

Domestic Geographic Name Report

1. Use this form to recommend a feature name or to suggest a name change.

2. For features on Federal lands, coordinate requests with the agency (U.S. Forest Service, National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, etc.) For the administrative area in which the land is located.

3. On the reverse side of this form give information on the local usage and authority for recommended name.

4. For more information about the Geographic Names Information System or the National Gazetteer Program, contact the U.S. Board on Geographic Names at 703-648-4544.

5. Return this form to:

Executive Secretary for Domestic
Geographic Names
U.S. Geological Survey
523 National Center
Reston, VA 22092

Action Requested

Proposed New Name: X Recommended Name: Jade Lake
Application Change: State: Alaska
Name Change: County or Equivalent: Kenai Peninsula Borough
Other: Administrative Area: Lake Clark National Park and Preserve

Specific Area Covered:

Latitude: 60 ° 21 ' 508 " N Longitude: 153 ° 11 ' 914 " W
Latitude: ° ' " NS Longitude: ° ' " WS
Center: X Heading End
Section(s) 12 Township(s) 3N Range(s) 23W Meridian Seward Elevation 2,926'

Type of Feature (stream, mountain, populated place, etc.): Lake

Is the Feature identified (including other names), in the Geographic Names Information System (GNIS)?
Yes No X Unknown If Yes, how is it listed?

Description of feature (physical shape, length, width, direction of flow, etc.):

The alpine lake is in the Chigmit Mountains of the Alaska Range. It is approximately 10 miles southwest of Mount Redoubt, and 25 miles north of Mount Iliamna. The lake is designated wilderness within the boundaries of Lake Clark National Park & Preserve. It is in the boundaries of the Kenai Peninsula Borough.

Maps and other sources using recommended name (including scale and date).

Other name (variants)

Maps and other sources using other name or application (including scale and date).

Name information such as origin, meaning of the recommended name, historical significance, biographic data (if commemorative), nature of usage or application, or any other pertinent information:

The proposer states: "When the sun is shining directly on the water it illuminates like a Jade stone. In my opinion, the lake and immediate area epitomize wild, scenic and rugged Alaska. As Jade is the state gem of Alaska, it also makes a very suitable name."

The proposer states his primary objective in naming this lake is enhancing safety to airplane traffic. He strongly believes that naming this lake will drastically increase safety for pilots flying in the area. He notes safety could be improved by creating a named feature in a rugged area void of prominent and named geographic landmarks.

In addition to the proposer's remarks, representatives of Rust's Flying Service, Trail Ridge Air, and Beluga Air, LLC. have all voiced support for naming the lake for the purpose of using the lake as a recognizable way-point which would improve aviation safety and navigation in the area.

Is the recommended name in local usage? Yes No If Yes, approximately how many years? 7

Is there local opposition to, or conflict with the recommended name (as located)?

None known

For proposed new name, please provide evidence that feature is unnamed:

The name is not listed in the GNIS database, and the USGS Lake Clark B-1, 1:63,360 topographic map of the area does not label the lake.

Additional information:

It was first proposed in 2018 to name the lake "Jade Lake". On Feb. 25, 2019, the Alaska Historical Commission (AHC) did not approve the naming because it is within a designated wilderness area. The National Park Service indicated they do not support the name change. This proposal was sent for review and received by the Office of History and Archaeology on Feb 4, 2020, which contained additional reasoning for the name change, including improvements in aviation navigation and safety. The AHC is expected to review the new proposal at their Spring 2020 meeting, April 27, 2020.

Letters in support attached to the proposal:

Rust's Flying Service, 01/29/2020

Trail Ridge Air (n.d.)

Beluga Air, LLC, 01/07/2020

Proposal sent for review with letter indicating response must be in writing to object or endorse the proposed name to:

Lake Clark National Park and Preserve

Kenai Peninsula Borough

Cook Inlet Region, Inc. (CIRI)

Mountaineering Club of Alaska

The USGS Geographic Names Information System has only one Jade Lake in Alaska. It is 6 miles NW of Knik and 21 miles north of Anchorage. The U.S. Board of Geographic Names approved that name in 1971.

Copy submitted by: Name (first, M.I., last)

Title

Phone (day)

Date

Ryan Richards

907.268.8994

03.13.20

Company or Agency

Address (city, State, and Zip)

P.O. Box 110104, Anchorage, AK 99511-0104

Copy Prepared by (if other than above)

Title

Phone (day)

Date

Judith E. Bittner

SHPO

(907) 269-8721

Company or Agency

Address (city, State, and Zip)

Alaska Department of Natural Resources/Office of History and Archaeology

550 West 7th Ave., Suite 1310, Anchorage, AK 99501-3565

Authority for Recommended Name:

Mailing Address and Telephone

Occupation

Years in Area

Alaska Historical Commission,

Thank you for taking the time to consider my request to name the following lake located at:
N 60 degrees 21.508 W 153 degrees 11.914.

