

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Butte County

California · Oroville · FIPS 06007 · Population 213,605 ·
Crosodo Index #1252*

STATE BASELINE

Cal. Health & Safety Code §113758

STATE TIER

Good

ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)

Tiered (see notes)

CONFIDENCE

MEDIUM

LAST VERIFIED

2026-05-05

IMPORTANT — NOT LEGAL ADVICE

This report compiles publicly-available statutes, regulations, and county zoning rules into a research reference. It is **not legal advice** and is provided **without warranty** as to accuracy, completeness, or current applicability.

Cottage food law changes frequently. Counties may amend zoning, health departments may issue new permits, and state legislatures may update statutes after the publication date shown above.

Always verify rules directly with your state department of health/agriculture and your county health and planning offices before relying on them for any business or regulatory decision. Consult a licensed attorney for advice specific to your situation.

CALIFORNIA: BUTTE COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #1252* · FIPS 06007 · Oroville

Butte County

Population 213,605 · State baseline: Cal. Health & Safety Code §113758 · **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

Yes (California two-tier cottage food system (Cal. Health & Safety Code §113758). Class A (direct sales only): registration with Butte County Environmental Health; no routine inspection. Class B (retail + direct): permit with annual inspection. Food handler certification required within 60 days of opening. Only state-approved non-TCS foods allowed. Sales caps: Class A ~\$86,206/year, Class B ~\$172,411/year (CPI-adjusted). State preemption bars local zoning restrictions (GOV §51035).)

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

No

PETS ALLOWED?

No explicit state-level pet restriction in California cottage food statute. Standard GMP practices apply.

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

Conditional (GOV §51035 preempts local zoning restrictions for cottage food operations. Butte County and municipalities (Chico, Oroville, Gridley) may still require general home occupation business registration. Contact Butte County Planning or relevant city for any additional home occupation permitting beyond the county Environmental Health cottage food registration.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

Yes

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Conditional (Class A: no routine inspection (registration only, annual renewal). Class B: annual inspection by Butte County Environmental Health required. Inspection upon complaint for both classes.)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes — California two-tier cottage food system (Cal. Health & Safety Code §113758). Class A (direct sales only): registration with Butte County Environmental Health; no routine inspection. Class B (retail + direct): permit with annual inspection. Food handler certification required within 60 days of opening. Only state-approved non-TCS foods allowed. Sales caps: Class A ~\$86,206/year, Class B ~\$172,411/year (CPI-adjusted). State preemption bars local zoning restrictions (GOV §51035).
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No
PET RESTRICTIONS	No explicit state-level pet restriction in California cottage food statute. Standard GMP practices apply.
WATER SUPPLY	No specific private water testing requirement for California Class A cottage food operations.
HANDWASHING	Food handler safety certificate required within 60 days of opening; certificate covers handwashing and hygiene training.
FOOD STORAGE	State-approved non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage practices.

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED	Conditional — Class A: no routine inspection (registration only, annual renewal). Class B: annual inspection by Butte County Environmental Health required. Inspection upon complaint for both classes.
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional — GOV §51035 preempts local zoning restrictions for cottage food operations. Butte County and municipalities (Chico, Oroville, Gridley) may still require general home occupation business registration. Contact Butte County Planning or relevant city for any additional home occupation permitting beyond the county Environmental Health cottage food registration.
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Class A: direct sales from home (with appointment), at community events, farmers markets, and online with in-state delivery/shipping. Class B: same plus retail stores and restaurants in California. Event sales may require Temporary Food Facility permit. No out-of-state sales.
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	Only one non-family employee permitted under California cottage food law.

Relevant county code

Cal. Health & Safety Code §113758; Butte County Environmental Health (cottage food registration); GOV §51035 (zoning preemption)

RESEARCH NOTES

California state baseline applies. Butte County (county seat: Oroville) was significantly affected by the 2018 Camp Fire (Paradise). No Butte County-specific cottage food page URL found in input; county health registration required at county EH. CDPH list of local EH contacts shows Butte County EH phone for cottage foods. Note county EPA/EH office may be part of the county’s Community Development Department since the fire recovery reorganization.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

- <https://www.buttecounty.net>

- https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CEH/DFDCS/CDPH%20Document%20Library/FDB/FoodSafetyProgram/Cottage%20Food%20Operations/CFO_Faq.pdf

- https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes_displaySection.xhtml?lawCode=HSC§ionNum=113758

- <https://www.buttecounty.net>

Questions? Join the Crosodo Forum to discuss your county’s specific zoning rules at <https://crosodo.com/nb/california/butte-county-discuss>

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Butte County	Sutter County	Yuba County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	Yes	Yes	Yes
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	No	No	No
PETS ALLOWED	No explicit state-level pet restriction in California cottage food statute. Standard GMP practices apply.	No specific state prohibition for cottage food, but good manufacturing practices recommend keeping pets out of food preparation areas.	Not specified in state law; kitchen inspection for Class B will evaluate conditions.
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Conditional	Yes	Conditional
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	Yes	Yes	Conditional
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	Conditional	Conditional	Conditional
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Class A: direct sales from home (with appointment), at community events, farmers markets, and online with in-state delivery/shipping. Class...	Class A: direct sales only (home, farmers markets, events, online within California, in-state delivery). Class B: also allows retail stores...	Class A: direct sales only to consumers (farmers markets, events, from home, online with in-state shipping). Class B: direct plus indirect ...
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	Conditional	No	Conditional
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	Varies	Varies	Conditional
RESTRICTIONS	California two-tier cottage food system (Cal. Health & Safety Code §113758). Class A (direct sales only); registration with Butte County En...	California two-tier cottage food system: Class A (direct sales only, up to ~\$86,206/year as of 2025) and Class B (direct and indirect sales...	California two-tier system: Class A (direct sales only, up to ~\$86,206 annual cap as of 2025, CPI-adjusted) and Class B (direct and indirec...
FOOD STORAGE	State-approved non-TCS foods only. Standard GMP storage practices.	Only non-potentially hazardous shelf-stable approved foods; must prevent contamination and labeling must be accurate.	Standard food safety storage; all production/storage within home kitchen space.
POPULATION	213,605	99,101	81,705

State context — California cottage food law

Butte County’s rules sit on top of California’s state cottage food framework. The state law sets the floor — counties can add but cannot remove protections.

STATUTE Cal. Health & Safety Code §113758	ANNUAL SALES CAP Tiered (see notes)
REGISTRATION REQUIRED Yes	FOOD HANDLER CERT Yes (specific course)
KITCHEN INSPECTION No	DIRECT SALES ONLY No
INDIRECT SALES Limited (see notes) — Class B permit holders may sell indirectly through retail stores and restaurants statewide; Class A registrants are limited to direct sales only and may not sell through any retail or wholesale venue.	

For the full state-level analysis including the verbatim statute text, see the **California cottage food law report**.

STATE-LEVEL REFERENCES

- State statute: https://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/codes_displaySection.xhtml?lawCode=HSC§ionNum=113758
 - State dept cottage food page: https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CEH/DFDCS/CDPH%20Document%20Library/FDB/FoodSafetyProgram/Cottage%20Food%20Operations/CFO_Faq.pdf
 - Forrager.com: <https://forrager.com/law/california/>
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Questions?

Join the Crosodo Forum to discuss Butte County's specific zoning rules, permits, and what other home bakers are seeing locally.

<https://crosodo.com/nb/california/butte-county-discuss>
