

# Salish Place Names

## Bitterroot Valley

English Name	Salish Name & Translation	Background on Salish Name or Use of Area
Bitterroot Mountains	Čk <sup>w</sup> lk <sup>w</sup> lqéyn - Red Topped Peaks	This name is used to refer to St. Mary's peak in the Bitterroots and to the mountain range as a whole. In the morning light the peaks can have a red wash. Johnny Arlee tells the story of Salish people finding red figurines at St. Mary's peak. The entire length of the range was used for hunting and berry gathering.
Bitterroot River	Nstetčcx <sup>w</sup> etk <sup>w</sup> - Waters of the Red Osier Dogwood	Looking on a map of the Bitterroot Valley, you see that the Bitterroot River flows through the heart of the valley. There were Salish trails on both sides of the River. People fished and camped along the river.
Lolo	Tmsmí- No Salmon	This name is from a Coyote Story where Coyote unsuccessfully attempted to stock the area where Lolo Creek empties into the Bitterroot River with salmon. This was a favorite hunting place for deer.
Lolo Trail	Naptnišá - Trail to the Nez Perce	Another place name related to Coyote as this trail was first prepared by Coyote during his travels. This trail west connected the Salish and Pend d'Oreille with their friends and allies, the Nez Perce and the Nez Perce used to come east.

Stevensville	<p>Łqéłmłš- Wide Cottonwoods</p>	<p>This was “the most important winter camp of the Salish west of the Continental Divide. There was abundant wood, excellent grazing for horses, and good fishing in the winter months. In the summer months, berries and camas could be found in abundance nearby.”</p>
Hamilton	<p>Čtćlćlé - Scattered Trees        Growing on Open Ground or Trees        Standing in Water        (This can refer either to        cottonwoods by a pond or        cottonwoods growing in an open        area.)</p>	<p>This area was another important camp for the Salish people. After the Salish were removed from the Bitterroot, they returned to work for the farmers and ranchers living on their old ancestral land. Francis Vanderburg refers to this in a film clip.</p>
Darby	<p>Snk<sup>w</sup>ix<sup>w</sup>ex<sup>w</sup>emí - Place Where They        Would Lift Something</p>	<p>There was a story told of a rock along the trail that some people could move, but on their return to the place along the trail, the rock would be back where it originally was. This area is near the southern end of the Bitterroot Valley.</p>
Ross' Hole (Near Sula)	<p>K<sup>w</sup>tít Púpłm - Place Where You        come Out to a Clear Area</p>	<p>This place is along a route sometimes used by the Salish to go to buffalo. It was known for its good horse pasture, berries, and hunting. It was also used as a campsite for those going to the Salmon River country to fish for salmon.</p>

This information is from the Salish and Pend d'Oreille Culture Committee and Salish tribal member Johnny Arlee.