

California Drought (and Flood) Update



For September 28, 2017

by Patrick Ruckert

Published weekly since July, 2014

<http://www.californiadroughtupdate.org>

<https://www.facebook.com/CaliforniaDroughtUpdate>

patruckert@hotmail.com

From that standpoint I wanted to make the contrast between the environmentalist policy of today, where it's anti-human policy of so-called conservationism and the policy that human beings are not at the center of the progress of our ecological system, and the progress of our Solar System and our Galaxy and doesn't recognize the relationship of mankind to the Galaxy.

But you take this in contrast to President John F. Kennedy speech and to the beautiful idea that he gave on conservation and water resources. He says, "Our nation's progress is reflected in the history of our river systems. The water that courses through our rivers and streams holds the key to full national development. Uncontrolled, it wipes out homes, lives and dreams, bringing disaster in the form of floods; controlled, it is an effective artery of transportation, a boon to industrial development, a source of beauty and recreation, and the means for turning arid areas into rich and versatile cropland." This is the idea of mankind transforming his relationship to nature. I think that message from President John F. Kennedy is so beautiful, how we think about the idea of conserving -- really, the idea in Genesis I, of mankind's mission of subduing, and replenishing the Earth: That's how you do it. You create that which is beautiful out of something that you think is a total disaster that mankind has no control over, which is absolutely not true.

Kesha Rogers

Presentation to the Manhattan Project

September 23, 2017

A Note To Readers

As I have been traveling all week, this report will be not only brief, but will include some items I have had in the "icebox." Following a brief weather report, we will begin with the announcement by President Trump that he now recognizes that the so-called private sector cannot build and rebuild the

nation's infrastructure. Now, we await his necessary next step: The re-establishment of the U.S. credit system to unleash the trillions now required to do the job. While the President's response to the hurricanes that have devastated Houston, Florida and Puerto Rico has been aggressive, and his stated commitment to repair the damage is commendable, it will require that fundamental economic change to fulfill his promise.

The quote above from Kesha Rogers, who, as some of you may know, is a member of the LaRouche PAC Policy Committee, based in Houston. The preventable disaster, had the mere \$29 billion investment in flood-control that has been blue-printed for decades been built, that took so many lives in that city, also took the lives of Kesha's father and step-mother. I urge you to watch the entire meeting: <https://larouchepac.com/20170924/manhattan-town-hall-event-kesha-rogers>

In this Week's Report

First, will there be or not be an El Nino? Who knows, but the odds are given in the first item below.

That is followed by what this report has stated frequently, this time by President Trump: "President Trump Says Public-Private Partnerships Won't Work for Infrastructure Development."

Our Oroville Dam Update this week is all videos of the progress of the construction of the main spillway.

First we humans controlled single rivers, then entire watersheds, then made a single water management system out of multiple watersheds. How about a continental water management system. Well, we almost began doing that in the 1960s, and China is actually doing it now. The North American Water and Power Alliance and China's Move South Water North projects really are our feature for this week.

Finally, if you already did not know it, the country is going to pot.

Whither the Weather?

Is it going to be a wet season? Weather experts give us the latest forecast

By Robert Rodriguez

September 27, 2017 12:47 PM

<http://www.fresnobee.com/news/local/article175715816.html>

Is it time to get out the rain boots? Not just yet, weather experts say.

Based on conditions shaping up in the Pacific Ocean, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's latest forecast calls for a 55 percent to 60 percent chance of a La Niña weather phenomenon during the next "water year," which begins Oct. 1.

President Trump Says Public-Private Partnerships Won't Work for Infrastructure Development

Sept. 27 (EIRNS)—According to the *Washington Post* and other media, when President Trump met with a bipartisan group from the House Ways and Means Committee yesterday, he indicated that public-private partnerships, known as P3s, don't work as a means of financing infrastructure

development. An unnamed White House official told the *Post* that although the administration has researched these approaches, “they are certainly not the silver bullet for all of our nation’s infrastructure problems, and we will continue to consider all viable options.”

What the President determines now, as to how to finance the \$1 trillion infrastructure program he announced at the beginning of his administration, remains to be seen. But, this puts on the table (where it has always been) consideration of the Hamiltonian credit policy that Lyndon LaRouche has proposed, as the only viable means to finance the country’s economic reconstruction.

