

From: [Chris Hooley](#)
To: [bdofsupervisors](#)
Subject: Drone surveillance
Date: Monday, August 9, 2021 7:24:23 PM

Dist 2

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Hi I live in Alta Sierra and I'm expressing my disapproval of the drone surveillance bill. Not only is it a huge violation of privacy. Which whom ever came up with this should be ashamed at this attack on freedom. But the main concern is people are going to shoot at these drones if they see them. They'll probably start shooting at any drone they see actually. People don't care that it's illegal. And then we have a much bigger problem. Random bullets flying through the air. Come on wake up, bad idea. And on top of this it's just opening the door to more and more surveillance. Do you want to see a drone hovering outside your house one day wondering whose behind the controls? Reject this bill. Think!

Concerned citizen

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Menkin Nelson](#)
To: [bdofsupervisors](#)
Subject: Re: vote "NO" on SR 21-0635 regarding the use of the Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS)
Date: Tuesday, August 10, 2021 4:30:21 PM

Dist 1

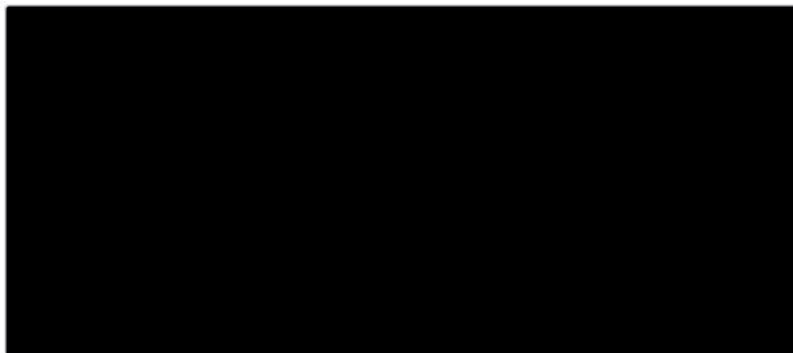
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I have a couple of additional thoughts on this...
If we have aerials of black market grows across the county from google maps, as we all know we do, why can't we just use those to bust these grows? Why not start with changing the 'complaint driven' requirement instead of implementing drones?

Thank you for your consideration, Menkin
District 1

Some articles for consideration:

[Drone crash starts fire in Oregon - Wildfire Today](#)
[How a drone helped make Dixie Fire second-largest in California's history \(dronedj.com\)](#)
[How Drones Can Start Fires – Accidentally and Intentionally – Droneblog.com](#)

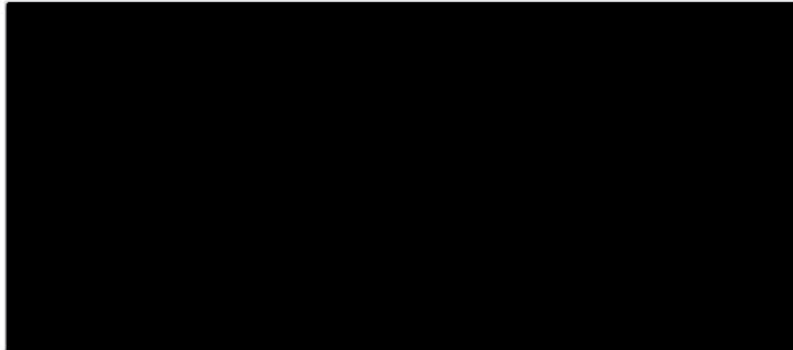


How Drones Can Start Fires – Accidentally and Intentionally | Droneblog

With a major wildfire season just behind us, I guess I've been paying

more attention than usual to the causes of...

[Why did a U.S. Air Force RQ-4 Global Hawk drone crash in North Dakota? - Deseret News](#)

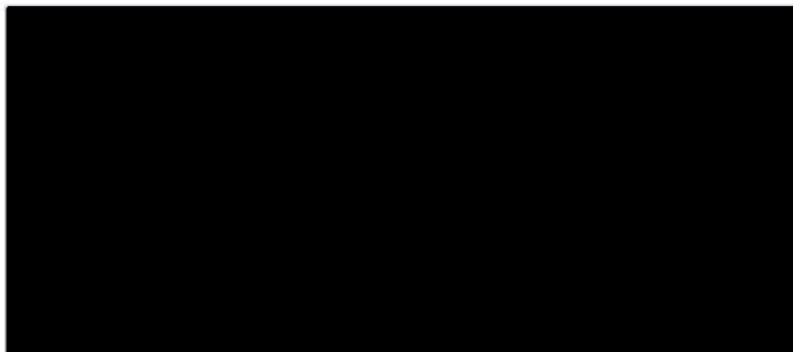


An Air Force drone crashed and caught fire in North Dakota field. Here's...

