

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION #1**

For Zoning Administrator Agenda of:  
December 5, 2019

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Consent Agenda Item	<u><b>No. C-2</b></u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Continued Hearing Item	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Public Hearing Item	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Department Report	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Old Business	

**Re: Amaranth Farms, LLC Special Permit**

Record Number: PLN-10897-SP  
Assessor Parcel Number: 108-033-014  
1020 Windy Ridge Lane, Honeydew Area

Attached for the Zoning Administrator's record and review are the following supplementary information items:

1. Revised Recommended Conditions of Approval (information removed is shown with a strikethrough and information added in shown in bold text).
2. Emails dated September 16, December 2, and December 5, 2019 to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) office. A condition of approval has been added stipulating that no rodenticides can be used as part of the project.
3. Photographs of the access road dated December 2, 2019.
4. Public comments were received by Kent Sawatsky on behalf of himself and Robert Sutherland representing HUMMAPS. In a follow-up phone call with Mr. Sawatsky on December 2, the comments were noted as the following:

Comment: Generator power used by the operation should be limited to a percentage of the total energy use of the project similar to the performance standards for energy use in the CCLUO.

Response: The applicant is required to meet noise attenuation measures related to generator noise as described by the Commercial Medical Marijuana Land Use Ordinance (CMMLUO). Conditions of approval further restrict noise levels to 50 decibels as measured 100 feet from the source. The applicant is required to show compliance with this measure prior to utilizing supplemental light in the appurtenant nursery.

Comment: Coordination with the Bureau of Land Management did not result in approval of the setback reduction. The project should therefore be heard at the Planning Commission for a full public hearing.

Response: The project was referred to BLM on 10/25/2018. Additional communication was sent to BLM as noted above. The BLM did not object to the setback reduction and concerns

regarding protection of wildlife resources have been addressed in the project as conditioned.

Comment: The projects should be considered cumulatively as the properties are adjacent to each other and owned and operated in common.

Response: The projects are on two separate legal parcels and being considered as two separate applications.

## ATTACHMENT 1

### REVISED RECOMMENDED CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL

## ATTACHMENT 1

### Recommended Conditions of Approval

**APPROVAL OF THE SPECIAL PERMIT IS CONDITIONED ON THE FOLLOWING TERMS AND REQUIREMENTS WHICH MUST BE SATISFIED BEFORE THE PROVISIONAL CANNABIS CULTIVATION PERMIT CAN BE FINALIZED.**

1. The applicant shall execute a Compliance Agreement with the Humboldt County Planning Department detailing all necessary permits and infrastructure improvements described under Conditions of Approval #5 – ~~21~~ 23. The agreement shall provide a timeline for completing all outstanding items. All activities detailed under the agreement must be completed to the satisfaction of the Planning and Building Department before the permit may be finalized and no longer considered provisional.
2. The applicant shall provide receipts of the use of portable toilets and handwashing stations for cultivation staff. No processing can occur onsite until an on-site waste water disposal system (OWTS) has been permitted for a commercial processing facility. A letter from the Division of Environmental Health (DEH) indicating approval has been issued will satisfy this condition.
3. All mixed light cultivation used in the appurtenant nursery shall comply with International Dark Sky Association standards for Lighting Zone 0 and Lighting Zone 1 and be designed to regulate light spillage onto neighboring properties resulting from backlight, up light, or glare (BUG). International Dark Sky Association standards exceed the requirements of Scenic Resources Standard SR-S4, Light and Glare, that lighting be fully shielded, and designed and installed to minimize off-site lighting and direct light within the property boundaries. Should the Humboldt County Planning Division receive complaints that the lighting is out of alignment or not complying with these standards, within ten (10) working days of receiving written notification that a complaint has been filed, the applicant shall submit written verification that the lights' shielding and alignment has been repaired, inspected, and corrected as necessary. No mixed-light in the appurtenant nursery is authorized by this permit until the structures and greenhouses can be demonstrated to comply with these standards.
4. Noise generated from generators shall not exceed 50db at 100 feet from the generator or at the edge of the nearest forest habitat, whichever is closer, as required by Section 314-55.4.11 (o) Humboldt County Code. No mixed-light in the appurtenant nursery is authorized by this permit until the structures and greenhouses can be demonstrated to comply with these standards.
5. The applicant shall obtain all necessary building permits and grading permits from the Building Inspection Division (BID) for all structures related to the commercial cannabis cultivation operation, including all greenhouses, agricultural buildings, sheds, barns, and the rainwater catchment pond used in cultivation. The applicant shall submit floor plans including dimensions with electrical, mechanical and plumbing details for all existing Agriculture Exempt Structures and an Agriculture Exempt letter of intent for each. The applicant shall submit two complete sets of construction plans developed by a California-licensed engineer for the building permits. All building plans submitted for approval shall be consistent with those

