



COUNTY OF SISKIYOU

Flood Control & Water Conservation District

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January 7, 2022

Financial Assistance Branch
Department of Water Resources
PO Box 942836
Sacramento, CA 94236
Attention: Round 2 IRWM Implementation Grant Program

Re: Support of Scott River Tailings Restoration, Long Pond Implementation, Phase 1

To Whom It May Concern:

The Siskiyou County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, which acts as the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) for the Scott Valley groundwater basin, is writing in support of the ***Scott River Watershed Council's Scott River Tailings Restoration, Long Pond Implementation, Phase 1 project.***

Similarly, to many basins within California, the GSA has recently completed its Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) and the Scott Valley GSP outlines multiple projects and management actions (PMAs) necessary to achieve the Basin's sustainability goals. Objectives related to this project include; achieving the thresholds and objectives for the interconnected surface water sustainability indicator and avoiding additional stresses on interconnected surface water and their habitats. In order to achieve some of these goals, the GSP classifies management actions organized into three tiers which reflect the anticipated timeline for implementation. The ***Scott River Tailings Restoration, Long Pond Implementation, Phase 1*** has been identified as a Tier I project which will aid in addressing the Interconnected Surface Water Sustainability Management Criteria (SMC).

Scott River Watershed Council (SRWC) has applied and been selected for funding through the North Coast Resource Partnership's Urban and Multibenefit Drought Relief Grant program for this project. This project supports some of the goals outlined in the GSP "to improve instream connectivity" which, once implemented, will help improve conditions of anadromous fish in the tailings section of the Scott River, which connects the East Fork, South Fork, and Sugar Creek tributaries to the mainstem Scott River.

The GSP acknowledges the importance of collaboration and partnership with Scott Valley stakeholders and that such collaboration ensures partial achievement of goals identified in the GSP. The ***Scott River Tailings Restoration, Long Pond Implementation, Phase 1*** is a collaboration with multiple landowners, Quartz Valley Indian Reservation, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, University of California Davis, Stillwater Sciences, and the Scott River Watershed Council. This cooperative project exemplifies the strategy the GSA stresses in their GSP helping watershed stakeholders achieve their goals while simultaneously meeting the GSP stated goals.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

Brandon A. Criss, Chair

Siskiyou County Flood Control and Water Conservation District