My name is Ryan Richards and I have been working in the immediate area for the past 16 years. Seven years ago while flying and exploring the Alaska Range, I came across this gorgeous lake. Since then I have been visiting the lake whenever time and access permits. The lake is located in a remote area within the Chigmit Mountains in the heart of the Alaska Range. Historically, it is only free of ice August thru early October. The lake lies at 2,926' above sea level with mountains rising to 4000' surrounding 2/3s of lake. (Picture attached)

My goal is for your commission to approve naming of this body of water to Jade Lake. When the sun is shining directly on the water it illuminates like a Jade stone. In my opinion, the lake and immediate area epitomize wild, scenic and rugged Alaska. As Jade is the state gem of Alaska, it also makes a very suitable name.

My primary objective in naming this lake is enhancing safety to airplane traffic. I strongly believe that naming this lake will drastically increase safety for pilots flying in the area. This can be done by approving my application thereby creating a named feature in a rugged area void of prominent and named geographic landmarks.

Given the fantastic weather throughout the 2019 summer I was able to spend a considerable amount of time at this lake. What became very clear was the significant spike in nearby airplane traffic flying through the region. Whether enroute to/from Crescent Lake, Lake Clark, Port Alsworth, Twin Lakes, Silver Salmon Creek or Tuxedni Bay, this area has become a popular fly through route when weather allows.

It should be important to note that Crescent Lake is the most visited area in Lake Clark National Park with the second most visited being Silver Salmon Creek to the South followed by Twin Lakes to the West. All of these areas are within a close proximity of one another with this specific lake lying beneath the direct route. Please reference map included in packet.

As stated above, Crescent Lake & Silver Salmon Creek have become extremely popular areas for both private and commercial general aviation traffic. For commercial operators visiting either, it is common practice to detour flights on arrival or departure and offer their customers beautiful flightsees. These flightsee detours place planes very close to the lake. For the private general aviation crowd, which is large, the dramatic mountains, beautiful area lakes, bear viewing opportunities and amazing scenery will only increase traffic in years to come. Lastly, direct flights from Crescent Lake to Twin Lakes or Port Alsworth place planes nearly right over top of this lake.

I strongly believe that naming this lake could significantly increase safety and response time in the event of an airplane crash in the nearby area. "Jade Lake" could serve as a critical reporting point for pilots flying the area as well as Search & Rescue response. This lake lies in a very rugged location of the Chigmit Mountains within the Alaska Range. Although steep and rugged there are multiple passes that are used by pilots crossing the Alaska Range. I can personally attest to using a number of these high mountain passes and recognizing the lack of prominent and or named features in the area. To be more specific, the closest named features besides Crescent Lake are Redoubt Volcano, Illiamna Volcano and Rusty Mountain (within Tuxedni Bay) . As you will see from the attached map, these

features are a good distance from lake and do not serve as great reference points in the event of responding to a downed aircraft.

Furthermore, due to the elevation of lake and surrounding mountains, radio transmissions on CTAF frequencies reach the Port Alsworth region as well as large portions of Lake Clark Pass, Seldovia and multiple locations along the west side of Cook Inlet. I have spoke with multiple pilots both private and commercial who fly the area and they have all unanimously agreed that a named feature is this particular part of the Chigmit Mountains would be beneficial.

