

TO: Mendocino county Board of Supervisors
RE: Cannabis Regulations

I have been a resident, land owner on Feliz Creek Road outside of Hopland for over 35 years, doing my best to steward the land that I live on. I live off the grid, use drip irrigation on my garden and trees, make only necessary trips into town (Hopland, Ukiah), etc.

Over the years more vineyards have been planted and more pot grows have been established. Over the years traffic on the county road, which is narrow, unlined (no center line or shoulder lines) and windy, has steadily increased. Some of this was due to residential parcels, but the overwhelming majority of it has been since Cannabis cultivation has come to Feliz Creek. About 8 years ago Jim Fetzer and Tom Hill purchased over 2000 acres out here that have access through the Road Association roads. The property consisted of about 17 parcels, which had previously be owned by one family. Now those parcels are predominantly owned by pot growers who have multiple vehicles driving in and out multiple times a day, drive too fast, and do not pay the road dues they are responsible for. They have radically changed the 'neighborhood', doubled the number of parcels driving the road, and (many of the growers) have little respect for those of us who 'just live' out here. Many a morning as I walk my dog, I am under siege of pick up trucks and the wake of dust they produce by driving too fast. There are definitely morning and afternoon "rush hours' on the road.

And, let me talk about the water.....Many of us have experienced a decline in water from our wells, a dramatic decline in the past few years. Now, you may say that this is not a result of increase cannabis but because of global warning and drought..... YES !!!!! we are in a drought. We need to REDUCE non edible agriculture, not increase it. I have always had plentiful water from my well and numerous springs. Last year, when many/most of my down hill/ down stream neighbors had expanded their commercial grows, some of my springs dried up and my well produced about 20% of what it has over the decades. I was unable to irrigate my trees, and had to decrease my garden.....because of the decrease in water. AND YOU WANT TO ALLOW MORE CANNABIS AGRICULTURE THAT WILL SUCK EVEN MORE WATER OUT OF THE GROUND, AND WITH ADDED FERTILIZERS, DRAIN MORE INTO OUT CREEKS.....THAT ARE ALREADY CLOGGED WITH ALGAE.???

Fire Danger from having more generators running, more water pulled out of the ground and directed to cannabis..... Last year there were 2 fires out Feliz Creek Road, at pot grows. Last year one of the growers had a generator running with a series of extension cords laying on ground.

So, there is overuse of roads, increase in dust in the air and streams, increase fire danger, increase noise, draining of the aquifer, use of chemicals going into the streams, clogging them with algae blooms..... DO I HAVE TO SAY MORE.?????

NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO more expansion of POT grows.

I LIVE here. I pay taxes here. Do your job. REPRESENT ME, not just the growers.

Sharon Lieser
4920 Feliz Creek Road
Hopland, CA

March 30, 2021