

Erika Shook

From: Bruce Hanna <bruce.hanna@me.com>
Sent: Monday, February 22, 2021 7:39 PM
To: Council Public Comment
Subject: Vacation Rental Moratorium

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2/21/2021

San Juan County Council
Re: Vacation Rental Moratorium

Dear County Council Members,

I support the temporary Moratorium and am concerned that without careful planning, regulation and enforcement of vacation rentals, Orcas could lose the very qualities that make it so appealing.

My family lives on Orcas in a home on a 3+ acre plot over a half mile from Olga Rd, on private Tomihi Rd and Anchor Rock Ln. I bought the property because of its tranquility, beauty and extraordinarily peaceful quiet.

My plot shares ~100s of yards of property line with three neighbors who have occasionally let their property to vacationers, sometimes with dogs. No fences or barriers restrict access to my property, though boundaries are marked.

The property is forested and bowl shaped with a central pond that attracts and provides habitat for numerous animals. Bird calls reverberate through the forest. I am a biologist, nature photographer, and conservationist — my family loves the quiet and the birds and other animals that visit.

When humans or dogs wander onto our property, our peace and privacy is disturbed. Vacation renters of the adjoining Neutz property across Tomihi Rd have wandered onto our property as if it were their own. I have had to explain it is private and ask them to vacate.

Respectfully,

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