Jeff Parrott

The U.S. Air Force said the unmanned aircraft had been on its way back to Grand Forks Air Force Base and no one ...

[Drone crash starts fire in Oregon - Wildfire Today Update | Crews mopping up Moe Canyon Fire | Local News | wenatcheeworld.com](#)



Update | Crews mopping up Moe Canyon Fire

Luke Hollister and Pete O'Cain World staff writers

The Moe Canyon Fire, which started Aug. 3 after a lightning strike near Ardenvoir, has burned 161 acres and is 8...

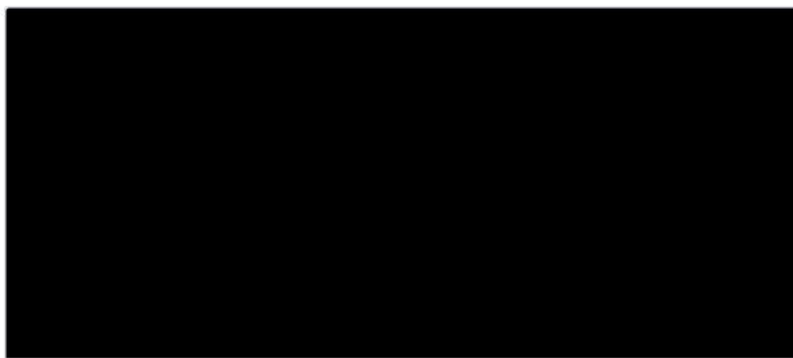
[Update: Global Hawk drone crashes near Grand](#)

[Forks Air Force Base - KVRR Local News](#)
[Public Safety Drone Crash Highlights -](#)
[DRONELIFE](#)

[Florida Man Shoots Down Police Drone Because It](#)
[Was “Harassing” Him \(futurism.com\)](#)

[17 drone disasters that show why the FAA hates](#)
[drones - TechRepublic](#)

[Birds vs Drones | More Birds Attacking Drones](#)
[\[Caught on Video\] \(dronethusiast.com\)](#)



Birds vs Drones | More Birds Attacking Drones
[Caught on Video]

We decided to look around to see if there are other instances of birds
or prey or other less militant winged cre...

[Drones and Bird Photography: Why It's Just Not](#)
[Worth It | Audubon](#)

[The Impact of Drones on Birds \(thespruce.com\)](#)

[Bald eagle wins duel with state's \\$950 drone,](#)
[sending it to the bottom of Lake Michigan - CBS](#)
[News](#)

[3,000 Eggs Abandoned After Drone Crashes Into](#)
[Nesting Island, Scares Off Birds | HuffPost](#)





3,000 Eggs Abandoned After Drone Crashes Into Nesting Island, Scares Off...

Fearing an attack from a predator, several thousand terns abandoned their ground nests on the Bolsa Chica Ecolog...

[Drone Injury Accidents And Laws | Avrek Law Firm](#)



Drone Injury Accidents And Laws | Avrek Law Firm

A drone is an unmanned aircraft. In a real sense, a drone is a flying robot. Formally they are known as unmanned...

[3 Shockingly Common Accidents and Injuries Caused By Drones \(glotzerlaw.com\)](#)



3 Shockingly Common Accidents and Injuries

Caused By Drones

Any type of personal injury accident can be damaging. But you have rights. Call a Boca Raton personal injury law...

Nobody made a greater mistake than he who did nothing because he could only do a little ~ Edmund Burke

On Tuesday, August 10, 2021, 01:00:17 PM PDT, Menkin Nelson [REDACTED] > wrote:

Hello Board,

Thank you for taking my email into consideration. Although I understand the need to regulate the harms being caused by some of the illegal cannabis grows I feel the drones is the wrong solution. Aside from the slippery slope of privacy issues we have to consider the fire risk, projectile risk, disturbances to birds or wild life, and noise disturbances.

