



## 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	Matt and Brenda Johnson
Name of Farm, Ranch, or Business	
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: Brenda Johnson

Date: 3 / 24 / 25

## Section 2: Application Checklist

Below is a list of items to include with your application form:

- Application Form (paper or email submittal accepted).
- If working with a Coordinating Entity (Section 4 of application), submit a signed Binding Agreement (paper or email submittal accepted).
- Supporting Information (electronic submittal only). Submit the applicable information based on selected groundwater LCS.
  - Best Management Practices Groundwater LCS (see Section 7 of application)
    - Description of how you will implement all of the required components.
    - Map(s) with each well(s), meter location(s), and field(s) labeled.
  - Graduated Groundwater Cessation Schedule LCS (see Section 8 of application)
    - Description of how you will reduce irrigation compared to standard practices on the property (e.g., practice in a similar unregulated year).
    - Map(s) designating the area where diversions will cease by the required dates, well location(s) and meter location(s), and field(s) labeled.
  - Percent Reduction Groundwater LCS (see Section 9 of application)
    - Description of verifiable water reduction actions that will be implemented.
    - Spreadsheet with monthly volumes for baseline year and current year. Use one row per irrigation method per field.
    - Map(s) with each well(s), meter location(s), and field(s) labeled.
- A description of existing and planned groundwater metering (Section 6 of application), a time schedule for additional installation or information to support a waiver request, and a plan to record metered extractions or applications weekly and to report them monthly to your Coordinating Entity and/or State Water Board.
- Groundwater Well or Metered Application Information (see Section 5 of application) (paper or email submittal accepted).

### Section 3: Requirements for All Groundwater LCS Proposals

- **Deadline:** Proposals are due to the State Water Board by April 15, 2025.
- **Implementation:** Proposals must be implemented during the entirety of one or more irrigation seasons (including the time prior to approval), unless the applicant withdraws the application.
- **Metering:** Proposals must include a description of metering that will be used to measure groundwater well extractions or applications covered under the LCS and information on how extractions and/or applications will be recorded weekly and reported monthly to the Deputy Director (or Coordinating Entity, if so agreed). Please note the Coordinating Entity is required to provide this data to the State Water Board.
  - Funding for Meters: The State Water Board has limited funding and technical support available for some amount of metering and those interested in such assistance should promptly contact State Water Board staff using the "Contact Information" at the end of this application.
  - Time Schedule for Metering: All applicants should have the required metering equipment installed and operating before the start of irrigation season so that all groundwater extractions or applications covered by the LCS are metered.
  - Waivers: Proposals may include information requesting waiver of the metering provisions in the following instances:
    - Groundwater wells that irrigate less than 30 acres. Information supporting the request to waive metering provisions must be provided, including the distance of the groundwater well to surface water. The State Water Board may require other information in lieu of monitoring.
    - Metering is not feasible. Substantiation for the infeasibility of installing a meter must be provided. This includes feasibility evaluation of installing a meter at the well(s) and at the place(s) of use (e.g., pivot).

## 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<br>Contact: Crystal Robinson<br>(530) 340-0767<br>crystal.robinson@wildlife.ca.gov  | <input type="checkbox"/> Shasta Valley Resource Conservation District<br>Contact: Rod Dowse<br>(530) 598-1253<br>rdowse@svrccd.org |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Siskiyou Resource Conservation District<br>Contact: Evan Senf<br>(530) 643-1585<br>evan@siskiyoucd.com   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scott River Water Trust<br>Contact: Chris Voigt<br>(916) 396-0131<br>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 upload 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	(40.57686, -122.3657)	547-988-0975; 547-989-0976	Meter 1 Meter 3
1 well			Meter 1

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

**Upload Well Information**

## 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."*

- 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.

We are requesting a waiver for the metering requirement. We currently irrigate about 27 acres and in the late summer we reduce it to approximately 20 acres, when we reduce the irrigation of our ends and corners. Our field is used solely for grazing purposes for our cattle and horses and no commercial hay is grown. We have a timer on our irrigation pump to help with consistency of our daily irrigation and we keep a ledger/log of the daily water moves and duration.

**Upload Attachment**

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**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.

The 2025 irrigation season.

## 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](#).)

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

**Upload Map(s)**

4. Certify all of 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, 2025.
  - ☐ 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).
    - 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.



## Section 8: Graduated Groundwater Cessation Schedule LCS

A Graduated Groundwater Cessation Schedule LCS may be approved if the applicant agrees to a below schedule AND provides evidence that irrigated acreage is reduced compared to standard practice on the property (e.g., practice in a similar unregulated year). Under this groundwater LCS type, the applicant must select one of two potential irrigation schedules, listed below. See section 875(f)(4)(D)(vi) of the [emergency regulation](#).

1. Provide the total amount of irrigated acreage (with units) under your proposal for a Graduated Groundwater Cessation Schedule LCS:
2. Select the irrigation schedule you certify to implement.

☐

**Option 1:** By the dates below, pumping to irrigate the following percentages of irrigated acres shall cease:

- 15% by July 15,
- 50% by August 15, and
- 90% by August 31, with a maximum of 8 inches of water to be applied to the remaining 10% of irrigated acres during the remainder of the irrigation season. This 10% can be on land previously fallowed.

