



Application Form for 2024 Local Cooperative Solution for Overlying or Adjudicated Groundwater Rights in Scott River and Shasta River Watersheds

Please complete this form if you plan to implement a groundwater local cooperative solution (LCS) for the 2024 irrigation season under the Scott River and Shasta River watersheds emergency regulation. A separate application should be submitted for each type of groundwater LCS proposal. **The form and attachments are due by April 15, 2024.**

How to Submit: To submit your application and associated required materials (see Section 2) you can:

- Use the online form
- Email: DWR-ScottShastaDrought@waterboards.ca.gov
- Mail:
 - State Water Resources Control Board
 - Division of Water Rights - Instream Flows Unit 1
 - 1001 I Street - 14th Floor
 - Sacramento, CA 95814

Section 1: Applicant Information

Name	Paul Sweezey
Name of Farm, Ranch, or Business	Paul Sweezey Farm

By typing or signing your name below and submitting this form to the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) you hereby certify that the submitted information is true and correct to the best of your knowledge.

Name: *Paul Sweezey* Date: 4-15-2024

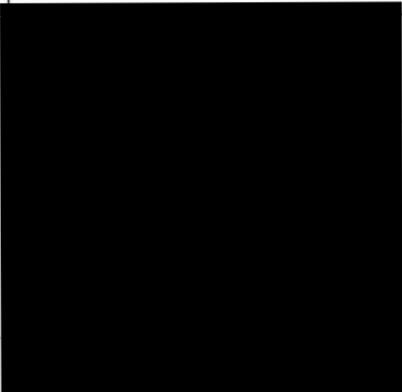
Section 4: Coordinating Entity

Select only one (1) box below. Please note that a Coordinating Entity is not required. If a Coordinating Entity is not selected, parties will work directly with the State Water Board to provide metering data and ensure performance of the groundwater local cooperative solution. For more information on Coordinating Entity provisions, refer to Section 875(f)(1)(G) in the emergency regulation.

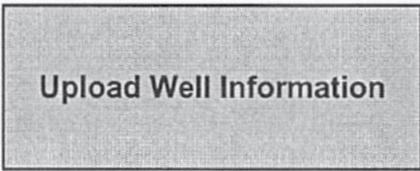
- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> California Department of Fish & Wildlife
Contact: Crystal Robinson
(530) 340-0767
crystal.robinson@wildlife.ca.gov | <input type="checkbox"/> Shasta Valley Resource Conservation District
Contact: Rod Dowse
(530) 598-1253
rdowse@svrccd.org |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Siskiyou Resource Conservation District
Contact: Evan Senf
(530) 643-1585
evan@siskiyourcd.com | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scott River Water Trust
Contact: Chris Voigt
(916) 396-0131
chrisb.voigt@gmail.com |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> I select not to work with a coordinating entity. |

Section 5: Groundwater Well Information

Complete the table below or upload an attachment for groundwater wells that are part of the proposed groundwater LCS.

Well Name	Well Coordinates ¹
125 main ranch	
100 main ranch	
75 main ranch	
75 Horn Lane	

For assistance in finding well coordinates, you can use Google Maps (www.google.com/maps).



Section 6: Metering Information

Please describe the metering for all groundwater wells covered by this groundwater LCS. Fill in the box below, upload an attachment, or email a document or spreadsheet with this information.

- a. Describe how you will record daily extractions and report monthly pumping volumes.

Include a description of all water uses associated with each groundwater well that is part of this groundwater LCS.

For example, "the ranch manager will log meter readings at Well 1 and Well 2 and take a picture of the meters each week. They will note what the water is being used for - Well 1 will irrigate 50 acres of grain on fields A and B, 100 acres of pasture on fields E, G, and Z, and Well 2 will irrigate 75 acres of alfalfa on field Y. The manager will send the logs and photos to the Water Board around the first of each month."

