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Natural Feature Names Standardization in Latvia

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History

- Standardization of Natural Feature Names accordingly with the UN Resolutions in Latvia was started in 1970, fulfilling the direction No.73, Council of Ministers LSSR, February 11, 1976
- Task of compilation the Card Index of Nature Feature Names LSSR was delegated to the Scientific Research Branch of the Faculty of Geography Latvian State University
- The Card Index was compiled mainly by the researcher Ruta Avotiņa from 1970, afterwards other scientists took part, too



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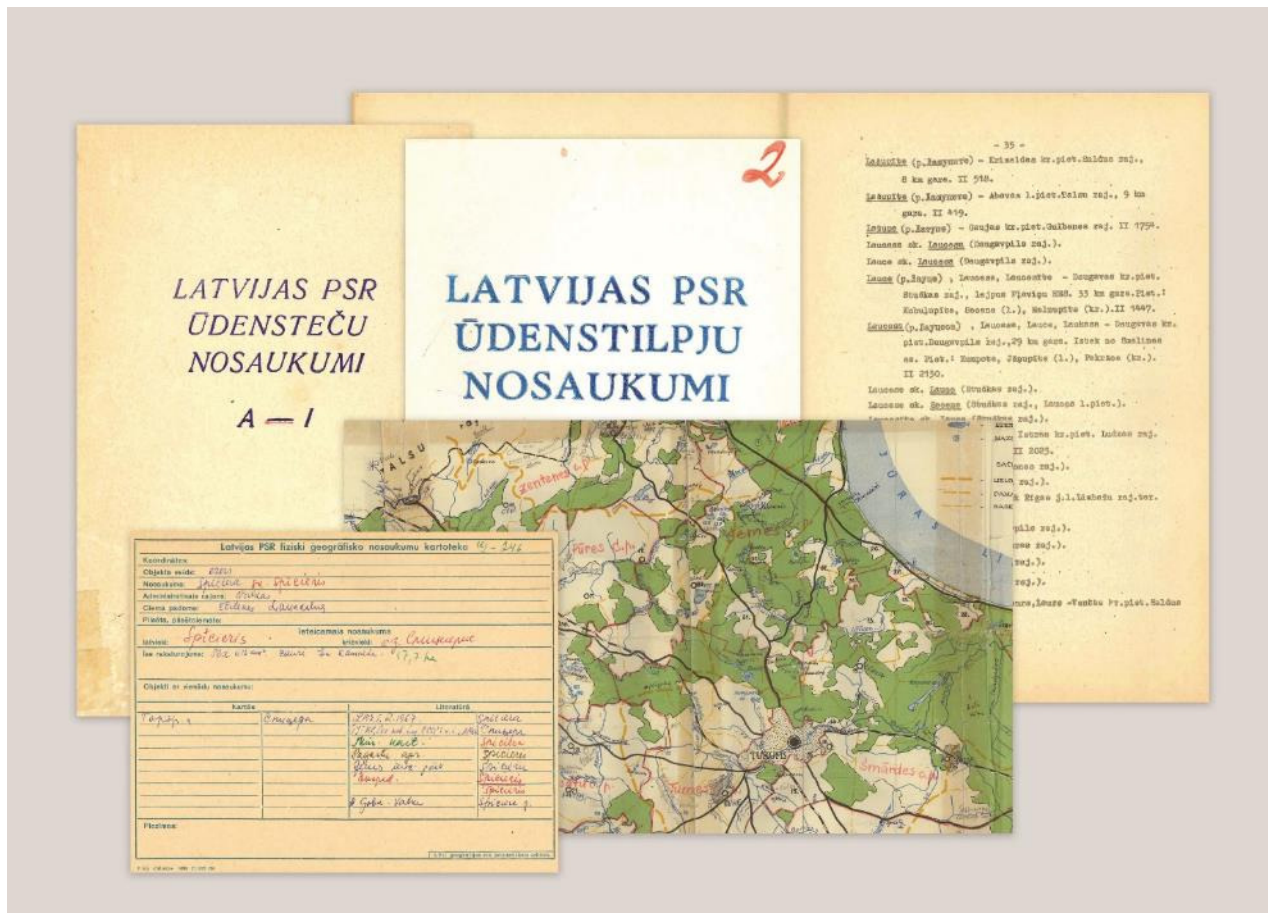
History

