

# 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: <u>  X  </u>	<b>Recommended Name:</b> <u>  Kookanork Creek  </u>
Application Change: <u>    </u>	<b>State:</b> <u>  Alaska  </u>
Name Change: <u>    </u>	<b>County or Equivalent:</b> <u>  Kenai Peninsula Borough  </u>
Other: <u>    </u>	<b>Administrative Area:</b> <u>  Runs through Municipal Entitlement State and Private Land  </u>

**Specific Area Covered:**

Latitude: <u>  60  </u> ° <u>  28  </u> ′ <u>  26.4  </u> ″ N	Longitude: <u> -151  </u> ° <u>  16  </u> ′ <u>  44  </u> ″ W
Latitude: <u>  60  </u> ° <u>  29  </u> ′ <u>  45.6  </u> ″ N	Longitude: <u> -151  </u> ° <u>  15  </u> ′ <u>  44.4  </u> ″ W
Center: <u>                                </u>	Heading End <u>                                </u>
Section(s) <u>  1  </u>	Township(s) <u>  4N  </u> Range(s) <u>  12W  </u> Meridian <u>  Seward  </u> Elevation <u>                </u>

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

**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.):**  
  Small stream that runs one mile parallel to Kalifornsky Beach Road then drains into Cook Inlet.  

<b>Maps and other sources using recommended name (including scale and date).</b>	<b>Other name (variants)</b>	<b>Maps and other sources using other name or application (including scale and date).</b>
N/A	N/A	N/A

**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:**

First submitted to the U.S. Board of Geographic Names, the proposed name, Kookanork Creek, is a descriptive name for an unnamed stream draining into Cook Inlet near Kalifornsky Beach Road on the Kenai Peninsula. The creek is not in wilderness. Historically the creek has flooded on numerous occasions, washing out the highway and impacting the nearby community. However, the name is made up and has no specific historical reference to its relationship to the community. It is a nonsensical name made up by the proposer, his family and friends, who frequent a small lagoon where the creek flows into Cook Inlet for a picnic spot. The Alaska Geographic Names Guidelines states "that a descriptive name should be in good taste and not frivolous." The Mountaineering Club of Alaska had no objection for the proposed name.

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

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

James Kari opposed the name, suggesting that the Dena'ina name Ch'ahdintunt, which is cited in *Dena'ina Legacy*, be considered instead (although no proposal for this name was submitted.) Likewise, the Kenaitze Tribal Council rejects the proposed name and voiced support for the Dena'ina name.

**For proposed new name, please provide evidence that feature is unnamed:** Creek is unnamed in USGS Map Viewer. Search of GNIS shows no other Kookanork Creek present in the State of Alaska.

**Additional information:**

The proposed name is one used by proposer and his family.  
On Municipal lands Kenai Peninsula Borough.

**Organizations for Consultation:**

Alaska Native Languages Center  
Cook Inlet Tribal Council  
Kenai Peninsula Borough  
Kenaitze Indian Tribe  
Cook Inlet Regional, Inc.  
Department of Natural Resources, Division of Mining, Land, and Water

Copy submitted by: Name (first, M.I., last)	Title	Phone (day)	Date
Gary Stroh			11/1/21

Company or Agency	Address (city, State, and Zip)

Copy Prepared by (if other than above)	Title	Phone (day)	Date
Jacobie L. Schwenke	NRS II	(907) 269-8749	3/14/22

Company or Agency	Address (city, State, and Zip)
Alaska Department of Natural Resources/Office of History and Archaeology	550 West 7 <sup>th</sup> Ave., Suite 1310, Anchorage, AK 99501-3565

Authority for Recommended Name:	Mailing Address and Telephone	Occupation	Years in Area