

California Agricultural Land Equity Task Force

A landscape photograph of the Coachella Valley. The foreground is dominated by a large field of bright yellow rapeseed flowers. To the left, there is a field of dark green crops, possibly alfalfa. In the middle ground, there are rolling hills with patches of green and brown. A white house is visible on the left side of the image. The sky is overcast and grey.

February 12, 2025 | 9:00 am – 5:00 pm

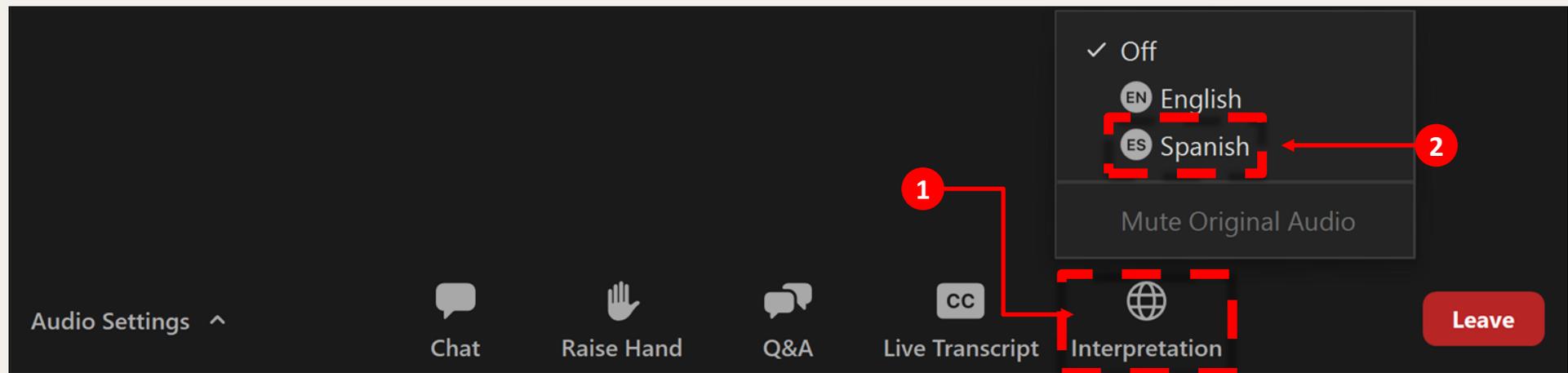
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Coachella Valley

Listening to Language Interpretation

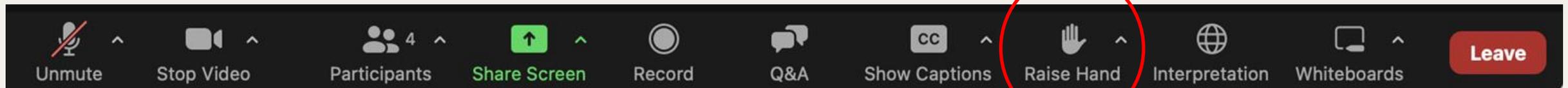
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Public Comment Process

IN PERSON

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VIRTUAL

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Participation Guidelines



**Share, Listen,
Learn**



**Respect Different
Perspectives**



Stay on Point

Agenda Review – Day 1

Wednesday, February 12

- **Approval of Meeting Summary** from 11.13/14.2024
- **Staff Report**
- **Presentations and Discussion**
- **Outreach and Engagement Update**
- **Working Session**
- **General Public Comment**

Agenda Review – Day 2

Thursday, February 13

- Working Session: Interactive discussions
- Work Planning and Next Steps
- General Public Comment

Roll Call

Welcome Remarks

Meeting Summary from November 13-14, 2024

Staff Report

Staff Report: Updates and Announcements

- ALETF Member Resource Repository now live
- Land use policy workshop with UC Irvine's Center for Land, Environment & Natural Resources
- Updates from ALETF members

Staff Report: Budget (as of Dec. 31, 2024)

Category	FYs 22-23 & 23-24 expenditures	Current FY (24-25) expenditures through 12/24	Total budgeted	Total obligated	Total remaining
Personnel (SGC staff)	\$157,875	\$177,843	\$1,100,760	\$1,100,760	\$0
Operating expenses (travel, facilitator, language access, etc.)	\$100,429	\$28,063	\$884,240	\$376,829	\$467,411
Research and technical assistance	\$0	\$0	\$270,000	\$0	\$270,000
Local assistance (e.g., grants, pilot projects, research)	\$0	\$0	\$1,000,000	\$0	\$1,000,000
Total	\$258,304	\$205,906	\$3,255,000	\$1,477,589	\$1,737,411