☐

**Option 2:** By the dates below, pumping to irrigate the following percentages of irrigated acres shall cease:

- 20% by July 20,
- 50% by August 20, and
- 95% by September 5, with a maximum of 6 inches of water to be applied to the remaining 5% of irrigated acres during the remainder of the irrigation season. This 5% can be on land previously fallowed.

4. Please upload an attachment, write in the box, or email a description that demonstrates that the proposal reduces irrigation as compared to standard practices on the property (e.g., practice in a similar unregulated year). If applicable, please take crop rotation and number of alfalfa cuttings into account.

Upload Attachment

5. Please upload or email a map(s) that identifies the well(s), meter(s), and which field(s) are associated with each cessation date covered by this groundwater LCS.

**Upload Map(s)**

## 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. 

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- If you are proposing a Percent Reduction Groundwater LCS, attach or email 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.

We have reduced our pumping by reduced set times from 11.5 to 8 hours per day. I have included a copy of our Pacific Power meter reading history to verify this fact. We are using 2021 as our baseline year.

**Upload Attachment**

- b. A spreadsheet with monthly pumping volumes for the selected baseline year and current year. Use one row per irrigation method per field.

**Upload Baseline Pumping**

- c. Map(s) with each field labeled, well locations, and meter locations.


**Upload Map(s)**

## Submission of Groundwater LCS Proposal to State Water Board

A groundwater LCS may require the applicant to attach or email additional information, such as descriptions, spreadsheets, maps, or other relevant information. State Water Board staff request descriptions be submitted as Microsoft Word (.docx, .doc) or Adobe PDF (.pdf) files as these file formats are easiest for staff to work with applicants to review and revise, if needed. For the same reasons, staff request that applicants submit spreadsheets as Microsoft Excel files (.xlsx, .xls).

Submitting documents in other formats, such as photographs of narratives or narratives via traditional mail may lengthen the review process. If you need assistance, please contact your Coordinating Entity (see Section 4) or State Water Board staff identified in the Contact Information section below.

To submit your application with all 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 - 14<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95814

### Contact Information for State Water Board Staff

- Rachel Wright  
Phone: (916) 322-8420  
Email: Rachel.Wright@waterboards.ca.gov
- Robert Solecki  
Phone: (916) 341-5400  
Email: Robert.Solecki@Waterboards.ca.gov
- Division of Water Rights – Scott-Shasta Phone Line and Email  
Phone: (916) 327-3113  
Email: DWR-ScottShastaDrought@Waterboards.ca.gov

### What's Next?

State Water Board staff will review each groundwater LCS application. If staff identify errors, a need for additional information, or changes that need to be made, they will contact the applicant. Once staff determine the application is substantially complete, it will be posted as pending on the State Water Board's [Local Cooperative website](#) for the Scott River and Shasta River watersheds emergency regulation.

Matt and Brenda Johnson Family

April 15, 2024

Via Email

State Water Resources Control Board

1001 I St.

Sacramento, Ca. 95814

RE: 2024 Cooperative Solution – Matt and Brenda Johnson

To Deputy Director:

As authorized by 23 CCR SS 875(f)(4)(D), Matt and Brenda Johnson are providing this letter to further describe its proposed local cooperative solution (LCS) for the 2024 irrigation season.

#### Historical Irrigation Practices

##### Wheel Line

We irrigate approximately 27 acres of cultivated seasonal pasture (predominantly grasses and clover) for rotational grazing of cattle and horses. We have one agriculture well that supplies our wheel line and pods. Generally, the wheel line is moved manually each day at approximately 7am and 7pm resulting in two approximately 11.5-hour operation periods during a 24-hour period. It takes 5 days to complete one irrigation cycle.

##### Corners

Since our property is irregularly shaped, certain areas of the property cannot be irrigated with a rectangular wheel line, remaining areas are irrigated using a combination of methods including Irripods (daisy chained ground level sprinklers) and handline (movable aluminum pipe). The corners have the same set time as the wheel line. Two approximately 11.5-hour operation periods during a 24-hour period.

Irrigation season for our seasonal pasture, including 2020 (base year) typically begins about April 1 and continues until the end of October, subject to variance depending on annual temperature and precipitation conditions.



### Specific 2024 Conservation Practices

Wheel line and Corners – Reduced set time. We intend to reduce our two daily wheel line and irripod set times from approximately 11.5 hours to 8 hours. Simply by operating wheel lines and irripods 7 hours less each day, we expect to save 30.43% over historical practices on all irrigated acreage. We intend to maintain a written irrigation log detailing wheel line run times and will present that log to the Cooperating Entity upon request.

We intend to cease all pasture irrigation by October 31, 2024.

When grazing pastures do not receive reasonably adequate irrigation throughout the normal irrigation season, which is a consequence of this plan, our grazing season becomes shorter, additional supplemental fall/winter feed forage must be purchased at prices that are at historically highs this year and permanent plant damage may likely occur and future productivity of pastures may be impaired.

