passed around pins for members to view. The pins will be distributed next month after recoding who will be receiving one. He thanked Forrest for her work in designing and ordering the pins. Donations for the cost of the pins are still being accepted. Orders have been placed for commemorative polo shirts.

Caldwell reminded the committee that the SCC would meet at 1 p.m., also in the Kiowa Room, and invited all to attend.

Upon the entrance of Myron Pourier, Vandegrift asked him to introduce himself. Vandegrift also asked all members and guests to introduce themselves again for the benefit of Mr. Pourier.

Two members joined the meeting.

#### 3.4 Executive Secretary (Yost)

The decision about renaming a populated place and related administrative features in Kansas from Saint John to St. John appeared ~~ing~~ in several ~~smaller~~ newspapers ~~around the country~~.

#### 3.5 Staff (Runyon)

Review List 421, comprising 35 new names and name change proposals, was released on August 10<sup>th</sup>.

Staff has received correspondence about several high profile cases to rename features including Devils Tower, Harney Peak, and Mount McKinley. A few new proposals have been submitted.

Yost thanked Runyon, J. Campbell, Shelton, Vandegrift, and Caldwell for their input and edits to the Mount McKinley/Denali ~~white paper~~ background information recently submitted to the Secretary of the Interior. Members briefly discussed some issues surrounding the name controversy and the recent resurveying of the summit's elevation the results of which will soon be released.

#### 3.6 GNIS and Data Compilation Program (McCormick)

There are still issues with developers working on GNIS tools. Many developers have been leaving for other jobs so progress has been slow.

The landform tool relies on The National Map (TNM) services which have recently been unreliable. Issues have been documented and reported to TMN help desk and seem to have been fixed.

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confusion that the BGN worked for the USGS directly. The BGN will need to discuss how to handle this request.

New GNIS download files were posted on August 11<sup>th</sup>. McCormick provided the Antarctic dataset to Doug Moore at the NGA, who will pull out features that will be maintained in GNS. Once this is done, these features will be removed from GNIS.

On August 27<sup>th</sup>, McCormick will present a need-to-know session about the landform tool to Denver NGTOC.

McCormick and Messenger will be in Reston on September 17<sup>th</sup> and will attend the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary symposium.

Yost mentioned that planning for FY 2016 included the Geographic Names Improvement Program. GNIS gave a list of checks and improvements to existing data to NGTOC which, based on developer availability should be worked on in the coming year.

### 3.7 Harney Peak, South Dakota name change (Pourier)

passed out bundles with brochures and book *Black Elk Speaks*.

Mr. Pourier thanked the Board for the opportunity to speak. He began by describing his connection to the movement to rename Harney Peak as Black Elk Peak. He described the movement as peaceful, prayerful, and apolitical. He alluded to the various names that have been suggested throughout the process besides Black Elk Peak, one of which is Hinhan Kaga.

According to Pourier, in the Sioux language “hinhan” means “owl” and “kaga” mean “imitating” or “mocking”. This descriptive name given by Sioux ancestors comes from the sound of wind blowing through large granite spires that form groups within parts of the Black Hills. They would refer to this portion of the Black Hills as Hinhan Kaga.

Pourier mentioned another original name for the mountain, Wicincala Sakowin, which means “seven girls” or “seven stars” and refers to a group of seven stars near the constellation Taurus known as the Pleiades. In the Lakota Sioux star knowledge, the Pleiades or Wicincala Sakowin is the name of the original celestial mountain that corresponds to the highest point in the Black Hills. This is the center of the world according to the Sioux. Pourier explained that the two names, Hinhan Kaga and Wicincala Sakowin, are used by the younger and older generations within various Sioux tribes, respectively.

Pourier described how Black Elk, his great-great grandfather, traveled alone to the top of the highest point in the Black Hills, set up an altar, and prayed for four days. Black Elk had a vision which he later related to John G. Neihardt. In the vision, Black Elk saw the connectedness of the whole world and all peoples. The name Black Elk Peak would be “synonymous with the beauty and sacredness of the Black Hills” and would be “respectful toward all walks of life and a neutral name.”

A brief discussion ensued about the South Dakota Board of Geographic Names’ review process and public hearings. Runyon asked about the general perception that naming features after people is not a tradition among American Indian tribes. Pourier mentioned Crazy Horse Mountain (officially known as Thunderhead Mountain) in the Black Hills and Piestewa Peak in Arizona (named for a Hopi woman who

was killed in action during the Iraq War). Although the practice not widespread, features can be named for native individuals when appropriate. There are many tribes and many opinions. Vandegraft thanked Pourier for his presentation to the Board.

#### 4. Docket

Please refer to the attached Docket for a description of each proposal. For new names approved at this meeting, the newly assigned GNIS Feature ID (FID) has been noted following the name.

