

**From:** Runyon, Jennifer  
**To:** [Buto, Arthur J](#)  
**Subject:** Re: BGN question  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 29, 2017 11:03:00 AM

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Ah ha, that helps a lot! I'll tell Tom to stick to what's in GNIS and perhaps we'll have those names updated the next time the map's revised.

I'm also going to use the opportunity (again) to urge the NPS to get more involved before the HBGN reviews the names, or at least to be aware that Melia's supposed to be forwarding all corrections for names on NPS lands to park management (and ideally to the U.S. BGN member too, but that may be asking too much). You send out the lists before the meetings and that should be her signal to get park concurrence. I'd much prefer to not have the NPS quibble over the names after you've already made your decisions. I'm guessing it would also be helpful for the HBGN to know what park maps are being updated so you can prioritize the lists, although again, that may just be wishful thinking. Good news is that they reissue their maps frequently.

Yes indeed, the years fly by, don't they? Our older daughter just started her senior year but I fully expect her to move back home after graduation (hopefully) next May. So we're empty nesters for 8 months but after that, who knows..... Grad school may be in future too.

Thanks again. We're making progress.

Jenny

On Tue, Aug 29, 2017 at 4:16 PM, Buto, Arthur J <[arthur.j.buto@hawaii.gov](mailto:arthur.j.buto@hawaii.gov)> wrote:

Sorry for the confusion... see below...ab

**From:** Runyon, Jennifer [mailto:[jrunyon@usgs.gov](mailto:jrunyon@usgs.gov)]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 29, 2017 10:03 AM  
**To:** Buto, Arthur J <[arthur.j.buto@hawaii.gov](mailto:arthur.j.buto@hawaii.gov)>  
**Subject:** Re: BGN question

Thanks. This helps, although I think I'm still confused. The names on Tom's list are #4s on the master spreadsheet, so has the HBGN already approved them (the heading says 4 = HBGN corrected), or is that spreadsheet simply a way for HBGN to track all the discrepancies with GNIS and they'll be coming up at a future HBGN meeting for a vote?

Yes, HBGN has already reviewed and made decisions for the place names on this list (except for any that have a "2" Status Code = Not reviewed).

If the former, I assume it's just a matter of you and I catching up on the backlog? Then again, it sounds like you want to double check them first?

Yes, I want to double check them, because of the handful of “4s” that Bobby found that the HBGN needs to revisit.

Tom just wants to know if he should rely on GNIS or that spreadsheet when he's updating the NPS maps. Of course, my BGN answer has to be he must use only GNIS.

If the names on his list have not yet been approved by the HBGN, can that be done at your next meeting? Do you need anything else from me?

Sorry for the confusion. Until now, I've only updated the ones specifically listed in the minutes that you send me. I don't think I'd ever have time to work through 107 pages.

Yup, I was hoping the intern had done a better job. But he was an unpaid volunteer, so...

If you can remember which is the one that was listed as a Variant rather than the primary name, let me know and I'll correct it. If I have time in the next few days, I'll check too

(although I'm out the next two days.... taking my youngest to her first year of college).

Happens so fast... just blink and they're all grown up... well never quite grown up in our eyes. Our only daughter is back at home living with us, going to grad school, and working a full-time job. We won't be empty nesters for a couple of years yet. Good luck! ...ab

Thanks again,

Jenny

On Tue, Aug 29, 2017 at 3:26 PM, Buto, Arthur J <[arthur.j.buto@hawaii.gov](mailto:arthur.j.buto@hawaii.gov)> wrote:

Aloha Jenny,

Tom's spreadsheet/pdf is a download from our website, which is a cumulative list of place names (on the island of Hawai'i in this case). I think that today the short answer to Tom's question is "no," unless he can send you a list and we can review it as we did Bobby's list. As you know the Board will have to revisit a handful of the place names on Bobby's list at a future meeting (Of those you already corrected in the GNIS, I noticed one that was listed as a Variant rather than the primary name (sorry, I don't remember which one); I don't know if that will be an issue for Tom or Frank.)

Fyi, I have it on my list to review the "4's" on all of the islands. When that's done I'll send you a list... these are hopefully all old HBGN decisions that weren't communicated to you. (I had an intern who was supposed to have reviewed the Big Island decisions already, but I don't think he did a thorough enough job, since Bobby found so many discrepancies afterwards).

I'm not sure if this was helpful. Let me know. Mahalo for all you're doing for us...ab

**From:** Runyon, Jennifer [mailto:[jrunyon@usgs.gov](mailto:jrunyon@usgs.gov)]

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 29, 2017 8:20 AM

**To:** Buto, Arthur J <[arthur.j.buto@hawaii.gov](mailto:arthur.j.buto@hawaii.gov)>

**Subject:** Fwd: BGN question

Hi Arthur,

Can you help me answer Tom's question? He's looking at the spreadsheet dated June 14, 2017 and questioning why the changes that the HBGN approved aren't shown in GNIS. None of them are on the lists you've sent me from the last three HBGN meetings. It seems they're mostly 4's, so will you be sending those along at some point?

