

BITTERROOT NATIONAL FOREST - PLACE NAMES

A

Aichele Lake. Named after Andrew Aichele who first applied for a reservoir at this site. The name did not appear on Forest Service maps until 1964 when it was spelled Achela. The reservoir use was abandoned in about 1958.

Ambrose Creek. Named for Ambrose Amelo, A Flathead Chief, according to the published journal and letters of Major John Owen. It appears on the 1872 and two later General Land Office survey plats.

Archer Mountain. Named for George Archer. He and Marten Moe were trapping partners in the Selway River country. Archer used skis when following his trapline. In January 1909 Archer's dog came, late at night and during a blizzard, to Moe's camp. The dog whined all night. The next morning Moe set out to search for Archer but failed to find him. Moe then secured the help of Phil Shearer and Henry Pettibone to search for Archer. The search continued until new snow made further search useless. Moe came to the Bitterroot Valley after the search and his appearance without his partner excited suspicion. Moe was held in jail until spring when his story was checked. During the following summer, Squawman Blake's squaw was picking huckleberries along Running Creek and her son was wandering along the creek banks when he found some bones. Investigation proved the bones to be those of George Archer. It was found he had run over a bluff on his skis and hung up. He had fired all of the shells from his gun before dying.

*It is interesting to note that Blake supposedly had a gold mine on Indian Creek and many persons have searched for it. Blake was a brother of Clyde Blake and related to the Gollogly Springs Blake. He was a State Senator at one time and lived near Victor. His first name was Sterns and he was called Sternie.

Alta. Post Office at Alta, Montana. The settlers and miners on Hughes Creek petitioned for a post office to be called Hughes Creek. The Post Office Department did not approve the name Hughes Creek because there were numerous Hughes Creek's. The name Alta was selected as a contraction of altitudinous or mountainous. The post office was established in 1899 with Byron Costner the first postmaster. It was discontinued in 1941. Many of the buildings at Alta have been burned, moved, or otherwise disposed of, including the rocks with the scribing Totiemulesto (To tie mules to). The West Fork of the Bitterroot has and still is served by a star mail route.

Arrow Creek. Named by Forest Service men about 1937. It was a favorite campsite for trail crews and hunters and known as Arrow Camp. It was the location of a mine telephone for many years until the telephone was abandoned about 1960.

B

Burnt Fork Bitterroot. Source of name not known but presumed to be because the headwaters of this stream burnt out in forest fires. The name is shown on DeLacy's 1863 survey of the John Owen Donation Claim. It shows Burnt Creek on DeLacey's 1865 Montana Territory map. The 1872 General Land Office Survey plats and two later plats shown Burnt Fork. Also known as Burnt Fork of the Bitter Root River.

Bitter Root River Valley, Mountains, Flower, and Forest. The river had several names before the name Bitter Root or Bitterroot was adopted. Lewis and Clark named it Clark's River on September 6, 1805 after Captain Wm. Clark. Alexander Ross' journals dated 1824 called it Courtine's Fork of the Piegan River. The Jesuit Missionaries called it the St. Mary's River in the late 1840's. The 1863 survey of the John Owen Donation Claim by DeLacy shows Bitter Root River. The General Land Office survey plats use both Bitter Root and St. Mary's on different plats. W.H. Baker's 1870 survey of T12N, R20W, shows Bitter Root River. George W. Irvine's and Henry C. Rodleder's 1872 surveys of townships include the name St. Mary's Fork of the Bitter Root River but Henry C. Rodleder shows it as Bitter Root River in his survey of T6N, R20W. Later surveys used the name Bitter Root. The Salish Indian name for the Bitter Root River is Spitlem suekn, the water of the Bitter Root. The valley was named for the river and the Salish name is Spitlemen, the place of the Bitter Root.

The Bitter Root flower was named by Lewis and Clark. Wheeler says of the Bitter Root in 1898, "A beautiful flower, a beautiful river, a valley, a magnificent range – such is the Bitter Root." The flower is a small plant that blooms in June and is common to many of the Montana valleys. It seems to thrive more especially in the Bitter Root Valley, and this circumstance has given the valley its name. The petals are of a beautiful delicate pink or rose color; the root is edible, and was formerly much used by Indians and mountaineers for food, but it is very bitter. The Indians dry it, and in this condition it will keep for years. The botanical name of the plant is *Lewisia rediviva*, after Captain Lewis (who collected it in 1806); the Shoshone Indians Granville Stuart says, call it Konah; the Flathead or Salish Indians characterize it by the word Spitlem.

"The Bitter Root is the State flower of Montana, and it is entirely worthy of the honor thus shown it."

The forest name was originally Bitter Root Forest Reserve and was changed to Bitterroot National Forest in 1907 and Forest Service and United States Geological Survey maps use that name for all features now. Map makers tend to use the shortest names because of space limitations.

Several local writers and editors hold for the name Bitter Root as do a number of business establishments as the correct name.

Bad Luck Creek and Bad Luck Lookout. Like most of the creek names in the Selway drainage, the name is of relative recent origin. The 1911 Selway North Fork map shows a creek named the East Fork of the Selway River in its approximate location extending to the Bitterroot divide as White Cap Creek does.

Big Hole Mountain. This name is no longer used. It is the mountain east of Camp Creek in the Gibbon's Pass area according to Lt. John Mullan's report dated November 19, 1853. It was a place for packers and wagons going over the mountain but now they go around.

Bare Cone. The name goes back beyond 1898 because Lieberg used it on his maps at the time. The peak is cone shaped and partly bare of trees, so these features are likely the origin of the name.

Blue Joine Creek. The creek is called Blue Fork on Lieberg's 1898 report and Blue Joint on the 1902 and 1909 General Land Office survey plats.

Baker Creek. Named for William H. Baker who settled at the mouth of the creek in 1895 and logged his homestead. The name appears on Lieberg's 1898 map and the 1898 General Land Office Survey plats. The lake of the same name was named after the creek.

Bear Creek. (A tributary of the Selway River). Appears on Lieberg's 1898 map with North and South Forks. The forks are now called Paradise and Cub Creeks. Some old maps show it as Big Creek.

Bear Creek. (A tributary of the Bitterroot River). Appears on earliest General Land Office plats in 1872.

Boulder Creek. Than Wilkerson said it was named for the large boulders in the creek prior to 1886. The name appears on Lieberg's 1898 map and on the 1897 and 1909 General Land Office Survey plats. It was sometimes spelled Bowlder Creek.

Blodgett Creek. Named for Joseph Blodgett who was a packer in the Bitterroot Valley in 1862 according to the journals and letters of Major John Owen. Blodgett later settled on the creek. Lieberg's 1898 show the name. The journals list a previous name, George Red Crow Creek, A Nez Perce Indian who lived on the creek.