- Every natural feature has 1 card, containing all known its names and name variants
- Kartographic adjustment of every toponym
- Cameral and field work
- The first toponymic dictionaries, based on the Card Index of Nature Feature Names of LSSR were published by Latvian State University:
 - Latvijas PSR ūdenstilpju nosaukumi 1984
 - Latvijas PSR ūdensteču nosaukumi 1986



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History



The Card Index of Nature Feature Names LSSR and first toponymic dictionaries



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History

- After reinstating the independence, since 1994, toponymists-geographers of Latvia works in State Land Service and take part in large projects, concerning place names:
 - Layer of place names for the Satellite map 1:50 000 of the Republic of Latvia (1994 – 1998)
 - Layer of place names for the Topographic map 1:50 000 of Latvia, the first edition (since 1997)
- The first toponymic regional dictionaries were published by Latvian State University:
 - J.Kavacs Valkas rajons 1993
 - Z.Goba Kuldīgas rajons 1994
 - O.Kovaļevska Krāslavas rajons 1997



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History

Dālderu kalns — Erģemes pag., ap 2,2 km Z no Erģemes (c.). Uz tā Dālderu (m.).
 Domes [Duomes] kalns sk. Karšļu kalns.
 Dzeņu Podis [Dunde] — kalns Variņu pag., 4 km DAA no Variņiem (c.), 0,7 km A no Iksleim (m.), meža.
 Dzeņu kalns — Bīlskas pag., 2,7 km DRR no Mēriem (c.), DR no Šķirbām (m.). Tur kādreiz bijis daudz dzeņu.
 Dzerbu kalns — Vītoloma pag., ap 1,7 km Z no Vītolomas, Vijas a vieta.

Gorenu [Guorēnu] kalns — Jērcēnu pag., ap 4 km DR no Jērcēniem (c.). Uz tā Gorēni (m.).
 Gopura [Guospora] kalns — Variņu pag., ap 3 km DR no Variņiem (c.), DR no Stierģiem (m.). Zems pacēlums meža vidū, uz tā irums.
 Grēka kalns — Piāņu pag., 3,7 km ZA no Jaunklīža (c.), R no Kreļļiem (m.).
 Ievīņkalns — Zvārtavas pag., ap 2,5 km Z no Stepiem (c.). Uz tā Ievīņkalni (m.).
 Ilmetes kalns — garenis pangors Erģemes pag., ap 3,5 km Z no Erģemes (c.), Z no Diezattēm (m.), VMF.
 Jaņa kalns sk. Pīlīņu pilskalns.
 Jēna kalns — Smiltēne, pilsētas centrālajā daļā. Uz tā estrāde [14].
 Jāņa kalns — Trikātas pag., pie Kūtītiem (m.), Dutkas ex. A kraslā Sentkapl, arheoloģijas piemineklis [45].
 Jāņu kalns — Blomes pag., 3,5 km DR no Blomes (c.), 0,5 km R no Kalns Kūsmieciem (m.). Muišsāites I krastā.
 Jeberleja — ieleja Blomes pag., Blome, pie Nigras (a.), uz D no Kalna Jeberiem (m.). Tur atrodas Blomes estrāde un diķis Asuāna.
 Jēns kalns — Trikātas pag., ap 4 km DR no Trikātas (c.). Āugstāka vieta apkārtnē. 92 m vjl. Sena kulta vieta.
 Jēna kalns — Jērcēnu pag., pie Jēpiem (m.). Ceļu huvejot, daļēji norakts.

Latvijas Universitāte
Ģeogrāfijas nodaļa

J. Kavacs

VALKAS rajons

Dabas objektu
nosaukumu vārdnīca
Rīga, 1993



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History

- In 1998 the project of Geographical Names Database was launched by the State Land Service on initiative of the Laboratory of Toponymy
- Compilation of Toponymic regional dictionaries was continued – R.Avotiņa Madonas rajons 1999
- The first toponymic civil parish dictionaries were published:
 - R.Avotiņa Sēlpils pagasts 2003
 - R.Avotiņa Staburaga pagasts 2004
 - Zaubes pagasts 2005
 - Liepas pagasts 2009
 - Krustpils pagasts 2012



