

**Contact:**

Rose Intveld

[Rose.Intveld@snoco.org](mailto:Rose.Intveld@snoco.org)

425-388-6621

**Statement on Farmer Frog**

**Tom Teigen, Director  
Snohomish County Department of Conservation and Natural Resources**

**February 25, 2021**

Snohomish County applauds Farmer Frog's efforts to distribute food to communities in need during the pandemic. However, their small operation has expanded to an industrial scale beyond the capacity of the site, breaching their lease. The use of the Paradise Valley Conservation Area for these efforts must cease in order to be compliant with the funding requirements outlined in Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO) Deed of Right (#200301210899) for this property.

Farmer Frog's current use of a shared parking area for heavy trucking operations is not included in their lease and has never been authorized by the county. This heavy truck use is also incompatible with salmon restoration needs of this area. Farmer Frog's continued use of the site for a trucking operation without written authorization or permits is unsustainable and places additional risks on them and the county. We previously offered another county-owned site at no cost to Farmer Frog, but that offer was rejected.

No matter the value of their work, Farmer Frog must abide by their legal obligations. The County cannot allow them to use land outside of their lease and in a manner that is detrimental to conservation requirements.

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