

Jacquelyn Rodrigues

8545 Hwy 175
Kelseyville, CA 95451

Project: Red Hills use Permit (UP19-08) and initial study (IS 19-14)

8550 Highway 175, Kelseyville, CA
Applicant Golden State Herb / Red Hills

Re: Variance request on existing land use

Community Development Department
Planning Division
Attn: Eric Porter (eric.porter@lakecountyca.gov)

My great, great grandparents and successive family has owned the ranch at 8545 Highway 175, also known as the McIntire Ranch, since 1856. In 1977 my grandparents were presented with a Lake County Historical Marker as the second oldest ranch in the county. This marker authenticates this ranch as historical value to the community.

Our property is adjacent the "Red Hills" project located at 8550 Highway 175. I want to express my concern of the potential encroachment on our property from the "Red Hills" project. The property lines between our property and the "Red Hills" project are marked by a very old fence; some that may have fallen. It is important that we maintain our boundaries and confirm our property lines. I do not want trees or the like removed or disturbed near our property line. If there needs to be a confirmation of property lines, then we would like to be involved in choosing the process and survey company, if required.

Another concern I have with the "Red Hills" project is water. I would like to know how "Red Hills" project is going to water their cannabis? This project is across the road and above our McIntire spring which is the beginning of the McIntire Creek that feeds down to Cole Creek. Our ranch is sustained by the water coming from the McIntire Creek; Underground irrigation of our walnut trees (dry land farming). Also, we have 27+ acres of irrigated pastures that provide feed and hay for our sheep and cattle, as well as water for all our other animals and household. Our water is gravity fed. Our water is used under Riparian Claim and Pre-1914 Claim. The year diversion commenced was 1865. The State Water Resources Control Board and the Division of Water Rights has us as Primary Owners of the water rights. It's the water from our springs that make this ranch rich and beautiful. I am concerned that putting a well in above our spring or even excessive use of their original well would be detrimental to the flow and quantity of water we have and maybe even the quality of our spring drinking water. We have already seen a continued reduction in water, in the past years, from the acres of grapes that have been planted on Hwy 175, making it difficult to irrigate our permanent pastures. In 2010 we baled 80 tons of hay. In 2020 season we baled only 39 tons of hay. This reduction is due to the lack of water that we have had to irrigate during the growing season.

In addition, I would like to bring to your attention, that the owner of the property at 8550 Hwy 175 have halted or altered their contributory creek to the flow of water into the McIntire Creek. The water from that creek has been diverted on that property which reduced the water flow onto our lower field property by 100%. This water has fed our lower fields since the settlement of the ranch.

Sincerely,

Jacquelyn Rodrigues

Cc: Rob Brown, District 5 – Lake County Board of Supervisors; Rob.Brown@lakecountyca.gov