

California Advisory Committee on Geographic Names (CACGN)

Minutes

February 28, 2025

Virtual Public Meeting

Sacramento, California

Table of Contents

Table of Contents	1
1. Call to Order – Chair Geneva E.B. Thompson, California Department of Natural Resources	3
2. Agenda Changes	4
3. Announcements	4
4. Actions made by U.S. BGN since February 28, 2025	4
a) Proposed Name: Salamander Creek	4
b) Proposed Name: Kilkenny Valley	5
c) Proposed Name: China Wall Overlook	5
d) Proposed Name: Hidden Heart Falls	5
e) Proposed Name: James Wong Howe Creek	5
f) Proposed Name: Chinese Miners Creek	5
5. BGN Name Proposals for CACGN Review and Recommendation	6
a) Proposed Name: Boomer Creek	6
b) Proposed Name: Uypi Creek	6
6. Assembly Bill 2022 Name Proposals for CACGN Review and Approval	6
7. Name Proposals Deferred for Future CACGN Review and Discussion	7
a) Proposed Name: Ipuk Spiruk	7
b) Proposed Name: Ipuk Spiruk Creek	7
c) Proposed Name: Cush-Pii	7
d) Proposed Name: Cush-Pii Creek	7
e) Proposed Name: Black Miners Bar	7
f) Proposed Name: Klamath Straits and Klamath Strait Drain Outlet	7
g) Proposed Name: Fifth of July Hill	8
h) Proposed Name: Hoot Owl Lake	8
i) Proposed Name: mxqawlay'ba knowin xyoykith	8
j) Proposed Name: Curran Canyon	8
k) Proposed Name: Curran Creek	8
l) Proposed Name: Konocti	8
m) Proposed Name: Mitchell Ridge	8

n) Proposed Name: Sacred Buttes	9
o) Proposed Name: Skate Island.....	9
p) Proposed Name: Paramount Hill	9
q) Proposed Name: Placer One.....	9
r) Proposed Name: Blue Heron Lake	9
s) Proposed Name: Mount George.....	9
8. New Proposals on Pending Review Lists to be Introduced.....	10
9. General Public Comment	10
10. Time and Place of Next Meetings:.....	10
11. Adjourn	10

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

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

Roll was called.

Committee Members: 7 of 8 voting members were present

Present

- ✓ Department of Fish and Wildlife (**Amelia Wright**)
- ✓ Department of Conservation (**Elizabeth Betancourt**)
- ✓ Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (**Helen Lopez**)
- ✓ Department of Water Resources (**Ebenezer Ampah**)
- ✓ Department of Parks and Recreation (**Jim Newland**)
- ✓ California State Library (**Rebecca Wendt** for Greg Lucas)
- ✓ California Department of Natural Resources (**Geneva E.B. Thompson**)

Absent

- ✓ California African American Museum (**Susan Anderson**)
- ✓ Native American Heritage Commission (**Steven Quinn**)

Ex-Officio Members:

Present

- ✓ Assemblymember Reginald Byron Jones-Sawyer, Sr., Legislative Black Caucus (Sarah Meza for Assemblymember)
- ✓ Department of Transportation, CalTrans, (Carsen Graves and Vivienne Orcutt for Nailah Pope-Harden)

Absent

- ✗ Select Committee on Native American Affairs (Asm. James C. Ramos); Senior Legislative Black Caucus (Designee TBD); Latino Legislative Caucus (Designee TBD); Asian Pacific Islander Legislative Caucus (Asm. Ash Kalra); Legislative LGBTQ2+ Caucus (Sen. Susan Eggman); Tribal Advisor to the Office of the Governor (Christina Snider-Ashtari); Legislative Women's Caucus (Designee TBD)

Federal Advisors:

Present

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

Absent

- ✗ National Park Service (Amanda B. Kaplan)

Emeritus Advisors:

Present

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

Absent

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

CNRA and Committee Staff:

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

2. Agenda Changes

- Item 6a moved from a voting item to an informational item.
- Minutes Approved for the Nov 15, 2024 CACGN Meeting
 - Jim Newland motioned to approve meeting minutes; Helen Lopez seconded the motion. Comments by elected leaders on meeting minutes (none); Comments by the public on meeting minutes (one person, Mike Russo).

3. Announcements

- a) Introduction of Araceli Moreno as the new Manager of Geographic Names at the California Natural Resources Agency

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

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

- a) **Proposed Name:** Salamander Creek
 - Feature Type: Stream
 - County: Humboldt
 - Review List: 450
 - BGN Decision Date: No Decision to Date
 - Case Status: **CACGN Recommended Disapproval**

- b) Proposed Name: Kilkenny Valley**
- Feature Type: Basin
 - County: Lake
 - Review List: 452
 - BGN Decision Date: No Decision to Date
 - Case Status: ***CACGN Recommended Disapproval***

- c) Proposed Name: China Wall Overlook**
- Feature Type: Summit
 - County: Nevada
 - Review List: 453
 - BGN Decision Date: Proponent Withdrew Proposal
 - Case Status: ***CACGN Recommended Approval.***

- d) Proposed Name: Hidden Heart Falls**
- Feature Type: Falls
 - County: Riverside
 - Review List: 450
 - BGN Decision Date: Approved on December 12, 2024
 - Case Status: ***CACGN Recommended Approval***

