

From: "[Rachel Zuercher](mailto:rachel.zuercher@gmail.com)" <rachel.zuercher@gmail.com>
To: [CannabisEIR](mailto:CannabisEIR@santacruzcounty.us) <CannabisEIR@santacruzcounty.us>
Date: 10/30/2017 3:30:04 PM
Subject: comment on the Cannabis Regulations Environmental Review

Mr. Johnston,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Cannabis Regulations DEIR. I am a PhD student in Ecology, and a resident of Santa Cruz County who is concerned about potential environmental impacts of cannabis agriculture.

Though it is clear that rodenticides could pose a major threat to wildlife in Santa Cruz County, the current DEIR does not go far enough with measures to limit and reduce this threat. The very permissive option for cultivation that the county is proposing could have a devastating impact of our local wildlife. In addition, as proposed, cannabis cultivation poses a risk of fragmenting some of the best wildlife habitat that remains in our county.

Ultimately, I would like to see cannabis grown only in greenhouses on land zoned for agriculture. This will work to keep rodenticides out of our water sources and other pesticides out of our residential soils and air. It would also mean that illegal grows would be very obvious, making it much easier to enforce rules into the future, and to protect public and private lands from illegal operations.

Thank you for your time.

Rachel Zuercher

--

Rachel Zuercher
131 Younger Way
Santa Cruz, CA 95060
Cell: (605) 222-0702