



Confederated Tribes and Bands
of the Yakama Nation

Established by the
Treaty of June 9, 1855

July 28, 2016

Washington State Board on Geographic Names

Post Office Box 47030

Olympia, WA 98504-7030

EMAIL: bogn@dnr.wa.gov USPS Certified Mail # 7015 3010 0000 1835 3517

** SENT VIA EMAIL AND USPS Certified Mail **

RE: Geographic Name Change (from "Squaw Creek" to "Walaluuks Creek")

Dear Sir or Madam;

I am Chi' Qwax, Chairman of the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation ("Yakama Nation"), a federally recognized Tribe pursuant to the Treaty with the Yakamas, 12 Stat. 951 (June 9, 1855) ("Treaty of 1855").

On behalf of the Yakama Nation, I submit the attached Geographic Name Change Application for a Creek lying outside the Yakama Reservation, and within the traditional Yakama lands ceded in the Treaty of 1855. The Yakama Nation requests your prompt consideration to change the name of the creek from the derogatory and offensive "Squaw Creek" to "Walaluuks Creek" as outlined in the attached application.

For further information, please contact: M. Patrice Kent, Lead Attorney, Yakama Nation Office of Legal Counsel via e-mail (Patrice@yakamanation-olc.org) or telephone (509) 865-7268.

Sincerely,

CHI' QWAX (JODE GOUBY)

TRIBAL COUNCIL CHAIRMAN, CONFEDERATED TRIBES AND BANDS OF THE YAKAMA NATION

Encl:

Washington State Geographic Name Application

Addendum: Geographic Name Application

WASHINGTON STATE
Geographic Name Application



WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF
Natural Resources

Proposed Name: Walaluuks Creek New Name
County: Klickitat Controversial Name
Township: 4N Range: 19E Section(s): 4,7,8,9,18,19,29,30 Name Change
Lat. 454742N N, Long. 1202753W W (Begin) Location Clarification
Lat. 459748N N, Long. 1203896W W (End) Spelling Clarification

Description

Type of feature (lake, stream, etc.): stream
Description of feature (location, length, depth, height, size and/or area covered): Squaw Creek is located in eastern Klickitat County within the Rock Creek watershed and is a tributary of Rock Creek. It is 17.17 miles in length from the headwaters to the confluence with Rock Creek.
If a stream, number of months it flows on a yearly basis: 8 months
Is this feature identified by other names or spellings? Please list variant names: Currently called "Squaw Creek"
Has it ever been signed, posted, or publicized? If so, when? No

History ** numbers denote citations listed on attached ADDENDUM PAGE

Please provide a brief history of the feature and its immediate surroundings, this might include information on the following: 1 Native American; 2 First settlers; 3 Historical background pertinent to feature; 4 History on how the land is/was used; 5 Natural disasters (floods, fires, etc.) 6 Any significant cultural events. If appropriate, geology, flora and fauna. Cite sources. Use additional pages if needed.
Origin of name: The "Squaw Creek" canyon served as an important wagon trail route for Yakama Tribal members between the Columbia River and other Yakama lands.¹ The headwaters of the creek abut the southern Yakama Reservation border and at the confluence is the Yakama "Black Wolf Cemetery".¹ Traditional foods and medicines were found abundantly throughout the canyon.¹ Coho salmon and steelhead spawn and rear in the creek and are important cultural and subsistence fish for the Yakamas.² (CONTINUED ON ADDENDUM PAGE)

If a commemorative name, provide a brief summary of the ENTIRE life of the person including how and the length of time he/she was associated with the proposed feature: Walaluuks was a Yakama woman who lived the majority of her life in the "Squaw Creek" canyon, and it is assumed that she is the woman intended by the name "Squaw Creek".⁵ She took care of other Tribal members traveling through the canyon from the Columbia River to Yakama or vice-versa.¹ She had children and grandchildren and there are descendents of Walaluuks who live in the area.¹ Walaluuks was a member of the Kah Milt-Pah Band also known as Rock Creek Band. Kah Milt-Pah Band is one of the original 14 Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation.¹

Justification of Proposed Name

What is the usage of feature? The creek is located in remote Klickitat County; the word "squaw" is a degrading name to the aboriginal people of the area. It is a very disrespectful name describing the Yakama elder "Walaluks" who lived in the canyon and her descendents.

