California Department of Conservation
Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program

2000 FIELD REPORT

COUNTY: San Bernardino

FIELD MAPPER(S): Patrick Hennessy

PHOTOGRAPHY:

Inland Empire Area
source: Aerial Fotobank Inc
date: February 2000
scale: 1 : 42,000
film type: 9x9 true color
coverage gaps: Yorba Linda, Harrison Mtn, southeast corner of Prado Dam, and southern portion of Corona North

Mojave River Area
Source: Mojave Water Agency
date: June 2000
scale: 1 : 24,000
film type: 9x9 CIR
coverage gaps : none

SATELLITE DATA:

source: SPOT Image Corp.
date: 2000
type: Black and White
coverage gaps: none

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: Ontario Planning Division
  Rancho Cucamonga Planning Division
  county: San Bernardino County Planning Division
  others:

- *personal contacts:* Valerie Wiegenstein, Mojave Water Agency (760) 240-9201

- *websites:* www. mojavewater.org/Mwa.htm

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

This update had 29 changes from important farmland to urban land. Most of the changes occurred in the Inland Empire area where new homes were built. The Redlands quad had six changes, Ontario had four changes, Guasti had five changes and Prado Dam had seven. The size of each change varies but most of them were only a few acres, usually additions to pre-existing urban polygons. On the Yucaipa quad, a new golf course covering over 100 acres was added.

- L, G, X → D

There are 59 changes this update. The Yucaipa quad has three changes. One of the changes is over 100 acres where a golf course was built. Guasti experienced nine changes due to homes and industrial sites. Cucamonga Peak also has nine changes, mostly new homes. The Devore quad has eight changes and one of the changes is a new golf course community on approximately 300 acres. In the Mojave desert area, five significant changes occurred on the Hesperia quad, Victorville also has five and Apple Valley South has three. Most changes in the area are new homes and industry.

- P, S, U → L, G

The transition from farmland to local or grazing land was very prominent in this update (54 total changes), especially in the Mojave Desert area. Highly active quads include Apple Valley South, Shadow Mountains SE, Lucerne Valley, and Hinkley with four changes each, Helendale has ten changes, and Wild Crossing has five. The Harvard Hill quad was particularly busy with five fields going fallow. One field is 160 acres, two fields are 140 acres, and another two are 75 acres. In addition to all of the changes occurring in this update, it appears that the area is headed for more of this change. Several large areas are currently labeled as fallow for a second update and will probably be changed in 2002. The Inland Empire area only has a couple changes, but two on the Prado Dam quad were relatively large (approx. 40 and 200 acres each).

- P, S, U → X

Important farmland to other land was a very common change in this update (43 changes). In the Inland Empire area changes are characterized by small plots of farmland going fallow, but are too small to change to grazing. Many changes occurred in the Chino area where the cattle ranches dominate. The farmland was going fallow and added to the surrounding X polygons. Corona North has seven changes, Guasti has twelve, and Prado Dam has six. In the Mojave Desert, this type of change was also due to fallow fields less than forty acres being changed to other land. Apple Valley South has five of these changes and Nebo has three.

➢ L, G, X → P, S, U

There are 18 changes this update. Only two of the changes occurred in the Inland Empire area. In the Mojave Desert area, the changes are well spread out. Most of the changes are new irrigated agriculture such as center pivot, or adjustments to the linework.

➢ G → X

This type of change was more common than expected. A total of 8 changes occurred, and five of them were new rock quarries. The remaining changes were ranchettes and a feedlot.

➢ L → G

There were 5 of these changes and all of them involved fallow fields.

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

➢ D → P, S, U

There were 3 changes from urban land to new farmland, two of them were on the Ontario quad and one on Cucamonga Peak (boundary adjustment). On the Ontario quad, an 18 acre strawberry field was identified as well as a 5 acre addition to existing farmland.

➢ D → G, L

There are 2 changes to G and L on the Cucamonga Peak quad. One is a minor line adjustment so that the urban land aligns with the street and the other is a simple line adjustment. On the Prado Dam quad, a housing development in the hills didn't have the proper shape. The shape of the polygon was corrected with the SPOT imagery.

➢ D → X

Only 1 of these, another line adjustment in the industrial area near the interchange of Interstate 10 and 15 on the Guasti quad.

➢ S → U

There was new irrigated agriculture on the Hodge quad and subsequently the soil units were adjusted.

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

The Guasti quad has several fields that are labeled as prime and statewide farmland, and when I field checked the sites I encountered very old, dead grape vines. Previous field sheets have marked the fields fallow but the previous field mapper felt that the farmland was in production. I wanted to follow convention and let the fields go fallow

for three cycles, so I labeled them Fa1 this time and they should be going to Fa2 next time. The Mojave Desert area also deserves special attention. A vast majority of the P,S,U to G,X conversions occurred in this portion of the county. According to the Mojave Water Agency, many farms in this region are small family owned plots of land and the common crop is alfalfa. Water is a valuable commodity in the desert and although there are several possible reasons for agricultural land to go out of use, the selling of water rights could prove more financially viable.

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.*

The Inland Empire area is still developing and several quads still reflect the old citrus groves that haven't been there in a long time.

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

photo interpretation, start date: February 28, 2001
photo interpretation, number of days: 7 days
ground truthing dates: March 12-15, 2001
 # days for map compilation and clean up: 7 days

*** 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