

From: [Lane Ply](#)
To: [Commission, Boundary \(CED sponsored\)](#)
Subject: Xunaa Borough Petition
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Local Boundary Commission,

My wife and I live in the **Huna Kaawu** in **Kashgootl Seiyi** on Inian Island, six miles from **X'oot'k'** (Elfin Cove). We have lived here, year round, for thirty-six (36) years. But that's a drop in the bucket compared to the millenia that the **Hunas** have owned and used this land. The land from **Ltu.aa** (Lituya Bay) to **K'udeis** (Lisianski Strait) and the corridor from **Yeil T'ooch'** (Gulf of Alaska) to **S'ix' Tlein** (Icy Straits). Northward including **Sit' Eeti Geiyi** (Glacier Bay) and southward to **T'einaageey** (Tenakee Inlet).

With the start of the **Xunaa** Borough Petition, people have questioned the validity of these claims. Mr. Carson from **K'udeis X'e** (Pelican) has questioned the Natives's testimony in the book **Haa Aani** even though the interviews were taken by an anthropologist (who went on to teach at UCLA for 37 years) and a lawyer who had every interview authenticated and signed by one or two witnesses (basically a sworn affidavit).

While digging a foundation in Elfin Cove, I uncovered a stone adze head. This was seventy-five feet from the Community of Elfin Cove Nonprofit Corporation's generator building that is adjacent to the community building. I also found a finger grinding stone while digging a garden bed beside my house. Sealaska verified their authenticity and their function. Another adze head was found at Gull Cove in **Dakaanax** (Idaho Inlet). The U.S. National Park Service acknowledged the **Huna** claim in Glacier Bay by collaboratively working with the **Hunas** in erecting a new Tribal House- **Xunaa Shuk'a H'it** on the site of their historic Tribal House. As far as the presence of the Natives currently using this area: Throughout every year, they come here in the winter/spring to fish for king salmon and to harvest seaweed each spring. I've also seen small boats coming through the Elfin Cove area every summer going to and from **Kaakaheen** in Hoktaheen Cove on Yakobi Island to subsistence harvest sockeye salmon. They also commercial fish in the whole of the area that is included in the boundary of the proposed borough.

Local oversight provided by the proposed borough and its boundaries will better serve all Alaskans. My wife and I are in favor of the **Xunaa** Borough.

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