



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)



## 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: License NR-P/D-0061  
 Assessor Parcel Number: 110-121-04  
 Project Location: 128 Thompson Rd., Watsonville CA

**Project Description:** Cannabis post-harvest processing and distribution (see attached "Project Description Preparation Form\_128 Thompson Rd.")

**Person or Agency Proposing Project:** Matt Groves (DNA Organics, Inc.)

**Contact Phone Number:** (864) 979-4797

- 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 1: Use of existing facilities

Received  
 CLERK OF THE BOARD

JUN 03 2021

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
 COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

THIS NOTICE HAS BEEN POSTED AT THE CLERK OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OFFICE FOR A PERIOD COMMENCING 06/03/2021 AND ENDING 07/02/2021



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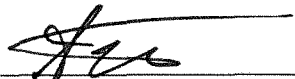


Class	Category	Description
Class 1	Existing Facilities	Consists of the operation, repair, maintenance, permitting, leasing, licensing, or minor alteration of existing public or private structures, facilities, mechanical equipment, or topographical features, involving negligible or no expansion of use beyond that existing at the time of the lead agency's determination. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, §15301.)

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

Cannabis processing and distribution within an existing agricultural building.

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

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Sam LoForti, Cannabis Licensing Manager

Date: 6/2/2021

ATTACHMENTS: "Project Description Preparation Form\_128 Thompson Rd." (includes vicinity map and site plan)

## Project Description Preparation Form

**Lead Agency:** County of Santa Cruz Cannabis Licensing Office

**Applicant Entity/Business Name:** Matthew Groves/DNA Organics, Inc.

**License Type(s):** Class CA Cannabis Processing and Class 2 (multi-party) Distribution

**Date:** June 2, 2021

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### 1. Source(s) of Information:

Identify Sources: SC County License Application Submission

### 2. Project Location:

Describe Project Location: 128 Thompson Rd., Watsonville CA. (Lat: 36 58 40.0835; Long: -122 1 21.2146)

Maps Included: Location Map, Site Plan

### 3. Description of Project Site:

General Topographic Features (slopes and other features): 50-acre flat agricultural property.

Natural Features (general vegetation types, presence of streams and wetlands, forested areas): 85% of the property is cultivated in field crops. The remaining 15% is hardscape.

Existing Land Uses/Zoning: Commercial agriculture (CA) zoning for orchards, row crops, and berries. Post-harvest processing of cannabis is a principally-permitted use under the CA zoning regulations.

Existing Constructed Features (buildings, facilities, and other improvements): An 11,000 sf. agricultural processing building (formerly used to store and package apples for wholesale distribution), parking areas, water tower, and several structures used to store agricultural equipment.

Surrounding Land Uses (including sensitive uses): Commercial agriculture w/ residences.

### 4. Required Site Improvements and Construction Activities:

Site Improvements: The project consists of post-harvest cannabis processing and distribution within an existing agricultural building. No exterior improvements are proposed.

Construction Activities: Interior tenant improvements.

### 5. Operation and Maintenance Activities:

Hours of Operation/Work Shifts: 7:00am to 7:00pm

Number of employees (total and by shift): 3 full-time employees.

Estimated Daily Trip Generation: 7 or fewer round-trips per day on average (3 non-resident operator RTs, 2 distribution vehicle RTs, 1 analytical/testing vehicle RT)

Source(s) of Water: Agricultural water well on the property

Wastewater Treatment Facilities: Septic system serving the property

Source(s) of Power: PG&E service

- 6. Environmental Commitments:** “Best Management and Operational Practices” (BMOP) requirements apply to all non-retail commercial cannabis businesses to reduce the environmental impacts of cannabis operations (Santa Cruz County Code Ch. 7.128.090.(A)(1)(a)(xi). A BMOP plan for this project was reviewed by the Cannabis Licensing Office and is kept on file with the license application. BMOP requirements pertaining to this project are noted below:

BMOP Section D. “Operational Requirements” adopted by DNA Organics and approved by the Cannabis Licensing Office include: Implement TDM Measures and Worker Rights and Safety (Section D.1.), Odor Abatement Plan (D.6.), Water Supply and Quality (D.7.), Waste (D.8.).

Exceptions to categorical exemptions cited for the proposed non-retail cannabis project include: Class 1 “Existing Facilities”. The County of Santa Cruz Cannabis Licensing Office has determined that the proposed project 1) is not visible from scenic highways and/or impactful to scenic resources, 2) is not located on a “Cortese List” site, 3) does not substantially change a historic resource, 4) is likely to not contribute to a significant cumulative environmental impact, 5) is not subject (by location and/or design) to unusual circumstances that would reasonably contribute to a significant environmental impact.

