

# RESPONSIBILITY OF THE WATERMASTER

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***A PRESENTATION ON THE ORDERS CREATING, CHANGING AND REVISING  
THE SHASTA RIVER WATERMASTER SERVICE AREA***

**BY RHONDA MUSE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

**SCOTT VALLEY AND SHASTA VALLEY WATERMASTER DISTRICT**

**JULY 31, 2019**



# EXPLANATION OF SERVICE AREA ORDERS AND DECREES

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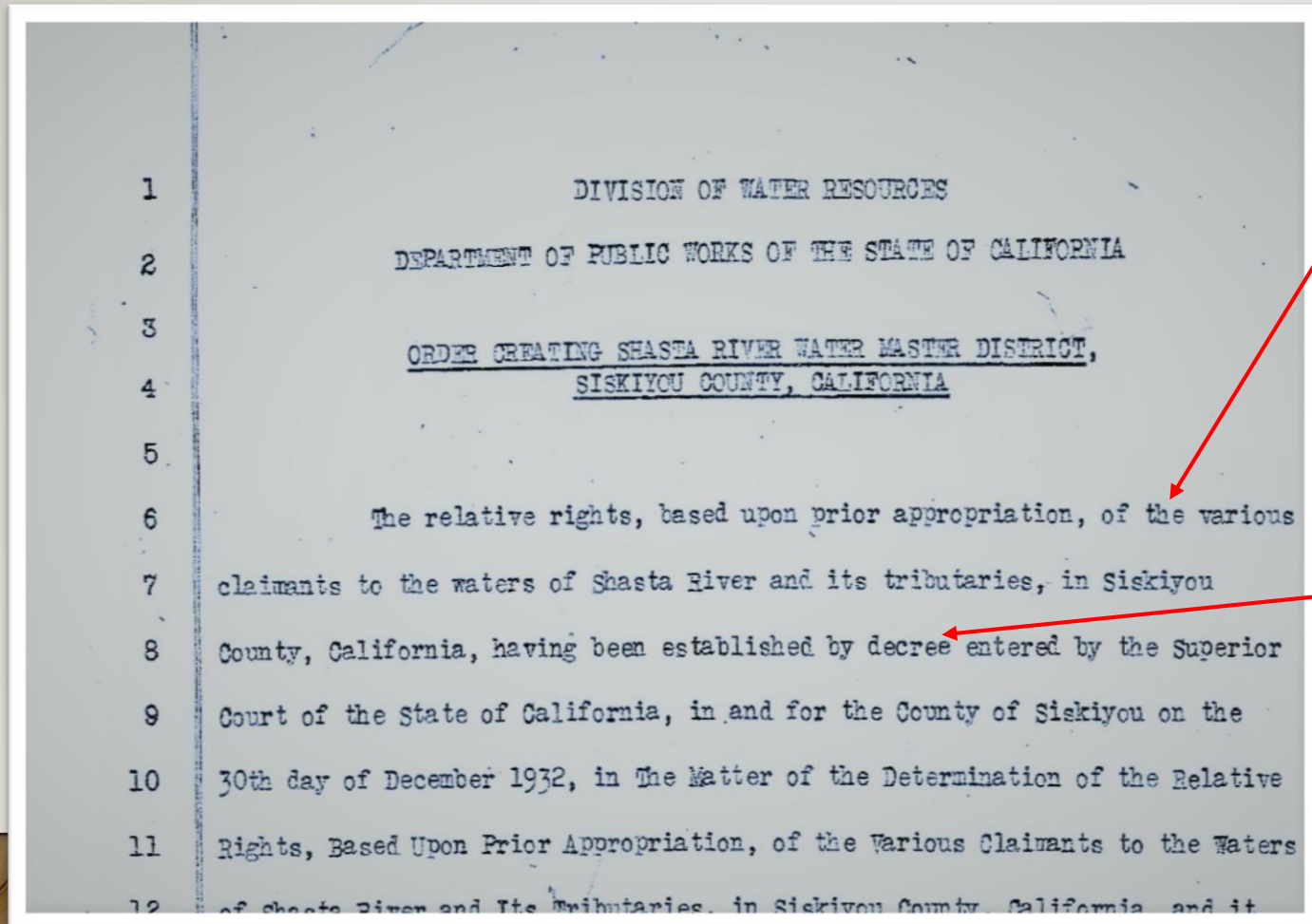
- Service Area Orders state that the Watermaster has the responsibility to supervise the distribution of water to the land areas defined in the Orders. The Orders assigned a tract number to each land area (or place of use) defined in Decree paragraphs, these numbers have been modified over time as tracts were added, excluded, split, combined, or otherwise modified.
- Decrees define the point of diversion, order of priority, rate of diversion and volume of water to be applied to the place of use.
- Orders to revise Service Areas should be approved by Superior Court whenever there is a change to the place of use.
- Supplemental Decrees should be completed whenever there is a change to the point of diversion, purpose of use or place of use. Changes to Decreed rights do not necessarily require approval by the State Water Resources Control Board, although certain licenses, permits and funders require landowners obtain approval through the 1707 process implemented by the Division of Water Rights.
- Page 245 of the Shasta River Decree defines the responsibility of the Watermaster and is the first page to an Appendix of Decree Tables that have been updated over the years and are now called Field Schedules.
- **Both the Decree and Service Area Orders are necessary for determining the Watermaster's scope and area of responsibility.**