### **I. Staff-Processed New Names, and Name and Application Changes agreed to by all interested parties**

Change application of **Ninety Percent Spring** (FID 394954), Idaho (Review List 418)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this change. Members briefly discussed the origin of the name "Ninety Percent."

Vote:                   17 in favor  
                              0 against  
                              0 abstention

Change **Reservoir Number 2** (FID 517270) to **Lake Fontaine**, Kentucky (Review List 419)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this change. Members briefly discussed an earlier commemorative proposal for the same name for this feature which was withdrawn.

Vote:                   17 in favor  
                              0 against  
                              0 abstentions

### **II. Disagreement on Docketed Names**

**Fenway Pond**, Connecticut (Review List 418)

A motion was made and seconded to not approve this name. Members questioned the Town of Glastonbury's requirements for naming features and whether or not the five-year waiting period for commemorative names applied in the case of pets.

Vote:                   16 in favor  
                              1 against  
                              0 abstention

The negative votes cited the lack of local support from both the Town of Glastonbury and the Connecticut State Names Authority. The five-year waiting period for commemorative names was also cited.

### **III. New Commemorative Names and Changes agreed to by all interested parties**

**Lee Island**, Washington (Review List 418) (FID 2772203)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this change.

Vote:           16 in favor  
                  0 against  
                  1 abstention

#### **IV. Revised Decisions**

Change Cedar Creek Reservoir (BGN 1988) (FID 1377461) to Lake Fayette, Texas (Review List 405)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this change.

Vote:           17 in favor  
                  0 against  
                  0 abstention

#### **V. New Names agreed to by all interested parties**

Little Smelt Creek, Michigan (Review List 420) (FID 2772204)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this name. One member pointed out that the name is redundant because all smelts are little. Staff suggested the word "little" might refer to the stream's length.

Vote:           16 in favor  
                  0 against  
                  1 abstentions

Rain Dance Pond, New York (Review List 420) (FID 2772205)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this name.

Vote:           15 in favor  
                  1 against  
                  1 abstentions

The negative vote was cast in the belief that the name is still representing a former business and is disingenuous.

Lamprey Creek, Oregon (Review List 420) (FID 2772206)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this name.

Vote:           17 in favor  
                  0 against  
                  0 abstentions

Freudenberg Falls, Tennessee (Review List 419) (FID 2772207)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this name.

Vote:           17 in favor  
                  0 against  
                  0 abstentions

**Mount El Shaddai**, Texas (Review List 416) (FID 2772208)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this name.

Vote:           10 in favor  
                  5 against  
                  2 abstentions

The negative votes were cast in the opinion that this was a commemorative name and that there is a lack of association between the deity and the feature.

**Commented [LAV1]:** I know that Mike S said this offhandedly before anyone else said anything but do we want to put it as the reason in the minutes given the other reasons that a commemorative name can be approved? Although I guess I might not have the same apprehension if the proposal was for Mount Diablo and the same reason was given.

#### 5. Other Business

Fournier announced that this would be his last DNC meeting and has plans to retire from the Census Bureau at the end of November. At present, no replacement member has been selected and Flora will be the sole Census Bureau member. The Foreign Names Committee (FNC) will temporarily lack a Census Bureau representative.

Fleming also announced that the next DNC meeting will be his last. He will be replaced by Dr. Wendy Star Brown.

Vandegraff thanked both for their service to the DNC and BGN as well as their comments and wisdom. Members gave them a round of applause.

Yost announced that next month's meeting would feature a presentation on the Black Elk Peak proposal given by a relative of General Harney.

#### 6. Closing

The meeting adjourned at 11:25 p.m. The next Domestic Names Committee meeting will be held September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2015, at 9:30 a.m. at the Department of the Interior, Kiowa Room.

(signed) Louis A. Yost

\_\_\_\_\_  
Louis A. Yost, Executive Secretary

APPROVED  
(signed) Douglas Vandegraff

\_\_\_\_\_  
Douglas Vandegraff, Chairman

Domestic Names Committee



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#### 4. Docket

Please refer to the attached Docket for a description of each proposal. For new names approved at this meeting, the newly assigned GNIS Feature ID (FID) has been noted following the name.

#### I. Staff-Processed New Names, and Name and Application Changes agreed to by all interested parties

Change application of Ninety Percent Spring (FID 394954), Idaho (Review List 418)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this change. Members briefly discussed the origin of the name "Ninety Percent."

Vote:                    17 in favor  
                              0 against  
                              0 abstention

Change Reservoir Number 2 (FID 517270) to Lake Fontaine, Kentucky (Review List 419)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this change. Members briefly discussed an earlier commemorative proposal for the same name for this feature which was withdrawn.

Vote:                    17 in favor  
                              0 against  
                              0 abstentions

#### II. Disagreement on Docketed Names

Fenway Pond, Connecticut (Review List 418)

A motion was made and seconded ~~to not to~~ approve this name. Members questioned the Town of Glastonbury's requirements for naming features and whether or not the five-year waiting period for commemorative names applied in the case of pets.