approved by the Zoning Administrator.

6. The applicant shall be compliant with the County of Humboldt's Certified Unified Program Agency (CUPA) requirements regarding any hazardous materials. A written verification of compliance shall be required before any provisional permits may be finalized. Ongoing proof of compliance with this condition shall be required at each annual inspection in order to keep the permit valid.
7. The applicant shall implement all corrective actions detailed within the Water Resource Protection Plan developed for the parcel, prepared pursuant to Tier 2 enrollment under the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board Cannabis Waste Discharge Regulatory Program, including those measures later determined necessary during annual and periodic site inspections in accordance with the monitoring element until the Applicant has demonstrated enrollment in the State Cannabis Cultivation Discharge Program as described by Condition of Approval #8.
8. The applicant is to submit evidence of enrollment into the State Cannabis Cultivation Discharge program by submitting copies of all documents filed with the State Water Resources Control Board, including, but not limited to, a Notice of Applicability and a Site Management Plan. The applicant is required to adhere to and implement the requirements contained in the SWRCB's Cannabis Cultivation Policy, the General Order and the Notice of Applicability. A copy of the reporting form portion of the Mitigation and Reporting Program (MRP) shall be submitted annually to the Planning and Building Department concurrent with the submittal to the SWRCB.
9. Should the Fully Contained Spring Exemption be granted on the adjacent parcel 108-033-004 in an amount sufficient to meet the irrigation needs of both operations, the applicant shall cause to be recorded a contingent easement for access to the water source.
10. Water meters shall be installed to measure water usage for irrigation **including propagation water use, and water use numbers shall be provided on an annual basis to the Planning Department.**
11. The use of water bladders shall be discontinued.
12. The access road shall be paved for a minimum width of 20 feet and a length of 50 feet where it intersects Wilder Ridge Road. An encroachment permit shall be issued by the Department of Public Works prior to commencement of any work in the County maintained right of way. An encroachment permit shall be issued by the Department of Public Works prior to commencement of any work in the County maintained right of way.
13. All private road intersections onto the County Road shall be maintained in accordance with County Code Section 341-1 (Sight Visibility Ordinance). This condition shall be completed to the satisfaction of the Department of Public Works prior to commencing operations, final sign-off for a building permit, or Public Works approval for a business license.
14. Applicant shall meet all State Responsibility Area (SRA) requirements, including installation of a turnaround for emergency vehicles, maintenance of defensible space, and installation of a 2,500-gallon water tank near the residence.
15. The applicant shall adhere to all terms and reporting requirements of the Final Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement signed with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

(1600-2016-0487-R1).

