

From: "[Cannabis Info](#)"

To: "[Matt Johnston](#)" <Matt.Johnston@santacruzcounty.us>

Date: 10/26/2017 11:00:34 AM

Subject: FW: No, No, No to cannabis grow.

From: Terry Miller [mailto:terrymiller56@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, October 25, 2017 7:45 PM
To: Cannabis Info <Cannabis.Info@santacruzcounty.us>
Subject: No, No, No to cannabis grow.

These are very short-term minded people. They grow a crop at any cost, use the gypsy trimmers who usually bring dogs which they dump at the end of harvest season, smuggle to the highest bidder, get out to a foreign country to spend the money, then repeat.

They bring in little money relative to the environmental cost, the criminal behavior, and the breaking of every rule of law for a quick profit. In another county in northern California where I lived 5 years, pot growers would pump a neighbor's pond dry in the night, break off the fire hydrants, and pump from any other source that was available, usually with extensive damage to the watershed. Many of the growers were transient felons from other states. The local growers in that county claimed no income, paid no income tax, drove Escalades and Rovers, dropped their children off at school for free lunches and after-school care, then took them to Costa Rica or France for a month in January, shot their neighbors over petty disputes, etc. etc. I worked for the forest service in that county and encountered cartel grows where large tracts of public land were clearcut, eroded, piped, littered, and vacated. All small growers aspire to grow on that scale. In fact that county had a grow restriction of limited canopy per acre that equalled two plants per acre. Every grower, many of them family units, would raise 99 plants minimum on a tiny plot of land totally disregarding the county ordinances, because no local law enforcement would bother them, for whatever reason. The feds flew into the county every fall and hauled off trailers of plants, but unless your grow was larger than 100, no legal action followed. There was nothing to lose and vast riches to be gained. They drove maniacally, always rushing somewhere in their dooper diesels, passing on curvy double yellow roadways.

If grows are allowed, growers will search incessantly for the cheapest methods to raise a crop. This means the most dangerous pesticides, the least expensive water, and the most amount of garbage buried on site or dumped in the creeks. And if the crop cannot pass California's new testing, it will be shipped to Texas, or wherever the market is strongest and less discerning.

Take a trip north to Trinity or Humboldt and decide if you like what you see. The toughest regulations have proven ineffective against the money madness that pot crops offer.