Vote:                    16 in favor  
                              1 against  
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The negative votes cited the lack of local support from both the Town of Glastonbury and the Connecticut State Names Authority. The five-year waiting period for commemorative names was also cited.

### III. New Commemorative Names and Changes agreed to by all interested parties

**Lee Island**, Washington (Review List 418) (FID 2772203)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this ~~namechange~~.

Vote:           16 in favor  
                  0 against  
                  1 abstention

### IV. Revised Decisions

Change **Cedar Creek Reservoir** (BGN 1988) (FID 1377461) to **Lake Fayette**, Texas (Review List 405)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this change.

Vote:           17 in favor  
                  0 against  
                  0 abstention

### V. New Names agreed to by all interested parties

**Little Smelt Creek**, Michigan (Review List 420) (FID 2772204)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this name. One member pointed out that the name is redundant because all smelts are little. Staff suggested the word "little" might refer to the stream's length.

Vote:           16 in favor  
                  0 against  
                  1 abstentions

**Rain Dance Pond**, New York (Review List 420) (FID 2772205)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this name.

Vote:           15 in favor  
                  1 against  
                  1 abstentions

The negative vote was cast in the belief that the name is ~~still~~ ~~represent~~ ~~sing~~ a former business and is disingenuous.

**Lamprey Creek**, Oregon (Review List 420) (FID 2772206)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this name.

Vote:           17 in favor  
                  0 against

0 abstentions

**Freudenberg Falls**, Tennessee (Review List 419) (FID 2772207)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this name.

Vote:           17 in favor  
                  0 against  
                  0 abstentions

**Mount El Shaddai**, Texas (Review List 416) (FID 2772208)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this name.

Vote:           10 in favor  
                  5 against  
                  2 abstentions

The negative votes were cast in the opinion that this was a commemorative name and that there is a lack of association between the deity and the feature.

Commented [LAV5]: I know that Mike S said this offhandedly before anyone else said anything but do we want to put it as the reason in the minutes given the other reasons that a commemorative name can be approved? Although I guess I might not have the same apprehension if the proposal was for Mount Diablo and the same reason was given.

5. Other Business

Fournier announced that this would be his last DNC meeting and has plans to retire from the Census Bureau at the end of November. At present, no replacement member has been selected and Flora will be the sole Census Bureau member. The Foreign Names Committee (FNC) will temporarily lack a Census Bureau representative.

Fleming also announced that the next DNC meeting will be his last. He will be replaced by Dr. Wendy Star Brown.

Vandegraff thanked Fournier and Fleming both for their service to the DNC and BGN, as well as their comments and wisdom. Members gave them a round of applause.

Yost announced that next month's meeting would feature a presentation on the Black Elk Peak proposal given by a relative of General Hamey.

Formatted: Underline

6. Closing

The meeting adjourned at 11:25 ap.m. The next Domestic Names Committee meeting will be held September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2015, at 9:30 a.m. at the Department of the Interior, Kiowa Room.

(signed) Louis A. Yost

\_\_\_\_\_  
Louis A. Yost, Executive Secretary

APPROVED

(signed) Douglas Vandegrift

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Douglas Vandegrift, Chairman  
Domestic Names Committee



## Conversation Contents

Re: Names Have Power: Denali and Other Colonist Lies

"Shelton, Michael" <michael\_shelton@nps.gov>

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**From:** "Shelton, Michael" <michael\_shelton@nps.gov>  
**Sent:** Mon Sep 07 2015 11:21:58 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** Carolyn and Duncan Morrow (b) (6) @cox.net>, Louis Yost <lyost@usgs.gov>, Jennifer Runyon <jrunyon@usgs.gov>, "Caldwell, Douglas R ERDC-TEC-VA" <Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil>, Douglas Vandegraft <Douglas.Vandegraft@boem.gov>  
**Subject:** Re: Names Have Power: Denali and Other Colonist Lies

FYI.

/s/ Mike

Michael M. Shelton  
Program Analyst  
Office of Policy  
National Park Service  
Deputy Member, U.S. Board on  
Geographic Names  
1201 Eye Street NW  
7th Floor / Office 88  
Washington, DC 20005  
(202) 354-3954 (Direct Dial)  
(202) 354-3950 (Gen'l Off. No.)  
(202) 371-5189 (Fax)

"Whatever you do, crush superstition, and love those who love you."  
Voltaire, 1762

On Fri, Sep 4, 2015 at 8:59 PM, Carolyn and Duncan Morrow (b) (6) @cox.net wrote:

<http://indiancountrytodaymedianetwork.com/2015/09/04/names-have-power-denali-and-other-colonist-lies-161635>

Indian Country Today

Friday, September 4, 2015

### Names Have Power: Denali and Other Colonist Lies

[Steve Russell](#)

*What's in a name? that which we call a rose*

*By any other name would smell as sweet.*

—Act II, Scene II

—*Romeo and Juliet*

Denali was Denali to Alaskan Natives and naming it for William McKinley by a gold prospector because McKinley supported the gold standard was a case of temporary insanity, no doubt common among white people exposed to the extreme weather of Alaska. Silly as the McKinley name was, it made me feel lucky to be born in what was Indian Territory until 1907, because we named not only natural features but counties and cities—and the names stuck.

