

GLACIER BAY'S BEAR TRACK INN



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February 23, 2024

Dear Local Boundary Commission,

We are opposed to the formation of the Xunna Borough as presented in the petition to form.

My family designed, constructed and have operated the Bear Track Inn since 1997 and have lived/worked in Gustavus since 1985. We run this small and remote lodge as a family owned business in Gustavus. My wife, Michelle Olney, and I are the drivers, mechanics, plumbers, housekeeping staff, front desk staff, reservations department, accounting clerks, chefs, human resources and marketing teams.

Hoonah which embraces cruise ships and taxation of everything that moves in these water would be unconscionable. The proposed new boundary would in essence be taking over our waters, taxation, governance and without doubt swallowing our community. This would be devastating to our way of life. We, and the City of Gustavus, desire a conservation of the land and minimal disruption to the local wildlife.

With the expansion of control by Hoonah development and taxation of our waters (fishing, kayaking, whale watching, Glacier Bay's day boat,,...) it will cause material additional time for our small business to sort out which entity we are paying taxes to. In addition to stress with audit responsibilities to two entities and the inevitable taxation without benefits as seen in other small Alaska communities in our area.

We also concur with Norm Carson's detailed summary of misstatements in the Xunna Borough petition. We appreciate his extremely detailed history and rebuttal of Boundary Claims.

Respectfully,

Michelle and David Olney
Owners and operators of Glacier Bay's Bear Track Inn.