



Spotted Lanternfly

Nationwide Visual Surveys

Field Map

2026 User Manual



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Program: Spotted Lanternfly

Application: ArcGIS Field Maps

Host: USDA-MRP GIS Enterprise (Portal)

URL: <https://maps.mrp.usda.gov/arcgis/>

Map Title: PPQ SLF Nationwide Visual Surveys 2026 Field Map

**** Refer to the “[Mobile Data Collection Tools](#)” public webpage for all training support.**

***2026 Disclaimer:** Training techniques or workflows held within are designed as basic job aids. Mobile collection tools and technology used are constantly being improved upon. End users should consult with management for current workflows and standards.*

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Overview

****There are no data collection changes for the 2026 application from the previous year.****

This document provides guidelines for conducting electronic data collection for the Spotted Lanternfly (SLF) program using the [ArcGIS Field Maps](#) application on mobile devices. The application was developed to reflect program specifics and is intended to replace paper surveys.

The SLF Nationwide Visual Survey is used to collect data in states that do not have an established population. All surveys in this data set are assumed to be negative.

The look and feel of the map for SLF Nationwide Visual Surveys is the same as last year (2025).

ArcGIS Enterprise (USDA-MRP GIS Portal) Sign In

Refer to the ArcGIS Enterprise Sign In User Guide on the [Mobile Data Collection Tools](#) website for more information on signing in.

Disconnected Data Collection

The ArcGIS Field Maps application is specifically designed to operate in disconnected mode. An area of interest is downloaded to your device while connected to a Wi-Fi network. Then the device is disconnected from the internet and field data collection is performed. Once a reliable network connection is regained, the data is synchronized with the online map hosted in the USDA-MRP GIS Enterprise (Portal).

It is common for a pest program surveyor to download a map area for a season/year and continuously use it. This means daily sync of data collected in the morning (before start) to pull new data into the map view and in the evening (end of daily data collection) to push out data collected for the day on that device.

The diagram below (Figure 1) represents the workflow of the disconnected mode concept.

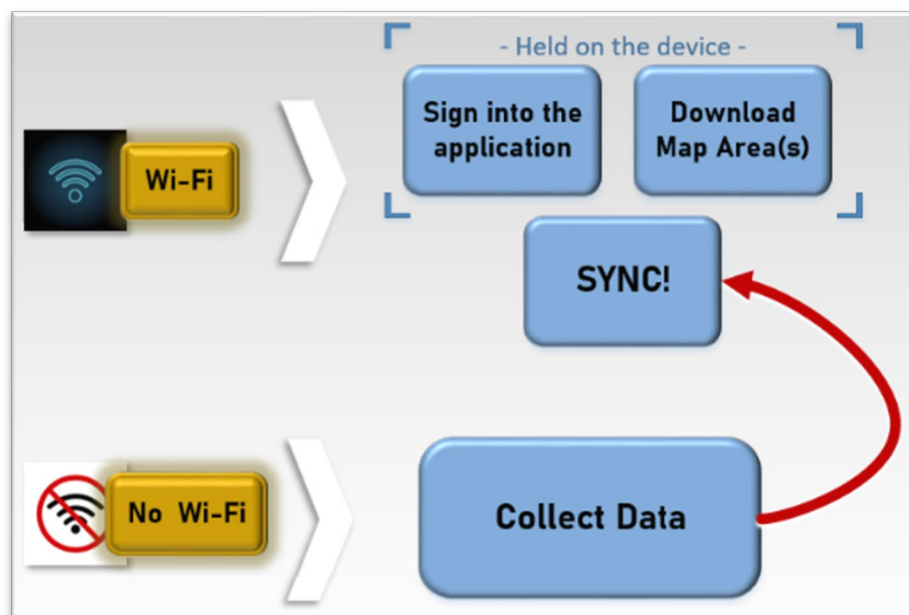


Figure 1. *Wi-Fi preparation and disconnected data collection*

Never assume you are prepared for offline data collection. ALWAYS perform a test in the parking lot before you go. For a sample set of steps, see the next section on [Before You Go](#).

Before You Go

Be sure all is ready for field data collection in disconnected mode **before** you leave. This includes downloading and testing a map area and performing a [data sync](#).

Download Map Area(s)

This step may be carried out or overseen by your supervisor or local GIS Specialist. If performing yourself, make sure of the appropriate Level of Detail, size, and Area of Interest.

A strong Wi-Fi connection is key to success. For detailed steps, refer to the [ArcGIS Field Maps Getting Started Guide](#).

Parking Lot Test

From the Settings application on your device:

1. Turn Wi-Fi OFF (on a phone: also turn off Cellular Data)
2. Turn Location Services ON
3. Open the ArcGIS Field Maps app
4. Locate and open the offline map area:
 - a. Zoom in/out
 - b. Tap the add data button to be sure the data form appears to the left with GPS reading in blue (not red)
 - c. Tap "Cancel"
 - d. Then "Discard" that point

You have confirmed offline use. Now you are ready to head out to the field!

If you do not see your map or it does not open as expected or you are not signed in...
Go back inside, connect back to Wi-Fi, and try again.

Collect Data

****There are no data collection changes for the 2026 application from the previous year.****

Reminder! Synchronize your map at the beginning and the end of each workday.

ArcGIS Field Maps automatically opens in the last map view used. If the [Before You Go](#) steps were performed, opening ArcGIS Field Maps should also open the previously downloaded map area. Tap the back arrow at the top left of the screen to locate the appropriate downloaded map area for data collection, if needed.

