

## Johanna DeLong

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**From:** Maria Kann <mariackann@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 11, 2024 9:11 PM  
**To:** Eddie Crandell; Bruno Sabatier; Jessica Pyska; Michael Green; Moke Simon; Johanna DeLong; Lake County Clerk of the Board  
**Cc:** Margaux Kambara; rtnc; Donna Mackiewicz; e detrimental; Betsy Cawn  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Highland Farms Appeal AB 24-02 Public Comment in Support of Appeal

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

Date: August 11, 2024

To: The Honorable Lake County Board of Supervisors

From: Maria Kann

Subject: Public Comment Re: Highland Farms Appeal AB 24-02

Please grant appeal AB 24-02.

The proposed project spans pristine land with potential serpentine soils and wetland areas which support rare and unique flora and fauna that should be valued and protected from development. Only two percent of California's land area is covered in serpentine soils which contain asbestos and heavy metals toxic to most plants. Serpentine soils help with climate change by sequestering carbon and providing a unique environment for rare flora such as the manzanita.

The project area contains one Class II and eight Class III streams with wetland boundaries. Per the Lake County website under Wetland Integrity: **WETLANDS PROVIDE** critical habitat, filter and retain nutrient pollution, store carbon, enhance water quality, control erosion, and provide spaces for recreation. They are local and regional centers of biodiversity, and support species found nowhere else across western landscapes. Functional wetland ecosystems will serve increasingly important roles in buffering impacts from extreme climate events, and upland disturbances such as flooding and erosion.

Extensive clearing of land containing chaparral would be required for at least one of the cultivation areas. Chaparral should also be protected as only 2.2 % of the earth's surface supports this threatened biome.

I understand that cannabis is considered agriculture, however, not all agriculture-zoned areas are suitable for development and indeed should be protected for the health of the surrounding areas and the ecosystem as a whole.

If our county representatives are truly acting in the best interest of the land use and will of the citizens, then I ask you to approve AB 24-02 and protect this diverse, sensitive area.

Thank you,  
Maria Kann