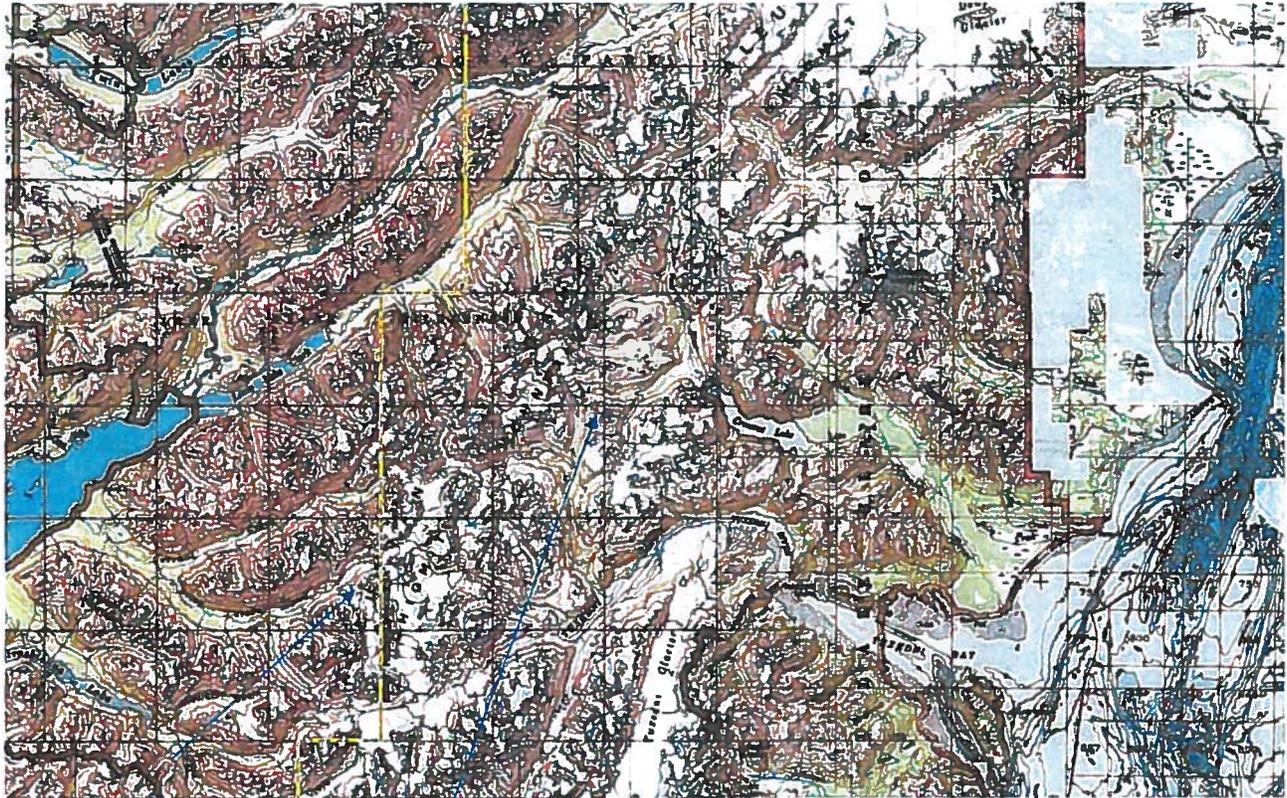
(Letter included in application)

Thank you for your time & consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ryan Richards', with a stylized, cursive script.

Ryan Richards

richards80ak@gmail.com
(907) 268-8994



Proposed Jade Lake



1/29/20

To Whom it May Concern,

This letter is in regard to the naming of a lake located at: N 60 degrees 21.508 W 153 degrees 11.914.

Rust's Flying Service operates many flights to and from Crescent Lake, in Lake Clark National Park, throughout the summer season. This flight path take us very close to the above mentioned lake. Rust's pilot and managerial staff strongly support Ryan Richards application for naming this body of water as Jade Lake. We feel the name is appropriate and as a recognizable way-point will add considerable safety for both private and commercial aircraft in the region.

Please feel free to contact us with any questions.

Respectfully,

Willis Thayer
General Manager

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Willis Thayer", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Chris Norman
Assistant Operations Manager

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Norman", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Rust's Flying Service
info@flyrusts.com
907-243-1595

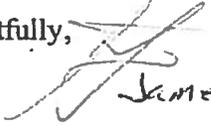


To Whom it May Concern;

This letter is in regard to naming the lake located at: N 60 degrees 21.508 W 153 degrees 11.914.

Our company, Trail Ridge Air, flies to and from the Crescent Lake area many times throughout the summer season. Our scenic flights to/from the area take us very close to the above mentioned lake. Our pilots and managerial strongly support Ryan Richards application for naming the body of water Jade Lake. We feel the name is certainly appropriate but more so for the considerable added safety it will bring to both private and commercial general aviation aircraft flying the area.

Respectfully,

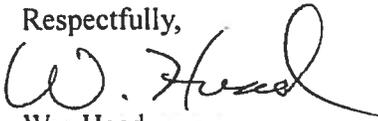

James Jensen

Trail Ridge Air, Inc.

To Whom it May Concern;

This letter is in regard to naming the lake located at: N 60 degrees 21.508 W 153 degrees 11.914. Our company, Beluga Air, flies to and from Crescent Lake many times throughout the summer season. Our scenic flights to/from the area take us very close to the above mentioned lake. Our pilots and managerial staff strongly support Ryan Richards application for naming the body of water Jade Lake. We feel the name is certainly appropriate but more so for the considerable added safety it will bring to both private and commercial general aviation aircraft flying the region.

Respectfully,



Wes Head
Owner/Pilot
Beluga Air LLC

1/7/2020