

From: [Jennifer E Runyon](#)
To: [Schachte, Ann M - DNR](#)
Cc: [Filbert, Jennifer M - DNR](#); [Wickman, Sandra J - DNR](#); [Fitzgerald, Kathryn I - DNR](#); [Shubak, Katherine B - DNR](#)
Subject: Re: Pesabic Lake name correction
Date: Wednesday, April 22, 2009 11:33:07 AM

Hi Ann,

Thanks for bringing this to our attention. We've checked the field notes going back to the original 15' USGS map (1966) and it's always been labeled as "Pesabic". The fieldman verified that spelling with the locals and it was also found later on the Lincoln County highway map (1980). Our online search shows many occurrences of both spellings.

These are the types of issues that need to go to the U.S. Board on Geographic Names (BGN) for resolution. But before the BGN can vote, we need a recommendation from the Wisconsin Geographic Names Council, so I'm copying Kate and Kathy so they can start their investigation. I don't know if the WGNC will require a formal vote at the State level, but it would be helpful if they could get the opinions (verbal or e-mail are fine) of the town and county governments. Once we get the okay from the WGNC, the BGN can vote on it.

Typically, we ask proponents to complete an application form for a new name or change, but the information in your e-mail should be enough to start the process. If the WGNC requires anything further, I assume they'll let you know.

If anyone has any information regarding the origin/meaning of "Pesobic", that would be helpful too. Is it a family name or perhaps an indigenous word?

Thanks again for pointing this out, and we look forward to hearing from the WGNC. Sorry if it seems like a lot of effort for a one-letter change, but the BGN has found in many instances that names can be "wrong" for so long that they are accepted as "right" and there is reluctance to change them. The BGN will only change a name if there is evidence of widespread local support to do so.

Jenny

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Date: 04/22/2009 11:00 AM
Subject: Pesabic Lake name correction

Hi Jennifer,

It has come to my attention that GNIS Feature ID 1571242 has a typo in the name. GNIS currently identifies this lake as PESABIC LAKE. According to the locals and various other sources, it should be PESOBIC LAKE. There is also a road nearby that is named Lake Pesobic Road. Our WI County Surface Water books also refer to it as Pesobic Lake. Can you please correct this? Let me know...

Thank you!
Ann Schachte