California Important Farmland Finder (CIFF) Information and Instructions

<u>CIFF Information and Functionality</u>

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:

- 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.

<u>Instructions for using CIFF</u>

1. 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**. The viewer opens to show the State of California. There are two layers open, *County Boundaries* and *California Important Farmland: Most Recent*, and a topographic base map. On the upper right hand side, click on the Layer List icon to show the layers available and toggle them on and off. Next to the Layer List icon, the Legend icon shows all the categories of land use types within the Important Farmland dataset. The Basemap Gallery icon lets the user choose between canvas, imagery, street layers, and various topo maps. These basemap layers are supplied by ESRI and are for reference only. The About icon gives information about the Important Farmland data. The Help icon has information and instructions on how to use the many tools available within the CIFF application.

2. Use the search function to find your area of interest. On the upper left hand side, there is a white box [▼ Find address or place 🔍]. Type in a county name, place name, zip code, an address, or lat/long coordinates and then click on the Search button [🔍]. There is also a geolocate function if you are using a mobile

device. The map will zoom to the chosen area of interest. You can use the Zoom in (+) and Zoom out (-) buttons to adjust the zoom level. The default extent button zooms out to the whole state view. The basemap is hidden under the Important Farmland data, so 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 (or imagery). Close the Layer List window.

3. Point Buffer Tool: Below the search bar, there are three icons. 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. 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 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.

4. Polygon Tool: Located next to the Point Buffer Tool under the search bar. 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. 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.

5. Polygon Buffer Tool: Located next to the Polygon Tool under the search bar. 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. Use the red icon 🗑 to remove the polygon and start over, 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 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 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 Buffer Tool window when finished.

6. Map Services: To use the map services for Important Farmland data, you need to go to the DOC Maps webpage: https://maps.conservation.ca.gov/. Within the DOC Maps page, under *Subject Areas*, choose "Agriculture". Scroll all the way to the bottom. Under *Agriculturally Related Data & Maps*, the second entry has Map Services listed under Access. Click on "Map Services". A list pops up with different years available. Unless you are interested in only a specific year, it is recommended that you choose DLRP/CaliforniaImportantFarmland_mostrecent. The FeatureServer lets you *download* the data and the MapServer is used to *view* the data. Choose which service best suits your needs. Click on the service and then highlight the pathway at the top of the webpage (https://spatialservices.conservation.ca.gov/arcgis/rest/services/DLRP/CaliforniaImportantFarmland_mostrecent/MapServer). Copy the pathway. Open ArcCatalog and, under Catalog Tree, scroll to GIS Servers. Click on GIS Services to open up the Contents pane. Click on the icon next to Add ArcGIS Server to open the wizard window. Choose Use GIS Services and click **Next**. Next to Server URL, paste in the service pathway from above and press the **Finish** button to add the service. Open ArcMap. Click on the **Add Data** button (plus symbol) and scroll to

GIS Servers. Click on the arcgis on spatialservices.conservation.ca.gov (user) service to view the folders. Open the CIFF folder, choose DLRP_statewide_landuse and click **Add**.