Living in Indian Territory—renamed from the Choctaw language for “Red People” as Oklahoma—we are spared silliness like the second tallest peak in North America (after Denali) being called Mt. St. Elias instead of the Tlingit Yaas'ei't'aa Shaa, which would be the proper name if proper means first rather than most powerful. I've been thinking about where the logic lies in St. Elias but have had no luck.

Elias is the Greek translation of El jah, one of the greatest Jewish prophets, also recognized as a prophet by Christianity and Islam. The colonists, a superstitious and primitive lot, believe that Elijah is still living since, instead of dying, he ascended to the sky in a flaming chariot. Some would take that to be a rocket ship, I suppose, and if Albert Einstein was correct about time, we are aging more quickly than El jah. But 3,000 years?

The only connection of the Jewish people to Alaska was the plan floated by the fellow who wrote the Bible of federal Indian law, Felix S. Cohen, to allow Jewish refugees from Hitler's death camps to settle in Alaska. That plan came to nothing.

There are two St. Eliases, neither having set foot in Alaska.

The Roman Catholic St. Elias was an Egyptian who was canonized by the Pope for taking Rome's side in an obscure theological dispute. Unlike many saints, he died of natural causes in the 6<sup>th</sup> Century.

The Orthodox St. Elias was also from Egypt, where he lived for 110 years, 80 of them in a cave.

If I had to place a bet on which of the three usurped the name of Yaas'éit'aa Shaa, I would put money on the Orthodox version, because Orthodox Christianity was the state religion of the first colonial power to infest Alaska, Russia.

The Tlingit name, Yaas'éit'aa Shaa, is boringly descriptive, "mountain behind icy bay." I suppose colonists might have trouble pronouncing Tlingit, but neither English nor Russian is a picnic for somebody not raised with the tongue. The Native name could always be translated and perhaps shortened a bit and retain some authenticity.

The mountain they call St. Elias is one of the crown jewels of the largest national park within the U.S. system, Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve, about the size of six Yellowstones, but lacking the fame of Yellowstone because it's in Alaska.

The National Park Service description of the park makes it clear that Yaas'éit'aa Shaa and Denali were not the only Native names discarded by the colonists unless you think Blackburn, Sanford, Drum, and Wrangell are Native Alaskan names.

You were thinking maybe Drum is an English translation of a Native Alaskan name? Wrong. The peak was named for General Richard Coulter Drum, known for his service in the Mexican War, the Civil War, and Indian fighting.

The First Sioux War was the 1855 expedition where Indian fighter William S. Harney perfected the slaughter of non-combatants that would remain a hallmark of Army tactics against the Great Sioux Nation until the photographs of the Wounded Knee Massacre in 1890 turned public opinion.

Spotted Tail made much of his legend in the early part of the Harney's Blue Water Creek engagement. Wounded four times—two gunshots and two saber cuts—the Brulé warrior gave up his horse to a family that needed means to escape and returned to the fight. After the fight ended, Harney's troops descended on the women and children in Little Thunder's village.

Some Indians remember Drum, a lieutenant at the time of the First Sioux War, in a positive light for rescuing Spotted Tail's daughter from the massacre of non-combatants. While she eventually died of her wounds, Drum is remembered for protecting her at a time when he did not know she was an important man's daughter.

The history of a man whose name wound up on an Alaskan mountain brings us to the Great Sioux Nation, where the United States disregarded treaty rights to take possession of the mountains white people call the Black Hills. Indians generally do not object to this name because it is a direct translation of the Lakota name, Pahá Sápa.

Indians do object to their dispossession, which has been found unlawful in the colonial courts, and to the fact that the tallest peak in the Black Hills has lost the Lakota name Hinhan Kaga and is called for the man responsible for murder of women and children, what civilized people call war crimes. The colonial government calls Hinhan Kaga "Harney Peak," and it is located, fittingly enough, just outside Custer State Park.

Hinhan Kaga is famous among the Lakota as the place where Black Elk received his first vision and they have protested calling the sacred place for a genocidal maniac. The translation of the Lakota, "Making of Owls," might ease the transition for non-Indians if somebody explained that many tribes associate an owl with impending death.

Elsewhere in Pahá Sápa is the place the Lakota call Six Grandfathers. South Dakota lawyer turned State Historian Doane Robinson is credited with or blamed for the plan to desecrate Six Grandfathers with the images of four colonial grandfathers—Presidents Washington, Lincoln, Jefferson, and Theodore Roosevelt.

