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Subject: Cannabis Impact

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a resident of the Summit Community. Last year's Loma Fire was caused by negligent Cannabis growers and so far I have heard of very little penalty to those responsible. The results of that fire included an enormous amount of stress, smoke inhalation and general health concerns. It also impacted me personally as a specialized musical instrument was damaged while hastily trying to evacuate. Twenty plus man hours, 3 trucks, finding a place to put everything in town and costs for gas/ food/ storage etc. were my personal fallout from Cannabis growing.

We also live under a constant threat of ripoff marauders and one such event also took place in this area last year. As long as prices are not inexpensive there will be those that will try and steal from these sites. The Federal Government does not allow for tax deductions from un-sanctioned businesses and therefore Cannabis prices will be commensurate with needing to make a greater profit until the model changes. Thieves are a threat to mountain residents.

I have not heard of a Cannabis shortage, so why the need for more than a very few grow sites and licenses? I personally do not believe that a substantial number of new smokers will suddenly appear because of legality.

I also believe that overuse of water that we desperately need in the mountains, the potential for pesticide contamination are also reasons to severely limit commercial sites and to me it makes more sense to have grows in commercial buildings, where insect and animal contamination is greatly reduced or eliminated and similar to Canadian practices.

What people do in their own homes is fine with me but commercial cannabis activities should again, be very limited. We don't have the infrastructure, immediate emergency police response available and why should we residents bear the responsibility to those making a profit when we residents are taking the most risk from grower's mistakes or negligence.

Regards,

Gary Whitney