

**California Department of Conservation
Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program**

2000 FIELD REPORT

COUNTY: Fresno

FIELD MAPPER(S): Kerri Kisko

PHOTOGRAPHY:

source: NASA-Ames Research Center

date: September 8, 1999

scale: 1:130,000

film type: CIR Transparencies

coverage gaps: extreme northeastern portion of the county

WRITTEN OR ORAL INFORMATION SOURCES: *Please list which local governments, interest groups, or individuals submitted comments on the 1998 maps. Also list all phone and in-person contacts made while conducting the 2000 update.*

➤ *local review comments*

cities:

county: Fresno Planning and Resource Management Department

others:

➤ *personal contacts*

none

➤ *websites*

County of Fresno: www.fresno.ca.gov

Fresno Chamber of Commerce: www.fresnochamber.com

City of Fresno: www.ci.fresno.ca.us

Fresno Irrigation District: www.fresnoirrigation.com

Raisin Administrative Committee: www.raisins.org

Kings View Hospital: www.kingsview.org

1998-2000 CHANGES*: *Please summarize the most common changes to the maps. List representative locations (quads) of each type of change encountered. Make sure to list and describe particularly large, unusual or notable changes and give estimates of the acreage involved.*

➤ P, S, U → D

There were 83 conversions of agricultural land to urban land this update, with the majority of these changes occurring in the Fresno/Clovis area. In the City of Fresno,

urbanization was primarily in the form of new homes and commercial properties on the northwestern and southern urban fringes, encompassing approximately 1100 acres. Some of the new developments in Fresno include the Sommerville (≈140 acres), Cambridge (≈70 acres), Cambridge at Figarden (≈50 acres), Granville Estates (≈50 acres), Shepard Ranch (≈50 acres), and South Hampton (≈50 acres) housing developments and the Island Water Park (≈50 acres) and Fresno Pet Cemetery (≈10 acres) commercial developments. The City of Fresno Sewage Treatment Plant (southwest of the city) also was expanded, adding approximately 160 acres of new water holding structures.

In the City of Clovis, urbanization occurred primarily on the eastern and northeastern fringes. New homes and schools were predominately added with approximately 300 acres being converted from farmland to urban land. Some of the new housing developments include the Fairview Estates (≈75 acres), Buchanan (≈40 acres), and the Ranch (≈30 acres). Two new schools in Clovis are the Reagan Elementary School (≈60 acres) and the Clovis Adult School (≈20 acres). The Wild Water Adventure Park in eastern Clovis also was expanded, adding an approximately 25-acre water ski lake.

Throughout the rest of the county urbanization was less intense than in the Fresno/Clovis area. The Kerman Photovoltaic Plant (≈15 acres) was noted just north of the town of Kerman and the San Joaquin Industrial Center (≈20 acres) was added to the town of San Joaquin. In the City of Sanger the Palisades housing community (≈50 acres) and Sanger High School (≈80 acres) were added as well as an approximately 60-acre expansion of the local sewage treatment facility. The City of Selma experienced growth in the form of the La Dante Rose (≈15 acres) and Corvina II (≈20 acres) housing communities, the Selma Square Shopping Center (≈20 acres), and the expansion of the Lion Raisins dehydration and packing facility (≈15 acres). The Maxco Supply Inc. added its North Plant (≈20 acres) and the Parlier Junior High School (≈60 acres) was constructed in the City of Parlier. Other changes of note were the Rosendahl Farms Dehydrator facility (≈20 acres) in the town of Caruthers, the Riverglen housing community (≈35 acres) and the Kings View Hospital (≈30 acres) in the City of Reedley, and the Cornerstone Distribution Center (≈15 acres) and the expansion of the Harris Ranch Beef processing facility (≈10 acres) to the southwest of the City of Kingsburg.

➤ L, G, X → D

There were 33 conversions of local, grazing, or other land to urban land this update. Once again the majority of the changes occurred in the Fresno/Clovis area. In the City of Fresno urbanization was primarily in the form of new homes, schools, and commercial properties scattered around the urban fringe and encompassing approximately 470 acres. Some of the new developments in Fresno are the Mahogany Bluffs (≈35 acres) and Audubon Place (≈10 acres) housing communities, the Universal Park Shopping Center (≈50 acres), the Fresno Heart Hospital (≈50 acres), the Shaw Shopping Center (≈40 acres), and the Pacific & Fresno Distribution Centers (≈70 acres). Two new schools were also added in Fresno, the Sunnyside High School (≈55 acres) and the Elizabeth Terronez Middle School (≈45 acres).

