

COTTAGE FOOD LAW REPORT

Plumas County

California · Quincy · FIPS 06063 · Population 18,834 ·
Crosodo Index #3126*

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: PLUMAS COUNTY

CROSODO INDEX #3126* · FIPS 06063 · Quincy

Plumas County

Population 18,834 · 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. Plumas County Environmental Health processes CFO registrations (Class A) and permits (Class B). Rural northern Sierra Nevada county. Contact Plumas 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

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. Plumas County Environmental Health processes CFO registrations (Class A) and permits (Class B). Rural northern Sierra Nevada county. Contact Plumas County Environmental Health for registration.

LOCAL BUSINESS LICENSE

County unincorporated areas generally do not require a county business license; confirm with Plumas County

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); Plumas County Zoning Ordinance

RESEARCH NOTES

No Plumas County-specific cottage food restrictions found beyond state baseline. Rural northern Sierra Nevada county; significant Plumas National Forest land. CFO registration/permit obtained through Plumas 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.

SOURCES VERIFIED AT RESEARCH TIME

<https://www.plumascounty.us/environmental-health>

<https://www.plumascounty.us/planning>

<https://www.plumascounty.us>

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/plumas-county-discuss>

Bordering counties — cottage food law

Regulation	Plumas County	Lassen County	Sierra 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; confirm with Plumas County	County unincorporated areas generally do not require a county business license; City of Susanville may require city business license	County has no incorporated cities; unincorporated county areas generally do not require a county business license; confirm with Sierra Coun...
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	19,650	31,873	2,916

State context — California cottage food law

Plumas 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.

<p>STATUTE Cal. Health & Safety Code §113758</p> <p>REGISTRATION REQUIRED Yes</p> <p>KITCHEN INSPECTION No</p> <p>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.</p>	<p>ANNUAL SALES CAP Tiered (see notes)</p> <p>FOOD HANDLER CERT Yes (specific course)</p> <p>DIRECT SALES ONLY No</p>
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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.legislature.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 Plumas County's specific zoning rules, permits, and what other home bakers are seeing locally.

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