



COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA ANIMAL SERVICES

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
JANUARY 9, 2024 PUBLIC HEARING



ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 7 OF SANTA BARBARA COUNTY CODE RELATED TO ROOSTERS



ROOSTER KEEPING



BOARD DIRECTION

July 11, 2023 - Board of Supervisors' Direction to Animal Services

- In consultation with the Agriculture Commissioner, draft an ordinance amending Chapter 7 of the County Code, Animals and Fowl, to regulate and limit the **number of allowable roosters by parcel size** in unincorporated Santa Barbara County.

AGRICULTURAL ADVISORY BOARD RECOMMENDATION

October 12, 2023 – Agricultural Advisory Committee (AAC) Recommendation

- Supports the following limits as being consistent with legitimate agricultural uses and the quiet enjoyment of properties in the unincorporated county.

Property Size of Premise (Gross Area)	Maximum Number of Roosters Allowed	Eligible for Rooster Keeping Operation Permit (Up to 25 Roosters)
Less than one acre; non-agricultural zones	None	No
Less than one acre; agricultural zones	One (1)	No
More than one acre to five acres	Two (2)	Yes
More than five acres to twenty acres	Five (5)	Yes
More than twenty acres	Twenty (20)	Yes

COUNTY BENCHMARKING

	Santa Barbara County (proposed)	Ventura County	Los Angeles County	Monterey County	San Diego County	Solano County
Property Size of Premise (gross area)	Maximum Number of Roosters					
Less than one acre	One (1)*	Five (5)	Four (4)	Five (5)	Four (4)	Four (4)
More than one acre to five acres	Two (2)	Five (5)	Six (6)	Five (5)	Six (6)	Four (4)
More than five acres to twenty acres	Five (5)	Five (5)	Ten (10)	Five (5)	Twenty (20)	Four (4)
More than twenty acres	Twenty (20)	Five (5)	Ten (10)	Five (5)	Twenty (20)	Four (4)
Maximum - Any Property (w/permit)	Twenty-five (25)	N/A	Twenty-five (25)	No Upper Limit	N/A	N/A

*Restricted by Santa Barbara County LUDC on residential zones

ROOSTER STANDARDS OF CARE

■ Adoption of standards, rules and regulations by animal services director (Chapter 7-5)

The animal services director shall adopt standards for the proper care and comfort of animals kept in kennels, catteries, or rooster keeping operations...

■ Rooster Keeping (Chapter 7-67)

Each rooster shall be provided with:

- *access to water and shelter from the elements*
- *sufficient room to spread both wings fully and be able to turn in a complete circle without impediment and without touching the side of an enclosure*
- *clean, safe, and sanitary enclosure that are kept in good repair to protect the rooster from injury, contain the rooster, and exclude other animals that may be injurious*



FEES AND ENFORCEMENT

■ Fees (Chapter 7-68)

Applicants are responsible for the costs of inspections, investigations, and any other fee-associated activity established as follows:

Annual operating permit fee: \$182

Complaint investigation fee: \$138/hour (for justified complaints)

■ Violations and Penalties (Chapter 7-69)

- *Each violation is an infraction punishable by a fine not to exceed one hundred dollars for the first violation; a fine not to exceed two hundred dollars for a second violation within one year; and not to exceed five hundred dollars for each additional violation of the same ordinance within one year.*
- *Any act or failure to act in violation may be subject of a civil action to ensure compliance.*

RECOMMENDATIONS

On January 9, 2024

- a) Approve the introduction (First Reading) of an Ordinance to amend Santa Barbara County Code, Chapter 7, titled Animals and Fowl, Article I (General), sections 7-1 and 7-5 through 7-7, and to add Article IX (Roosters);
- b) Read the title of the Ordinance and waive full reading of the Ordinance; and
- c) Continue the hearing to the Administrative Agenda of January 23, 2024 to consider adoption of the ordinance amendments.

RECOMMENDATIONS

On January 23, 2024

- i. Adopt the Ordinance (Second Reading) to amend Santa Barbara County Code, Chapter 7, titled Animals and Fowl, Article I (General), sections 7-1 and 7-5 through 7-7, and to add Article IX (Roosters); and
- ii. Determine that the recommended actions are not a Project within the meaning of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to Section 15378(b)(5) of the CEQA Guidelines, because the actions are organizational or administrative activities of government that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment.



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