



South Fork Kings  
Groundwater Sustainability Agency

# Upcoming Landowner Vote

For the past five years, landowners have funded the South Fork Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency's (SFKGSA) operations and activities to comply with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA). In 2018, landowners voted to approve an assessment of \$9.80/acre. SFKGSA asks landowners to consider approving an updated assessment of \$20.00/acre.

*In the coming days, you will receive a Notice of Public Hearing and Official Assessment Ballot in the mail. Please open, complete, and return your ballot.*

The updated assessment is critical to funding the GSA's Groundwater Sustainability Plan implementation and new projects to promote sustainability. The prior assessment did not provide funding for new, upcoming projects that directly benefit landowners such as recharge projects, a subsidence study, and groundwater monitoring. These projects represent steps towards achieving sustainability by 2040.



SFKGSA's current assessment will sunset this year. Without new funding, the GSA will be unable to conduct activities to comply with SGMA and it is likely that the State will intervene. State intervention is much costlier than the proposed assessment.

*SFKGSA boundary shown in green (see left)*

## Frequently Asked Questions

### *What is the South Fork Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency (SFKGSA)?*

The agency was formed in 2017 with the purpose of achieving compliance with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) for landowners within the SFKGSA. SFKGSA is one of six groundwater agencies within the Tulare Lake Groundwater Subbasin.

### *What is SGMA?*

The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act is an unfunded State law that requires groundwater subbasins be sustainable by 2040 through better management and balance of groundwater supplies.

### *What has the SFKGSA accomplished?*

-  Submitted a groundwater sustainability plan January 2020
-  Maintained local control of groundwater resources and avoided costly state intervention
-  Developed project plans for groundwater modeling, monitoring, and recharge

## Potential Costs if the Assessment Vote Fails

### Compliance with the State law is not optional.

If landowners vote in opposition to the proposed assessment, SFKGSA will be unable to fund local implementation of SGMA and the State may intervene. The State Water Resources Control Board would impose a fee structure on groundwater pumpers many times more costly than the assessment proposed by the SFKGSA and would impose restrictions without providing local benefits (such as the projects proposed by the GSA).

For more information visit <https://southforkkings.org/218election> or call (559) 423-5875.



### Public Outreach and Participation

In the coming weeks, landowners will have the opportunity to learn more about the GSA and provide input regarding SFKGSA's proposed Proposition 218 assessment. The current assessment was originally approved by vote of the landowners in 2018 and is proposed to be increased to fund groundwater sustainability activities.

Please join us for any of the upcoming informational meetings:

- 1) June 7, 2023 at 5:30 pm: Town Hall public outreach meeting
- 2) June 15, 2023 at 5:30 pm: Informational presentation at SFKGSA's regularly scheduled Board meeting
- 3) June 22, 2023 at 5:30pm: Town Hall public outreach meeting

These informational sessions will be held at the Lemoore Council Chambers at 429 C Street, Lemoore, CA 93245. The Town Hall meetings will also be broadcast via Zoom. To register for the June 7 Zoom meeting, scan the QR code.