Subcommittee Updates

Subcommittees:

- Community Outreach
- Grants & Resources
- Land Access, Acquisition, and Ancestral Land Return
- Land Tenure
- Land Use Governance and Sovereignty
- Sustaining Natural and Cultural Resources

Staff report: Agricultural Land Equity Speaker Series

- Virtual series, open to the public
- Upcoming presentations:
 - **Zach Ducheneaux**, past Administrator of the USDA's Farm Services Agency: Tuesday, March 11, 2 - 3 p.m.
 - **Michelle Lee**, Founder of The Circle Law Group, P.C.: Tuesday, March 18, 2-3 p.m.
 - **Madeleine Fairbairn**, Associate Professor, Environmental Studies, UCSC: Tuesday, March 24, 2 - 3 p.m.

Staff Report: Interagency Review

SGC staff requesting review from Strategic Growth Council member agencies to:

- Offer feedback re: efficacy and feasibility of relevant recommendations for Task Force members' consideration
- Suggest potential pathways for implementation
- Identify areas where agency strategies and programs align with Task Force's recommendations

Staff Report: Interagency Review

Process and Timeline:

- Introductory meeting with reviewers in early March, distribute revised Draft 1
- Feedback received by early April
- SGC staff consolidate & summarize feedback for subcommittee and Task Force review in April and May

Staff Report: Advisory Committee (AC)

- Established to support the ALETF in developing and refining recommendations.
- AC members serve in an advisory capacity and do not have decision-making authority.
- Goal is to complement, not duplicate, ALETF members' experiences and expertise.

Identified topics requiring further guidance:

- Corporate investment and land consolidation
- Legal and financial structures impacting equitable land access
- Planning and land use policies
- Policy mechanisms to advance sovereignty and ancestral land return for CA Tribal Nations
- Policy drafting, analysis, and advocacy
- Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) and related water policies and impacts on land access
- Real estate and agricultural land markets

Staff Report: Advisory Committee

Members

- Catherine Brinkley, UC Davis
- Adam Calo, Radboud University
- Nitumigaabow Champagne, Dry Creek Rancheria Band of Pomo Indians
- David Cobb, US Solidarity Economy Network
- Jamie Fanous, Community Alliance with Family Farmers
- Angel S. Fernandez–Bou, Union of Concerned Scientists
- Cassandra Lynn Ferrera, Center for Ethical Land Transition
- Kathryn Lyddan, Convivial Land Consulting, LLC
- Marisa Raya, UC Davis

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Guest Speakers

Guest Speaker: Land consolidation, land markets, and policy responses

Adam Calo, Assistant Professor, Planning and Environment
Radboud University

Discussion: Key Insights

- What are your key takeaways?
- How will you incorporate these insights into your recommendations?

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Lunch Break 12-1pm

Presentation: **Local conditions in Coachella and community-driven solutions**

Elias Acevez, Plurinational Land Reform in CA Working Group
Irene de Barraicua, Lideres Campesinas, Task Force member
Sergio Carranza, Pueblo Unido

Presentation:

Local conditions in Coahuila and community-driven solutions

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15 Minute Break

Outreach & Engagement Reports

Land Access Experiences Survey

Highlights:

- Open since October 2024
- Closing in mid-April, share analysis for May meeting, incorporate into August draft
- Responses (177)
 - English: 82
 - Spanish: 46
 - Chinese: 49
- Most respondents < 100 acres

