## **MEMORANDUM**

**Date**: July 13, 2020

To: Kirk Azevedo

Riparian Biosupport, Inc.

From: Shannon Jessica, PE

Wallace Group

**Subject**: Water Use Evaluation for Proposed Cannabis Cultivation on

APN: 014-331-064 (Parcel A)

Wallace Group has been retained to estimate the water demand for a proposed cannabis cultivation operation in San Luis Obispo County. The proposed cultivation, located on Parcel A of 1375 Klau Mine Road (APN: 014-331-064), includes the following:

- Outdoor/Hoop House Cultivation 3 acres canopy
- Greenhouse Cultivation –22,000 sf canopy
- Indoor Nursery 5,500 square feet total

The Cannabis Land Use Ordinance for San Luis Obispo County requires that applicants submit a detailed water management plan as part of the application. The water management plan is to include proposed water supply, proposed conservation measures, and any water offset requirements. The following memorandum has been developed to outline the proposed water demand and associated offset required for the proposed project.

Published water use values have not yet been consistently established in the industry or in San Luis Obispo County. Research and conversations with the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) cannabis development team has indicated that local agencies are using an estimate of 0.03 gal/sf canopy/day for outdoor cannabis plants and an application rate of 0.1 gallons per square foot of canopy for indoor cultivation operations. These values are derived from the Santa Cruz County Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Commercial Cannabis Cultivation and Manufacturing Regulations and Licensing Program (August 2017)<sup>1</sup>. In section 3.0, pages 3-16 and 3-17 of the EIR, it is described that the water application rates used are derived from a study in Humboldt County by Milewide Nursery<sup>2</sup>. The Milewide Nursery study includes a breakdown of the per yield water use. The study based their results on a 90-day cycle and estimate that two growing cycles could be completed in a year for outdoor cultivation, and an estimated 270 days growing season, or 3 cycles per year, for indoor cultivation. As defined in the San Luis Obispo

<sup>1</sup>Santa Cruz County Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Commercial Cannabis Cultivation and Manufacturing Regulations and Licensing Program (August 2017) <a href="http://www.sccoplanning.com/PlanningHome/Environmental/CEQAInitialStudiesEIRs/CannabisRegulationsEnvironmentalReview/CannabisEnvironmentalImpactReport(EIR).aspx</a>



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WATER RESOURCES

WALLACE GROUP

612 CLARION CT SAN LUIS OBISPO CALIFORNIA 93401

T 805 544-4011 F 805 544-4294

www.wallacegroup.us

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> https://humboldtgrower.wordpress.com/2015/05/07/may-2015-humboldt-county-cannabis-water-use-study/

County Cannabis Ordinance, hoop houses are considered outdoor cultivation while nursery cultivation is considered indoor.



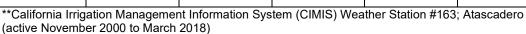
Table 1 outlines the proposed water demand for this project. The project will utilize portable restrooms for employees, therefore a domestic water demand is not added to the irrigation estimate. Table 2 outlines the proposed monthly water use, based on the total water demand for cultivation. Local evapotranspiration data was used to extrapolate the annual water demand into monthly estimates during the growing season.

Table 1: Annual Water Demand Estimate								
Use	Rate	Gross Demand (gallons/ year)	Gross Demand (AFY)					
Outdoor Cultivation: 130,680 sf	130,680 square feet canopy area x 0.03 gal/sf/day x 180 days	705,672	2.17					
Indoor Greenhouse Cultivation: 22,000 sf	22,000 square feet canopy area x 0.1 gal/sf/day x 270 days	594,000	1.82					
Indoor Nursery Cultivation: 5,500 sf	5,500 square feet canopy area x 0.1 gal/sf/day x 270 days	148,500	0.46					
	4.44							

Table 2. Estimated Monthly Water Demand for Cannabis Cultivation									
Month	ETo (in)**	Outdoor ETo During Growing Season (%)	Outdoor Cultivation Water Use/Month (AF)	Indoor Water Use/month (AF)	Total Water Use/month (AF)				
October	3.50	-	-	0.19	0.19				
November	2.02	-	-	0.19	0.19				
December	1.51	-	-	0.19	0.19				
January	1.69	-	-	0.19	0.19				

Cannabis Cultivation Water Use July 13, 2020 Page 3 of 5

February	2.24	-	-	0.19	0.19
March	3.72	-	-	0.19	0.19
April	4.76	13.5	0.29	0.19	0.48
May	6.03	17.1	0.37	0.19	0.56
June	6.56	18.6	0.40	0.19	0.59
July	6.60	18.8	0.41	0.19	0.60
August	6.30	17.9	0.39	0.19	0.58
September	4.94	14.0	0.30	0.19	0.49
Total	49.87	100%	2.17	2.28	4.44



#### **Water Offset**

The project site is not located within the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin and therefore the new water demand of 4.44 AFY is not required to be offset.

