

Adam Zack

From: Brad Brown <bradleywaynebrown@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, September 16, 2021 10:06 AM
To: Vacation Rental Comments
Subject: ---> detrimental to public interests

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Council Members,

You have chosen to serve. It is difficult work for you are: Arbiters of fact, Manifesters of will.

As such you can make and take. You are at the point of taking from those who have followed your rules in good faith – Vacation Rental Owners.

The moratoria and the caps have not made and will not make a single new home available for someone in need.

Instead of harming us law abiders, why not go after those who are actually breaking the law.

Unregulated and illegal camping.

There is an organization which sets up stays for people with trailers and RVs.

That organization, “hipcamp,” has sites on islands in San Juan County for camping.

These are not regulated and cause a greater problem than the quiet, sanitary, and conforming vacation rentals.

Hipcamp is actively recruiting new spots for the islands.

There have been conversations on Facebook about this issue.

Three people were talking about how there was an increase in these impromptu campers. On Lopez resident said she was approached by hipcamp to use her property. She said they even have tutorials on how to bury human waste on the property. Another woman complained about how neighbors moved in a trailer on a bare piece of land. The Lopez woman agreed, saying that there must be a “loophole” in the law that allows for this to happen. The other woman was amazed at how many she was seeing.

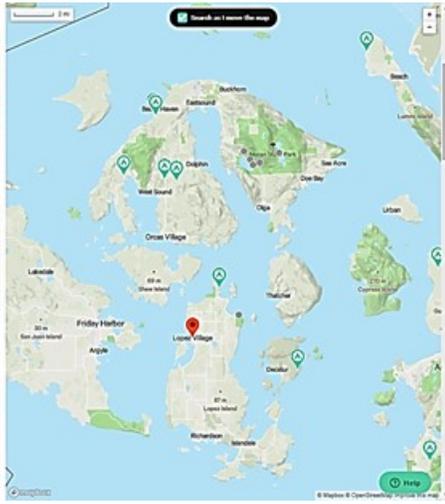
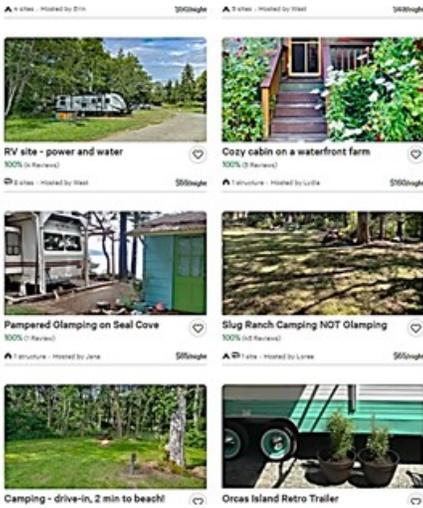
Our friends at Mt Baker Farm had to jump through all sorts of hoops to get permission to host campers. Remember that? Huh?

Now there are agencies who book here. There are people who invite friends and family with RVs and trailers. There are those who impromptu camp wherever they can. All of this without restraint or consequence. Your sheriff deputies must be seeing these – or they should – and yet not a word about the dangers and nuisances of these offenders.

Stop messing with the VR non-issue right now and start using your force to control what we see on the ground and you do not. Or are you afraid of the counter-culture folks’ backlash?

Take a look at listings (though not all properties for camping are listed) from hipcamp in the San Juans.

https://www.hipcamp.com/en-US/search/?sw_lat=48.36595297194049&sw_lng=-123.24155290937799&ne_lat=48.78100310547086&ne_lng=-122.56407760905819&place_id=place.11821943182328850



/s/ Brad Brown
Orcas Island
September 16, 2021