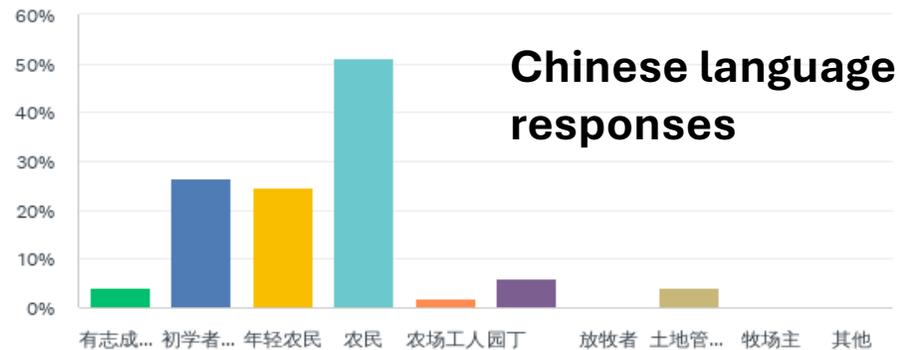
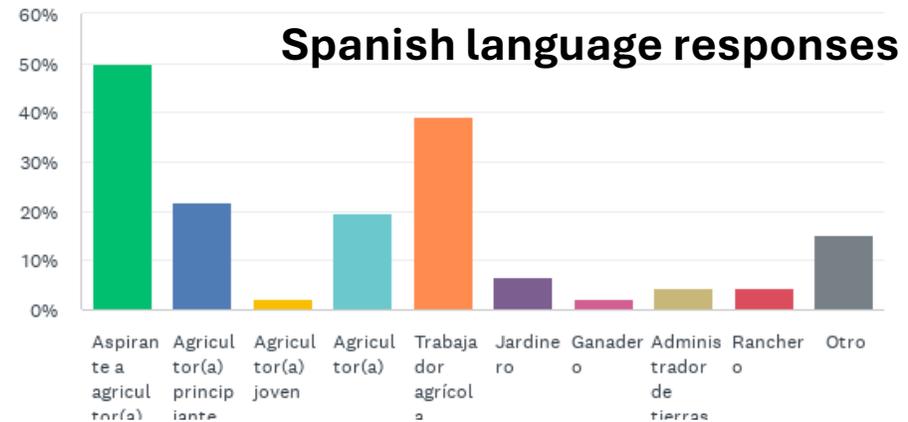
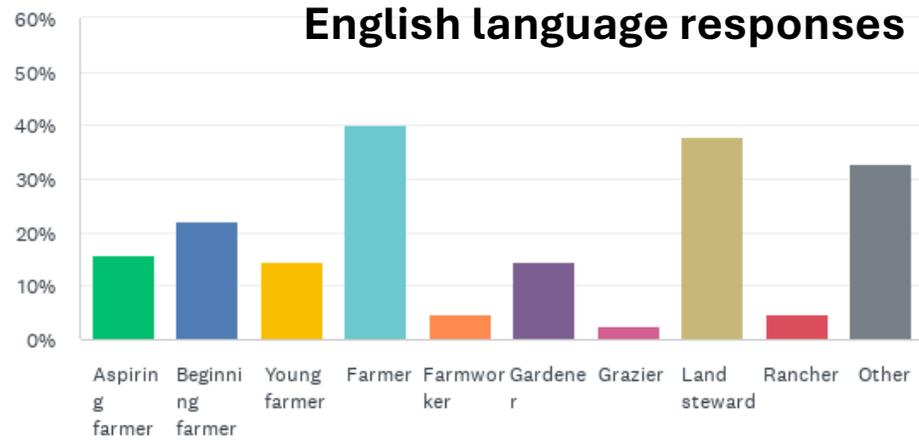
You're invited to take the
**LAND ACCESS
EXPERIENCES SURVEY**

The California Agricultural Land Equity Task Force is seeking your input on your experiences, challenges, and priorities related to equitable land access in California!

