

NAMING STATE FORESTS, PARKS, AND NATURAL AREAS

Philosophy:

Names of state forests, parks, and natural areas are important beyond identifying the particular tracts. Some draw attention to significant geographical or landscape features of a region. Others commemorate people involved in the acquisition of a particular tract. All will serve as important historical reference in years to come.

Moreover, these names have symbolic importance: Vermonters take pride in their public lands and place a great deal of value on their names. Naming a new state forest, park, or natural area – or renaming an existing one – after a person, place, or event is considered high honor and recognition.

Therefore, the Department must have strict policy guidelines for its role in naming or renaming such state lands, so that names are not given or changed arbitrarily, without proper justification, or in contradiction of historical traditions.

Policy:

Names of state forests, parks, and natural areas shall be common to the region in which they exist and bear a direct relationship to the property (see Attachment 1). Geographic place-names are preferable, such as those of mountains, water bodies, or other significant features within the property or nearby. Natural features or historical locations are also appropriate. But if there is no meaningful geographic, natural, or historic reference, the name of the town where the property is located should be considered.

Exempting donated property as described below, naming a new or renaming an existing Department parcel after a prominent person will not be considered while that individual is alive. Such recognition must be based on a significant lifetime contribution, determined after the individual's death.

If a parcel is donated to the state, that parcel may be named after the donor while he/she is still alive, provided that the parcel is significant and not incorporated into an existing state forest, park, or natural area.

Procedure for Implementation:

Proposals for names of new state forests, parks, and natural areas or changing the names of existing ones shall be handled by the Director of Lands Administration, who will consult with the person/organization making the proposal, appropriate Forestry District Manager and/or Parks Regional Manager, other Division Directors, and the State Library Board (responsible for official

records of geographical names). If this review is favorable, the proposed name or name change shall be put to public review through the long-range management plan for that parcel.

Based on the results of the Department review and public involvement, the Commissioner shall make a decision on the name. An approved name shall be registered with the State Library Board.

Conrad M. Motyka, Acting Commissioner

Effective Date: May 15, 1991

Attachment (1)

NAMING STATE FORESTS, PARKS, AND NATURAL AREAS

Attachment 1

EXISTING NAMES OF STATE FORESTS, PARKS AND NATURAL AREAS

FORESTS	PARKS	NATURAL AREAS ¹
Geographical Locations:		
Camel's Hump	Ascutney	Hazens Notch
Jay Peak	Burton Island	Lord's Hill
Mt. Carmel	Camel's Hump	
Mt. Cushman	Chimney Point	
Mt. Mansfield	Knight Island	
Okemo	Knight Point	
	Mt. Philo	
	Quechee	
	Sand Bar	
	Woods Island	
Water Bodies:		
Williams River	Bomoseen	Amity Pond
Willoughby	Button Bay	
	Crystal Lake	
	Emerald Lake	
	Kingsland Bay	
	Lake Carmi	
	Lake St. Catherine	
	Lowell Lake	
	Mallets Bay	
	St. Albans Bay	
	Silver Lake	
	Sweet Pond	
Towns:		
Granville ²	Branbury	Cambridge
Groton	Brighton	Highgate Cliffs
Lyndon	Grand Isle	Morristown Bog
Norwich	Jamaica	Weybridge Cave

¹ The Department manages 30 Natural Areas. Listed here are only those that are separate blocks, not within a state forest or park. All others are named after geographical locations.

² Full proper name = Granville Gulf Reservation.

FORESTS	PARKS	NATURAL AREAS¹
Roxbury	Maidstone	
Rupert	North Hero	
Victory	Shaftsbury	
Washington	Thetford	
West Rutland	Townshend	
	Woodford	
Persons:		
Ainsworth	Allis	Lucy M. Bugbee
Aitken	D.A.R	Fisher-Scott ³
Coolidge	Dutton Pines	
Darling	Gifford Woods	
Dorand	Molly Stark	
Downer	Wilgus	
Hapgood	Wilgus	
L.R. Jones		
Albert C. Lord		
Mathewson		
Mollie Beattie ⁴		
Proctor-Piper		
C.C. Putnam		
W. C. Putnam		
Rood		
Historical Locations:		
	Camp Plymouth	
	Fort Dummer	
	Kamp Kill Kare	

³ Full proper name = Fisher-Scott Memorial Pine.

⁴ Grafton State Forest named changed in 199_ to “Mollie Beattie State Forest.”