Rep. Brian Higgins (D-NY), who attended the meeting, said he thought that the President’s remarks signalled an openness to working with Democrats on the plan, and even increasing the federal commitment. During the meeting, Higgins reported, Trump indicated he would seek to pay for infrastructure projects through direct federal spending, either by paying for projects with new tax revenues or by taking on new debt. In a telephone interview with Bloomberg, Higgins offered the view that after eight months during which the Senate and House leadership failed to work with the President on overhauling healthcare, he now “feels liberated to find partnerships different from the one that hasn’t worked in the past eight months.”

During yesterday’s session, according to those present, Trump pointed to one glaring example of P3 failure in Vice President Mike Pence’s home state of Indiana, to demonstrate that this approach on the federal level won’t work. After a private Spanish firm failed to complete a stretch of the Indiana Interstate highway 69, the state is now issuing public debt to complete the 40% of the project that the Spanish firm left undone.

Oroville Dam Update

Just a handful of videos this week. The November 1 deadline is just over one month away. The contractor is confident they are on schedule.

Oroville Spillway Update September 19, 2017

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CISszv64pvE>

Structural concrete is cooled by liquid nitrogen to around 55 degrees and poured in the upper spillway. The crew hydroseeds around the spillway. The form is removed from the new lower spillway wall and coated with a concrete curing compound. RCC continues to be laid between the upper and lower chutes of the spillway.

Oroville Spillway Update September 21, 2017

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C-MqXkasWLQ>

[California DWR](#)

Published on Sep 22, 2017

Crews work through the night to finish structural concrete work as roller-compacted concrete is placed in the area between the upper and lower chute of the main spillway. Drilling on the emergency spillway for the cut-off wall progresses, digging piles with depths of 35 to 80 feet.

OROVILLE DAM - MASTER UPDATE - 9/22/17

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L76NrkJnAAg>

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Oroville Update 20 Sept. 40 days to go...

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N8jPhdsUpz4>

Flyover and 1 week construction comparison photos plus DWR press conference....40 days left to 1 Nov milestone! A 15 minute report; more extensive than the other videos.

Oroville Spillway Flyover September 25, 2017

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ABFT0J2X5EU>

[California DWR](#)

Published on Sep 25, 2017

Oroville Spillway Update September 26, 2017

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LO3TtZB4iA>

[California DWR](#)

