



COUNTY OF SISKIYOU

Flood Control & Water Conservation District

P.O. Box 750 • 1312 Fairlane Road, Yreka, CA 96097

Phone: (530) 842-8012, Fax Number: (530) 842-8013

TO: Siskiyou County Flood Control District Board of Directors

FROM: Matt Parker, Natural Resources Specialist

DATE: February 5, 2019

SUBJECT: Siskiyou County and State Water Board potential Shasta River model coordination

Through the State's California Water Action Plan (WAP), the Shasta River was named one of five priority stream reaches that the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board), in coordination with the Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), will "seek to enhance flows to support and improve critical habitat for anadromous fish". As a result, on September 21st, 2018, the State Water Board released their *Draft Shasta River Watershed Characterization and Model Study Plan* which outlines a proposed water modeling plan on the Shasta River. As the Flood Control and Water Conservation District (District) is aware, the District's Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) efforts are underway and Larry Walker Associates (the District's technical consulting team) will be developing a water model that will assist in creating the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) for the Shasta Valley basin. The District and staffs concerns were that the two modeling plans would have separate goals, potentially resulting in conflicting science and creating time consuming debate and resolution. Therefore, it is imperative that the GSA and stakeholders be included in the process and a coordinated and transparent collaborative plan is established between the GSA and State Water Board.

County staff hosted an event on October 15th 2018, in which State Water Board staff toured and met with Shasta Valley water users and discussed the possibility that the GSA and State Water Board collaborate and combine certain aspects of their respective modeling work. It was agreed that there are both opportunities and risks of a collaborated effort, so five collaboration scenarios were drafted between the GSA and State Water Board staff (attached). During a December 19th roundtable that included the same attendees, the five scenarios were presented and discussed and participants agreed that these scenarios should be presented to the Shasta Groundwater Advisory Committee (Advisory Committee) for discussion and recommendation.

At the Advisory Committees January 23rd, 2019, meeting Dr. Laura Foglia with Larry Walker Associates and UC Davis presented the five scenarios and outlined the opportunities and risks for each one; including timing of scenario completion versus timing of GSP completion, integration of the scenario and model results into the GSP, and any issues with meeting the requirements of GSP development (opportunities and risks are outlined in detail in the attached document). After substantive discussion between the Advisory Committee, County staff and Dr. Foglia, Scenario Five was recommended by the Advisory Committee.

Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommends direction from the District to pursue Scenario Five with the State Water Board.