Or are they on hold while Melia confirms that Park management supports them, which we

agreed she would do in the future? (Although I assume you would have told me, and besides, it doesn't appear Melia was at the June meeting, nor is there any mention of needing to consult with NPS in the minutes.)

Looking through the 107-page spreadsheet, I'm guessing there are many other 4's that I haven't seen yet. Correct? How do you suggest we work through those?

(If we've already discussed this list and I'm having a senior moment, apologies in advance.....!)

And I guess I'm curious too, what's UHP?

Thanks,

Jenny

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Patterson, Tom** <[tom\\_patterson@nps.gov](mailto:tom_patterson@nps.gov)>

Date: Tue, Aug 29, 2017 at 1:34 PM

Subject: Re: BGN question

To: Michael Shelton <[michael\\_shelton@nps.gov](mailto:michael_shelton@nps.gov)>

Cc: Jennifer Runyon <[jrunyon@usgs.gov](mailto:jrunyon@usgs.gov)>, Deborah Nordeen <[deb\\_nordeen@nps.gov](mailto:deb_nordeen@nps.gov)>, "Kalei, Heather" <[nahaku\\_kalei@nps.gov](mailto:nahaku_kalei@nps.gov)>

Hi Jenny,

The names are attached. Thanks greatly for checking on this.

Tom

On Tue, Aug 29, 2017 at 1:22 PM, Michael Shelton <[michael\\_shelton@nps.gov](mailto:michael_shelton@nps.gov)> wrote:

Tom,

See Jenny Runyon's email below. If you can pull out the names the park is interested in, that would be a great help.

/s/ Mike

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Runyon, Jennifer" <[jrunyon@usgs.gov](mailto:jrunyon@usgs.gov)>  
**Date:** August 29, 2017 at 1:13:25 PM EDT  
**To:** Michael Shelton <[michael\\_shelton@nps.gov](mailto:michael_shelton@nps.gov)>  
**Cc:** Deborah Nordeen <[deb\\_nordeen@nps.gov](mailto:deb_nordeen@nps.gov)>  
**Subject: Re: BGN question**

Thanks Mike for bcc:'ing me on this.

I've already made all the changes to GNIS from the Hawaii Board's June 14th meeting, so I'm not sure which names Tom's referring to. The list he provides is 107 pages long and I'm not about to check each one. I'm 99% sure none of the names on the June batch are on NPS land or I would have reached out to you already.

If Tom can provide a subset of the names he's interested in, I can check whether those have been addressed. If not, I can follow up with the HBGN re: the status.

Thanks,

Jenny

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Jennifer Runyon, research staff

U.S. Board on Geographic Names

U.S. Geological Survey, Geographic Names Office

Reston, Virginia 20192

(703) 648-4550

<http://geonames.usgs.gov>

On Tue, Aug 29, 2017 at 10:02 AM, Michael Shelton  
<[michael\\_shelton@nps.gov](mailto:michael_shelton@nps.gov)> wrote:

Good morning, Tom

I glanced at the list, and all of the features appear to be geographic in nature, not administrative. As such, we as an agency are limited to those names and spellings made official in GNIS, as per 43 U.S.C. 364b. If the park wishes to change official names, they can request the same of the BGN staff, by emailing Jennifer Runyon and Maria McCormick (of the USGS). In many cases, they are able to make the changes without a Board decision.

As you may be aware, the HI board has pushed for changes that some of our parks there do not support; for example, such a situation has arisen lately at HAVO. So in this case, the Park Superintendent should email Jenny and Maria (with a copy to me), stating that the park supports the changes recommended by the HI board.

I hope that this is helpful to you. Let me know if you need anything else from me.

Best regards.

/s/ Mike

Sent from my iPad

On Aug 29, 2017, at 9:45 AM, Patterson, Tom  
<[tom\\_patterson@nps.gov](mailto:tom_patterson@nps.gov)> wrote:

Hi Mike,

I am making a new map of Ala Kahakai NHT, Hawaii, and need your wise counsel regarding a BGN question.

The ALKA map now uses official place name spellings according to GNIS. However, the park has asked me to replace several of these with revised spellings recommended by the Hawaii Board on Geographic Names in this June 14, 2017 document:

<http://files.hawaii.gov/dbedt/op/gis/bgn/HBGN%20-%20Hawaii%20Island%20-%20Official%2020170614%20-%20Alpha.pdf>

Can I use the revised names even though they are not yet in GNIS?

Tom

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443-844-9591 (Mobile)

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