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History



Geographical Names Database and dictionaries



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Today

- Since 2005 Laboratory of Toponymy continues its work in Latvian Geospatial Information Agency

- **Now, in 2016, Laboratory of Toponymy works in 3 main directions:**

1. Developing and inspecting toponyms in maps manufactured by LGIA (developing – M1:50 000, inspecting – the rest)

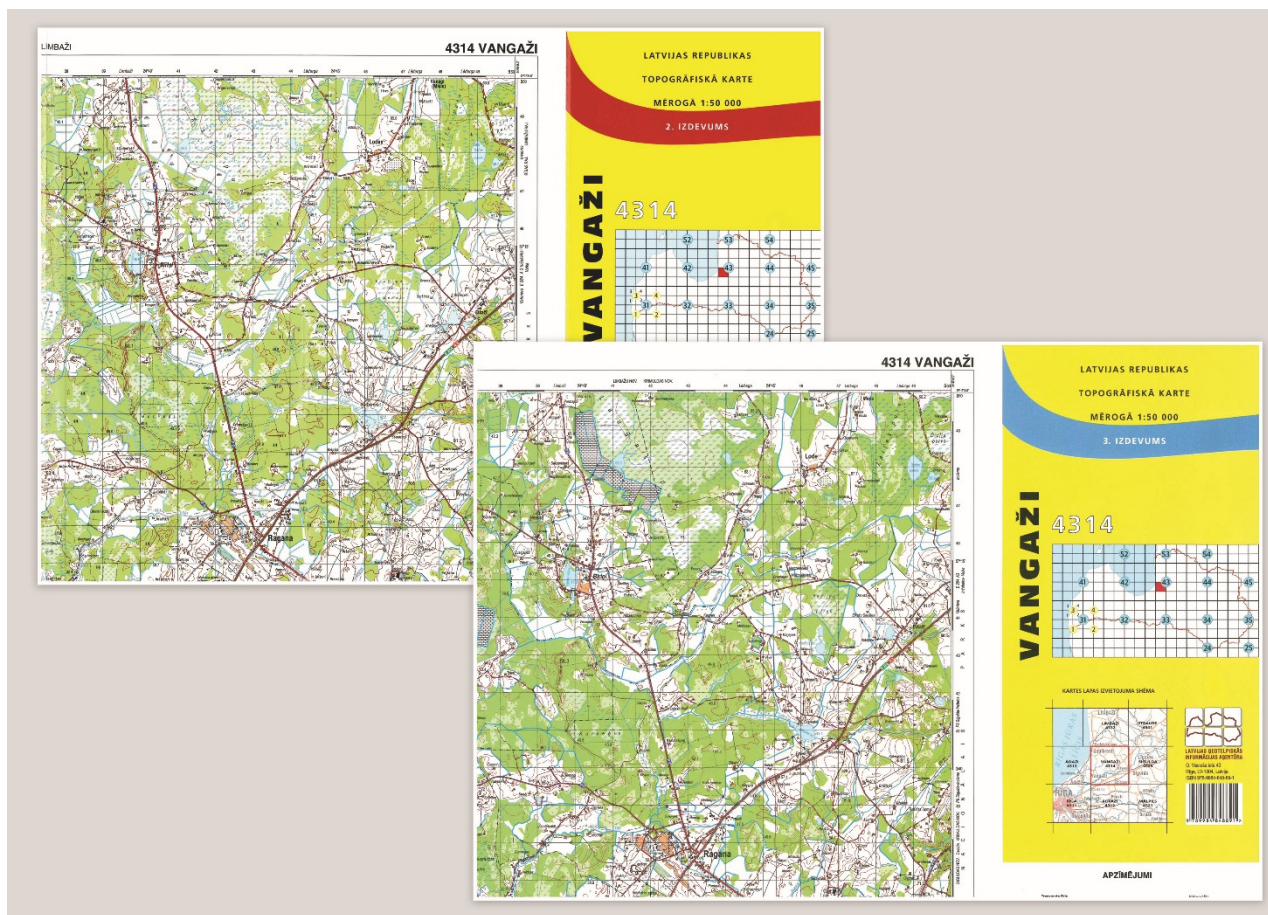
2. Developing an inspecting toponyms in Geographical Names Database

