

Delineation Guidelines
Version 1.0
Geographical Names Board of Canada

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GNBC Delineation Guidelines

1. Introduction

These guidelines, as approved by the GNBC in NWT on August 8, 2007, have been developed principally for use by GNBC members. However, the guidelines will be of interest to members of the Canadian Council on Geomatics (CCOG); anyone undertaking toponymic research or to the general public interested in submitting place names for official recognition.

The primary focus of these feature delineations is on toponymy, rather than topology. An important distinction must be made between the application of a geographical name based on local usage, and the physical extent of the feature. For example, a hydrologist will define a river based on physical measurements of its source, length and flow. Local citizens may apply the name to only a portion of this physical feature. As outlined in Section 4, the toponymic perspective does not necessarily agree with the topological perspective. When the extent of a feature name does not agree with the topological instance, toponymists rely on local usage when approving geographical names and their extents.

There is a growing need to delineate the limits or extents of named features that commonly appear on various scales of maps and charts and in Geographic Information Systems (GIS) across Canada. Furthermore, most topographic features do not have officially defined boundaries. The need for delineation has become more obvious with the production of maps using GIS technology. *The On-Line Concise Gazetteer Atlas Project* in Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) recognized an immediate need for feature delineation which resulted in the initial drafting of these guidelines.

Canadian geographical naming authorities at the territorial, provincial, and federal levels have been marking delineations on paper maps and other records with varying degrees of standards and quality control until now. These delineations are not readily accessible in digital format to the public or to all naming authorities. Guidelines for standardized delineation are needed, especially with the advent of Web-mapping technology which allows feature delineations to be seen by anyone who has access to the Internet.

The guidelines listed in Section 4 were created through the joint efforts of the Atlas of Canada, officials from the National Hydrographic Network project, the Geographical Names Board of Canada (GNBC) Secretariat, and the Delineation Guidelines Working Group of the GNBC. The GNBC is committed to implementing the delineations of toponymic work using GIS for more effective graphic display and data exchange.

2. Background

Many geographical names authorities are well-positioned to obtain and record topographic feature delineations in Canada. Generally, the GNBC Secretariat, provincial, and territorial records contain a wealth of feature extent and limits information. In several jurisdictions this data has been systematically field checked over the years. The advent of GIS technology and the development of large-scale mapping in some provinces pose an emerging need for detailed delineation information. This led Ontario to develop a delineation program in the early 1990s and British Columbia to develop automated delineation routines in 2001.

However, the increasing demand for delineations across Canada and the lack of resources to properly confirm feature limits and boundaries in the field has confirmed the need for a standardized set of toponymic delineation guidelines. This document outlines the primary uses and best sources for toponymic feature boundary information and establishes a national approach for defining toponymic extents.

3. Delineation Guidelines: Primary Uses and Best Sources for Delineations

Delineations that are authorized by legislation or regulation (e.g., cities, parks, ocean boundaries, wetlands, moraines, etc.) help us administer and protect our natural resources that are often subject to heavy development pressures. Other primary uses for delineations include:

- enabling faster and more individualized information searches on the Web as information becomes tied to delineated areas rather than single points of location;
- providing the key information needed to facilitate the automatic placement of text on maps and on other GIS information products; and
- enabling the application of GIS analytical tools in toponymic research.

Currently, the official source for toponymic feature delineations that have not been regulated or legislated in Canada is found in the records of the territories, provinces, and federal departments and agencies that form the Geographical Names Board of Canada.

The official toponymic extent, or delineation, is determined by the provinces, territories or federal departments or agencies with responsibility for naming. Naming authorities in those jurisdictions follow the guidelines in this document to delineate features at an appropriate scale. Capturing of the extent information is normally accomplished through field surveys and/or correspondence. Initially, where record information is incomplete, naming authorities in Canada will use their records and follow the guidelines where necessary to delineate features. Future field confirmation of delineations or extents will take place as time and resources permit.

The delineation of toponymic extents is marked by many complex geographical considerations and assumptions that vary in number by scale and landscape type.

4. Delineation Examples

4.1 General Comments

The examples provided indicate the appropriate geometric feature type as a **polygon, line or point**;

- These guidelines are developed with the philosophy that, in general, named places in Canada exist with a definable spatial area. Therefore, wherever possible, they must be delineated with a polygon outlining their spatial extent. For example this would mean that both banks of a river would be used to define a polygon. The size, shape and nature of the polygon will be guided by local usage except in those instances where policy, statute or practice of the naming authority may dictate otherwise. In instances where the map scale of the feature is such that it is impossible to display the feature as a polygon (a small creek or a height of land, for example), then the use of single lines (vectors) or points may be used for display purposes only.
- The delineation of toponym polygon boundaries should be coincident with base mapping line segments and, as required, additional “virtual” lines are used to close the toponym delineation polygon;

Several important issues affecting delineation were identified with respect to **rivers and water bodies**. The following three bullets summarize the best practices for river and water body delineation;

- A flexible approach that reflects local usage and adheres to toponymy principles rather than hydrological principles is best;
- All of the geometric elements that are part of the named flowing water feature shall be connected in the database. This is the same as a group of islands that have a group name (i.e. Bird Islands - example 2d.2);
- Rivers sometimes include water bodies that they flow through. A river delineation may be broken by a water body if that water body is not considered to be part of the river;

It was determined that toponym delineation can be derived from any appropriate scale of **reference map or chart** (1:1M; 1:250 K; 1:50 K; 1:20K or 1:10K).

- specific guidelines indicating how map and chart information may be used to demonstrate the graphic limits of real-world features (e.g., how lines of bathymetry from a hydrographic chart are used to define the limits and extent of a navigation channel, etc.).

4.2 Topographic categories

The delineation examples in this document have been arranged in accordance with the generic categories as published in the Generic Terms in Canada's Geographical Names: Terminology Bulletin 176. These examples appear under the generic and subcategory headings followed by a brief description of the category and a list of the more commonly used generics.

The following topographic categories are used in this document. Please note that examples for all categories may not exist at this time.

