

Finley Farms LCS 2024

Section 8: Graduated Groundwater Cessation Schedule LCS

In the 2024 irrigation year we plan to use Option #1 of the groundwater cessation schedule. This option is 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. We have **1,003** total acres in our cessation schedule in 2024 We will have **151 Acres of grain** which would allow us to shut off irrigation to 15% of our acres by July 15th. Site 5-04 will have 136 acres of grain and site 1-01 will be 15 acres of grain. This will allow us to reach the 15% required by July 15th. For the August 15th 50% shut off we will quit irrigating sites 4-05, 3-03, 4-03, 3-01, and 3-02. This allows us to add 367 acres on top of the 151 acres above for a total of 518 acres shut off. We also will be in communication with our coordinating entity and providing proof of our 90% shut off on August 31 at sites 5-01, 5-03, 3-05, 3-07, and 4-01. We will communicate to the coordinating entity the site-specific need for the 10% of acreage to receive 8 inches of irrigation. To reach the percentages listed above we must plant more grain than we normally would, and we will only get 3 cuttings of hay when we normally would get 4.

Section 7: Best Management Practices Groundwater LCS

In 2024 we will also enroll two sites totaling 189 acres in the BMP LCS. Site MD-01 and 3-06 are both center pivots with the LEPA system installed studies have shown that LEPA can create a water savings of 18 to 26%. We have a moisture meter installed at site MD-01 and will not use end guns.

Finley Farms LCS 2024

Section 6: Metering Information

We will put on 1 meter on 2 pivots. Each of these pivots has different soil types and we feel would give you a diverse amount of data locations. We will install meters on pivots at sites MD-01 and 5-01. We simply cannot equip each well with meters as they won't fit, and we are way too far in the year to even begin to try and get even one system set up to make them fit. We have spoken with Kerns Irrigation and are actively in the process of acquiring meters for the pivots listed above. They have excellent technological support and can get us the meters that we have already viewed at the world ag expo and suggest them as well. We will send in our meter readings at the first of each month. We will take pictures of the meters and report our data via email to the state water board and our coordinating entity. We feel that doing these 2 meters is manageable for us and it will give you excellent data to better help you understand irrigation usage in 2 different locations. **This application and our commitment to provide data is for the 2024 irrigation season only.**

Pump Name

Pump Coordinates

Big Diesel

Potatoe

Little Diesel

Dam

Pivot 1 Variable

Reinke

Shop Variable

Tree Farm 30 Hp

Tree Farm 15hp

Lighthill 1

Lighthill 2

Lighthill 3

Burton

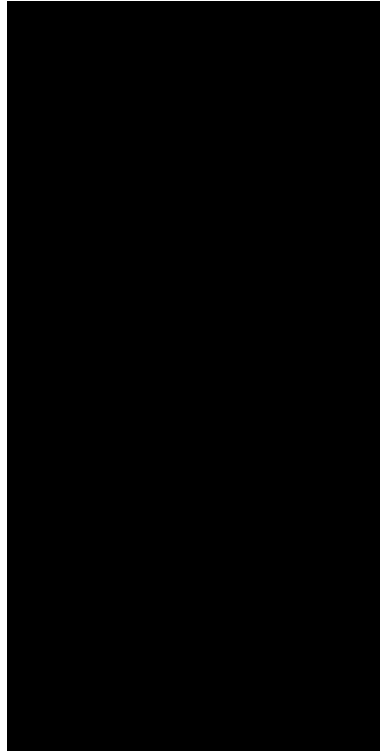
Serpa Big Pivot 1 creek

Serpa Big Pivot 2 trail

Serpa Big Pivot 3 Field

Pond Pump

MD-01



Field ID	Owned/Lease	Parcel Number	Water Rights	LCS Type
1-01	owned	[REDACTED]	Ground Water	Grad. Cessation #1
3-01	owned	[REDACTED]	Ground Water	Grad. Cessation #1
3-02	owned	[REDACTED]	Ground Water	Grad. Cessation #1
3-03	owned	[REDACTED]	Ground Water	Grad. Cessation #1
3-05	owned	[REDACTED]	Ground Water	Grad. Cessation #1
3-06	owned	[REDACTED]	Ground Water	BMP
3-07	owned	[REDACTED]	Ground Water	Grad. Cessation #1
4-01	owned	[REDACTED]	Ground Water	Grad. Cessation #1
4-03	owned	[REDACTED]	Ground Water	Grad. Cessation #1
4-05	owned	[REDACTED]	Ground Water	Grad. Cessation #1
5-01	owned	[REDACTED]	Ground Water	Grad. Cessation #1
5-03	owned	[REDACTED]	Ground Water	Grad. Cessation #1
5-04	owned	[REDACTED]	Ground Water	Grad. Cessation #1
MD-01	owned	[REDACTED]	Ground Water	BMP



