

## O'Haniel Creek

### Proposal Information

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Proposed name	<b>O'Haniel Creek</b>
Proposal type	To make official a commemorative name in local use
Current official name	n/a
GNIS ID	n/a
Proponent	Lindsey Holm; Arcata, CA
Date proposed	10/17/22
Submitter	Same
Date submitted	same
BGN case number	5901
Quarterly Review List	449

### Feature Details

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Primary coordinates	40.9031825, -123.8091373
Secondary coordinates	40.9074153, -123.7842679
Feature class	Stream
Feature size	1.4 mi. long
Feature description	Heads 0.6 mi. N of the head of Windy Creek, flows generally W into Redwood Creek
Name history	Named for O'Haniel Bailey (abt 1862-1912), a member of the Whilkut Tribe, a sheepherder who lived and worked in the area
USGS primary topo map	Lord-Ellis Summit 1:24,000
State(s)	California
County(s)	Humboldt
Local jurisdiction(s)	n/a
PLSS	Secs 14&13, T6N, R3E, Humboldt Base and Meridian
Land ownership	n/a

### BGN decisions

- None

### Other Names

- Published names: O'Haniel Creek (*Historical Information on Redwood Creek*, Van Kirk, 1974)
- Unpublished names: None found

### Case Summary

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This proposal is to make official the name O'Haniel Creek, which the proponent reports has been in local use since the 1970s. The stream is a 1.43-mile-long tributary of Redwood Creek in Humboldt County. The name commemorates O'Haniel Bailey (ca.1862-1912), a member of the Whilkut tribe, who lived and worked in the area. The application states, "He owned land a little

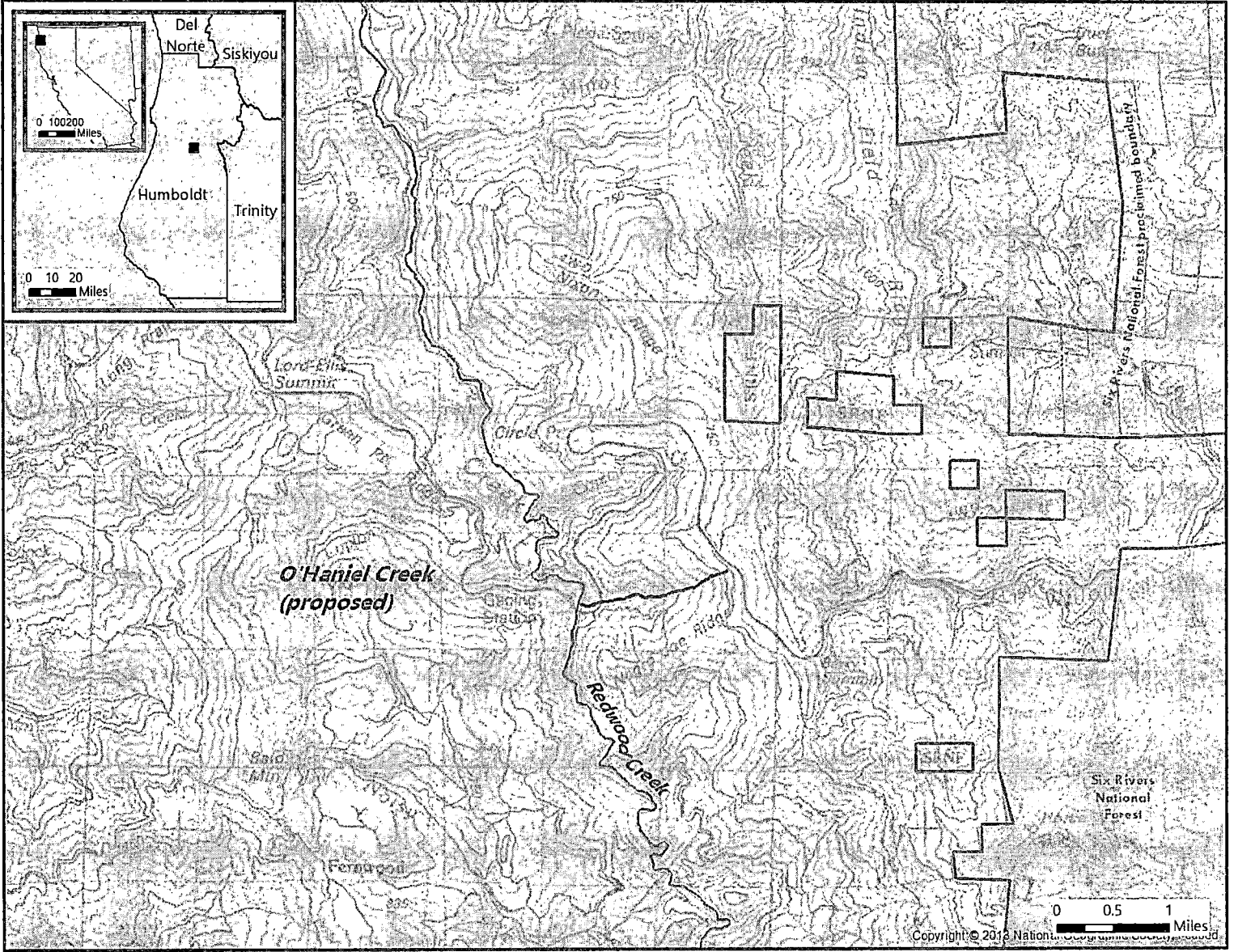
bit downstream from the mouth of this creek and his wife and two children were allotted land in the unnamed/O'Haniel Creek watershed and on the adjacent ridge." General Land Office records list two claims made by Bailey, in 1890 and 1891, each for 160 acres and both at the mouth of the creek.

