

# Lake or Streambed Alteration (LSA) Agreement Workshop Series

## For Commercial Cannabis Cultivators

September 13, 2023, 10-11 AM

September 28, 2023, 1-2 PM

Presented by



California Department of  
**Fish and Wildlife**

# Presentation Overview

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## Topics:

1. LSA Agreement Review
2. Maintaining Valid LSA Documentation
3. Post-Agreement Steps
4. Question and Answer Session

Primary Audience: Currently licensed cultivators

Coming Soon: CDFW will host 3 regionally focused workshops in 2024.

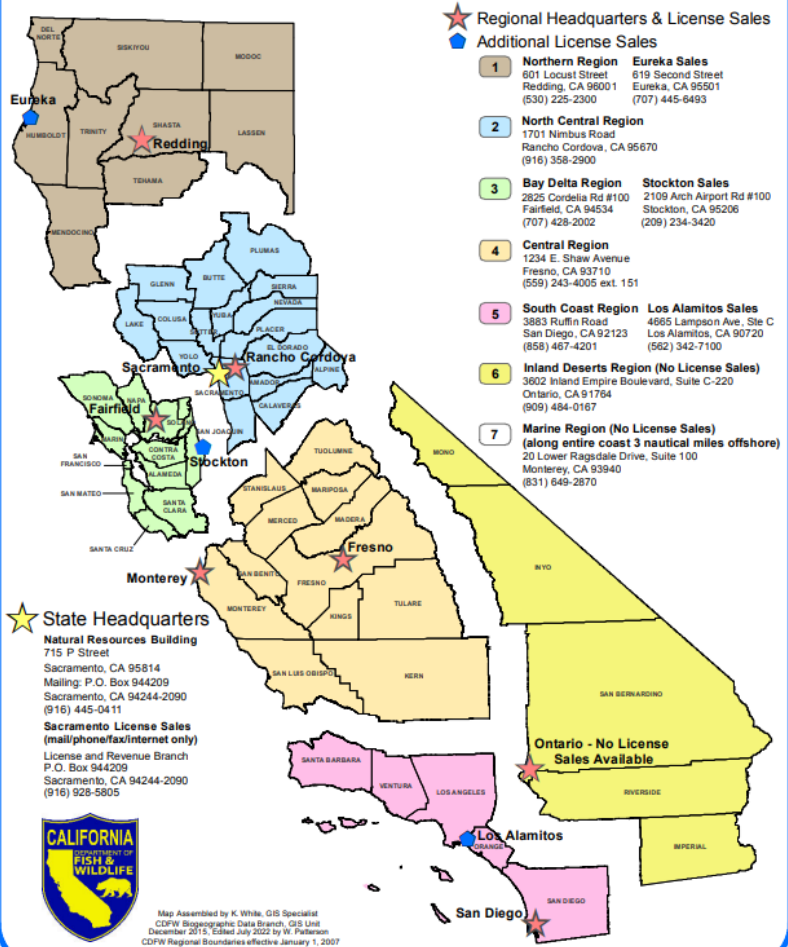
# Question and Answer Session

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## Process Overview

- Write your question in the Q&A feature.
- CDFW staff will read and respond to questions.
- Staff will focus on questions related to LSA agreements, documentation requirements, and post-agreement next steps.
- Staff will not respond to project-specific questions.
- If we do not get to your question, provide your question and email in the chat or email your question to [AskCannabis@wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:AskCannabis@wildlife.ca.gov).

# California Department of Fish and Wildlife Regions and License Sales



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- Additional License Sales
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  - Eureka Sales**  
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Redding, CA 96001  
(530) 225-2300
  - 619 Second Street  
Eureka, CA 95501  
(707) 445-6493
- 2 North Central Region**  
1701 Nimbus Road  
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670  
(916) 358-2900
- 3 Bay Delta Region**
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 715 P Street  
 Sacramento, CA 95814  
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 (916) 445-0411  
**Sacramento License Sales**  
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 License and Revenue Branch  
 P.O. Box 944209  
 Sacramento, CA 94244-2090  
 (916) 928-5805