N/A

- b. For groundwater wells that are NOT currently metered, please describe the time schedule and plan to install meters and efforts to obtain a meter before the initiation of groundwater diversions covered by this groundwater LCS. If you want to file for a waiver to the metering requirement please use the box below and include information on why metering of your well(s) should be waived. Be sure to include total irrigated acres, distance of the well(s) from surface water, description of why metering is infeasible, if applicable, and any additional information that supports your waiver request.

I have applied for funding for meters and the installation of meters through the NRCS. Documentation is attached to this application. I don't know yet when funding will be awarded for the meters or when installation may occur. I asked if I could purchase the meters and get them installed and get reimbursed for the cost but NRCS won't do that. I was instructed to wait until the funding is awarded.

Upload Attachment

Select the type of groundwater LCS you are applying for and complete the corresponding sections of the application.

- Best Management Practices Groundwater LCS - Complete sections 7 and 10
- Graduated Groundwater Cessation Schedule LCS - Complete sections 8 and 10
- Percent Reduction Groundwater LCS - Complete sections 9 and 10

Section 7: Best Management Practices Groundwater LCS

1. Provide the total amount of all irrigated acreage (with units) covered under your proposal for a Best Management Practices Groundwater LCS:
2. Upload an attachment, write in the box, and/or email a description of the irrigation system that will be used under this proposal, specifying details of your low-energy precision application system, soil moisture sensors, and any corners that will be irrigated. (Refer to Section 875(f)(4)(D)(vii) of the emergency regulation.)

Fields 1-03 and 1-05 on map 1A both use Zimmatic pivots and both have Nelson brand LEPA sprinkler systems that were retrofitted in 2023/24. the pivot in fld 1-03 is 2018 feet in lenth and the pivot in fld 1-05 is 1120 feet in lenth, both have end guns. I don't have an accurate figure for the number of gallons used as neither pivot has a meter on it yet. I have applied for funding to install moisture sensors and that is in the process. Documentation from NRCS is attached.

3. Provide a map(s) of each field with labels for well(s), type of best management practice, and field crop type. Upload as an attachment or email.

Upload Map(s)

4. Certify the following by initialing or checking each box:

- a. I certify the use of a low-energy precision application (LEPA) system on all irrigated acreage covered under this groundwater LCS.
- b. I certify to not use end guns for irrigation for the duration of the season.
- c. I certify to cease irrigation of corners after June 15, 2024.
- d. I certify to use soil moisture sensors to inform irrigation timing, and maintenance of such records, which I will make available for inspection by the Coordinating Entity, if applicable, and/or the State Water Board.
- e. I certify that I will further limit irrigation based on water year, in the event of the hydrologic condition noted in i or ii below. If this requirement is triggered, the State Water Board will inform all Best Management Practices Groundwater LCS applicants for the applicable watershed(s). Please note, a yes certification is required for a Groundwater Best Management Practices LCS to be accepted.
 - i. Scott River Watershed: Snow pack of 80% or less of the Department of Water Resources California Data Exchange Center's first May snow water equivalent station average (or the average of the first April measurement if May snow pack measurements are not gathered) in Scott River watershed.
 - ii. Shasta River watershed: A water year determination of dry or very dry in the Shasta River watershed, as determined under Table 2 of the March 2021 Montague Water Conservation District water operation plan.



Scott River Water Trust

P.O. Box 591 ~ Etna, CA 96027
530-643-2395 scottwatertrust@gmail.com

Month, Day, Year
04/15/2024

Binding Agreement

Contractor Contact Information:

<i>Business:</i>	Scott River Water Trust
<i>Contact Person:</i>	Chris Voigt
<i>Address:</i>	9933 South State Highway 3, Callahan CA
<i>Phone:</i>	(916) 396-0131
<i>Email:</i>	chrisb.voigt@gmail.com

Landowner Contact Information:

<i>Business:</i>	Paul Sweezey Farm
<i>Contact Person:</i>	Paul Sweezey

Background

On December 19, 2023, the State Water Board adopted a new emergency regulation for the Scott and Shasta River Watersheds. The Office of Administrative Law approved the emergency regulation on February 1, 2024 and is in effect for one year, unless re-adopted or rescinded. Under the 2021 drought emergency regulation instated by the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) that established drought emergency minimum flows in the Scott River, a Local Cooperative Solution (LCS) may be proposed by individuals or groups to submit by petition to the Deputy Director of the SWRCB as an alternative means of reducing water use to meet or preserve drought emergency minimum flows and provide fishery benefits, in lieu of curtailment. This binding agreement between the (Landowner) Scott River Water Trust (SRWT) will monitor the SRWCB approved LCS to achieve 1) a net reduction of water use of 30 percent throughout the irrigation season; and 2) a monthly reduction of at least 30 percent in the July through October 31 period, as compared to 2020, 2021, 2022 or 2023.

Recitals

1. *Local cooperative solutions by individuals or groups may be proposed by petition to the Deputy Director as an alternative means of reducing water use to meet or preserve drought emergency minimum flows, or to provide other fishery benefits (such as cold-water refugia, localized fish passage, or redd protection), in lieu of curtailment as described in this section.*

(A) Petitions to implement local cooperative solutions that coordinate diversions, share water, strategically manage groundwater and/or surface water for fisheries benefits, reduce annual water use, or engage in similar activities may be submitted to the Deputy Director at any time, except as noted in subsection (f)(4)(D)(ii).

(G) A coordinating entity for the purposes of this section shall refer to an entity which possesses the expertise and ability to evaluate and require performance of the commitments made in a local cooperative solution, and which commits that:

(i) Evaluation of local cooperative solution proposals and inspections shall be conducted by representatives who lack a financial or close personal interest in the outcome, and

(ii) Information collected on compliance with local cooperative solutions is provided to the State Water Board monthly and upon request. The entity shall undertake data collection (including metering data) and inspections, either by itself or in coordination with State Water Board staff, sufficient to ensure implementation of local cooperative solutions, including inspection or data collection targeted within two weeks of completion of commitments to cease pumping as of a date certain.

2. *For overlying or adjudicated groundwater diversions for irrigated agriculture described under in section 875.5, subdivision (a)(1)(A)(ix) [Scott River] or section 875.5, subdivision (b)(1)(C) [Shasta River] the Deputy Director may approve a groundwater basin-wide, groundwater-sub-basin-wide, or any number of individual local cooperative solutions where:*

(i) The proposal may be based on a binding agreement made with a coordinating entity with primary responsibility to verify implementation of the local cooperative solution.

(ii) For individual proposals, the proposal must be submitted no later than April 15 and must be implemented during the entirety of the irrigation season (including during pendency of approval), unless the proponent withdraws.

(iii) The proposal includes a description of metering in place for groundwater well extractions, and a proposal to meter and record such extractions daily and report monthly to the Deputy Director or the coordinating entity, as applicable, except as described below. The State Water Board has funding and technical support available to

support some amount of metering, and those interested in such assistance are encouraged to promptly contact the State Water Board.

3. For percent-based reduction in pumping local cooperative solutions:

a. For the Scott River: The proposal provides at least:

- (i) A net reduction of water use of 30 percent throughout the irrigation season (April 1 – October 31); and**
- (ii) A monthly reduction of 30 percent in the July through October time period.**

b. The relevant water use reduction shall generally be based on a comparison to the 2020, 2021, 2022, or 2023 irrigation season, and may be demonstrated by evidence that provides a reasonable assurance that the change in farming practice or other action results in at least the relevant proportionate reduction in water use. Such evidence may include but is not limited to: pumping reports; actions that will be taken to reduce water use; estimation of water saved from conservation measures or changes in irrigation or planting decisions; and electric bills. However, if evidence for the amount of water applied for the 2020, 2021, 2022, or 2023 irrigation seasons indicates a base rate of applied water that is higher than 33 inches per year for alfalfa, 14 inches per year for grain, or 30 inches per year for pasture, then the base rate of applied water shall be the aforementioned values unless the proponent makes an additional showing that a higher base rate number is an appropriate comparison in light of relevant information that can include but is not limited to multi-year practices, soil type, and irrigation methods.