Robinson also engineered the theft of the name, according to a document that rests in the files of the Geographic Names Information System (GNIS). The document, dated May 19, 1930, claimed that according to State Historian Robinson the mountain *had no name* before he named it for Charles E. Rushmore, a New York lawyer who worked for the Harney Peak Tin Mining Company (tin mining representing another desecration of Pahá Sápa). Some historian.

The American Indian Movement once advocated renaming what is now called Rushmore "Crazy Horse Mountain." That has a nice ring to it. It is also only fair to note that Doane Robinson's original concept for the carvings would have included Red Cloud. Don't get too excited, because it also included George Armstrong Custer, who had a terrible record of killing women and children until he picked a fight with warriors at Greasy Grass.

The Wyoming side of Pahá Sápa contains a distinctive laccolith formation the Lakota call Mathó Thípila, the Arapaho call Wox Niiinon, the Crow call Daxpitcheeasáao, and non-Natives call Devils Tower. (Naming conventions in the U.S. leave out possessive apostrophes.)

The Devil—head honcho Evil Spirit in European mythology adopted from the Middle East—has a lot of real estate named after him. Devil's Peak is the scenic backdrop in most photos of Capetown, South Africa, and the Devil owns a couple of other famous peaks in Australia and Hong Kong, all former British colonies.

The Devils Tower in Pahá Sápa is the site of contemporary sacred ceremonies and it seems odd to consecrate sacred space to the Devil. Arvol Looking Horse has filed a petition to change the name back to the Lakota name translated to English: Bear Lodge. Looking Horse's petition has the support of the Oglala and the vigorous opposition of Wyoming and local officials. A similar proposal died in 2005. The Wyoming Congresswoman at the time, Barbara Cubin, represented the colonial point of view when she commented "name change will harm the tourist trade and bring economic hardship to area communities."

With all due respect to the former Congresswoman, would people suddenly be unable to find the peak immortalized in mashed potatoes in *Close Encounters of the Third Kind* because it's taken away from the Devil and given back to Bear?

The U.S. Board on Geographic Names is required to allow for public comment and that comment period is about to close. Looking Horse objects to the current name because, among other reasons, the identification with European superstition makes ceremonies on Bear Lodge appear to be "Devil worship," and nothing could be farther from the truth.

In the next part of this series, we will look at other places where irrational colonial names have usurped traditional tribal names. There is no way to point out all of them. Still, if we had to pick names to change back, sites that are currently related to sacred ceremonies should go to the front of the line. At the very least, a sacred site seems an odd place for the colonists to give the Devil his due. Maybe it's time for [Bear](#) to have his?



## Conversation Contents

U.S. Board on Geographic Names/Domestic Names Committee Aug. 13, 2015 Minutes

**Attachments:**

13. U.S. Board on Geographic Names/Domestic Names Committee Aug. 13, 2015 Minutes/1.1 DNC Aug13\_2015 Minutes.docx

"Runyon, Jennifer" <jrunyon@usgs.gov>

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**From:** "Runyon, Jennifer" <jrunyon@usgs.gov>  
**Sent:** Tue Sep 08 2015 06:59:52 GMT-0600 (MDT)  
**To:** "Tony N. Gilbert" <tgilbert@gpo.gov>, "curtis.loy@noaa.gov" <curtis.loy@noaa.gov>, "Meredith westington@noaa.gov" <Meredith.westington@noaa.gov>, "michael.r.fournier@census.gov" <michael.r.fournier@census.gov>, "andrew.h.flora@census.gov" <andrew.h.flora@census.gov>, "andrew.h.flora@census.gov" <andrew.h.flora@census.gov>, Ralph <rehr@loc.gov>, "eblount@fs.fed.us" <eblount@fs.fed.us>, TN <gail.milton@usps.gov>, TN <Angela.D.Lawson@usps.gov>, Douglas R ERDC-TEC-VA Caldwell <Douglas.R.Caldwell@usace.army.mil>, Betsy Kanalley <bkanalley@fs.fed.us>, "Berman, Eric" <Eric.Berman@fema.dhs.gov>, Douglas Vandegraft <Douglas.Vandegraft@boem.gov>, Jon C Campbell <joncampbell@usgs.gov>, Michael Shelton <Michael\_Shelton@nps.gov>, Deborah Nordeen <deb\_nordeen@nps.gov>, Lee Fleming <LFleming2@bia.gov>, Monique Fordham <mfordham@usgs.gov>, Ron Salz <ron\_salz@fws.gov>, "Nolan, Jacqueline" <jnol@loc.gov>, "Forrest, Brenda-Anne C." <bforrest@gpo.gov>, "Pattarozzi, Victor" <victor.pattarozzi@hq.dhs.gov>, "Campbell, Laurie A -FS" <lacampbell@fs.fed.us>, Michael Tischler <mtischler@usgs.gov>, Patrick Mahoney <patrick\_mahoney@blm.gov>, "Bruce <bjoh@loc.gov>" <bjoh@loc.gov>, Tara Wallace - NOAA Federal <tara.wallace@noaa.gov>, Wendi-Starr Brown <wendi-starr.brown@bia.gov>  
**Subject:** U.S. Board on Geographic Names/Domestic Names Committee Aug. 13, 2015 Minutes  
**Attachments:** DNC Aug13\_2015 Minutes.docx

Attached are the draft Minutes from the last BGN/DNC meeting (August 13th). The Agenda for this Thursday's (Sept. 10th) meeting and the September Docket will be distributed shortly.