## ORDERS

ORDER TYPE AND YEAR	INCLUDES	EXCEPTIONS
Order Creating 19330301	Shasta River and its tributaries	Inconstance Creek Walker Slough Stone Creek ( a tributary of Parks Creek) Macks Gulch Guys Gulch Schulmeyer Gulch ( sometimes known as Cottowood Creek) White Slough Yreka Creek and it's tributaries
Order Changing 19351230	Shasta River and its tributaries	Willow Creek and it's tributaries
Order Revising 19411231	Shasta River (tracts 5-1 through 5-113): Big Springs Irrigation District Calif. Oregon Power Company Central Pacific Railway Company Grenada Irrigation District Montague Water Conservation District	Some portions of land as described in Orders, see specific tract numbers
Order Reducing 19570311	Shasta River and its tributaries	Mining right of 2.0 cubic feet per second from Shasta River through Reedy Mine Ditch (Div 606) allocated to Lucretia Barnum
Order Reducing 19620725	Shasta River and its tributaries	Certain Lands owned by Montague Water Conservation. All descriptions in Exhibit refer to Mount Diablo Base and Meridian
Order Creating 19681119	French Creek Stream System	Springs and unnamed streams. All land description in Exhibit refer to Mount Diablo Base and Meridian
Order Creating 19501106	Shackleford Creek and its tributaries	C.B. Camblin and Jeanne Camblin Robert E. Brown Walter A. Graves
Memo Starting 19840312	Oro Fino Creek	None
Notice of Reduction 20181221	Scott River Service Area	Shackleford Creek and Mill Creek effective April 1, 2103 Oro Fino Creek and Sniktaw Creek effective April 1, 2012 (orders creating Sniktaw not found)
Draft Order Creating 19800711	Wildcat Creek and Cold Creek (Said areas shall be incorporated into Klamath River and Scott River)	None
Notice of Reduction 20181221	Shasta River Service Area	Cold Creek effective July 1, 2012

# 1933 ORDER CREATING...

Our Customers



*...the various claimants to the waters of the Shasta River and its tributaries...*

*...established by decree...*




# 1933 ORDER CREATING...

## Our Task

*...the most practical and economical supervision of the distribution of water be accomplished...*

*Determined to be at the Point of Diversion*




14 the state of California, that the most practical and economical supervision  
15 of the distribution of water on the part of the state may be accomplished by  
16 the creation of a water master district embracing such territory as will  
17 include all of said water rights, excepting the rights of the various claimants  
18 to the use of the waters of Inconstance Creek, Walker Slough, Stone Creek

# 1933 ORDER CREATING...

Our Area

*...district to be limited to and include all of the lands to which the above mentioned water rights are appurtenant...*



27                   IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that a water master district be and the same is  
28 hereby created, as provided in Section 37 of the Water Commission Act, said  
29 district to be limited to and include all of the lands to which the above  
30 mentioned water rights are appurtenant, excepting the lands to which the  
31 rights to the use of the waters of Inconstance Creek, Walker Slough, Stone Creek



# SHASTA RIVER DECREE, PAGE 245

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## Our Process

Each of these units can be administered more or less independently of the others during the low flow or critical period of each season, there-

*...Each of these units can be administered more or less independently of the others during the low flow or critical period of each season...*

### APPENDICES.

#### Explanatory.

For the purpose of showing the relationships of the several rights by appropriation to the use of the water of Shasta River and its tributaries established by the foregoing decree, chronologically arranged summaries of the various rights, during the irrigation season and also during the nonirrigation season, are herewith submitted as Appendices I and II, respectively.

Appendix I consists of Table 1 to 11, inclusive, showing the relationships of the several rights during the irrigation season in each of eleven units into which the stream system has been divided. Each of these units can be administered more or less independently of the others during the low flow or critical period of each season, therefore the rights in each unit have been grouped together as shown in said tables. In the first column of the respective tables the relative positions of the various rights in each unit are designated by numerals. The second, third, fourth, fifth and sixth columns are self-explanatory. In the last column of each table the numbers of the sub-paragraphs of paragraph III of the decree in which the respective rights are defined are given.

Appendix II shows the relationships of the several rights during the nonirrigation season over the stream system as a whole. The arrangement of the summary is similar to that of the tables in Appendix I, except that an additional column has been included under "Amount", in which column the amounts of the storage rights are expressed in acre-feet per season.

# OUR DILEMMA...

## THE WATERMASTER'S RESPONSIBILITY IS CHALLENGED WHEN...

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- Transactions to change the point of diversion, purpose of use or place of use are proposed without an assessment by the Deputy Watermaster or when not completing the necessary Orders or Supplemental Decree.
  - Refer to District policies regarding exception for temporary transactions exercised under W.C. Section 1011.
- Diversions of water that are *outside the Watermaster's scope and area of responsibility* are being exercised during low flow conditions or at critical periods of time.





# RECOMMENDED SOLUTIONS...

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- Create local management opportunities to improve confidence that flows required to meet downstream needs, including fish survival, can be accomplished.
- Complete Orders Revising the Shasta River Watermaster Service Area to finalize transactions implemented by the Department of Water Resources and add volunteer riparian water right users.
- Seek Safe Harbor and Incidental Take Protection for the District, its staff and participating customers.



# QUESTIONS?

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## Contact Us

- Visit our website [sswatermaster.org](http://sswatermaster.org)
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