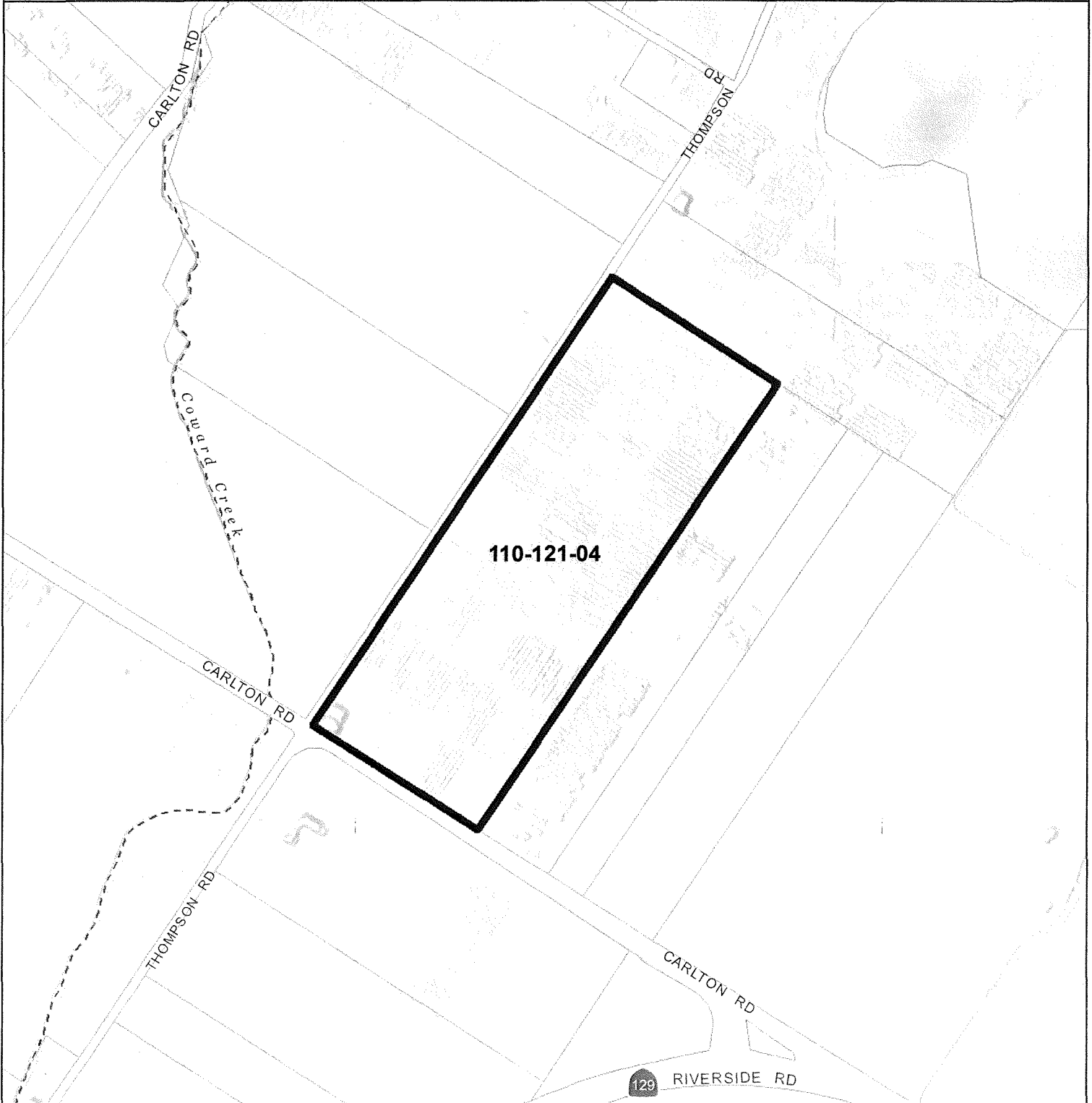
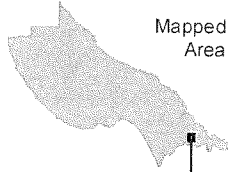
- 7. Environmental Permits Required** (List all required federal, state, and local permits required):

Agency	Permit	Status
California Department of Food and Agriculture, CalCannabis	Annual Cultivation License	LCA21-0001741 (Pending)
California Department of Fish and Wildlife	Section 1602 Lake or Streambed Alteration Agreement	Not required
State Water Resources Control Board / Regional Water Quality Control Board	Water quality protection program	Not applicable