Big Creek. Name appears on 1872 and 1908 General Land Office survey plats and Lieberg's 1898 map.

Big Creek Lakes. It was formerly two lakes until it was dammed in 1906 and a cut made connecting the two lakes. Lieberg's 1898 map show it as Coffin Lake.

Butterfly Creek and Butterfly Ranger Station. The name for the creek was used prior to 1911 when the Ranger Station was named for the creek. The 1909 General Land Office survey plat shows the creek as the South Fork of Willow Creek.

Bunkhouse Creek. The name shows on the 1902 GLO survey plat. It appears it came from the logging camp days.

Beavertail Creek. Show on 1909 GLO survey plats.

Burrell Creek. Named after Winifred Burrell, a Hughes Creek prospector. The name appears on the 1900 survey for the Camas Placer. Shows as Burrill Creek on 1934 GLO plat. Some maps show a different location for the creek.

Beaver Creek. Name appears on 1910 GLO plats. A Beaver Creek administrative site was located and surveyed in 1916 and considerable planting done in the drainage.

Bass Creek and Bass Lake. Named for D.C. Bass who settled on the creek in 1864. He built the first irrigation ditch in Montana and operated one of the first two sawmills in the state. The mill was on Mill Creek now called Kootenai Creek. Bass Lake was named for the creek and was dammed in 1898.

Bell Lake. The 1928 Clearwater National Forest map shows it as Crater Lake. Lieberg's 1898 shows a lake in this area called Lake Clara.

Birch Creek. Name appears on 1872 GLO survey plat with north and south forks. The creek is called Simmons Creek in some water right filings.

Burnt Ridge. Locally known as such since 1909.

Bertie Lord Creek. Named for Bertie Lord who settled in Ross Hole in 1882 then returned to Arkansas and finally settled on Warm Springs Creek where he lived most of the time from 1885 until he died in 1966. Bertie built a cabin on the creek when he was trapping in the area.

Burke Creek. Named for David Burke who homesteaded at the mouth of the creek. The name dates from 1881. Sometimes known as Burk Creek.

Burn Creek. Named after the Hells Half Acre burn that extends nearly the length of the creek.

Bow Creek. Named by Forest Service men about 1934. Probably because the creek has a bow shape on the map.

Bunch Gulch. Named for Bunch Sherrill, also known as Shook Creek in water rights filings. Grant Shook had a logging camp at its mouth from 1890 to 1896. The logs were team skidded or hauled on wagons to a banking ground on the river. In the spring high water the A.C.M. Co. sent a crew from its Hamilton mill and drove the logs down the river to its Hamilton mill pond. Later a sawmill was located at the mouth of the gulch.

Babbit Gulch. The gulch heads at Sula Peak and is not shown on the map. It is named for Homer or Jim Babbit who brought cattle from Victor in 1893 and settled what is now the Vogt ranch.

Brandy Peak. Named after Guy Mathew Brandborg ("Brandy"). He served as supervisor of the Bitterroot National Forest from 1935 to 1955. During his career and for 22 years following retirement, "Brandy" very actively supported sound forest management practices and became nationally known for this and for his dedication to the establishment and protection of wilderness. He died in 1977.

Brennan Gulch. Named for Edward and Mary Brennan who lived near the mouth of the gulch for many years. They patented land on Rye Creek and then moved to the McCarty place on Skalkaho.

C

Colter Creek. Believed to be named for John Colter of the Lewis and Clark expedition who camped near its source on September 2, 1805. Colter later left the expedition at the mouth of the Yellowstone River and found Colter's Hell – the geyser basins in Yellowstone National Park. It is interesting to speculate that he hunted the creek in 1806.

Chaffin Creek. Named for Alex or John S. Chaffin who homesteaded on the creek in 1880. Lieberg's 1898 map and the 1890, 1897, and 1902 GLO survey plats show it. A 1909 Forest Service report calls it Conner Creek after Aaron Conner who lived on the creek.

Canyon Creek and Canyon Lake. The name dates back to at least 1891 when the lake was first dammed. It shows on Lieberg's 1898 map. The 1922 GLO survey plat shows Cannon Creek.

Carlton Creek and Carlton Lakes. Appears as Charlton Creek on Lieberg's 1898 map and as Carlton Creek on the 1906 GLO survey plat. Lakes named for the creek. Charlton was a settler.

Castle Crag. Appears on Lieberg's 1898 map and on old special use maps.

Castle Rock. Called Crown Peak in Lieberg's 1898 report and pictured as such.

Camas Creek and Camas Lakes. Spelled Kamas Creek in Lieberg's 1900 report and Camas Creek in the 1902 GLO survey plats. Probably named for the Camas plants near its mouth.

Camp Creek. This name dates from Lewis and Clark who met the Flathead here where the Flathead's had a large camp in September, 1806.

Coal Creek. Named for the coal deposits about a mile up the creek. The name appears in the 1909 GLO survey. Named by local settlers and prospectors. Much interest was aroused about the turn of the century over the prospects of mining the coal commercially, and a company was formed. Many local people put money into the venture and a force of men worked for several years under the direction of Byron Costner, putting in shafts and

tunnels. The Northern Pacific Railroad Co. finally became interested and sent in their mining expert to investigate the project. This man made a thorough investigation of the extent of the deposits and the quality of the coal. His report stated that there was about 1,000 acres in the deposit, but that it was badly broken and shattered by volcanic action and the quality of the coal was too low to warrant commercial development. The coal has a high ash content and when exposure to sun and air, it disintegrates in four to six weeks time. The company was dissolved soon after the N.P. report and the mining has not taken place since then.

Christisen Creek. Named for a Swede who homesteaded there – A. Christisen. The timber was cut from his homestead by Harper Brothers in 1892.

Crandall Creek. Named for Charlie Crandall, an early day prospector, about 1898. Charlie was crippled by a bear while prospecting on the Salmon River. He had gone to wrangle stock one morning wearing a pair of hip boots to protect his feet and legs from the dewy grass. A bear with cubs treed him and then climbed the tree and got ahold of one of his legs. She proceeded to gnaw a hole in the boot and Crandall's heel before being fought off. Lucky Placer 1906 surveys shown the name.

Claremont Creek. Named for Louis Claremont who raised wheat on the creek in 1866, according to the journals and letters of Major John Owen. Sometimes misspelled Clarmont.

Cameron Creek. Named for John Cameron an old soldier and settler who located on the creek in 1883. He prospected for copper and dug a tunnel in the NW $\frac{1}{4}$, sec. 27, T.2N., R.19W., M.P.M.

Chicken Creek. There are two versions of how this creek got its name. One is that prospectors and rangers gave it the name about 1900 because of the large number of grouse in the drainage. Another given by Mrs. William Fix is that Fred Held, one of the first settlers of Grantsdale fled from the Battle of the Big Hole by way of Hughes Creek to Chicken Creek and during his stay on Chicken Creek he lived on "chicken" and thistle roots. This would date the name from 1870. The name appears on the 1902 GLO survey.

