



Enforcement News

Shasta County Land Owner to Pay \$143,640 Penalty for Water Quality Violations Associated with Cannabis Cultivation

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SACRAMENTO - The Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board issued a \$143,640 penalty against Lawrence Gasper, who illegally developed his property in Shasta County for cannabis cultivation, which resulted in unlawful sediment discharge upstream of Little Cow Creek in the Bella Vista area northeast of Redding, and threatens to continue to impact surface water and aquatic habitat.

The Regional Water Board issued a Cleanup and [Abatement Order](#) to Gasper on June 27, 2016. Board staff made numerous attempts to reach Gasper and resolve the water quality issues on his property. The penalty was issued after a hearing before the Board on Oct. 20, where staff presented evidence that Gasper failed to take responsibility for his actions and was non-responsive to efforts to contact him.

“Mr. Gasper’s continued refusal to comply with the Cleanup and Abatement Order to resolve ongoing water quality concerns at the property resulted in the Regional Water Board imposing this significant liability amount on Mr. Gasper,” said Clint Snyder, assistant executive officer for the Central Valley Water Board. “The water quality problems on this property could have been resolved relatively quickly and for a fraction of the cost had Mr. Gasper cooperated with the Water Board and the county. The penalty adopted by the Water Board reflects the serious nature of these violations and the importance of the property owner being responsive to Regional Water Board orders and communications.”

This [Administrative Civil Liability Order](#) is a result of multi-agency cannabis regulation and enforcement efforts involving the Regional Water Board, the State Water Resources Control Board and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. Assistance in this matter was also provided by the Shasta County Department of Resource Management Building Division. For more information about the Water Board’s enforcement efforts relative to cannabis cultivation, please visit the State Water Resources Control Board, Office of Enforcement resources page [here](#).





The Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board is a California state agency responsible for the preservation and enhancement of the quality of California's water resources. For more information about the Board's cannabis permitting and enforcement programs visit https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/cannabis/

For more information on cannabis cultivation regulations, please visit:

State Water Board Cannabis Cultivation Programs

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/cannabis/

Subscribe to the Cannabis Cultivators Email List (Under Water Quality)

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email_subscriptions/swrcb_subscribe.html

Cannabis Coordinating Agencies:

California Department of Food and Agriculture, CalCannabis Cultivation Licensing

<https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/is/mccp/>

Bureau of Cannabis Control

<http://bcc.ca.gov/>

California Department of Public Health, Manufactured Cannabis Safety Branch

<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CEH/DFDCS/Pages/MCSB.aspx>

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

<https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Cannabis>

California Department of Pesticide Regulation

<http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/>

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