## Water Supply

The proposed project will utilize an existing on-site groundwater well to supply water for crop irrigation. The well produces 16.4 gpm (see Attachment A for pump test and quality data). At 16.4 gpm, the well has 26.4 AFY capacity, therefore the well has sufficient capacity to provide both the proposed projects with irrigation supply.

Water saving practices will include the use of drip and micro-sprinkler irrigation emitters. Wi-Fi connected water moisture sensors will be used to determine optimal irrigation timing. Water used for cannabis irrigation will be metered and water demand will be recorded daily and monitored closely to ensure the system is operating efficiently and without leaks or line breaks.

### California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Because the project will be using an existing groundwater well for water supply, the owner will not need to obtain a General Agreement or Lake or Streambed Alteration (LSA) permit through California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW). However, annual licenses for cannabis cultivation issued by California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) will require the owner to demonstrate by written verification from CDFW that an LSA Agreement is not required. This is accomplished by submitting a self-certification application on the CDFW webpage and obtaining written correspondence from CDFW verifying that the LSA is not required for this project.

### **Regional Water Quality Control Board**

Some cultivation activities can generate wastewater such as hydroponic solutions, irrigation tail water, and sanitation activities, etc. Typically, wastewater will be discharged either into a community collection system or to an onsite wastewater treatment system (septic tank/leachfield). These activities will be monitored through the Regional Water Quality Control Board for on-site disposal systems.



Cannabis Cultivation Water Use July 13, 2020 Page 4 of 5

Regardless of the process wastewater discharge strategy, the RWQCB will require that outdoor cultivation operations enroll in the General Waste Discharge Requirements for Waste Associated with Cannabis Cultivation Activities (Cannabis General Order). The Cannabis Policy and General Order apply to commercial cannabis cultivation activities and enrollment in the General Order will be required for all commercial cultivation activities. The tier determination will need to be finalized by the RWQCB once an application has been submitted and reviewed by Board staff. Tier 2 dischargers are required to submit a technical report to the RWQCB, due March 1, annually.

Coverage under the General Order is obtained by applying through the online application portal on the Regional Water Quality Control Board website. After the application is submitted and the application fee paid, the RWQCB will issue a Notice of Applicability (NOA). The NOA can be presented to the CDFA to obtain a commercial cannabis cultivation license. The application portal is located at: <a href="https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/cannabis">www.waterboards.ca.gov/cannabis</a>.



Cannabis Cultivation Water Use July 13, 2020 Page 5 of 5

# **APPENDIX A – WELL PUMP TEST INFORMATION**





# San Luis Obispo County Farm Supply

\*A Farmer Owned Cooperatve\*

#### **WELL TEST REPORT**

**CUSTOMER: BILL DODD** 

DATE: JAN. 11,2018

ADDRESS: 1375 KLAU MINE RD CITY & STATE: PASO ROBLES,CA

**LOCATION OF TEST: @ ABOVE ADDRESS** 

#### **TEST INFORMATION**

TIME	PUMPING LEVEL	G.P.M.
9:30 A.M.	20'	16.4
10:00	24'	16.4
10:30	25'	16.4
11:00	25'6"	16.4
11:30	25′6″	16.4
12:00 P.M.	25'9"	16.4
12:30	26'	16.4
1:00	26′2″	16.4
1:30	26′3″	16.4

### **WELL INFORMATION**

WELL SIZE: 6"

WELL DEPTH: 143'

TEST PUMP SIZE: ½ H.P. STANDING LEVEL: 20'

**PUMPING LEVEL: 103'** 

**HOURS OR RUNNING: 4 HRS.** 

TEST STARTED: 9:30 A.M.

SHUT DOWN: 1:30 P.M.

RECOVERY: 5' IN 6 MIN. 36 SEC.

