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By James Feenan at 7:25 am, Aug 01, 2024

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To: Mendocino Planning Department.

Subject: Request to Not Restrict Low Impact Camping on My Property
July 30, 2024

Dear Commission:

I am writing to express my concerns regarding the potential restriction of low impact camping on our family property. As a responsible landowner, I believe that allowing limited low impact camping can have numerous benefits for both the local community and the environment. By limited, I suggest 1 or 2 spots per parcel, so there is less impact.

I understand that the county government is considering implementing regulations that may limit or prohibit low impact camping on private properties. While I appreciate the need for regulations to ensure safety and protect the environment, I would like to highlight the advantages of allowing low impact camping on my property.

Low impact camping refers to a form of camping that minimizes environmental impact and promotes sustainable practices. By opening up my property for low impact camping, I aim to provide individuals and families with the opportunity to reconnect with nature, enjoy the beauty of the land, and experience the benefits of outdoor recreation. This can have a positive impact on physical and mental well-being, and promote a deeper appreciation for the natural environment.

Moreover, low impact camping can contribute to the local economy by attracting tourists and outdoor enthusiasts to the area. Visitors who engage in low impact camping often spend money on local goods and services, supporting small businesses and creating additional revenue streams for the community. This can contribute to the growth and development of our region while preserving its natural heritage.

I assure you that I am committed to responsible land stewardship and will take all necessary measures to ensure that low impact camping on my property is conducted in a safe and environmentally-friendly manner. I am fully aware of the importance of fire safety, waste management, and respecting the privacy and rights of neighboring properties. I am willing to work closely with the county government to develop guidelines and protocols that address any potential concerns. We only allow one camper for our 2.5 acre parcel and they can only stay less than 2 weeks. The small income we receive from Hip Camp only puts a dent in the costs of land ownership: property taxes, weed management, road maintenance and WIFI service.

I kindly request that you consider the benefits of low impact camping and reconsider any plans to restrict or prohibit it on private properties. By supporting low impact camping, we can foster a sense of community, promote sustainable tourism, and encourage a greater appreciation for our natural resources.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Lisa Davis