The application further states, "This creek requires a name because it is not an insignificantly sized creek and we often need to refer to it in planning documents and when communicating among local residents. Furthermore, the knowledge of the local name is at risk of being forgotten and lost as people pass away and as land tenure changes." Bailey's death notice noted, "Ohanial Bailey [was] a well-known Indian, held in high respect both by the Indians and whites. Not long ago the deceased published his valedictory in which he mentioned his principal life service, that of head of the sheep shearing crew of northern Humboldt, a position he held for many years . . . . He was counted one of the most expert shearers ever known in Humboldt. Mr. Bailey was of a kindly, quiet disposition and he will long be remembered by many friends he made in life."

A report published in 1974 and titled *Historical Information on Redwood Creek* (Van Kirk) referred to an interview that had been conducted with a local authority on fisheries restoration who "calls Negro Joe Creek, O'Haniel Creek"; Negro Joe Creek is not recorded in GNIS but the ridge to the south of the stream in question is named Negro Joe Ridge.

### **Stakeholder Input**

Local government	Humboldt County
State Names Authority	California
Federal Agency	n/a
Federally Recognized Tribes	All federally recognized Tribes contacted under Policy X



## Domestic Geographic Name Proposal Form

The U.S. Board on Geographic Names (BGN) is responsible for standardizing the names of geographic features within the 50 States and in other areas under the sovereignty of the United States. The BGN retains the legal authority to promulgate all official names and locations of natural features (e.g. mountains, rivers, valleys), as well as canals, channels, reservoirs, and other select feature types.

This form is to propose a new name or name, spelling, or application change for a geographic feature for Federal use. A proponent should carefully review the proposal prior to submission to ensure that it is consistent with the BGN policies. Please note all fields with a red outline are required prior to submitting this form.

The proponent should also be aware that the entire proposal—including personal identifying information and any associated correspondence—is in the public domain and may be made publicly available at any time.

Submit Proposal:

1. Email this form and supporting documentation to: [BGNESEC@usgs.gov](mailto:BGNESEC@usgs.gov)
  - i. Save PDF as 'ST\_GeographicName' for example 'CO\_BearCreek'
  - ii. Email Subject: ST\_GeographicName

OR 2. Send by mail to:

U.S. BGN Executive Secretary, Domestic Names  
12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, MS-523  
Reston, VA 20192

Contact Us:  
[BGNESEC@usgs.gov](mailto:BGNESEC@usgs.gov)

*Please note that anything submitted by mail will be delayed.*

## Naming Basics

Proposed Name:

O'Haniel Creek

Is this name in current local use?

Y  N

What is the Feature Class?

Stream

Is this to change an existing name?

Y  N

*If yes, please provide the official name and Feature ID as it appears in the Geographic Names Information System (GNIS).*

GNIS Name:

Feature ID:

## Location Basics

Where is the feature?

Latitude:  (38.94741)

Longitude:  (-77.36839)



For Linear Features (e.g. stream or valley):

Mouth/Confluence

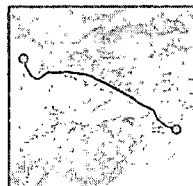
Latitude:  (38.94741)

Longitude:  (-77.36839)

Source/Headwater

Latitude:  (38.94741)

Longitude:  (-77.36839)



General Location:

State:

County:

City/Town/  
Township/  
Borough:

Public Land Survey System:  
Section(s), Township, Range, Meridian

## Feature Description

*Physical shape, length, width, etc. (Maps can be submitted separately by email)*

This unnamed perennial watercourse is 1.4 miles in length and is tributary to Redwood Creek. It is about 6 feet wide at the confluence.

