



PUBLIC COMMENT FORM

The South Dakota Board on Geographic Names (SDBGN) is a state commission created in 2009 by SDCL Chapter 1-19C to recommend revision of offensive names for geographic places. The SDBGN has adopted a Public Involvement Process which seeks public comment on the existing historic name and offering recommendations and justification for the new name as well as names for unnamed geographic features. The SDBGN follows the United States Board on Geographic Names' principles, policies, and procedures. For further information visit: <http://geonames.usgs.gov/domestic/policies.htm>.

Current Name: Harney Peak

RECEIVED

Proposed Name(s): Black Elk Peak

APR 09 2015

Location/Identification: Pennington County: Located in the Black Hills National Forest

The above feature is currently named Harney Peak and the SDBGN is soliciting public input on the current name and the proposed new name for the geographic feature. One name has been proposed. Please complete the section if supportive of the current name or the proposed new name.

Support naming the Feature: Black Elk Peak _____ Harney Peak

Reason/Justification of support to name the feature Harney Peak or Black Elk Peak:

The Peak should keep its original name because General William S. Harney was serving on the Indian peace commission. Also He was fair in his dealing with the Native Americans. The Sioux who dealt with General Harney had a name by which they called him. Mah who kept his word.

Please attach any supporting documentation such as resolutions from governing boards or organizations; newspaper articles; petitions or historical references.

I believe also that changing the name of a place does not change the past.

To propose a new name for the feature, please complete the section below:

Recommended Name:

Reason/Justification for Name:

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APR 09 2015

Origin/Meaning of Name:

Please attach any supporting documentation such as resolutions from governing boards or organizations; newspaper articles; petitions or historical references.

=====

Submitted by:

Name: **Gilchrist Richardson**

Title (if representing organization or public entity):

Organization or Public Entity (if applicable):

Mailing Address: **301 Cottage Grove Ave SE Preston MN 55965**

Telephone:

Email Address: **Blue.coat@tonguecreek@yahoo.com**

If the recommended name is adopted by the SDBGN, additional information may be needed to support the recommendation to the U.S. Board on Geographic Names.

Comments should be submitted no later than May 1, 2015. Submit comments to:

SD Board on Geographic Names
Dept. of Tribal Relations
302 East Dakota
Pierre, SD 57501

Email: David.Reiss@state.sd.us
FAX: 605-773-6592

Or access Public Comment Form: <http://www.sdbgn.sd.gov/>

David Reiss
SD Board on Geographic Names
Department of Tribal Relations
302 East Dakota
Pierre, South Dakota
57501

April 7, 2015

RECEIVED

APR 09 2015

Subject: Renaming Harney Peak

Dear Mr. Reiss,

I have enclosed my comments for the Board to consider concerning renaming Harney Peak to Black Elk Peak, or some other name. I sent a shorter 200 word version to the Rapid City Journal for possible publication on its editorial page. I would recommend changing the name to Antelope Peak, but please read my comments.

Sincerely,



Richard E. Berg
1032 Alma Street
Rapid City, South Dakota
57701

Home Telephone: 605-791-2335

Renaming Harney Peak

If Harney's name is to be removed from Harney Peak because he killed Indians, then Black Elk should not be considered either, because he killed U.S. Army soldiers. Consider changing the name to Antelope Peak.

In this era of Political Correctness it seems that Harney has too much baggage when he lead his soldiers in the killing of 86 Sioux Indians at Blue Water Creek in Nebraska Territory. Did Harney kill any of the Sioux at Blue Water Creek, or was it just the men under his command? It probably doesn't matter to whoever wants to change the name of the peak. If the blood on Harney's hands now disqualifies his having a peak named after him in South Dakota, then Black Elk should also be disqualified.

Black Elk himself stated the following about his actions during the June 1876 Battle of the Little Bighorn as he related his involvement to John Neihardt, and subsequently published in Neihardt's book, *Black Elk Speaks* (2004),

"Soon the soldiers were all crowded into the river, and many Lakotas too; and I was in the water awhile. men and horses were all mixed up and fighting in the water, and it was like hail falling in the river. Then we were out of the river, and people were stripping the dead soldiers and putting the clothes on themselves. There was a soldier on the ground and he was still kicking. A Lakota rode up and said to me: "Boy, get off and scalp him." I got off and started to do it. He had short hair and my knife wasn't very sharp. He ground his teeth. Then I shot him in the forehead and got his scalp (p.85).