In the City of Clovis new homes and commercial properties were the primary

additions with approximately 940 acres of marginal land being converted to urban land. Some of the new housing developments in Clovis include Deauville (≈100 acres), Monte Verdi (≈90 acres), Shenandoah Farms (≈50 acres), Sunriver (≈50 acres), and The Village (≈50 acres). Commercial properties added this update include the Clovis Groundwater Recharge Facility (≈50 acres) and the Blue Diamond processing facility (≈10 acres). The Gettysburg Elementary School (≈30 acres) was also noted.

Throughout the rest of the county urbanization was scarce. In the town of Herndon the Herndon-Barstow Elementary School (≈20 acres) was noted. Two processing facilities (≈15 acres each) were added, one just north of the town of Caruthers and the other just south of the town of Kerman. In the town of Friant near the San Joaquin Fish Hatchery, a few small water holding structures totaling approximately 10 acres were added.

➤ P, S, U → L, G

There were 92 conversions of prime, statewide, or unique farmland to farmland of local importance this update. The majority of these changes (80) were due to agricultural lands being fallow for three or more update cycles resulting in approximately 4100 acres of change. These conversions occurred throughout the county, however large changes of 150 acres or greater were added on the Friant (1), Fresno North (1), Round Mountain (2), Malaga (2), and Orange Cove North (1) quads. Feedlot expansions also were responsible for ten of the conversions. These changes were scattered throughout the county and were in parcels of 20 acres or less. The last two conversions were fish farms, one was approximately 170 acres and the other was approximately 40 acres. Both of these were found on the Round Mountain quad.

➤ P, S, U → X

There were relatively few changes (26) of agricultural land to other land this update. The majority of the changes were due to the addition of agricultural staging areas (areas with agricultural buildings, equipment, and gravel parking lots) throughout the county. These changes were all fairly small (25 acres or less). Many of the changes were low-density housing. These areas of ranchettes were also small (40 acres or less) and were scattered throughout the county. Some changes of note include the expansion of Lost Lake Park (≈160 acres) on the Friant quad, the Hornor Farms Lake (an ≈30-acre water ski lake) on the Gravelly Ford quad, and the Kingsburg Flea Market (≈15 acres) on the Selma quad.

➤ L, G, X → P, S, U

There were 14 conversions of local, grazing, or other land to agricultural land this update. These changes were scattered throughout the county and accounted for approximately 540 acres of change. The most notable changes include a parcel (≈135 acres) of new row crops on the Riverdale quad, a parcel (≈110 acres) of new row crops on the Jamesan quad, a parcel (≈75 acres) of new grape vines on the Wahtoke quad, and a parcel (≈60 acres) of new corn and assorted other vegetable crops on the Herndon quad.

➤ **UNUSUAL:** *Category changes, complications with the Farmland of Local Importance definition, or any other special circumstances in 2000.*

G→X: On the Round Mountain quad approximately 20 acres of ranchettes were added.

D→P, U: On the Kearney Park quad a settling basin (≈10 acres) is being used to grow almond trees.

U, S, P→P, S, U: Agriculture was shifted between prime, statewide, and unique primarily due to soil boundary corrections and isolated polygons of 10 acres or less.

PROBLEM AREAS: *What locations and map categories need careful checking in 2002? Why?*

In the northeastern portion of the City of Fresno a new four-lane highway is under construction (Hwy 168). Look for new freeway interchanges and new road alignments.

OUT OF DATE BASE MAPS: *Please list any base maps used for update or publication of this county which are woefully out of date due to extensive new development, road construction, etc.*

LABOR ESTIMATE: *Please estimate the amount of time spent on the following tasks.*

photo interpretation, start date: June 6, 2001

photo interpretation, number of days: 8

ground truthing dates: June 19-22, 2001

days for map compilation and clean up: 10

* **Note:** P = Prime Farmland; S = Farmland of Statewide Importance; U = Unique Farmland; L = Farmland of Local Importance; G = Grazing Land; D = Urban and Built-up Land; X = Other Land; W = Water Areas; I = Irrigated Farmland; N = Nonirrigated Farmland

Further information on the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program can be found at:

www.consrv.ca.gov/dlrp/fmmp