



County of Santa Cruz  
Cannabis Licensing Office  
701 Ocean Street, Room 520  
Santa Cruz, CA 95060  
831-454-3833  
[Cannabisinfo@santacruzcounty.us](mailto:Cannabisinfo@santacruzcounty.us)

44.04222025-063  
052-25  
Santa Cruz County  
cannabis licensing

## CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

The Santa Cruz County Cannabis Licensing Office has reviewed the project described below and has determined that it is exempt from the provisions of CEQA as specified in Sections 15061 - 15332 of CEQA for the reason(s) which have been specified in this document.

Application Number: Submission-2025-134

License NR-C-0101

Assessor Parcel Number: 107-81-09 and 26

Project Location: 196 and 200 Browns Valley Road (see attached map)

RECEIVED  
CLERK OF THE BOARD

APR 22 2025

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

**Project Description:** Cannabis cultivation (see attached "Project Description Preparation Form: Browns Valley Farm LLC")

**Person or Agency Proposing Project:** Tram Bennette for Browns Valley Farm LLC

**Contact Phone Number:** 707.813.4638

- A. ☐ The proposed activity is not a project under CEQA Guidelines Section 15378.
- B. ☐ The proposed activity is not subject to CEQA as specified under CEQA Guidelines Section 15060 (c).
- C. ☐ **Ministerial Project** involving only the use of fixed standards or objective measurements without personal judgment.
- D. ☐ **Statutory Exemption** other than a Ministerial Project (CEQA Guidelines Section 15260 to 15285).
- E. ☒ **Categorical Exemption**

Specify type:

Class	Category	Description
Class 1	Existing Facilities	Consists of the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of 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. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, §15301.)
Class 4	Minor Alterations to Land	Consists of minor public or private alterations in the condition of land, water, and/or vegetation which do not involve removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees except for forestry and agricultural purposes. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15304.)

THIS NOTICE HAS BEEN POSTED AT THE CLERK  
OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OFFICE FOR A  
PERIOD COMMENCING 4/22/2025  
AND ENDING 5/27/2025



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**F. Reasons why the project is exempt:**

Cultivation on an existing commercially-farmed property. This project includes a minor expansion of cannabis cultivation including the addition of nursery crops on a site that has been farmed for a minimum of 70 years.

In addition, none of the conditions described in Section 15300.2 apply to this project.

*Sam LoForti*

Date: 04/22/2025

Sam LoForti, Cannabis Licensing Manager

ATTACHMENTS: Site plan and map, project description preparation form, Best Management and Operations Plan, Project Statement