## Name Details

### Name information:

*Please provide relevant information about the proposed name, such as origin, meaning, how long it has been in current use, as well as current or historical significance. Also include why you believe the feature requires a name or name change and why the proposed name is appropriate. Describe any documents that you will be submitting (separately by email) to support your proposal.*

This unnamed watercourse has been referred to as O'Haniel Creek by the local rural residents since at least the 1970s. The proposed new commemorative name for an unnamed feature is a reference to O'Haniel Bailey, a Native American from the Whilkut tribe who lived and worked in the area until his death in 1912. This name is significant and appropriate because it refers to a Native American person who lived there historically. Many of the place names in the area reflect the history of white colonization and we (the local residents) would like this creek officially named after the Native American person who lived there so that their existence is not lost to history. This creek requires a name because it is not an insignificantly sized creek and we often need to refer to it in planning documents and when communicating among local residents. Furthermore, the knowledge of the local name is at risk of being forgotten and lost as people pass away and as land tenure changes. O'Haniel Bailey owned land a little bit downstream from the mouth of this creek and his wife and two children were allotted land within the unnamed O'Haniel Creek watershed and on the adjacent ridge (Mary Bailey, Ida Bailey, and Luther Bailey).

Regarding spelling, there are two other spellings in the record of O'Haniel Bailey – Ohaniel Bailey, and Mr. Ohania. By far, the most common spelling is O'Haniel Bailey.

I have consulted available geospatial resources including the National Map, GNIS, and historical topo maps and have found no evidence that this creek was ever mapped with a name.

Documents that I will be submitting (separately by email) to support the proposal:

Van Kirk, Susie, "Brock, Lowry, Leon, Bailey, Woodward, Maple, Brett, Cripe and Cooper Families" (2013). Susie Van Kirk Papers. 8. <https://digitalcommons.humboldt.edu/svk/8>

See page 21 (21 Sept. 1912) Ohaniel Bailey a well-known Indian, held in high respect both by the Indians and whites, died Wednesday forenoon, after an illness of about a year with tuberculosis.

At his funeral and while lying at his home just before it, his Indian friends manifested great grief at his loss. Not long ago the deceased published his valedictory in which he mentioned his principal life service, that of head of the sheep shearing crew of northern Humboldt, a position he held for many years and until he was incapacitated by ill health about a year ago. He was counted one of the most expert shearers ever known in Humboldt. Mr. Bailey was of a kindly, quiet disposition and he will long be remembered by many friends he made in life. The funeral took place Thursday in Blue Lake cemetery. Besides his wife, he leaves a son, Luther, and a daughter, Ida Bailey.

Van Kirk, Susie "Historical Information on Redwood Creek. Prepared by Suzi Van Kirk for Vicki Ozaki, Redwood National Park" (1994) <http://npshistory.com>

[https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=2ahUKEwievJ7\\_eD6AhWklzQIHVvBPgQFNoECBUQJAQ&url=http%3A%2F%2Fnpshistory.com%2Fpublications%2Fredwood-creek-history.pdf&usq=ACvVaw1RqjKLFJ5ZROkrTtpi8Rnk](https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=2ahUKEwievJ7_eD6AhWklzQIHVvBPgQFNoECBUQJAQ&url=http%3A%2F%2Fnpshistory.com%2Fpublications%2Fredwood-creek-history.pdf&usq=ACvVaw1RqjKLFJ5ZROkrTtpi8Rnk)  
See page 26, interview with Matt Smith, a landowner in the O'Haniel Creek watershed who has since passed away. "Matt is most familiar with Redwood Creek above the Highway 299 bridge up to Honeymoon Hill at Lake Prairie...He calls Negro Joe Creek, O'Haniel Creek."

Photograph titled "East bank of Redwood Creek, one mile up stream from Berry's house, showing village site and O'Haniel Bailey's field" This photograph is in a collection called UC Berkeley, Phoebe A. Hearst Museum of Anthropology California Ethnographic Field Photographs. <https://calisphere.org/item/ark:/13030/kt838nb317/>

The source of the photograph is Goddard, who was an ethnographer working in the area in the early 1900s. Based on the topography shown in the photo, local residents believe this photo is of the ridge that makes up the south side of O'Haniel Creek.

Map of O'Haniel Creek and the historic Indian Allotments.

