

## DRAFT Survey Plan – ALETF Community Outreach Phase 1

The survey plan below aims to gather direct input from priority communities on challenges and needs related to equitable land access in order to inform the Task Force’s first draft of recommendations and final report. This survey is one of multiple outreach methods that the Task Force is using to reach communities impacted by land inequities.

This survey will complement and set the stage for outreach phases 2 and 3, which will solicit community feedback on draft recommendations followed by sharing out the final report.

### Target Population:

A wide range of land stewards including farmers, farmworkers,, ranchers and members of Native American tribes who:

1. Are small scale, underserved or “socially disadvantaged,”
2. Live and work in California, and
3. Bare the brunt of land inequities and limited access

### Research Questions:

1. What are the primary challenges related to land access that the Task Force should prioritize addressing in their recommendations?
2. What resources are needed most by priority communities to address land access challenges?

### Expected Outcomes:

1. Input from priority communities before the first set of draft recommendations.
2. Reach a larger and more diverse set of community members re: geography, language, those who might not attend public meetings or listening sessions for many reasons, etc.
3. Improved public access to the Task Force’s public engagement process.
4. A versatile, share-able tool for Task Force members to collect input from their communities.
5. Identify volunteers for future interviews to have deeper conversations about land equity and experiences applying for and/or implementing grants and loans.

## Distribution Plan:

The survey will be distributed in digital and paper formats in multiple languages and in a variety of different settings including conferences, email communications, and in-person one-on-one conversations.

## Who will distribute?

- Task Force (TF) members
- Partner organizations that serve the target populations listed above
- SGC staff and TF members at outreach events

## Timeline:

- Survey Phase 1: 9/27/24-12/31/24
  - Review data we've received; Assess if we should keep distribution live
- Survey Phase 2: 1/1/25-3/31/25
  - This would include conferences in early 2025

## Follow up:

- Invite respondents to Task Force and subcommittee meetings
- Share survey results with respondents and invite them to weigh in on the draft recommendations
- Share final recommendations with survey respondents

## Compensation:

- Community partners will be compensated for help with distribution.
- SGC staff are exploring how to compensate those participants who agree to engage beyond the survey, e.g. sit for an interview or attend a listening session.

## Draft Survey Design and Text:

### Introduction

The California Agricultural Land Equity Task Force (Task Force) is made up of thirteen appointed members working together to identify and address barriers and opportunities to equitably increase agricultural land access and stable tenure for Native American tribes and socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers in California. The members will submit a report of recommendations to the legislature and Governor by Jan. 1, 2026 on how to address the agricultural land equity crisis. This survey is one of various outreach methods that the Task Force is using to reach communities impacted by land inequities.

The purpose of this survey is to hear directly from those impacted by land inequities about their primary challenges related to land access and about ways to address these challenges.

This survey aims to reach a wide range of land stewards including farmers, farmworkers, ranchers, and members of Native American tribes who:

- Live and work in California
- Have been impacted by land inequities
- Have experiences and ideas related to equitable land access to share with the Task Force

The staff administering this survey are committed to sharing the survey results and the Task Force's final recommendations with all survey respondents. Please fill out question 14 to indicate your preferred follow-up method.

The survey is available in English, Spanish and Chinese. Please reach out to [landequity@sgc.ca.gov](mailto:landequity@sgc.ca.gov) with additional language access requests.

The survey closes at 11:59 PM on December 31, 2024.

## Questions (\* required)

### About you

1. Email\*
2. Name\*
3. Farm name/ affiliation
4. Are you based in California?\*

  - a. Yes or no

5. How many acres do you have in production?
  - a. More than 0 acres, less than 20 acres
  - b. More than 20 acres, less than 50 acres
  - c. More than 50 acres, less than 100 acres
  - d. 100+ acres
  - e. N/a

### Agricultural Land Equity Priorities

6. Which of the following best describe the main challenges you have experienced with land access and secure tenure? Please expand below to share details on your unique experience. (multiple choice, can select multiple options)\*
  - a. Cost of land

- b. Availability of land
- c. Viability of land available
- d. Lack of water or water infrastructure challenges
- e. Development pressure
- f. Short term lease or other lease challenges
- g. Inaccessibility of grants or loans
- h. Lack of technical assistance (i.e. external support to assist with different aspects of land access)
- i. Regulatory barriers on existing land
- j. Restrictions on tribal sovereignty

Please expand on the challenges selected above (short answer):

7. What kind of strategies and resources would help you address these barriers?

Please expand below to share details. (multiple choice, can select multiple options)\*

- a. Access and sovereignty on ancestral lands
- b. Financial support for purchasing land
- c. Support with identifying land to rent or buy
- d. Technical support for accessing or managing land
- e. More beneficial leasing terms
- f. Advanced notice and priority when a land sale happens in my community
- g. Fewer regulations on what I can do on the land

Please expand on the challenges selected above (short answer):

8. Do you have a land access success story? Can you share 1-3 reasons for your success? (short answer)

### **Grants and Resources**

9. Have you ever applied for a loan, grant program or other funding opportunity, even if you weren't successful? If yes, which one(s)? If no, why not:

- a. Yes (which one(s): \_\_\_\_\_
- b. No (why not): \_\_\_\_\_

10. Can we follow up with you to schedule an interview about your experience with the application process you noted above? If so, we'll email you with next steps and compensate you for your time.

- a. Yes

- b. No
- c. n/a

**About you**

11. How do you identify? (Please select all that apply from the alphabetical list below)
- a. Beginning or young farmer
  - b. Farmer
  - c. Farmer (urban)
  - d. Farmworker
  - e. Grazier
  - f. Land steward
  - g. Rancher (livestock, dairy)
  - h. Other (please explain):
12. How do you identify? (Please select all that apply from the alphabetical list below)
- a. American Indian, Native American, or Alaska Native
  - b. Asian or Asian American
  - c. Black or African American
  - d. Hispanic, Latino/x, or Spanish
  - e. Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
  - f. White, Caucasian, or European
  - g. Other (explain if you'd like):
  - h. Do not wish to answer
13. What is the legal relationship that best describes the land you steward and/or work on?
- a. I fully or partially own land (including fee lands)
  - b. I lease private land
  - c. I lease public land
  - d. I operate on trust land
  - e. I have an informal agreement
  - f. If you lease:
    - i. I have a 1-3 year lease
    - ii. I have a 4-9 year least
    - iii. I have a 10+ year lease
  - g. Other (please explain): \_\_\_\_\_

**Follow up**

14. How would you like us to follow up with you as the Agricultural Land Equity Task Force drafts their recommendations? (select multiple options)

- a. Add me to the e-list to receive infrequent, periodic email updates.
- b. I would like to see and/or comment on a copy of the draft recommendations before they are finalized.
- c. I would like to receive a copy of the final recommendations.
- d. I am willing to conduct an interview to share my land access experiences and ideas in more depth. (Your time will be compensated.)
- e. Please do not follow up.
- f. Other: \_\_\_\_\_

15. Thank you for participating! Do you want to share anything else with us?