

Katherine Douglas

Public Comment- WE Watch

# 7



**From:** Nancy Emerson <nancyfemerson52@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 1, 2025 10:28 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** WE Watch letter, for Item 15-00472, Chap 5 Amendments, Acreage Cap Reduction  
**Attachments:** WEWBdSupsChap50amendmentsletter6125.docx

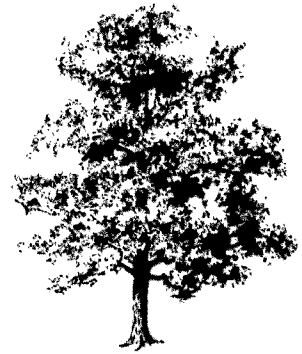
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Dear staff,

Please give the attached letter from WE Watch about the Average Cap Reduction item to the Board of Supervisors. Thank you.

Nancy Emeerson

*WE Watch, P.O Box 830, Solvang CA 93464*



June 1, 2025

TO: Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors  
FROM: WE Watch Board of Directors  
RE: Chapter 50 Amendments, Acreage Cap Reduction (15-00472)

WE Watch, a Santa Ynez Valley land use and environmental organization, has been involved with cannabis issues since December 2018.

Thank you for your reconsideration of what the cannabis acreage caps should be. The County now has almost 8 years of experience with cannabis. This includes the difficult problems experienced with both indoor cultivation odor in the Carpinteria Valley and outdoor cultivation and processing odor in the Santa Ynez Valley and elsewhere in the North County. Fortunately the cannabis acreage caps, established when the County was naïve about odor, have not been reached.

We support either the Option 2 or Option 3 reductions to the acreage cap in the Unincorporated region (1,345 acres or 1,399 or 1,400 acres). Option 3 might be fairer to applicants, though each new outdoor grow brings odor problems (almost 55 new acres for the Cuyama Valley). Since the acreage caps were determined separately from the beginning for 2 different types of cultivation, we do not think applying one countywide percentage decrease is either desirable or necessary.

Reducing the acreage cap will prevent adding more odor to an already noxious brew, protecting residents. Also, it will prevent additional enforcement problems.