

## Adam Zack

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**From:** Lynda Guernsey  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 12, 2021 3:08 PM  
**To:** Vacation Rental Comments  
**Subject:** FW: Vacation Rentals

Lynda Guernsey, Administrative Specialist II – Direct Line (360) 370-7579  
**SAN JUAN COUNTY**  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
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**From:** Joe Brotherton <joeb@joebrotherton.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 12, 2021 2:50 PM  
**To:** Lynda Guernsey <LyndaG@sanjuanco.com>  
**Cc:** San Juan County Council <councilvm@sanjuanco.com>  
**Subject:** Vacation Rentals

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I own Doe Bay Resort and I am writing to encourage limits on vacation rentals. We have two reasons:

- 1.) Loss of housing stock - As a direct result of the huge number of rental properties now converted to transient housing through Airbnb, VRBO and other sites, the housing stock for working islanders has not just been diminished but has been largely eliminated. As a result, we at Doe Bay have been forced to close to the Doe Bay Resort grounds to anyone not registered as a guest at Doe Bay. My wife Maureen and I have been happy to fund Doe Bay as a Orcas community cultural and social hub and as a “Park” of sorts for use by our community. But, those days are gone because we cannot support a larger staff due to lack of housing.
- 2.) Regulation – We are heavily regulated by local and more substantially State government. We spend about \$50k a year dealing with regulations inspections etc... When covid hit, we shut down. We allowed all staff to move into guest accommodations to shelter in place. Airbnb and other vacation rentals thrived. We had to ask people every day to leave the property and they were universally guests at unregulated vacation rentals. The county does not have any reasonable level of knowledge or control over this industry. The fear of fines or penalties is not material and the result is flaunting of rules.

If you have questions please contact me.



**Doe Bay Resort & Retreat**

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We are really proud to have been [featured in the New York Times](#)

Did you have an amazing experience at Doe Bay?

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