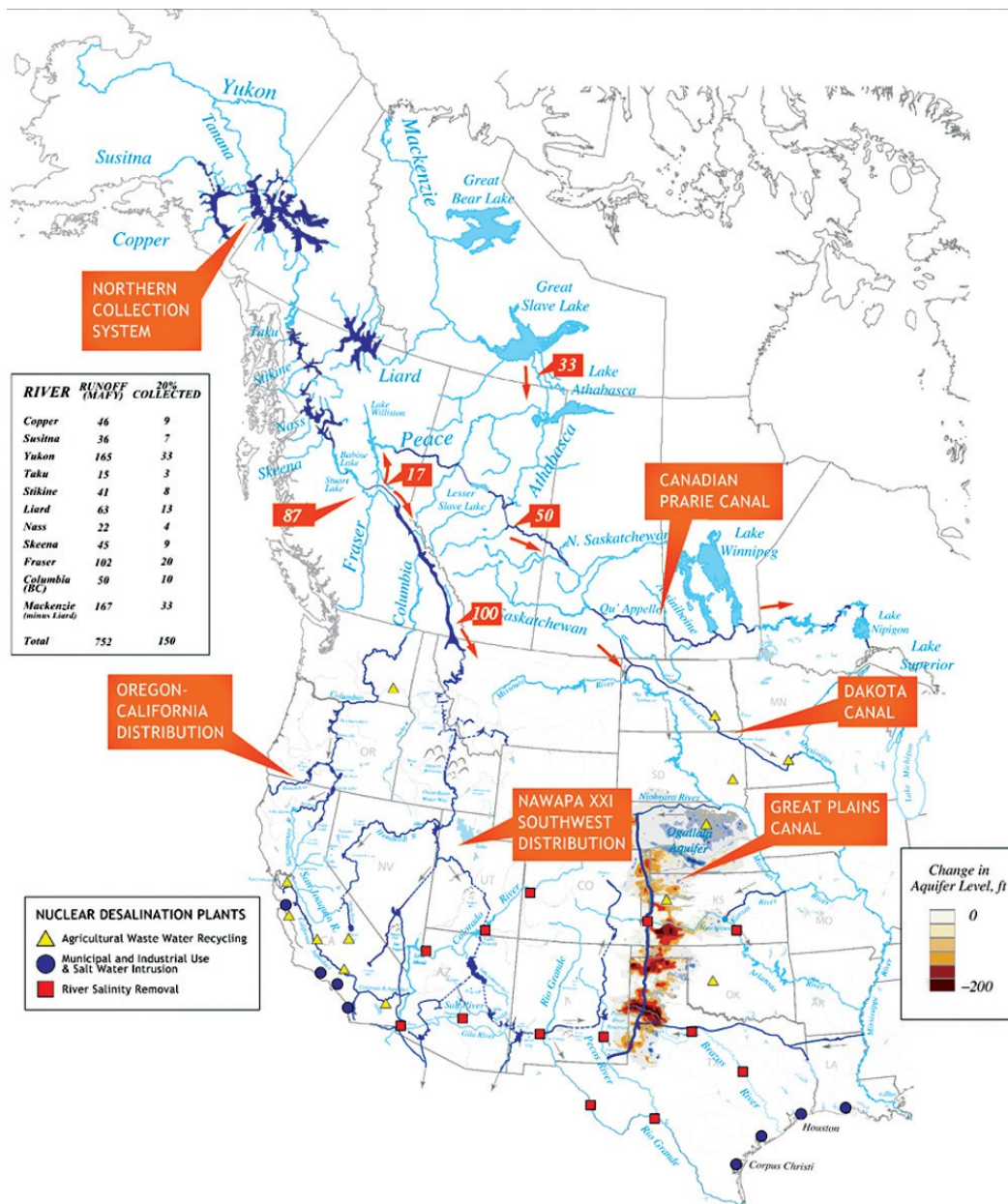
Published on Sep 28, 2017

Roller-compacted concrete (RCC) is hauled from the on-site RCC batch plant and placed in the Lake Oroville spillway's middle chute, steel plates are installed at contraction joints, and RCC density testing is conducted to ensure quality. RCC work continues through the night, along with structural concrete work on the upper chute.

NAWAPA: The North American Water and Power Alliance

In the late 1950s, and through the 1960s NAWAPA was proposed as the necessary next step in mankind's management of his water supply. A continental water management system. President John Kennedy and his brother Robert worked for it; legislation to build it was in the Congress; The Prime Minister of Canada agreed. And then it died, like the completion of the California Water Project died, and a manned space program nearly died.

Here is what NAWAPA will look like:



Here are some background links on what could have been and must now become the greatest water project ever built by mankind.

Drought: The Time for NAWAPA has Come

March 3, 2014

<http://archive.larouchepac.com/node/30047>

10 minute video overview

NAWAPA 1964 -- Feature Film

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c0QS9AaMfvY>

The true story of the fight for NAWAPA, the North American Water and Power Alliance, spanning the 60s and early 70s, as told through the words of Utah's U.S. Senator Frank Moss.

NAWAPA and Biospheric Engineering

November 17, 2010

<http://archive.larouchepac.com/node/16500>

NAWAPA XXI - Oregon-California Extension

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2ZTft0pJUUM>

Meanwhile, as the following article demonstrates, China has already completed much of the greatest water project ever build by man.

Biggest water transfer project ever benefits 100 million in China

By Ma Danning (*People's Daily Online*) June 12, 2017

<http://en.people.cn/n3/2017/0612/c90000-9227228.html>



Two years after China opened an \$80 billion mega tunnel to transfer water from the country's south to its parched north, it has quenched the thirst of 100 million people - roughly the combined population of Germany plus the Netherlands - mitigating an alarming water crisis and reaping rich economic dividends in 18 of China's industrial, agricultural-powerhouse cities and capital Beijing.

The 4,350-kilometer network of canals and tunnels— about the distance between the two coasts of America, conquered impossible wastewater challenges to pipe clean water along the route. In the east line alone, 426 costly clean-up schemes were carried out to reduce 85 percent of pollutants from entering the flow: seepage pits and tainted river basins were filtered; man-made wetlands laid; contaminated streams cut off; paper mills, chemical plants and more heavy polluters shut down or revamped; 510 planned projects involving \$3 billion in investments bypassed for purposes of pollution control.

