

Lake County Clerk of the Board

From: Pam <suprzoopr@aol.com>
Sent: Monday, August 12, 2024 11:44 AM
To: Eddie Crandell; Bruno Sabatier; Jessica Pyska; Michael Green; Moke Simon; Johanna DeLong; Lake County Clerk of the Board
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Appeal AB24-02
Attachments: Wetland Overlay of Cultivation Site.pdf

To all of the Board of Supervisors

I am writing to ask that you Appeal AB24-02.

I am concerned that the permit to allow Highland Farms to build a processing plant along side of Highland Springs Recreation area, has not been adequately studied. I am concerned that there have not been sufficient impact studies conducted in regards to environmental and traffic impacts. In addition, I understand that the process of excavating for this plant will unearth thousands of yards of serpentine, which will release asbestos to be released into the air and likely into the water as well.

I have attached a PDF file with 3 slides.

The purpose of the 3 slides is to tell the story and make the fair argument that:

- The wetlands are likely significantly larger than what the applicant claims.
- The slides confirm PEC's observation that they are larger and interconnected
- The applicant's site plan likely grossly underestimates the true extent of the wetland and they are likely dramatically larger than even the satellite imagery shows.
- That a full protocol level wetland delineation is required because cultivation site encroachment is highly likely if not a certainty.

Regarding the 3 slides:

- The first slide shows an image of the cultivation area taken by satellite April 29, 2023 at the end of the wet season AFTER the drought ended. It shows extensive green areas throughout the waterways that could be and are very likely wetland areas. To be precise, we noted them as "potential wetland areas" because the main point of the three slides is to show a "fair argument" that a protocol level wetland survey is needed to understand the full extent of wetland area.
- The second slide shows an overlay onto the satellite image showing in red the areas what Highland Farms' Site Plan depicts as wetland areas based on the late May 2021 PEC survey which was during the dry season and during an historic drought year, and in green, showing how much it appears the wetland has expanded and interconnected.
- The third slide overlays the red and green wetland areas onto the applicant's site plan showing where they intend to place their cultivation areas. It shows some of the cultivation areas directly encroach onto the potential wetland area. It is also worth noting that if the 100ft setbacks were applied to the overlay, the cultivation sites would have to be smaller and perhaps disappear altogether.

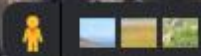
I am writing as a concerned citizen and am asking that you do not allow this permit to go forward without further studies. Apparently, Highland Farms is out of compliance with County and State Codes and Ordinances. Please appeal this bill until more studies are done to assess safety of the public and wildlife alike.

Pam Smithstan
A Concerned Lake County Resident

Source: Google Earth view
of cultivation site location
Data Attribution 4/29/2023



Google



Source: Google Earth view
of cultivation site location
Data Attribution 4/29/2023

Green Areas: Overlay
showing increased size and
inter-connectivity of the
potential wetland area after
2023 wet season based on
satellite imagery.

Red Areas: Potential
Wetlands identified by PEC
during the dry season and
during an historic drought

Note: A protocol wetland
survey must be performed
to accurately delineate the
wetland area

Google

Imagery ©2024 Airbus, Maxar Technologies, Map data ©2024

United States

Terms

Privacy

Send Product Feedback

200 ft