3. Standardization of Natural Feature Names, because Natural Feature Names, publiced on maps and dictionaries has not official status



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Today



M 1:50 000 2 and 3 edition



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Natural Feature Names Standardization in Latvia

- In 2014 Standardization of Natural Feature Names in Latvia went in new phase – **Official Names for the Natural Features assignin**
- It was possible after adoption Regulations Regarding Geographical Names Information 10.01.2012
- Regulations prescribe the procedures for the creation, assigning, approval, accumulation, publication, use, preservation and protection of geographical names



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The Responsible Institutions Having Rights to Approve the Official Names

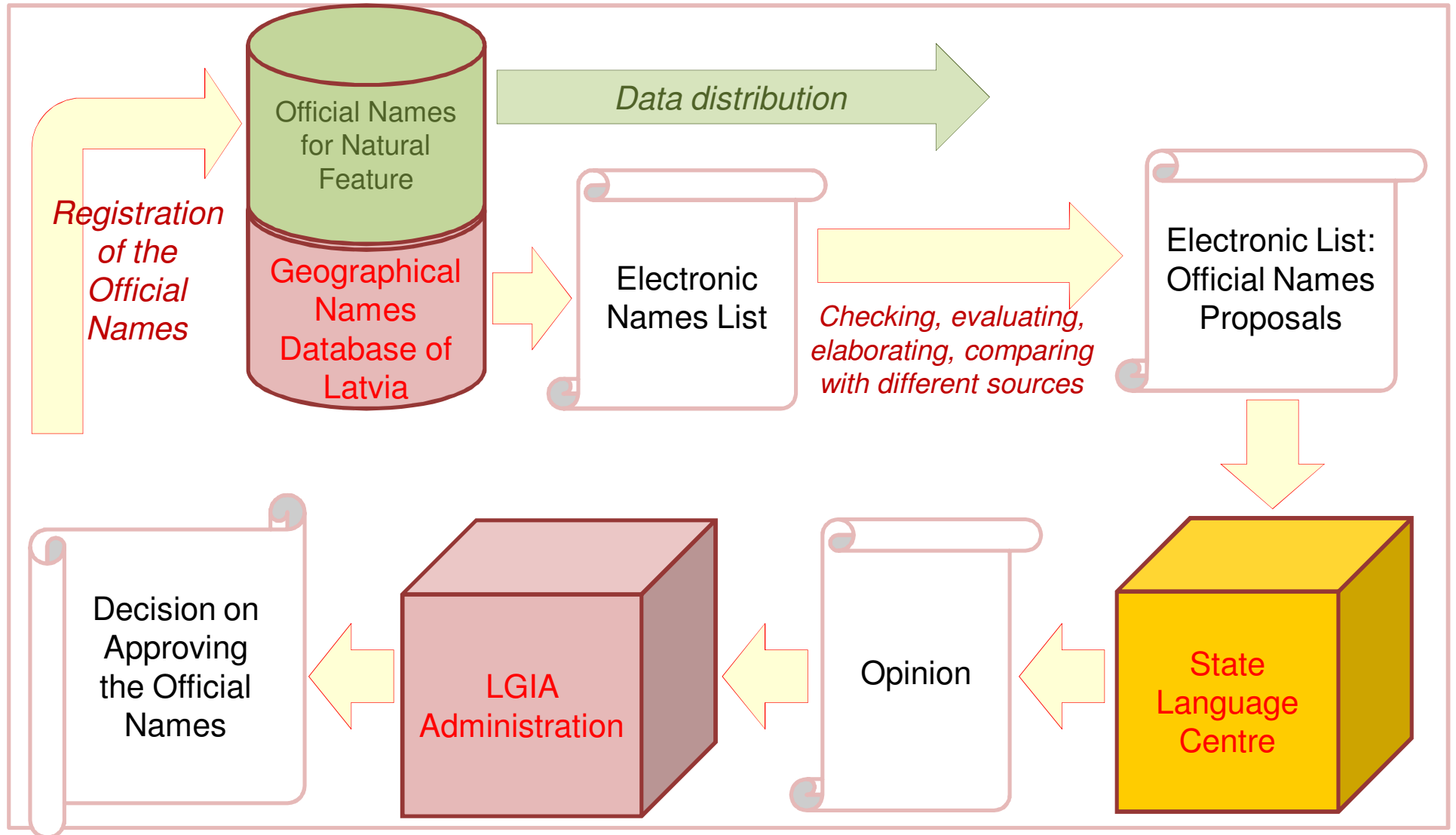
According to the Regulations on the Toponymic Information (2012):