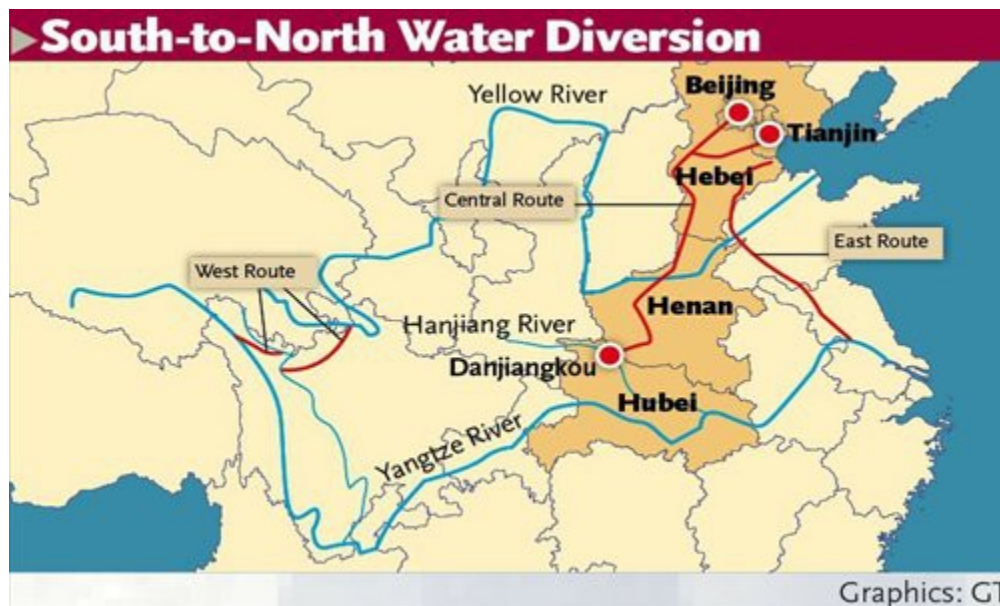
On June 9, the South-to-North Water Diversion Project Construction Committee shared prominent figures relating to the massive project's completion.

Since becoming operational in late 2014, the central line has ferried 8 billion cubic meters of water from southern China's Yangtze River to Beijing, China's political center with a population of 21.5

million but an average per capita quantity of water at 150 cu m, 1/14 of national average and 1/50 of world average, now its 73 percent of tap water in urban areas comes from the transit; Hebei, a mammoth water consumer as it produces China's 1/5 raw steel and world's 1/10; Henan, one of China's top two grain producers since 2000, with a whopping 2016 output of 59 million tons; Tianjin, the only free-trade zone in northern China and a hi-tech manufacturing cluster.

Shandong, China's 2nd largest wheat producer and 3rd most water-stressed province, with 1/6 the national average per capita quantity of water, has received 1.99 billion cubic meters of water from the east line, benefiting 40 million people.

Tough environmental measures ensure water quality, as all the diverted water safely qualifies as Grade III - the minimum standard for drinking water, also usable in aquatic breeding areas. Water in the central line meets Grade II standards, with some samples approaching Grade I, the cleanest level and considered safe for nature reserves. In Beijing, the hardness of water has dropped from 380 to 120 milligrams per liter since the imported water began to flow in, Beijing Waterworks Group determined.