Lindsey Holm, mapped these allotments based on the legal descriptions contained in the BLM's Government Land Office patent records. <https://lorerecords.blm.gov/>

Please provide a list of supporting documentation, including any web links:

Examples: Published sources showing the proposed name or letters of support (local government, historical society, etc.).

Van Kirk, Susie, "Brock, Lowry, Leon, Bailey, Woodward, Maple, Brett, Cripe and Cooper Families" (2013), Susie Van Kirk Papers. 8.  
<https://digitalcommons.humboldt.edu/svk/8>

Van Kirk, Susie "Historical Information on Redwood Creek, Prepared by Suzi Van Kirk for Vicki Ozak, Redwood National Park" (1994)  
<http://npshistory.com>  
[https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rc=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=2ahUKEwievJj7\\_eD6AhWklzQIHfVxBPgQFnoECBUQAQ&url=http%3A%2Fnpshistory.com%2Fpublications%2Fredw%2Fredwood-creek-history.pdf&usg=AOvVaw1RpjLFFJ5ZROkrTlpt8rNk](https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rc=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=2ahUKEwievJj7_eD6AhWklzQIHfVxBPgQFnoECBUQAQ&url=http%3A%2Fnpshistory.com%2Fpublications%2Fredw%2Fredwood-creek-history.pdf&usg=AOvVaw1RpjLFFJ5ZROkrTlpt8rNk)

Photograph titled "East bank of Redwood Creek, one mile up stream from Berry's house, showing village site and O'Haniel Bailey's field"  
UC Berkeley, Phoebe A. Hearst Museum of Anthropology California Ethnographic Field Photographs.  
<https://calisphere.org/item/ark:/13030/kt838nb317/>

Is the name commemorative? Does the name honor or refer to a person or persons?  Y  N

Please note that the BGN will only accept proposals for names that are intended to honor a person or persons deceased at least five years. The BGN will disapprove names that could be construed to honor living persons. The person being honored should have had either (1) some direct or long-term association with the feature, or (2) have made a significant contribution to the area, community, or State in which it is located; or (3) have outstanding national or international recognition. The BGN discourages the use of an individual's full name except to avoid ambiguity.

If yes, please provide the following:

Honoree's Date of Birth: **Unknown**

Honoree's Date of Death: **Sept 21, 1912**

Short biography and significance or association with the geographic feature: *(list any additional honorees here)*

The name is a reference to O'Haniel Bailey, who was a Native American from the Whilkut tribe. This name is significant and appropriate because it refers to a Native American person who lived and worked in the area until his death in 1912. He owned land a little bit downstream from the mouth of this creek and his wife and two children were allotted land in the unnamed/O'Haniel Creek watershed and on the adjacent ridge (Mary Bailey, Ida Bailey, and Luther Bailey). The following death announcement from an historic newspaper describes his history standing in the community "(21 Sept. 1912) Ohaniel Bailey a well-known Indian, held in high respect both by the Indians and whites, died Wednesday forenoon after an illness of about a year with tuberculosis. At his funeral and while lying at his home just before it, his Indian friends manifested great grief at his loss. Not long ago the deceased published his valedictory in which he mentioned his principal life service, that of head of the sheep shearing crew of northern Humboldt, a position he held for many years and until he was incapacitated by ill health about a year ago. He was counted one of the most expert shearers ever known in Humboldt. Mr. Bailey was of a kindly, quiet disposition and he will long be remembered by many friends he made in life. The funeral took place Thursday in Blue Lake cemetery. Besides his wife, he leaves a son, Luther, and a daughter, Ida Bailey."

Is the feature in a Wilderness Area or Wilderness Study Area?  Y  N  Unknown

If yes, please provide your justification for making an exception to the Wilderness Policy:

Please note that the BGN will not approve new names for unnamed features within wilderness areas or wilderness study areas, unless an overriding need can be demonstrated by the proponent.

## Additional Information +

Is there any local opposition or conflict with the proposed name?  Y  N

If yes, please explain and describe any opposition:


Additional notes:

## Proponent Information


Please provide one form of contact (email preferred):


 Proponent's Name: Lindsey Holm

Agency or Organization, if applicable:

 Email: Lindsey@bbwassociates.com

 Mailing Address: 1182 Buttermilk Lane,  
Arcata California 95521

 Phone: 707-599-2052

 Are you completing this form for someone else?

Y  N

If yes, please fill out the following:

Completed by:

Full Name:

Email:

Mailing Address:

Phone:

Please submit this form and supporting documentation to: 1. By email to [BGNESEC@usgs.gov](mailto:BGNESEC@usgs.gov) 2. By mail to the address on page 2.



0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50