



COUNTY OF SISKIYOU

Board of Supervisors

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March 11, 2022

MWCD District Office
P.O. Box 247
Montague, CA 96064

RE: Support for Montague Water Conservation District: MWCD- Parks Creek Diversion Improvement Project

To Whom It May Concern,


The Shasta Watershed Conservation Group (SWCG) is composed of 12 ranches and 2 irrigation districts that divert irrigation water from the Shasta River, Parks Creek and Big Springs Creek (tributaries of the Shasta River) to irrigate fields for pasture production and hay. In many ways, Siskiyou County started the SWCG with efforts to explore eyed egg injection of Coho Salmon into the SWCG area in 2014. Over the past eight years, Siskiyou County has monitored and stayed aware of the SWCG and the goal of seeking Safe Harbor Agreements. The SWCG and its 14 members encompass much of the southern half of the Shasta River watershed where Coho Salmon are known or expected to utilize the over 22 miles of stream (Parks Creek, Shasta River and Big Springs Creek) and springs within the SWCG Boundary.

This support letter is intended to expressly focus on the grant application being submitted to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife from the Montague Water Conservation District. Siskiyou County supports MWCD's proposed project, "MWCD-Parks Creek Diversion Improvement Project" because the project results in fish passage and fish protection with a compliant fish screen and diversion infrastructure. As a result of the project, MWCD will contribute additional instream flows to Parks Creek during critical life stages per the upper Parks Creek Flow Schedule developed within the SHA process. The project complements numerous other SWCG based projects that are either in planning, design or implementation phases.

The project complements numerous other SWCG based projects that are either in planning, design or implementation phases. We encourage the CDFW to provide funding for this important project.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

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Brandon A. Criss

Chair, Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors