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Subject: App: PLN-12312-CUP, APN: 214-233-002
Date: Thursday, November 2, 2023 9:07:27 AM

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Good Morning,

Please see the comments below regarding the subject project.

Project Number: PLN-12312-CUP

Project Name: Organic Humboldt - CUP for existing 34,937 sq ft of outdoor cultivation and 22,000 mixed light.

APN(s): 214-233-002

CEQA: CEQA-2019-0543-0000-R1

Project Description

A Conditional Use Permit for 34,937 sf of existing outdoor cultivation and 22,000 square feet of existing mixed light. Water is sourced from an onsite well. There is 59,000 gallons of water storage in hard tanks. Annual estimated water usage is 261,900 gallons. Power is provided by an onsite generator. All drying and processing will occur onsite in existing facilities. There will be no employees hired.

CDFW COMMENTS:

Thank you for referring this application to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) for review and comment.

On November 1, 2023, CDFW staff conducted a site inspection at the subject property on Assessor' Parcel Number (APN) 214-233-002. During the site visit, staff walked the property to observe current and historic cultivation activities. The following comments are intended to assist the Lead Agency in making informed decisions in the planning process. The following comments shall supersede prior comments submitted by CDFW regarding PLN-12312-CUP. CDFW requests that all comments are incorporated in the final Humboldt County Staff Report.

- On June 18, 2018, CDFW received a Notification of Lake and Streambed Alteration (LSAA 1600-2018-0374-0000-R1) for nine projects to upgrade failing and undersized stream crossings, to upgrade one pond site, remove three additional pond sites, and for three Points of Diversion (POD). On November 20, 2020, the application was approved by Operation of Law (OpLaw).

- The LSAA has an expiration date of January 1, 2024. As of November 1, 2023, no work has been initiated or completed. Because the LSAA was issued by Operation of Law, the LSAA cannot be extended. Additionally, while onsite, CDFW observed a Class III stream that is currently being disconnected from its natural water course and is being diverted into a ditch. The additional needed culvert for the class III drainage will need to be notified for with CDFW and installed. CDFW requests, as a condition of project approval, that the applicant renotify CDFW prior to January 2024 and obtain a new LSAA to complete remediation work on the project parcel.
- On November 1, 2023, CDFW observed greenhouses, infrastructure and debris associated with six decommissioned cultivation sites on the parcel. CDFW requests, as a condition of project approval, that all infrastructure and debris associated with the decommissioned cultivation areas are removed and properly disposed of at a waste management facility.
- While onsite, CDFW observed waterline in the stream channel and in the wooded areas throughout the property. CDFW requests, as a condition of project approval, that the applicant is required to remove all water lines/foreign materials (e.g. plastic, litter, etc.) from stream channels and remove all unused waterline from the parcel.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this project.

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