1. Water Features

- a) flowing freshwater
- b) features on flowing water
- c) standing water surrounded by land
- d) water sources
- e) standing water connected to two or more bodies of water
- f) features used for navigation
- g) tidal water features
- h) shoreline water features

2. Terrain Features

- a) elevated shoreline features
- b) low-lying shoreline features
- c) underwater features
- d) terrain surrounded by water
- e) elevated
- f) depressed
- g) flat

3. Ice and Snow Features

4. Features associated with vegetation

- a) forested areas
- b) open areas with low vegetation

5. Underground Features

6. Volcanic Features

7. Constructed Features

- a) resource related
- b) transportation related
- c) others

8. Undersea Features

9. Topocomplexes
- a) water-and-land
 - b) land-and-water
 - c) water-and-water
 - d) land-and-land

The topographic categories used above are essentially groupings of generic terms as used in the Canadian Geographical Names Data Base (CGNDB) and the Canadian Geographical Names Service (CGNS). This document does not provide a full list of generic terms (generics, for short). The full list of generics is the one in the *CGNDB* and *CGNS Data Base Records Manuals*. It is worth noting that the actual list of generics that is in use across Canada is now in excess of 1200 generic terms. This list of generics is updated on an annual basis.

Generic Terms in Canada's Geographical Names (also known as TB 176) is a subset of the full list of generics as it contains only those generics that are actually used **in** geographical names.

4.3 Examples

The examples shown in this document are guidelines only and are to be employed as rules of thumb. Any delineations used in this document should not be used as legal descriptions. Generally, unless delineations are being generated on hardcopy documents, existing digital geometry (water line data, contour line data, etc.) should be used to form the basis of the delineations, whenever possible.

NOTE: The official toponymic extents as approved by GNBC members shall **always** override these guidelines. It is also recommended that toponymists be consulted in cases where difficulty is encountered in determining the correct extent for a feature.

1. Water Features

a) flowing freshwater

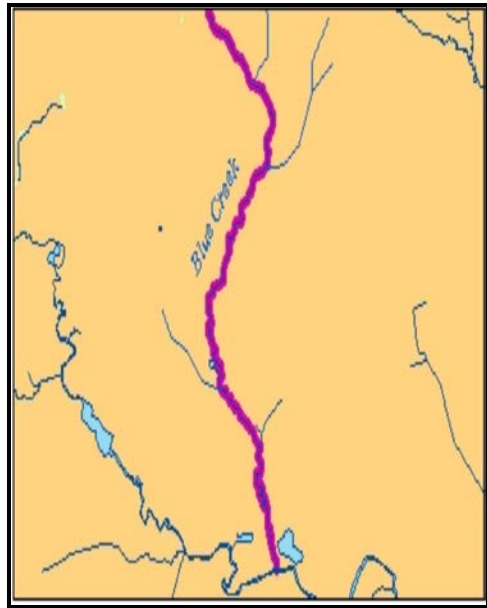
Flowing watercourses of various sizes such as a river, stream, creek, brook, or reach

Example 1a.1

Delineation type: **Line**

Delineation of “Blue Creek”

- Use identical single stream line from the base map to delineate the creek.
- The mouth is the intersection point of the single stream line and the shoreline of the water body that the creek empties into.
- **Note:** The delineation of “Blue Creek” does not include the small tributaries that empty into it. These small tributaries may have their own names or may be unnamed.



Example 1a.1

Example 1a.2

Delineation type: **Polygon**

Delineation of “White River”

- Use identical shorelines of river sections that have two sides to delineate river polygon.
- Use virtual lines to close the ends of the polygon where the river meets other water bodies.
- The mouth is the midpoint of a virtual line between the river polygon and the water body.



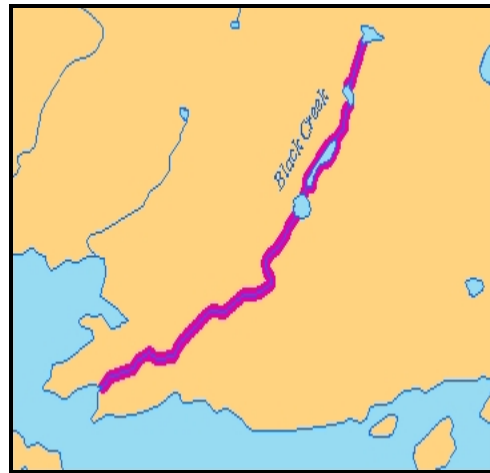
Example 1a.2

Example 1a.3 Delineation type: **Line and polygon**

Delineation of “Black Creek”

- Use identical single stream lines from the base map to delineate part of the creek.

Note: This delineation emphasizes the role of local usage in delineating more complex features. Local usage indicates that only one of the four polygons lying along the “Black Creek” system’ is part of the feature named “Black Creek”. In this case, the long, narrow polygon from the base is added to the four line segments from the base map to complete the delineation of “Black Creek”.



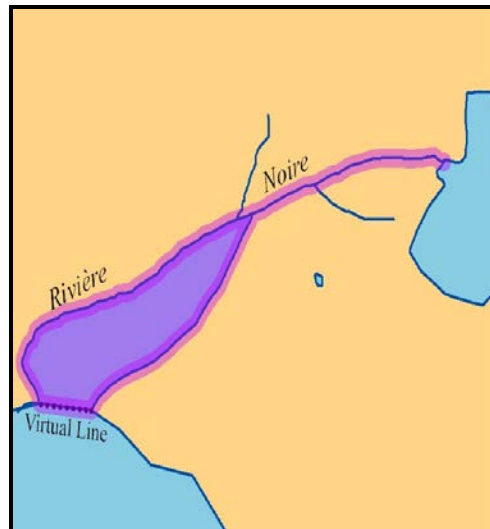
Example 1a.3

Example 1a.4 Delineation type: **Line and polygon**

Delineation of “Rivière Noire”

- Use an identical single stream line from the base map to delineate part of the river.
- Local usage indicates that the large polygon is not a separate feature, but one part of the feature named “Rivière Noire”. Use identical shoreline of river sections that have two sides to delineate this part of the river.
- Use a virtual line to close the end of polygon river sections where these sections meet water bodies.

Note: This guideline emphasizes the role local usage plays in delineating more complex features.



