



#### State Water Resources Control Board

December 13, 2024

**CERTIFIED MAIL** 

Vicky Richardson

CERTIFIED MAIL NO: 9589 0710 5270 1738 1304 55

#### NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Investigation ID: 16403

# DIVISION OF WATER RIGHTS INVESTIGATION OF MENDOCINO COUNTY ASSESSOR PARCEL NUMBER (APN) 056-090-09-00

Vicky Richardson,

On September 18, 2024, staff from the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board), Division of Water Rights (Division), in coordination with California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) conducted a search warrant investigation of the property referenced above (Property). The purpose of the investigation was to observe the diversion and use of water occurring on the Property and to evaluate potential impacts to the watershed.

You are being contacted because you were identified as the property owner of the Mendocino County APN identified above where you are allegedly diverting and using water for cannabis cultivation.

During the investigation, Division staff observed California Water Code (WC) and State Water Board, Cannabis Cultivation Policy (Policy) violations. Enclosed is the Division's Inspection Report (Report) of your Property that includes Division staff observations, alleged violations and the corrective actions necessary for compliance with the WC and the State Water Board's Policy. The enclosed Report constitutes your second notice of the alleged violations and this matter requires your immediate attention. The first notice of violation was left with a copy of the search warrant on September 18, 2024, and detailed WC and Policy violations and corresponding corrective actions. The information below is a summary of the alleged violations included in the Report.

Violations and Corrective Actions 8-22

**Compliance Assistance References 22** 

E. JOAQUIN ESQUIVEL, CHAIR | ERIC OPPENHEIMER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The State Water Board retains the authority and discretion to take enforcement action based on the facts and allegations contained herein and you may be subject to further enforcement action before the State Water Board. Therefore, this matter requires your immediate attention. You should follow all staff recommended corrective actions described in the enclosed Report or submit a response indicating any course of action you intend to take or have taken, include an implementation schedule, and/or photo documentation that demonstrates your compliance. You can provide your response, documentation and photos through the Division of Water Rights Cannabis Response Notice Portal detailed in the Report in the **Compliance Assistance References section**.

If you have questions concerning the Report, please contact me by phone at (916) 341-5391, or by email at Christopher.VandeWyngard@waterboards.ca.gov. Written correspondence can be provided and addressed to the following address: State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Water Rights, P.O. Box 100, Sacramento, CA 95812-0100, Attention: Christopher Van de Wyngard.

Sincerely,

**ORIGINAL SIGNED BY:** 

Christopher Van de Wyngard Water Resource Control Engineer Cannabis Enforcement Unit Division of Water Rights

> Enclosures: Division of Water Rights Inspection Report dated September 18, 2024

ec: Division of Water Rights - Cannabis Enforcement

Taro Murano
Taro.Murano@waterboards.ca.gov

Stormer Feiler Stormer.Feiler waterboards.ca.gov

Laura Cunningham@waterboards.ca.gov

Cannabis Registration Unit DWR-cannabisreg@waterboards.ca.gov

Department of Fish and Wildlife Justin Rhoades Justin.Rhoades@wildlife.ca.gov Scott Bauer @wildlife.ca.gov

Corinne Gray@wildlife.ca.gov

William Dean
William.C.Dean@Wildlife.ca.gov

### North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

Northcoast.Cannabis@waterboards.ca.gov

### **Mendocino County Sheriff's Office**

Clint Wyant

wyantc@mendocinocounty.org

## Mendocino County Cannabis Program

cannabisprogram@mendocinocounty.org

### **Mendocino County Code Enforcement**

Gretchen McLaughlin mclaughling@mendocinocounty.org

#### **Mendocino Agricultural Commissioner**

Harinder Grewal grewalh@mendocinocounty.org

### **Department of Cannabis Control**

Jose Barajas Jose.Barajas@cannabis.ca.gov

Jon Silva Jon.Silva@cannabis.ca.gov

Lindsay Rains Lindsay.Rains@cannabis.ca.gov

Erin Wonder @cannabis.ca.gov