We are undertaking voluntary conservation measures in good faith to provide an opportunity to improve watershed conditions and to create a more constructive and effective framework for water conservation than involuntary curtailment triggered by river flow standards that are not likely achievable and/or other involuntary regulation.

Conservation efforts can create real financial burdens on farmers and ranchers, their families and this community as a whole, especially in a year where forage costs are high and cost is escalating on all other inputs from labor to fuel to supplies. We therefore hope you will thoughtfully and diligently consider these voluntary actions as you balance the interests of various stakeholders in our watershed.

Please note that this plan is offered in good faith in connection with the 2024 irrigation season only. All rights, claims and defenses with regard to the matters described herein are hereby expressly reserved. Water saved under this proposal will not be transferred to parcels not included under the LCS and we 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 this proposal.

Please advise as to your decision on the acceptability of this plan in lieu of regulatory curtailment as contemplated by 23 CCR SS 875, thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Regards,

Matt and Brenda Johnson

SUMMARY (DRAFT)

Total Irrigated Seasonal Pasture Acreage  
 Corner Acreage  
 Wheelline Acreage

25  
 7  
 18

Total AF 2020 All Acres (NON BINDING BASELINE ESTIMATE FOR DISCUSSION PURPOSES ONLY)  
 Total Monthly AF (avg) 2020

108.00  
 15.43

	Total 2020 Estimated Monthly (AF)	Total Estimated 2025 Monthly Reduction (AF)	Total 2025 Estimated Monthly (AF)	2025 Estimated Monthly Reduction %
April	7.71	2.36	5.37	30.43%
May	11.57	3.52	8.05	30.43%
June	15.43	4.78	10.73	30.43%
July	21.21	6.46	14.76	30.43%
August	25.07	7.63	17.44	30.43%
September	19.29	5.87	13.42	30.43%
October	7.71	2.35	5.37	30.43%
	Total Estimated 2020 Seasonal (AF)	Total Estimated 2022 Seasonal Reduction (AF)	Total Estimated 2022 Seasonal (AF)	Estimated Seasonal Reduction %
	108.00	32.87	75.13	30.43%

WHEELLINE & CORNER SET TIMES

Wheelline & Corner Acreage 25.00

Wheelline Savings (%) (reduce sets from 11.5 to 8 hrs each) 30.43%

2020 set length (hours) 11.5

2022 set length (hours) 8.0

Minutes in an hour 60.0

	2020 Wheelline & Corner Water Use per set (AF) (baseline)	Estimated number of 2020 sets	2020 Wheelline & Corner Water Use (AF) (baseline)	2025 Wheelline & Corner Water Use Reduction (AF)	2025 Wheelline & Corner Water Use per set (AF)	Estimated number of 2025 sets	2025 Wheelline & Corner Water Use AF
April	0.78	10	7.71	2.35	0.54	10	5.37
May	0.78	15	11.57	3.52	0.54	15	8.05
June	0.78	20	15.43	4.70	0.54	20	10.73
July	0.78	27	21.21	6.46	0.54	27	14.76
August	0.78	32	25.07	7.63	0.54	32	17.44
September	0.78	25	19.29	5.87	0.54	25	13.42
October	0.78	10	7.71	2.35	0.54	10	5.37
<b>Total</b>	<b>5.44</b>		<b>108.00</b>	<b>32.87</b>	<b>3.78</b>		<b>75.13</b>

	GPM	Nozzles
Wheelline (x1): 5 GPM, 47 nozzles	5	47
Corners (x line pods) (x2): 3 GPM, 22 nozzles	3	44





# Scott River Water Trust

P.O. Box 591 ~ Etna, CA 96027  
530-643-2395 [scottwatertrust@gmail.com](mailto:scottwatertrust@gmail.com)

Month, Day, Year  
04/06/2025

## APPLICATION TO SCOTT RIVER WATER TRUST AS COORDINATING ENTITY for the SCOTT VALLEY GROUNDWATER REDUCTION LOCAL COOPERATIVE SOLUTION

The following request is being submitted pursuant to Section 875, , subdivision (f)(4)(C)[Scott River] 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: Matt and Brenda Johnson

Address: [REDACTED]

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

Owner of property (if different):

Leaseholder of property (if different):

Other Contact Info: [REDACTED]

Total irrigated acres to be included in this agreement: 25

► Attach curtailment plan and map of properties to be included in plan

I agree to pay SRWT 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 SRWT as your designated Coordinating Entity. SRWT will need to verify that the plan's actions are being met.

Brenda Johnson

Brenda Johnson (Apr 7, 2025 17:26 PDT)

► Applicant signature

04/07/2025

Date:

Christopher Voigt

Scott River Water Trust signature

Date: 4/7/2025



# Scott River Water Trust

P.O. Box 591 ~ Etna, CA 96027  
530-643-2395 [scottwatertrust@gmail.com](mailto:scottwatertrust@gmail.com)

Month, Day, Year  
04/07/2025

## 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>	Matt and Brenda Johnson
<i>Contact Person:</i>	Brenda Johnson
<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*



*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

Brenda Johnson

Landowner

Signature: Brenda Johnson

Email: [REDACTED]