Map Assembled by K. White, GIS Specialist  
 CDFW Geoprocessing Data Branch, GIS Unit  
 December 2015, Edited July 2022 by W. Patterson  
 CDFW Regional Boundaries effective January 1, 2007

# CDFW Regions

Regional LSA Contacts:

<https://wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Environmental-Review/LSA/Contact>



# LSA Agreement Review

## Topics:

- What does an Agreement Authorize?
- Measures of an Agreement
- Agreement Deliverables

# What does an Agreement Authorize?

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Project activities that impact rivers, streams, or lakes by:

- Diverting or obstructing the natural flow.
- Changing or using any material from the bed, channel, or bank.
- Depositing or disposing of debris, waste or other material.



# Measures of an Agreement

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## Examples:

- Special Status Species Surveys
- Vegetation Management Plan
- Qualified Biologist and Construction Manager
- Erosion Control and Stabilization



# Agreement Deliverables

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## Deliverables may Include:

- Invasive Species Management Reports
- Diversion Infrastructure Plan
- Stream Remediation Plan
- Revegetation Plan







# Maintaining Valid LSA Documentation

## Topics:

- Extension Requests
- Amendment Requests
- OpLaw Letters
- Notification Not Required Letters



# Extension Requests

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- Requests must be submitted **prior to** agreement expiration.
- If the agreement has already been extended once, the permittee must submit a new notification.
- Term may only be extended one time for a maximum of 5 years.

# Extension Requests (Continued)

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If you continue to divert water for cannabis irrigation or domestic use, you need a valid, non-expired agreement.

- In this situation, consider extending your current agreement before it expires.
- If already expired, you must submit a new notification for the diversion.



# Amendment Requests

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- Required if permittee needs to change or update any term or measure.
- Must request prior to agreement expiration.
- If requested after agreement expiration date, submit new notification.
- Transfer request must be submitted by current Permittee (transferor); requires signature of the transferor and transferee.



# Submitting Amendment and Extension Request Forms in EPIMS



The screenshot shows the top navigation bar with links for [Menu](#), [Help](#), [Log Out](#), and [Back](#). Below this is a grey header area with the text "Welcome Julia TesterDolloff". The main content area is titled "Main Menu" and contains the instruction "Click Help above to view instructions." A list of menu items is displayed on the right side: [Instructions](#), [My Profile](#), [Apply for a Permit](#), [My Permit Applications](#), and [Permit Tracking](#). A black arrow points to the "Permit Tracking" link.

**EPIMS Portal**  
<https://epims.wildlife.ca.gov/index.do>



The screenshot shows a blue box with the title "Instructions for Submitting Continued". Below the title is a list of three items, each with a right-pointing arrow and a plus sign on the right:

- Amendments and/or Extension Request +
- Notify for Emergency Work +
- Send Documents to CDFW using the Correspondence form +

# Submitting Hard Copy Amendment or Extension Request Forms in the EPIMS Document Repository

Notify Online | Notify by PDF | Fees | Cannabis

Resources

## Notify by PDF

CDFW requests the use of [Environmental Permit Information Management System \(EPIMS\)](#) for online submittal of all notification types. Either the [Permitting Portal](#) or [Document Repository](#) will be able to facilitate electronic submittal of any notification form.

The following forms may still be downloaded, completed, and submitted via Document Repository with the appropriate fee to the [CDFW Regional Office](#) that serves the county where the project will take place. Amendment and Extension Request Forms for hard copy/paper agreements may be submitted through the EPIMS Document Repository.

- [Lake or Streambed Alteration Notification Form \(PDF Form\)](#)
  - Make sure to indicate the requested agreement type (Master Agreement for Timber Operations) and include the applicable Attachment below:
    - [Attachment B - Timber Harvesting Operations \(PDF Form\)](#)
  - [Request to Extend an LSA Agreement \(PDF Form\)](#)
  - [Request to Amend an LSA Agreement \(PDF Form\)](#)
- Visit the [Environmental Permit Information System \(EPIMS\)](#) webpage for information on submitting a completed paper notification (i.e., PDF) through the EPIMS Document Repository.

