

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Mono County

California · Bridgeport · FIPS 06051 · Population 12,991 ·
Crosodo Index #3128*

STATE BASELINE

Cal. Health & Safety Code §113758; CA tier: Good; CDPH cottage food operations program

STATE TIER	ANNUAL SALES CAP (STATE)	CONFIDENCE	LAST VERIFIED
Good	Tiered (see notes)	MEDIUM	2026-05-06

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: MONO COUNTY

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Mono County

Population 12,991 · State baseline: Cal. Health & Safety Code §113758; CA tier: Good; CDPH cottage food operations program · **MEDIUM**

QUICK VIEW FOR BAKERS IN THIS COUNTY

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED?

True

SEPARATE KITCHEN REQUIRED?

False

PETS ALLOWED?

No specific county rule; CDPH guidance recommends pets excluded from food prep area during production

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT?

True (California state law (GOV §51035) preempts local zoning restrictions on cottage food operations. Mono County Environmental Health processes CFO registrations (Class A) and permits (Class B). High-altitude Eastern Sierra county; Mammoth Lakes is the largest community. Contact Mono County Environmental Health for registration.)

ON-SITE / PORCH PICKUP?

True

INSPECTION REQUIRED?

Class A: complaint-based only; Class B: annual inspection by county Environmental Health (Class A - complaint only; Class B - routine annual inspection)

Home kitchen rules

HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED

True

SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN

False

PET RESTRICTIONS

No specific county rule; CDPH guidance recommends pets excluded from food prep area during production

WATER SUPPLY

Potable water required; private well users must have water tested regularly by state-certified lab; high-altitude arid county

HANDWASHING

Required per Cal. Health & Safety Code §113758 and CDPH cottage food guidance

FOOD STORAGE

Standard food safety storage per CDPH approved foods list; all products must be non-potentially hazardous

Inspection & permitting

INSPECTION REQUIRED

Class A: complaint-based only; Class B: annual inspection by county Environmental Health — Class A - complaint only; Class B - routine annual inspection

HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT

True — California state law (GOV §51035) preempts local zoning restrictions on cottage food operations. Mono County Environmental Health processes CFO registrations (Class A) and permits (Class B). High-altitude Eastern Sierra county; Mammoth Lakes is the largest community. Contact Mono County Environmental Health for registration.

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE

County unincorporated areas generally do not require a county business license; Town of Mammoth Lakes may require town business license for operations within town limits

Customer-facing rules

ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	True
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	No commercial signage per typical CA home occupation rules; state law preempts restrictions on cottage food sales
DELIVERY / PICKUP RULES	Direct sales and delivery within California only; no interstate sales per state law
MAX EMPLOYEES IN HOME	One non-family employee maximum per Cal. Health & Safety Code §113758

Relevant county code

Cal. Health & Safety Code §113758 (state CFO law); GOV §51035 (zoning preemption); Mono County Land Use Element

RESEARCH NOTES

No Mono County-specific cottage food restrictions found beyond state baseline. High-altitude Eastern Sierra county; major ski resort area (Mammoth Mountain). CFO registration/permit obtained through Mono County Environmental Health. State law preempts local zoning restrictions on CFOs. Class A annual gross sales cap ~\$86,206 (2025, CPI-adjusted); Class B ~\$172,411. Town of Mammoth Lakes has its own planning department.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://monocounty.ca.gov/environmental-health>

<https://monocounty.ca.gov/planning>

<https://monocounty.ca.gov>

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

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

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

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Mono County	Alpine County	Inyo County
HOME KITCHEN ALLOWED	True	True	True
SEPARATE DEDICATED KITCHEN	False	False	False
PETS ALLOWED	No specific county rule; CDPH guidance recommends pets excluded from food prep area during production	No specific county rule; CDPH guidance recommends pets excluded from food prep area during production	No specific county rule; CDPH guidance recommends pets excluded from food prep area during production
INSPECTION REQUIRED	Class A: complaint-based only; Class B: annual inspection by county Environmental Health	Class A: complaint-based only; Class B: annual inspection by county Environmental Health	Class A: complaint-based only; Class B: annual inspection by county Environmental Health
ON-SITE CUSTOMER PICKUP	True	True	True
ON-SITE SIGNAGE	No commercial signage per typical CA home occupation rules; state law preempts restrictions on cottage food sales	No commercial signage per typical CA home occupation rules; state law preempts restrictions on cottage food sales	No commercial signage per typical CA home occupation rules; state law preempts restrictions on cottage food sales
DELIVERY / PICKUP	Direct sales and delivery within California only; no interstate sales per state law	Direct sales and delivery within California only; no interstate sales per state law	Direct sales and delivery within California only; no interstate sales per state law
HOME OCCUPATION PERMIT	True	True	True
LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE	County unincorporated areas generally do not require a county business license; Town of Mammoth Lakes may require town business license for...	Unlikely; Alpine County has no incorporated cities and minimal business licensing infrastructure; confirm with county	County unincorporated areas generally do not require a county business license; confirm with Inyo County
RESTRICTIONS	—	—	—
FOOD STORAGE	Standard food safety storage per CDPH approved foods list; all products must be non-potentially hazardous	Standard food safety storage per CDPH approved foods list; all products must be non-potentially hazardous	Standard food safety storage per CDPH approved foods list; all products must be non-potentially hazardous
POPULATION	13,219	1,515	18,829

State context — California cottage food law

Mono 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/>

Questions?

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

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