- Names of administrative and territorial units, cities and towns – Parliament and Government
- Names of other populated places (houses, homesteads, villages), streets, parks and other man-made features – local governments
- Names of transportation features, nature conservation areas, cultural-historical features etc. – mainly responsible ministries
- **Natural feature names** (except features, essential for maritime navigation) - **Latvian Geospatial Information Agency**



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The process of Standardization of Natural Feature names





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The process of Standardization of Natural Feature names

The Latvian Geospatial Information Agency to **January 10, 2016** evaluated the status of geographical names of natural features existing in the Geographical name Database and submit, in the form of an electronic list, proposals to the State Language Centre on assigning of official names and official parallel names for 4601 features



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The process of Standardization of Natural Feature names

Objekta ID	Pamatnosaukums	Veids 3	Valsts, pilsēta, novads	Pilsēta, pilsētas daļa, pagasts	Eksperts	Piezīmes	Nesaistes ar ŪSIK, ŪTK, Civillikuma pielikumiem (Civ)
268	Aglonas ezers	ezers	Aglonas novads	Aglonas pagasts	Otilija Kovaļevska	Aglonas ezers/Egles ezers; Aglyunas azars / Egles azars (latg.)	ŪTK 2012: Aglonas ezers (Egles ezers)
326	Bieržgaļa ezers	ezers	Aglonas novads	Aglonas pagasts	Otilija Kovaļevska	Var dot paralēlnosaukumu: Kapiņu ezers; Bieržgaļa azars (latg.)	Civ 2007: Bieržgaļa ezers (Biržkalnu ezers, Kapiņu ezers); ŪTK 2012: Bieržgaļa ezers, Bieržgaļa ezers (Biržkalnu ezers, Kapiņu ezers)
288	Biešons	ezers	Aglonas novads	Aglonas pagasts	Otilija Kovaļevska	Biešuons (latg.)	Civ 2007: Bešēnu ezers (Biešona ezers); ŪTK 2012: Biešons, Bešēnu ezers (Biešona ezers)
321	Kameņecas Ilzs	ezers	Aglonas novads	Aglonas pagasts	Otilija Kovaļevska	Kameņecas Ilzs (latg.)	Civ 2007: Ilzas ezers; ŪTK 2012: Kameņecas Ilzs (Kameņecas Ilza ezers), Ilzas ezers
352	Oposta ezers	ezers	Aglonas novads	Aglonas pagasts	Otilija Kovaļevska	Oposta azars (latg.)	ŪTK 2012: Oposta ezers
354	Pakalnis	ezers	Aglonas novads	Aglonas pagasts	Otilija Kovaļevska	Vai: Pakalņa ezers; Pakalņa azars (latg.)	Civ 2007: Pakalņa ezers; ŪTK 2012: Pakalnis (Pakalņa ezers), Pakalņa ezers
362	Ruskuļu ezers	ezers	Aglonas novads	Aglonas pagasts	Otilija Kovaļevska	Ruskuļu azars (latg.)	ŪTK 2012: Ruskuļu ezers
6369	Kalveiša ezers	ezers	Aglonas novads	Grāveru pagasts	Otilija Kovaļevska	Kalveiša azars (latg.)	Civ 2007: Kalvišu ezers; ŪTK 2012: Kalveiša ezers, Kalvišu ezers
6412	Kumbuļa ezers	ezers	Aglonas novads	Grāveru pagasts	Otilija Kovaļevska	Arī: Konušku ezers; Kumbuļa azars / Konušku azars (latg.)	ŪTK 2012: Konušku ezers (Kumbuļa ezers)
7501	Sakovas ezers	ezers	Aglonas novads	Grāveru pagasts	Otilija Kovaļevska	Sakovys azars (latg.)	ŪTK 2012: Sakovas ezers
7514	Saviņu ezers	ezers	Aglonas novads	Grāveru pagasts	Otilija Kovaļevska	–	Civ 2007: Saviņu ezers (Saveļu ezers); ŪTK 2012: Saviņu ezers (Saveļu ezers)
11180	Zosns	ezers	Aglonas novads	Grāveru pagasts	Otilija Kovaļevska	Zosns (latg.)	ŪTK 2012: Zosns (Zosna ezers), Zosnas ezers
6271	Denevas ezers	ezers	Aglonas novads	Kastulīnas pagasts	Otilija Kovaļevska	–	–
6282	Dubulu ezers	ezers	Aglonas novads	Kastulīnas pagasts	Otilija Kovaļevska	–	–
6296	Geranimovas lldzs	ezers	Aglonas novads	Kastulīnas pagasts	Otilija Kovaļevska	–	–