Black Elk went to show his mother the scalp before returning to the battle (p. 95).

"Before we got there, the Wasichus (whites) were all down, and most of them were dead, but some of them were still alive and kicking. Many other boys had come up by this time, and we rode around shooting arrows into the Wasichus. There was one who was squirming around with arrows sticking in him, and I started to take his coat, but a man pushed me away and took the coat for himself. Then I saw something bright hanging on this soldier's belt, and I pulled it out. It was round and bright and yellow and very beautiful and I put it on me for a necklace. At first it ticked inside, and then it did not any more. I wore it around my neck for a long time before I found out what it was and how to make it tick again (p. 95).

While still on the hill Black Elk continued,

"There was a soldier who was raising his arms and groaning. I shot an arrow into his forehead, and his arms and legs quivered (p. 96).

"There was a little boy, younger than I was, who asked me to scalp a soldier for him. I did, and he ran to show the scalp to his mother (p. 96).

Black Elk's final action at the Little Bighorn was the next day,

"Beneath the hill (where Reno and Benteen were dug in?), right on the west side of the Greasy Grass, were some bullberry bushes, and there was a big boy by the name of Round Fool who was running around the bushes. We boys asked him what he was doing that for, and he said: "There is a Wasichu in the bush." And there he was. He had hidden there when the other soldiers ran to the hill-top and he had been there all night. We boys began shooting at him with arrows, and it was like chasing a rabbit. He would crawl from one side to the other while were running around the bush shooting at him with our bows. Once he yelled "Ow." After awhile we set fire to the grass around the bushes, and he came out running. Some of our warriors killed him (p. 97).

So, Black Elk killed the wounded and mutilated and stole from the dead, and contributed to the death of another soldier in the U.S. Army. Recent "In Brief" (Board seeks input on proposed name, March 19, 2015), Commentary", and "Opinion" pages in the *Rapid City Journal* ("Harney's violent history", March 28, 2015; 160 years later, Harney under fire, March 29, 2015) did not provide the public with any more detail than to show how truly bad Harney was, or that Black Elk was at the Battle of the Little Big Horn. They omitted (maybe due to space) writing anything negative about Black Elk. If we're going to air one persons dirty laundry, then also let us see the negative side of the other person involved in this discussion.

In today's politically correct and highly partisan world, it will be hard to find anyone in our past, or present for that matter, that wasn't directly or indirectly associated with what would today be categorized as crimes against humanity, or even sympathized with such an action. Federal policies and the dominant society views were far different in the past. Our ancestors would be shocked by the behaviors and views of their descendents just as some portion of our contemporaries scorn the behaviors and views of our ancestord. If the name Harney Peak is changed, I would suggest naming the peak after an animal such as: Pronghorn or Antelope Peak (my choice), Eagle Peak, Bighorn Peak, or call it Granite Peak (if that is what it is made of) or Veterans Peak-if you can handle what they must have experienced serving in uniform in whatever capacity for our country. Consider Ponderosa Peak after the pine forests of the Black Hills; or one of the tribes (Comanche, Crow, Kiowa, Kiowa-Apache, and Ponca) that lived here before the Sioux took possession of the hills followed by the Wasichus. Finally, what about La Verendrye, the first European to probably have seen the Black Hills. Did he kill anyone, or have someone killed?


Richard E. Berg



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Current Name: Harney Peak

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Proposed Name(s): Black Elk Peak

APR 09 2015

Location/Identification: Pennington County: Located in the Black Hills National Forest

The above feature is currently named Harney Peak and the SDBGN is soliciting public input on the current name and the proposed new name for the geographic feature. One name has been proposed. Please complete the section if supportive of the current name or the proposed new name.

Support naming the Feature: Black Elk Peak _____ Harney Peak X

Reason/Justification of support to name the feature Harney Peak or Black Elk Peak:

Please see attached commentary.
Thank you!

Please attach any supporting documentation such as resolutions from governing boards or organizations; newspaper articles; petitions or historical references.

