



Application Form for 2025 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 2025 irrigation season under the Scott River and Shasta River watersheds emergency regulation. Applications must be submitted for at least a full irrigation season. A separate application should be submitted for each type of groundwater LCS proposal. **The form and attachments are due by April 15, 2025.**

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
1001 I Street - 14th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

Section 1: Applicant Information

Name	Warren Farnam	
Name of Farm, Ranch, or Business	Patterson Creek Ranch	
Phone Number		
Email Address		

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: *Warren Farnam*

Date: 4 / 14 / 25

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"/> Other, I am proposing an Entity not in the provided options. Please provide the name of the Entity, contact information, and description of qualifications in the box below. | <input type="checkbox"/> I select not to work with a coordinating entity. |

Section 5: Groundwater Well Information

Complete the table below or include an attachment for information on the groundwater wells, fields irrigated by the well and the APN, and associated meters that are covered under the proposed groundwater LCS.

- Well ID: Name of the well covered by the proposal LCS
- Well Coordinates: Latitude and Longitude of the well location
- Field APNs: List the APNs for the fields irrigated by the well. Please include APN of fields followed as part of the LCS plan.
- Meter ID: List the meters recording extraction or application from this well.

Well ID	Well Coordinates	Field APNs	Meter ID
Example: Well #1			Meter 1 Meter 3
Well 40 hp			Meter 1
Well 15 hp			Meter 2

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

Section 6: Metering Information

Please describe the metering plan for all the fields that will be irrigated under the LCS. Remember that meters can be installed at the well head or at the place of use (e.g., pivots). All meters should be installed to manufacturers' specifications and recommendations and measurements should be in the expected accuracy range. Fill in the box below, upload an attachment, or email a document or spreadsheet with the information requested in this section.

- a. Describe how you will record weekly extractions or applications and report monthly volumes. Include a description of all water uses associated with each groundwater well that is part of this groundwater LCS. For each meter include the Well ID the meter is recording, the amount of irrigated acres covered and the crop type. Each meter should have an identifier (e.g., Meter #1) included in the description and in the monthly reports.

For example, "the ranch manager will log meter readings at Well #1 using Meter #1; and for Well #2, the ranch manager will log meter readings at pivots 1 & 2 using Meters #2 and #3." Also note what the water is being used for – "Well #1 irrigates 50 acres of grain on fields A and B, 100 acres of pasture on fields E, G, and Z. Meter #2 will irrigate 75 acres of alfalfa on field Y and Meter #3 will irrigate 25 acres Alfalfa on Field W. The manager will send the logs and photos to the Water Board by no later than the 5th of the month for the preceding month."

Meter reading will be monthly and recorded. Meter records will be relayed to coordinating entity. Since metering will be happening at wells and the crop is grass, total acreage will be used to average feet per acre.

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

Select the type of groundwater LCS you are applying for and complete the corresponding sections of the application. A separate application should be submitted for each type of groundwater LCS request.

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

Please indicate the proposed time period for the LCS you are applying for (e.g., one irrigation season or multiple seasons). If multiple seasons, please provide the time period.

2025 irrigation season

Section 9: Percent Reduction Groundwater LCS

The applicable percent reduction in groundwater pumping noted below must be demonstrated for the Percent Reduction Groundwater LCS consistent with section 875(f)(4)(D)(v) of the emergency regulation, and summarized below.

- **Scott River Watershed:** A net groundwater pumping reduction of at least 30% throughout the irrigation season (April 1 – October 31) and a monthly reduction of at least 30% between July 1 through October 31.
- **Shasta River Watershed:** A net groundwater pumping reduction of at least 15% throughout the irrigation season (March 1 – November 1) and a monthly reduction of at least 15% between June 1 through September 30.
- The relevant water use reduction shall be based on a comparison to a baseline irrigation season (i.e., 2020, 2021, 2022, or 2023).
 - BUT, if the previous year baseline is higher than the following applied water rates:
 - 33 inches per year for alfalfa,
 - 14 inches per year for grain, or
 - 30 inches per year for pasture
 - Then the above values shall be used as the baseline UNLESS the applicant provides sufficient additional information supporting an alternative baseline.
- Please provide the total amount of irrigated acreage (with units) under your proposal for a Percent Reduction Groundwater LCS. 95.7
- If you are proposing a Percent Reduction Groundwater LCS, please include the following files to the State Water Board and your Coordinating Entity.
 - a. A description of practices that reduces groundwater pumping and how the State Water Board (or Coordinating Entity, if applicable) can verify those actions.

Crop changes and the elimination of double cropping, See attached for additional information.

- b. A spreadsheet with monthly pumping volumes for the selected baseline year and current year. Use one row per irrigation method per field.
- c. Map(s) with each field labeled, well locations, and meter locations.



