

Scott River 30% Reduction Plan
Murphy Ranch
Joining With Bryan/Morris (Jim Morris)
Coordinating Entity – Siskiyou RCD, Chris Voight
APN
023-090-550

Introduction

This plan covers the 61 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 wheellines. The water right is pre 1900 and is adjudicated withing the Scott River Decree.

I am submitting this plan under the Bryan/Morris Plan even though the minimum acreage was suppose to be waived, we all know how that has gone.

Fields 1 and 2 – 36 Acres – Irrigated with 4 Wheellines

In 2020, fields 1 and 2 were irrigated with wheelline, at roughly 11.5 hour set, for a total of 61.88 days. This irrigation covered 4 cuttings of hay. For 2022, I have swapped out the nozzles to a smaller size and plan on only irrigating a total of 56.25 days and decreasing my set time to an average of 8 hours. This will reduce the total water applied by 29.17%. Verification will be achieved by inspection of the nozzles and by viewing my logbook.

Field 3 – 25 Acres – Irrigated with Pivot and Wheelline

In 2020, these 25 acres were irrigated wheelline through 1st cutting and then I installed a pivot with a LESA system. This field yielded 3 cuttings in 2020. In 2022, I rotated the grass out and planted grain. The 2020 water application in shown in the table below. 2020 water application was estimated to be at 47.92 acre feet. For 2022, with the addition of the pivot and planting of grain, the estimated application is expected to be 39.58 acre feed, for a reduction of 43.45%.

BINDING AGREEMENT



SISKIYOU RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

P.O. Box 268, Etna, CA 96027

PHONE (530) 467-3975 FAX (530) 467-5617

Email:

Website:

Binding Agreement

Contractor Contact Information:

Business:	Siskiyou RCD
Contact Person:	Chris Voigt
Address:	P.O. Box 268 / 450 Main St., Etna, CA 96027
Phone:	530-467-3975
Email:	chris@siskiyourcd.com

Landowner Contact Information:

Business:	Murphy Ranch
Contact Person:	Scott Murphy
Address:	[REDACTED]
Phone:	[REDACTED]
Email:	[REDACTED]

Background

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) and Siskiyou Resource Conservation District (SRCD) 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.



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Recitals

1. Section 875(f)(4)(D) of the drought emergency regulation provides a specific type of LCS that was determined to be sufficient for approval by the Deputy Director;
2. For overlying or adjudicated groundwater diversions for irrigated agriculture described in sections 875.5(f)(4)(D)(i)-(iii) [Scott River], the Deputy Director may approve a groundwater-basin-wide, groundwater sub-basin-wide, or any number of individual local cooperative solutions totaling at least 400 acres where:
 - i. The proposal is based on a binding agreement. "Such binding agreement may be made with a coordinating entity with the expertise and ability to evaluate and require performance of the agreement, for example with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), the National Marine Fisheries Service, the Scott Valley and Shasta Valley Watermaster District, a non-profit organization with expertise and experience in water-saving transactions or similarly qualified entity."
 - ii. For the Scott River: "The proposal provides at least: 1) a net reduction in water use of 30 percent throughout the irrigation season (April 1-October 31), as compared to the prior irrigation season; and 2) a monthly reduction of at least 30% in the July 1 through October 31 period, as compared to the prior year or 2020. Such reduction 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. 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."

Proposed Local Cooperative Solution: (*Specific action plan to be completed by landowner, see attached LCS application form*)



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Binding Agreement Terms

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

- For the duration of this binding agreement where SRCD is the coordinating entity, the Landowner shall give SRCD 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 SRCD shall provide pre-notification to, and shall obtain approval by the Landowner before accessing the property,
- SRCD 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 SRCD 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,
- SRCD 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. SRCD 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



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and SRWCB. If a Landowner requests SRCD assistance with an updated LCS, the SRCD and Landowner will enter into a new Binding Agreement and,

Payment

In consideration for the services to be performed by SRCD, the Landowner agrees to pay SRCD 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 SRCD for expenses that are attributable directly to work performed under this Agreement. Any expenses incurred will be approved by the Landowner beforehand. SRCD will submit an itemized statement of Contractor's expenses attached with invoicing.

Terms of Payment

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

Term of Agreement

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

- November 1, 2022, or
- The date a party terminates the binding agreement.
- Monitoring information will be collected by the SRCD and shared with State Water Board as a field report in accordance with their reporting schedule or upon request
- SRCD 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 LSC



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Email:

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Signatures

Chris Vest
SRCD Representative

7/25/2022
Date

Sara Murphy
Landowner

July 25 2022
Date

SUPPORTING INFORMATION



SISKIYOU RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

P.O. Box 268, Etna, CA 96027
PHONE (530) 467-3975 FAX (530) 467-5617
Email: sisqred@sisqtel.net
Website: www.siskiyoured.com

APPLICATION TO SISKIYOU RCD AS COORDINATING ENTITY for the SCOTT VALLEY GROUNDWATER REDUCTION LOCAL COOPERATIVE SOLUTION

The following request is being submitted pursuant to Section 875, subdivision (f)(D) of the Scott-Shasta Drought Emergency Regulation of the State Water Resources Control Board (SWB). The purpose of this Local Cooperative Solution (LCS) is to document the applicant's proposed reduction in use of overlying or adjudicated groundwater use by a certain amount over the entire irrigation season.

Applicant's Name: Scott Murphy

Address: [REDACTED]

Phone: [REDACTED] E-mail: [REDACTED]

Owner of property (if different): Murphy Trust

Leaseholder of property (if different): _____

Other Contact Info: Don Murphy [REDACTED]

Identify Specific Parcels served by overlying or adjudicated groundwater for irrigation, as identified in relevant curtailment order (SO# or SG#). Include irrigated acreage and number of wells.

Table 1 – Parcels, water rights, acreage, and wells to be included in this Agreement

Field Designation	Adjudicated right #	Overlying right?	SWB - SG # or SO# (optional)	# irrigated acres	# Wells (optional)
				61	1

Total irrigated acres to be included in this agreement: 61

Note: If less than 400 irrigated acres, additional LCS partners will be needed to reach 400 acres.

► Attach Map 1 of properties to be included in plan



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I agree to pay the RCD for its time to help prepare my water reduction plan at the rate of \$75/hr. When your LCS plan is complete, a Binding Agreement will need to be signed with the RCD as your designated Coordinating Entity. The RCD will need to verify that the plan's actions are being met.

Sara Murphy
Applicant signature

July 25 2022
Date

Chris Vant
Siskiyou RCD signature

7/25/2022
Date

