



March 18, 2021

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Mendocino County Planning Department
501 Low Gap Road
Ukiah CA 95482

Commissioners,

I am writing in support of a moratorium on the commencement of Phase Three cannabis cultivation permitting until a full environmental review (EIS/EIR) is undertaken. Of particular concern is the disregarding of the recommendation of the Mendocino County Climate Advisory Committee for greenhouse gas reduction and carbon sequestration. In anticipation of the looming impacts of Climate Change like increasing wildfire danger, like alteration of precipitation patterns, like increasing pressure on wild creatures, etc. The county must make a priority of protecting protect all wild flora and fauna.

The impacts from Phase One, reported in the many letters, are evidence that there is not adequate review or policing and that many if not most growers do not comply with regulations. The reports of proliferating green houses, plastic and other trash and garbage, lowering water tables, crime, guns, mayhem, murder are shocking and sickening. This must not continue. And of course it will if new cultivation permitting is allowed.

Every effort must be made to protect our Oak Woodlands. Upland Rangeland must continue as refugia for wild creatures. Until an assessment of water stores is attempted and evaluated new demands must be minimized. Take climate change seriously.

Sincerely,
Mary Walsh, Chair, Sierra Club, Mendocino Group