There are assorted cases of drone caused fires after a crash across the nation. Personally I'm much more concerned about fire than I am a neighbor with a few pot plants. Drones disrupt nature in an assortment of ways. They occasionally drive sensitive birds away from roosts or are attacked by predator birds which can causes shrapnel. Navigation mishaps can also cause projected shrapnel leading to litter or fire hazards. Drones are not only known for being an invasion of privacy but also for their trademark unpleasant buzzing. Do we really want that unsettling buzz to be the backdrop of our peaceful community, always worried about someone watching you from above? We claim this is for cannabis but what assurances do we have that our private lives in our back yard won't be viewed unnecessarily by drone operators?

Thank you for your time,
Menkin Nelson
District 1

Nobody made a greater mistake than he who did nothing because he could only do a little ~ Edmund Burke

From: [Jen Smith](#)
To: [Clerk of Board](#)
Subject: Please Vote no SR 21-0635.
Date: Tuesday, August 10, 2021 1:33:15 PM

Cannot confirm Dist

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August 2021

Nevada County Board of Supervisors
950 Maidu Ave
Nevada City, CA 95959

Dear Board of Supervisors,

I'm writing to you today to ask that you please vote "NO" on [SR 21-0635](#).

This recommendation by the Nevada County CDA has the ability to be far-reaching and is being proposed under the pretense that it will only be used specifically for unpermitted commercial cannabis enforcement. It also allows for county personnel to determine – *without oversight* – when to use this system on a *case-by-case basis*. Even in best-case scenarios, county personnel are prone to having – *and to acting upon* – biases. With these types of enforcement systems in place, our personal and property rights are at risk of being violated.

As members of the Board, you are perfectly aware that there are currently several issues in the County that are dividing us as a community. Now more than ever, we need outstanding leadership, not another far-reaching enforcement tool in the hands of CDA.

Again, I strongly suggest that you vote "NO" on [SR 21-0635](#).

Thank you,

Jennifer

From: [Menkin Nelson](#)
To: [bdofsupervisors](#)
Subject: vote "NO" on SR 21-0635 regarding the use of the Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS)
Date: Tuesday, August 10, 2021 1:00:30 PM

Dist 1

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Hello Board,

Thank you for taking my email into consideration. Although I understand the need to regulate the harms being caused by some of the illegal cannabis grows I feel the drones is the wrong solution. Aside from the slippery slope of privacy issues we have to consider the fire risk, projectile risk, disturbances to birds or wild life, and noise disturbances.

There are assorted cases of drone caused fires after a crash across the nation. Personally I'm much more concerned about fire than I am a neighbor with a few pot plants. Drones disrupt nature in an assortment of ways. They occasionally drive sensitive birds away from roosts or are attacked by predator birds which can causes shrapnel. Navigation mishaps can also cause projected shrapnel leading to litter or fire hazards. Drones are not only known for being an invasion of privacy but also for their trademark unpleasant buzzing. Do we really want that unsettling buzz to be the backdrop of our peaceful community, always worried about someone watching you from above? We claim this is for cannabis but what assurances do we have that our private lives in our back yard

won't be viewed unnecessarily by drone operators?

Thank you for your time,
Menkin Nelson
District 1

Nobody made a greater mistake than he who did nothing because he
could only do a little ~ Edmund Burke

From: [David Jerome](#)
To: [bdofsupervisors](#)
Subject: Please vote NO on SR 21-0635
Date: Tuesday, August 10, 2021 10:41:42 AM

Dist 5

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Dear Board of Supervisors,

I am writing to you today to ask that you please vote "NO" on SR 21-0635. Personal privacy and property rights are at risk of being violated if SR 21-0635 passes. We need strong leadership during these difficult and challenging times, not another far-reaching, potentially expensive and expansive enforcement tool in the hands of CDA. Again, I strongly urge you to vote "NO" on SR 21-0635. Please help to protect our rights and our privacy.

Sincerely,

David and Elaine Jerome
local business owners and longtime Nevada County residents.

From: [Xylem Larla Dey](#)
To: [bdofsupervisors](#)
Subject: Oppose the drones
Date: Tuesday, August 10, 2021 10:26:23 AM

Cannot confirm Dist

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To the supervisors,
Hello, I'm the president of Nevada County here urging you to oppose the proposal for drone use. I do not cultivate cannabis. However, I am greatly concerned about the implications of this version of trespass onto private property regardless of the reason.

As a survivor of sexual assault I find it appalling that law enforcement would be taking cameras into private areas where people could be in various states of undress - as is their right - and could be suddenly on video it without consent.

As a parent I am appalled that children could suddenly be on camera without parental consent.