Thank you for encouraging public comment on the matter of renaming Harney Peak. **Please register my vote to keep the name as is.** Although I'm not a resident of South Dakota, my grandfather was born, and spent all of his childhood, in the state. Our family often returns for summer visits.

The question of renaming any geographical point obviously involves considerations of practical issues resulting from such change. (e. g., the cost of resources, either financial or human, required in order to implement said change.) But I feel the primary factor should focus on historical context, both generally and specifically.

General: While history cannot be erased and should not be rewritten, it is understood that with the passing of time human beings interpret historical events in the light of contemporary understanding. History doesn't change; human beings do. With that in mind, let's avoid setting precedence for changing names if and/or whenever interpretation changes. Where would we begin? Where would we end?

Specific to this proposal: The following link to a web bio on the military career of WILLIAM SELBY HARNEY states:

<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~harney2/General/military.htm>

"He was well-liked by many Indian Nations for he tried, although in vain, to have the Indians treated fairly, and he consistently urged Congress to honor past treaties with the Indians. After his retirement, he was recalled to service of his country to work on various Indian Commissions. After his death the Sioux changed his name from 'Man-who-runs-like-the-Deer' to one of which he would have been very proud, 'Man-who-always-kept-his-word'."

Let's allow General Harney to keep his peak too.

But if a change is considered, it seems appropriate to rename it: **Man-who-always-kept-his-word Peak.**

Thank you for reading my comments.

Debra J. Richardson
202 County Rd 8
Fountain MN 55935

To propose a new name for the feature, please complete the section below:

Recommended Name:

Reason/Justification for Name:

Origin/Meaning of Name:

Please attach any supporting documentation such as resolutions from governing boards or organizations; newspaper articles; petitions or historical references.

Submitted by:

Name: *DEBRA J. RICHARDSON*

Title (if representing organization or public entity):

Organization or Public Entity (if applicable):

Mailing Address: *202 COUNTY RD B, FOUNTAIN MN 55935*

Telephone: *207-268-4449*

Email Address:

If the recommended name is adopted by the SDBGN, additional information may be needed to support the recommendation to the U.S. Board on Geographic Names.

Comments should be submitted no later than May 1, 2015. Submit comments to:

SD Board on Geographic Names
Dept. of Tribal Relations
302 East Dakota
Pierre, SD 57501

Email: David.Reiss@state.sd.us
FAX: 605-773-6592

Or access Public Comment Form: <http://www.sdbgn.sd.gov/>



Propose New Name or Name Change of Geographic Feature

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Proposed Name: Hinhan Kaga (Making of Owls)

Action Requested:

- Name an unnamed feature
- Change name of existing feature *Harney Peak*

RECEIVED

APR 09 2015

Reason for requesting name change or proposing a name for unnamed feature:

Col. William S. Harney led his soldiers to attacking an innocent Lakota village which killed most of the woman and children.

Type of Geographic Feature: Mountain Peak

Location of Feature (County/Geographic Coordinates):

Pennington County

Descriptive Information of the geographic feature:

Highest mountain in the state of South Dakota
Rock forms like owl-shape

Meaning or Significance of the proposed name:

Hinhan Kaga (Making of Owls) has numerous owl-shape rock forms. Tribes across the state identify this.

Intended to Commemorate/Honor an Individual Y N

If yes, who?

[Empty box for identifying the individual]

Are you representing an organization/public entity or acting as an individual? If representing an organization or public entity, please identify the organization and your role.

Individual

Please provide any letters of support for the new name and list any public entities or organizations that have indicated support for the new name below:

Rosebud Sioux Tribe Resolution has been/will be present.

Submitted by:

Name: Angelo Stricker
Title (if representing organization or public entity): _____
Organization or Public Entity (if applicable): _____
Mailing Address: _____
Telephone: _____
Email Address: astricker05@gmail.com

If the recommended name is adopted by the SDBGN, additional information may be needed to support the recommendation to the U.S. Board on Geographic Names.

