

Dear Mendocino County Board of Supervisors;

I would like to address the Board's consideration of abandonment of our cannabis ordinance.

I lived on a property on Orr Springs Road for 16 years and moved from there because of the influx of illegal marijuana grows surrounding my property. I felt threatened and was concerned about the extreme impact on the surrounding private land with the extreme trash build-up and use of water.

These are my concerns about expanding cannabis cultivation into our rangelands:

- 1) Reduction in much needed water for our county under drought and extreme fire conditions and the impact of fertilizers in our water supply not to mention the impact on our salmon fisheries.
- 2) Destruction of oak woodlands and grasslands would adversely affect the wildlife and native plants that abide there.
- 3) The cannabis ordinance is replaced with the Use Permits that could reduce or eliminate remedies for complaints from the public.
- 4) The possible devaluation of private property with plastic canopies and accumulation of trash.
- 5) The impact from erosion of growing on steep land that is also inaccessible for fire fighting.
- 6) The increase of Code Enforcement companies with only 2 officers on the cannabis bear. Policing is also stretched thin.
- 7) The public already voted down Measure AF in 2016 because it proposed cannabis for every zone. We already voted this down. Please uphold the will of the public.

SOLUTIONS:

- 1) Expand cannabis cultivation into our industrial and commercial zones where the infrastructure and water are already in place. Electricity instead of generators is a much better choice in these fire zones.
- 2) We should support our local growers who probably can't afford these large parcels and all the permits and infrastructure rather than having people coming in from out of the area who are not invested in our county.

Please do not eliminate the Cannabis Ordinance!

Prohibit new permits to cultivate cannabis in the rangeland zoning district.

Prohibit removal of trees for cannabis cultivation.

Maximize size of a single cultivation site to 10,000 sq. ft. with a limit of 2 permits per parcel.

Enforce the ordinance. Illegal growers with no intention of becoming legal have been allowed to operate with little or no threat of enforcement.

Don't allow applicants to operate prior to providing proof of compliance with critical provisions of the ordinance.

Let us protect our environment and our locally crafted ordinance.

Sincerely,

Denise Doering and Bob Hudson

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