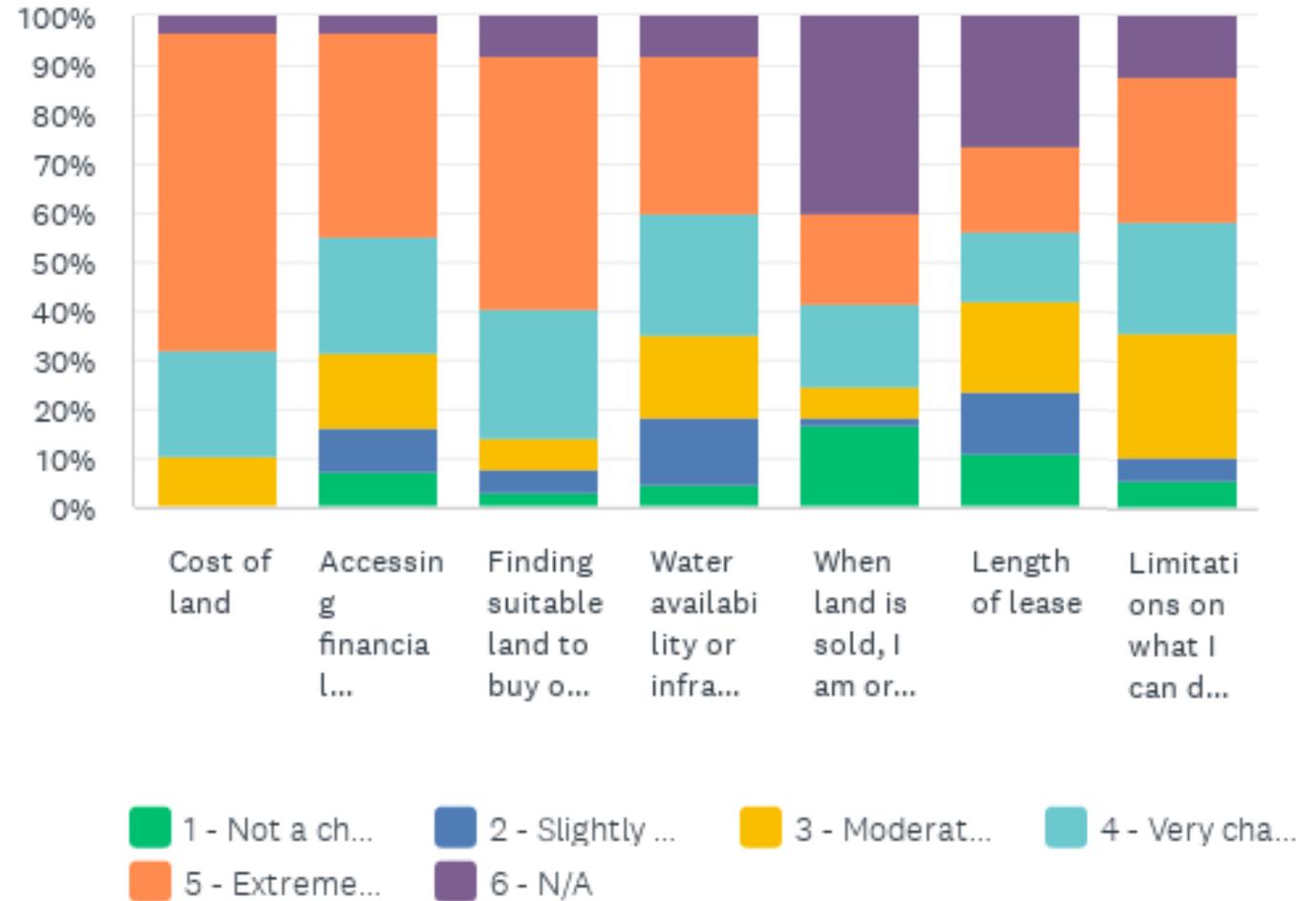


Take the survey today!
bit.ly/3YP8puK

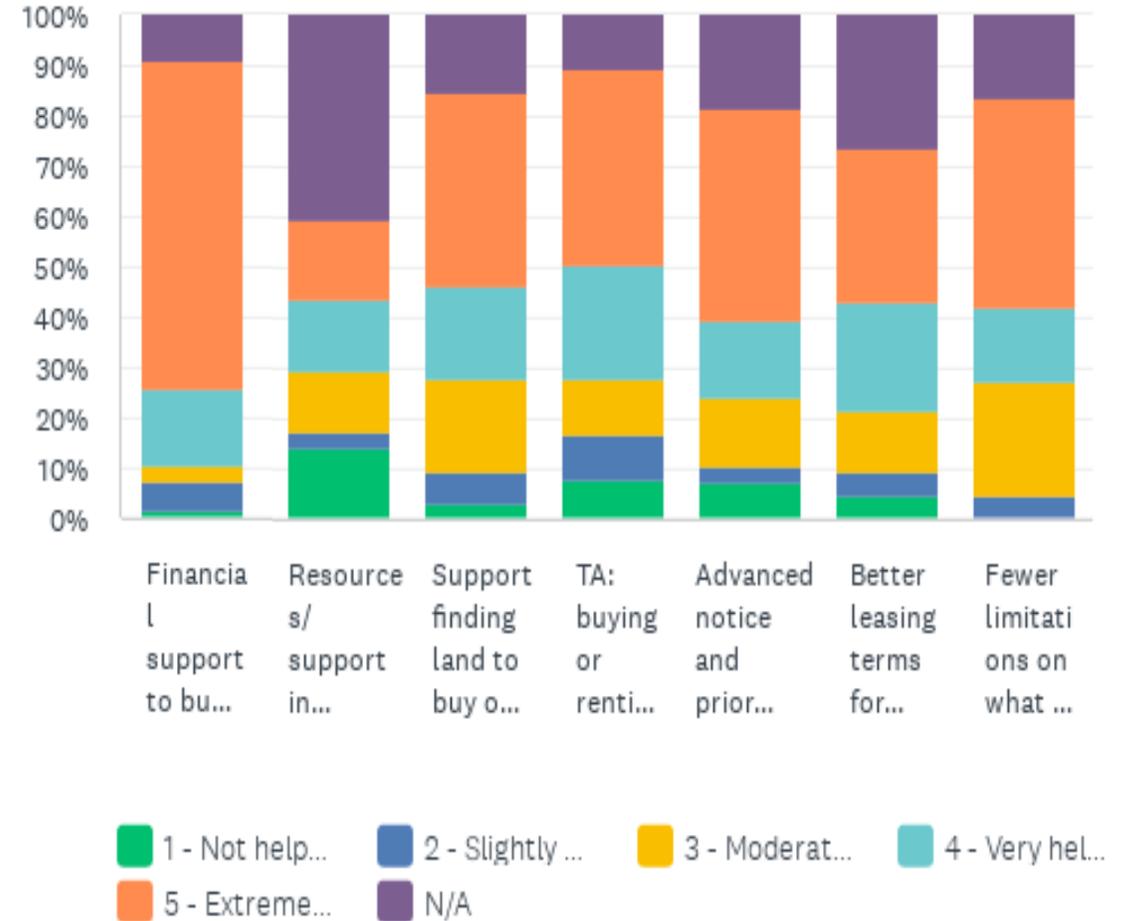
Do you identify with any of the following?