Please state why the proposed name will best serve the public interest: The name of the creek should be changed to a Yakama name honoring the individual, and remove the offensive term. The creek is within the Yakama usual and accustomed areas and the Yakama people are the first inhabitants to the area.

How long has the proposed name been in use? By whom? The proposed name is used by the Yakama Tribal members of the "Kah Milt-Pah" Rock Creek Band for an unknown number of years.

Please list all sources of information used for your research: (maps, books, articles, periodicals, etc. for background history relating to proposed name) Interviews of the Yakama elders were conducted during 2014-2016. Bureau of Land Management - Oregon State Office Land Status and Cadastral Survey Records - Willamette Meridian 3/10/1869 GLO map.

What type of support is there for the proposed name?

List all groups and persons who are familiar with the proposed feature and its usage. Please provide names, addresses, telephone numbers, email addresses and his/her association with knowledge of the geographic feature:

The "Kah Milt-Pah" Rock Creek Band of the Yakama Nation supports the name change. Chief Bronsco Jim Jr. PO Box 751 Goldendale, WA 98620

Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation
PO Box 151 Toppenish, WA 98948

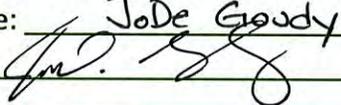
Application submitted by:

Name: JoDe Goudy, Chairman, Yakama Nation Tribal Council
Address: PO Box 151 (401 Fort Road) City: Toppenish State: WA Zip: 98948
Phone #: (509) 865-5121 Email: jode@yakama.com Date of Application: 07.28.2016
****Alternate contact: M. Patrice Kent, YN Office of Legal Counsel**

Tel: (509) 865-7268; Email: patrice@yakamanation-olc.org

I am aware that all information submitted is considered to be public information.

Printed Name: JoDe Goudy

Signature:  Date: 8-2-16

Please mail completed form along with copies of any additional materials to:

WA State Board on Geographic Names

PO Box 47030

Olympia, WA 98504-7030

(Phone: 360-902-1280 - Fax: 360-902-1778 - Email: bogn@dnr.wa.gov)

Additional Township, Ranges, and Sections that include Squaw Creek

Township: 4N Range: 18E Sections: 12,13,24

Township: 5N Range: 19E Sections: 2,3,10,14,15,22,23,26,27,33,34,35

History section continued

Lewis and Clark wrote in their journals of the large number of family tipi sites in Rock Creek and its tributary streams.³ There is a long history of Yakama Tribal inhabitation in Rock Creek and Squaw Creek that predates any non-Tribal settlement in the area.³ There are archeological records of Yakama inhabitation in both Rock Creek and Squaw Creek.⁴ Based on numerous interviews with Yakama Tribal elders from the Kah Milt-Pah Band, Squaw Creek was named by the early white settlers after a Yakama Tribal lady who lived in Squaw Creek.¹

Citations

1. Yakama Tribal elder interviews at Goldendale, WA 11/26/14 & 11/17/15
2. Harvey, E. 2014. Rock Creek Fish and Habitat Assessment for Prioritization of Restoration and Protection Actions: July 1, 2008 – May 31, 2013. Prepared for Bonneville Power Administration, Portland, OR. Project # 2007-156-00.
3. University of Nebraska Press / University of Nebraska-Lincoln Libraries-Electronic Text Center, *The Journals of the Lewis and Clark Expedition*, <http://lewisandclarkjournals.unl.edu>.
4. McClure, R. 1978. An Archaeological Survey of Petroglyph and Pictograph Sites in the State of Washington
5. Yakama Tribal elder interview at Toppenish, WA 6/8/16

WALALUUKS CREEK - KLICKITAT COUNTY

Walaluuks Creek

Stream; 16.2 miles long; heads 22 miles NE of Goldendale at 45°57'5.428"N, 120°22'4.393"W, flows E then S to enter Rock Creek

Proposal to rename Squaw Creek located in Klickitat County. According to the proponent, the Squaw Creek canyon served as an important wagon trail route for Yakama Tribal members between the Columbia River and other Yakama lands.

Walaluuks was a Yakama woman who lived the majority of her life in Squaw Creek canyon, and it is assumed that she is the woman intended by the name Squaw Creek. Walaluuks took care of other Tribal members traveling through the canyon.



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