16. The applicant is to notify the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) to determine if improvements are required to ensure the pond is hydrologically disconnected to surface waters and there is a spillway that can handle a 100-year storm event, minimize wildlife entrapment and draft and implement a bullfrog management plan. The applicant shall adhere to all terms and conditions of the Final Streambed Alteration Agreement if CDFW determines the pond is jurisdictional to that agency. A copy of the Final Streambed Alteration Agreement or letter from CDFW stating an agreement is not required will satisfy this condition.
17. The applicant is to comply with the Bullfrog Management Plan.
18. The applicant shall submit a Timber Conversion Evaluation Report prepared by a Registered Professional Forester (RPF) evaluating the timber conversion history on the parcel and compliance with Forest Practice Rules. The applicant shall implement the recommendations in the report.
19. The applicant shall submit a restocking plan for replanting of trees at a ratio of 3:1 should the up to five (5) Douglas-fir trees be removed as a result of the proposed pond expansion. The plan is subject to approval by the Planning Director in consultation with CDFW. Replanting shall be monitored for a period of three to five years and achieve 80% survival rate.
20. The applicant is to contact the local fire service provider [Telegraph Ridge Fire Protection District] and furnish written documentation from that agency of the available emergency response and fire suppression services and any recommended project mitigation measures. If emergency response and fire suppression services are not provided, the applicant shall cause to be recorded an "ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF NO AVAILABLE EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND FIRE SUPPRESSION SERVICES" for the parcel(s) on a form provided by the Humboldt County Planning Division.
21. The applicant shall execute and file with the Planning Division the statement titled, "Notice and Acknowledgment regarding Agricultural Activities in Humboldt County," ("Right to Farm" ordinance) as required by the HCC and available at the Planning Division.
22. **No rodenticides shall be used for the duration of the project.**
23. **The existing greenhouse structure near the western property line proposed for propagation shall be removed. All cultivation and cultivation infrastructure, including potting soil, shall be removed. Within 30 days of project approval, the applicant shall submit a revised Site Plan showing the proposed propagation greenhouse is to be decommissioned and proposing a new location on the existing cultivation flat for use of propagation.**
24. The applicant is required to pay for permit processing on a time and material basis as set forth in the schedule of fees and charges as adopted by ordinance of the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors. The Department will provide a bill to the applicant after the decision. Any and all outstanding Planning fees to cover the processing of the application to decision by the Hearing Officer shall be paid to the Humboldt County Planning Division, 3015 "H" Street, Eureka.

**Ongoing Requirements/Development Restrictions Which Must be Satisfied for the Life of the Project:**

1. All components of project shall be developed, operated, and maintained in conformance with the Project Description, the approved Site Plan, the Plan of Operations, and these conditions of approval. Changes shall require modification of this permit except where consistent with Humboldt County Code Section 312-11.1, Minor Deviations to Approved Plot Plan.
2. If offsite processing is chosen to be the preferred method of processing, this permit shall be modified to identify the offsite licensed facility.
3. Cannabis cultivation and other commercial cannabis activity shall be conducted in compliance with all laws and regulations as set forth in the CMMLUO and MAUCRSA, as applicable to the permit type.
4. If operating pursuant to a written approved compliance agreement, permittee shall abate or cure violations at the earliest feasible date, but in no event no more than two (2) years from the date of issuance of a provisional clearance or permit. Permittee shall provide plans for curing such violations to the Planning and Building Department within one (1) year of issuance of the provisional clearance or permit. If good faith effort towards compliance can be shown within the two years following the issuance of the provisional clearance or permit, The Planning Department may, at the discretion of the Director, provide for extensions of the provisional permit to allow for additional time to meet the outstanding requirements.
5. Possession of a current, valid required license, or licenses, issued by any agency of the State of California in accordance with the MAUCRSA, and regulations promulgated thereunder, as soon as such licenses become available.
6. Compliance with all statutes, regulations and requirements of the California State Water Resources Control Board and the Division of Water Rights, at a minimum to include a statement of diversion of surface water from a stream, river, underground stream, or other watercourse required by Water Code Section 5101, or other applicable permit, license, or registration, as applicable.
7. Confinement of the area of cannabis cultivation, processing, manufacture or distribution to the locations depicted on the approved site plan. The commercial cannabis activity shall be set back at least 30 feet from any property line, and 600 feet from any School, School Bus Stop, Church or other Place of Religious Worship, or Tribal Cultural Resources, except where a reduction to this setback has been approved pursuant to County Code Section 55.4.11(d).
8. Maintain enrollment in Tier 1, 2 or 3, certification with the NCRWQCB Order No. R1-2015-0023, if applicable, or any substantially equivalent rule that may be subsequently adopted by the County of Humboldt or other responsible agency.
9. For cultivation area(s) for which no enrollment pursuant to RWQB Order No. R1-2015-0023 is required by that Order, comply with the standard conditions applicable to all Tier 1 dischargers.
10. Consent to an annual on-site compliance inspection, with at least 24 hours prior notice, to be conducted by appropriate County officials during regular business hours (Monday – Friday, 9:00 am – 5:00 pm, excluding holidays).
11. Refrain from the improper storage or use of any fuels, fertilizer, pesticide, fungicide, rodenticide, or herbicide.

