

KIP-348 Deprecate null from SourceTask#poll()

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Status

Current state: *Under Discussion*

Discussion thread: [here](#)

JIRA: TBD

Please keep the discussion on the mailing list rather than commenting on the wiki (wiki discussions get unwieldy fast).

Motivation

The doc of SourceTask#poll() encourages connector user to return null in order to transition to the PAUSED state when there is no available data. That is a bit weird for scala user since null should be eliminated from code base. We should encourage user to return empty list rather than a null value.

Public Interfaces

No changes to public interface.

Proposed Changes

Doc change is shown below.

```
* <p>  
* Poll this source task for new records. If no data is currently available, this method  
* should block but return control to the caller regularly (by returning {@code null} or empty list) in  
* order for the task to transition to the {@code PAUSED} state if requested to do so.  
* </p>
```

code change is shown below.

WorkerSourceTask#execute

```
if (toSend == null || toSend.isEmpty()) { // here  
    log.trace("{} Nothing to send to Kafka. Polling source for additional records", this);  
    long start = time.milliseconds();  
    toSend = poll();  
    if (toSend != null) {  
        recordPollReturned(toSend.size(), time.milliseconds() - start);  
    }  
}  
if (toSend == null || toSend.isEmpty()) // here  
    continue;
```

Compatibility, Deprecation, and Migration Plan

None

Rejected Alternatives