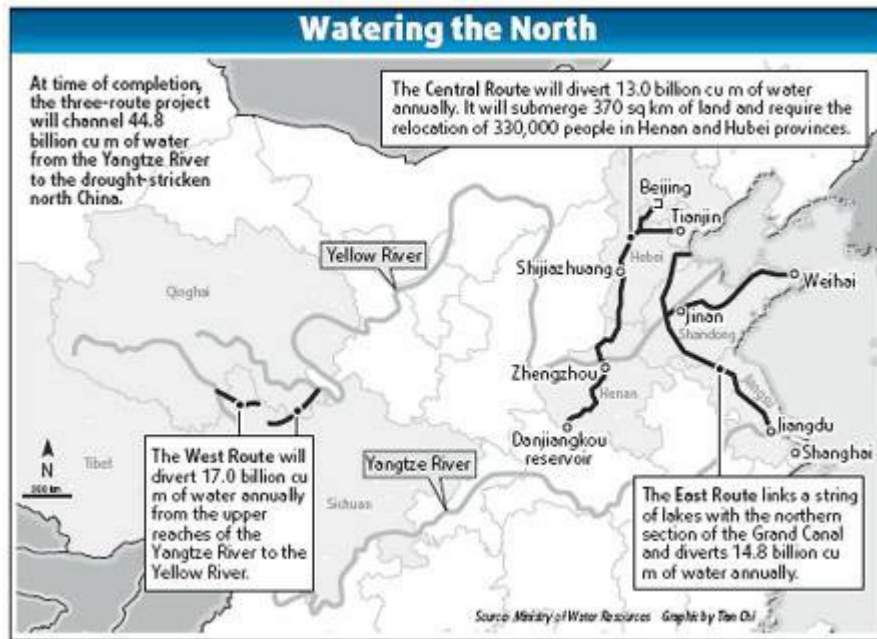
The effects on nature have been amazing, too. The water transit has prevented the exploitation of over 800 million cubic meters of underground water in the already-depleted north; in addition, as surface water filters into the ground, underground water levels in over-exploited areas of Beijing, Henan and Shandong have increased. In 2016, for the first time in decades, Beijing's underground water level rebounded by 0.52 meters. In the same year, Shandong diverted 145 million cubic meters from the scheme to recharge its four lakes, effectively shoring up a vulnerable ecosystem.

In response to environmental concerns over the origin of the central leg of the project, Danjiangkou Reservoir, the central government on March 22 issued a \$3 billion package for ecological remediation, planning a costly wastewater management system in addition to ecological risk control and water and soil conservation.

With construction started in 2002 and estimated to require between 40 and 50 years to finish, the project is the world's largest water-transfer project, unprecedented in the volume of water to be transferred, distance to be traveled and the population to be covered — 438 million residents scattered across 15 percent of China's territory.

The project has three sections: a 1,467-kilometer eastern line, which runs from the lower Yangtze River to Tianjin; the middle line, from Danjiangkou to Beijing; and a western line, which could someday link

the headwaters of the Yangtze and Yellow Rivers across the high-altitude Qinghai-Tibetan Plateau. The western line remains largely conceptual at this time.



But, It Seems, the Nation is Going to Pot

Pot is literally a 'state of emergency' now in Siskiyou County

Alayna Shulman, Record Searchlight Published 8:55 a.m. PT Sept. 13, 2017 | Updated 9:31 a.m. PT Sept. 14, 2017

<http://www.redding.com/story/news/local/2017/09/13/pot-literally-state-emergency-now-siskiyou-county/660384001/>

Siskiyou County Sheriff Jon Lopey turned down the \$1 million a pair of pot-growers allegedly used to try bribing him recently.

But it did help him prove a point.

“Last week, I was supposed to get a bag of cash with \$84,000. Are they doing that because they just want enough marijuana to meet their recreational or medicinal needs? No,” Lopey said. “I don’t think so.”

That's part of the argument Lopey made in urging the Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors last week to adopt what may be a first-of-its-kind declaration saying illegal marijuana grows — not the usual flood, fire or earthquake — are causing a “state of emergency” in the county.

They agreed, passing the declaration 5-0.

Lopey is careful to point out he supports a person's right to legally use the plant, but he doesn't believe the county will ever recover if illegal grows get any more of a foothold. There are "a lot of fast balls coming at us," like methamphetamine and heroin, but Lopey said illegal pot is the one that's really gotten out of control lately.

But Lopey cited the alleged bribe attempt as proof that illegal growers are trying to thrive in Siskiyou. "There's a big market back East," he said. "To say that we're going to produce only the amount of cannabis in California, in our counties, in our cities to meet the (local need) ... is absolutely ludicrous and preposterous."

California Marijuana Farms Contaminate the State's Water

Sept. 9 (EIRNS) -- If you care for your health, don't smoke marijuana and don't drink the water in California. Reuters reports that illegal marijuana farms have severely contaminated freshwater sources in California. The water's toxicity is so high that "law enforcement officers have been hospitalized after inadvertently touching plants and equipment," Reuters reports.

Reuters conveniently fails to mention the highly deleterious effect of marijuana itself on the consumer's health, and the fact that marijuana consumption will predictably skyrocket as it is legalized in states like California.