12. Pay all applicable application, review for conformance with conditions and annual inspection fees.
13. Power is supplied by a generator for cannabis operations. The noise from the generator or fans shall not be audible by humans from neighboring residences. The decibel level for generators measured at the property line shall be no more than 60 decibels. Where applicable, sound levels must also show that they will not result in the harassment of Marbled Murrelet or Spotted Owl species. Conformance will be evaluated using current auditory disturbance guidance prepared by the United State Fish and Wildlife Service, and further consultation where necessary. Under these guidelines, generator noise may not exceed 50 decibels as measured at 100 feet from the generator or at the edge of the nearest Marbled Murrelet or Spotted Owl habitat, whichever is closer.
14. Storage of Fuel - Fuel shall be stored and handled in compliance with applicable state and local laws and regulations, including the County of Humboldt's CUPA program, and in such a way that no spillage occurs.
15. The Master Log Books maintained by the applicant to track production and sales shall be maintained for inspection by the County.
16. Pay all applicable taxes as required by the Humboldt County Commercial Marijuana Cultivation Tax Ordinance (Section 719-1 et seq.).
17. Participate in and bear costs for permittee's participation in the Cannabis Track and Trace Program administered by the Humboldt County Agricultural Commissioner.
18. The use of monofilament netting for all uses, including but not limited for erosion control, shall be prohibited. Geotextiles, fiber rolls, and other erosion control measure materials shall be made of loose-weave mesh, such as jute, hemp, coconut (coir) fiber, or other products without welded weaves to minimize the risk of ensnaring and strangling wildlife.
19. Leave wildlife unharmed. If any wildlife is encountered during the Authorized Activity, Permittee shall not disturb the wildlife and shall allow wildlife to leave the work site unharmed.
20. The environmental impacts of improper waste disposal are significant and well documented. All refuse shall be contained in wildlife proof storage containers, at all times, and disposed of at an authorized waste management facility.
21. Artificial light used in cultivation and clone/start propagation operations will adhere to shielding and International Dark Sky Association standards as set forth in the CMMLUO.
22. Pursuant to the MAUCRSA, Health and Safety Code Section 19322(a)(9), an applicant seeking a cultivation license shall "provide a statement declaring the applicant is an 'agricultural employer,' as defined in the Alatorre-Zenovich-Dunlap-Berman Agricultural Labor Relations Act of 1975 (Part 3.5 commencing with Section 1140) of Division 2 of the Labor Code), to the extent not prohibited by law."
23. Cultivators shall comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations governing California Agricultural Employers, which may include: federal and state wage and hour laws, CAL/OSHA, OSHA, California Agricultural Labor Relations Act, and the Humboldt County Code (including the Building Code).

24. Cultivators engaged in processing shall comply with the following Processing Practices:
  - I. Processing operations must be maintained in a clean and sanitary condition including all work surfaces and equipment.
  - II. Processing operations must implement protocols which prevent processing contamination and mold and mildew growth on cannabis.
  - III. Employees handling cannabis in processing operations must have access to facemasks and gloves in good operable condition as applicable to their job function.
  - IV. Employees must wash hands sufficiently when handling cannabis or use gloves.
  