Scott River Water Trust

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

Month, Day, Year
04-04-2024

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 875.5, subdivision (a)(1)(A)(ix) [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: JASON FINLEY

Address: [REDACTED]

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

Owner of property (if different):

Leaseholder of property (if different):

Other Contact Info: preston [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.

Total irrigated acres to be included in this agreement:

▶ 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.

▶ Jason Finley

04-04-2024

Jason Finley (Apr 4, 2024 14:21 PDT)

Date:

▶ Applicant signature

Christopher Voigt

Date: 4/3/2024

Scott River Water Trust signature



Scott River Water Trust

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

Month, Day, Year
04-04-2024

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>	FINLEY FARMING INC.
<i>Contact Person:</i>	JASON FINLEY/ PRESTON MUNSON
<i>Address:</i>	
<i>Phone:</i>	
<i>Email:</i>	

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 February 1, 2024 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,
- 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 SWRCB. If a Landowner requests SRWT assistance with an updated LCS, the SRWT and Landowner will enter into a new Binding Agreement and,

Payment

In consideration for the services to be performed by SRWT, the Landowner agrees to pay SRWT 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 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, 2024, 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 establish by the actions described ion the LCS

Signatures

Christopher Voigt

SRWT Representative

Jason Finley
Jason Finley (Pur 4, 1004 1011, 1021)

Landowner

Signature: Jason Finley
Jason Finley (Pur 4, 1004 1011, 1021)

Email: 

From: [Jason Finley](#)
To: [WB-DWR-ScottShastaDrought](#)
Subject: Fw: Change in LCS
Date: Monday, July 8, 2024 9:15:24 AM

EXTERNAL:

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: Jason Finley [REDACTED]
To: kevin.delano@waterboards.ca.gov <kevin.delano@waterboards.ca.gov>; Chris Voigt <chrisb.voigt@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 8, 2024 at 09:08:48 AM PDT
Subject: Change in LCS

Hi there,

2 fields that are enrolled in my LCS, (cessetation method) Sites: 5-03/ 45 AC. And 5-01 / 20 AC. of the 240, both which are wheelines have not performed to what I would have liked. They are both Orchard grass crops. The water was off June 14th on both of these fields, I have them currently set to water until August 31st. I would like to dry both of those fields up. I was anticipating putting on another 15 inches at least of water on each site per. AC. I would like to add 2 sites that were not on my LCS this year; sites: 1-04/ 50 AC. And 1-06 75 AC. That is A total of 125 AC. The month of August I will put on half as much water on these 2 sites, because they are Alfalfa. 2 passes with the wheelines, which is 7 inches. So My water consumption will actually be less by making this change. Crops change throughout the summer months, and do not always go as you would have planned in April, thus the request for the change. I will work with Chris, My coordinating entity and go over this with him.

Please pass on if you could, I didn't know who to send this to.

Thank You

Jason Finley
[REDACTED]

From: [Preston Munson](#)
To: [WB-DWR-ScottShastaDrought](#)
Subject: Re: LCS questions - additional information needed
Date: Friday, June 21, 2024 10:49:20 AM

EXTERNAL:

Hi Rachel, hopefully this helps for your questions on Finley Farms LCS.

BMP

1. Yes, we do adhere to each BMP requirement.
2. You are correct in that those acres are what we have under irrigation and the maps will include the corners we have cut out.

Graduated Cessation

1. Once again you are correct that is because of dry corners and acres that are not under irrigation.
2. To reach our 90% reduction for August 31st we will shut off 5-01, 5-03, 3-05, 3-07, and 4-01.

Hopefully that answers your questions.