Submit form to:

SD Board on Geographic Names
Dept. of Tribal Relations
302 East Dakota
Pierre, SD 57501

Email: david.reiss@state.sd.us
FAX: 605-773-6592

Website: <http://www.sdbgn.sd.gov/>



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Proposed Name: Hinhan Kaga (Making of owls)

Action Requested:

- Name an unnamed feature
- Change name of existing feature Harney Peak

RECEIVED

APR 09 2015

Reason for requesting name change or proposing a name for unnamed feature:

Col. William Harney led the massacre at Blue Water Creek. He should not be honored for committing war crimes. Hinhan Kaga would be more appropriate as it focuses on the rock formations which look like

Type of Geographic Feature:

Peak mountain top

Location of Feature (County/Geographic Coordinates):

Pennington County

Descriptive Information of the geographic feature:

Highest land formation between Atlantic Ocean and Rocky Mountains; rock formations resemble owl shapes.

Meaning or Significance of the proposed name:

Hinhan Kaga (making of owls) has a number of owl-shaped rock formation. Numerous tribes recognized this and called it by this name.

Intended to Commemorate/Honor an Individual Y N

If yes, who?

Are you representing an organization/public entity or acting as an individual? If representing an organization or public entity, please identify the organization and your role.

Individual

Please provide any letters of support for the new name and list any public entities or organizations that have indicated support for the new name below:

Rosebud Sioux Tribe

Submitted by:

Name: Chynelle Franklin
Title (if representing organization or public entity): _____
Organization or Public Entity (if applicable): _____
Mailing Address: PO. box 995 Wagner SD
Telephone: 605-491-2228 or 384-3976
Email Address: CF3368@K12.sd.us

If the recommended name is adopted by the SDBGN, additional information may be needed to support the recommendation to the U.S. Board on Geographic Names.

Submit form to:

SD Board on Geographic Names
Dept. of Tribal Relations
302 East Dakota
Pierre, SD 57501

Email: david.reiss@state.sd.us
FAX: 605-773-6592

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Propose New Name or Name Change of Geographic Feature

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Proposed Name: Hinhan Kaga (making of owls)

Action Requested:

- Name an unnamed feature
- Change name of existing feature Harney Peak

RECEIVED
APR 09 2015

Reason for requesting name change or proposing a name for unnamed feature:

Col. William Harney led the massacre at Blue Water creek. He should not be honored for committing war crimes. Hinhan Kaga would be more appropriate as it focuses on the rock formations which look like owls.

Type of Geographic Feature:

Peak, mountain top

Location of Feature (County/Geographic Coordinates):

Pennington County

Descriptive Information of the geographic feature:

Highest land formations between Atlantic Ocean & Rocky Mountains; rock formations resemble owls

Meaning or Significance of the proposed name:

Hinnan Kaja (mating of owls) has a number of owl-shaped rock formation

Intended to Commemorate/Honor an Individual Y N

If yes, who?

Are you representing an organization/public entity or acting as an individual? If representing an organization or public entity, please identify the organization and your role.

individual

Please provide any letters of support for the new name and list any public entities or organizations that have indicated support for the new name below:

Rosebud Sioux Tribe

Submitted by:

Name: Bree Meyer

Title (if representing organization or public entity): _____

Organization or Public Entity (if applicable): _____

Mailing Address: 303 E County Rd 500, Belmont SD, 57380

Telephone: 605-210-1100

Email Address: brecalizer123@yahoo.com

If the recommended name is adopted by the SDBGN, additional information may be needed to support the recommendation to the U.S. Board on Geographic Names.

Submit form to:

SD Board on Geographic Names
Dept. of Tribal Relations
302 East Dakota
Pierre, SD 57501

Email: david.reiss@state.sd.us

FAX: 605-773-6592

Website: <http://www.sdbgn.sd.gov/>



Propose New Name or Name Change of Geographic Feature

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Proposed Name: Hinhan Kaga (Making of Owls)

Action Requested:

- Name an unnamed feature
 Change name of existing feature Harney Peak

RECEIVED

APR 09 2015

Reason for requesting name change or proposing a name for unnamed feature:

Col. William Harney led the massacre at Blue Water Creek. A man that committed war crimes should not be honored. A more fitting name would be Hinhan Kaga, as it refers to the rock formations. As many tribes recognize this peak according to those formations.

Type of Geographic Feature: peak, mountain top

Location of Feature (County/Geographic Coordinates):

pennington County

Descriptive Information of the geographic feature:

Highest land formation between Atlantic Ocean and Rocky Mountains; rock formations resembles owls.