Eight watersheds in northern and central California, where many of the state's 50,000 illegal marijuana farms are located, are dangerously contaminated. Over 90% of the illegal cannabis plantations in the U.S. are in California and most of them are run by drug cartels, according to law enforcement. They are located mostly on Federal government lands that cover Kern County in central California, Humboldt and Mendocino County on the coast, and others.

The situation will get worse when full legalization comes into force next year, but only 16,000 of the 50,000 illegal marijuana farms are expected to register, since most are run by hard-core mafias.

Reuters cites Mourad Gabriel, a leading ecologist and expert on the use of toxins by marijuana growers, who inspected California waters with law enforcement officers, which revealed that such substances as the insecticide carbofuran, which can cause headaches, nausea, dizziness, vomiting, uncontrollable muscle twitching, convulsions and even death; and diazinon, which can cause difficulty breathing, blue lips and fingernails, weakness, convulsion and coma; have made some of the waters so toxic that a Trinity County police dog died after jumping into a reservoir fed by the contaminated streams. These and other pesticides and fertilizers that have long been banned or restricted are being used by the pot farmers.

Gabriel, who has visited more than 100 sites in California said about half the streams he studied in eight watersheds tested positive for contaminants. Ultimately, these rivers and creeks flow into the general California's water supply system.

Local farmers have seen their cattle die by drinking these contaminated waters and wildlife has also been affected.

Rather than ban the farms for producing a deadly drug, and prosecute the growers for additionally poisoning the fresh drinking water supply, the state's North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board only pledged to introduce strict regulations on pesticide use by the marijuana farmers.

Police crack down on black-market pot to protect regulated growers

By [Peter Fimrite](#)

September 11, 2017 Updated: September 11, 2017 11:18am

<http://www.sfchronicle.com/news/article/Amid-pot-legalization-push-new-focus-on-12185361.php>

Now, law enforcement agencies have a new focus for crackdowns that have happened with varying intensity over the years. They're trying to protect the regulated, taxed marijuana market as California prepares for legal sales of recreational pot starting as soon as January. For some officials, the sentiment is: The state should get what it voted for.

Legalization of weed under Proposition 64, which passed in November, has catapulted thousands of growers into the frenzied forefront of a new retail industry, but the black market endures. For example, about 8,000 outdoor growers produce weed in Humboldt County, but only a little more than 2,300 have filed applications under the county's medical marijuana permit process.

But Lori Ajax, chief of the state's new Bureau of Medical Cannabis Regulation, declared earlier this year that local prosecutors and law enforcement agencies must aggressively root out black-market pot for a legitimate industry to thrive. Mendocino County District Attorney Dave Eyster said he is trying to do just that.

Santa Clara County bans commercial marijuana grows

By [Eric Kurhi](#) | ekurhi@bayareanewsgroup.com |

PUBLISHED: September 14, 2017 at 7:00 am | UPDATED: September 14, 2017 at 7:08 am

<http://www.eastbaytimes.com/2017/09/14/santa-clara-county-bans-commercial-marijuana-grows/>

SAN JOSE — The rugged, mountainous terrain of unincorporated Santa Clara County has long hidden clandestine cannabis fields, and officials this week made it clear that despite the passage of Proposition 64, they're still illegal.

"Outdoor grows were illegal before the moratorium and they're illegal after the moratorium," said Sylvia Gallegos, deputy county executive.

Sheriff's Capt. Dalia Rodriguez said they have three officers working on eradicating illegal fields — a daunting task considering the 956 square miles of unincorporated areas. She said in 2016, 98,354 marijuana plants were seized, discovered through tips and aerial surveillance. But "it's hard to put into words how many gardens are out there — there's no way to quantify it."

They received 55 tips last year that resulted in 11 eradications. Six in the area of Croy Road and Loma Chiquita Road — where according to Cal Fire officials, a portable generator at a marijuana grow sparked the Loma Fire that destroyed 12 homes and burned thousands of acres in the Santa Cruz Mountains last September.

Supervisor Ken Yeager suggested that legal grows might help authorities focus limited resources on illicit, damaging operations.

But Gallegos said there are indicators from other jurisdictions that wouldn't be the case. She said that statewide, there are 50,000 illegal operations and about a third are expected to transition to the legal marketplace. And Monterey County officials have said there's been an uptick in illegal fields since they permitted some cultivation.

"The concern is that even by signaling to the community that we may entertain commercial regulations," she said, "it will spur illegal grows."