Example 1a.4

1. Water Features

b) features on flowing water

Natural features forming part of a watercourse such as a pool, or rapids

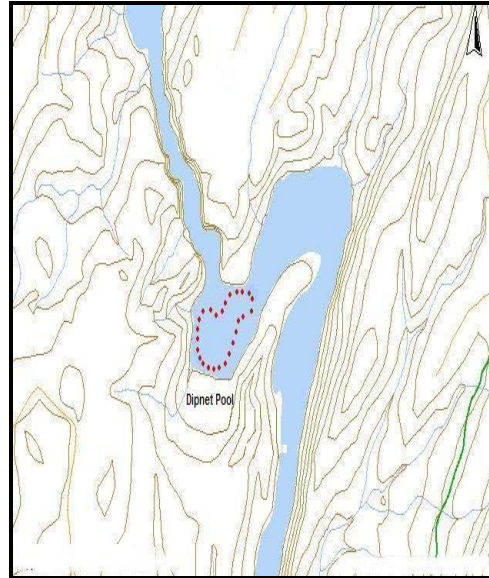
Example 1b.1

Delineation type: **Polygon**

Delineation of “Dipnet Pool”

- Use identical bathymetric lines from the hydrographic chart, other [hydrographic/bathymetric?] information from authoritative sources, or shorelines from the base map, as appropriate, to delineate the sides of the feature.
- Add virtual line(s) to close the polygon.

Note: This type of feature is likely not depicted as a discrete entity on standard base maps and charts, and might not be visible even on a close inspection of the landscape; identification of these features and delineation of their extent requires expert local knowledge and advice.



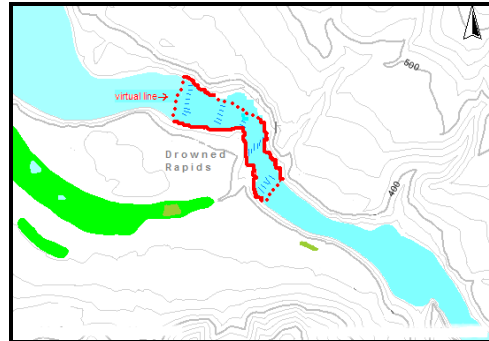
Example 1b.1

Example 1b.2

Delineation type: **Polygon**

Delineation of “Drowned Rapids”

- Use identical shorelines from the base map to delineate the sides of the feature. In some cases, expert local knowledge or advice may indicate that the feature does not follow the shoreline. Virtual lines should be used in these cases to delineate the sides of the feature.
- Add virtual lines at the ends of the feature to close the polygon.



Example 1b.2

1. Water Features

c) standing water surrounded by land

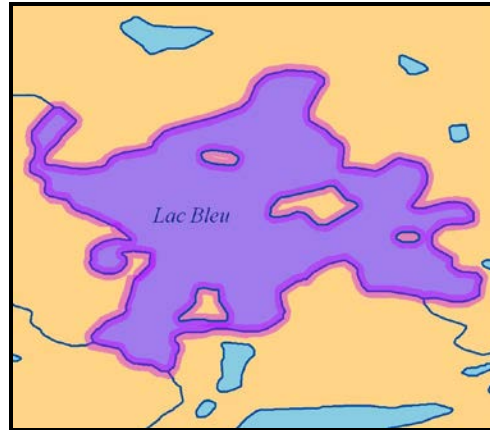
Inland body of standing water such as a lake, pond, lagoon, reservoir or loch

Example 1c.1

Delineation type: **Polygon**

Delineation of “Lac Bleu”

- Use identical shorelines from the base map to delineate the edge of the feature.
- Exclude all islands within the feature by using identical island shorelines from the base map.



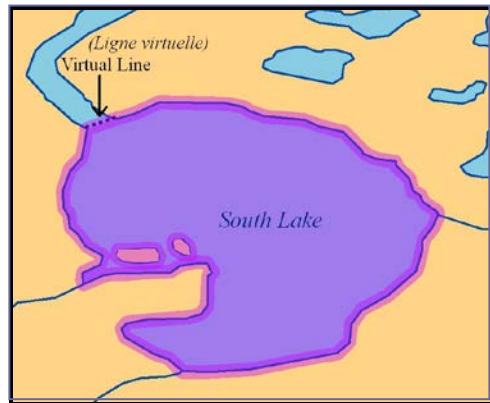
Example 1c.1

Example 1c.2

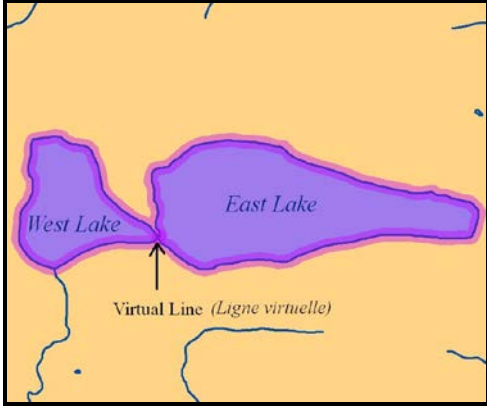
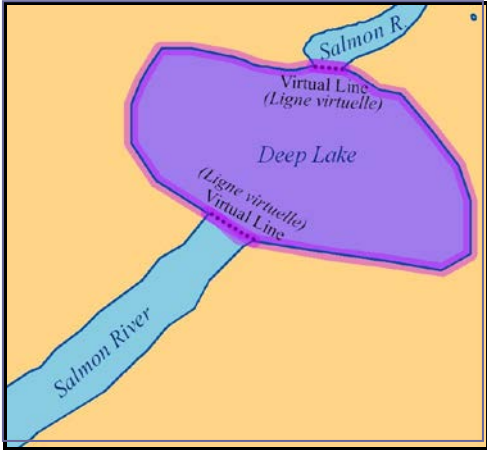
Delineation type: **Polygon**

Delineation of “South Lake” within a river system

- Use identical shorelines from the base map to delineate the edge of the feature.
- Use a virtual line to close the lake polygon.
- Exclude all islands within the feature by using identical island shorelines from the base map.



