

To the Board of Supervisor of Mendocino County

I wish to address the board regarding the cannabis grows in Mendocino County. The number of people with grow permits has exploded overwhelming the current systems as well as where they are permitted to grow.

These grows are in peoples back yards where everyone must tolerate the odor twenty four / seven for at least six to eight weeks prior to harvest. I have put up with that odor permeating into my house in the past. I can assure you this was extremely unpleasant to wake up and go to sleep with this odor. My husband was experiencing many headaches.

In the Willits valley these large grows are also in populated area often near people's home who are not involved with the grows. Why is it acceptable for a few to make so many citizen experience discomfort in their own homes?

The Covelo valley from what I've been told is like the wild west, that anything goes. Because of this you have criminal element such as the Mexican Cartel taking up residents there. If you don't believe me talk with the people who live there that are not involved with growing cannabis. Covelo should be a wake-up call for everyone.

Our entire County will resemble Covelo if the Board of Supervisors do not change their way of thinking. You need to think about everyone's rights not just the cannabis growers. You need to re-evaluate where someone can grow and the number of plants they can grow so there is no impact on others. Cannabis needs to be contained and run like any other business.

At this time the cannabis grows are grossly under regulated. From what I have seen and have been told, alot of the growers if they do not follow regulations they do not and if they are caught and fined they do not care. They simple laugh it off as "cost of doing business." They are making that much money.

I understand the need for the County to receive revenue from cannabis growers, but at what cost. It is the responsablity of the Board of Supervisors to establish reasonable regulations for cannabis, and to enforcement these regulation and apply teeth to the enforcement to ensure regulations are followed not just laughted off.

I did some research online on whom has been issued permits to grow cannabis, their names, types of grows ect. and when they were alowed to start. According to the information online they were not to start growing until next year 2021. From what I can tell most if not all started this year. Why was this allowed to happen? What should have happened is to fine them, completely dismatle their operation and lastly revoke their permitt. Supervisors enforce your laws and regulation.

The last issue I would like to bring up is why cannabis permits are being issued for the Willits Valley Wet Lands? These cannabis growers are drilling water wells. I'm sure you are aware how much water is needed for a marijuana plant per day if not you should. One-eighth of an acre (50 feet by 100 feet with 50 cannabis plants) would use 24,000 gallons per season (about eight months or 240 days). I just witness a cannabis grower located at 1080 Hearst Rd. water their trees which they planted to provide cover for their grow non-stop for three days. Free water right so who cares. What about these growers neighbors who still depend on ground water for themselves and for their livestock when the water table drops low?

The other issue is endangered species in the Willits Wet Lands such as (*Limnanthes bakeri*) it is a rare species of meadowfoam known by the common name Baker's meadowfoam. It is endemic to Mendocino County, California, where it is known from only about 20 occurrences in the vicinity of Willits. It is a plant of wet, grassy habitat such as vernal pools and marshy spring meadows. This is an annual herb producing a spreading stem up to about 40 centimeters long. The leaves are made up of several oval-shaped leaflets each about a centimeter long.

Has any studies been done to determine what the impact will be from cannabis grows on the Willits Wet Lands?

In closing I would like to say to the Board members it is your responsibility to set up reasonable regulation, to ensure non grower's Rights and to ensure the local environment is not trampled on or destroyed.

Thank you

Sharon Stephens