



July 28, 2023

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104N/11, 104N/12)

Spokesperson Charmaine Thom
Taku River Tlingit First Nation
PO Box 132 – Atlin BC, V0W 1A0
Sent by email to: spokesperson@gov.trtfn.com

Dear Spokesperson Thom:

This letter is to advise you that eleven geographical names have been officially changed in the Atlin area of northern B.C., effective July 28, 2023, as requested by Taku River Tlingit First Nation. See Appendix A and the attached map for more information.

In accordance with the BC Geographical Naming Policy, local and Indigenous governments as well as relevant organizations were invited to comment on the requested official name changes and bring forward any local or heritage considerations and comments. This project received comments from September 2022 – April 2023.

Official names are labelled on suitably scaled provincial and federal government maps, listed in the province's Names Gazetteer and in the BC Geographical Names Information System (BCGNIS). The history of all previous official names are kept in the BCGNIS and on the BC Geographical Names Web App. Adoption of these name does not prejudice legitimate claims to the land.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Kind regards,

Trent Thomas
BC Geographical Names Office
Trent.thomas@gov.bc.ca

Enclosure

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Appendix A: Names made official July 28, 2023

1. **T'ooch' Héeni** (pronounced: t-ooch HEE-nee) made the official name for the creek that flows southwest into Atlin Lake, north of Atlin (community), in the Stikine Region.
 - **T'ooch' Héeni** is the Tlingit name for this creek which translates to “Charcoal Creek” and describes a natural feature of the creek, since the rocks in the area are very black (advice from Taku River Tlingit First Nation, 2016).
 - Previous official name: “Fourth of July Creek”
 - The mouth of the creek is located at 59.623611, -133.727778
 - Link to name record: <https://apps.gov.bc.ca/pub/bcgnws/names/72083.html>.
2. **Koosawu.áa Héen** (pronounced: KOO-sa-woo ah HEEN) made the official name for the creek that flows through Koosawu Áa (lake), and then southeast into Atlin Lake just north of Atlin (community), in the Stikine Region.
 - **Koosawu.áa Héen** is the Tlingit name for this creek which translates to “Narrow River” and describes a natural feature of the creek, which is narrow (advice from Taku River Tlingit First Nation, 2016).
 - Previous official name: “Pine Creek”
 - The mouth of the creek is located at 59.5500, -133.671667.
 - Link to name record: <https://apps.gov.bc.ca/pub/bcgnws/names/71741.html>.
3. **Koosawu Áa** (pronounced: KOO-sa-woo AH) made the official name for the lake located at the head of Koosawu.áa Héen (creek) and southwest of Gladys Lake, in the Stikine Region.
 - **Koosawu Áa** is the Tlingit name for this lake which translates to “Narrow Lake” and describes a natural feature of the lake, which is narrow in comparison to the next closest lake (advice from Taku River Tlingit First Nation, 2016).
 - Previous official name: “Surprise Lake”
 - The centre of the lake is located at 59.681111, -133.229167.
 - Link to name record: <https://apps.gov.bc.ca/pub/bcgnws/names/71721.html>.
4. **Daatgaadláak X'áat'i** (pronounced: daht-gahd-LAK HAHT-tee) made the official name for the island located on the east side of Atlin Lake, west of Atlin (community), northeast of the north end of Teresa Island, in the Stikine Region.
 - **Daatgaadláak X'áat'i** is the Tlingit name for this island and describes a significant event in the history of the Taku River Tlingit people, the death of one of their prominent leaders and his memorial through burial on this island (advice from Taku River Tlingit First Nation, 2016).
 - ‘Daatgaadláak’ was the name of a Yanyeidí (wolf clan) medicine man who died on the way to Wéinaa (Atlin), he was buried on this Island, which is named after him (advice from Taku River Tlingit First Nation, 2016).
 - Previous official name: “Third Island”
 - The centre of the island is located at 59.568333, -133.727778.
 - Link to name record: <https://apps.gov.bc.ca/pub/bcgnws/names/71521.html>.