****Always follow program survey protocol to determine suitable locations for performing surveys.**

Use the “SLF Nationwide Visual Surveys 2026” layer to add data. Surveys collected from 2023–2025 are viewable as reference layers in the Historic Surveys group. (Figure 2)

1. Tap the layers icon  and tap the toggle switch to the right of the desired layer name to make additional layers visible. A blue toggle switch indicates the layer is visible. (Figure 2)
2. Stand near the survey location.
3. Tap the blue icon with the white plus sign  located in the lower-right corner of the screen.
4. Select the appropriate host from the list. (Figure 3)
5. Fill out the main data form.
* Asterisks indicate mandatory fields.
Optional fields should be completed following survey protocol.
Verify the *Survey Date* entry is correct.
6. Review your entered data carefully prior to submitting the form.
7. Tap the [Submit](#) button on the upper-right corner of the form to save the new survey record.

NOTE:

If the Submit button fails, you have not completed all required fields or GPS accuracy requirements were not met.

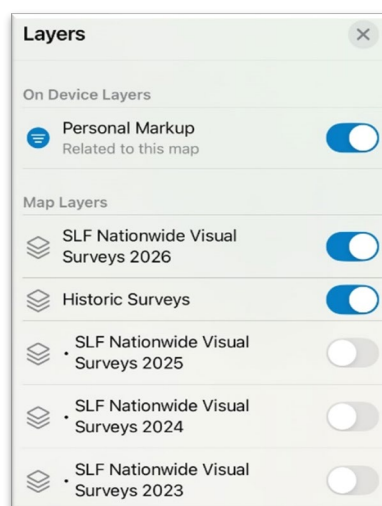


Figure 2. Map Layers list

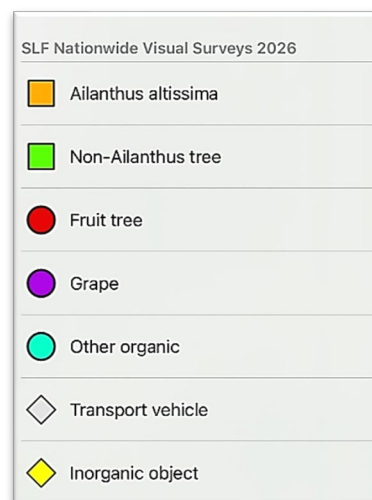


Figure 3. SLF Host list

Daily Data Sync

****Sync your data first thing in the morning AND last thing at night – DAILY!**

This process both pushes your data collection out and brings in other edits to your map. Be sure you are connected to a strong Wi-Fi network.

If you are unable to sync your device, [ask for help](#) right away. Your data may be at risk if you delay synchronizing your device.

Be sure you are connected to a strong Wi-Fi network.

Be sure **Auto-Sync is OFF**. Tap the sync button  and then toggle to disable Auto-Sync. (Figure 4)

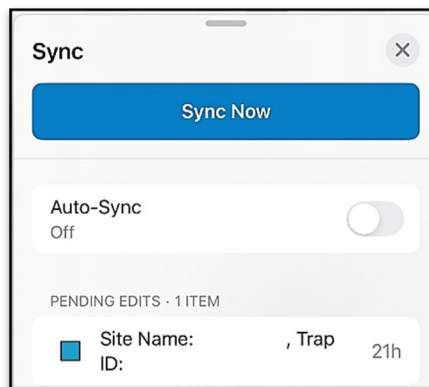


Figure 4. Auto-Sync toggled to OFF

You may use the sync button from the main menu when a map is opened. Tap the sync button at the top right of the map. (Figure 5)



Figure 5. Sync button on main menu in map

You may also choose to sync by choosing the ellipsis menu found on each Offline Area. You will have the option to Sync, Rename, or Remove Area. (Figure 6)

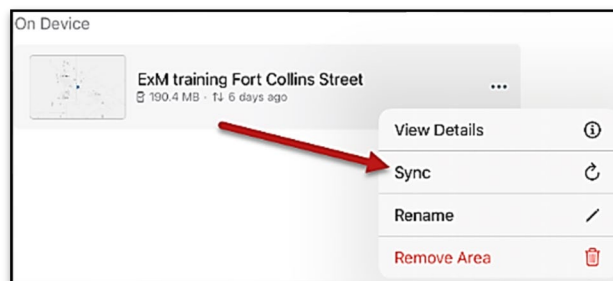


Figure 6. Offline Area menu

Getting Help

APHIS PPQ

Before requesting technical support, be prepared with detailed information, including the name of the map, and error messaging experienced. Be as specific as possible. Include screenshots, any troubleshooting you have performed, and indicate the type of device (iPad, laptop, phone, etc.).

For APHIS PPQ users, if you are having issues with the iPad, laptop, Wi-Fi settings, or issues dealing with installing software, please visit the [CEC's Digital Workplace](#), or send an email using this shortcut on your Desktop. (Figure 7)

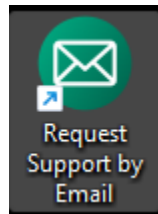


Figure 7. Request Support by Email

If you need technical support or help using the ArcGIS Field Maps application, follow this order:

1. Your field supervisor
2. Local GIS Specialist that supports your area
3. Email WebGIS.Connect@usda.gov

Cooperators & Other Nonfederal Users

Contact your State Plant Health Director's office for assistance.

All Training Resources

As new applications and programs are supported, newly created training documents and self-paced training videos are shared on the APHIS public facing website:

[Mobile Data Collection Tools](#)

Bookmark this site. Visit often. Provide feedback and ideas freely to the PPQ GIS Team at WebGIS.Connect@usda.gov.