



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Mark Newcomb, Chair
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Shellie Zahniser, PhD
Office of the Executive Secretary
Domestic Names Committee
U.S. Board on Geographic Names
12201 Sunrise Valley, Drive, MS-523
Reston, VA 20192
bgnexec@usgs.gov

August 11, 2025

Re: Proposed Name Change of Woodring Peak

Dear Members of the Domestic Names Committee:

The Teton County Board of County Commissioners understands that the U.S. Board of Geographic Names (BGN) Domestic Names Committee (DNC) will consider changing the name of Mount Woodring in Grand Teton National Park and within the boundaries of Teton County, Wyoming, during an upcoming DNC meeting. Our Board was asked to provide a recommendation on the two proposals accepted by BGN as potential replacement names to Mount Woodring: Equality Peak and Raven Peak.

Teton County sought feedback from our community on the matter and launched a two-week public engagement campaign, which resulted in overwhelming support for the name Raven Peak. Ravens live in our community and in Grand Teton National Park year-round and exhibit incredible intelligence, play an important role in our ecosystem, are adaptable – thriving at high and low elevations, often performing impressive acrobatic maneuvers – and are known to be highly social and playful. It is our community's sentiment that Raven Peak is an appropriate name for the mountain where these remarkable birds live and play.

Through the public engagement process, many members of our community felt the name Equality Peak was controversial; and while some had strong support for it, there was considerable opposition. Additionally, many community members felt a need to consult with indigenous peoples of Wyoming. While our Board did not consider it appropriate for Teton County to seek feedback from specific groups of people or sovereign tribes, we encourage the U.S. Board on Geographic Names to consider their important feedback.

Thank you for considering our community's support and our Board's recommendation to change Mount Woodring to Raven Peak. We appreciate your time on this matter.



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Please do not hesitate to reach out to our Board with any questions.

Sincerely,

Mark Newcomb, Chair
Teton County Board of County Commissioners

Attest: Maureen E. Murphy
Teton County Clerk