

California Important Farmland Finder (CIFF) Information

CIFF: Information and Functionality

The Important Farmland data is now available in a web-based searchable format, the [California Important Farmland Finder](#). We provide this application to facilitate your use of the most recent FMMP data:

- Use this application in place of the traditional Important Farmland PDF maps.
- The application can be used on mobile devices as well as your desktop computer.
- Search by county, address, zip code, lat/long coordinates; or the geolocate function on your mobile device.
- Place points, digitize areas of interest, and obtain Important Farmland acreages. Note: A buffer tool is available to determine farmland status within one mile by placing a point or drawing a polygon. This tool will provide land sellers and agents the data they need to comply with 2009 legislation (AB 2881) for real estate disclosure purposes.
- Download your area of interest in shapefile format.
- Select a range of base maps and data transparencies to optimize your use.
- The newest available data for each county will be active for your search. Historic data is not currently available on the application.

CIFF: Tips for Navigating to Area of Interest

- Click on "[California Important Farmland Finder](#)" to start the online tool. This redirects the user to the DOC Maps CIFF application (<https://maps.conservation.ca.gov/DLRP/CIFF/>).
- A Data Disclaimer window pops up. Check the box next to "*I agree to the above terms and conditions*" and then click "OK" button.
- After entering CIFF, immediately use the "Layer List" button in the upper right-hand corner and turn off the California Important Farmland layer.
- Access the "Basemap Gallery" button, just to the right of the "Layer List" button and select either "Streets" or "Imagery with Labels" to make navigation much easier.
- Use the "Find address or place" box in the upper left-hand corner to enter an address or town name to locate your area of interest and then click the "Search" button.
- When you have found your area of interest, use the "Polygon Tool" button (not Polygon Buffer Tool) just below the "Find address or place" box to draw a polygon around your area of interest and click the "Execute" button. Important Farmland (IFL) statistics should be displayed for your

polygon, even if the California Important Farmland layer is turned off. Of course, you can always turn it back on again using the “**Layer List**” button.

- If using both the California Important Farmland layer and Basemap, the data needs to be made partially transparent in order to see the basemap. In the “**Layer List**” window, click on the three dots to the right of the “California Important Farmland: Most Recent” layer. Choose “**Transparency**” and a slider window pops up. Slide the marker from “**Opaque**” towards “**Transparent**” (to the right). A transparency level of 50% or higher is recommended to view both the Important Farmland data and the basemap). Close the “**Layer List**” window.
- To clear the polygon and statistical results in order to draw another area of interest polygon, click on the “**X**” to the right of “**Area of Interest**” and, also, to the right of “**Area Statistics**”.
- The “**Help**” icon has information and instructions on how to use the many tools available within the CIFF application.

CIFF: Point Buffer Tool

The Point Buffer Tool allows you to choose a point and then create a buffer radius around the point, such as 1 mile. This function is primarily used to satisfy the AB 2881 Right to Farm Disclosure which requires that, as part of real estate transactions, land sellers and agents must disclose whether the property is located within one mile of farmland as designated on the most recent Important Farmland Map.

- Click on the Point Buffer Tool below the “**Find address or place**” box.
- When this tool opens, choose the Point icon under “**Input Location of Interest**” to place a point. You can choose the red icon to remove the point and try again, if necessary.
- Under “**Buffer Distance**,” type in the number needed (i.e. 1) and choose the units using the dropdown, if needed (the default is miles). Click on the “**Execute**” button. A circle shows up around your point and an “**Output**” window pops up that shows the important farmland categories within the circle along with acreage and percent of each category.
- Both the “**Area of Interest**” map and the “**Area Statistics**” can be exported by clicking on the three dots to the right and following the directions.
- To remove the “**point**” and “**buffer**” from the map, toggle to the Input view at the top of the “**Point Buffer Tool**” window and click the red icon below “**Input Location of Interest**” and click on the “**Execute**” button. Close the Point Buffer Tool window when finished.

CIFF: Polygon Tool

The Polygon Tool allows you to draw a polygon around an area of interest and then execute to show the important farmland categories, acreages, and percentages.

Under “**Input Location of Interest**”, the “**extent**” icon lets you make a rectangle shaped area of interest, the “**polygon**” icon lets you draw a multi-sided polygon, and the “**freehand polygon**” icon lets you draw more intricate polygons. Choose which icon works best for your area of interest.

- Click on the Polygon Tool below the “**Find address or place**” box.
- When this tool opens, choose the appropriate icon (extent, polygon, or freehand polygon) under “**Input Location of Interest**” to draw a polygon.
- Once you finish drawing your polygon, click on the “**Execute**” button. An Output window pops up that shows the important farmland categories within the polygon along with acreage and percent of each category.
- Both the “**Area of Interest**” map and the “**Area Statistics**” can be exported by clicking on the three dots to the right and following the directions.
- To remove the “**polygon**” from the map, toggle to the Input view at the top of the “**Polygon Tool**” window and click the red icon below “**Input Location of Interest**” and click on the “**Execute**” button. Close the Polygon Tool window when finished.

CIFF: Polygon Buffer Tool

The Polygon Buffer Tool allows you to draw a polygon around an area of interest, add a buffer, and then execute to show the important farmland categories, acreages, and percentages.

Under “**Input Location of Interest**”, the “**extent**” icon lets you make a rectangle shaped area of interest, the “**polygon**” icon lets you draw a multi-sided polygon, and the “**freehand polygon**” icon lets you draw more intricate polygons. Choose which icon works best for your area of interest.

- Click on the Polygon Buffer Tool below the “**Find address or place**” box.
- When this tool opens, choose the appropriate icon (extent, polygon, or freehand polygon) under “**Input Location of Interest**” to draw a polygon.
- Under “**Buffer Distance**”, type in the number needed (i.e. 1) and choose the units using the dropdown, if needed (the default is miles). Click on the “**Execute**” button. A shaded buffer polygon shows up around your original polygon and an “**Output**” window pops up that shows the important farmland categories within the polygon and buffer along with acreage and percent of each category.

- Both the “Area of Interest” map and the “Area Statistics” can be exported by clicking on the three dots to the right and following the directions.
- To remove the “polygon” and “buffer” from the map, toggle to the “Input” view at the top of the “Polygon Buffer Tool” window and click the red icon below “Input Location of Interest” and click on the “Execute” button. Close the Polygon Buffer Tool window when finished.