If you have further questions you can email me at [REDACTED]

Thanks, Preston From Finley Farms

On Thursday, June 20, 2024 at 05:13:19 PM PDT, Jason [REDACTED] wrote:

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: WB-DWR-ScottShastaDrought <DWR-ScottShastaDrought@waterboards.ca.gov>
Date: June 20, 2024 at 3:51:46 PM PDT
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: WB-DWR-ScottShastaDrought <DWR-ScottShastaDrought@waterboards.ca.gov>
Subject: LCS questions - additional information needed

Hi Mr. Finley,

We have been reviewing your proposed groundwater local cooperative solutions for 2024 and need some additional information. Please send the following information at your earliest convenience so we can continue processing your application:

Best Management Practice:

1. The BMP requirements include ceasing irrigation of corners after June 15, 2024, and limiting irrigation based on water year, in addition to the use of soil moisture sensors for monitoring, the use of LEPA systems, and not using end guns for the duration of the season. The exact wording for these requirements is in the application. **Please certify to adhere to each BMP requirement in**

the response to this email.

2. I just wanted to clarify the number of acres for the BMP, as the total added from the acreage listed on the maps (211 acres) is a bit larger than the acreage listed in the application (189). I was curious if this difference was from excluding corners or other portions of the fields?

Graduated Cessation:

1. From adding up the field acreages from the maps, I calculated a different acreage amount for the overall total and fields to cease irrigating for August 15th. I just wanted to check in if that was again because corners or portions of certain fields were not included. If so, please let me know. I attached a spreadsheet to make things clearer, with the numbers that do not match in red
2. Please provide information regarding how the 90% reduction for the August 31st date will be met (which fields / amount of fields irrigation will cease on).

Please let me know if you have any questions or need me to clarify anything.

Sincerely,

Rachel

Rachel Wright

Environmental Scientist

Instream Flows Unit

Division of Water Rights, State Water Resources Control Board

<Finley_acreage_check.xlsx>

From: [Jason Finley](#)
To: [Richardson, Shay@Waterboards](mailto:Richardson.Shay@Waterboards)
Subject: Re: [Urgent] Action Required: Revise Metering Plan to Avoid Curtailment
Date: Monday, July 22, 2024 7:19:54 PM

EXTERNAL:

Hi,

Yes the summary about our phone conversation is correct. I already called and ordered the meters. They will be installed as soon as I receive them.

Thanks!

Jason

Sent from my iPad

On Jul 22, 2024, at 4:44 PM, Richardson, Shay@Waterboards
<Shay.Richardson@waterboards.ca.gov> wrote:

Hi Jason,

To summarize our phone conversation, you plan to install two additional meters on two more pivots, which will irrigate 85 and 100 acres. You currently have two pivots with meters installed that irrigate 320 acres.

[REDACTED]

You plan to order the two meters this week and will install them in August 2024. You agree to provide the State Water Board with the water usage data from these meters for the entire 2025 irrigation season, as well as for the remainder of the 2024 irrigation season.

You also clarified that your 2024 LCS has less acreage than in previous years because you participated in CDFW grant opportunities that required you to shut off pumps early for this irrigation season.

Thank you, Jason! I really appreciate your kindness and cooperation in getting this sorted out. Can you please confirm that this information is

accurate?

Take care,
Shay

From: WB-DWR-ScottShastaDrought
Sent: Monday, July 22, 2024 3:49 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: [Urgent] Action Required: Revise Metering Plan to Avoid Curtailment

Hi Jason,

Apologies for the duplicate emails, but I am writing you again to give you a heads up that a curtailment order will likely be issued this week.

In reviewing your application, the metering plan included in your LCS was determined to be insufficient based on the requirements of the Drought Emergency Regulation. **To avoid being subject to the curtailment order while your application is still under review, we require that you commit to providing a plan and timeline to install meters that will monitor water usage for the majority of the acreage included in your LCS proposal.** At this time, we only require that you provide a plan and reasonable timeline to install meters and agree to provide metering data for a full irrigation season from the time of installation. For example, if you agree to install meters on XX number of wells (or pivots, etc.) in Fall 2024, you would then provide a full year of metering data for the 2025 irrigation season.

We also recognize that installing meters on additional pivots or wells could be costly. To address this concern, the State Water Board has funding and a contractor to assist with meter purchase and installation. Attached to this email, you will find the application form to request State Water Board funding for the meter(s). You can complete and return the form in response to this email or send it to ScottShastaDrought@waterboards.ca.gov.

Please advise how you would like to proceed, and let us know if you have any questions.

Thank you,
Shay