

Sophia Cassam

From: kate wood <kateorcasisland@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 12, 2022 11:48 AM
To: Vacation Rental Comments
Subject: VR Comment

You don't often get email from kateorcasisland@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear DCD,

We have two vacation rentals, they are our livelihood. We spent more than 30 years here on Orcas working to pay off mortgages so we could retire while running our rentals. We rented them for years as year round rentals to teachers, carpenters, IT folks, retirees who were building houses. But, we can no longer live here and afford to do that. I know there are others who are also dependent on that income. I rent one of them in the summer only, about 100 days. This is a MIDDLE Class issue! Believe me, vacation rentals are a lot of work, and you have to be available 24/7. Many folks get a permit and find it's far too much work. At 74 I do most of the cleaning and maintenance. Who would hire me at this age? I have never had a neighbor complain, I have never been upset by another vacation rental tenant. I find the vacation renters are tidy, quiet and respectful, and grateful.

As far as caps are concerned, there should be caps on hotels and campgrounds too, if you cap vacation rentals, I can't see how it's legal otherwise.

People who rent a cottage for a week, bring revenue, folks who are camping are much more likely to bring their food and don't have the cash to support our local shops and restaurants.

Kate Wood

360-622-5573