Cow Creek. (A tributary of the West Fork). Named by Byron Costner for the good cow range on the creek about 1902.

Cactus Creek. A 1937 map has the name crossed out and a new name, Charlie's Creek written in. Charlie who?

Coffee Gulch. Named for Thomas Coffee who homesteaded at its mouth about 1900. The GLO plat spells the name Coffey.

Churn Creek. (A short creek north of Blodgett Creek). The creek was so named because the Vic Shultz family who have lived on the creek many years put their butter churn in the creek and let the water action rock the churn the cream into butter.

Chuckling Creek. Named by Frank Schumaker because it sounds so happy and chuckling when it runs in the canyon below Observation Point in the spring high water. Named about 1950. You ought to listen to it sometime as Schumaker often did.

D

Deep Creek. The source of the name is not known but there are numerous Deep Creeks. The 1911 Nez Perce National Forest map shows it as Trapper Creek. Nicholson in his 1866 road reconnaissance report called it Brush Creek. E.E. Avery in his 1920 road report called it Otter Creek. Magruder Ranger Station was called Deep Creek Ranger Station after the creek until about 1935. One reason for changing is that there is a Deep Creek Ranger Station on the Helena National Forest also located on Deep Creek east of Townsend.

Devils Teeth Rapids near mouth of Devils Teeth Creek. The 1911 Nez Perce National Forest map shows the rapids below the mouth of Dwyer Creek and above the mouth of Rock Creek (Fortune Creek).

Deer Hollow. Named so because it was a favorite place for deer. The 1893 GLO survey plat shows it as Spring Creek or Deer Creek. The 1890 GLO survey plat shows it as Deer Creek.

Deer Creek. Named by prospectors about 1900 because the meadows near the source abounded with deer.

Dickson Creek. Named for a man named Dickson who logged in the drainage in 1901.

Ditch Creek. (A tributary of West Fork). Named by a homesteader named Black who diverted the creek into a ditch about 1900. Black did not complete his homestead entry and the flat was later withdrawn under the name Ditch Creek Recreation Area. Black's name was also applied to the river crossing near here where the Nez Perce trail crossed the river. Black's Crossing no longer appears on the maps or is not generally used.

Dominic Point. The name formerly was Dominic Butte or Buttes. The name came from Louis Dominic, a half breed who lived with his family in the vicinity while hunting in 1854 according to the journals and letters of Major John Owen.

Doran Creek and Doran Point. The creek was named after Bill Doran who settled on the creek in 1882. The name appears on the 1893 GLO survey plats. Doran Point was named after the creek. The point has had several locations on maps but it was intended that the highest point be named Doran Point and has been so designated by the U.S. Geological Survey.

Dowling Gulch. Named for John W. Dowling I who homesteaded here and finally built a summer home in the mouth of the gulch. Named about 1950. His family still runs a funeral home in Hamilton.

Dick Creek. (A tributary of Camp Creek). Formerly named Lick Creek. The name was changed because there is a Lick Creek. There were two Lick Creeks in the East Fork drainage. There is also a Dick Gulch. Darby RD also has a Lick Creek.

E

Eneas Creek. DeLacy's 1863 survey and plat for the John Owen Donation Claim shows the creek. It does not appear on maps and is reported as an unlocated creek in the Forest Service water-right survey.

Elk Gulch. Mort Bright killed two elk in the gulch in the early 1900's and so named the gulch.

Emmett Creek. Shows as such on the 1900 survey of the Hamilton Placer Claim.

Eastman Creek. Named for Haltre Eastman who had a timber and stone claim on the creek in 1901.

Elytroderma Creek. Named for the fungus Elytroderma deforms. There was a severe infestation here in 1950 and the creek by so named Frank Schumaker, Bill Brown, and Stan Greenup while cutting wood in the area.

F

Fales Flat. Named for Wasley Fales who located a forest homestead in the flat about 1914. He had a cabin here and it was finally burned about 1940. He did not prove up on his homestead and the entry was cancelled June 24, 1929. Other homesteads near here and at Watchtower Creek followed the same pattern as Fales Flat. Many of the old homestead corners are still in place.

Fred Burr Creek, Lake and Reservoir. Fred Burr Creek was named after Fred H. Burr who settled in the Bitterroot about 1856. He was a horse and cattle trader who came to the Bitterroot from Salt Lake City where he had traded with emigrants in the Oregon Trail.

French Basin. Named for two Frenchmen, Dave and Joe Cainer who settled in the basin about 1888. Previously they had purchased squatter rights to the Jim Reed place on Camp Creek, but Tom and Esaw Jones took the place away from them because they were not citizens and thus not eligible to homestead.

Fulkerson Creek. Named for Monroe Fulkerson who came to the Bitterroot in 1870 and settled on the creek. He also prospected the area and dug several tunnels trying to find ore.

Fortune Creek. Named for John Fortune about 1940. John was a trail crew cook. He was following the packstring and the rest of the trail crew going to Little Squaw Creek. He took the wrong trail at the Elkhorn Point trail junction and wound up in what is now called Fortune Creek. The next day the trail crew found him and named the creek after him. It was called Rock Creek on the 1911 Nez Perce National Forest map.

Fullerton Gulch. Named for Fullerton who settled at the mouth of the gulch.

G

Gorus Gulch. Named after the railroad flag stop and water tank at the mouth of Rock Creek which was named after Fred A. Gorus who homesteaded in the vicinity.

Gird Creek. Named after A.K. Gird who worked at Fort Owen in May, 1860. He later became a well known Indian scout. DeLacy's 1865 map shows the name. General Land Office maps show the name Gird's Creek and even Gord's Creek.

Gash Creek. Named for Jim Gash who settled there in 1873.

Gold Creek. Also called Ward Creek at times and in the water-right filings.

Gemmel Creek. Named after J.A. Gemmel who homesteaded on it. General Land Office survey of 1909 calls it Gambel Creek and J.W. Gallogly called it Gamble Creek in 1912.

Gallogly Hot Springs. Named after the Gallogly family who acquired the springs in 1898. Members of the family still own the springs and live in the area. The hot water springs are on National Forest land and claimed as a mineral springs claim. First use of the springs was by settlers who used a hole in the mountain to bath in. A man named Denning first built a cabin and lived at the springs awhile. The Allen brothers followed them and fought them out. James and Mary A. Gallogly homesteaded, received patents to the land where the resort is located. They had built a residence about a mile north of the spring and piped the water to it.

Guidy Creek. Named for Felix Guidy who settled there in 1882.

Gabe Creek. Named for Gabe Harmon about 1935. Gabe was a Forest Service crewman and foreman who helped build the Deep Creek Road.

George's Draw. Named after George Wetzsteon.

