CDFW's history with cannabis cultivation

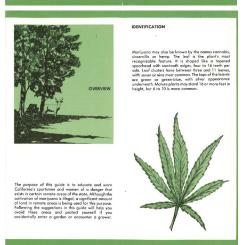
In 1986, when the brochure, below, was created, the multi-agency entity Campaign Against Marijuana Planting (CAMP; created in 1983), that the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) was a part of, was actively involved in raiding large-scale cannabis grows, especially in the North Coast. At that time, all grows were illegal and most grows were outdoor operations. In response to intensive CAMP operations, many growers became reluctant to grow on their properties because enforcement agencies would regularly confiscate land, homes, vehicles, and other personal property from illegal growers. This reality compelled many growers to establish rogue grows on public land as a means of reducing the risk of losing personal assets. As a result, hunters and anglers had greater risk of coming across illicit grows while on public lands; hence, the development of the brochure. Despite this potential risk, CDFG's Law Enforcement received only a few calls from hunters and anglers regarding trespass grows on public lands. Workers hired to maintain the trespass grows rarely confronted hunters and anglers. Cartel grows and the resulting higher risk of confrontation was not common at that time.

C.I.N. P.

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GEORGE BEULMASIAN, Governor



OUTDOOR ALERT: Produced in March, 1986 by Campaign Against Marijuana Planting (CAMP).

Marijuana may also be known by the names cannabis, sinsemilla or hemp. The leaf is the plant's most recognizable feature. It is shaped like a tapered spearhead with sawtooth edges, four to 16 teeth per side. Leaf clusters have between three and 11 leaves, with seven or nine most common. The tops of the leaves are green or green-blue, with silver appearance underneath. Mature plants may stand 16 or more feet in height, but 6 to 10 is more common.

The purpose of this guide is to educate and warn California's sportsmen and women of a danger that exists in certain remote areas of the state. Although the cultivation of marijuana is illegal, a significant amount of land in remote areas is being used for this purpose. Following the suggestions in this guide will help you avoid these areas and protect yourself if you accidentally enter a garden or encounter a grower.

Some counties present a higher risk than others because the remoteness that attracts hunters and anglers also aids the grower, who is trying to avoid detection. We recommend you contact the sheriff's department or Department of Fish and Game before you hunt or fish in c;m unfamiliar area. These agencies can identify places that should be avoided.

This map indicates the 10 counties with the highest incidence of marijuana cultivation based on a 1985 report of Campaign Against Marijuana Planting (C.A.M.P.). Take precautions when planning outdoor trips in these regions.

Some growers protect their gardens with devices that can inflict serious injury or death. Among the more common types are:

- Explosive devices or trap-guns. Watch for trip wires along trails, or anything else that looks out of place.
- Traps. Bear traps, deadfalls and snares are sometimes found along trails leading to a garden.
- Fishhooks strung on fishing line at eye level across trails.

Even with reasonable precautions, hunters and anglers may unintentionally enter gardens or encounter growers. Maintaining your composure and exercising good common sense are your best safeguards in this situation.

The following Do's and Don'ts should be committed to memory.

- 1. Do familiarize yourself with what a marijuana plant looks like.
- 2. Do look for irrigation pipes, fencing or other indications that you may be nearing a garden.
- 3. Do think ahead and anticipate your actions if you should mistakenly enter a garden.
- 4. Do announce your intentions. If you accidentally enter a garden or meet a grower, say out loud: "I DIDN'T MEAN TO DO THIS, AND I'M LEAVING RIGHT NOW."
- Do leave slowly and carefully. The devices that growers use to keep people out have the same effect if you trigger one as you leave.
- 6. Don't panic. Remember that common sense and composure are your best protection.
- 7. Don't be a hero. Challenging a grower or attempting to destroy a garden is extremely dangerous. Nearly all growers are well armed and have the advantage of knowing the area. Even if you don't see anyone, there is a chance your presence is known.
- 8. Don't approach a garden intentionally. Curiosity can be dangerous. If you see a garden or any indications of one, stay away.

SOME THINGS TO REMEMBER

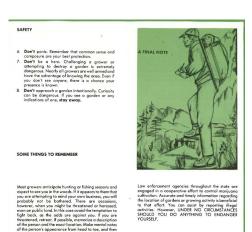
Most growers anticipate hunting or fishing seasons and expect to see you in the woods. If it appears to them that

you are attempting to mind your own business, you will probably not be bothered. There are occasions, however, when you might be threatened or harassed, even on public land. In this case avoid the temptation to fight back, as the odds are against you. If you are threatened, retreat. If possible, memorize a description of the person and the exact location. Make mental notes of the person's appearance from head to toe, and then contact a law enforcement agency immediately. This is your only sensible course of action.

Law enforcement agencies throughout the state are engaged in a cooperative effort to control marijuana cultivation. Accurate and timely information regarding the location of gardens or growing activity is beneficial to that effort. You can assist by reporting illegal activities. However, UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES SHOULD YOU DO ANYTHING TO ENDANGER YOURSELF.

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SAFE OUTING