

Murphy Ranch
Scott and Don Murphy



Coordinating Entity
Scott River Water Trust
Chris Voight

Introduction:

I am performing this task of creating a reduced irrigation plan for the 2024 irrigation season under protest. I still believe it is unwarranted due to the above average snow pack and precipitation we have received during this last winter and spring; not to mention, the taking of a pre 1900 water right which is adjudicated within the Scott River Decree. This is definitely a political drought designation.

I forbid the State Water Control Board to steal my joy of growing my crops in a combined effort of Scott Valley farmers and ranchers to FEED PEOPLE and MAKE A LIVING!

This plan covers the 62.3 acres of the Murphy Ranch that is irrigated with groundwater. The overlying groundwater is extracted by one electric pump, which is a variable speed. Methods of irrigation include 1 pivot and 5 wheel lines.

Field 1

23 acres of alfalfa, irrigated by wheel line, in full through July 20th.

On July 20th, I will be dropping three (3) sections from the north end of the NS Line and remove one (1) set, closest to river for a reduction of 18.3% or 7.76 acres.

On August 20th, depending on the forecast, we will either discontinue the use of the entire North/South wheel line for a reduction of 17.3 acres (**Table 1 – Option 1**) or discontinue the East/West wheel line for a reduction of 17.1 acres (**Table 2 – Option 2**). Both of these options will yield a total reduction in irrigated acres of 50% on August 20th.

On September 5th there will be a complete shutoff of this field; this includes the remaining portion of the wheel line that runs East/West along Horn Ln.

Field 2

13 acres of orchard grass, irrigated by wheel line, in full irrigation throughout the season.

On September 5th the wheel line will be turned off.

Field 3

19.9 acres of alfalfa, irrigated by pivot with LEPA system.

BMP LCS w/o end gun throughout the season.

I will irrigate this field as allowed by regulation.

Field 4

4 acres of alfalfa, irrigated by wheel line, in full through July 20th.

On July 20th, I will remove 1 set of irrigation for a reduction of .06%.

On August 20th, I will continue irrigating based on the July 20th modification of .06%.

On September 5th, this wheel line will be completely shut off.

Field 5

This field is 1.1 acres of alfalfa, irrigated by wheel line, in full through September 5th.

On September 5th, this wheel line will be completely shut off.

Field 6

This field is 1.3 acres under UCD Test for Drought Tolerance.

On April 1st, this wheel line will be completely shut off, for a reduction of .03%.

Flow Meters

At this time, flow meters will cost in the neighborhood of \$10000, of which I cannot afford. I may seek outside funding to purchase and install.

Moisture Sensors

I cannot afford moisture sensors at this time, but if funding should become available, I'm willing to purchase and install.

Well Location

Well is identified by a Red Circle on the **Ranch Map**.

TABLE 1 – Option 1

Field	Acres	Application	% of Total	LCS	July 20	Aug 20	Sep 5
1	23	WL	36.92%	GR	5.71	17.3	23
2	13	WL	20.87%	GR		13	13
3	19.9	P	31.94%	BMP			
4	4	WL	6.42%	GR	2.64	2.64	2.64
5	1.1	WL	1.77%	GR			1.1
6	1.3	WL	2.09%	Fallow	1.3	1.3	1.3
Total Acres					8.16	21.6	42.4
% of Acres					23%	50%	100%

Table 2 – Option 2

Field	Acres	Application	% of Total	LCS	July 20	Aug 20	Sep 5
1	23	WL	36.92%	GR	5.71	17.1	23
2	13	WL	20.87%	GR		13	13
3	19.9	P	31.94%	BMP			
4	4	WL	6.42%	GR	2.64	2.64	2.64
5	1.1	WL	1.77%	GR			1.1
6	1.3	WL	2.09%	Fallow	1.3	1.3	1.3
Total Acres					8.16	21.6	42.4
% of Acres					23%	50%	100%