What are your major past or present challenges related to land access?



What resources would be most helpful to address your challenges?



Site Visit Report-Backs

What did you learn that helped deepen your understanding of land access challenges or solutions?

1. Esperanza Community Farm (Nov. Meeting)
 - Thea, Irene
2. Allan Renz, Renz Livestock (Nov. Meeting)
 - Dorian, Lawrence
3. Temalpakh Farm
 - Emily, Thea
4. Torres Martinez compost site
 - Lawrence, James

Engagement Sessions Report Backs

What did you learn that helped deepen your understanding of land access challenges or solutions?

1. EcoFarm Conference session (1/23/25)
 - James, Nelson
2. Coachella engagement session (2/11/25)
 - Irene, Dorian

Looking Ahead: Outreach Feb-June '25

1. Sonoma County Ag + Open Space Buy-Protect-Sell Resource Fair (2/20/25)
 - Camille
2. CAFF Small Farm Conference (2/23/25)
 - Qi and Dorian, with Camille's and Caleb's assistance
3. State Board of Food and Agriculture (3/4/25)
 - Camille, with Doria's and Thea's assistance
4. May Quarterly Meeting, Susanville (5/14-5/15)
 - Lawrence
5. UCANR partnership (March-June)
 - Engagement sessions on draft recommendations
 - Service provider interviews to fill in gaps