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

**HAVE 2,500 GALLON STORAGE TANK** 

**PUMP DEPARTMENT** 

224 Tank Farm Road Post Office Box 111 San Luis Obispo, CA 93406 805 543-3751

1108 Paso Robles Street Paso Robles, CA 93446 805 238-1177 1920 N. Broadway Santa Maria, CA 93454 805 922-2737 1079 El Camino Real Arroyo Grande, CA 93420 805 489-5514

# Abalone Coast Analytical, Inc.

141 Suburban Rd, Ste C-1 San Luis Obispo CA, 93401

Phone: 595-1080 Fax: 595-1080

Order #: 18-0342

Date/Time Rec'd: 1/12/18 0914

**Farm Supply Company** 

224 Tank Ferm Road

San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

Contact: Ben

Phone: 543-3751

Sampler: Dan/Jason

Project: PO #PR5160

Sample #	Sample Description	Date / Time	Analysis	Method	Result	Units	RL	Completed
-1	1375 KlaU Mine Rd	1/12/18 0630	Total Coliform	SM 9223 B.	Absent	/100ml	1	01/13/18
			E-coli	IDEXX	Absent	/100ml	1	01/13/18
-2	1385 KlaU Mine Rd	1/12/18 0630	Total Coliform	SM 9223 B.	Absent	/100ml	1	01/13/18
			E-coli	IDEXX	Absent	/100ml	1	01/13/18

These samples pass water quality standards for Total Collform and E. Coll Bacteria.

Report Completion Date:

1/15/18

Reviewed By:

Erika Smith, Lab Director

Definitions:

Absent = Less than 1 CFU/100mLs Present = 1 or more CFU/100mLs CFU = Colony Forming Unit

RL = Reporting Limit

State of California CDPH ELAP 2661



January 10, 2018

: CC 1785354-001 Lab ID

Customer ID : 8-1458

Riparian Biosupport, Inc.

Attn: Kirk Azevedo

Sampled On : December 27, 2017 Sampled By : Kirk Azevedo

4070 West St.

Received On: December 29, 2017

Cambria, CA 93428

Matrix : Ag Water

Description: Main Home Well : Ag Water Monitoring **Project** 

**Grape Irrigation Suitability Analysis** 

Test Description	Result			Graphical Results Presentation					
Cations	mg/L	Meq/L	% Meq	Lbs/AF	Good	Possible Problem	Moderate Problem	Increasing Problem	Severe Problem
Calcium	139	6.9	69	380	**			t L	
Magnesium	34	2.8	28	92	**				
Potassium	< 1	0	0	0	**		l	ļ	
Sodium	8	0.35	3	22					
Anions									
Carbonate	< 10	0	0	0					
Bicarbonate	500	8.2	75	1400	**				}
Sulfate	120	2.5	23	330	**				
Chloride	10	0.28	3	27		ł			
Nitrate	< 1.8	0	0	0					1
Nitrate Nitrogen	< 0.5			0					
Fluoride	0.4	0.021	0	11					
Minor Elements			1						ļ
Boron	< 0.1			0.00					1
Copper	< 0.01		1	0.00			1		
Iron	< 0.03			0.00		1	1		·
Manganese	< 0.01		}	0.00					
Zinc	0.030			0.082					
TDS by Summation	811			2200					ļ
Other									
pН	7.2			units					1
E. C.	0.962			dS/m					
SAR	0.2								
Crop Suitability									
No Amendments	Good								
With Amendments	Good						<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Amendments									
Gypsum Requirement	0.0			Tons/AF					
Sulfuric Acid (98%)	29				Or 69 02	z/1000Gal of	urea Sulfu	iric Acid (1	5/49).
Leaching Requirement	6.4			%	L				

Problem

Note: Color coded bar graphs have been used to provide you with 'AT-A-GLANCE' interpretations,



<sup>\*\*</sup> Used in various calculations; mg/L = Milligrams Per Liter (ppm) meq/L = Milliequivalents Per Liter

January 10, 2018

Lab ID

: CC 1785354-001

Riparian Biosupport, Inc.

Customer ID: 8-1458 Description: Main He

: Main Home Well

## Micro Irrigation System Plugging Hazard

Test Description	Res	sult	Graphical Results Presentation					
Chemical			Slight	Moderate	Severe			
Manganese	< 0.01	mg/L						
Iron	< 0.03	mg/L						
TDS by Summation	811	mg/L						
No Amendments								
pН	7.2	units						
Alkalinity (As CaCO3)	410	mg/L			,			
Total Hardness	487	mg/L						
With Amendments								
Alkalinity (As CaCO3)	82	mg/L			ł			
Total Hardness	82	mg/L						
рН	5.4 - 6.7	units						

Good Problem

Note: Color coded bar graphs have been used to provide you with 'AT-A-GLANCE' interpretations.

