



SKAGIT COUNTY
AGRITOURISM
exploration and analysis

Update

December 13, 2022



1/29/2021



Process/Timeline Agritourism

Discovery

(Fall – Winter
2022)

- Survey
- Smaller Meetings
- Public Forum

Policy Concepts

(Winter 2023)

- Multiple Options

Legislative

(Winter-Spring
2023)

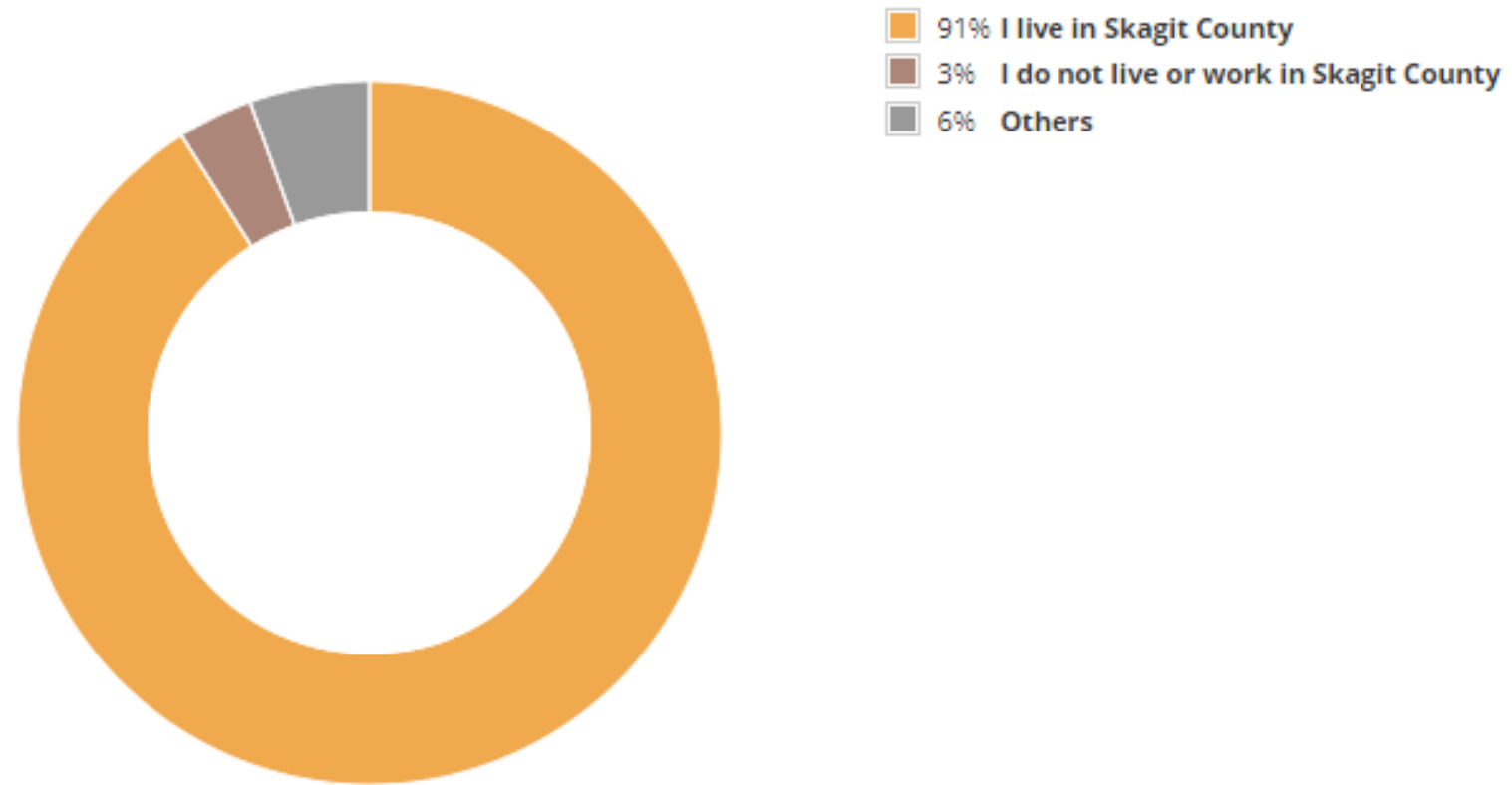
- Code
- Comp Plan

Skagit County Agritourism Study and Survey

Project Engagement

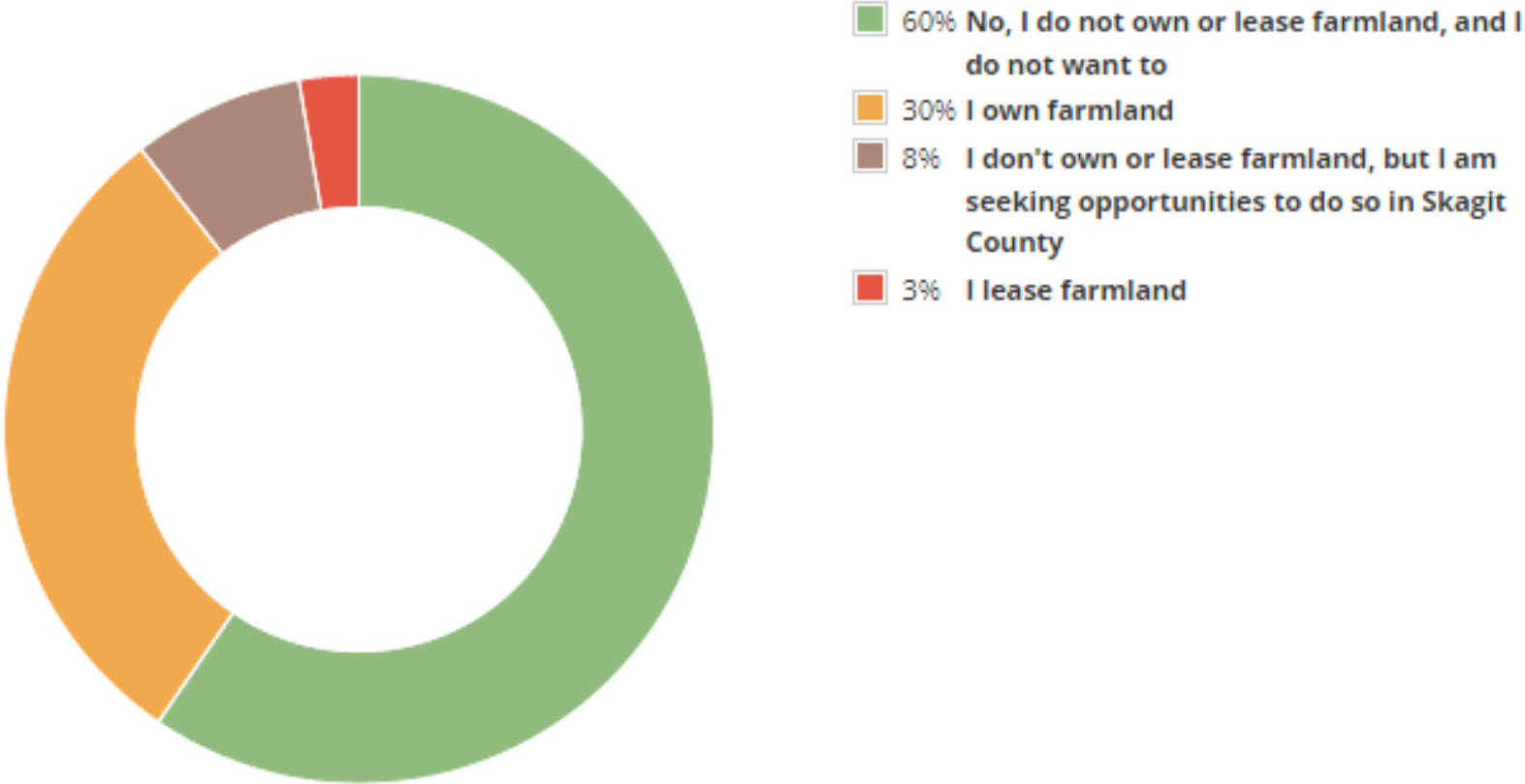
VIEWS	PARTICIPANTS	RESPONSES	COMMENTS
2,195	653	12,726	4,262

Do you live or work in Skagit County? (Choose one)