- e) Proposed Name: James Wong Howe Creek**
- Feature Type: Stream
 - County: Tuolumne
 - Review List: 440
 - BGN Decision Date: No Decision to Date
 - Case Status: ***CACGN Recommended Disapproval***

- f) Proposed Name: Chinese Miners Creek**
- Feature Type: Stream
 - County: Tuolumne
 - Review List: 451
 - BGN Decision Date: No Decision to Date
 - Case Status: ***CACGN Recommended Approval***

5. BGN Name Proposals for CACGN Review and Recommendation

a) **Proposed Name:** Boomer Creek

- Current Name: N/A
- Feature Type: Creek
- County: Santa Cruz
- Review List: 452
- CACGN Case Status: Tabled

b) **Proposed Name:** Uypi Creek

- Current Name: N/A
- Feature Type: Creek
- County: Santa Cruz
- Review List: 454
- CACGN Case Status: Tabled

6. Assembly Bill 2022 Name Proposals for CACGN Review and Approval

a) **Proposed Name:** Mines Flat Road

Current Name: Sq_ Flat Road

County: Butte

CACGN Recommendation: approve "Mines Flat Road" to replace "Sq_ Flat Road"

- The County of Butte requested to remove the proposal from the agenda. CACGN previously approved the name of "Flat Mine Road" on November 14, 2024. The County approved "Flat Mine Road" via Resolution Number 25-032 on February 25, 2025.

7. Name Proposals Deferred for Future CACGN Review and Discussion

- a) **Proposed Name:** **Ipuk Spiruk**
- Current Name: Little Stonewall Peak
 - Feature Type: Peak
 - County: San Diego
 - Review List: 446
- b) **Proposed Name:** **Ipuk Spiruk Creek**
- Current Name: Little Stonewall Creek
 - Feature Type: Creek
 - County: San Diego
 - Review List: 446
- c) **Proposed Name:** **Cush-Pii**
- Current Name: Stonewall Peak
 - Feature Type: Peak
 - County: San Diego
 - Review List: 446
- d) **Proposed Name:** **Cush-Pii Creek**
- Current Name: Stonewall Creek
 - Feature Type: Creek
 - County: San Diego
 - Review List: 446
- e) **Proposed Name:** **Black Miners Bar**
- Current Name: Negro Bar
 - Feature Type: Bar
 - County: San Diego
 - Review List: 446
- f) **Proposed Name:** **Klamath Straits and Klamath Strait Drain Outlet**
- Current Name: Klamath Straits Drain
 - Feature Type: Canal
 - County: Klamath and Siskiyou
 - Review List: 452

- g) Proposed Name: Fifth of July Hill**
- Current Name: N/A
 - Feature Type: Hill
 - County: San Bernardino
 - Review List: 453
- h) Proposed Name: Hoot Owl Lake**
- Current Name: N/A
 - Feature Type: Lake
 - County: Nevada
 - Review List: 453
- i) Proposed Name: mxqawlay'ba knowin xyoykith**
- Current Name: N/A
 - Feature Type: Ridge
 - County: Lake
 - Review List: 453
- j) Proposed Name: Curran Canyon**
- Current Name: Kern Canyon
 - Feature Type: Canyon
 - County: Stanislaus
 - Review List: 454
- k) Proposed Name: Curran Creek**
- Current Name: Kern Creek
 - Feature Type: Creek
 - County: Stanislaus
 - Review List: 454
- l) Proposed Name: Konocti**
- Current Name: Kelseyville
 - Feature Type: Populated place (unincorporated)
 - County: Lake County
 - Review List: 454
- m) Proposed Name: Mitchell Ridge**
- Current Name: N/A

- Feature Type: Ridge
- County: Contra Costa
- Review List: 455

n) Proposed Name: Sacred Buttes

- Current Name: Sutter Buttes
- Feature Type: Butte
- County: Sutter
- Review List: 455

o) Proposed Name: Skate Island

- Current Name: N/A
- Feature Type: Island
- County: Humboldt
- Review List: 455

p) Proposed Name: Paramount Hill

- Current Name: N/A
- Feature Type: Summit
- County: Placer
- Review List: 456

q) Proposed Name: Placer One

- Current Name: N/A
- Feature Type: Populated Place
- County: Placer
- Review List: 456

r) Proposed Name: Blue Heron Lake

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

s) Proposed Name: Mount George

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

8. New Proposals on Pending Review Lists to be Introduced

- BGN did not release any new proposals within California. BGN quarterly review lists can be accessed on the BGN's website at: [DNC Review Lists | U.S. Geological Survey](#).

9. General Public Comment

- CACGN received 1 public comment regarding available agenda and meeting minutes on the CACGN website. The CACGN Chair responded by stating that the CACGN website is currently being transitioned from one landing page to another and the CACGN staff is working on posting CACGN agendas and meeting minutes to the website.

10. Time and Place of Next Meetings:

Regularly Scheduled CACGN Meeting, Quarter 2:

May 30, 2025, 10:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.

Regularly Scheduled CACGN Meeting, Quarter 3:

August 22, 2025, 10:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.

Regularly Scheduled CACGN Meeting, Quarter 4:

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

11. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at approximately 11:27 A.M.