

**Public Disclosure Summarizing the Local Cooperative Solution for KK Bar Ranch**

**Water Right Owner:** Jeff Fowle

**Groundwater Rights Established:** 1860 & 1865

**Basin:** Scott River

**Acreage of Ranch:** 505 acres

**2020 Groundwater:** 1105.50 AF

**2022 Groundwater:** 617.03 AF

**2022 Annual Groundwater Use Reduction:** 44.18%

**Binding Agreement:** Yes, Siskiyou RCD.

**Lead SWRCB staff:** Kevin DeLano

# **BINDING AGREEMENT**



## SISKIYOU RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

P.O. Box 268, Etna, CA 96027

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

Email: [sisqrcd@sisqtel.net](mailto:sisqrcd@sisqtel.net)

Website: [www.siskivourcd.com](http://www.siskivourcd.com)

### Binding Agreement

#### Contractor Contact Information:

Business:	Siskiyou RCD
Contact Person:	Chris Voigt
Address:	P.O. Box 268 / 450 Main St., Etna, CA 96027
Phone:	530-475-3975
Email:	Chris@siskivourcd.com

#### Landowner Contact Information:

Business:	
Contact Person:	Jeff Fowle
Address:	
Phone:	
Email:	

### 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.

### 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 establish by the actions described ion the LSC



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**Signatures**

Chris Vaint  
SRCD Representative  
5/18/2022  
Date

7-11777  
Landowner  
5-18-2022  
Date