

Review List 444 July, 8, 2021

Change Big Squaw Mountain to Dumont Butte: summit; elevation 4,849 ft.; in Umpqua National Forest 1 mi. SW of Black Butte, 1.6 mi. ESE of Foster Butte; named for Alexander Dumont (1812-1888?), an early French pioneer, whose lineage gave rise to one of the seven family names that members of the Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians can connect to; Secs 13&14, T28S, R1W, Willamette Meridian; Douglas County, Oregon; 43°08'25"N, 122°46'25"W; USGS map – Taft Mountain 1:24,000; Not: Big Squaw, Big Squaw Mountain.

[https://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesrimap?p_lat=43.1403978&p_longi=-](https://geonames.usgs.gov/apex/gazvector.getesrimap?p_lat=43.1403978&p_longi=-122.7736616&fid=1138084)

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Proposal: to change a name considered offensive

Map: USGS Taft Mountain, 1:24,000

Proponent: Jeremy W. Johnson; Roseburg, OR

Administrative area: Umpqua National Forest

Previous BGN Action: None

Names associated with feature:

GNIS: Big Squaw Mountain (FID 1138084)

Local Usage: None found

Published: Big Squaw (AMS 1958, 1959); Big Squaw Mountain (USGS 1955, 1978, 1989, 1997, 2011, 2014, 2017; AMS 1967; Metsker's Map of Douglas County 1967)

Case Summary: This proposal, to change the name of Big Squaw Mountain in Douglas County to Dumont Butte, was submitted by the Oregon Geographic Names Board (OGNB) on behalf of the Cultural Resources Program Manager & Tribal Historic Preservation Officer of the Cow Creek Band of Umpqua Tribe of Indians. The name is proposed as a counterproposal to Sacagawea Peak (Review List 437), proposed by a Portland resident, and Ford Mountain (Review List 443), proposed by the Douglas County Commission (upon learning of the new proposal for Dumont Butte, the proponent of Ford Mountain withdrew his proposal and now supports the Tribal submission).

The summit has an elevation of 4,849 feet and is located in Umpqua National Forest. The name Big Squaw Mountain has appeared on USGS maps since 1955. The name Big Squaw was applied to Army Map Service maps in 1958 and 1959, while a 1967 edition labeled the feature Big Squaw Mountain. Small-scale versions of Metsker's maps of Douglas County label the summit "Big Squaw L.O. [Lookout]."

The proponent reports that the name is associated with Dumont Creek, which heads approximately four miles west of the summit and that it would commemorate Alexander Dumont (1812-1888?). The proponent wrote that Mr. Dumont "was an early French pioneer who moved into Douglas County and married a native Naháñk^huotana (Modern Cow Creek Tribe) woman. From this marriage comes the surname of one of the seven family names that Cow Creek tribal members can connect to."

Genealogical records report that Mr. Dumont's wife was named Mary Josephte (Susette) Finlay (1818-?). According to *Oregon Geographic Names* (McArthur, various editions), Dumont Creek was "named for James and Frank Dumont, who maintained a hunting camp nearby many years ago."

James (1857-1923) and Frank (1891-1932) were grandsons of Alexander and Mary Dumont.

Many summits of various shapes are called "buttes" in Oregon. Black Butte and Finlay Butte are located nearby; all are conical-shaped summits.

The proponent reports that the Tribe began the renaming effort ten years ago, but no proposal was submitted at the time to the OGNB.