



September 2020

218 ELECTION

INFORMATIONAL BULLETIN

Purpose of the 218 Election: In 2014 the State of California passed a law that requires basins to regulate the extraction of groundwater in a way that is sustainable (per SGMA). To govern our GSA, 7 public agencies got together and formed what is now called the East Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency (EKGSA).

The State of California has mandated that we develop a plan to evaluate and reduce pumping to a level that is considered sustainable. Currently, the 7 public entities in the East Kaweah GSA (Stone Corral ID, Ivanhoe ID, Exeter ID, Lindmore ID, Lindsay-Strathmore ID, City of Lindsay, and County of Tulare) are paying for the governance and implementation of the plan. What this means is every landowner in Ivanhoe Irrigation District is paying 1/7 of the total costs. Currently the White Areas (those areas outside of an Irrigation District or City) have not had to pay anything. These areas are being funded by the County of Tulare.

Why Landowners in IID need to vote in favor of the 218 Election: Voting yes on the 218 Election will ensure that every acre in the EKGSA pays its portion of the implementation and the Governance. As of right now, the landowner costs within the District are being covered by the District; but these same costs have been included into the District budget.

Absent the EKGSA, the State would step in and run the program at a cost substantially higher than it will be by keeping the cost and management at the local level. The bottom line is that to maintain control and keep costs as low as possible, we will need to pass the 218 Election and continue to facilitate SGMA at the local level. It is for this reason the Ivanhoe Irrigation District recommends voting yes on the East Kaweah GSA 218 Election. If you have any questions please call the District and ask for Tom Weddle.

**Thomas Weddle
General Manager**