Proposed Local Cooperative Solution: (Specific action plan to be completed by landowner, see attached LCS application form and/or specific landowner curtailment plan)

Binding Agreement Terms

The Landowner is required to adhere to the LCS, as approved by SWRCB. The Landowner has requested that SRWT serve as the coordinating entity. As such, both parties agree to the following:

- For the duration of this binding agreement where SRWT is the coordinating entity, the Landowner shall give SRWT the right to reasonably access the included parcels for the limited purpose of verifying execution of the LCS. Any individual not directly employed or contracted by SRWT shall provide pre-notification to, and shall obtain approval by the Landowner before accessing the property,
- SRWT will strive to notify the Landowner a day in advance of visiting the parcels and shall provide the Landowner or designee the ability to participate in monitoring activities,
- It is anticipated that SRWT representatives will visit the property approximately twice per month to monitor the approved LCS, unless inadequacies are discovered, in which case additional field visits will occur until inadequacies are rectified. A monitoring inspection may include verification of any or all of the actions described in the conservation plan and may include inspection checklist/notes/reports and photo verification,
- SRWT will submit the information regarding the verification materials and actions described in this agreement, and conservation plan incorporated by reference, to the State Water Board upon request, for the purposes of verifying compliance with the LCS,
- This binding agreement is not intended to preclude, harm, or otherwise interfere with the landowner's ability to secure any funding to mitigate the financial impacts imposed by the emergency regulation or proposed conservation practices. SRWT supports the use of funding programs to ameliorate the costs of implementing the conservation practices described in the proposed conservation plan: planning and cooperation under a voluntary LCS should not undermine the ability to receive such funding,
- This binding agreement may be terminated by either party at any time. Both parties agree to take reasonable measures to resolve any concerns related to the performance of the LCS, negative interpersonal interaction, or any unforeseen circumstance prior to invoking termination,
- As the irrigation season unfolds, there may be reason to change the terms of the LCS or this binding agreement with respect to its implementation and verification. Any such changes to the LCS or service agreement will need to be agreed upon by the Landowner and SRWCB. If a Landowner requests SRWT assistance with an updated LCS, the SRWT and Landowner will enter into a new Binding Agreement and,

Payment

In consideration for the services to be performed by SRWT, the Landowner agrees to pay SRWT at the rate of \$75.00 per hour for initial consultation and \$75.00 per hour for all services rendered after signing of the binding agreement.

Expenses

The Landowner will reimburse SRWT for expenses that are attributable directly to work performed under this Agreement. Any expenses incurred will be approved by the Landowner beforehand. SRWT will submit an itemized statement of Contractor's expenses attached with invoicing.

Terms of Payment

Upon completion of SRWT services under this binding agreement, SRWT will submit an invoice. The Landowner will pay SRWT the compensation described within 30 days of receiving SRWT's invoice.

Term of Agreement

This agreement will become effective when signed by both parties and will terminate on:

- November 1, 2024, or
- The date a party terminates the binding agreement.
- Monitoring information will be collected by the SRWT and shared with State Water Board as a field report in accordance with their reporting schedule or upon request
- SRWT is not authorized to and will not distribute data or other information regarding work done under this contract to any third party without previous written approval by the Landowner
- Landowner agrees that water saved under the LCS will not be transferred to parcels not included under the LCS, and Landowner will not knowingly or intentionally otherwise take actions outside of the LCS that diminish, in any material way, the overall thirty percent reduction establish by the actions described ion the LCS

Signatures

Christopher Voigt
SRWT Representative

Paul Sweezy
Paul Sweezy (Apr 15/2024 10:56 PDT)
Landowner

Signature: Paul Sweezy
Paul Sweezy (Apr 15/2024 10:56 PDT)
Email: rdspaul@sisqtel.net