Official name proposals



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The process of Standardization of Natural Feature names

Objekta ID	Pamatnosaukums (LĢIA priekšlikumam oficiālajam vietvārdam)	Objekta veids (VDB Veids 3)	Pilsēta, novads	Pilsēta, pilsētas daļa, pagasts	Eksperts	LVEK Vietvārdu apakškomisijas ieteikums	Avotos fiksētā vietējā forma
74878	Kukšezers	ezers	Alsungas novads	Alsungas novads	Aija Kresse	Kukšu ezers	
70642	Liekne	purvs	Alsungas novads	Alsungas novads	Aija Kresse	Liekne [iē]	nav, ir Liēkne (pļava)
70052	Zvirgzdu ezers	ezers	Alsungas novads	Alsungas novads	Aija Kresse	Zvirgzdu ezers (Zviergžģu [iē] ezers)	Zviērgžģu ezers 1943, 1979
85406	Puču kalns	kalns	Dobeles novads	Auru pagasts	Zane Cekula	Puču kalns	
96680	Sesava	upe	Dobeles novads	Auru pagasts	Zane Cekula	Sesava [e]	Šesava 1959
87482	Bikstupe	upe	Dobeles novads	Bikstu pagasts	Zane Cekula	Bikstupe	
78354	Zebrus ezers	ezers	Dobeles novads	Bikstu pagasts	Zane Cekula	Zebrus [e] ezers	
96693	Skujaine	upe	Dobeles novads	Krimūnu pagasts	Zane Cekula	Skujaine	
93196	Skolas kalns	kalns	Dobeles novads	Naudītes pagasts	Zane Cekula	Skolas [uō] kalns	
24590	Ālave	upe	Dobeles novads	Penkules pagasts	Zane Cekula	Ālave [ā]	Ālavas upe 1959, PI II 385 [Endzelīnam ir Ālavas muiža]
78360	Svētes ezers	ezers	Dobeles novads	Zebrenes pagasts	Zane Cekula	Svētes [ē] ezers	Svētes ezers 1958
84335	Bažu purvs	purvs	Dundagas novads	Kolkas pagasts	Vita Strautniece	Bažpurs	
96933	Celmupe	upe	Dundagas novads	Kolkas pagasts	Vita Strautniece	Celmupe [e]	
81591	Kolkasrags	zemesrags jūrā	Dundagas novads	Kolkas pagasts	Vita Strautniece	Kolkasrags [o□] / Kūolka nanā (lībiešu val.)	Koļkasrags [bez gada], PI I 259
96936	Ķikans	upe	Dundagas novads	Kolkas pagasts	Vita Strautniece	Ķikans	
11341	Durbes ezers	ezers	Durbes novads	Durbes pagasts	Tamāra Lapsa	Durbes [u□] ezers (Dorbes [uō] ezers)	Durbes ezers 1964
94596	Lāņupe	upe	Durbes novads	Durbes pagasts	Tamāra Lapsa	Lāņupe [ā]	Lāņupe [bez gada]
84081	Aisteres mežs	mežs	Durbes novads	Tadaiķu pagasts	Tamāra Lapsa	Aisteres [ai] mežs	nav, ir Aīstere (bij. muiža)



