



TRINITY COUNTY

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

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Trinity County Planning Department, Cannabis Division

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT INITIAL STUDY/PROPOSED MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

The Trinity County Department of Planning has prepared a Draft Initial Study/Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration (Draft IS/MND) for the Variance Vital Green Future Commercial Cannabis Use Permit (CCUPT3-19-21).

The proposed project includes expansion of cultivation to up to one-acre (43,560 square feet) of outdoor and/or mixed-light cannabis canopy under a Type 3 (Outdoor – Medium) or multiple Type 2 (Mixed-Light – Small) licenses. The mixed-light cultivation activity would not require artificial lighting or additional electricity use. It is proposed to occur with the use of blackout tarps (light deprivation) to allow the applicant to have multiple harvests during the growing season.

The project, as proposed, meets the requirements for uses compatible within the Resource (RE) General Plan designation and is consistent with the Timber Production Zone (TPZ) zoning as the applicant is an approved Phase I applicant, as defined by the County Code. The proposed project would not alter existing activities at the residence. The applicant has also applied for a variance concurrently with the CUP from the limitations of location, to site the cultivation area less than five hundred (500) feet from the adjacent property lines. All of these actions are considered the “proposed project.”

Project Location: The proposed project is located within Trinity County, south of the town of Salyer at 5200 South Fork Road (Assessor Parcel Number [APN] 008-080-032). The subject parcel is approximately 143.6 acres in size. The parcels immediately surrounding the project are designated by the County’s General Plan as Resource (RE) and are zoned as Timber Production Zone (TPZ) and Unclassified (U). Primary site access is provided via South Fork Road via State Route 299 (SR-299). The site is identified on the Hennessy Peak USGS quadrangle map, Section 30, Township 6 North, Range 5 East, Humboldt Base Meridian (HBM). The land encompassing the project area has been historically used for timber harvest; the existing parcel is the result of a subdivision of parcels in 2011.

Description of Project: The proposed project will expand existing onsite activities through the addition of outdoor cultivation in several locations increasing the total flowering canopy cultivation area to 43,560 square feet. The project also proposes a 1,500-square foot barn (30-foot by 50-foot for general storage non-cultivation use), a 1,200-square foot shop (30-foot by 40-foot to be used for processing and immature plant area), a 320-square foot shipping container (8-foot by 40-foot to be used for processing, harvest storage, and administrative hold area), a 320-square foot shipping container (8-foot by 40-foot to be used for immature plant area), a solar array, an additional 1,000,000 gallon water storage pond, and eight additional 5,000-gallon plastic water storage tanks.

The proposed expansion would employ a maximum of nine (9) employees (some permanent and some seasonal) each year. The applicant proposes to use the local labor force within the County, and employees will commute to the site each day. The hours of operation will fall between 7:00 AM and 10:00 PM, following the noise level standards set forth in Section 17.43.060.B of the County Code.

Environmental Topics Evaluated: The Initial Study examines the potential impacts generated by the proposed project in relation to the potential of the project to have an impact on the environment.

Other public agencies whose approval is required (e.g., permits, financing approval, or participation agreement): Trinity County, as Lead Agency for the proposed project, has discretionary authority over the primary project proposal. To implement this project, the applicant may need to obtain, at a minimum, the following discretionary permits/approvals from other agencies: California Department of Fish & Wildlife, California Department of Cannabis Control, North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board, State Division of Water Rights, and State Water Resources Control Board.

A copy of the Draft IS/MND is available for review on the County of Trinity Planning Department website at the following address: <https://www.trinitycounty.org/Planning> (go to “CEQA Environmental Review” link).

The public comment period begins on March 30, 2022 and will end on April 29, 2022. Written comments can be emailed to info.planning@trinitycounty.org or sent to the attention of Skylar Fisher, Trinity County, Planning Department, Cannabis Division, 530 Main St /PO Box 2819, Weaverville, California 96093.