California Drought Response Initiative for Irrigated Cropland **Fiscal Year 2014 Application Screening Worksheet** **A Screening Worksheet must be completed for each eligible EQIP application.**	
Applicant Name:	**Application No:**
Evaluator Name:	**Date:**

This screening worksheet must be completed for each eligible producer applying for financial assistance. Applications will be accepted on a continuous basis; however, application periods are established for purposes of evaluation, ranking, and funding decisions. The goal of this screening tool is to ensure that conservation technical assistance and EQIP program benefits are managed efficiently to address priority conservation needs related to this initiative.

Completion of this worksheet and documentation does not constitute agreement to provide EQIP program benefits nor approval of a program contract. The original screening worksheet should be filed with the applicant case file or EQIP program file and unless the application is determined to be ineligible, the screening priority (high, medium, and low) must be recorded in ProTracts. Upon request, a copy of any completed screening worksheet may be provided to the applicant. The priority determination of high, medium or low must be recorded in ProTracts for this applicant.

Screening Criteria Questions	**Action**
Application schedule of operations includes conservation practice, 441 – Irrigation System Microirrigation or 442 – Irrigation System Sprinkler, designed for permanent crops on land in transition from pasture, forage or row crop to permanent crops, or designed for conversion from vineyard to orchard or orchard to vineyard.	If Yes, **Low Priority** Status in ProTracts. If No, continue to the next question.
Both Question 1 and 2 below are true: 1. On fallowed fields, conservation practices in the EQIP application schedule of operations are intended to address the immediate impacts of the drought and applicant intends to implement scheduled conservation practices within 3 months of contract obligation. 2. Applicant will not receive sufficient water for a crop and fields will be fallowed* this growing season; and, at least one scenario below is true: • Fallowed fields have bare soil with less than 60 percent residue on the soil surface and applicant will have adequate soil moisture to establish a small grain cover crop to protect bare soil from erosion. • Fallowed fields have standing residue or a cover crop from the previous growing season and applicant will leave residue or cover crop standing to protect soil from erosion. • Fallowed fields have bare soil with less than 60 percent residue on the soil surface, but applicant will not have adequate soil moisture to establish a cover crop. Applicant will employ mulching to resist the force of wind and trap blowing soil. ***Fallowed is defined as foregoing the planting of the normal cash crop due to reductions in water supply.**	If Yes, **High Priority** Status in ProTracts. If No, continue to the next question.

Applicant will implement conservation practices intended to address the immediate impacts of the drought and scheduled practices are intended for implementation this irrigation season to use and manage irrigation water more efficiently; and, any irrigation system improvements are not associated with a new groundwater well.			If Yes, **Medium Priority** in ProTracts. If No, **Low Priority** Status in ProTracts
		Application Priority Status:	
District Conservationist Approval Signature:		Date Approved:	