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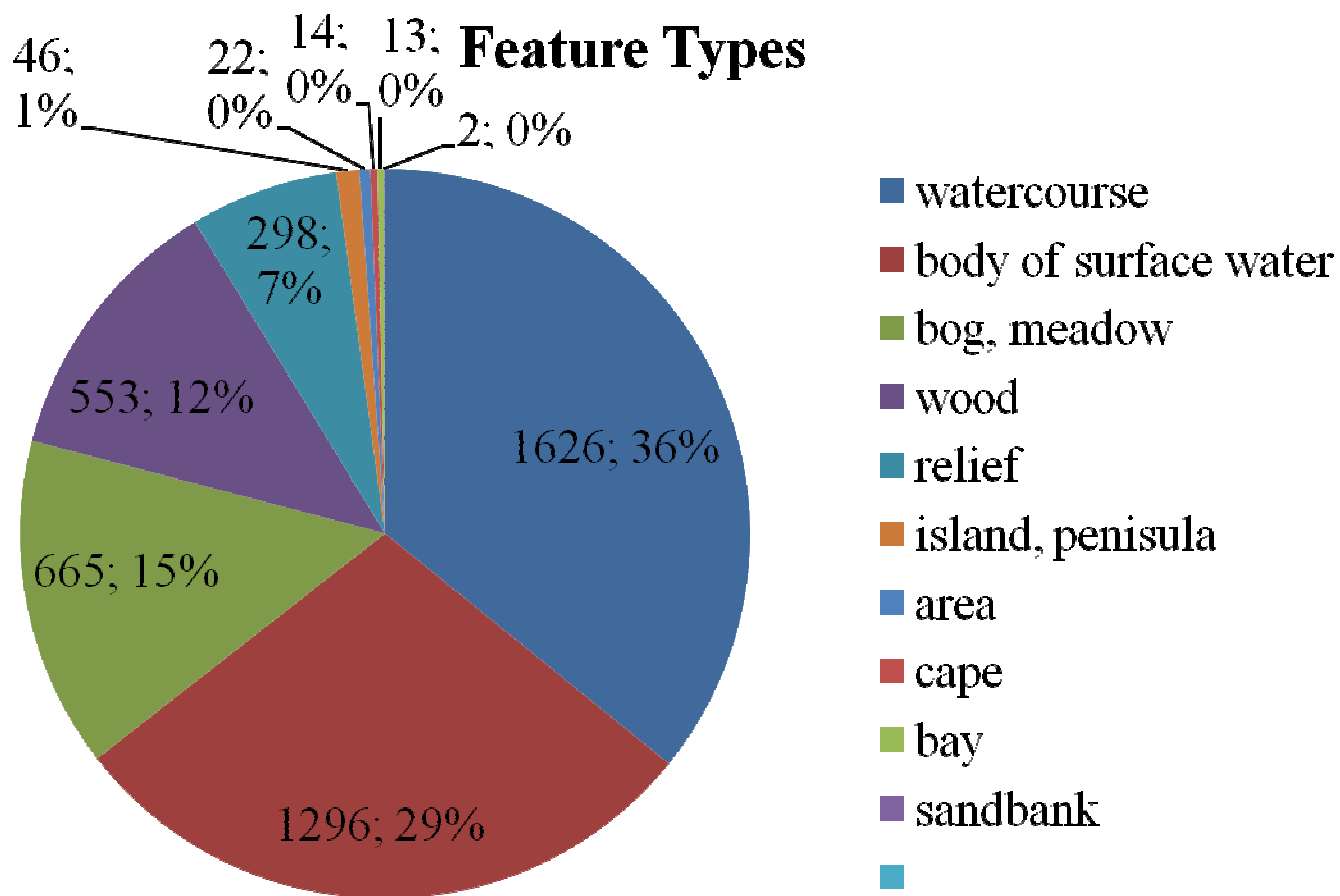
The process of Standardization of Natural Feature names

- The 1st step of standardization (2014) - names from the Overview map, scale 1:250 000
- The 2nd step standardization (2014-2016) - names from the Topographical map, scale 1: 50 000



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The process of Standardization of Natural Feature names



