

# NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

**TO:** ☒ County Clerk  
County of Lake  
Lakeport, CA 95453

☒ Office of Planning & Research  
1400 Tenth Street, Room 113  
PO Box 3044  
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

**FROM:** Community Development Department  
Planning Division, County of Lake  
255 North Forbes Street  
Lakeport, CA 95453

**PROJECT TITLE:** Western Mine Farms, LLC

**PROJECT LOCATION:** 14507 Western Mine Road, Middletown, CA

**COUNTY:** Lake

**DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT:** The applicant is seeking a Major Use Permit from the County of Lake for a proposed commercial cannabis cultivation operation at 14507 Western Mine Road in Middletown, California, known as APN 013-030-29 (project parcel). The proposed project site is located within a flat area adjacent to an existing single family home and a tennis court. The house was built in 1997 and was previously graded in order to test the feasibility for geothermal electrical generation. Testing indicated that the site was not suitable for power generation and was later sold. The project proposal consists of cannabis cultivation utilizing full sunlight and above-ground planter “smart pots”. The project will utilize a proposed 120 square feet accessory structure to be used as a security shed.

**NAME OF PUBLIC AGENCY APPROVING PROJECT:** County of Lake Community  
Development Department

**NAME OF PERSON OR AGENCY CARRYING OUT PROJECT:** Amy Soderlind

**EXEMPT STATUS:** Categorical Exemption 15304, Class 4

**REASONS WHY PROJECT IS EXEMPT:** Class 4-Minor Alterations to Land. Class 4 consists of minor private alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees including (a) grading on land with a slope of less than 10 percent and (b) new gardening or landscaping, including the replacement of existing conventional landscaping. The proposed project is cannabis cultivation with methods of using above-ground planter pots. Under the Lake County Code, Chapter 30-Grading Ordinance, including fill such as soil will be utilized as a medium for the one-acre outdoor canopy area. The project will occur on non-native grassland surrounding an existing private tennis court area. The whole project area was previously graded for geothermal electrical generation and currently used as a residential dwelling.

The project does not expand into new footprint of undisturbed areas, a cultural and biological study was conducted and concluded there are no predicted impact from the proposed project. The project will use best management practices addressed in the project management plan to ensure little to no impact to the environment.

**CONTACT PERSON:** Sateur Ham

**TELEPHONE NUMBER:** (707) 263-2221

**Signature:**   
**Title:** Assistant Planner

**Date:** May 17, 2021

**Signed by Lead Agency**

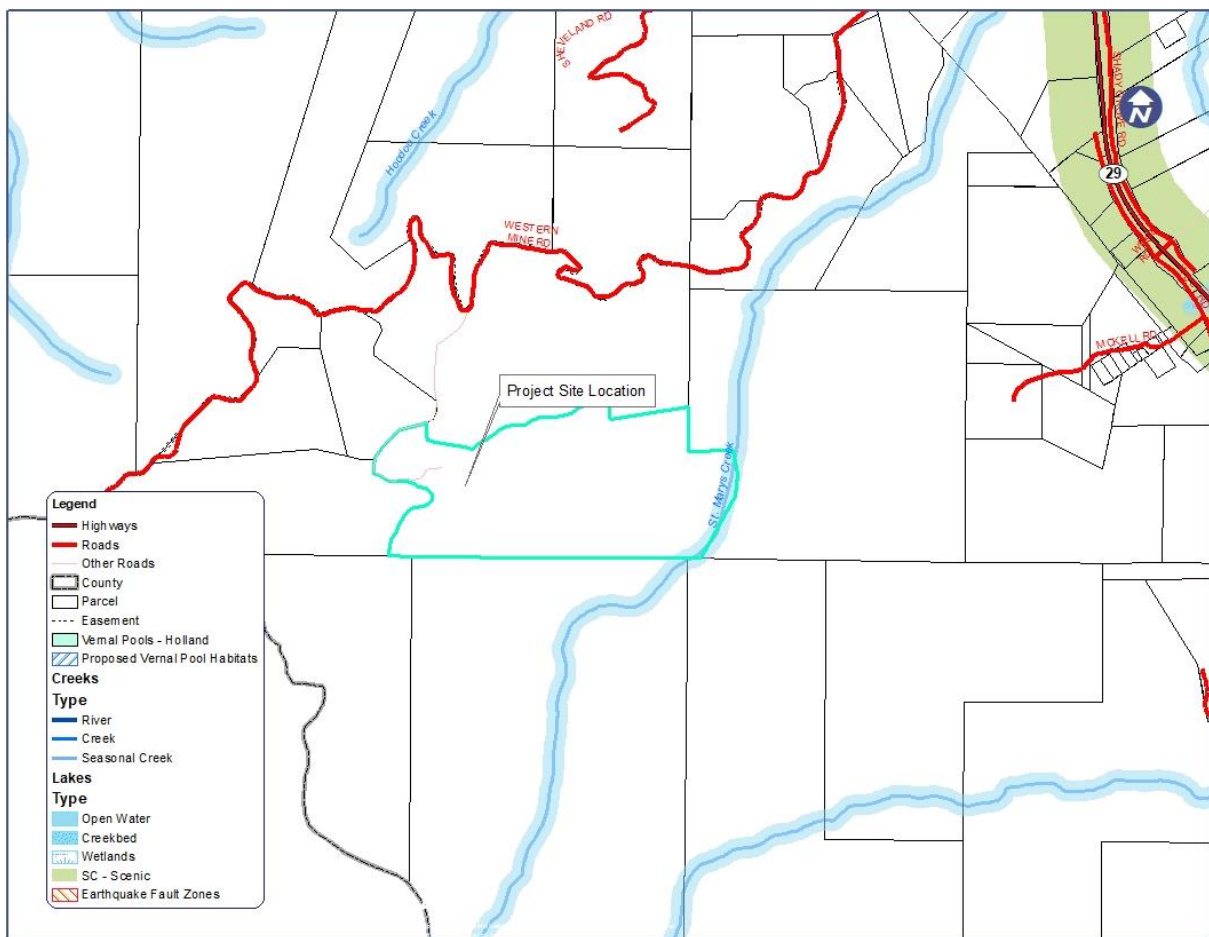


Figure 1. vicinity map