As a reminder, this week's meeting will include a presentation by a member of the Harney family on the proposal to change the name of Harney Peak, SD (BGN Review List 419).

If you are planning to bring any non-DOI guests who are not on this distribution list, please let us know so we can provide his/her name and affiliation to DOI Security.

Thanks,

Jenny

\*\*\*\*\*  
Jennifer Runyon, research staff  
U.S. Board on Geographic Names  
U.S. Geological Survey, Geographic Names Office  
(703) 648-4550

[jrunyon@usgs.gov](mailto:jrunyon@usgs.gov)

**U.S. BOARD ON GEOGRAPHIC NAMES  
DOMESTIC NAMES COMMITTEE**

Seven Hundred and Seventy Fourth Meeting  
Department of the Interior, Kiowa Room  
August 13, 2015 – 9:30 a.m.

Members and Deputy Members in Attendance

Eric Berman	Department of Homeland Security (Federal Emergency Management Agency)
Douglas Caldwell	Department of Defense (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers)
Jon Campbell	Department of the Interior (U.S. Geological Survey)
Laurie Campbell	Department of Agriculture (U.S. Forest Service)
Mark DeMulder	Department of the Interior (U.S. Geological Survey)
Lee Fleming	Department of the Interior (Bureau of Indian Affairs)
Andrew Flora	Department of Commerce (Bureau of the Census)
Monique Fordham	Department of the Interior (U.S. Geological Survey) (by teleconference)
Michael Fournier	Department of Commerce (Bureau of the Census)
Tony Gilbert	Government Publishing Office
Bruce Johnson	Library of Congress
Sean Killen	Department of the Interior (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service) (by teleconference)
Curtis Loy	Department of Commerce (Office of Coast Survey)
Jacqueline Nolan	Library of Congress
Victor Pattarozzi	Department of Homeland Security
Michael Shelton	Department of the Interior (National Park Service)
Douglas Vandegraft	Department of the Interior (Bureau of Ocean Energy Management) (Chairman)

Ex-Officio

Lou Yost, Executive Secretary, U.S. Board on Geographic Names/Domestic Names Committee

Staff

Maria McCormick, U.S. Geological Survey (by teleconference)  
Jane Messenger, U.S. Geological Survey (by teleconference)  
Matthew O'Donnell, U.S. Geological Survey  
Jennifer Runyon, U.S. Geological Survey

Guests

Lola Ajilore, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management  
Estelle Bowman, U.S. Forest Service  
Paul Holeva, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Myron Pourier, Black Elk Development  
Timothy St. Onge, Library of Congress

1. Opening

Chairman Vandegraft opened the meeting at 9:29 a.m. He welcomed visitors and asked all BGN members, staff, and visitors to introduce themselves.

## 2. Minutes of the 773<sup>rd</sup> Meeting

The minutes of the 773<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Domestic Names Committee (DNC), held July 9<sup>th</sup>, were approved as submitted.

## 3. Reports

### 3.1 BGN Chairman (Caldwell)

The next full BGN meeting will take place on Tuesday, October 20<sup>th</sup> at the Department of the Interior in Washington D.C.

The revised BGN bylaws and the revised DNC *Principles, Policies, and Procedures* are still in review by the Department of the Interior.

The U.S. Geological Survey's historical topographic map Web site uses base maps provided by Esri. Caldwell noted that the map displays a derogatory name that the BGN had previously changed. He contacted Esri, which will amend the name. Caldwell mentioned the general issue of government agency use of third-party mapping services. There is no guarantee that they will use BGN-approved names even though government agencies are required to use such names in all their products, applications, and reports. A list of the most significant approved BGN names, both domestic and foreign, will be compiled and sent to Esri and other third-party mapping services. It is hoped that any name discrepancies will be corrected.

### 3.2 BGN Executive Secretary (Yost)

Some members and prospective members have not yet submitted their biographies for review and vetting by the White House. These are needed for the reappointment process. Although the new term ends September 30<sup>th</sup>, the BGN bylaws state that all members continue to serve until reappointed or replaced by another representative. Runyon is compiling all biographies.

Yost asked if any attendees had access to a 5.25-inch disk drive which could be used to read an old disk that contains BGN member photos. These photos were intended to be included in the "Diary of Actions, Policies, Policies and Events: 1890-1990" (a.k.a. "The 100 Year History").