Meaning or Significance of the proposed name:

Hinhan Kaga (making of owls) has a great number of owl-shaped rock formations. Many native american people recognize this and call it by this name.

Intended to Commemorate/Honor an Individual Y N

If yes, who?

Are you representing an organization/public entity or acting as an individual? If representing an organization or public entity, please identify the organization and your role.

Individual

Please provide any letters of support for the new name and list any public entities or organizations that have indicated support for the new name below:

Rosebud Sioux Tribe will/have - submit a new resolution for the name change of Hinhan Kaga.

Submitted by:

Name: Marquet Holiday
Title (if representing organization or public entity): _____
Organization or Public Entity (if applicable): _____
Mailing Address: _____
Telephone: (605) 469-0819
Email Address: MH3703@k12.sd.us

If the recommended name is adopted by the SDBGN, additional information may be needed to support the recommendation to the U.S. Board on Geographic Names.

Submit form to:

SD Board on Geographic Names
Dept. of Tribal Relations
302 East Dakota
Pierre, SD 57501

Email: david.reiss@state.sd.us
FAX: 605-773-6592

Website: <http://www.sdbgn.sd.gov/>



Propose New Name or Name Change of Geographic Feature

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Proposed Name: Hinhan Kaga (Making of OWIS)

Action Requested:

- Name an unnamed feature
- Change name of existing feature Harney Peak

RECEIVED

APR 09 2015

Reason for requesting name change or proposing a name for unnamed feature:

The man who it is named after did war crimes.

Type of Geographic Feature: peak/mountain top

Location of Feature (County/Geographic Coordinates):
Pennington County

Descriptive Information of the geographic feature:
Highest land formation between Atlantic Ocean and Rocky mountains.

Meaning or Significance of the proposed name:

Many Native American people have
Recognized this land by Hinhan Kaga
because of the shape of the rocks.

Intended to Commemorate/Honor an Individual Y N

If yes, who?

Are you representing an organization/public entity or acting as an individual? If representing an organization or public entity, please identify the organization and your role.

individual

Please provide any letters of support for the new name and list any public entities or organizations that have indicated support for the new name below:

Rosebud Sioux tribe have/will submit a
resolution calling for the name change
of hinhan kaga.

Submitted by:

Name: Noni Flying Hawk
Title (if representing organization or public entity): _____
Organization or Public Entity (if applicable): _____
Mailing Address: _____
Telephone: _____
Email Address: NF3036@K12.SD.US

If the recommended name is adopted by the SDBGN, additional information may be needed to support the recommendation to the U.S. Board on Geographic Names.

Submit form to:

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Dept. of Tribal Relations
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Pierre, SD 57501

Email: david.reiss@state.sd.us
FAX: 605-773-6592

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South Dakota
Board on Geographic Names

Propose New Name or Name Change of Geographic Feature

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Proposed Name: Hin Han kaga (Make of OWls)

Action Requested:

- Name an unnamed feature
- Change name of existing feature Harney Peak

RECEIVED
APR 09 2015

Reason for requesting name change or proposing a name for unnamed feature:

col. william harney led the massacre a blue water creek. He should not be honored, hinhan kaga would be a more valuable name because the rock formations are shaped like owls, hinhan kaga mean "making of owls." many tribes including my own think that that name is the most suited.

Type of Geographic Feature: Peak, Mountain top

Location of Feature (County/Geographic Coordinates):
pennington county.

Descriptive Information of the geographic feature:
highest land formation between atlantic ocean and rocky mountains. rock formation resemble owl shapes.

Meaning or Significance of the proposed name:

Hinhan Kuga (Making of Owls) has a number of owl shape rock formations. Numerous tribes recognized it and called it by this name.

Intended to Commemorate/Honor an Individual Y N

If yes, who?

Are you representing an organization/public entity or acting as an individual? If representing an organization or public entity, please identify the organization and your role.

Individual

Please provide any letters of support for the new name and list any public entities or organizations that have indicated support for the new name below:

Rosebud Sioux tribe. Have or will submit a resolution for the name change.

