

Domestic Geographic Name Report

1 Use this form to recommend a feature name or to suggest a name change.

2. For features on Federal lands, coordinate requests with the agency (U.S. Forest Service, National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, etc.) For the administrative area in which the land is located.

3. On the reverse side of this form give information on the local usage and authority for recommended name.

4. For more information about the Geographic Names Information System or the National Gazetteer Program, contact the U.S. Board on Geographic Names at 703-648-4544.

5. Return this form to:

Executive Secretary for Domestic
Geographic Names
U.S. Geological Survey
523 National Center
Reston, VA 22092

Action Requested

Proposed New Name: X Recommended Name: Mount Elliott
Application Change: State: Alaska
Name Change: County or Equivalent: Municipality of Anchorage
Other: Administrative Area: Chugach State Park

Specific Area Covered:

Latitude: 61 ° 07 ' 04 " N Longitude: -149 ° 32 ' 47 " W
Latitude: ° ' " N Longitude: ° ' " W
Center: Heading End
Section(s) 24 Township(s) 12N Range(s) 2W Meridian Seward Elevation 4,710

Type of Feature (stream, mountain, populated place, etc.): Mountain

Is the Feature identified (including other names), in the Geographic Names Information System (GNIS)?

Yes No X Unknown If Yes, how is it listed?

Description of feature (physical shape, length, width, direction of flow, etc.):

4,710- foot summit in Chugach State Park, in the Chugach Mountains next to the Municipality of Anchorage. Situated between Wolverine Peak and Mount Williwaw.

Maps and other sources using recommended name (including scale and date).

Other name (variants)

Maps and other sources using other name or application (including scale and date).

Chugach State Park Maps

N/A

N/A

Note the cited publications—see application American Alpine Journal (see page 102 at https://aac-publications.s3.amazonaws.com/documents/aa/1966/PDF/AAJ_1966_15_1_098.pdf).

By DNR 12/12/2009

Scale 1:80,000

Name information such as origin, meaning of the recommended name, historical significance, biographic data (if commemorative), nature of usage or application, or any other pertinent information:

Submitted via the U.S. Board on Geographic Names, the proposal is to officially name a 4710-foot summit in Chugach State Park Mount Elliott. The proposal provides strong evidence for local usage, shows the feature is not in a Wilderness Area, and meets the five year provision for Commemorative Names. The Commemorative name honors Sergeant Robert "Bob" T. Elliott Jr., a military paramedic serving in the 71st Air Rescue Squadron and 5040th Operations Squadron at Elmendorf Air Force Base, Anchorage, Alaska. In May 1960, Elliott died, along with pilot William A. Stevenson, attempting to assist three mountaineers needing evacuation from Denali (then Mt. McKinley) when the Cessna 180 piloted by Stevenson crashed at 17,200 feet. The mountain peak has been referred to as Mount Elliott by the community and publications since the 1970s. This proposal is commemorative in nature, based on the contributions of Robert Elliott to Alaska.

This proposal was tabled by the Alaska Historic Commission on June 7, 2022 to allow the proposer to gather more biographical information on Robert Elliott and his significance to this peak. The commission members also recommended that the proposer resubmit the proposal under "local use" rather than under the commemorative category. The proposer was contacted again in August 2023 for more information on the proposal. In their response, the proposer emphasized the established local use of this name for over 60 years by Mountaineering Club of Alaska members and hikers. They also noted that while there was probably a Dena'ina name for the summit, but that name is currently unknown and has not been rediscovered, making it "overwhelmingly likely that 'Mount Elliott' is the oldest and only name for this feature to exist in living memory."

Is the recommended name in local usage? Yes No If Yes, approximately how many years? 50

Is there local opposition to, or conflict with the recommended name (as located)?

While the Mountaineering Club of Alaska's Geographic Names Committee recognizes that the name Mount Elliott has appeared on numerous commercial maps and periodicals dating to its use in an article in 1966, they also note that a variant spelling of the name is Mount Elliot. That said, a guiding policy of the MCA's Geographic Names Committee is not to endorse proposals to name geographic features after people, whether living or dead. Therefore, the MCA's Geographic Names Committee does not approve the proposal for this longstanding name (via the MCA in Spring 2022).

For proposed new name, please provide evidence that feature is unnamed: Mountain is unnamed in USGS Map Viewer. Search of GNIS shows no other Mount Elliott present in the State of Alaska.

Additional information:

The mountain is on State land in Chugach State Park.

Organizations for Consultation:

- Municipality of Anchorage
- Mountaineering Club of Alaska
- Department of Natural Resources, Division of Parks and Outdoor Rec.
- Chugach State Park Citizens Advisory Committee
- Chugach State Park
- Native Village of Eklutna
- Knik Tribal Council
- Cook Inlet Regional, Inc.
- Cook Inlet Tribal Council
- D. Roy Mitchell, with the Alaska Native Language Preservation Advisory Council

Copy submitted by: Name (first, M.I., last)	Title	Phone (day)	Date
			1/3/22

Company or Agency	Address (city, State, and Zip)

Copy Prepared by (if other than above)	Title	Phone (day)	Date
Judith E. Bittner	SHPO	(907) 269-8721	

Company or Agency	Address (city, State, and Zip)
Alaska Department of Natural Resources/Office of History and Archaeology	550 West 7 th Ave., Suite 1310, Anchorage, AK 99501-3565

Authority for Recommended Name:	Mailing Address and Telephone	Occupation	Years in Area

Proposed Geographic Name: Mount Elliott