Ralph Ehrenberg, Library of Congress member, and Roger Payne, BGN Executive Secretary Emeritus, each received a request from Stanley D. Brunn, a retired professor who is editing a book titled The Changing World Language Map, which will include "chapters on important, interesting and cutting-edge topics related to language use, culture, policy, representation and mapping." He is requesting chapter submissions. Yost will forward the email to the entire BGN as well as to a few national naming authorities in other countries.

### 3.3 Special Committee on Communication (Caldwell for Westington)

The BGN's 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration will take place Friday, September 18<sup>th</sup> at the Library of Congress. Caldwell thanked the Library staff for all their work to prepare for the event. All speakers have been approved, although opening speakers from the Department of the Interior and the Library of Congress have not been confirmed. Yost mentioned that the Secretary of the Interior and the Assistant

Secretary of the Interior have conflicts and will not be available, but that the Director of the U.S. Geological Survey may be able to provide the Department of the Interior “Welcome”.

The commemorative pins have arrived. Caldwell passed around a sample for members to view and noted that they be distributed at the next meeting. He thanked Forrest for her work in designing and ordering the pins. Donations to cover the cost are still being accepted. Orders have also been placed for commemorative shirts.

Caldwell reminded the committee that the SCC would meet at 1 p.m., also in the Kiowa Room, and invited all to attend.

Upon the entrance of Myron Poirier, Vandegraft asked him to introduce himself. Vandegraft also asked all members and guests to introduce themselves again for the benefit of Mr. Poirier.

Two members joined the meeting.

#### 3.4 Executive Secretary (Yost)

The decision to rename a populated place and related administrative features in Kansas from Saint John to St. John was reported in several newspapers.

#### 3.5 Staff (Runyon)

Review List 421, comprising 35 new names and name change proposals, was released on August 10<sup>th</sup>.

Staff has received correspondence regarding several high profile cases to rename features including Devils Tower, Harney Peak, and Mount McKinley. In addition, a number of new proposals have been submitted.

Yost thanked Runyon, J. Campbell, Shelton, Vandegraft, and Caldwell for their input and edits to the Mount McKinley/Denali background information recently submitted to the Secretary of the Interior. Members briefly discussed some issues surrounding the name controversy and the recent resurveying of the summit’s elevation, the results of which will soon be released.

#### 3.6 GNIS and Data Compilation Program (McCormick)

There are still issues with developers working on GNIS web tools. Several have left for other positions so progress has been slow.

The landforms tool relies on The National Map (TNM) services, which have been unreliable in recent weeks. The issues have been documented and reported to the TNM help desk.

As part of a web re-engineering project, the USGS will be moving all its Web pages to a new Google-based format. The GNIS pages are being re-inventoried, but as part of the project, the USGS will require that its banner be displayed at the top of every page. A few years ago, the BGN received permission to waive this requirement so as to remove the perception that the BGN works directly for USGS. The BGN will need to discuss how to handle this request.

New GNIS download files were posted on August 11<sup>th</sup>.

McCormick provided the Antarctic dataset to the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA), which will extract features that are to be maintained instead in the GEOnet Names Server. Once this has been completed, these features will be removed from GNIS.

On August 27<sup>th</sup>, McCormick will present a Need-To-Know session on the landforms tool to employees of the USGS National Geospatial Technology Operations Center (NGTOC).

McCormick and Messenger will be in Reston in mid-September and will attend the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary symposium.

Yost mentioned that planning for FY16 includes the Geographic Names Improvement Program. The GNIS staff provided a list of checks and improvements to existing data to NGTOC, which based on developer availability, should be worked on in the coming year.

### 3.7 Harney Peak, South Dakota name change (Pourier)

Mr. Pourier thanked the Committee for the opportunity to speak. He distributed bundles containing brochures and copies of the book *Black Elk Speaks*. He began his presentation by explaining his connection to the movement to rename Harney Peak to Black Elk Peak. He described the movement as “peaceful, prayerful, and apolitical.” He alluded to the various names that have been suggested throughout the process besides Black Elk Peak, one of which is Hinhan Kaga.

According to Pourier, in the Sioux language “hinhan” means “owl” and “kaga” mean “imitating” or “mocking”. This descriptive name given by Sioux ancestors comes from the sound of wind blowing through large granite spires that form groups within parts of the Black Hills. They would refer to this portion of the Black Hills as Hinhan Kaga.

Pourier mentioned another original name for the mountain, Wicinjala Sakowin, which means “seven girls” or “seven stars” and refers to a group of seven stars near the constellation Taurus known as the Pleiades. In the Lakota Sioux star knowledge, the Pleiades or Wicinjala Sakowin is the name of the original celestial mountain that corresponds to the highest point in the Black Hills. This is the center of the world according to the Sioux. Pourier explained that the names Hinhan Kaga and Wicinjala Sakowin are used within various Sioux tribes and by the younger and older generations, respectively.

