

## EAST KAWEAH GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

### NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR THE MLRP BASIN PROJECT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the East Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency (EKGSA) plans to adopt an initial study/mitigated negative declaration (IS/MND) for the construction and operation of the MLRP Basin Project. The public hearing to consider the Project and the accompanying IS/MND is tentatively scheduled to be held on March 24, 2025, at 3:00 pm the District Board Room located at 240 West Lindmore Street, Lindsay, CA 93247.

The Project, located on an approximately 60-acre site north of the community of Ivanhoe adjacent to Cottonwood Creek, includes construction of a multi cell recharge basin facility. The Project would assist the EKGSA in expanding its groundwater recharge efforts ultimately supporting the goals of SGMA. The Project would include two turnouts and pump structures with capacity of approximately 30 cubic feet per second each. The proposed turnout facilities would allow the EKGSA to divert surface water from Cottonwood Creek into the proposed basin area to increase groundwater storage. Diverted water would consist of Central Valley Project water diverted into Cottonwood Creek upstream of the Project site. The proposed facilities would consist of cast-in-place concrete turnout structures, control gates, trash racks, and related appurtenances. Furthermore, the Project includes pedestrian accessible conservation space in the form of terraced grading for plantings of native habitats, a dirt walking path, and a dirt space for vehicular parking.

Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), an Initial Study has been prepared, describing the degree of possible environmental impacts of the proposed project. The District has assessed the potential environmental impacts of this proposed action and has determined that they will be less than significant. Copies of the Initial Study and proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration are on file and available for public review at the District Board Room, 240 West Lindmore Street, Lindsay, CA 93247. The public review period during which the District will receive comments on the proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration will begin on January 24, 2025, and end on February 24, 2025. Comments should be in writing, if possible, and addressed to Ryan McKelvey at Provost & Pritchard, 400 East Main Street, Visalia, CA 93291 or via email at [rmckelvey@ppeng.com](mailto:rmckelvey@ppeng.com).

The site has been reviewed in accordance with Government Code Section 65962.5 and is not listed as a hazardous waste or materials site.