Official name proposals 4515 objects 2014 -2015



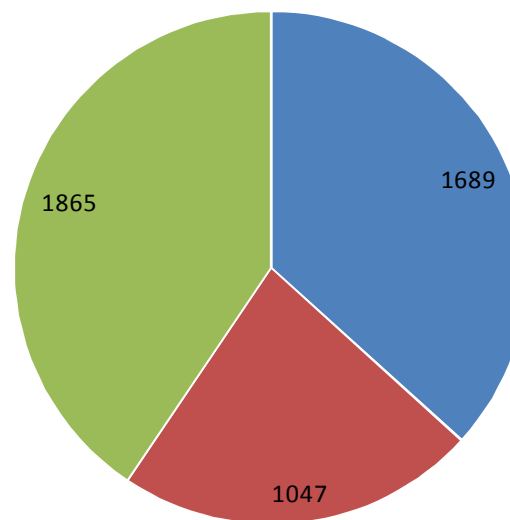
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Problems

A. More than one name for one feature

- Official Names Proposals sent to State Language Centre 2014-2016 contain 4601 objects in total, including:
- 1689 objects with 1 name
- 1047 objects with 2 names
- 1865 objects with 3 and more (up to 16) names

4601 objects in total



■ 1 name ■ 2 names ■ 3 and more names



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Problems

A. More than one name for one feature.

Objekta ID:	<input type="text" value="67618"/>
Pamatnosaukums:	Krustalīce
Pamatnosaukums pārbaudīts:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (28.12.2015)
Nosaukums kartē:	Krustalīce
Nosaukums Adrešu klasifikatorā:	
Nosaukumi:	Aizupe (augštecē) Aizupīte (augštecē) Kristalīce Krustalica Krustalices upe Krustaliča Krustalīces upe Krustalīces upīte Krustalīcis Krustalīča upe Krustalīča upīte Krustalīču upe Krustalīču upīte Krustalpe Miķīšupīte (augštecē)
Ietilpst (ietek) objektā:	Pededze (ID=67708)

River Krustalīce has 16 names



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Solution A

1. Official parallel name (**Aglonas ezers/Egles ezers**)
2. Recommended local form for informal use (**Durbes ezers, Dorbes ezers**)



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Problems

B. Inconsistent place name use in official communication and public space



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Problems

B.1. Imprecise (even erroneous) representation of names in legislative acts (lake **Kaņieris** and **Kaņiera ezers**, **Solojs** and **Lakstīgalu ezers**)

B.2. Different institutions use different names for the same feature (river **Ķekava** or **Ķekaviņa**)

B.3. Discrepancies between written and local, traditional forms of names (bog **Stulbes purvs** or **Vānes kūdras purvs**)

B.4. Lack of uniformity in reflecting dialect and vernacular differences, imprecise (even erroneous) spelling, mainly in Latgale region (lake **Ots**, **Ata ezers**, **Atas ezers**, **Ātu ezers**, **Ota ezers**, **Vota ezers** or lake **Biešons**, **Bešona ezers**, **Bešons**, **Bēšons** **Biešona ezers**, **Biešuons**, **Karašu ezers**)



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Problems

Objekta ID:	<input type="text" value="6608"/>
Pamatnosaukums:	Ots [o]
Pamatnosaukums pārbaudīts:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> (29.02.2012)
Nosaukums kartē:	Ots
Nosaukums Adrešu klasifikatorā:	
Nosaukumi:	Ata ezers (kļūdaini) Atas ezers (kļūdaini) Atu ezers (kļūdaini) Ota ezers [o] Vota ezers [o] (kļūdaini)
Ietilpst (ietek) objektā:	Dridža ezera dabas parks (ID=136045)



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Solution B

1. Standardization of Natural Feature names
2. Official names data dissemination
3. Toponymic education



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Benefits of Natural Feature Names Standardization in Latvia

- Development of the place names system in Latvia, decreasing of false, incorrectly used and written place names
- The improved quality of Geographical Names Database should result in growth of properly used toponyms in a public space
- Consistent use of accurate place names
- Official parallel naming conducts to save place names as a national heritage and also ensure better identification of objects



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Brochure “Regulations Regarding Geographical Names Information”

- In 2016 brochure about “Regulations Regarding Geographical Names Information” was prepared by the Laboratory of Toponymy
- The brochure:
 - summarizes the main issues of the Regulations
 - deals with the norms of the Regulations in a popular way
 - is addressed to the wide public



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**Although a lot is already done, our way
toward the consistent use of accurate place
names is in the beginning still**

Dace Kavace

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