CampingCon 2019: Call for Presentations

History is all around us—and not just in urban spaces. CampingCon 2019 is a public history conference that will take place September 20 and 21 at San Juan Island National Historic Park in the beautiful San Juan Islands of Washington State. A National Council on Public History (NCPH) Mini-Con organized in partnership with the National Park Service and Eastern Washington University, the meeting will examine issues related to historic and contemporary public history as it took/takes place in outdoor leisure spaces.

Suggested topics include (but are not limited to):
- Interpreting Native American topics and working with tribes
- Visitor studies related to historical engagement in parks, campgrounds, and other outdoor leisure spaces
- Topics specific to the history of the site and the San Juans
- The history, architecture, preservation, or material culture of camping and outdoor leisure
- Connections between environmental, tourism, and public histories
- Interpretive techniques—contemporary or historic—employed in outdoor settings
- Contemporary and historical roles of the National Park Service and state parks in historical learning

The format of CampingCon is that the approximately 30-40 participants will camp at the group camping area at San Juan Island National Historic Park and the sessions will take place in the out-of-doors. Sessions could take place around picnic tables (these could be poster sessions or adaptations of traditional conference panels), or be a walk-and-talk along one of the gentle trails in the park, a campfire talk, or could leverage the material resources of the site. These include historic buildings from the era of British occupation, a 200-acre site that is a giant shell midden left from centuries of native occupation, and the northwest forests and secluded Garrison Bay. It might also be possible to organize sessions that take advantage of the historic fabric of the island communities of Friday Harbor or Roche Harbor. We are open to new ideas, and expertise on the San Juan Islands is not required to conduct a walk or tour.

Deadline: May 1, 2019
Questions? Contact organizers Larry Cebula at LarryCebula@gmail.com or Brandon Cadwell at Brandon_cadwell@nps.gov