

## Former Shasta County Property Owner Fined \$83,000 for Water Quality Violations at Cannabis Grow Site

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**SACRAMENTO** – The Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board fined Teng Vang \$83,187 for failing to clean up a cannabis grow site on property he owned in Shasta County. The action comes nearly two years after the Board issued a cleanup and abatement order to Vang.

At a Feb. 8 hearing, the Board determined Vang, 41, of Sacramento, failed to restore and monitor his property after Board inspectors found evidence of water quality problems related to the development of the land for cannabis cultivation, including the grading and construction of stream crossings and access roads without obtaining

the proper permits.

Vang property with cultivation activities

Sediment discharges from these activities either impacted or threatened to impact tributaries to Ducket Creek and North Fork Cottonwood Creek, both of which support salmon habitat. Vang also built an unpermitted surface water

diversion to provide irrigation for the cannabis grow. The Board's fine does not relieve Vang and the current property owners of their obligation to clean up the property.

"The penalty reflects the serious nature of these violations and the importance of holding landowners accountable for such activities," said Clint Snyder, Assistant Executive Officer for the Central Valley Water Board. "Had Mr. Vang worked with our staff and complied with the Cleanup and Abatement Order, impacts to water quality and the subsequent enforcement actions could have been avoided."

To read the settlement, please read the order.

The Central Valley Water Board is a state agency responsible for the preservation and enhancement of the quality of California's water resources. For more information, visit the Board's website, https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley