

PL 25-198 Images for Chapter 1 – BLM Indemnification Exhibits/Evidence

[12] 2020-06-12 BLM Letter from Ryan Cooper USDeptInterior.jpg



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Ukiah Field Office
2550 North State Street, Suite 2
Ukiah, CA 95482
www.blm.gov/office/ukiah-field-office

June 12, 2020

County of Lake
Community Development Department
Attn: Sateur Ham
255 N. Forbes Street, Lakeport, CA 95453

Dear Sateur,

Thank you for providing the Bureau of Land Management with the opportunity to share our concerns regarding county permitting for cannabis cultivation on private parcels if this affects federal lands or requires federal authorizations.

The Comprehensive Drug Abuse Prevention and Control Act of 1970 and more specifically Title II of the act (the Controlled Substances Act), lists Cannabis as a Schedule I drug. The BLM does not have any discretion to permit activities on the public land that will violate the Controlled Substances Act or any other federal law. The BLM therefore, cannot authorize any activities related to cannabis authorizations on public land such as the *cultivation, production, transportation or distribution of supplies or product.*

We recommend that permit applicants adjacent to or near BLM lands have their parcels surveyed by a professional land surveyor so that their operations do not trespass upon or cause impacts to federal lands. Individuals that cause resource damage (i.e. erosion or soil contamination) to BLM-administered lands from illicit acts, including the manufacturing of cannabis, may be subject to federal criminal and/or civil action. Permit applicants should also be aware that transporting cannabis across an existing right-of-way on federal lands to access a private parcel, is also illegal under federal law, and violators could face federal criminal action.

Thank you again for the opportunity to comment. Please contact me if you would like to further discuss the issue. You can reach me at 707-468-4070.

Sincerely,

Ryan Cooper
Field Manager

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