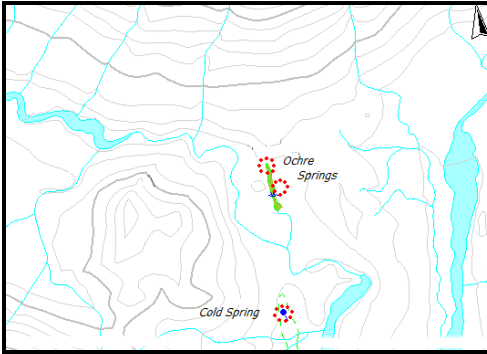
Example 1c.2

<p>Example 1c.3 Delineation type: Polygon</p> <p><i>Delineations of “West Lake” and “East Lake” are adjoined.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use identical shorelines from the base map to delineate the edge of the feature. • Add a virtual line to separate the lakes and close the lake polygons. 	 <p>Example 1c.3</p>
<p>Example 1c.4 Delineation type: Polygons</p> <p><i>Delineation of “Deep Lake” within “Salmon River”</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use identical shorelines from the base map to delineate river polygon sections and water bodies within the river system. • Use virtual lines to separate river polygon sections from water bodies and to close the polygons. 	 <p>Example 1c.4</p>

1. Water Features

d) water sources

Seasonal water sources such as springs

<p>Example 1d.1 Delineation type: Polygon</p> <p><i>Delineation of “Ochre Springs” and “Cold Spring”</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use virtual lines to create a polygon around the feature or map symbol. <p>Note: This type of feature is likely <u>not</u> depicted as a discrete entity on standard base maps, and identification might require a close (or even seasonal) inspection of the landscape.</p>	 <p>Example 1d.1</p>
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1. Water Features

e) standing water connected to two or more bodies of water

Narrow stretch of water, either an inlet or a connection between two bodies of water such as a channel, strait, pass, tickle, or reach

Example 1e.1 Delineation type: **Polygon**

Delineation of “Détroit Rouge”

- Use identical shorelines from the base map to delineate the sides of the strait.
- Add virtual lines at the ends of the strait to close the polygon.



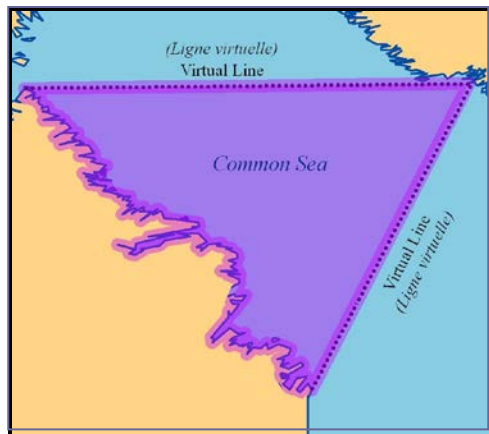
Example 1e.1

Large body of salt water such as a sea, or ocean

Example 1e.2 Delineation type: **Polygon**

Delineation of “Common Sea”

- Use identical shorelines from the base map as the side delineation of the sea.
- Add virtual lines at the sides of the sea to close the polygon.



Example 1e.2

1. Water Features

f) features used for navigation

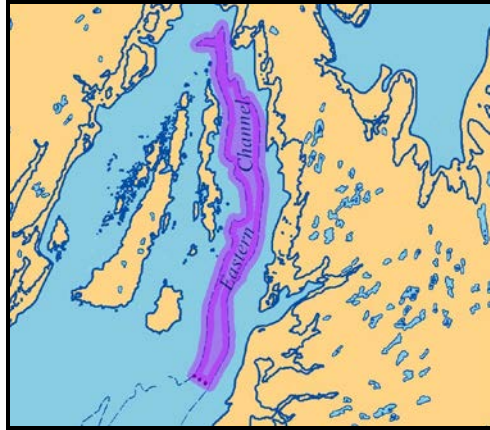
Natural or constructed navigable waterway between land or shoals such as a channel, strait, pass, and reach (underwater features)

Example 1f.1 Delineation type: **Polygon**

Delineation of “Eastern Channel”

- Use identical bathymetric lines from the hydrographic chart to delineate the sides of the channel.
- Add virtual line(s) to close the polygon.

Note: This is a navigation channel defined by the depth of the water rather than the shoreline. It should not be used for navigational purposes.



Example 1f.1

1. Water Features

g) tidal water features

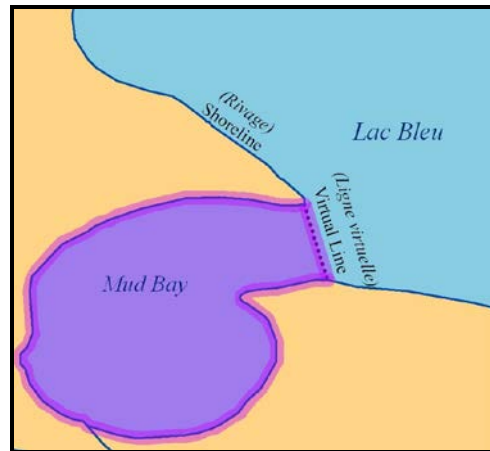
Water area in an indentation of the shoreline of seas or lakes such as a bay, cove, inlet, fiord, gulf, gut, basin, or harbour

Example 1g.1 Delineation type: **Polygon**

Delineation of “Mud Bay” within “Lac Bleu”

- Use identical shorelines from the base map to delineate the inner edge of the feature.
- Add a virtual line to delineate the outer edge of the feature and close the polygon.

Note: The delineation of “Lac Bleu” also includes small bays and inlets, unless local usage dictates otherwise.



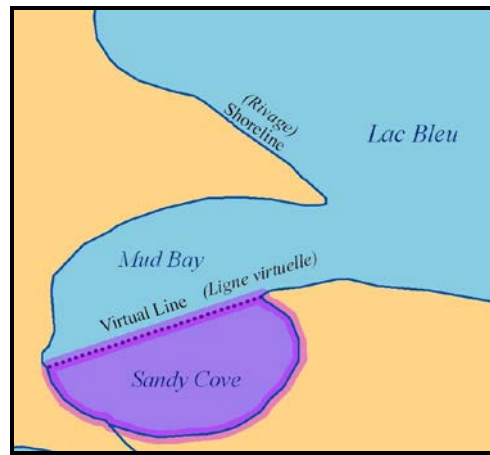
Example 1g.1

Example 1g.2 Delineation type: **Polygon**

Delineations of “Sandy Cove” within “Mud Bay” within “Lac Bleu”

- Use identical shorelines from the base map and add a virtual line to close the “Sandy Cove” polygon.

Note: The delineation of “Lac Bleu” includes “Mud Bay”, which also includes “Sandy Cove”, unless local usage dictates otherwise.