#### Water Amendments Application Notes:

The Amendments recommended on the previous pages include:

#### Sulfuric Acid:

These products should be applied as needed to prevent emitter plugging in micro irrigation systems and/or as a soil amendment to adjust soil pH to improve nutrient availability and to facilitate leaching of salts. Please exercise caution when using this material as excesses may be harmful to the system and/or the plants being irrigated. The reported Acid requirement is intended to remove approximately 80 % of the alkalinity. The final pH should range from 5.4 to 6.7. We recommend a field pH determination to confirm that the pH you designate is being achieved. This application is based upon the use of a 98% Sulfuric Acid product. The application of Urea Sulfuric Acid is based upon the use of a product that contains 15% Urea (1.89 lbs Nitrogen), 49% Sulfuric Acid and has a specific gravity of 1.52 at 68 °F.

Guidelines for the above interpretations are sourced from USDA & U.C. Cooperative Extension Service publications. Please contact us if you have any questions.

FRUIT GROWERS LABORATORY, INC.

SB1:EHB

Scott Bucy, Director of Ag. Services



January 10, 2018

Riparian Biosupport, Inc.

Attn: Kirk Azevedo

4070 West St.

Project

Cambria, CA 93428

Description: Main Home Well : Ag Water Monitoring Lab ID : CC 1785354-001

Customer ID: 8-1458

Sampled On: December 27, 2017

Sampled By : Kirk Azevedo

Received On: December 29, 2017

**Matrix** : Ag Water

**Cannabis Irrigation Suitability Analysis** 

Test Description		Result		gation out	Graphical Results Presentation					
						Possible	Moderate	Increasing	Severe	
Cations	mg/L	Meq/L	% Meq	Lbs/AF	Good	Problem	Problem	Problem	Problem	
Calcium	139	6.9	69	380	**					
Magnesium	34	2.8	28	92	**	j				
Potassium	< 1	0	0	0	**					
Sodium	8	0.35	3	22						
Anions							•			
Carbonate	< 10	0	0	0				j		
Bicarbonate	500	8.2	75	1400	**			8		
Sulfate	120	2.5	23	330	**					
Chloride	10	0.28	3	27						
Nitrate	< 1.8	0	0	0						
Nitrate Nitrogen	< 0.5			0						
Fluoride	0.4	0.021	0	1						
Minor Elements										
Boron	< 0.1			0.00						
Copper	< 0.01		-	0.00		ļ				
Iron	< 0.03			0.00						
Manganese	< 0.01			0.00					ł	
Zinc	0.030			0.082						
TDS by Summation	811		<u> </u>	2200						
Other										
pН	7.2			units						
E. C.	0.962			dS/m						
SAR	0.2									
Crop Suitability										
No Amendments	Fair									
With Amendments	Good								L	
Amendments	1									
Gypsum Requirement	0.0			Tons/AF						
Sulfuric Acid (98%)	29				Or 69 oz	:/1000Gal of	urea Sulfu	ric Acid (1:	5/49).	
Leaching Requirement	7.4			%	<u> </u>					

Problem

Note: Color coded bar graphs have been used to provide you with 'AT-A-GLANCE' interpretations.

\*\* Used in various calculations; mg/L = Milligrams Per Liter (ppm) meq/L = Milliequivalents Per Liter



January 5, 2018

Riparian Biosupport, Inc.

Lab ID

: CC 1785250-003

Customer ID: 8-1458

Description : D3 Front Yard Mobile

## GRAPE SOIL ANALYSIS

Test Description	Result	Units	Optimum Range	Graphical Results Presentation							
Others				Satisfac	Satisfactory			Moderate Problem		Increasing Problem	
Soil Salinity	0.57	dS/m	0.0 - 2.0								
SAR	0.3		0.0 - 6.0								
Limestone	< 0.10	%	0.0 - 0.50								
				0	1	2	3	4	5	6	
Lime Requirement	0	Tons/AF									
Gypsum Requirement	< 0.50	Tons/AF									
				Very Low	Very Moderately Low Low		Optimum	Moderately High		Very High	
Moisture	18.3	%	8.7 - 61				16				
			T	Loamy Sand	Sandy Loam		Silt Loam	Clay Loam	Clay	Organic	
Saturation	86.9	%	40 - 50								

Indicates physical conditions and/or phenological and amendment requirements. Problem Note: Soils with gypsum requirements over 10 tons should be applied incrementally at a maximum of 10 tons per acre per year and reanalyzed yearly after each application.

FRUIT GROWERS LABORATORY, INC.

SB1:EHB

Scott Bucy Scott Bucy, Director of Ag. Services

<sup>1)</sup> The need for soil Nitrate is dependent upon crop phenology (Growth Stage) and crop requirement. A soil Nitrate level of 10 - 40 ppm is preferred for a short time during critical periods of uptake into the vine. It is highly desirable to have low soil Nitrate (< 5ppm) prior to winter rainfall and cold soil conditions. Use the leaf Nitrogen level to determine primary Nitrogen requirement.