5. **Utajée X'áat'i** (pronounced: oot-ta-jee HAHT-tee) made the official name for the island located on the east side of Atlin Lake, east of Daatgaadláak X'áat'i (island), west of Atlin (community) in the Stikine Region
 - **Utajée X'áat'i** is the Tlingit name for this island which translates to “In the middle island” as **Utajée X'áat'i** is located between two islands, Daatgaadláak X'áat'i (island) and Wéinaa X'áat'i (island) (advice from Taku River Tlingit First Nation, 2016).
 - Previous official name: “Second Island”
 - The centre of the island is located at 59.568056, -133.72250.
 - Link to name record: <https://apps.gov.bc.ca/pub/bcgnws/names/72102.html>.
6. **Wéinaa X'áat'i** (pronounced: WAY-nah HAHT-tee) made the official name for the island located on the east side of Atlin Lake, west of Atlin (community), in the Stikine Region.
 - **Wéinaa X'áat'i** is the Tlingit name for this island which translates to “alkali place island” and describes a natural feature of the area since there is alkali found in the soil in the area (advice from Taku River Tlingit First Nation, 2016).
 - Previous official name: “First Island”
 - The mouth of the river is located at 59.570833, -133.710833.
 - Link to name record: <https://apps.gov.bc.ca/pub/bcgnws/names/72141.html>.
7. **Ín Héeni** (pronounced: IN HEE-nee) made the official name for the creek that flows west into Atlin Lake, southeast of Atlin (community), in the Stikine Region.
 - **Ín Héeni** is the Tlingit name for this creek which translates to “Flint Creek” and describes a natural feature of the creek, since flint rocks are found along the creek bed (advice from Taku River Tlingit First Nation, 2016).
 - Previous official name: “McKee Creek”
 - The mouth of the creek is located at 59.461944, -133.621944.
 - Link to name record: <https://apps.gov.bc.ca/pub/bcgnws/names/71661.html>.
8. **Yat'aayi Héen Geeyí** (pronounced: yut-AYE heen gee-YIH) made the official name for the bay located on the east side of Atlin Lake, north of the junction of Pike River and Atlin Lake, in the Stikine Region.
 - **Yat'aayi Héen Geeyí** is the Tlingit name for this bay which translates to “warm springs water bay” and describes the natural feature of the area since there are natural warm springs here and water coming into this bay is warm (advice from Taku River Tlingit First Nation, 2016).
 - Previous official name: “Warm Bay”
 - The bay is located at 59.413056, -133.58333.
 - Link to name record: <https://apps.gov.bc.ca/pub/bcgnws/names/72181.html>.
9. **Yat'aayi Héen** (pronounced: yut-AYE heen) made the official name for the springs located east of Atlin Lake, SE of Warm Bay, opposite of Twelve Mile Point (Theresa Island), in the Stikine Region.
 - **Yat'aayi Héen** is the Tlingit name for these springs which translates to “warm springs water” and describes the natural feature of the area since there is a natural warm spring here, utilized by the Tlingit for swimming and family gatherings (advice from Taku River Tlingit First Nation, 2016).
 - Previous official name: “Warm Bay Hot Springs”

- The springs are located at 59.403889, -133.575278.
- Link to name record: <https://apps.gov.bc.ca/pub/bcgnws/names/75781.html>.

10. **Watsíx Héeni** (pronounced: wat-seeq HEE-nee) made the official name for the river that flows northwest into Atlin Lake southeast of Atlin (community), in the Stikine Region.

- **Watsíx Héeni** is the Tlingit name for this river which translates to “Caribou River.” The Tlingit name describes a natural feature of the river since the Taku River Tlingit have hunted caribou along that river in the past and continue to utilize the area today (advice from Taku River Tlingit First Nation, 2016).
- Previous official name: “O’Donnel River”
- The mouth of the river is located at 59.377778, -133.601944.
- Link to name record: <https://apps.gov.bc.ca/pub/bcgnws/names/72121.html>.

11. **Taaltsuxéi Héen** (pronounced: tal-soo-kay heen) made the official name for the river that flows southeast into Taku River, in the Stikine Region.

- **Taaltsuxéi Héen** is the Tlingit name for this river which translates to “Root Garden River”. The name “Tulsequah” is an anglicized version of the Tlingit name “Taaltsuxéi” (advice from Taku River Tlingit First Nation, 2016).
- Previous official name: “Tulsequah River”
- The mouth of the river is located at 58.628611, -133.553333.
- Name Record: <https://apps.gov.bc.ca/pub/bcgnws/names/72041.html>.

To find more information on these names and several other Tlingit names, please see the Taku River Tlingit Place Names website: (<http://trt.geolive.ca/map.html>).

T'ooch' Héeni

Pronounced: t-ooch HEE-nee
Previous Name: "Fourth of July Creek"
Lat, Long (mouth): 59.6236, -133.7278

Koosawu.áa Héen

Pronounced: KOO-sa-woo ah HEEN
Previous Name: "Pine Creek"
Lat, Long (mouth): 59.5500, -133.671

Koosawu Áa

Pronounced: KOO-sa-woo AH
Previous Name: "Surprise Lake"
Lat, Long: 59.6811, -133.2292

Daatgaadláak X'áat'i

Pronounced: daht-gahd-LAK HAHT-tee
Previous Name: "Third Island"
Lat, Long: 59.5683, -133.7278

Utajée X'áat'i

Pronounced: oot-ta-jee HAHT-tee
Previous Name: "Second Island"
Lat, Long: 59.5681, -133.7225

Wéinaa X'áat'i

Pronounced: WAY-nah HAHT-tee
Previous Name: "First Island"
Lat, Long: 59.5708, -133.7108

Ín Héeni

Pronounced: IN HEE-nee
Previous Name: "McKee Creek"
Lat, Long (mouth): 59.4619, -133.6219

Yat'aayi Héen Geeyí

Pronounced: yut-AYE heengee-YIH
Previous Name: "Warm Bay"
Lat, Long: 59.4131, -133.5833

Yat'aayi Héen

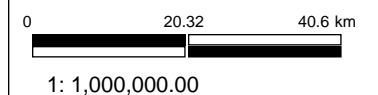
Pronounced: yut-AYE heen
Previous Name: "Warm Bay Hot Springs"
Lat, Long: 59.4039, -133.5752

Watsix Héeni

Pronounced: wat-seek HEE-nee
Previous Name: "O'Donnell River"
Lat, Long (mouth): 59.3778, -133.6019

Taaltuxéi Héen

Pronounced: tal-soo-kay heen
Previous Name: "Tulsequah River"
Lat, Long (mouth): 58.6286, -133.5533



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Projection: WGS_1984_Web_Mercator_Auxiliary_Spher

Key Map of British Columbia