25. All persons hiring employees to engage in commercial cannabis cultivation and processing shall comply with the following Employee Safety Practices:
  - i. Cultivation operations and processing operations must implement safety protocols and provide all employees with adequate safety training relevant to their specific job functions, which may include:
    - 1) Emergency action response planning as necessary;
    - 2) Employee accident reporting and investigation policies;
    - 3) Fire prevention;
    - 4) Hazard communication policies, including maintenance of material safety data sheets (MSDS);
    - 5) Materials handling policies;
    - 6) Job hazard analyses; and
    - 7) Personal protective equipment policies, including respiratory protection.
  - ii. Cultivation operations and processing operations must visibly post and maintain an emergency contact list which includes at a minimum:
    - 8) Operation manager contacts;
    - 9) Emergency responder contacts;
    - 10) Poison control contacts.
  - iii. At all times, employees shall have access to safe drinking water and toilets and handwashing facilities that comply with applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations. Plumbing facilities and water source must be capable of handling increased usage without adverse consequences to neighboring properties or the environment.
  - iv. On site-housing provided to employees shall comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations.
  
26. All cultivators shall comply with the approved Processing Plan as to the following:
  - i. Processing Practices.
  - ii. Location where processing will occur.
  - iii. Number of employees, if any.
  - iv. Employee Safety Practices.
  - v. Toilet and handwashing facilities.
  - vi. Plumbing and/or septic system and whether or not the system is capable of handling increased usage.
  - vii. Drinking water for employees.
  - viii. Plan to minimize impact from increased road use resulting from processing.
  - ix. On-site housing, if any.
  
27. Term of Commercial Cannabis Activity Special Permit. Any Commercial Cannabis Cultivation Special Permit issued pursuant to the CMMLUO shall expire after one (1) year after date of

issuance, and on the anniversary date of such issuance each year thereafter, unless an annual compliance inspection has been conducted and the permittees and the permitted site have been found to comply with all conditions of approval.

If the inspector or other County official determines that the permittees or site do not comply with the conditions of approval, the inspector shall serve the Special Permit or permit holder with a written statement identifying the items not in compliance, and the action that the permit holder may take to cure the non-compliance, or file an appeal within ten (10) days of the date that the written statement is delivered to the permit holder. Personal delivery or mailing the written statement to the mailing address listed on the application by regular mail, plus three (3) days after date of mailing, shall constitute delivery. The permit holder may request a reinspection to determine whether or not the permit holder has cured all issues of non-compliance. Failure to request reinspection or to cure any items of non-compliance shall terminate the Special Permit, immediately upon the expiration of any appeal period, or final determination of the appeal if an appeal has been timely filed pursuant to Section 55.4.13 of the CMMLUO.

28. Acknowledgements to Remain in Full Force and Effect. Permittee acknowledges that the County reserves the right to reduce the size of the area allowed for cultivation under any clearance or permit issued in accordance with this Section in the event that environmental conditions, such as a sustained drought or low flows in the watershed in which the cultivation area is located will not support diversions for irrigation.

Permittee further acknowledges and declares that:

- (1) All commercial cannabis activity that I, my agents, or employees conduct pursuant to a permit from the County of Humboldt for commercial cultivation, processing, manufacturing, and distribution of cannabis for adult use or medicinal use within the inland area of the County of Humboldt, shall at all times be conducted consistent with the provisions of the approved County permit; and
- (2) All cannabis or cannabis products under my control, or the control of my agents or employees, and cultivated or manufactured pursuant to local Ordinance and the State of California Medicinal and Adult Use Cannabis Regulation and Safety Act ("MAUCRSA") (SB 94), will be distributed within the State of California; and
- (3) All commercial cannabis activity conducted by me, or my agents or employees pursuant to a permit from the County of Humboldt will be conducted in compliance with the State of California MAUCRSA.

29. Transfers. Transfer of any leases or permits approved by this project is subject to the review and approval of the Planning Director for conformance with CMMLUO eligibility requirements, and agreement to permit terms and acknowledgments. The fee for required permit transfer review shall accompany the request. The request shall include the following information:

- (1) Identifying information for the new Owner(s) and management as required in an initial permit application;
- (2) A written acknowledgment by the new Owner in accordance as required for the initial Permit application;
- (3) The specific date on which the transfer is to occur; and
- (4) Acknowledgement of full responsibility for complying with the existing permit; and
- (5) Execution of an Affidavit of Non-diversion of Commercial Cannabis.

