

1. Portal Questions

YES or NO

A. Have you been told in an email or other method of communication what standards must be met for an application to be deemed 'complete'?	No
B. Have you been told in writing what the standards of proof are if you have to disprove a wrong assumption made by staff that could be the basis of a denial?	No
1. Do you feel an error or incorrect assumption made by Staff has led to you being deemed incomplete'?	No
C. Do you know what the policies and procedures of MCP are for the Portal?	No
1. Do you know how to locate them?	No
2. Did you understand the portal questions and instructions?	Hired Consultant to get submission done in time.
3. Were you able to upload the documents you needed/wanted to in the portal system based on the questions you were asked?	see above
D. Do you feel that you have been provided clear directions on how to address any incomplete items?	No
1. Are all the forms and instructions clear and without errors by the MCP?	No
2. Does the Portal allow you to attach the documents you thought you needed to attach?	N/a (completed by consultant)
3. Did the instructions cause you confusion as to what items to attach in what location of the portal?	see above
4. Did you find that if you checked the box you thought was applicable, that you were not able to upload documents that you thought you would be able to upload because there was no place to do it unless you changed your answer?	see above
E. Have you been marked incomplete?	No
F. Have you been marked incomplete more than once?	No

1. Were any of those times due to MCP error or Portal Limitations?	No
2. If you received multiple incompletes were the reviews consistent?	N/A
G. Has MCP been effective in answering your questions about the Portal?	No. When inquiring, we were told that they have not reviewed our submission and they do not know when they will review it.

2. Equity Questions  
YES or NO

A. Do you feel that MCP & Elevate Impact have clearly informed you of policies, procedures and standards of success versus failure for your application?	NO
B. If you are unclear on those policies, procedures and standards of success from MCP & Elevate Impact, are they effective at providing clarity when you present them with questions?	Somewhat
C. Do you find it difficult to get timely responses from MCP & Elevate Impact?	Yes
D. Do the webinars offered by MCP & Elevate Impact provide you with useful, clear information?	No
E. If you have been required to make revisions to your specific grant application or budget, were you given all the corrections at one time or did they happen in small successive installments?	Still waiting for feedback
F. If in successive installments, do you believe that the information could have been presented to you more efficiently?	Yes

G. Do you feel like the goal posts have changed during your grant application process?	Yes
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- 3. General Program questions  
YES or NO

A. Do you feel that you have a clear understanding of MCP policies, procedures and standards of success versus failure for your permit or application?	No
B. If you are unclear on those policies, procedures or standards for success in the program, how effective is MCP at providing clarity when you present them with questions?	Not clear at all.
C. Do you find it difficult to get timely responses from MCP?	Yes
D. Do the webinars offered by MCP provide you with useful, and meaningful way to obtain clear information?	Not really
E. Do you feel like you can participate effectively in MCP webinars?	Yes
F. Do you know what the policies and procedures of MCP are?	No
1. Do you know how to locate them?	No
2. Are all forms you need on the website?	No
3. Are they in the location they should be for the task you must perform?	No

#### 4. Additional Comments

- Please share any additional comments here:

The lack of clarity in both the licensing process and the grant process are quite frankly very frustrating. We started our county application in 2017, and have since been doing everything we possibly can to comply and proceed to our annual license. However, throughout the application process, many documents were lost by the department, and we are never notified or instructed of what our next steps are. We have had to constantly contact the county, most times with no response, to find out where we are in the process. At the present time, we have a complete application in the portal, we have every document that we need, including CDFW LSA's, and we still cannot get any information as to whether or not we have everything we need to obtain our annual. Our consultant has

contacted the county multiple times to find out where we are at, and we were told that they have not yet reviewed our submission, and they cannot tell us when they will review it. We literally have been waiting on the county for years for this process, complying in every way, yet still not getting anywhere. In addition, we would like to know if our CEQA documents have been approved so that we may include any cost for work etc. that may need to be done in our Equity Grant application, however, we cannot, as we have had no feedback. The whole county process has been very backwards and poorly managed. There is no clear path to what we need to do to complete requirements, and rarely do we get clear instructions when asked.

Additionally, the Equity Grant program has been very frustrating. Similar to the county application process, we need to constantly check in to find out where we are at and what we must do next. The requirements have constantly changed throughout the process, and we are still waiting to find out if our application will be processed in time to obtain the funding by the deadline of February 21, 2022.

Finally, I must add that the high fee costs, costs of required work for permits and difficulty in navigating the process have led to much mental and financial stress to us and all of the small farmers in Mendocino County. It often feels as though we are being penalized for doing the right thing. This is not a good feeling, and we believe that there must be a change. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Best Regards,

Megan and Corey Waxman  
Lion Ridge Family Farm