As an educator who has seen my students, colleagues, and friends who are Black, Indigenous, or People of Color treated unequally by both law enforcement and judicial authorities, I am concerned that whatever the intended purposes for these drones they will be used to further inequities in our society along lines of race, ethnicity, and class.

I'm also frankly concerned for the escalating conflict that may ensue between citizens and law enforcement. This is a time when law enforcement needs to build trust with citizens, not violate it further.

Please vote no- this is not a need.

Put these resources towards body cams and anti bias training and de escalation training for officers, and put resources towards mental health and affordable housing solutions.

Thank you,
Xylem Larla Dey
Aka Larla Maloney

[REDACTED]

--

~~~~~ Xylem Larla Dey [REDACTED]

**From:** [Julianne Yates](#)  
**To:** [bdofsupervisors](#)  
**Subject:** Vote no on the UAS pilot program vote "NO" on SR 21-0635  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 10, 2021 10:11:14 AM

**Cannot identify Dist**

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August 10, 2021

Nevada County Board of Supervisors  
950 Maidu Ave  
Nevada City, CA 95959

Dear Board of Supervisors,

I'm writing to you today to ask that you please.

This recommendation by the Nevada County CDA has the ability to be far-reaching and is being proposed under the pretense that it will only be used specifically for unpermitted commercial cannabis enforcement. It also allows for county personnel to determine – without oversight – when to use this system on a case-by-case basis. Even in best-case scenarios, county personnel are prone to having – and to acting upon – biases. With these types of enforcement systems in place, our personal and property rights are at risk of being violated.

As members of the Board, you are perfectly aware that there are currently several issues in the County that are dividing us as a community. Now more than ever, we need outstanding leadership, not another far-reaching enforcement tool in the hands of CDA.

Again, I strongly suggest that you vote "NO" on SR 21-0635.

Thank you,

Julianne

**From:** [Colby Cutler](#)  
**To:** [bdofsupervisors](#)  
**Subject:** Drones  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 10, 2021 10:11:06 AM

**Dist 5**

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Dear Board of Supervisors,

I'm writing to you today to ask that you please vote "NO" on SR 21-0635.

As a homeowner and helicopter pilot for pge and fire fighter this poses threat to my privacy and safety

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**From:** [Sam W](#)  
**To:** [bdofsupervisors](#)  
**Subject:** No o sr21-0635  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 10, 2021 9:49:29 AM

Dist 4

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August 2021

Nevada County Board of Supervisors  
950 Maidu Ave  
Nevada City, CA 95959

Dear Board of Supervisors,

I'm writing to you today to ask that you please vote "NO" on SR 21-0635.

This recommendation by the Nevada County CDA has the ability to be far-reaching and is being proposed under the pretense that it will only be used specifically for unpermitted commercial cannabis enforcement. It also allows for county personnel to determine – without oversight – when to use this system on a case-by-case basis. Even in best-case scenarios, county personnel are prone to having – and to acting upon – biases. With these types of enforcement systems in place, our personal and property rights are at risk of being violated.

As members of the Board, you are perfectly aware that there are currently several issues in the County that are dividing us as a community. Now more than ever, we need outstanding leadership, not another far-reaching enforcement tool in the hands of CDA.

Again, I strongly suggest that you vote "NO" on SR 21-0635.

Thank you,

—Sam Whitehill

**From:** [Lucie Ward](#)  
**To:** [bdofsupervisors](#)  
**Subject:** "No" on SR 21-0635  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 10, 2021 9:48:12 AM

Cannot identify Dist

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August 2021

Nevada County Board of Supervisors  
950 Maidu Ave  
Nevada City, CA 95959

Dear Board of Supervisors,

I'm writing to you today to ask that you please vote "NO" on SR 21-0635.

This recommendation by the Nevada County CDA has the ability to be far-reaching and is being proposed under the pretense that it will only be used specifically for unpermitted commercial cannabis enforcement. It also allows for county personnel to determine – without oversight – when to use this system on a case-by-case basis. Even in best-case scenarios, county personnel are prone to having – and to acting upon – biases. With these types of enforcement systems in place, our personal and property rights are at risk of being violated.

As members of the Board, you are perfectly aware that there are currently several issues in the County that are dividing us as a community. Now more than ever, we need outstanding leadership, not another far-reaching enforcement tool in the hands of CDA.

Again, I strongly suggest that you vote "NO" on SR 21-0635.

Thank you,

—



**From:** [Esther Collins](#)  
**To:** [bdofsupervisors](#)  
**Subject:** Permitted Cannabis grows negatively impacting ground water  
**Date:** Monday, August 9, 2021 5:16:10 PM

Dist 4

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August 09, 2021

