



PO Box 201800 • 1515 E 6th Ave • Helena, MT 59620-1800
406-444-5355 • <http://nris.mt.gov>

January 22, 2010

Mr. Lou Yost
Acting Executive Secretary
Domestic Names Committee
United States Board on Geographic Names
523 National Center
Reston, VA 20192-0523

Dear Mr. Yost,

As Montana's State Geographic Names Authority, I feel I must respectfully decline to make a recommendation to the Domestic Names Committee on the proposals from Review Lists 399 and 401 to apply the names "Charlie Swamps" and "Bollys Ridge" to two un-named features in Powell County. I am a personal friend of the proponent of these proposals.

The Montana Water Resources Division and the Montana Trust Lands Division have notified me that they support the proposals. The Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks and the Montana State Historic Preservation office have notified me that they are not opposed to the proposals. The Indian Country Economic Development Program of the Montana Department of Commerce informed me that they do not oppose the proposals if there are no Tribes opposed to them. All of these agencies provided their recommendations without comment as to their reasoning.

The features are close to a town in Missoula County and the previous State Names Authority mistakenly submitted the Charlie Swamp proposal to the Missoula County Commissioners for their recommendations. They replied with a letter stating that they have no objection to the proposal.

I submitted a letter to the Powell County Commission on November 23, 2009 soliciting their recommendations. After not receiving a reply, I called the Commission on January 5, 2010 and spoke with County Commissioner Ralph Mannix. He said he had discussed the names at a meeting "in the area" and said he believed some people at the meeting were opposed to the changes. When I pointed out that these are new names rather than changes, Mr. Mannix claimed that someone at the meeting believed there was a local name in use, but Mr. Mannix did not

remember what the name was or who said that there was one. Mr. Mannix is opposed to the proposals.

I am willing to do further research on local opinions regarding the proposals if the DNC requests it, but I believe I will discover that there are no existing local names involved and that there will be no strong proponents. I would like to ask the Committee to consider these proposals in light of their compliance with the Policies and Procedures for commemorative names rather than have me do any more work on them.

Sincerely Yours,

Gerald J Daumiller
Montana State Library