

**From:** [Claire Trower](#)  
**To:** [Planning Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** PLN 2021-17162 comment  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 20, 2022 11:39:26 AM

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I was asked to use an email that I sent to a neighbor about this permit application. I've used that email information to comment on this proposed increase in square footage.

The 2 fires on that parcel were different people, but the second fire was started by the current crew. They didn't call 911. Someone called me (a volunteer saw smoke from the 'Dew Store up Honeydew Creek drainage), and I called us out for a smoke check. The workers at the scene weren't prepared, and their explanation as to how it started wasn't clear. My report doesn't remind me just what they told the engine captain when he got there. 5 acres of grassland burned on that fire.

The first fire happened in addition to when that Cal Fire engine crashed above the 'Dew, responding to that first fire (we had an incident within an incident that day). The landowner on record at that time implied that it was an arsonist. Since the Smith-Etter Road cuts through that 40-acre piece, arson and theft will continue to be a real worry on this permit, and I'll bet that the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is not in favor of this expansion, and wouldn't support the extra acre of weed they want to put in. What an attractive welcome to the Lost Coast that is - Annie and Paul Smith are surely rolling over in their graves.

We accept all the permit info that the Planning department sends us, but we don't provide permittees anything more than a letter stating that they're in our coverage area and they need to have their property marked with an address (I haven't seen one yet, and I have yet to see an adequate street address posted on *any* local grows - with fire season year-round, there may not be local engines responding - and engines from out of the area don't have a magic map), provide fire water storage, turn-arounds for the engines, and defensible space. We won't go look at any of them...that's the Planning department's job and we won't do it for them...we don't get paid to, like they do...and why *isn't* that a requirement for them to drive out and make sure everything's legal - and to check on how the hoops are covered at night?

I found their permit info that was sent to us dated April 2021, and the owner of that parcel isn't the permittee. It belongs to Steve Consalvi and Loree Powell, and weren't they the people who lived there before? Their agent is Nate Madsen. When I read through the permit application, it's for a special permit, to increase the square footage to 43,560 (looked that up and it's exactly what's in an acre of land). They're supposed to be drilling a well to provide water and rain catchment from the roof and into a pond...wonder just how many permittees won't be filling their ponds due to lack of rainfall this year...and I'm still waiting to hear when permittees or the County need to prove that any wells *aren't* related to a riverine system to fill their ponds by using their wells 12 months out of the year, when others using spring water are required to forebear.

I'm fed up with the lack of inspections by Planning - why request covering greenhouses, and all the rest, if they don't make sure they're actually providing them? I briefly read a part of the staff report, and it seems that Consalvi sold to Nava in between applying for this permit expansion.

We could spend all our time trying to get the Planning and Building department to do their jobs, but I just don't have the time. If you want to use any of this email to get them to turn down the permit, be my guest...am speaking for myself as dispatch, not for HVFC. Sorry it took so long to get back to you, but I had to find the reports.

Best,

Claire Trower