H

Harlan Gulch. Named after W.B. Harlan who settled there in 1879. He came to Montana in 1866 and to Stevensville in 1868. He was postmaster at the old Como Post Office at one time.

Hughes Creek. Named for Barney Hughes. He and his partner George Orr prospected the area after the discovery of gold at Virginia City and Alder Gulch. Orr was one of the discoverers of the original Virginia City strike and is buried in Lone Pine cemetery at Darby.

Haccke Creek. Named for David Haccke who settled on the creek in 1872. Sometimes spelled Haacke.

Heavenly Twins. Appears on Lieberg's 1898 map.

Halford Creek. Named after Rilla Halford who homesteaded on the creek.

Hart Creek. (Tributary of Cameron Creek). Named after James Hart family.

Hackney Lake. Named for Glen Hackney, a packer and guide who lived in the Bitterroot most of his life.

I

Indian Creek. It was not named on the 1911 Nez Perce National Forest map. Indian Blake mine on the creek, so the story is, but no one has found the mine.

J

Judd Creek. Named for Oscar Judd, an early settler. Water right filings and the 1891 General Land Office survey plat show it as Baker Creek.

Jennings Camp Creek, Campground and Ranger Station. Named after Pope Jennings who had a logging camp near its mouth in 1896. The campground and Ranger Station took the name of the creek.

Jim Hell Rock. The story of this name appears in the roads and trails section.

Johnson Creek. Named by Murray Grant for Norton Johnson one of the original locators of the Copper Queen Mine about 1880. Other locators were Grant and Henry Tuttle who was one of the early settlers.

Jack Creek. (A tributary of Indian Creek.) Named by Schumaker and Greenup for all the Jacks working on the district in 1948. Jack Rice, Jack Warren, and two other Jack's.

Jake's Draw. Known as Little Spring Creek in water right filings.

Johnson Peak and Martin Creek. Named after Martin Johnson who settled in the East Fork and homesteaded H.E.S. 55 (now the Fred Wetzsteon home) in 1903. Martin Creek Campground took its name from the creek. Johnson was often called Seven Dog or Eleven Dog Johnson because of his numerous hound dogs and other dogs. Mrs. Jake Wetzsteon has the following to say about Johnson "---located at the upper end of the East Fork. He was quite a trapper. At one time he caught two mountain goat alive and they were sent to Columbia Gardens at Butte. He also caught a couple bear cubs and sent them there. Mr. and Mrs. Fred Francis bought his place and he went to Phillipsburg."

Joseph J. Tiesfentholder, who homesteaded above the East Fork Guard Station and still owns the homestead, knew Eleven Dog well. In 1966 he told me that Johnson came by his place one spring on snowshoes, and pulling about 300 pounds of supplies on a toboggan. He was pulling this load by himself over the trail in wet snow.

Arnie Nousanen, Heincy Wininghopp, Sheriff McDonald, and Ranger Elliot E. Redman went to look for Johnson in the fall of 1941 when he did not return for a hunting and trapping trip in the head of Rock Creek. They found

Martin dead about a mile from his cabin on Rock Creek. He had slipped and fallen over a cliff and down the mountain. He had crawled to a tree where he died sitting up. He had an elk heart in his pack but they did not find the elk. He had been dead for several days.

Johnson probably knew the Anaconda-Pintlar Wilderness better than any other one person. He built many of the trapper cabins in the area.

K

Kootenai Creek. The 1863 of the John Owen Donation Claim Survey by DeLacy shows it as Lyons Creek. It was called Mill Creek in 1864, Kootenoy Creek in 1872 and Lion Creek in 1879.

Koch Mountain. Official named for former Bitterroot Supervisor Elers Koch.

Kidney Lake. The lake is kidney shaped; hence the name. Formerly called Camas Lake as one of five lakes.

Kit Carson Administrative Site.

L

Laud Creek. Named for Thomas W. Laud who settled at the mouth of the creek about 1882. Thomas W. Laud Jr. applied for a homestead May 5, 1900. Other settlers named Laud in this area were Custer A. and Warner. The 1890 GLO survey plats show Laird Creek.

Leavens Gulch. Named for Charles Leavens who lived in the gulch for years and raised a large family. He was a farmer and woodsman. He died in 1967.

Lost Trail Pass. So named because the Lewis and Clark expedition missed it to the west coming from North Fork of the Salmon river (called Fish Creek by Lewis and Clark, and Beaver Dick's Creek on DeLacy's 1865 map), to the Bitterroot. A Rand and McNalley atlas map dated 1901 shows it as named Crowfoot Pass. It was called Gibbon's Pass until about 1940 when local people got it changed to Lost Trail Pass. Gibbon's Pass and the route followed by General Gibbons in pursuing Chief Joseph and his Nez Perce is actually about four miles northeast and is still called Gibbon's Pass.

Little Clearwater River. The name appears on Lieberg's 1898 map.

Lake Como. Named by Father Ravalli for the Lake Como in his home country, Italy.

Lake Coquina. The lake is named on Lieberg's 1898 map but the lake is shown at the head of Paradise Creek rather than a tributary of Bear Creek.

Lolo Peak. Name appears on Lieberg's 1898 map.

Little West Fork. Name appears in Lieberg's 1898 report. The 1902 and 1909 GLO survey plats show it as named the West Fork of the North Fork of the Bitterroot River.

Little Willow Creek. Name appears on 1898 GLO survey plat.

Little Sleeping Child Creek. It appears as South Fork of Weeping Child Creek in the 1892 GLO survey plats and as Little Sleeping Child on the 1902 plat.

Lost Horse Creek. The name shows on Lieberg's 1898 map and the GLO plats made in 1889 and 1897. The story for the name is that it was named by a party of prospectors who crossed it in high water and had one of their horses drowned. This was about 1881. Captain Clark had trouble crossing this and other streams in 1807.

Lloyd Creek and Lloyd Ranger Station. Name for ?? Lloyd who homesteaded at the mouth of the creek. Lloyd's homestead took the original site of the Lloyd Creek Ranger Station. Than Wilkerson lived there one summer as a Ranger and built a pole corral around a natural meadow. Known as Selsig Creek in the water right filings. Shows on the 1898 and 1909 GLO survey plats.

Lavene Creek. Shows as Lavino Creek in the 1898 GLO survey plat and as Lavence Creek on the 1909 plat.

Little Blue Joint Creek. Called Tut Creek on the 1909 GLO survey plat.

Little South Fork. Name no longer used. It was a fork of the West Fork of the Bitterroot River.

Little Tin Cup Creek. Appears on the 1897 and 1902 GLO survey plats. The name also appears on the 1890 GLO plats but is given to Bunkhouse Creek.

Little Trapper Creek. Appears on 1898 GLO survey plats.

