

**RESOLUTION OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION  
OF THE COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT**

**Resolution Number 23-**

**Record Number PLN-10863-SP**

**Assessor's Parcel Numbers: 208-221-013**

**Resolution by the Planning Commission of the County of Humboldt certifying compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act and conditionally approves CaliDro LLC Special Permit**

**WHEREAS, CaliDro LLC** provided an application and evidence in support of approving 5,000 square feet of existing mixed light and 1,500 square feet of existing outdoor commercial cannabis cultivation supported by a 600 square foot ancillary nursery.

**Now, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Planning Commission makes all the following findings:

- 1. FINDING**                      A Special Permit for 5,000 square feet of existing mixed light and 1,500 square feet of existing outdoor commercial cannabis cultivation supported by a 600 square foot ancillary nursery. Irrigation water is provided by a well located on adjacent parcel 208-221-009. Estimated annual water usage is 55,000 gallons supported by 57,000 gallons of water storage consisting of 12,000 gallons of existing hard tanks plus an additional proposed 45,000 gallons of hard tanks. Processing including trimming or packaging is proposed to occur on adjacent parcel 208-221-014. Electricity is sourced from one generator. The Special Permit includes restoration of a stream channel.

**EVIDENCE**            a) Project File: PLN-10863-SP

- 2. FINDING**                      **CEQA:** The project complies with the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act. The Humboldt County Planning Commission has considered the Mitigated Negative Declaration previously adopted for the Commercial Medical Marijuana Land Use Ordinance as well as the Addendum to the Mitigated Negative Declaration that was prepared for the CaliDro LLC project pursuant to Section 15164 of the CEQA guidelines.

**EVIDENCE**            a) Addendum Prepared for the proposed project.

b) The parcel takes access from a private road which has been evaluated by an engineer which has made recommendations that are incorporated into the project.

c) A disturbed area stabilization plan has been created for the grading and incorporated into the project.

d) A well evaluation determined no impact to the Mad River or nearby springs. The well be subject to forbearance.

## FINDINGS FOR SPECIAL PERMIT

**3. FINDING** The proposed development is in conformance with the County General Plan, Open Space Plan, and the Open Space Action Program.

- EVIDENCE**
- a) The parcel has a designation of Residential Agriculture (RA). The proposed project is covered by the Open Space Action Program because the project site includes streamside management areas. The proposed cannabis cultivation, an agricultural product, is within land planned and zoned for agricultural purposes, consistent with the use of Open Space land for managed production of resources. Therefore, the project is consistent with and complimentary to the Open Space Plan and its Open Space Action Program.
  - b) The Disturbed Area Stabilization Plan was prepared by qualified professionals and describes measures needed to restore the realigned stream channel near the cultivation site.

**4. FINDING** The proposed development is consistent with the purposes of the existing Forestry Recreation (FR) zone in which the site is located.

- EVIDENCE**
- a) General agricultural uses are principally permitted in FR zone.
  - b) The location of all project elements meets the setback requirements for the FR Zone.

**5. FINDING** The proposed development is consistent with the requirements of the CMMLUO provisions of the Zoning Ordinance.

- EVIDENCE**
- a) The CMMLUO allows existing cannabis cultivation to be permitted in areas zoned FR (HCC 314-55.4.8.2.2).
  - b) The parcel was created in compliance with all applicable state and local subdivision regulations. The subject parcel has been determined to be one legal parcel (lot 52) as shown on Record of Survey in Book 26 of Surveys page 135.
  - c) The project will obtain water from a groundwater well, an eligible water source.
  - d) The parcel is accessed from a private road that an engineer has certified will function equivalent to category 4 if improvements are made. The engineer's recommendations have been incorporated into the project.
  - e) No new grading is proposed and after the fact grading permits are required for the violations.
  - f) The location of the cultivation complies with the setbacks required in Section 314-55.4.6.4.4.

**6. FINDING** The commercial cannabis cultivation and the conditions under which it may be operated or maintained will not be detrimental to the public health, safety, or welfare or materially injurious to properties or improvements in the vicinity.

- EVIDENCE**
- a) The project is conditioned to make road improvements recommended by an engineer so the road functions equivalent to a category 4.
  - b) The proposed project will not be in a location where there is an established neighborhood or other sensitive receptor such as a school, church, park, or other use which may be sensitive to cannabis cultivation. Continuing cultivation on this site will not change the character of the area due to the historic and current uses in the area.
  - c) The location of the proposed cannabis cultivation is more than 300 feet from the nearest off-site residence.
  - d) Irrigation water is sourced from a well that has been evaluated by a hydrologist which concluded there will be no impact to the Mad River or nearby springs.
  - e) Provisions have been made in the applicant's proposal to protect water quality and thus runoff to adjacent property and infiltration of water to groundwater resources will not be affected.

**7. FINDING** The proposed development does not reduce the residential density for any parcel below that utilized by the Department of Housing and Community Development in determining compliance with housing element law.

- EVIDENCE**
- a) The parcel was not included in the housing inventory of Humboldt County's 2019 Housing Element but does have the potential to support one housing unit. The approval of cannabis cultivation on this parcel will not conflict with the ability for a residence to be constructed on this parcel.

**8. FINDING** Approval of this project is consistent with Humboldt County Board of Supervisors Resolution No. 18-43 which established a limit on the number of permits and acres which may be approved in each of the County's Planning Watersheds.

- EVIDENCE**
- a) The project site is in the Mad River Watershed, which under Resolution 18-43 is limited to 334 permits and 115 acres of cultivation. With the approval of this project the total approved permits for cultivation in this Planning Watershed would be 75 permits and the total approved acres would be 27.6 acres of cultivation.

**DECISION**

**NOW, THEREFORE**, based on the above findings and evidence, the Humboldt County Planning Commission does hereby:

- Adopt the findings set forth in this resolution; and
- Conditionally approves the Special Permit for **CaliDro LLC** subject to the conditions of approval attached hereto as Attachment 1A and the Cultivation Operations Plan attached hereto as Attachment 1B and Site Plan attached hereto as Attachment 1C.

Adopted after review and consideration of all the evidence on **July 6, 2023**.

The motion was made by COMMISSIONER \_\_\_\_\_ and second by COMMISSIONER \_\_\_\_\_ and the following ROLL CALL vote:

AYES:           COMMISSIONERS:  
NOES:           COMMISSIONERS:  
ABSENT:       COMMISSIONERS:  
ABSTAIN:      COMMISSIONERS:  
DECISION:

I, John H. Ford, Secretary to the Planning Commission of the County of Humboldt, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and correct record of the action taken on the above-entitled matter by said Commission at a meeting held on the date noted above.

\_\_\_\_\_  
John H. Ford, Director  
Planning and Building Department