Example 1g.2

1. Water Features

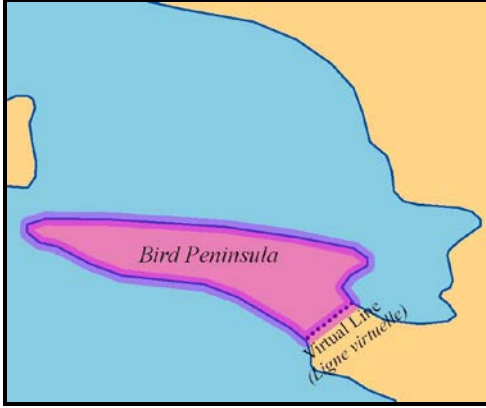

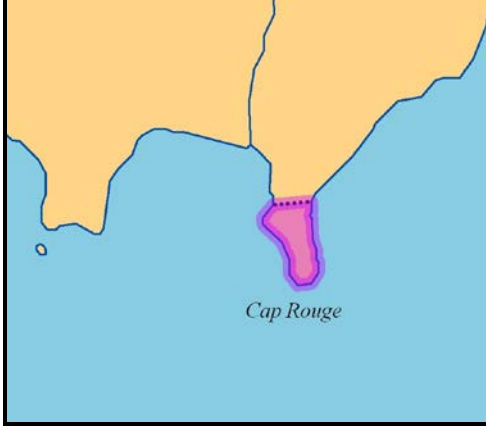
h) shoreline water features

No examples delineated at present.

2. Terrain Features

a) elevated shoreline features

Prominent projection of land extending into a body of water or above the shoreline such as a cape, head, point, peninsula, or raised beach

<p>Example 2a.1 Delineation type: Polygon</p> <p><i>Delineation of “Bird Peninsula”</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use identical shorelines from the base map to delineate the sides of the peninsula.• Add a virtual line at the neck (narrowest part) of the peninsula to close the polygon.	 <p>A map showing a peninsula labeled "Bird Peninsula" in pink. The peninsula is surrounded by blue water. A dashed purple line at the narrowest part of the peninsula is labeled "Virtual Line (ligne virtuelle)".</p> <p>Example 2a.1</p>
<p>Example 2a.2 Delineation type: Point</p> <p><i>Delineation of “Cap Rouge” (small-scale map)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use a point on the outermost shoreline of the promontory to represent the feature.	 <p>A map showing a coastal area with a small promontory labeled "Cap Rouge" in pink. A red dot is placed on the outermost shoreline of the promontory.</p> <p>Example 2a.2</p>
<p>Example 2a.3 Delineation type: Polygon</p> <p><i>Delineation of “Cap Rouge” (large-scale map)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use identical shorelines from the base map to delineate the shape of the promontory.• Use a virtual line on the inland side of the feature to close the polygon.	 <p>A map showing a coastal area with a small promontory labeled "Cap Rouge" in pink. A dashed purple line on the inland side of the promontory is labeled "Virtual Line (ligne virtuelle)".</p> <p>Example 2a.3</p>

Example 2a.4 Delineation type: **Polygon**

Delineations of “Ikpigyuag” (raised beach)

- Create new boundary lines to delineate the edges of the feature, including the segments of contour lines from the base map where appropriate.



Example 2a.4

2. Terrain Features

b) low-lying shoreline features

No examples delineated at present.

2. Terrain Features

c) underwater features

No examples delineated at present.

2. Terrain Features

d) terrain surrounded by water

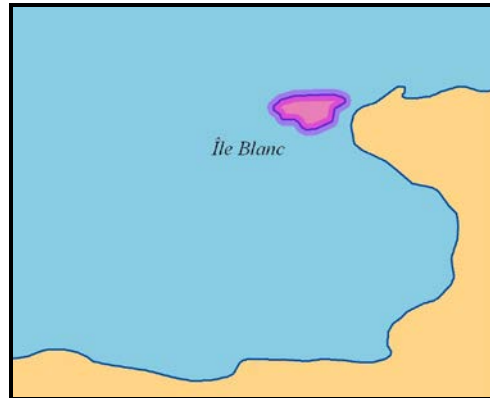
Land area surrounded by water or marsh such as an island, isle, or islet

Example 2d.1

Delineation type: **Polygon**

Delineation of “Île Blanc”

- Use identical shorelines from the base map to delineate the single island “Île Blanc”.



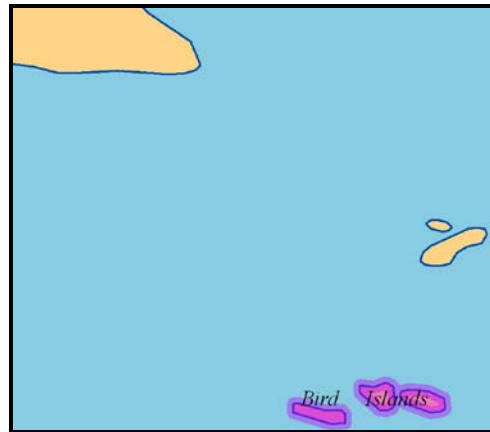
Example 2d.1

Example 2d.2

Delineation type: **Polygon**

Delineation of “Bird Islands”

- Use identical shorelines from the base map to delineate all the individual islands in the group.
- Island groupings will be predetermined in the GIS based upon database information.



Example 2d.2

2. Terrain Features

e) elevated

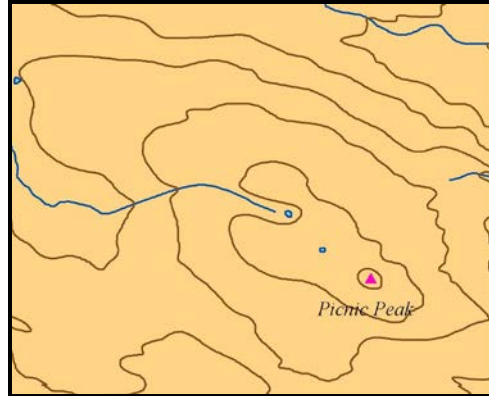
Mass of land prominently elevated above the surrounding terrain, bounded by steep slopes and rising to a summit and/or peaks such as a mountain, peak, mount, ridge, hill, bluff, or cliff

Example 2e.1

Delineation type: **Point**

Delineation of “Picnic Peak” (small-scale map)

- Use a point or spot height symbol to indicate the point of highest elevation for “Picnic Peak”.