Lake Creek. (A tributary of Hughes Creek). Supposedly named by the early prospectors about 1882 because it had a lake at its source. The present Lake Creek does not have a lake but Burrell Creek does. The 1900 survey of the Hamilton Placer show Lake Creek. There is some confusion about where the county road ends on Hughes Creek and the confusion of Lake Creek and Burrell Creek is likely.

Lolo Creek. Wheeler says about Lolo: At Traveller's-rest Creek the party remained two days. This creek is a beautiful stream, one of the largest in the valley, flowing from the heart and higher altitudes of the Bitter Root range. The name Traveller's-rest fitted the locality, and it is a pity that it was ever displaced even by such a satisfactory name as Lolo, the name now borne by the stream. Another name by which the creek was charted was Lou Lou, but a few years since the United States Board on Geographic Names adopted Lolo as the proper name.

The manner of the naming by Lewis and Clark was on this wise: "It is a fine bold creek of clear water about 20 yards wide and we call it Traveller's-rest Creek; for we determined to remain for the purpose of making celestial observations and collecting some food"

The explorers make no clear statement as to where they camped on Traveller's-rest Creek, until their return in 1806, when Clark's compass course down Lolo Creek state that they crossed the creek to the south side, "1 m. above camp and 2 m. above its mouth," which would make their campground one mile above the mouth of the stream.

The land hereabout is now divided into small farms and orchards and all old trails are largely obliterated, but the trail which the explorers followed evidently brought them to a point on the creek near where both the main county road and the Northern Pacific Railway cross the stream, and just south of Lolo Station.

The origin of the word "Lolo", the present name of Traveller's-rest Creek, is also of interest. Some years ago the writer started an investigation among the old settlers and among the Fathers who had been in Montana since early days, and we arrived, I think, at the truth in the matter. There are several plausible stories current regarding this name, but the word comes from the English word "Lawrence" and the Flathead language contains no r, Lawrence easily became Lolo. Judge Frank H. Woody of Missoula, who has been in the region since 1856, kindly led in the investigation of this matter for me, and I quote his own conclusions:

"That the name, Lolo, is the nearest that the Indians could get to "Lawrence," I have no longer any doubt. Father D'Aste and Father Palladino, who are among the oldest of the Jesuit Fathers now living, are both of this opinion. They say that they have known more than one instance in which men by the name of Lawrence have been called Lolo by the red men. Duncan McDonald, who is one of the best informed men in the Northwest regarding the early history of the Indians, coincides with this opinion. Since I have been engaged in this research, I have received several letters from different parts of the state in regard to the subject, and nearly all of them are in support of this theory."

"It has been the current opinion, and I myself have shared it until now, that the name of the stream, the pass, and the mountains were derived from the name of an old half-breed, who lived in that region. The grave of this old man may still be seen in the pass (below the pass near Grave Creek) and until I undertook this investigation, I never questioned the authenticity of this story. The Indian whose name was given by the white to this stream was well known to many of the early residents and, I am told by Duncan McDonald, was a famous hunter and trapper. McDonald is so well informed regarding these matters, that I accept his statement as a fact. The name evidently came from the name of this Indian, whose baptismal name had been corrupted by the red men from Lawrence to Lolo."

"The Indian name of the stream was "Tum-sum-lech," the Flathead word for "Salmonless" or "No Salmon." In all of the creeks and rivers across the range, the Clearwater and its several branches, is an abundance of salmon, but none were ever found in the Lolo, hence its Indian name.

The 1870 and 1872 GLO survey plats show Lou Lou Creek. The 1879 plat shows Lu Lu Fork, and the 1906 plats show Lolo Creek.

Lookout Mountain. Named for the Lookout Mountain of the Civil War battle by Than Wilkerson. Than used it for a lookout station but it has been abandoned as a lookout since about 1940.

Lyman Creek. Named for Dr. H.A. Lyman who settled there in the 1890's as a homesteader. It was also known as Bear Creek. Some Forest Service had bear trouble on the creek in 1947 when a bear kept them from working one thicket of timber.

Lowell Creek. The name does not appear on present day maps. It was the north fork of Surprise Creek tributary to the Selway River.

Lantz Bar. Lantz Bar is named after Frank B. Lantz who had a mining claim on the bar and has lived there from ??.

M

Mt. George. Named after Ben George, a trapper and Forest Service employee.

Magruder Creek, Mountain, Ridge, and Ranger Station. All the Magruder names came from Lloyd A. Magruder who was murdered and with members of his pack outfit on Magruder Ridge in October 1863. See the story at another place in this history. Lieberg called what is now the upper part of the Selway River Magruder Creek in 1898 as did the 1911 Nez Perce National Forest map. Lieberg shows Magruder Mtn. on his 1898 map but it was called Junction Point later and finally changed back about 1935. The mountain has a 50 foot tower and lookout cabin from 1936 to 1954 but was only infrequently used as a lookout after 1946. Magruder Ranger Station was called Deep Creek Ranger Station until 1935.

Moose Lake. Shown on Lieberg's 1898 map.

Mill Creek. Name appears on Lieberg's 1898 map and 1872 and 1889 GLO survey plats.

Medicine Tree Creek. 1914 GLO.

Meadow Creek. Named by Bertie Lord in 1896 because of the meadows along the creek.

Maynard Creek. Named after George Maynard who located near its mouth and logged there in 1894.

McClain Creek. Named for T.A. McClain who settled near the creek in 1879.

Mist Creek. Probably named about 1938 by Forest Service men. One older map shows the name Mistake Creek which may have been shortened to Mist Creek. Other maps show the name Fog Creek. Probably the mist and fog gave the lookouts trouble.

McCartney Gulch. Named after Frank M. McCartney who homesteaded near it in 1903.

McCart Lookout. Named after William McCart who settled near the East Fork Guard Station but did not complete his homestead entry to patent.

Medicine Hot Springs. Ed Miles located there in 1883. George, Ed, and Bertie Lord built a hotel in 1895. In 1903 Miles was killed by a tree he and Mart Bright were cutting for firewood. settled the estate and sold it to Ed Steele who ran the springs for 2 years. He sold to Jim Harvey and Eric Nordgren who ran it 4 years and sold to Ed Smith. The Smith family has operated the springs since.

N

Nez Perce Pass, Nez Perce Fork, and Southern Nez Perce Trail. The name appears as Nez Perces Pass on Lieberg's 1898 map. The pass is not named on DeLacy's 1865 map but he does show the Southern Nez Perce Trail and Nez Perces Fork. This map shows the streams territorial boundary and Nez Perce Pass in corrected location with relation to each other where later maps are badly distorted. Delacy's map shows the Nez Perces Fork running from the pass to the main Bitterroot River at Conner. He shows the Nez Perces Trail as north of Nez Perce Fork with a branch trail around the head of the West Fork of the Bitterroot and down the North Fork of the Salmon River which he calls Beaver Dick's Creek (and called Fish Creek by Lewis and Clark).