Pourier described how Black Elk, his great-great grandfather, traveled alone to the top of the highest point in the Black Hills, set up an altar, and prayed for four days. Black Elk had a vision which he later related to John G. Neihardt, author of *Black Elk Speaks*. In the vision, Black Elk saw the connectedness of the whole world and all peoples. The name Black Elk Peak would be “synonymous with the beauty and sacredness of the Black Hills” and would be “respectful toward all walks of life and a neutral name.”

A brief discussion ensued about the South Dakota Board of Geographic Names review process and public hearings. Runyon asked Pourier about the general perception that naming features after people is not a tradition among American Indian tribes. Pourier mentioned Crazy Horse Mountain (officially known as Thunderhead Mountain) in the Black Hills and Piestewa Peak in Arizona (named for a Hopi woman who was killed in action during the Iraq War). Although the practice is not widespread, features can be named



for individuals when appropriate. There are many tribes and many opinions. Vandegrift thanked Pourier for his presentation to the Committee.

#### 4. Docket

Please refer to the attached Docket for a description of each proposal. For new names approved at this meeting, the newly assigned GNIS Feature ID (FID) has been noted following the name.

### **I. Staff-Processed New Names, and Name and Application Changes agreed to by all interested parties**

Change application of **Ninety Percent Spring** (FID 394954), Idaho (Review List 418)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this change. Members briefly discussed the origin of the name “Ninety Percent.”

Vote:	17 in favor
	0 against
	0 abstentions

Change **Reservoir Number 2** (FID 517270) to **Lake Fontaine**, Kentucky (Review List 419)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this change. Members briefly discussed an earlier commemorative proposal for the same name for this feature which was subsequently withdrawn.

Vote:	17 in favor
	0 against
	0 abstentions

### **II. Disagreement on Docketed Names**

**Fenway Pond**, Connecticut (Review List 418)

A motion was made and seconded not to approve this name, citing the lack of local support from both the Town of Glastonbury and the Connecticut State Names Authority. Members questioned the Town of Glastonbury’s requirements for naming features and whether or not the five-year waiting period for commemorative names applies in the case of pets.

Vote:	16 in favor
	1 against
	0 abstentions

### **III. New Commemorative Names and Changes agreed to by all interested parties**

**Lee Island**, Washington (Review List 418) (FID 2772203)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this name.

Vote:           16 in favor  
                   0 against  
                   1 abstention

#### IV. Revised Decisions

Change **Cedar Creek Reservoir** (BGN 1988) (FID 1377461) to **Lake Fayette**, Texas (Review List 405)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this change.

Vote:           17 in favor  
                   0 against  
                   0 abstentions

#### V. New Names agreed to by all interested parties

**Little Smelt Creek**, Michigan (Review List 420) (FID 2772204)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this name. One member pointed out that the name is redundant because all smelts are little. Staff suggested the word “little” might refer to the stream’s length.

Vote:           16 in favor  
                   0 against  
                   1 abstention

**Rain Dance Pond**, New York (Review List 420) (FID 2772205)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this name.

Vote:           15 in favor  
                   1 against  
                   1 abstention

The negative vote was cast in the belief that the name represents a former business and is “disingenuous.”

**Lamprey Creek**, Oregon (Review List 420) (FID 2772206)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this name.

Vote:           17 in favor  
                   0 against  
                   0 abstentions

**Freudenberg Falls**, Tennessee (Review List 419) (FID 2772207)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this name.

Vote:           17 in favor  
                   0 against

0 abstentions

**Mount El Shaddai**, Texas (Review List 416) (FID 2772208)

A motion was made and seconded to approve this name.

Vote:	10 in favor
	5 against
	2 abstentions

The negative votes were cast in the opinion that this is a commemorative name and that there is a lack of association between the deity and the feature.

5. Other Business

Fournier announced that this would be his last DNC meeting and that he will retire from the Census Bureau at the end of November. At present, no replacement member has been selected and Flora will be the sole Census Bureau member. The Foreign Names Committee (FNC) will temporarily lack a Census Bureau representative.

Fleming also announced that the next DNC meeting will be his last. He will be replaced by Dr. Wendi-Starr Brown, who plans to attend the September meeting.

Vandegraft thanked Fournier and Fleming for their service to the DNC and BGN, as well as their comments and wisdom over the years. Members gave them a round of applause.

Yost announced that next month's meeting would feature a presentation on the Black Elk Peak proposal by a relative of General Harney.

6. Closing

The meeting adjourned at 11:25 a.m. The next Domestic Names Committee meeting will be held September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2015, at 9:30 a.m. at the Department of the Interior, Kiowa Room.

(signed) Louis A. Yost

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Louis A. Yost, Executive Secretary

APPROVED

(signed) Douglas Vandegraft

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Douglas Vandegraft, Chairman  
Domestic Names Committee