

Adam Zack

From: Ingrid Gabriel
Sent: Wednesday, July 21, 2021 4:08 PM
To: Vacation Rental Comments
Subject: FW: rural life on Lopez Island

From: hazelbirk@aol.com <hazelbirk@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, July 20, 2021 3:05 PM
To: San Juan County Council <councilvm@sanjuanco.com>
Subject: rural life on Lopez Island

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Dear Council members~ Coming here 25 years ago, from a farm in Oregon, we fell in love with the rural atmosphere. Someone moving sheep down the road to a new pasture, a tall thin woman pushing a wheelbarrow full of produce down the edge of Fisherman bay road, the small eateries serving local produce, the bird life, the bees, the hummingbirds every spring. We vey much wanted to be a part of this disappearing template of a more normal existence. We planted our fruit trees and berry bushes, feeling a responsibility to participate. We got involved with the gleaners and other groups trying to nurture a sustainable community. Others come and are amazed by the beauty and want to stay, but the county planners realized that all could be lost if zoning were relaxed, and more and more rentals were approved. What has changed in the minds of those at the helm? Is is with a heavy heart that I recall the Dr. Seuss story of "The Lorax". Jim Birkemeier Lopez Island Farmer.