



## Geographic Name Changes: What to Consider

Today's special session includes a presentation by USBGN staff on considering Geographical name proposals that propose changing the name of geographic features.

### Speaker Bio:



Since joining the USGS National Geospatial Program in 1994, Jennifer Runyon has been on the research staff for the U.S. Board on Geographic Names (BGN), which was established by Executive Order in 1890 to standardize geographic names for all departments and agencies of the Federal Government. The staff supports the activities of the BGN by receiving and processing name proposals (new names, name, spelling, and location changes), conducting outreach, and consolidating responses from interested stakeholders so that the BGN can make an informed decision on official names for Federal use.



Matthew O'Donnell is a staff researcher for the BGN's Domestic Names Committee and is an employee of the U.S. Geological Survey's National Geospatial Program in Reston, Virginia. He has supported the BGN mission since 2013 as a contractor and since 2023 as a federal employee.