Nelson Creek and Nelson Lake. The creek was named after Jake Nelson, a blacksmith, who had a timber claim near the mouth of the creek in 1896. The lake was named after the creek.

Nick Creek and Wynn Creek and Nick Wynn Lockout. None of the names appear on the 1964 Bitterroot map but the small creeks are named on the ground. A point overlooking the Selway River at the source of the two small creeks was the former site of Nick Wynn Lookout (about 1935 to 1960). Nick Wynn was a trapper and prospector and was particularly active in the Hughes Creek area along with Beaver Jack and others. He built a trapper cabin near Nick Wynn Point about 1900. Nick Wynn, Beaver Jack and others were the first timber sale permittees the Bitterroot had. They purchased timber on Hughes Creek and whip-sawed it into lumber for sluice boxes.

Newton Gulch. Named after Marion D. Newton who settled at the mouth of the gulch. His homestead entry was dated August 6, 1902, and patent dated October 16, 1903.

O

Owings Creek. This creek is west of Hamilton between Beaver Dam and Sawtooth Creeks but is not named on the maps.

Ohio Slide. Called Big Slide in Lieberg's 1898 report.

One Horse Creek. The name came from a "one horse outfit" consisting of a saloon, barn, store, and roadhouse that operated near the creek in the 1860's.

Overwhich Creek. There are several versions of how this creek got its name. One says two prospectors were camped on the creek and were talking. One says explaining to the other that the Overturf family camped at the creek for some time each summer. The second prospector, not catching the name Overturf put the query Over which? This struck them both funny, so they name the creek Overwhich. A second version is "there was a hunting or fishing party including Mr. Overturf camped on the creek. A local settler L.A. Rice, who was quite hard of hearing, joined the party and was introduced to Overturf. Rice failed to catch the name and said Over which? This struck the others as quite a joke so the story was passed on and the name stuck. The name dates from about 1886. It shows on Lieberg's 1898 map as Witch Creek and on the 1902 and 1909 GLO surveys as Overwhich Creek.

P

Piquett Creek and Piquett Creek Ranger Station. The creek was named for a man named Piquett who settled at the mouth of the creek in 1889. It was spelled Puckett Creek by Lieberg and shows as Piquette Creek on the 1909 GLO survey plat. Some Forest Service surveys of the Piquette Creek Ranger Station show the name as Picket Creek.

Peyton Rock. Named for Alex Peyton, a game warden, who was killed in the Flathead country by Indians. Peyton and his wife lived on Willow Creek near the Butterfly Ranger Station and were close friends of many of the early Rangers.

Pierce Creek. Named after William P. (Billy) Pierce who had a timber claim about a half mile up the creek. The claim was logged by Chambers and Fowler in 1891. Homestead entry is dated October 28, 1903, and patent dated November 15, 1904.

Praine Creek. Also known as Prain Creek. Named after William Praine who settled on Camp Creek.

Pasture Draw. Also known as South Gulch in water right filings.

R

Ross Hole. Named after Alexander Ross, fur brigade captain who spent over a month there with his brigade in 1824. The long wait was caused by the snow blocking the trail to the Big Hole. Ross called it the "valley of troubles" in his book Fur Hunters. It is locally called Sula basin in spite of the Highway Department having a historical sign there. It is the site for Charles Russell's painting of Lewis and Clark meeting with the Flathead Indians. Wheller gives his version of the meeting in his retracement of the Lewis and Clark Trail. The name appears on DeLacy's 1865 map.

Running Creek. Named after Tom Running, a settler and trapper, who settled at the mouth of the creek in 1898. He did not prove up on the entry. He lost his eyesight in 1904 and friends persuaded him to move out of the back country so he could have better care. He died soon after. The Horrace brothers finally acquired the claim and Francis M. Horrace patented it on March 3, 1927. Shows as Running Creek on the Homestead Survey Plat.

Roaring Lion Creek. Shows on 1891, 1892, and 1908 GLO survey plats.

Rock Creek. Shows on 1889 and 1902 GLO survey plats.

Rattlesnake Point. The name does not appear on current maps but did appear on the 1902 GLO survey. The Rattlesnake den is still there on the point past north and east of the Rye Creek road and U.S 93 junction.

Rye Creek. Named by Billie Edwards because of the rank growth of rye grass on the flats along the creek. Billie lived at the mouth of the creek for a period after 1880.

Reimel Creek. Named after Lloyd Reimel who settled near the mouth of the creek. It shows as Rimel Creek on the 1892 GLO survey plats and as Pine Creek in water rights filings.

Rombo Creek. Named after ?? Rombo. The name is variously spelled Rambaugh and ??. The West Fork District personnel found a cast iron plaque that had probably been a grave marker and have it in a concrete post at the Rombo campground. When Rombo was killed he was buried on Rombo Creek but later his remains were reburied in the Corvallis cemetery.

The story of his murder follows: In 1888 Rombo and Frank Jacquette (Senior) were going from Grantsdale to the Horse Creek mines. They had three or four pack horses loaded with supplies and Rombo also had a new rifle. They camped for the night at Rombo Flat. On the way up the West Fork they had met or passed Potlatch Fannie, a Nez Perce squaw, and two young Nez Perce bucks. The Indians followed the pack train sometimes ahead and sometimes behind and camped near Rombo and Jacquette. That night, while the two white men were asleep, Potlatch Fannie and the two bucks plotted to take over the outfit, supplies and rifle. They sneaked up on the

two sleeping men, shot Rombo killing him, but missed Jacquette with the one shot planned to kill both men. Jacquette, who was about 18 years old, escaped in his underwear and overshirt to the timber. He crossed the river and made his way cross country and avoiding the trail to his miner friends on Horse Creek. It took Jacquette two and one-half days to make the trip and it left its mark on him for the rest of his days. It would have been an arduous trip under the best conditions. The miner friends came back with Jacquette and found the Indians had taken the rifle but left the outfit and supplies intact. The miners buried Rombo. Some of the miners followed the Indians to Nez Perce Pass and into Idaho but did not catch them. Potlatch Fannie and one of the bucks were finally caught and sent to prison. The other buck was never caught.

Frank Jacquette's son also called Frank, lives near Rock Creek on U.S. 93 and operates a bee and honey business.

The three Indians graves north of Nez Perce Pass have nothing to do with the Rombo murder or Peyton's murder as it sometimes stated.

Lieberg shows a flat called Rombo flat in his 1898 report. The 1902 GLO survey plat shows the creek as Brickley Creek, probably because the Brickleys lived on the creek at the time and had established a cemetery where all three of the Brickley family are buried.

S

Skalkaho Creek.

