Department of Cannabis Control
CALIFORNIA

# NOTICE of EXEMPTION from CEQA

**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CANNABIS CONTROL**

P.O. BOX 419106, RANCHO CORDOVA, CA 95741-9106

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To: Office of Planning and Research
State Clearinghouse
P.O. Box 3044
Sacramento, CA 95812-3044

From: Department of Cannabis Control
Environmental Evaluation Office
P.O. Box 419106
Rancho Cordova, CA 95741-9106

Project Title: Foster Mountain Pharms Inc (Project)

Project Location: The Project is located at 108-192-05-00, in Mendocino.

County: Mendocino

Project Description: The Department of Cannabis Control, pursuant to authority granted under Business and Procession Code, Section 26012, approved a Nursery commercial cannabis license submitted on 12/4/2023, by Foster Mountain Pharms Inc.

Project Activities: The Project will consist of an existing mixed-light cultivation license and a proposed nursery license on a 160 acre legal parcel and within a .92 acre legacy cultivation area . The nursery would be adding 300 100-gallon growing pots next to the already existing mixed-light hoop houses and within the .92 fenced cultivation area for a total addition of 2,364 sq ft of immature canopy and no disturbance of land. The total cultivation area will still be less than the legacy cultivation area. Commercial cannabis cultivation activities are not anticipated to generate a substantial number of new vehicle trips, as the operation is similar to baseline conditions that have existed since prior to cultivation beginning in 2017. Irrigation and Drinking water for the property is sourced from an onsite permitted well. Electricity is provided by 3.375 watt on-site solar panels (BU_2019-1242) and energy is stored in the onsite battery which provides power for general household electrical needs and to run the groundwater pump. The solar array that serves the well pump is currently the only source of electricity onsite. A backup generator is onsite in the event of solar battery failure to generate sufficient energy to power the pumps. Generator use, if needed rarely exceeds 1-2 hours daily. The generator onsite that is used is a gasoline fueled Honda EU7000, 13 HP. (At 100', this generator is rated at 46 db). All cultivation related waste including empty bags, containers and spent growth medium is stored within the cultivation premises in garbage bins and disposed of with the solid waste at the Willits transfer station. All cannabis waste is composted within the cultivation area in the locked compost area. Spoils generated through cultivation area development and maintenance activities are not stored in any location where they can be transported to surface waters. One of those containers is also used as an Administrative Hold Area. The only additional artificial light used in cultivation operations is for security lighting in limited quantities. All on-site exterior lighting is downcast and aligns with standards used by the International Dark Sky Association. No new construction or soil disturbing activities are proposed for this project.

Exemption Status: (check one)
☐ Ministerial [PRC, Sec. 21080(b)(1); Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14 (CCR), § 15268]
☐ Declared Emergency [PRC, Sec. 21080(b)(3); CCR, §15269(a)]
☐ Emergency Project [PRC, Sec. 21080(b)(4); CCR, § 15269(b)(c)]
☒ Categorical Exemption: [Class 1 Categorical Exemption, CCR §15301]
☐ Statutory Exemptions: [State code section number]
☐ General Rule [CCR, § 15061(b)(3)]

Reasons Why Project is Exempt:
The Department of Cannabis Control has determined that the project is a Class 1 Categorical Exemption project. Class 1 Categorical Exemptions consist of the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alterations to existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving

negligible or no expansion of use beyond that existing at the time of the lead agency's determination. None of the exceptions to this exemption defined in Section 15300.2 apply.

This is to certify that the final environmental document, comments and responses, and the record of project approval are available to the public at the following location:

Department of Cannabis Control
Office of Environmental Evaluation
P.O. Box 419106
Rancho Cordova, CA 95741-9106

| Marta Tewodros | Environmental Scientist | 1-844-612-2322 |
|---|---|---|
| Contact Name | Contact Title | Phone # |

Marta Tewodros
Signature

TO BE COMPLETED BY OPR ONLY

Date Received for Filing and Posting at OPR: