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# Trinity County Environmental Health Common Environmental Violations with Illegal Cannabis Cultivation



# TRINITY COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH COMMON VIOLATIONS ON ILLEGAL CULTIVATION SITES

- **Water Quality**

- Sediment discharge (grading, roads, discarded materials)
- Waste water (sewage, fertilizers, industrial etc...)
- Groundwater (improper well operations, backflow, fertilizer tanks, overuse, destruction)
- Other (trash, hazardous waste, etc...)

- **Hazmat**

- Laboratories/explosives (BHO, CO2, ALCOHOL)
- Hazardous chemicals (fuels, acids, bases, oils, pesticides)
- Fuels storage/use

- **Air Quality**

- Prohibited fires (solid waste, hazardous waste)
- Large generators

- **Solid Waste**

- Plastic netting, tarps, containers, bags, soils, etc....
- Illegal burial

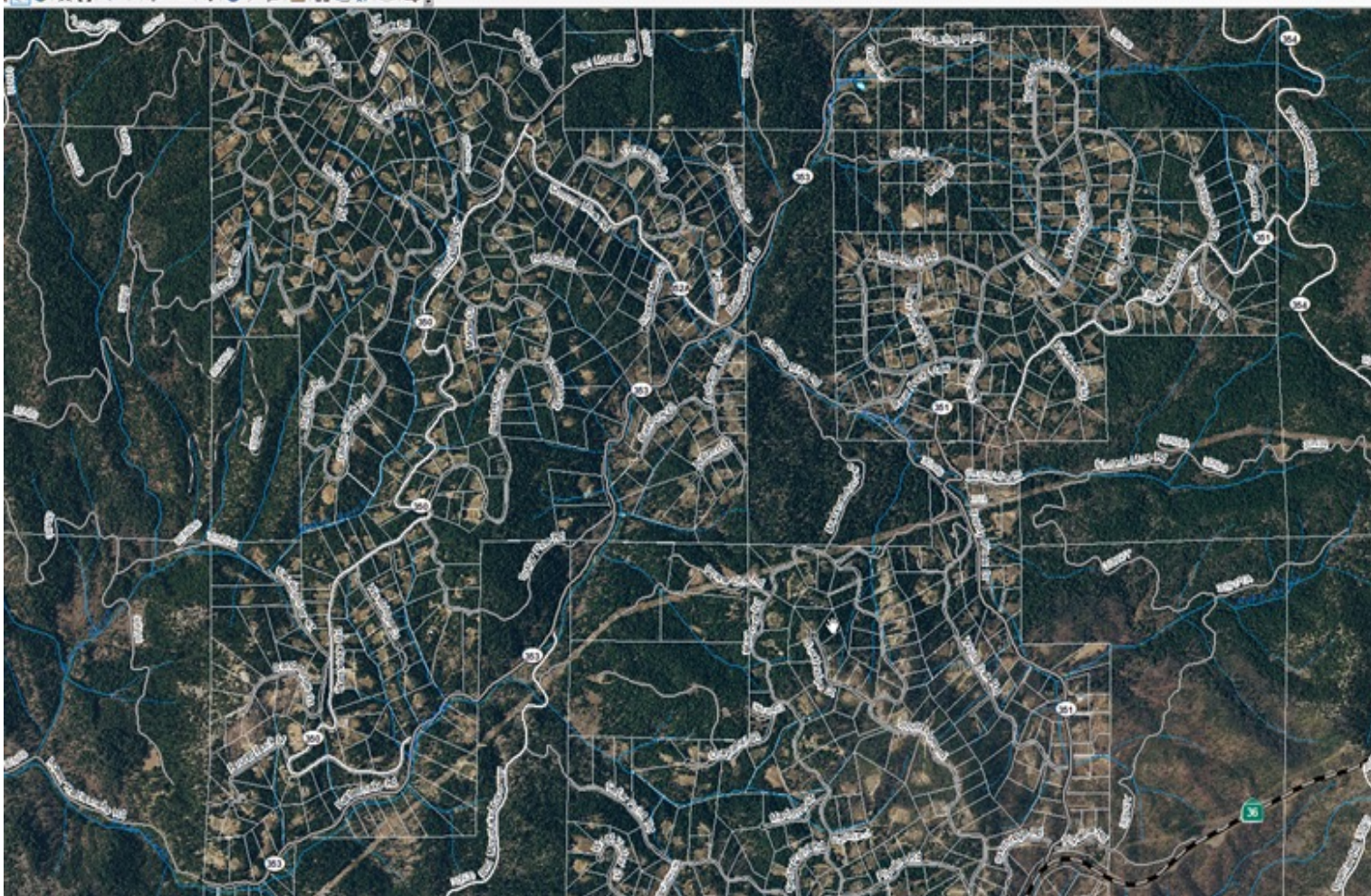
- **Housing**

- Illegal camping
- Unsafe conditions (storage shed, fire hazard, CO poisoning, etc....)
- Animal Abuse/neglect





# Water Quality



“Streams” highlighted in BLUE





# Water Quality

**Area with concentration of graded parcels for cultivation**

**Massive grading operations**







# Water Quality







# Water Quality







# Sewage







# Air Quality







# Hazmat/Clandestine labs







# Hazardous Waste







# Solid Waste







# Housing Issues







# Animal Neglect/Abuse







# Current Efforts and Lessons Learned

## Possible Solutions

- Strict criminal and civil enforcement (multiple agencies with multiple angles - Environmental Crimes Task Force philosophy)
- Specialized grants
- Property holds and tax issues
- Abate or else
- Receivership

## Issues/Lessons Learned

- LLC's and property flipping
- All cash deals
- CDFW grant/CALRECYCLE
- County can't afford abatement costs
- Property value is left much lower than appraised





# Current Focus/Possible Solution

- Team work!!!!
- Incentive through permitting program
- Same Day Notice of Violation(s)
- Multiple forms of enforcement including taxes liens
- Need a method for abandoned/multiple violation properties



TRINITY COUNTY  
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH  
61 AIRPORT ROAD, P.O. BOX 476  
WEAVERVILLE, CA 96093  
(530) 623-1459