To: Nevada County Board of Supervisors

From: Esther Collins

Re: Are permitted Cannabis grows negatively impacting available ground water?

Dear Board of Supervisors,

I live in District 4. My home is located in South County. Cross roads are McCourtney road and LimeKiln.

I am concerned about the dwindling well water in our area. I have lived in my home since 2002. I have had gardens, and milk cows through the years. I have access only to well water.

This year my water has been significantly reduced. Even through the last drought years 2012-2016, I was able to maintain my cows and garden with no hardship. I mention my cows, not because I kept any green pasture, but because they can consume up to 30 gallons a day in water. I had a momma cow and her calf and was always able to provide their water. I also had gardens and easily maintained my plants and shrubs, and a small yard of grass. Sometimes our water would run out if we left the hose accidentally on, but always recovered quickly.

This year is a different story. It has never been this difficult. I am barely able to keep a small garden, consisting of four tomato, two cucumber, one zucchini, one cantaloupe, and two pepper plants. I maintain a few perennials, and some potted plants. My small grass yard to keep the dust down is now 1/2 of what it has been and very under-watered.

My cows are no longer here.

To be able to do a load of laundry and shower takes planning. I am conserving as much water as possible, saving every drop.

I am pro-cannabis. That said, I look out over a huge commercial Cannabis operation in my area, and wonder how much water this business is taking from our water table. They operate year round, and even if they use NID water in the summer. they are a big user of water through the winter when our wells need to re charge. I would ask, what type of water impact study has been done concerning these grows? I am very concerned about the Cannabis Grows that are being permitted in our county. They use a lot of water.

Traditionally it was a summer crop, and now it is year round. Basically doubling the water usage and the size of the grows are generally much larger. We are in a drought. This is where we live. Water should be prioritized for homeowners, not big business.

I am asking the Board of Supervisors to place a moratorium on Cannabis growing permits.

There is not enough water to allow these humongous grows. This is our home. This is where we raise our families.

Thank you,

Esther Collins

**From:** [Robert H](#)  
**To:** [bdofsupervisors](#)  
**Subject:** Military Intelligence Veteran on Pitfalls of SR 21-0635  
**Date:** Monday, August 9, 2021 7:35:34 PM

Cannot identify Dist

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I sent the following to the five board members separately, but I do want to make sure it is considered. The dangers of this bill are no small thing, and the consequences are something I've seen first-hand.

—

My hope in writing this is that all supervisors with the power to vote on SR 21-0635 will do so with eyes opened to the threat of drone surveillance and the open invitation it gives to abuse this power.

My former career was in Military Intelligence. I worked for the United States Air Force, the NSA, and Joint Special Operations Command in an ISR (Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance) role.

My concerns about this bill are not theoretical. They come from experience with exactly this type of technology and a deep understanding of the unintended consequences that accompany it.

While I am unable to share all the capabilities of surveillance drones, suffice it to say I am absolutely horrified by this bill. Certain ISR abuses have been uncovered, such as [NSA employees using surveillance technologies to spy on significant others and love interests](#). But the vast majority of abuses go undiscovered or unreported.

These abuses came from people who:

1. Swore an oath to uphold the Constitution
2. Had years' long background checks and polygraphs to obtain Top Secret/Secure Compartmented Information Clearances
3. Were under close supervision of a large intelligence apparatus
4. Could be court-martialed for violations

Yet the abuses still happened. With none of these deterrents in place, Nevada County must expect more abuse, not less, should this bill pass.

A vote in favor of this bill is a vote in favor of those abuses. There is no rational basis to expect otherwise. And no member of the Board of Supervisors can reasonably proclaim they expected the drones to be used only by angels in the most angelic fashions without any abuse occurring.

I have read the "guardrails" section of the bill and am not impressed. It is full of weasel words and only pretends to provide safeguards using language clearly intended to trick those

unfamiliar with drone capabilities.

For just one example, “Operation of the UAS only from public rights-of-way and publicly travelled private roads, not flying over private property unless prior approval is obtained...” Notice they say “from public rights-of-way.” Maybe this sounds good, but this is like saying, “Don’t worry, nobody will tap your phone on your property, we will instead tap it from the cell tower or telephone pole.” This is clearly an attempt to give the impression that only public rights-of-way will be monitored. But drones are very capable of surveilling private property “from public rights-of-way.”