*Page missing

...the Indians. DeLacy's 1865 map of Montana Territory shows the name as Skalkaho. The Honorable H.H. Grant, founder of Grantsdale, had a story in the March 14, 1894, edition of Western News saying Skalkaho means "many roads" in the Indian tongue. Spelling on the GLO survey plats varies – the 1872 plat shows Ska-ka-ho. While later ones show Skalkaho Creek with north and south forks.

Selway River. The name is not shown on DeLacy's 1865 map. The map shows the stream in its correct location as a branch of the South Fork of the Clearwater River. DeLacy's map is more accurate on drainages than many later maps including Lieberg's 1898 maps and Forest Service maps as late as 1911. This is not surprising as maps and books were not well circulated and available. According to Clyde Blake the name Selway (Selwai) is a combination of two words from the Nez Perce and Snake Indian languages meaning smooth water.

Sleeping Child Creek. There has been considerable contention that the correct name is Weeping Child Creek. Lt. Mullan in his 1853 report says "...the second, the Fabulous, (or Weeping Child Creek)."

DeLacy's January 1, 1865 of Montana Territory shows Sleeping Child Creek. Wheeler's version of the Weeping Child story which was obtained in 1898 is "The name Weeping Child for the creek mentioned, near which the

expedition camped (Lewis and Clark), is the translation of an Indian name and is based upon a curious tradition current among the old Indians, who were very superstitious. This tradition I obtained from the Rev. E.J. Stanley, Corvallis, Montana, and the substance of it is, that a long time ago when a traveler passed that way he would hear a child weeping, and on going to the place would find a real child. Moved by sympathy, he would take it in his arms. It would be very hungry, and he would place his fingers in its mouth to satisfy it and it would begin to nurse and keep on until it would suck all the flesh from his finger, then from his arm, and even his entire body, leaving nothing but a skeleton, when it would disappear and wait for another victim, which would be treated in the same way and share the same fate. This was kept up until there was a very great pile of bones at this place.

Sleeping Child Hot Springs. On September 9, 1894, edition of the Western News says: "If tradition is correct, the original name of these wonderful springs with their more wonderful curative properties instead of "Sleeping Child" with its attendant thought of a child sweetly sleeping, we are told was "Weeping Child" from the fact that in the early settlement of the valley, a band of Indians closely pursued by an armed band of white settlers, abandoned at the springs the power of whose mystic water the Indians.....

Salmon River. It was named Lewis River by Lewis and Clark in 1806. It was called Nez Perces River by Alexander Ross in his 1824 journals. The Shoshone called it Tom-Agit-Pak or Big Fish Water.

Sula Peak, Sula Creek, and Sula Post Office. The name for the peak is Ross Hole Mountain in Lt. John Mullan's report dated November 19, 1853. The Sula was the name of the post office in Ross Hole. It was after Ersula Thompson as a contraction of the name of the first white child born in Ross Hole. She was the daughter of Long Hair Thompson who came to Ross Hole in 1887. The name of the creek and peak with a lookout came from the post office. Sula creek is called Placer Creek in water right filings.

Shields Creek. Believed to be named for ?? Shields a member of the Lewis and Clark expedition. The name came later and was not applied by Lewis and Clark.

South Pass. This pass shows on Lieberg's 1898 map east of Blue Nose Mtn. and as appears on the 1912 Forest Service map. The name does not appear on later maps and Horse Creek Pass took its place as a travel route.

South Fork of the Bitter Root River. This is the old name for the upper West Fork of the Bitterroot River. Some maps show it as being the entire west fork and others show it as from the Nez Perce Fork junction with the Nez Perce Fork extending from Nez Perce Pass to the main river. The confusion over names was finally resolved about 1920 by calling the streams by the names now used.

Sheafman Creek. Names after an early settler Sheafman about 1870. It is sometimes spelled Schiffman.

Sweathouse Creek. The name dates prior to 1872 and was favorite site for the Flathead Indians to camp and also build sweat houses; hence, the name.

Sweeney Creek and Peak. The creek was named after J.L. Sweeney who came to Montana in 1864 and Missoula in 1873. The creek is called Charles Creek on Lieberg's 1893 map. Another name was Rogler Creek.

Slate Creek. So appears on Lieberg's 1893 map.

Soda Springs and Soda Springs Creek. There is a small soda type spring near the mouth of the creek; hence the name. There was a mineral spring claim on it in 1898. It was also known as Bailey Creek at one time.

Spring Gulch. (A tributary of Three Mile Creek). The 1901 and 1905 GLO plats show it as Wheelborrow Creek.

Sawmill Creek. (A tributary of Burnt Fork). It was called Fish Creek on the 1889 GLO survey plats. It is called Spooner Creek in water right filings.

Soft Rock Creek. Called Dry Creek on the 1872 GLO survey plat.

Shirley Mtn. The mountain was first called Sherrill after Scott Sherrill who had a pole camp at a spring on the mountain in 1895. The old feud caused by Scott Sherrill trying to change the name of the Sula Post Office to Sherrill when he was postmaster has prevented any correction testimony.

Salt Creek. Originally, the creek was named Lick Creek by Norton Johnson a miner in the area (Copper Queen Mine). The large lick became a favorite place to hunt deer. Presumably the name was changed because of numerous Lick Creeks.

Sharrott Creek. Named for David Sharrott who settled on the creek in 1832. Sometimes spelled Sharratt.

Sheep Creek. (Tributary of West Fork). Named by Than Wilkerson for no good reason.

Sheephead Creek. Probably named so because it was Bighorn sheep range and was so known as early 1895.

Shook Mtn. Named after Grant Shook about 1882.

Silverthorn Creek. Named after John Silverthorn who settled there in 1860. John worked at repairing Fort Owen in 1866. He later ran a jerkline freight outfit with 12 mules and wagons.

Smith Creek. Named for William N. Smith who came to Montana in 1863, and settled on Sweathouse Creek in 1866. He was a carpenter and miner.

Smith Gulch. (A tributary of the Salmon River). Named for Cougar Smith, a guide and prospector about 1925.

Springer Creek. Named for Frank or Clayton Springer who homesteaded there before 1915.

Stevensville, Stevensville District, and Stevensville Ranger Station. The town of Stevensville is named after Washington Territorial Governor Isaac I. Stevens. He made the first survey for the Northern Pacific Railroad through Montana. The village was laid out in 1864. The district and ranger station took the town's name.

Stripe Mtn. It was named so because there are three distinct stripes of white granite running around the east side of the mountain.

Swet Lake and Swet Creek. Named for John Swet. Some folks think they were named so because the Indians built swet lodges and took swet baths in the vicinity, but there is not any evidence of the lodges.

Scimitor Creek. Named by Forest Service men about 1926 because the creek shows a scimitor (Turkish sword) shape on the map.

Snowwater Creek. Named by Frank Schumaker because it is a full creek when the snow melts and then dries up after the snow is gone.

