

**From:** [Karen Wilson](#)  
**To:** [Commission, Boundary \(CED sponsored\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Jeff Wilson](#); [Chichagof Conservation](#); [City of Tenakee](#)  
**Subject:** Proposed Xunaa (Hoonah) Borough Formation  
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To all concerned:

We, Jeffrey and Karen Wilson, oppose the formation of the proposed Xunaa Borough. We are part-time residents of Tenakee Springs who have visited Tenakee Inlet and City over the past 40 years and have owned a home there for over 20 years.

Reading through the legal document of requirements for borough formation, several “will consider” and “may consider” items stand out to us. Without repeating each of those items, we feel that Tenakee Springs and Hoonah are poorly matched to form a union, with no disrespect intended towards either community. Hoonah has a commercial focus and (appears to us) an average younger, still-working population. Meanwhile, Tenakee Springs has a relatively large part-time population of retired people, and also a full-time population of retired people on fixed incomes and an overall low level of personal income.

Unlike Hoonah, Tenakee Springs is intentionally roadless, other than the dirt trail used by pedestrians, bicycles and four-wheelers. And unlike Hoonah, Tenakee Springs has chosen a very low profile in attracting tourists. The economies, financial resources and public services of the two communities are very different.

One item that “may” be considered is “A reasonably predictable level of commitment and interest of the population in sustaining a borough government.” To paraphrase the Gustavus Visitors Association, we feel that Tenakee Springs and Hoonah are very “unlikely to forge a working relationship.”

Thank you for the opportunity to respond.

Sincerely,  
Karen and Jeff Wilson