Submitted by:

Name: Ninjah Bair

Title (if representing organization or public entity): _____

Organization or Public Entity (if applicable): _____

Mailing Address: PO BOX 34

Telephone: 402 992 9611

Email Address: Ninjah Bair @ wagne .k12 . SD . US

If the recommended name is adopted by the SDBGN, additional information may be needed to support the recommendation to the U.S. Board on Geographic Names.

Submit form to:

SD Board on Geographic Names
Dept. of Tribal Relations
302 East Dakota
Pierre, SD 57501

Email: david.reiss@state.sd.us
FAX: 605-773-6592

Website: http://www.sdbgn.sd.gov/



Propose New Name or Name Change of Geographic Feature

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Proposed Name: Hinhan Kaga (Making of Owls)

Action Requested:

- Name an unnamed feature
 Change name of existing feature Harney Peak

RECEIVED

APR 09 2015

Reason for requesting name change or proposing a name for unnamed feature:

Col. William Harney led the massacre of Blue Water Creek. He should not be honored for committing what in today's military courts would be classified as war crimes. Hinhan Kaga would be more appropriate as it focuses on the rock formations which look like owls. Many tribes recognized this peak according to those formations.

Type of Geographic Feature: Peak, mountain top

Location of Feature (County/Geographic Coordinates):
Pennington County

Descriptive Information of the geographic feature:
 Highest land formation between Atlantic Ocean and Rocky Mountains; rock formation resemble owl shapes.

Meaning or Significance of the proposed name:

Hinhan Kaga (making of Owl) has a number of owl-shaped rock formation. Numerous Tribes recognized this and called it by its this name.

Intended to Commemorate/Honor an Individual Y N
If yes, who?

Individual

Are you representing an organization/public entity or acting as an individual? If representing an organization or public entity, please identify the organization and your role.

Rosebud Sioux Tribe have/will submit a resolution calling for a name change to Hinhan Kaga

Please provide any letters of support for the new name and list any public entities or organizations that have indicated support for the new name below:

Submitted by:

Name: Bethany Sully
Title (if representing organization or public entity): _____
Organization or Public Entity (if applicable): _____
Mailing Address: _____
Telephone: 605-491-9503
Email Address: BS2333@K12.SD.US

If the recommended name is adopted by the SDBGN, additional information may be needed to support the recommendation to the U.S. Board on Geographic Names.

Submit form to:

SD Board on Geographic Names
Dept. of Tribal Relations
302 East Dakota
Pierre, SD 57501

Email: david.reiss@state.sd.us
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Proposed Name: Highway Kaga (making of owls)

Action Requested:

- Name an unnamed feature
 Change name of existing feature Harney Peak

RECEIVED

APR 09 2015

Reason for requesting name change or proposing a name for unnamed feature:

Col. William Harney was not a good leader, he led the Massacre at Bie Water Creek. Harney also killed innocent Native American women & children.

Type of Geographic Feature: Peak, mountain top

Location of Feature (County/Geographic Coordinates):

Pennington county

Descriptive Information of the geographic feature:

Highest land formation between Atlantic ocean and Rocky mountains; rock formations resemble owl shapes.

Meaning or Significance of the proposed name:

Many Native peoples ~~recognized~~ recognized this peak because of its owl-shaped formation. This is very sacred lands for the Native Americans.

Intended to Commemorate/Honor an Individual Y N
If yes, who?

Are you representing an organization/public entity or acting as an individual? If representing an organization or public entity, please identify the organization and your role.

Individual

Please provide any letters of support for the new name and list any public entities or organizations that have indicated support for the new name below:

Rosebud Sioux Tribe have/will submit a resolution calling for the name change to Hinhan Kaga.

Submitted by:

Name: Sekayla Williamson
Title (if representing organization or public entity): _____
Organization or Public Entity (if applicable): _____
Mailing Address: P.O. 611
Telephone: (605)-491-6004
Email Address: _____

If the recommended name is adopted by the SDBGN, additional information may be needed to support the recommendation to the U.S. Board on Geographic Names.

Submit form to:

SD Board on Geographic Names
Dept. of Tribal Relations
302 East Dakota
Pierre, SD 57501

Email: david.reiss@state.sd.us
FAX: 605-773-6592

Website: <http://www.sdbgn.sd.gov/>