Discussion: Outreach Feb-June '25

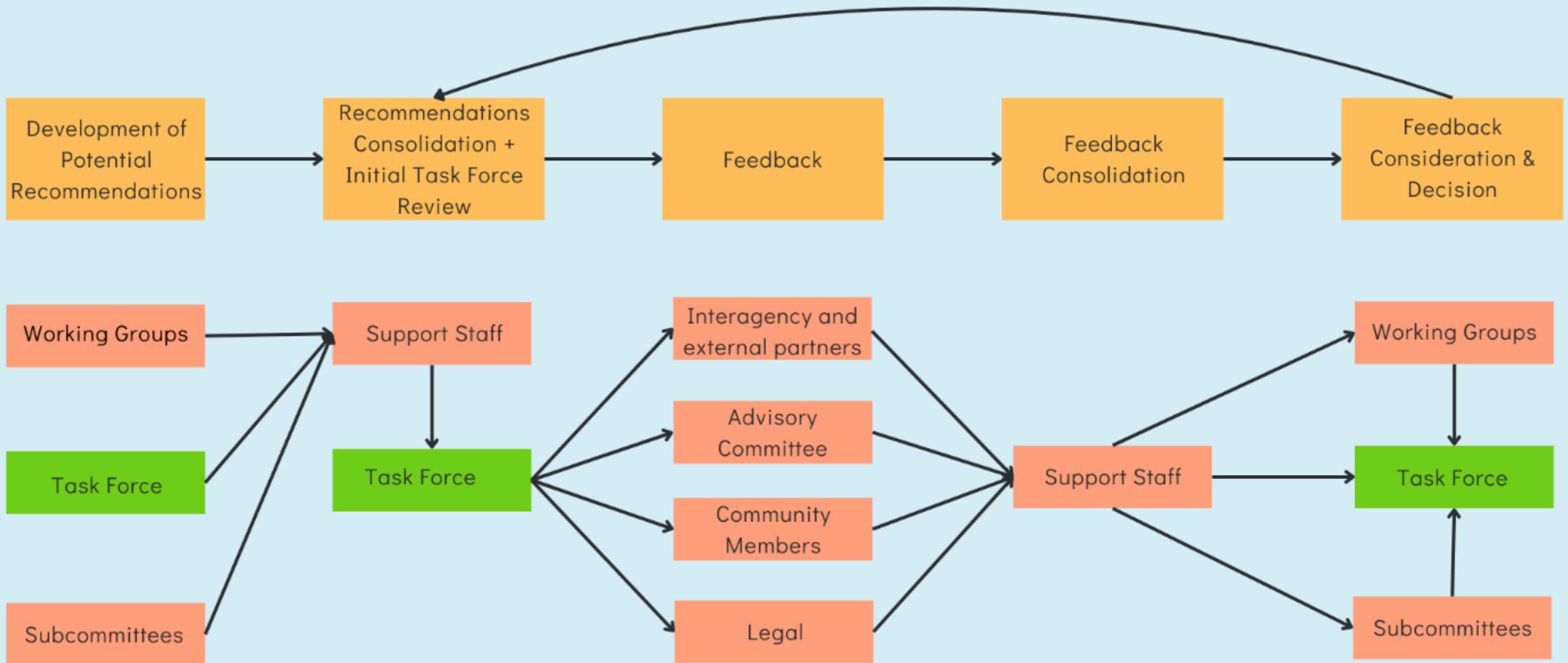
CAFF Small Farm Conference plans

Other sessions

1. What do you want to learn from community engagement sessions?
2. Are there specific topics or recommendations you would prioritize?
3. Considerations:
 - Limited time/ capacity in each session
 - Depth: Same few questions addressed during all sessions
 - Breadth: Wider range of questions, each addressed in 1-2 sessions
 - Different languages, communities, contexts

Working Session

ALETF Final Report Drafting Process



Report timeline: February – May 2025

Feb.

- ALETF reviews and issues feedback on Report draft 1
- Staff revise based on ALETF feedback

March

- Staff share revised draft 1 with AC and interagency reviewers

April

- Staff consolidate and summarize feedback from reviewers, make revisions, flag items for Task Force discussion
- Subcommittees consider draft 1 feedback and revisions

May

- ALETF reviews draft 2

Review Draft Report & Complete Worksheet (~1 hour)

Worksheets developed to help you critically assess the draft report's content.

- Use this time to review the draft and complete your worksheet
- Key Focus Areas: Sections marked with a star (*) indicate priority topics for tomorrow's discussion.

Alternative use of time:

- Meet with your working group partner or subcommittee members to refine and advance a recommendation concept.

General Public Comment

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Agenda Review – Day 2

Thursday, February 13 from 8:15 am – 12:30 pm

- Working Session: Interactive discussions
- Work Planning and Next Steps
- General Public Comment

Thank You!

