

## **Measure A helps follow-through on inspections**

It must be frustrating to Noah Levy, the Humboldt County Planning Commission Chairman, who should take pride in his 20 years of watershed and forest protection work, and laborious crafting of the present cannabis ordinances, to have the Planning Department fail to deliver on the county's most important forest and watershed protection options.

The Planning Department was directed to hold annual hearings to evaluate the impacts of cannabis grows on the environment and adjust caps accordingly. However, in six years, such hearings have never been held, and the Planning Director never requested watershed evaluations from resource agencies to inform these hearings.

Measure A can help improve the previous ordinances. Indeed, Measure A only contains about two pages worth of actual changes to these current ordinances. These changes propose to limit grow size to 10,000 sq ft and total permits to 1,000, optimum for small family farms, minimizing impacts to our watersheds, and freeing up personnel for inspections. This reduction in the number of grows should make it tenable to actually inspect them. Plus, the Planning Commission Chairman will find no reason to worry about any restrictions on environmentally protective measures: they will be up to him, the Planning Director, and the Board of Supervisors.

— *Harriet Hill, McKinleyville*