**From:** Kathy Lochman

**To:** Liesl Barker; Shelley Owens

**Subject:** Fwd: TNC, please repair the damage you have done

**Date:** Thursday, January 18, 2024 15:22:16

I don’t think this made it in to your records Kathy

Sent from my iPhone Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Kathy Lochman <kathylochman@gmail.com>

**Date:** January 10, 2024 at 11:52:19 AM AKST

**To:** alaska@tnc.org

**Cc:** Hank Lentfer <hlentfer@gmail.com>, Mayor <mayor@gustavus-ak.gov>, Kimber Owen <shewoof@gmail.com>

**Subject: TNC, please repair the damage you have done**

Hello Ivy and TNC Alaska Staff,

I have been mulling over Monday's meeting in my head. I was not impressed with how this topic seemed to be of mild interest to you while the many of us on Zoom and in the room sat with racing hearts. I have now had a number of sleepless nights since last week when this issue blew open ...as have many of my neighbors; our stomachs are in knots....our hearts breaking. For more than 2 decades TNC has been a hero in this town...helping us purchase and then beautifully and thoughtfully manage over 4,000 acres of our most important and loved lands. In one short week TNC has gone from heralded to scorned. How has this happened!!!!?

I feel that TNC has done not only our town, but Hoonah as well, a HUGE disservice. It has been clumsily handled in a cavalier and unprofessional manner. How is it possible there was a letter written to TNC from HIA over 2 years ago asking for title to these lands that we were unaware of..a meeting with HIA discussing the possible futures of these lands that we were unaware of....a study and "deep dive" into the history and values of these properties with RECOMMENDATIONS that we were unaware of. If you did this deep dive you must have seen "Gustavus Land Legacy" all over those early documents...the many residents who donated over $120,000 to the cause...the fact that we approached you with the vision originally. WE were partners in the purchase of these properties with you in 2004 as many internal TNC and public documents demonstrate. We feel betrayed and left out. You said in the meeting that "things change in 20 years". I take deep exception to this statement. This is not how you do business with partners...you don't change your Vision, your Management Style, your Values without consult of those most impacted...the City of Gustavus and our residents. Whether it is due to disregard or inattention is not important, what is important is the tidal wave of bad blood that you have stirred up that is

important. It has pitted Gustavus against Hoonah in a nasty battle.

Gustavus and Hoonah have historically danced around each other, not wanting to offend, but both feeling viscerally like we live here and have rights here. We both do. Lands are at the center of that dance. We are all rural, land loving, land using, subsistence folks that CHOOSE to live here because of our connection to land and wild places. If we didn't all feel that way we would move to Seattle or Anchorage or other urban places that are easier and more comfortable to live. But we haven't moved...we love our home...and live here by choice. We love our land, we care for our land and we heal through our land.

I implore TNC to right a great wrong that you may have unwittingly done. It is my opinion that the TNC should retain the title to these lands and work to be sure that all parcels have covenants and restrictions that would NOT allow these lands to EVER be developed. I know we will work to help you manage these lands as they are our heart and our backyard and our desire is to have ALL welcome to use them.

Please write a letter to HIA and to the CIty of Gustavus with your intentions to retain the title, and the management, of these land status quo. Please do this quickly to minimize the collateral damage that this is creating.

Thank you for your attention,

Kathy Streveler (907) 723-9662

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(907) 697-2855 home

(907) 723-9662 cell