The ALETF reconvenes tomorrow 02/13 at 8:15 am

California Agricultural Land Equity Task Force



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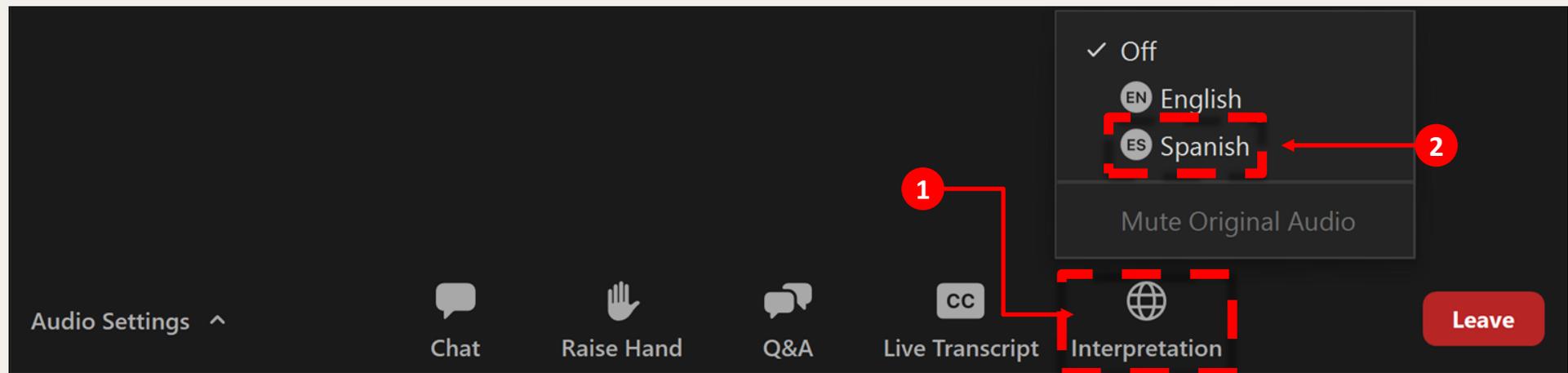
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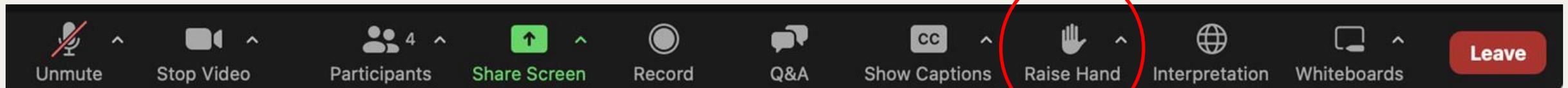
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Roll Call

Agenda Review

Thursday, February 13 from 8:15 am – 12:30 pm

- Working Session: Interactive discussions
- Work Planning and Next Steps
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Working Session

Working Session Overview

Goals:

- 1) Share overarching feedback on draft structure
- 2) Discuss overview section to align on key context and priorities
- 3) “Red flag review” of recommendation concepts

Timeframe: 3 hours total

- *Break at ~10:15 am*

Working Session Overview

Discussion Structure:

- Pair-and-share (10-15 mins)
 - Exchange thoughts and ideas with your neighbor
- Overarching feedback (15-30 mins)
 - Full group discussion on full report scope
- In-Depth Review of Overview section (90-105 mins)
 - Priority communities
 - Barriers
- “Red Flag” Review of Recommendation Concepts (20-30 mins)
 - What is missing?
 - What is not going to add value?

15 Minute Break

Working Session, Continued

Work Planning and Next Steps

Work Planning and Next Steps

Overview:

- Upcoming ALETF meetings
- Subcommittees and working groups
- Next steps

ALETF Meetings

Meeting Dates in 2025	Location	Topics, Presenters, Materials
February 12 & 13	Coachella Valley	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Agricultural land markets and models to address barriers for under-resourced farmers and ranchers• Review and discuss first draft of report
May 14 & 15	Susanville	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Topics to address?• Review and discuss second draft of report
August 13 & 14	TBD	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review and discuss third draft of report
October 15 & 16	TBD	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review and discuss final draft of report
November 13	TBD	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Finalize report
December 11	Sacramento	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Approve final report for submission

