

Quaker Cove Retreat
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Rezoning Update:

Thanks to some great work by the Skagit County Planning Department, we are withdrawing our application to rezone the Quaker Cove property to Small Scale Recreation and Tourism(SRT)!

Instead, they are proposing the following addition to the current Rural Intermediate (RI) code:

SCC 14.16.300 Rural Intermediate

- (3) Administrative Special Uses.
 - (a) *No change.*
 - (b) *No change.*
 - (c) **Institutional camps/retreats that existed on July 1, 1990, including cabins that may accommodate up to 250 beds and 10 RV sites, and common use facilities (e.g., dining, recreation) necessary to support the use, within the boundaries of the use that existed on July 1, 1990.**
 - (d) – (l) *No change, renumbered.*

This addition allows Quaker Cove, and several other camps/retreats in Skagit County (including Camp Kirby and Camp Samish), who are also in RI zoning, to function under RI zoning through applying for special use permits with the hearing examiner for Skagit County. It means that our camps will no longer be “non-conforming.”

Withdrawing our application means that you, our neighbors, won't have to worry about more intensive uses of the property in the future (e.g., racetrack and shooting clubs that are allowed under SRT). Of course, we have had no intention of ever selling or changing course in those directions.

We would love to answer any questions or hear any concerns you may have. We would also be happy to give you a tour of the camp and tell you about the work we are doing. I (Liz) grew up attending this beautiful camp (my first camp here was 36 years ago), and it has always been a place of peace and renewal for me. My husband and I are so blessed to be back here raising our 5 kids and serving the community through this ministry. Please feel free to call us or e-mail any time if you need something. I've included a flyer for our open house this weekend. We would love to see you there!

Your neighbors,

Liz and Karl Seume
Camp Directors at Quaker Cove

A little history about our application to rezone to SRT:

Last year, when we looked into replacing a cabin with a collapsing roof, extending it by 12 feet to add bathrooms and accessibility, the county pointed us to rezoning as our only option. Our intention in applying to rezone has never been to make drastic changes or disrupt our neighborhood (just to clarify from what you may have heard). One of our goals is to get kids out into nature, so we certainly have no intention of changing the wooded natural feel of our property. We would just like to be able to improve as a camp and make necessary upgrades to modernize buildings and increase camper safety. We hope you will support us as a much-needed service to the local community.