

**From:** [D Manion](#)  
**To:** [Smith, Jedediah R \(CED\)](#)  
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**Subject:** Exclusion of Wheeler Creek Properties from Any Borough  
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Alaska Local Boundary Commission

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As an intermittent resident of Wheeler Creek on Admiralty Island I am writing to request that the Local Boundary Commission continue to exclude my property from any borough. From the LBC's website:

**"A region must have an adequate economy, population, transportation, and communication infrastructure to support the proposed borough government. Moreover, the population of the region must be socially, culturally, and economically interrelated and integrated in a regional context. The proposed boundaries must embody the characteristics intended for borough governments. Also, the proposal must serve the broad policy benefit to the public statewide.** A region may incorporate a borough government if it meets the standards established in law (Article X of the Constitution of the State of Alaska, AS 29.05.031, AS 29.05.100, 3 AAC 110.045 - .065, and 3 AAC 110.900 - .980)."

There are five rural cabins on Wheeler Creek. There are no mechanical systems in place. If we want electricity we generate it; if we want water we pump it ourselves.

There is no economy. Population is 11 at most, with some absent most of the time. Transportation is at the expense of the cabin owners. There is certainly no communication infrastructure "to support the proposed borough government."

Given the rudimentary living conditions we are not ". . . socially, culturally and economically interrelated and integrated in a regional context." with either the Juneau Borough nor the Hoonah Borough.

Since we have nothing in common with local governments, we don't embody the characteristics intended for inclusion in borough governments.

"Also, the proposal must serve the broad policy benefit to the public statewide." This begs the question who would be benefitted by our inclusion in a borough? Any action to include us would be contrary to the interests of

the residents of Wheeler Creek and only convenience a bureaucratic process. The idea of paying taxes in the absence of services and/or enduring regulations that probably wouldn't apply for what many would consider upscale camping seems unreasonable. I have yet to see any evidence of "benefit to the public statewide."

Please consider this a strong vote for leaving us out of any borough for the present. If considerable changes occur in the future that would bring us into alignment with the LBC's stated intent, the matter could be revisited then.

Thank you for your consideration.

Deborah Manion