Menu | Help | Log Out | Back |

Welcome Julia TesterDolloff

### Main Menu

Click Help above to view instructions.

- [Instructions](#)
- [My Profile](#)
- [Apply for a Permit](#)
- [My Permit Applications](#)
- [Permit Tracking](#)

## DOCUMENT REPOSITORY

### Instructions for Electronic Submittal

- [LSA Amendments & Extensions and CESA ITPs](#) +
- [HREA, CESA CDs, and SERP](#) +

**Amendment and extension request forms available here:** <https://wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Environmental-Review/LSA#55227761-notify-by-pdf>



# OpLaw Letters

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- Issued when CDFW was unable to provide a draft LSA agreement or a letter indicating an agreement is not required within a specified timeframe.
- LSA notification approved by operation of law (“OpLaw”).
- Applicant may proceed with the project **exactly as described** in the notification.



## OpLaw Letters (Continued)

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- OpLaw Letters expire and **cannot** be amended, extended, or transferred.
- Any changes to the project described in the notification will require a new notification.



# Notification Not Required Letters

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- Project activities described in the notification are not subject to Fish and Game Code section 1602.
- Don't expire.
- Can use for licensing purposes – new or renewal.
- Must submit new notification if certain changes are made to the project activities.
- Cannot be amended or transferred.





# Post-Agreement Steps

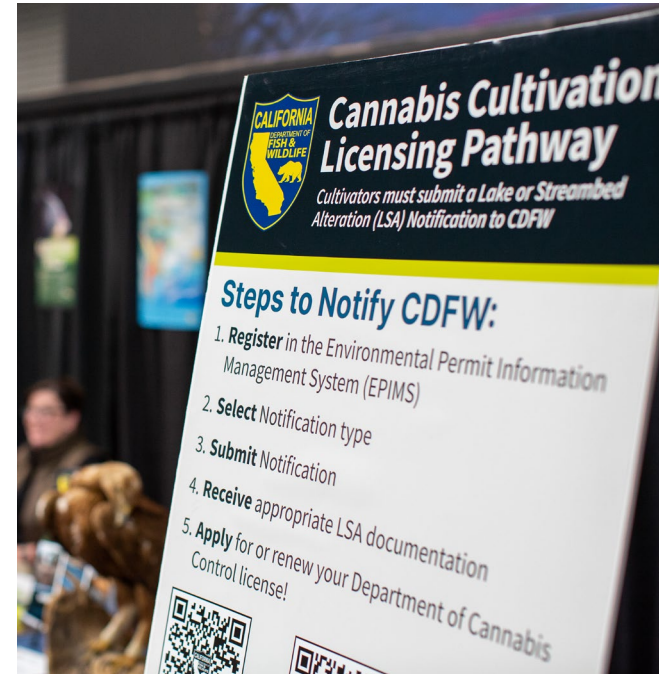
## Topics:

- When to Submit a New Notification
- Letter of Completed Work (LCW)

# When to Submit a New Notification

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- An agreement or OpLaw letter is expired, but project activities are not complete.
- The project is complete, but there are new project activities.
- Change(s) to project in notification, received OpLaw letter.
- Agreement is for water diversion and water use: extended once already or original agreement expired.





# Letter of Completed Work (LCW)

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- New process only for agreements related to cultivation.
- LCW issued after CDFW verification of completed projects.
- Issued before or after agreement expiration.
- Must have submitted all deliverables/complied with agreement measures.



# Cannabis Cultivation Agreement Tool

To help determine which LSA agreement is needed for a cannabis cultivation operation.



# Question and Answer Session

## Process Reminder:

- Write your question in the Q&A feature.
- CDFW staff will read and respond to questions.
- Focus questions on LSA agreements, documentation requirements, and post-agreement steps.

# Resources

## **Cannabis Permitting Homepage**

wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/  
Cannabis/Permitting

## **LSA Regional Contacts**

wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Environ  
mental-Review/LSA/Contact

## **General Contact**

AskCannabis@wildlife.ca.gov

## **EPIMS Help Desk**

EPIMSHelp@wildlife.ca.gov

Thank you for joining us!



California Department of  
**Fish and Wildlife**