

Date: July 20, 2016

To: Ryan Draughn, Chair, NC Statewide Mapping Advisory Committee

From: Tyrel G. Moore, Chair, NC Board on Geographic Names

Re: July 20, 2016 NCBGN Report to the NC Statewide Mapping Advisory Committee

Let me begin by commenting on USBGN actions to name three unnamed streams: “Fox Creek” in Buncombe County, referenced on the USBGN Review List 423; “Spurr Creek” and “Winding Oak Creek,” both in Granville County, as posted on the USBGN Review List 421. The USBGN has processed details related to the petitioner’s request for a Commemorative naming of “Spurr Creek.” The additional details required of the petitioner have been received and reviewed by the USBGN and the NCBGN. The additional information was needed by the USBGN to meet Federal requirements which stipulate that: 1) at least five years have elapsed since the death of the person for whom the feature is proposed to be named, and, 2) it can be demonstrated that the family has played an historically significant role in the area. Locative details for the three streams are posted on the USBGN Review Lists 421 and 423 to include USBGN decisions made on 5 May 2016.

The NCBGN continued its efforts petitions to acquire Local Opinion on the removable of objectionable or offensive names for features, “Negro Mountain” and “Negro Prong” in Transylvania County. These features are located in the Pisgah National Forest. The NCBGN and the USBGN made multiple contacts to the Transylvania County Board of Commissioners for the Local Opinion that is necessary for all proposals that pursue namings or renamings of features. The absence of any Local Opinion on these petitions left the NCBGN with no recourse but to table any deliberations or decisions on these petitions at the April meeting of the Statewide Mapping Advisory Committee Meeting. Subsequent contact with the Transylvania County Clerk finally yielded a Local Opinion offered on April 25 by Mike Hawkins, Chair, of the Transylvania County Commission in support of the petitions.

The USBGN requests a recommendation from the NCBGN, and the NC Statewide Mapping Advisory Committee. The recommendation should therefore be handled as an Action Item on the SMAC July 20, 2016 Quarterly Meeting agenda.

Respectfully Submitted,



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