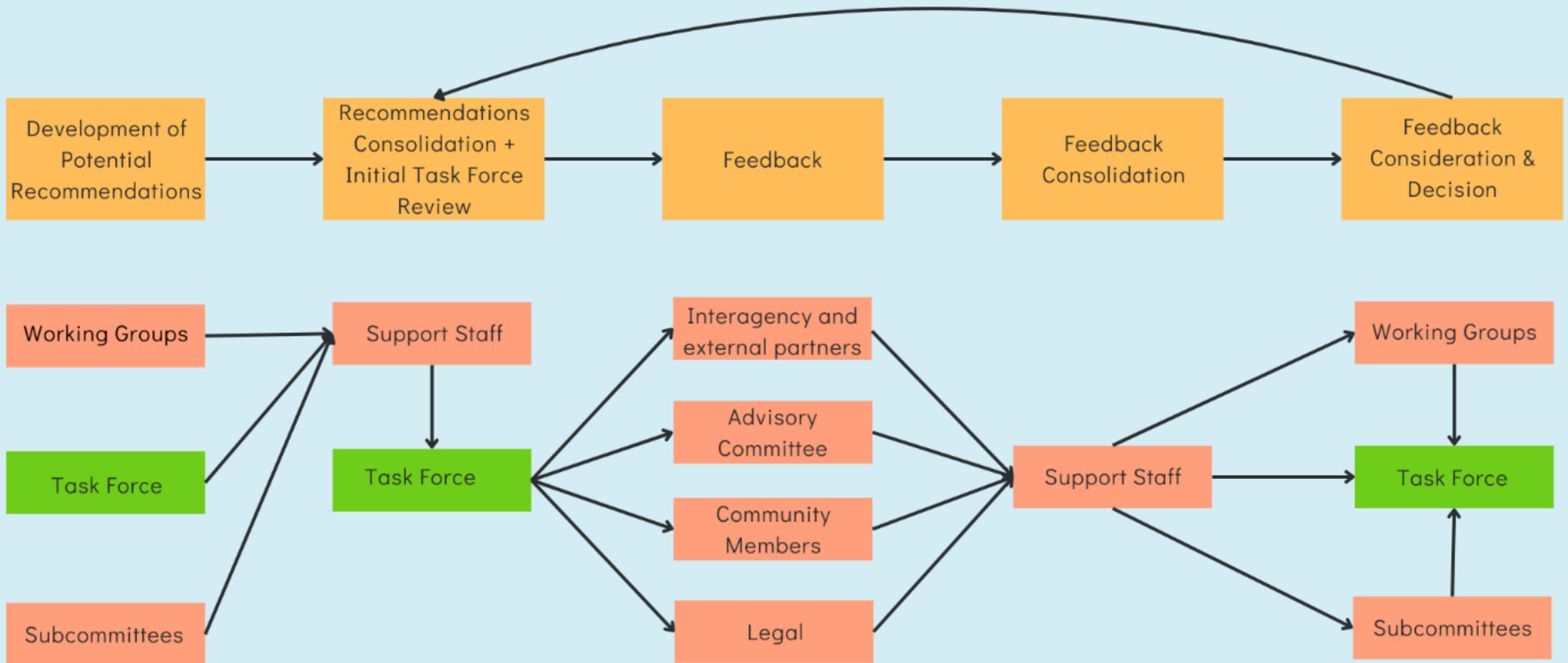
Subcommittees & Working Groups

Subcommittee	Members	Working group(s) + members
Community Outreach	Burgueno, Franco, Hawkins, Zhou, de Barraicua	None
Grants & Resources	de Barraicua, Nakahara, Rittenhouse, Robinson, Schwartzman	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financing: Nakahara, Robinson • Grant program outcomes: Rittenhouse, Robinson • Tax laws and incentives: Nakahara, Schwartzman
Land Access, Acquisition, & Ancestral Land Return	Brown, Burgueno, Dahlquist-Willard, Franco, Harlan, Hawkins, Nakahara, Robinson, Schwartzman, Zhou	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land Back: Burgueno, Franco • Public lands: Harlan, Schwartzman • Land markets: Brown, Dahlquist Willard • Land succession strategies: Hawkins, Schwartzman
Land Tenure	Burgueno, Schwartzman, Brown, Nakahara, Robinson	Land Tenure: Burgueno, Schwartzman Landowner-Tenant Relationships (“Bill of Rights”): Schwartzman, Nakahara
Land Use Governance & Sovereignty	Burgueno, Payán, de Barraicua	Land Use Governance & Sovereignty: Burgueno, Payán
Sustaining Natural & Cultural Resources	Burgueno, Franco, Harlan , Rittenhouse	None

Reminder: Role of Subcommittees and Working Groups

- **Working groups** explore ideas and refine language on an as-needed basis. Incorporate into subcommittee conversations.
- **Subcommittees** review language and decide whether should be included in draft report.
 - If yes, the language is added for Task Force review.
 - If no, the language is either removed or added to a separate document for further consideration.

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Next Steps

Outreach and engagement:

- Survey distribution
- Attend relevant events and distribute outreach materials
- Plan and host engagement sessions for March – June 2025
- Agricultural Land Equity Speaker Series

Next Steps

ALETF meeting in May:

- Review second draft of report
- Host Tribal Nations engagement session

General Public Comment

Public Comment

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General Public Comment

Summarize, Action Items, Next Steps

- Summary of Actions taken
- Review of Action Items and follow up items
- Meeting notes, recording, and materials posted to:
<https://sgc.ca.gov/meetings/caletf/>

Thank You!