

Dear Honorable Supervisors and Planning Commission

My name is Jed Davis and I own Mendocino Clone Company which is located on 40 acres of Rangeland in Potter Valley. We operate a nursery and a 10,000 sq. ft. cultivation. I am urging the Board to reconsider its requirement that all cannabis cultivation on Rangeland be required to obtain a Major Use Permit. Not only is this requirement out of alignment with the zoning code for Rangeland which requires a minor use permit ALL agricultural purposes, but small 1/4-1 acre cannabis grows have a far smaller environmental impact than other larger agricultural activities which require no zoning clearance at all. It only seems logical that a cannabis cultivation site of 1 acre or less would have a significantly less of an environmental impact than a 40-100 acre vineyard, orchard, or row crops. The following is a summary of the zoning taken from the zoning code:

CHAPTER 20.060 R-L RANGELAND DISTRICT ZONING CODE

Sec. 20.060.005 Intent. *This district is intended to create and preserve areas for, (A) the grazing of livestock, (B) the production and harvest of natural resources, and (C) the protection of such natural resources as watershed lands from fire, pollution, erosion, and other detrimental effects. Processing of products produced on the premises would be permitted as would certain commercial activities associated with crop and animal raising.*

Sec. 20.060.010 Permitted Uses. **The following use types are permitted in the R-L District:**

(D) Agricultural Use Types (See Chapter 20.032). Animal raising – general agriculture; Animal waste processing; Forest production and processing – limited; Forest production and processing – portable sawmills; Horticulture; Packing and processing – limited; Packing and processing – winery; Row and field crops; Tree crops.

Sec. 20.060.020 Uses Subject to a Minor Use Permit.

The following use types are permitted in the R-L District upon issuance of a Minor Use Permit:

(C) *Commercial Use Types (See Chapter 20.024).*

Agricultural sales and services; Animal sales and services – auctioning; Animal sales and services – veterinary (large animals); Cottage industries – general.

(D) *Agricultural Use Types (See Chapter 20.032).*

Requiring ALL cannabis production to obtain a Major Use Permit is out of parity with all other agricultural activities and is not following the spirit of the zoning code. This is an expensive and time consuming process in which cannabis is being unjustly and illogically targeted and will undoubtedly cause many farms already legally operating on Rangeland parcels to shudder their operations. Are hemp farms going to be required to get a Major Use Permit regardless of their size?

In light of remaining consistent and applying the same rules to all agricultural activity, I urge you to reconsider the proposed Major Use Permit requirement for cannabis cultivation and reduce it to a Minor Use Permit.

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Jed Davis
Mendocino Clone Company