## NOTICE

THE TRINITY COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH (TCEH) HAS DOCUMENTED VIOLATIONS ON THIS PROPERTY. PLEASE CONTACT TCEH IMMEDIATELY TO REMEDY THESE VIOLATIONS.

On \_\_\_\_\_, Trinity County Environmental Health (TCEH) staff visited your property at \_\_\_\_\_.

TCEH staff observed one or more of the following violations:

<input type="checkbox"/> Water Quality Violations	<input type="checkbox"/> Hazardous Substances	<input type="checkbox"/> Solid Waste
<input type="checkbox"/> Hazardous substances	<input type="checkbox"/> Hazardous waste	<input type="checkbox"/> Illegal Dumping/disposal
<input type="checkbox"/> Well water contamination	<input type="checkbox"/> Improper storage	<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial Quantities
<input type="checkbox"/> Sediment discharge	<input type="checkbox"/> Underground Storage Tank	<input type="checkbox"/> Without Permit
<input type="checkbox"/> Refuse, debris, household waste	<input type="checkbox"/> Above ground storage tank	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
<input type="checkbox"/> Wastewater(other)	<input type="checkbox"/> Spill without reporting	
<input type="checkbox"/> Fertilizers	<input type="checkbox"/> Illegal burial	
<input type="checkbox"/> Soils/potting materials	<input type="checkbox"/> Other	
<input type="checkbox"/> Petroleum product(s)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Prohibited fires		
<input type="checkbox"/> Sewage		

☐ Housing/structures: Contact Trinity County Building Department (530)-623-1354 or [csmith@trinitycounty.org](mailto:csmith@trinitycounty.org)

- Building code violations/Substandard living conditions/fire code violations

☐ Pesticides (see below)

☐ Other violations:

☐ HSC § 11358 (d) 1-3 (A-G)

**INSTRUCTIONS TO PROPERTY OWNER OR OTHER OCCUPANT:** Do not attempt to remedy or mitigate these violations before first contacting TCEH, as doing so could constitute additional violations. Please contact TCEH at 530-623-1459, or in person at 61 Airport RD, Weaverville, CA 96093, or by email: [townzen@trinitycounty.org](mailto:townzen@trinitycounty.org) or [kanderson@trinitycounty.org](mailto:kanderson@trinitycounty.org) For Pesticides, contact the Ag Commissioner at 530-623-1356

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Department Representative for TCEH

Date: \_\_\_\_\_