SANTA CRUZ COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT

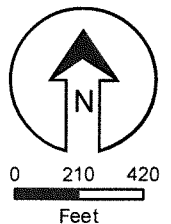
# Parcel Location Map

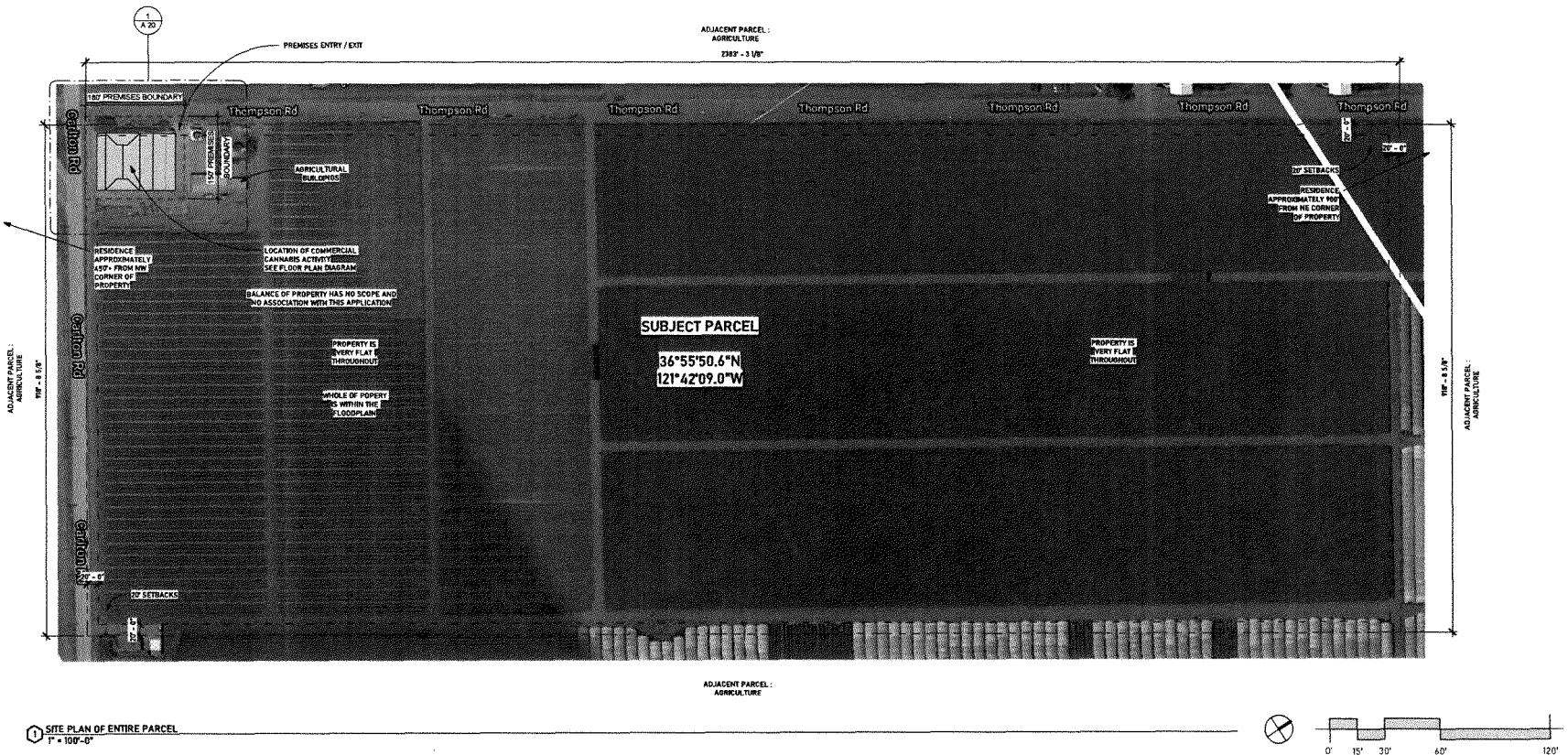


**Parcel: 11012104**

-  Study Parcel
-  Assessor Parcel Boundary

Map printed: 2 Jun. 2021





1 SITE PLAN OF ENTIRE PARCEL  
1" = 100'-0"

**NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION**  
**DO NOT DISTRIBUTE**

**DNA : THOMPSON ROAD FACILITY**

128 THOMPSON ROAD, WATSONVILLE, CA 95076  
APN: 110-121-04

**SITE PLAN LEGEND**

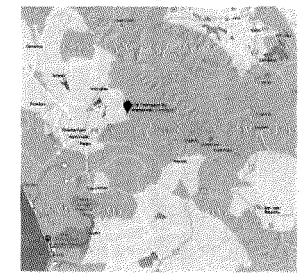
- PROPERTY LINE
- - - - SETBACK LINES (PLANNING / CANNABIS)
- FENCING

**NOTES**

**APPLICANT**  
MATT GROVES  
361 WE99 ROAD  
WATSONVILLE CA 95074  
MATT@LIFTED-ORGANICS.COM  
866-979-4797

**PROPERTY OWNER**  
JAMES P. SCURICH  
P.O. BOX 936, WATSONVILLE, CA 95077  
831-728-3904  
JMS@SCURICHCRUZIO.COM

**VICINITY MAP**



ISSUED  
2/18/2021

**SITE PLAN OF ENTIRE PARCEL**

**A 10**