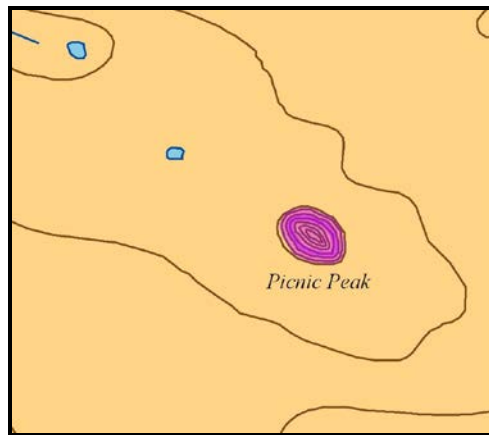
Example 2e.1

Example 2e.2

Delineation type: **Polygon**

Delineation of “Picnic Peak” (large-scale map)

- Use identical contour lines from the base map to delineate the base and extent of the peak.
- Use the highest contour line to indicate the highest elevation of “Picnic Peak”.



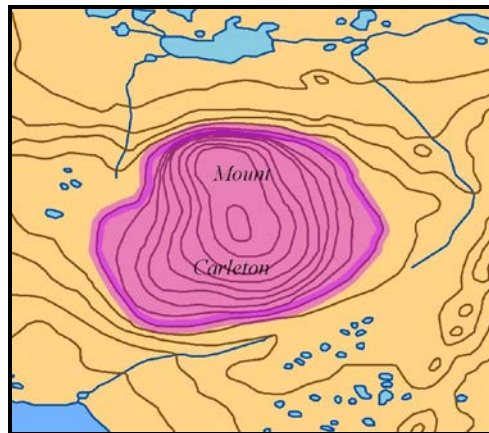
Example 2e.2

Example 2e.3

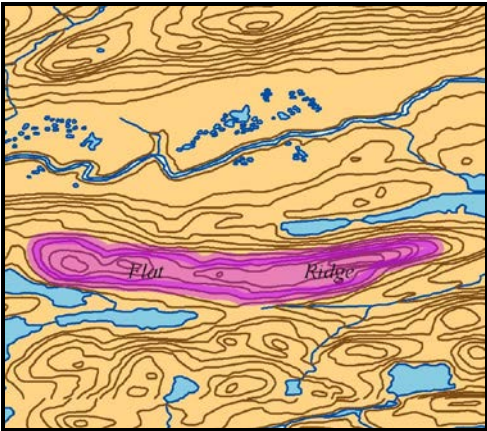
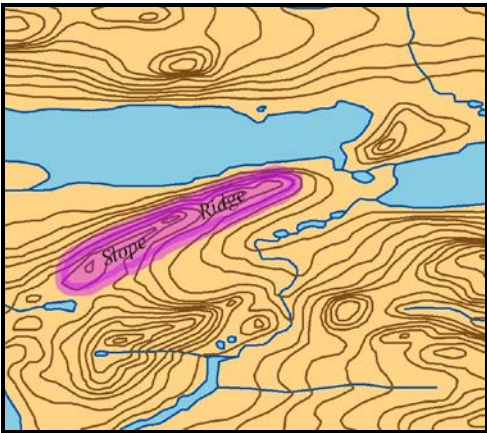
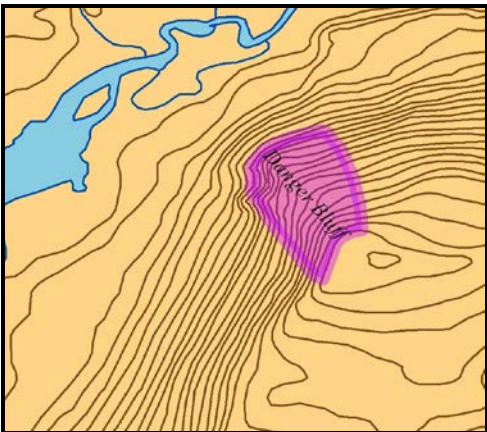
Delineation type: **Polygon**


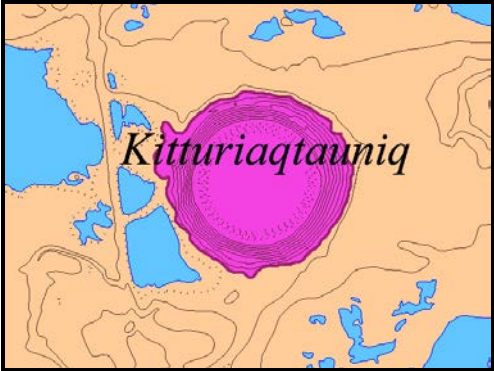
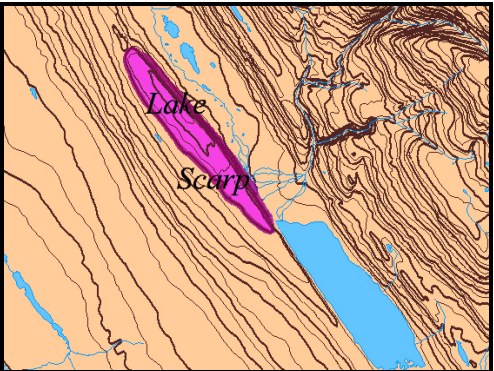
Delineation of “Mount Carleton”

- Use the first isolation contour line (or lowest contour line) which most closely indicates the base of the rise in elevation.



Example 2e.3

<p>Example 2e.4 Delineation type: Polygon</p> <p><i>Delineation of “Flat Ridge”</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use identical contour lines from the base map to delineate the base of the ridge. 	 <p>Example 2e.4</p>
<p>Example 2e.5 Delineation type: Polygon</p> <p><i>Delineation of “Slope Ridge”</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When continuous contour lines are not available, use a combination of segments of contour lines from the base map and create additional lines to delineate the edge of the feature. 	 <p>Example 2e.5</p>
<p>Example 2e.6 Delineation type: Polygon</p> <p><i>Delineation of “Danger Bluff”</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create new boundary lines to delineate the edges of the feature, including the segments of contour lines from the base map where appropriate. • Expert local knowledge or advice or photographs of the site may help determine the correct delineation. 	 <p>Example 2e.6</p>

<p>Example 2e.7 Delineation type: Polygon</p> <p><i>Delineation of “Limestone Bluffs”</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use identical shoreline from the base map to delineate the base of the feature, or use the lowest contour line which most closely indicates the base of the rise in elevation. • Use virtual lines to delineate the edges of the feature, and segments of contour lines from the base map to delineate the ‘top’ of the feature. 	 <p>Example 2e.7</p>
<p>Example 2e.8 Delineation type: Polygon</p> <p><i>Delineation of “Kitturiaqtauniq”(pingo) (large-scale map)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use identical contour lines from the base map to delineate the base and extent of the pingo, as you would a peak. 	 <p>Example 2e.8</p>
<p>Example 2e.9 Delineation type: Polygon</p> <p><i>Delineation of “Lake Scarp”</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When continuous contour lines are not available, use a combination of segments of contour lines from the base map and create additional lines to delineate the edge of the feature, as you would a ridge. 	 <p>Example 2e.9</p>

2. Terrain Features

f) depressed

No examples delineated at present.