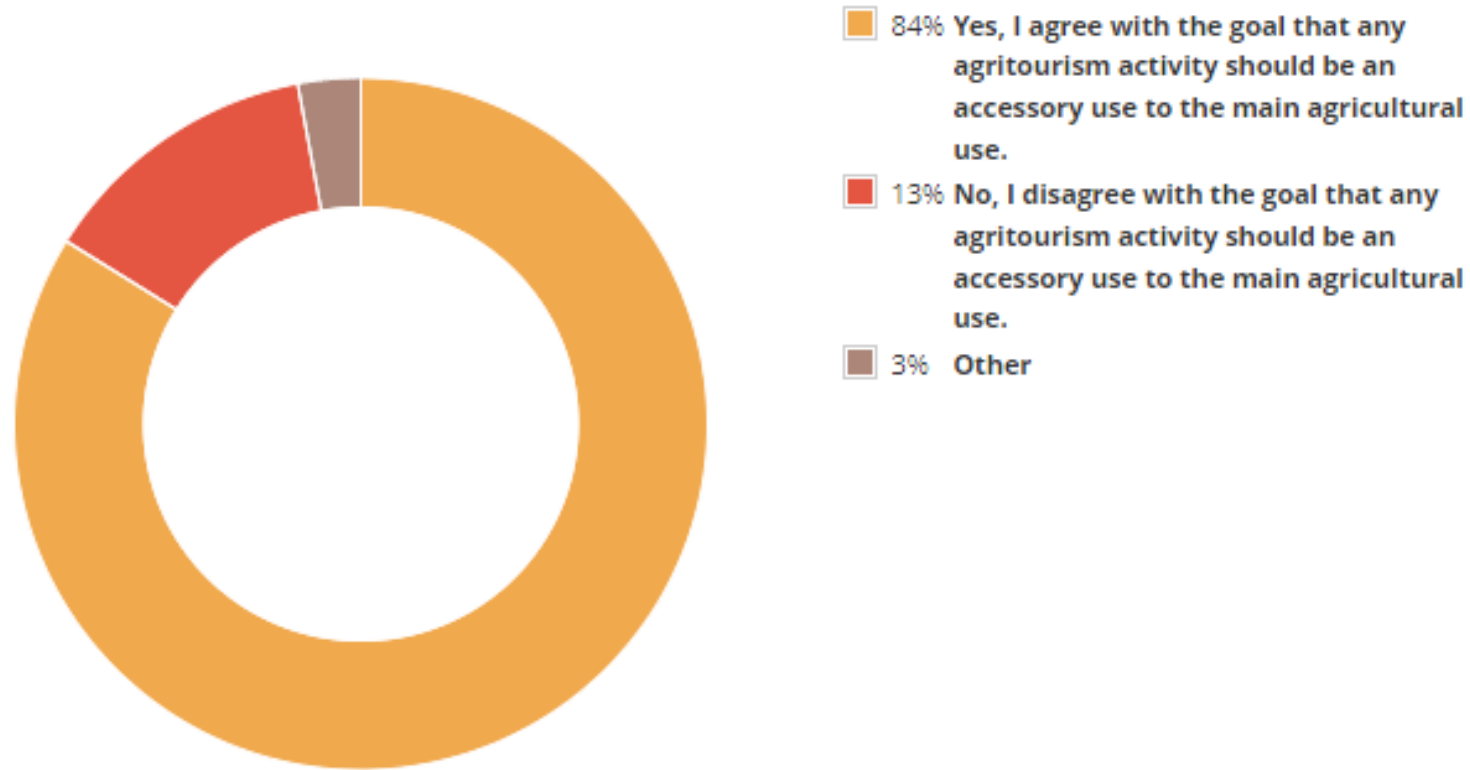
636 respondents

Do you own or lease farmland in Skagit County?



628 respondents

One main goal of Agritourism has been that any Agritourism activity should be an accessory use to the main agricultural use. The purpose of this goal is to ensure no loss of productive farmland at the expense of agritourism. Do you agree with this goal?



582 respondents



Ag. Leaders Lunch 11/2



- Approximately 10-15 attendees
- A discussion of how do you define Agritourism and how can agriculture benefit.
- A discussion of what is an accessory use- how does agritourism activity (maintain) subordinate use
- Timeframe (taking into consideration weather windows needed for harvest)
- Actual vs perceived impacts – do we have data?
- Desire for an Agriculture Education Foundation and desire for the public to learn about agriculture through agritourism



Sedro Woolley Senior Center

11/10



- Approximately 10-12 attendees
- A discussion of what agritourism “fits” and how do you keep it accessory
- A desire for consistency, safety and enforcement of future activities
- Weddings are not agritourism, also can number of wedding operators be limited?
- Property rights
- The issue of spraying farms is covered by the right to farm ordinance
- Define limits- we need a balance



Maple Hall, La Conner 11/16



- Approximately 30 attendees
- What kind of agritourism should be allowed- think about return on investment.
- Farm to table restaurant can showcase what is grown here.
- Small farms need support – farm stands and other agritourism help support small farms
- Example of Maryland Wholesale Produce Market
- Comments in favor of property rights
- Regulations need to be flexible as agritourism is evolving
- Work with generational farmers cooperatively



Town Hall 12/06

- Approximately 50 attendees
- On TV 21
- There will be a transcript
- 5 panelists
 - Jessie Anderson – Maplehurst Farm
 - Terry Sapp – Skagit Agricultural Advisory Board Member
 - Leo Roozen – Roozengarde
 - Annie Lohman - Lohman Farms
 - Andrea Xaver – Producer Big Lake



SKAGIT COUNTY

AGRICULTURE TOURISM

exploration and analysis

Comments/Questions?

Sarah Ruether, Planning & Development Services
sruether@co.skagit.wa.us

Lisa Grueter

Lisa@berkconsulting.com



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Helping Communities and Organizations Create Their Best Futures