

ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS OF HIPCAMP PROPERTIES

Land conservation through camping on private land

📍 WASHINGTON COUNTY, UTAH

NATURAL LANDS

Over 82,500 acres of Washington County's natural lands are listed on Hipcamp.

ECOSYSTEM FUNCTION

These lands provide ecosystem goods and services that support livelihoods, wellbeing, and a sense of place.

BENEFITS TO COMMUNITIES

The average Hipcamp property in Washington County provides over \$550,000 in benefits, every year.

HIPCAMP ECOSYSTEMS



GRASSLANDS
26 ACRES



SHRUBLANDS
1,364 ACRES



WETLANDS
12 ACRES



DEVELOPED OPEN SPACE
49 ACRES



FORESTS
202 ACRES



ALL OTHER LANDS
161 ACRES

Local landowners in Washington County partner with Hipcamp to make their properties available for camping and other outdoor experiences in forests, open green spaces, shrublands, and grasslands. These properties range from undeveloped land full of cedar trees and sage brush to old mineral claims turned nature preserves and a family-owned 1,200-acre cattle and horse ranch overlooking Zion National Park. The more than 82,500 acres currently listed on Hipcamp provide multiple benefits to Washington County communities, such as cleaning the air and water and providing habitat for wildlife. It is estimated that Hipcamp properties generate over \$17 million in benefits each year—that's \$9,400 per acre, every year.

\$17 MILLION

THE ANNUAL VALUE OF ECOSYSTEM GOODS AND SERVICES PROVIDED BY LOCAL HIPCAMP PROPERTIES



NATURE'S SERVICES SUPPORT RESILIENT COMMUNITIES AND HUMAN WELLBEING

Ecosystems produce goods and services we depend on everyday—from clean water and air, to thriving fisheries, protection from storms, beautiful views, and recreational opportunities. Identifying the economic value of these goods and services can highlight the importance of natural capital to our communities.

SOME ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS OF HIPCAMP PROPERTIES



AESTHETIC QUALITY Hipcamp properties in Washington contribute to the county's beautiful landscapes—views that are inspiring to campers and others who visit and appreciate these aesthetic qualities. **These services have been valued at \$1,200 an acre, totaling \$2.2 million per year in the county.**



CARBON SEQUESTRATION Ecosystems help regulate local and global climate stability, capturing and storing carbon in plants and soils. Forests, grasslands, and wetlands play critical roles, absorbing carbon and mitigating climate change damages. **Hipcamp properties in Washington County sequester \$201,000 of atmospheric carbon each year, an average of \$110 an acre per year.**



EROSION CONTROL Vegetated areas help control soil erosion—thus maintaining soil fertility, improving the soil's capacity to process waste, and helping improve the quality of rainwater that runs over the soil. **These services have been valued at \$5.50 an acre, totaling \$10,000 per year in the county.**



RECREATION Beautiful landscapes, clean water, and thriving wildlife are central to outdoor recreational experiences. Camping, swimming, birdwatching, and picnicking are all enhanced by healthy natural capital. **The recreational benefits Hipcamp properties provide to visitors—beyond what they pay out of pocket—are estimated at \$1,650 per acre in the county, totaling \$3 million each year in nonmarket value.**

