

State Water Resources Control Board

August 27, 2026

GLS TRACKING

Conrads Family Investments Inc.
Attn: Peter Garaventa

GLS TRACKING NO: [REDACTED]

Peter Garaventa:

NOTICE OF VIOLATION - FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH CURTAILMENT ORDERS (WR ID: S024629, SG007249)

Emergency Regulation Background and Prior Curtailments

The State Water Resources Control Board adopted an emergency regulation establishing emergency minimum flows in the Scott River and Shasta River watersheds on December 19, 2023 (Scott River and Shasta River Emergency Regulation) (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 23, §§ 875-875.9.). The regulation went into effect on February 1, 2024.

On July 23, 2024, the Deputy Director for the State Water Board Division of Water Rights (Division) issued the *Order Imposing Surface Water Right Curtailment and Requiring Reporting for Water Rights in the Scott River Watershed* (Order WR 2024-0024-DWR). The notice associated with Water Right ID (WRID) S024629 was sent to Richard Dews, the former claimant, as you had not yet changed ownership of the claim. This notice is enclosed and the web version is linked below.

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drought/scott_shasta_rivers/docs/2024/order-wr-2024-0024-dwr.pdf

On July 24, 2024, the Deputy Director for the Division issued the *Order Imposing Water Right Curtailment and Requiring Reporting for Water Rights in the Scott River Watershed* (Order WR 2024-0025-DWR). United States Postal Service (USPS) records indicate that the Order was attempted to be delivered on July 26, 2024. No authorized agent accepted delivery, and it was returned to sender on August 10, 2024.

On August 9, 2024, the Deputy Director for the State Water Board Division of Water Rights (Division) issued the *Addendum to Order WR-2024-0025-DWR: Updating Attachment A of the Order* (Addendum). United States Postal Service (USPS) records indicate that the Addendum was attempted to be delivered on August 12, 2024, and August 17, 2024. No authorized agent accepted delivery.

On August 20, 2024, the Division sent you a *Notice of Violation – Failure to Comply with Curtailment Orders (WR ID: SG007249)* along with copies of Order WR-2024-0025-DWR and the Addendum. GLS successfully delivered this package on August 21, 2024.

On January 7, 2025, the State Water Board readopted the Scott River and Shasta River Emergency Regulation. The Office of Administrative Law approved the emergency regulation on January 27, 2025.

Effective January 1, 2026, Assembly Bill (AB) 263 extended the adopted Scott River and Shasta River Emergency Regulation until January 1, 2031, or until permanent rules establishing and implementing long-term instream flow requirements are adopted for those watersheds, whichever occurs first. (Wat. Code, § 1058.5, subd. (c)(2).)

Current 2026 Irrigation Season Curtailment

Pursuant to section 875, subdivision (c) of the Scott River and Shasta River Emergency Regulation, the minimum instream flow for the Scott River for the month of May is 150 cubic feet per second (cfs) and from June 1 to June 23 is 125 cfs. On May 21, 2026, due to flows dropping below 150 cfs, the State Water Board issued Addendum 9 to the Curtailment Order, requiring all surface water users to cease diversions. On May 25, 2026, curtailments were lifted for surface water users with the most senior rights (Addendum 10). On Wednesday, May 27, 2026, in response to precipitation in the region and increasing flows in the Scott River, the State Water Board issued Addendum 11 to the Curtailment Order (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drought/scott_shasta_rivers/docs/scott-addendum11-attachmenta.pdf).

Addendum 11 suspended curtailment subject to conditions specific to the diverter's water right priority group. On Wednesday, June 3, 2026, flows fell below the minimum instream flow requirement and therefore, the State Water Board sent a reminder via GovDelivery that all surface water was curtailed consistent with Addendum 11. On June 9, 2026, the State Water Board issued Addendum 12 to the Curtailment Order requiring immediate cessation of all surface water diversions (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drought/scott_shasta_rivers/docs/2026/scott-addendum12-attachmenta.pdf).

Concurrently, on June 10, 2026, the Division mailed the *Order Imposing Water Right Curtailment and Requiring Reporting for Groundwater Pumping* (Order WR 2026-0008-DWR). USPS records indicate that the delivery was picked up at the post office on June 17, 2026.

On August 12, 2026, Division staff observed and took photo documentation from public roads of freshly baled hay at your place of use, identified as Siskiyou County Assessor Parcel Numbers [REDACTED] (see Appendix A). Division staff investigated aerial imagery from June 30th through August 24th and found green fields, with a suspected

cutting occurring on or around August 9th. Division staff could not find evidence of a pending or approved Local Cooperative Solution (LCS) proposal associated with this property. Furthermore, historical weather data from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration show that no precipitation has occurred between June 30 and August 24, 2026 in Fort Jones, California. As noted above, the diversion and use of both surface water and groundwater within this time frame was not authorized. Failure to cease diversion is a violation of State Water Board regulations and may subject you to formal enforcement and potential monetary penalties (Water Code section 1846).

The Division may issue an Administrative Civil Liability Complaint (ACL Complaint), Cease and Desist Order, or both at its discretion. **Penalties for failure to comply with curtailment orders carry a potential fine of up to \$10,000 for each day the violation occurs for each water right, plus an additional \$3,000 per acre foot diverted.** (Wat. Code, § 1846; Cal. Code Regs., tit. 23, § 1100, subd. (b)(7)(A).) If you have questions or concerns, please contact Division staff Katt Lundy at (916) 323-1847 or Katt.Lundy@waterboards.ca.gov.

If you are no longer the legal owner of the listed water right(s), immediately provide proof to the Division at the contact information provided above.

Because this diversion is curtailed, you must immediately cease diversions unless the diversion falls under an exception as written in the emergency regulations.

Sincerely,



Lang Khang, PE
Senior Water Resource Control Engineer, Supervisor
Division of Water Rights, Enforcement Section

ec: Peter Garaventa

Division of Water Rights
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Katt Lundy

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Office of Enforcement

Debi Ores

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Appendix A - Field Photos



Freshly baled hay observed on August 12, 2026 on Siskiyou County Assessor's
Parcel Number [REDACTED] ([REDACTED])

Appendix B – Aerial Images



Aerial photo from June 30, 2026 (Copernicus Sentinel Data, 2026)



Aerial photo from July 25, 2026 (Copernicus Sentinel Data, 2026)



Aerial photo from August 4, 2026 (Copernicus Sentinel Data, 2026)



Aerial photo from August 9, 2026 (Copernicus Sentinel Data, 2026)



Aerial photo from August 19, 2026 (Copernicus Sentinel Data, 2026)



Aerial photo from August 24, 2026 (Copernicus Sentinel Data, 2026)