FRS
Farnam Resource Solutions

Farnam Ranch

2020 vs 2025 GW Reduction Plan

				2020							
Field	GPS Location	Soil Type	Irrigation type	Field Ac	Crop	in/ac	2nd Crop (change July-Sept)	in/ac	Total Inches	Total AF/ac	Total GW AF/field
F1		Diyou loam, drained	Pivot Low Pressure	44	Triticale	14	Corn	48	62	5.2	227.3
F2		Atter Stoner gravelly sandy loam	Wheel-line-Low Pressure	9.5	Alfalfa	33	no season change	0	33	2.8	26.1
F3		Atter Stoner gravelly sandy loam	Pivot-Low Pressure	19	Orch. grass	30	no season change	0	30	2.5	47.5
F4		Atter Stoner gravelly sandy loam	Wheel-line-Low Pressure	3.9	Orch. grass	30	no season change	0	30	2.5	9.8
F5		Atter Stoner gravelly sandy loam	Wheel-line-Low Pressure	8	Wheat	14	Sanfoin	16	30	2.5	20.0
F6		Atter Stoner gravelly sandy loam	Wheel-line-LP/Handline	11.3	Triticale	14	Grass mix	16	30	2.5	28.3
TOTALS				95.7							359.0

				2025							
Field	GPS Location	Soil Type	Irrigation type	Field Ac	Crop	in/ac	2nd Crop (change July-Sept)	in/ac	Total Inches	Total AF/ac	Total GW AF/field
F1		Diyou loam, drained	Pivot-Low Pressure	44	Grass mix	30	no season change	0	30	2.5	110.0
F2		Atter Stoner gravelly sandy loam	Pivot-Low Pressure	9.5	Alf/grass	33	no season change	0	33	2.8	26.1
F3		Atter Stoner gravelly sandy loam	Pivot-Low Pressure	19	Orch. grass	30	no season change	0	30	2.5	47.5
F4		Atter Stoner gravelly sandy loam	Wheel-line-Low Pressure	3.9	Orch. grass	30	no season change	0	30	2.5	9.8
F5		Atter Stoner gravelly sandy loam	Wheel-line-Low Pressure	8	Sanfoin/Grass	30	no season change	0	30	2.5	20.0
F6		Atter Stoner gravelly sandy loam	Wheel-line-LP/Handline	11.3	Grass mix	30	no season change	0	30	2.5	28.3
TOTALS				95.7							241.6

v1.0

Reduction 2020 vs 2025

Total AF estimated reduction by incorporating 2025 crop changes 32.7%



Scott River Water Trust

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

Month, Day, Year
5/9/25

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>	Patterson Creek Ranch
<i>Contact Person:</i>	Warren Farnam
<i>Address:</i>	[REDACTED]
<i>Phone:</i>	[REDACTED]
<i>Email:</i>	[REDACTED]

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 January 27, 2025 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,
- In the (unexpected) event that staffing levels at SRWT are insufficient, SRWT may coordinate with the Landowner and State Water Board staff to allow State Water Board staff to conduct some of the inspections,
- 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 requests SRWT assistance with an updated LCS, the SRWT and Landowner will enter into a new Binding Agreement and,

Payment

\$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, 2025, 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 established by the actions described in the LCS

Signatures

Christopher Voigt

SRWT Representative

Warren Farnam

Warren Farnam (May 9, 2025 10:50 PDT)

Landowner

Signature: *Warren Farnam*

Warren Farnam (May 9, 2025 10:50 PDT)

Email: 

From: Ayub.Riyana@Waterboards
To: [Warren Farnam](#)
Subject: RE: Action Required - Additional information needed for 2025 LCS application
Date: Monday, May 12, 2025 12:00:00 PM

Hi Warren ,

I confirm the receipt of your signed binding agreement for 2025 LCS application.

Have a good rest of your day,

Riyana

From: Warren Farnam [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, May 12, 2025 5:48 AM
To: Ayub, Riyana@Waterboards <Riyana.Ayub@Waterboards.ca.gov>
Subject: Re: Action Required - Additional information needed for 2025 LCS application

Riyana, here is a copy of the binding agreement. -Warren

On Tue, Apr 29, 2025 at 1:48 PM Ayub, Riyana@Waterboards
<Riyana.Ayub@waterboards.ca.gov> wrote:

Good Afternoon Warren,

Thank you for your response and confirmation on the meter installation. Looking forward to receiving a signed pdf copy of the binding agreement.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you,

Riyana

From: Warren Farnam [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, April 29, 2025 1:36 PM
To: Ayub, Riyana@Waterboards <Riyana.Ayub@Waterboards.ca.gov>
Subject: Re: Action Required - Additional information needed for 2025 LCS application

Caution: External Email. Use caution when clicking links or opening attachments. When in doubt, contact DIT or use the Phish Alert Button.

Will get the signed agreement coming.

Yes, meters are installed. AG90 mag

-Warren

On Fri, Apr 25, 2025, 2:02 PM Ayub, Riyana@Waterboards

<Riyana.Ayub@waterboards.ca.gov> wrote:

Hi Warren,

Waterboard staff have received and started reviewing your proposed 2025 groundwater local cooperative solution. To continue processing your application for approval, we require the following information.

Please provide the following items at your earliest convenience:

1. Submit your signed 2025 coordinating entity binding agreement with the Scott River Water Trust.
2. You committed to installing a meter for the 2024 irrigation season. Can you confirm if the meter is installed and operational for 2025?

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you,

Riyana Ayub
Water Resources Control Engineer
Instream Flows Unit
Division of Water Rights
SWRCB