

## Adam Zack

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**From:** Lynda Guernsey  
**Sent:** Friday, August 13, 2021 8:58 AM  
**To:** Vacation Rental Comments  
**Subject:** FW: Caps on Vacation Rental Permits

Lynda Guernsey, Administrative Specialist II – Direct Line (360) 370-7579  
**SAN JUAN COUNTY**  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
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**From:** ANTHONY COLLINS <atcollinsmd@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 12, 2021 10:48 PM  
**To:** Lynda Guernsey <LyndaG@sanjuanco.com>  
**Cc:** San Juan County Council <councilvm@sanjuanco.com>  
**Subject:** Caps on Vacation Rental Permits

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Date: 8/12/21  
From: A. Thomas Collins and Carolyn Collins, Lopez Island  
To: San Juan County Planning Commission and San Juan County Council

Re: Establishment of fixed permanent caps on the total number of VacaFon Rental Permits

I write to support the letter [located at [http://doebay.net/VR/PCCCaugle\)er.pdf](http://doebay.net/VR/PCCCaugle)er.pdf)] sent to you on 11 August 2021 from David Turnoy and others regarding the establishment of caps on VacaFon Rental Permits [VRPs] in San Juan County [SJC].

I have lived, part time, on Lopez for 24 years. I moved here to enjoy the quiet, tranquil, rural, community-minded nature of Lopez Island. I am distressed to see the crowds. I am concerned about carrying capacity of the islands to provide sufficient water, waste water treatment, transportaFon safety as well as the negative impacts created by transient populatons on noise levels, road and infrastructure impacts, and acceptable levels of commerce in activity centers. I am particularly concerned about the loss of community in my neighborhood and in the activity areas on Lopez.

Please pay great attention to setting appropriate caps that reduce the current negative impact of VRPs. Ensure that these caps are permanent and that they are re-evaluated every few years to ensure that they are sufficiently restrictive to prevent the challenges that we have been facing for the past several years. Such re-evaluation should be done with the intention of lowering caps as needed to minimize if not eliminate the negative impact of over-tourism.

Having been born and raised on the north shore of Long Island, NY, we can attest to the power of good zoning and uncorruptable county leaders in preserving the unique features of a community. People come and go, but the land, sea, flora and fauna are special and will not be preserved without honest stewardship. Population and development must be capped, or the San Juan Islands will be forever degraded. Maintain zoning and open and public spaces for everyone's eternity, and avoid short sighted profit and development. Like our unique Blue Planet, the San Juans will not survive without true conservation and stewardship.

Thank you for your service and hopefully your wisdom and foresight.

Tom and Carolyn Collins