Steep Gulch. (Tributary of the Selway River). Name does not appear on the map but is singed on the ground. Another name was Rat Creek. Stan Greenup caught a young mountain goat near here one time and brought it to Magruder Ranger Station and then turned it loose.

Stewart Creek. The short creek was named for Steward Brandborg, son of Supervisor Brandborg, by Charlie Engbretson who was a Forest Service foreman. He built the cabins at Paradise, Lost Horse, and Horse Heaven. Stewart was a small boy when it was named. There is a cave at the head of the creek where bighorn sheep bones and heads are sometimes found. The sheep occasionally use the cave for shelter during storms in the winter.

Spade Creek. Known as William Creek in water right filings.

Shook Creek. It is not named on the map but is locally known as such. It runs south from the sawmill formerly owned by Fone Shook near Conner post office. It is also known as Henry Creek.

Stella Creek. Named for Stella Burk, who lived near it.

Shannon Lake and Shannon Gulch. Named after Patrick Shannon about 1893. He had a small reservoir now abandoned on Shannon. Shannon patented a homestead here in 1895.

Short Creek. Called Spot Creek on a 1928 Clearwater National Forest map.

Sawmill Creek. (A tributary of the Bitterroot River southwest of Hamilton). The creek is not named on the map but is so known locally because it was the site of the early-day Kress and ?? Sawmill.

Square Top Mountain. So named because it has a square top. The lookout was east of this mountain and has now been named Parker Mtn. because it is on the Parker Trail.

I

Tin Cup Creek. The story for the name is that George W. Sollemder claimed he kept a tin cup at the point where the road crossed the creek for travelers to use. The name dates from 1881.

Trapper Creek and Trapper Peak. Many people ask how they got the name. There is an assumption it was a favorite area for trappers but it is not verified.

Tolan Creek. Named for Jim Tolan who built a cabin on the creek in the 1880's. Thomas M. Smith and his sons, Clern and John, homesteaded and lived on the creek. They had a water-powered sawmill. John was a large man, 200 pounds and size 13 shoes, who had a team consisting of a bay stallion and a donkey. It is called Solon Creek in water right filings.

Taylor Creek. Named for a prospector of that name in 1889.

Thunder Mtn. So named by Ranger Than Wilkerson when he was in a severe thunderstorm on the mountain in August, 1903.

Took Creek. Named after a trapper and prospector who built a cabin there in the 1880's. He lived pretty much as a hermit and was called a "timber tramp" by the settlers. Other names or spellings were Tooks and Toots.

Three Mile Creek. Was so named on the 1872 GLO survey plats.

Thompson Flat. Named after Lloyd Thompson who trapped marten in the area for years and worked for the Forest Service. Thompson built a cabin about 2 miles upstream from the present Thompson Flat. His brother Ron Thompson still lives in the Bitterroot at Darby.

Test Creek. It was so named because it was used as a test area for smokechasers training and numerous lookouts and potential smokechasers got lost in the drainage over the years.

V

Vance Creek, Mountain, and Point. Named for James (Jim) Vance who was a ranger at Deep Creek on the Salmon Mountain District for years.

W

Ward Mtn. Named for George Ward who owned land at its base. He was one of the early miners on Hughes Creek. It was named before 1898 and had a lookout on it many years.

Willow Creek. The name appears on DeLacy's 1865 map and subsequent plats.

Ward Creek. (Tributary of the West Fork) It was originally called Ward Creek after a homestead then changed to Swamp Creek and back to Ward Creek. The name Swamp Creek finally wound up on the USGS map on a gulch east of Ward Creek that was called Garbage Draw by Forest Service people for years.

Warm Springs Creek. Named for the warm or mineral springs near its mouth. The springs are called Medicine Hot Springs and some people still refer to the creek as Medicine Springs Creek.

Waigh Gulch. Named after G.L. Waigh or A. Waigh who homesteaded at its mouth. Abram Waigh applied for a homestead here in 1903. He kept teams to help freighters make the pull up the Big Hole Mountain to the Big Hole.

Wough Mtn. Named for Dr. Wough by W.I. Woody and others while they were hunting in the area with Dr. Wough about 1920.

Woddel Gulch. Named after Jess or John F. Woddel who settled near it.

Wallace Creek. Named after James Wallace who homesteaded near it.

Wyant Lake. Named after William Wyant.

Whirlpool Rapids. A 1911 Nez Perce National Forest map shows the rapids as above Faun Creek.

White Cap Creek. This creek had trouble getting a firm name. The 1911 map of the Nez Perce shows it as the East Fork of the Selway. A 1911 map of the Selway National Forest shows it as Trapper Creek. It appears on Lieberg's 1898 map as the Clearwater River. It is named for its white-capped water.

West Creek. Rangers Than Wilkerson and H.C. Tuttle named it because it comes from the west.

Wiles Creek. Named after Ed Wiles who owned Medicine Hot Springs until he was killed. He was a carpenter by trade.

Wheelborrow Creek. Shows as White Horse Creek on the 1901 GLO plat.

Wilkerson Creek and Ridge. Named after Ranger Than Wilkerson.

Witter Creek and Witter Ridge. Named after Roy Witter. He was a prospector, trapper, and Forest Service employee. He lived on the Nez Perce Fork below Nelson Creek. To many people he appeared to be a morose and sullen man but he had many friends. He died of pneumonia in 1938 while working in a logging camp.

Wynn Creek. Not named on the map but it is on the ground. See Nick Cr.

Wills Draw. Name for Will Wetzsteon.

Whites Mtn. and White Lake. Named for Forest Supervisor Wilfred W. White. Local residents had different names for the lake and mountain but they never appeared on the map or were generally know.

Woods Creek. Named after Arthur Woods about 1888. Woods and Vance were partners in the first gold discovery on Hughes Creek in 1880 (Wood Placer Mining Co. patented the discovery and annex placer claims in 1900). He was also interested in the Copper Queen Mine, along with Johnson, Grant, and Tuttle. He finally sold out his interest in the Copper Queen for a reported \$30,000 and moved to Stroud where he died about 1932. Old timers who know Woods doubt if he got more than a few hundred dollars for the Copper Queen. Shows as Woods Cr. on 1910 GLO survey.

Wylies Peak. Named for W.M. Wiley, a trapper, who built a cabin near the peak and trapped the territory in 1898 and 1899. Later he and Frank Harsh located on what is known as the Pettibone ranch at the mouth of Ditch Creek. In 1908 Wiley and Harsh sold to H.R. Pettibone and Wiley moved to Canada.

Wapiti Creek. (Tributary of White Cap Creek) Formerly named Elk Creek but the name was changed to Wapiti Creek because there is a tributary of White Cap Creek called Elk Creek.

Whitsell Creek. Named for Jeff Whitsell who lived on the creek. He carried mail to Sula in 1890 for which he charged each family in Ross Hole \$1.00 a month.