2. Terrain Features

g) flat

No examples delineated at present.

3. Ice and Snow Features

No examples delineated at present.

4. Features associated with vegetation

a) forested areas

No examples delineated at present.

4. Features associated with vegetation

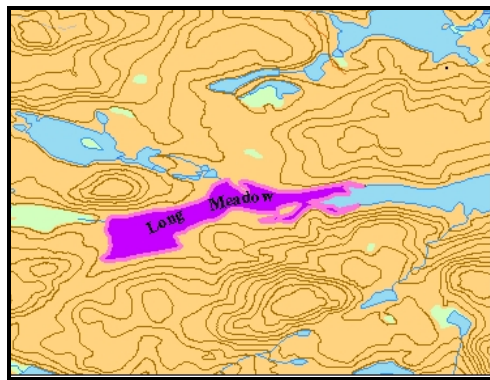
b) open areas with low vegetation

Open areas with low vegetation such as a meadow, marsh, swamp or bog

Example 4b.1 Delineation type: Polygon

Delineation of "Long Meadow"

- Use identical polygon of permanent or seasonally inundated wetland area from the base map to delineate the edges of the meadow.
- Add a virtual line at the neck (narrowest part) of the feature to close the polygon.

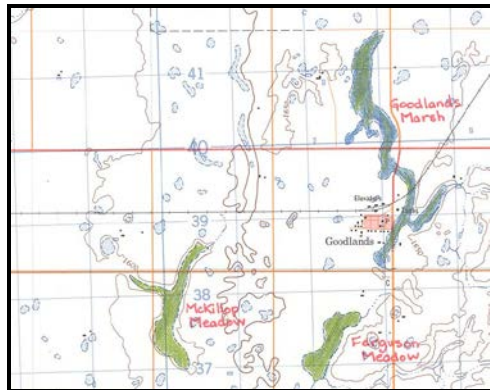


Example 4b.1

Example 4b.2 Delineation type: Polygons

Delineations of "Goodlands Marsh", McKillop Meadow", and "Ferguson Meadow"

- Use identical polygons of permanent or seasonally inundated wetland area from the base map to delineate the edges of the meadow.



Example 4b.2

5. Underground Features

No examples delineated at present.

6. Volcanic Features

No examples delineated at present.

7. Constructed Features

a) resource related

No examples delineated at present.

7. Constructed Features

b) transportation related

No examples delineated at present.

7. Constructed Features

c) others

No examples delineated at present.

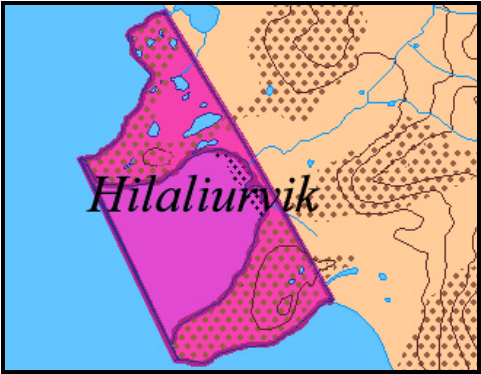

8. Undersea Features

No examples delineated at present.

9. Topocomplexes

a) water-and-land

Body of water enclosed on one or two sides by prominent projections of sheltering land such as bay-and-capes, or a bay-and-cape

<p>Example 9a.1 Delineation type: Polygon</p> <p><i>Delineation of “Hilaliurvik” (bay-and-capes)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use identical shorelines from the base map to delineate both capes and the enclosed water body.• Use virtual lines to close the shore-side and water-side polygon sections.• The label should appear near the centroid.	 <p>Example 9a.1</p>
<p>Example 9a.2 Delineation type: Polygon</p> <p><i>Delineation of “Kijjivik” (bay-and-cape)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use identical shorelines from the base map to delineate the single cape and the neighbouring water body.• Use virtual lines to close the shore-side and water-side polygon sections.• The label should appear near the centroid.	 <p>Example 9a.2</p>

9. Topocomplexes

b) land-and-water

No examples delineated at present.

9. Topocomplexes

c) water-and-water

No examples delineated at present.

9. Topocomplexes

d) land-and-land

No examples delineated at present.

5. References

5.1 Definitions, Acronyms, and Abbreviations

Bay, cove, inlet, fiord, gulf, gut, basin, harbour:

Water area in an indentation of the shoreline of seas or lakes

Cape, head, point, peninsula, raised beach:

Prominent projection of land extending into a body of water or above the shoreline

Channel, strait, pass, reach:

Narrow stretch of water, either an inlet or a connection between two bodies of water. Other examples of channels may be natural or constructed navigable waterways between land or shoals. Hydrographic charts may be the most reliable sources for these underwater features.

Contour line:

A line which defines the rise of a contour and measures the height of land on a map.

Delineation:

Identification of the extent (or area) of a geographical feature.

GNBC:

Geographical Names Board of Canada

Generic or generic term:

Term used to describe a geographical feature. Most geographical names are composed of two parts – the specific and the generic. In Lake Ontario, “Lake” is the generic and “Ontario” is the specific. Some names have no obvious generic, such as Toronto and The Alps. Such names are coded with a generic; in this case Toronto is a city and The Alps are hills. So the generics are “city” and “hills”.

Island, isle, islet

Land area surrounded by water or marsh

Lake, pond, lagoon, reservoir, loch:

Inland body of standing water

Large scale map:

Small area shown in great detail; e.g., a city map

Mountain, peak, mount, ridge, hill:

Mass of land prominently elevated above the surrounding terrain, bounded by steep slopes and rising to a summit and/or peaks

NRCan:

Natural Resources Canada

Polygon:

A multi-sided figure or drawing (“poly” meaning “many”; “gon” meaning “angle”); used here to describe the extent or “footprint” of a named geographical feature.

