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To: CannabisEIR < CannabisEIR@santacruzcounty.us>

Date: 10/8/2017 10:34:56 AM

Subject: Comments on Cannibis Draft EIR

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Our family has 8 acres in District 2 zoned RA, about one acre of that would be available for planting. That acre is surrounded on three sides by wild blackberries and poison oak.

We are inexperienced cannibis growers but do raise sheep and fruits and vegetables, so we have some experience with growing plants. We also have several family members who have illnesses or injuries who would benefit from CBD oil.

So this year we planted six CBD rich seeds in the sunshine without cover and surrounded by 7' field fencing for protection from deer, in large gopher baskets. We also surrounded the bottom 12 inches of the fencing with gopher wire to keep rabbits and wood rats out. We used drip irrigation from our well.

Of the six plants, two died for unexplainable reasons. Two were pulled out because they were male. The two remaining plants grew to need a growing space of 7'x7' each. So we had a 33% success factor.

From our experience we recommend that cover not be required because the white of hoop houses or the gloss of greenhouses causes an impact on the view of neighboring properties in this hilly area. Also the cost of greenhouses would put this plan out of financial reach for us. Without facts to prove it, we believe that crops exposed directly to sunlight are healthier, but the associated possible exposure to rain on a mature plant, and its associated possible development of mold is a problem for uncovered plants. We would plan to use temporary plastic cover when rain threatens.

Because of the size of mature plants, we recommend the deletion of a space limitation and that the requirement states the number of allowable plants for a small operation such as ours; this would also allow for the scattering of plants around a property such as ours.

Because of our own conditions, we are in favor of the more permissive regulations. Again, Thank you for the opportunity to comment. Christine Kelsey