



## Legislation Text

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### Staff Report

**Date:** May 9, 2024

**To:** Planning Commission

**From:** Mireya G. Turner, Community Development Department  
Michelle Irace, Principal Planner  
Mary Claybon, Associate Planner

**Subject:**

Consideration of proposed Major Use Permit (UP 20-60) Lakeport Farm (Ricardo de Mello) and Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS 20-74) for approval of one A-Type 3 "Medium Outdoor" license for 43,000sf outdoor cannabis canopy, two (2) A-Type 3B "mixed-light" licenses for 42,864 sf mixed-light canopy, and one (1) A-Type 13 Self-Distribution, transport only license located at 3681 Benmore Valley Road, Lakeport (APN: 007-002-27)

**Executive Summary:**

The applicant is requesting a major use permit for one (1) A-Type 3 "Medium Outdoor" licenses, two (2) A-Type 3B "mixed-light" licenses, and one (1) A-Type 13 Self-Distribution license. The property is located 3681 Benmore Valley Road, Lakeport (APN 007-002-27) within three cultivation areas. The site is accessed via deeded access driveway that connects with Benmore Valley Road, private native soil shared-access road. One intermittent channel (Class II watercourse) and three ephemeral channels (Class III watercourses) are located on the property. Historical land uses include animal grazing and legacy cannabis operations. Total acreage is approximately 63.03 acres.

**Recommended Action:**

Staff recommends the Planning Commission take the following actions:

A. Adopt Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS 20-74) for Major Use Permit (UP 20-60) with the following findings:

1. Potential environmental impacts related to Aesthetics (AES) can be mitigated to less than significant levels with the inclusion of mitigation measures AES-1.
2. Potential environmental impacts related to Air Quality (AQ) can be mitigated to less than significant levels with the inclusion of mitigation measures AQ-1 through AQ-6.
3. Potential environmental impacts related to Biological Resources (BIO) can be mitigated to less than significant levels with the inclusion of mitigation measures BIO-1 through BIO-6.

4. Potential environmental impacts related to Cultural Resources (CUL) can be mitigated to less than significant levels with the inclusion of mitigation measures CUL-1 through CUL-2.

5. Potential environmental impacts related to Geology and Soils (GEO) can be mitigated to less than significant levels with the inclusion of mitigation measures GEO-1.

6. Potential environmental impacts related to Noise (NOI) can be mitigated to less than significant levels with the inclusion of mitigation measures NOI-1 through NOI-2.

7. Potential environmental impacts related to Tribal Cultural Resources (TCR) can be mitigated to less than significant levels with the inclusion of mitigation measures TCR-1 through TCR-2.

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8. Potential environmental impacts related to Wildfire (WDF) can be mitigated to less than significant levels with the inclusion of mitigation measures WDF-1 through WDF-5.

B. Approve Major Use Permit UP 20-60 with the following findings:

1. That the establishment, maintenance, or operation of the use applied for will not under the circumstances, be detrimental to the health, safety, morals, comfort and general welfare of the persons residing or working in the neighborhood of such proposed use or be detrimental to property and improvements in the neighborhood or the general welfare of the County.

2. The site is adequate in size, shape, locations, and physical characteristics to accommodate the type of use and level of development proposed.

3. The streets, highways and pedestrian facilities are reasonably adequate to safely accommodate the proposed use.

4. There are adequate services to serve the project.

5. This project is consistent with the Lake County General Plan, Lakeport Area Plan, and Lake County Zoning Ordinance.

6. No violation of Chapter 5, 17, 21, 23 or 26 of the Lake County Code currently exists on this property, with a condition of approval implemented.

7. The proposed use complies with all development standards described in Chapter 21, Article 27, Section 1.i.

8. The applicant is qualified to make the application described in Chapter 21, Article 27, Section 1.ii. (g).

9. The application complies with the qualifications for a permit described in Chapter 21, Article 27, Section 1.ii.(i).