

From: ["Mark Carr" <mhcarr@ucsc.edu>](mailto:mhcarr@ucsc.edu)
To: [CannabisEIR <CannabisEIR@santacruzcounty.us>](mailto:CannabisEIR@santacruzcounty.us)
Date: 10/29/2017 9:44:30 PM
Subject: Comment on Santa Cruz County Cannabis EIR

We have reviewed the EIR for cannabis cultivation in Santa Cruz County and are alarmed at the proposed size and unprecedented distribution (urban and rural) of this agricultural product. As an ecologist at the University of California, Santa Cruz and owner of a working and productive 20 acre certified organic farm in southern Santa Cruz County, we believe all commercial agriculture should be conducted under strict environmental oversight (e.g., water, pesticide, herbicide, fertilizer use and disposal) in areas wisely zoned for such production. Production should be limited (including initially confined to greenhouses), evaluated, and adaptively managed in a manner that ensures limited social and environmental impacts. The open and broadly distributed cultivation proposed by the county has great potential environmental impacts and requires more costly management and enforcement activities that detract from the use of county funds generated by this crop for more valuable purposes (e.g., water conservation and education for responsible production and use). Our comments reflect our personal concerns and NOT the University of California, Santa Cruz or the California Cooperative Organic Farmers association. Thank you for the opportunity to express our concerns.

Mark H. Carr and Mary Margaret Perez