Pool, rapids, etc.:

Natural features forming part of a watercourse

River, stream, creek, brook, reach:

Flowing watercourses of various sizes

Sea, ocean:

Large body of salt water

Small scale map:

Large area shown with little detail; e.g., a map of Canada or the provinces or the territories.

Topocomplex:

Geographical entities of topographic scale comprised of more than one discrete and separately nameable element.

Toponymy:

The study of place names.

Topographic element, feature, or event:

A real-world landscape entity, such as a mountain range, a sea, a glacier, a canal, etc.

Toponymic extent:

The delineation of the extent of a geographical name as applied to a topographic or cultural feature.

Virtual line:

A hypothetical line rather than a tangible or physical delimiter; used here to distinguish a named geographical feature from surrounding features.

5.2 Reference Sources

- Centre for Topographic Information. 2003. *CTIO Caris User Guide*. Appendix “C”: Virtual Features and Boundaries, Ottawa.
- Centre for Topographic Information. 2002, *Canadian Geographical Names Product Specifications*, Version 02, Ottawa: Geographical Names Section.
- Centre for Topographic Information. 2003. *Delineation Methodology for Geographical Names*. Ottawa: CTI-O Quality Team.
- Centre for Topographic Information. 2003. Feature Identifier. Ottawa: Geographical Names Section.
- Department of the Secretary of State of Canada, 1987, *Generic Terms in Canada’s Geographical Names*. Terminology Bulletin 176, Ottawa.
- Geographical Names Board of Canada Secretariat. A list of delineation rules for named physical features. GNBC Secretariat, Ottawa.

5.3 Concise codes and concise terms

<u>Code</u>	<u>Concise Term</u>	<u>Code</u>	<u>Terme concis</u>
BAY	Bay	BAIE	Baie
BCH	Beach	PLAG	Plage
CAPE	Cape	CAP	Cap
CAVE	Cave	CAV	Caverne
CHAN	Channel	CHEN	Chenal
CITY	City	VIL1	Ville
CLF	Cliff	ESC	Escarpement
FALL	Falls	CHUT	Chutes
FOR	Forest	FOR	Forêt
GEOG	Geographical area	GÉOG	Zone géographique
GLAC	Glacier	GLAC	Glacier
HAM	Hamlet	HAM	Hameau
IR	Indian Reserve	RI	Réserve indienne
ISL	Island	ÎLE	Île
LAKE	Lake	LAC	Lac
MIL	Military area	MIL	Réserve militaire
MISC	Miscellaneous	DIV	Divers
MTN	Mountain	MNT	Mont
MUN1	Other municipal / district area - major agglomeration	AZM1	Autre zone municipale / de district - agglomération majeure
MUN2	Other municipal / district area - miscellaneous	AZM2	Autre zone municipale / de district - divers
PARK	Conservation area	PARC	Zone de préservation
PLN	Plain	PLNE	Plaine
PROV	Province	PROV	Province
RAP	Rapids	RAP	Rapides
RIV	River	CDE	Cours d'eau
RIVF	River feature	EFLV	Entité fluviale
SEA	Sea	MER	Mer
SEAF	Sea feature	EMAR	Entité maritime
SEAU	Undersea feature	SMER	Entité sous-marine
SHL	Shoal	H-FD	Haut-fond
SPRG	Spring	SRCE	Source
TERR	Territory	TERR	Territoire
TOWN	Town	VIL2	Ville
UNP	Unincorporated place	LNO	Lieu non organisé
VALL	Valley	VALL	Vallée
VEGL	Low vegetation	VÉGB	Végétation basse
VILG	Village	VILG	Village

6. Appendices

6.1 Appendix A: Other important sources for toponymic delineation in Canada

1	One of the best sources of delineations in toponymy is derived from cultural and/or social influences. The cultural aspect of naming in the assignment of geographical names to features cannot be denied. Oral tradition often plays a pivotal role in tracing the origins of our place names. In many cases, the folklore and local usage that are associated with the feature will be given priority over its physical geography.
2	Legislation, regulations, and associated official plans that contain legal toponymic feature boundaries, particularly for cities, counties, land districts, counties, parks, etc.
3	Existing Amendment Maps in files located in the office of the GNBC Secretariat.
4	The text of name type on topographic maps, especially large-scale maps produced in conjunction with GNBC members, is normally placed centrally.
5	For large mountain ranges in Canada, consult: <ul style="list-style-type: none">the map <i>British Columbia Physiographic Subdivisions, Canadian Cordillera</i>GSC Memoir 247 – <i>Physiography of the Canadian Cordillera, with special reference to the area north of the Fifty-fifth Parallel</i> (1948) by H. S. Bostock
6	For bays and capes, consult the Canadian Hydrographic Service's suite of <i>Sailing Directions</i> published by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans.
7	<p>All named Canadian glaciers were delineated in the 1980s by Simon Ommanney of National Hydrology Research Institute, Environment Canada. Due to movement and melting, new delineations may be needed. Newly-named glaciers will also require delineation. Consult Mike Demuth, glaciologist at NRCan ((613) 996-0235), if this expertise is not available to your organization.</p> <p>For glaciers at 1:1 million scale, consult the USGS publication: Williams and Ferrigno, eds. - <i>Satellite Image Atlas of Glaciers of the World, NORTH AMERICA</i>, United States Geological Survey Professional Paper 1386J, ISBN: 060798290X, US Geological Survey, Denver, 1988.</p>
8	The approved coordinates of the named feature.
9	A complete and up-to-date source for extents of named undersea features was not found within the scope of this project.
10	<p>For a detailed listing of nationally recognized generics used in Canadian geographical names, refer to the <i>Generic Terms in Canada's Geographical Names</i> (Terminology Bulletin 176).</p> <p>For all generics used in the Canadian Geographical Names Data Base (CGNDB) and the Canadian Geographical Names Service (CGNS), consult the records manuals for these databases or the GNBC Secretariat.</p> <p>To have a new generic approved for use in the CGNS, contact the GNBC Secretariat.</p>

6.2 Appendix B: Document Contributors

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