30. Inspections. The permit holder and subject property owner are to permit the County or representative(s) or designee(s) to make inspections at any reasonable time deemed

necessary to assure that the activities being performed under the authority of this permit are in accordance with the terms and conditions prescribed herein.

**Informational Notes:**

1. Pursuant to Section 314-55.4.11 (a) of the CMMLUO, if upon inspection for the initial application, violations of any building or other health, safety, or other state of county statute, ordinance, or regulation are discovered, the Planning and Building Department may issue a provisional clearance or permit with a written approved Compliance Agreement. By signing the agreement, the permittee agrees to abate or cure the violations at the earliest opportunity but in no event more than two (2) years of the date of issuance of the provisional clearance or permit. Plans for curing the violations shall be submitted to the Planning and Building Department by the Permittee within one (1) year of the issuance of the provisional certificate or permit. The terms of the compliance agreement may be appealed pursuant to section 314-55.4.13 of the CMMLUO.

2. This provisional permit approval shall expire and become null and void at the expiration of one (1) year after all appeal periods have lapsed (see "Effective Date"); except where the Compliance Agreement per Condition of Approval #1 has been executed and the corrective actions pursuant to the agreement are being undertaken. Once building permits have been secured and/or the use initiated pursuant to the terms of the agreement, the use is subject to the Permit Duration and Renewal provisions set forth in Conditions of Approval #27 of the On-Going Requirements /Development Restrictions, above.

3. If cultural resources are encountered during construction activities, the contractor on site shall cease all work in the immediate area and within a 50-foot buffer of the discovery location. A qualified archaeologist as well as the appropriate Tribal Historic Preservation Officer(s) are to be contacted to evaluate the discovery and, in consultation with the applicant and lead agency, develop a treatment plan in any instance where significant impacts cannot be avoided.

Prehistoric materials may include obsidian or chert flakes, tools, locally darkened midden soils, groundstone artifacts, shellfish or faunal remains, and human burials. If human remains are found, California Health and Safety Code Section 7050.5 requires that the County Coroner be contacted immediately at 707-445-7242. If the Coroner determines the remains to be Native American, the Native American Heritage Commission will then be contacted by the Coroner to determine appropriate treatment of the remains pursuant to Public Resources Code Section 5097.98. Violators shall be prosecuted in accordance with Public Resources Code Section 5097.99.

4. The applicant is required to pay for permit processing on a time and material basis as set forth in the schedule of fees and charges as adopted by ordinance of the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors. The Department will provide a bill to the applicant after the decision. Any and all outstanding Planning fees to cover the processing of the application to decision by the Hearing Officer shall be paid to the Humboldt County Planning Division, 3015 "H" Street, Eureka.

5. The Applicant is responsible for costs for post-approval review for determining project conformance with conditions on a time and material basis as set forth in the schedule of fees and charges as adopted by ordinance of the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors. The Department will send a bill to the Applicant for all staff costs incurred for review of the project for conformance with the conditions of approval. All Planning fees for this service shall be paid to the Humboldt County Planning Division, 3015 "H" Street, Eureka.

6. A Notice of Determination (NOD) will be prepared and filed with the County Clerk for this project in accordance with the State CEQA Guidelines. Within three days of the effective date of permit approval, it is requested that the applicant submit a check or money order for the required filing fee in the amount of \$50 payable to the Humboldt County Clerk/Recorder. If this payment is not received within this time period, the Department will file the NOD and will charge this cost to the project.

7. The Applicant is responsible for costs for post-approval review for determining project conformance with conditions prior to release of building permit or initiation of use and at time of annual inspection. In order to demonstrate that all conditions have been satisfied, applicant is required to pay the conformance review deposit as set forth in the schedule of fees and charges as adopted by ordinance of the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors (currently \$750) within sixty (60) days of the effective date of the permit or upon filing of the Compliance Agreement (where applicable), whichever occurs first. Payment shall be made to the Humboldt County Planning Division, 3015 "H" Street, Eureka.