For another example, we are told, “A reasonable expectation of privacy will remain.” What is “reasonable” is not further expounded on and is left completely to interpretation.

We are then told, “This pilot program technology will only be used for unpermitted commercial cannabis enforcement.” But we are told nothing of what happens after the program is no longer considered to be in its “pilot” stage.

It is absolutely unreasonable to expect no “mission creep” will occur. They are even using language like “pilot program” in the “guardrails” that specifically encourage mission creep.

I’m against unpermitted grow operations. But I also know that unpermitted cannabis is simply a pretext to implement and normalize this type of surveillance. The drones will already be in the air and paid for, why not use them to enforce pettier and pettier violations in between surveillance of spouses, significant others, and love interests of Nevada County employees?

The people of Nevada County shouldn’t suffer just because military contractors see the wars abroad winding down and want to turn our surveillance weapons inward in order to keep taxpayer money flowing into their companies.

Do not fall for this trap that will abuse your residents. It is morally reprehensible to sign the abuse of Nevada County residents into law. And it is even more reprehensible to expect them to fund their own abuse with tax dollars.

It may be tempting to excuse this program as it is aimed at scoundrels. I’ll leave you with HL Mencken’s observation that, “The trouble with fighting for human freedom is that one spends most of one’s time defending scoundrels. For it is against scoundrels that oppressive laws are first aimed, and oppression must be stopped at the beginning if it is to be stopped at all.”

Thank you for your time. Feel free to reach out to me with any other questions about ISR and the potential for abuse. I will answer them as best as I can without violating my oath to protect classified information.

Respectfully,

Robert Haglund

United States Air Force Veteran, Military Intelligence Professional, Veteran of Afghanistan

**From:** [Marie Maniscalco](#)  
**To:** [bdofsupervisors](#)  
**Subject:** SR 21-0635 No drones over our homes  
**Date:** Monday, August 9, 2021 9:09:20 PM

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Dist 1

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of County of Nevada email system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Board of Supervisors,

Please vote No on SR 21-0635. Flying drones over our homes increases anxiety and greatly decreases the trust our community has in you and our enforcement agencies. I understand the desire for more tools to bust illegal grows, but this a totally inappropriate invasion of privacy.

Please keep drones out of skies.

Gratefully,  
Marie Maniscalco



**From:** [Danielle Lee](#)  
**To:** [bdofsupervisors](#)  
**Subject:** No on SR-21-0635  
**Date:** Monday, August 9, 2021 9:45:41 PM

Dist 1

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of County of Nevada email system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello, my name is Danielle Lee and I live at [REDACTED].

I am writing to express my strong opposition to SR 21-0635.

I have been a resident of Nevada County for just over one year, having relocated from Oakland, CA. A large reason why I moved to Nevada City was to have quiet time in nature. I now live on 24 acres, which allows for this.

I am strongly opposed to SR 21-0635 because it would allow the flight of unmanned drones over the property I reside in Nevada City, and possibly even the trail systems that I access to experience deep nature, quietly and in solitude. The natural world is such an important place for humans to experience, and it benefits us to experience it in a form that is as pristine and natural as possible. We live in a world that is already overwhelming with technology and man-made objects, and we need places we can retreat to heal from the overstimulation, especially individuals, including myself, that suffer debilitating anxiety in non-natural environments.

As Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) technology has become more widely available, there have been many instances when my quiet time alone in nature has been disturbed by a UAS. Further, I fear that my privacy would also be violated by UAS flying over my property. My land is the one place where I can shower outdoors without having to worry about others seeing me and my unclothed body. I would not have this same privacy if SR 21-0635 were allowed.

Please vote no on SR 21-0635 to protect our natural world and the privacy of our county's residents.

Thank you for your consideration.

- Danielle Lee, MPH, RD

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[Danielle L. Lee](#) [REDACTED]

**From:** [Ginny and Jim Knott](#)  
**To:** [bdofsupervisors](#)  
**Subject:** DRONES  
**Date:** Wednesday, August 11, 2021 2:13:07 PM

**Dist 1**

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CAUTION: This email originated from outside of County of Nevada email system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I would like to agree with you about the use of drones to search illegal cannabis grows. I feel since cannabis is legal people who wish to grow and sell it must abide by the rules. The county could use the tax dollars and this crop needs to be supervised due to traffic, odor and population.

I am very concerned about the following parcels:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Thank you,  
Virginia Knott