

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

2000 FIELD REPORT

COUNTY: Sutter

FIELD MAPPER(S): Kerri Kisko

PHOTOGRAPHY:

source: NASA-Ames Research Center

date: September 14, 1999

scale: 1: 130,000

film type: CIR Transparencies

coverage gaps: none. Also used 2000 SPOT data.

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:* none

cities:

county:

others:

➤ *personal contacts:* none

➤ *websites:*

Official Sutter County Government: www.co.sutter.ca.us

Sutter Industrial Park: www.southsutter.co.sutter.ca.us/park_info.htm

Yuba City: www.syix.com/yubacity/yccover.htm

Yuba Sutter Economic Development Corporation: www.ysedc.org

California Department of Fish and Game: www.dfg.ca.gov/wildlife_areas

➤ *digital data referenced:*

Sutter digital soil survey: Ca101 Sutter Co

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 27 conversions of agricultural land to urban land this update, with the majority of these changes occurring near the cities of Sutter and Yuba City. In the City of

Sutter, urbanization was primarily in the form of commercial developments. Some of the new developments include Sweco Products Inc. and other businesses (≈ 15 acres), the expansion of Helena Chemical Company (≈ 15 acres), and an area of new homes (≈ 10 acres).

In Yuba City, urbanization occurred primarily along the western and southern fringes. Commercial properties were predominately added along with a few homes. Some of the new developments include the Calpine Power Plant (≈ 25 acres) to the southwest of the city, the expansion of the Wildwood West housing community (≈ 15 acres), the new Buick and Nissan car dealerships (≈ 10 acres), and the Sri Guru Narak Sihak Temple (≈ 5 acres).

Throughout the rest of the county urbanization was scarce. In Live Oak two areas of new homes were noted (≈ 15 and ≈ 5 acres). The Rio La Paz Golf Club (≈ 140 acres (partially on grazing land)) was added near Nicolaus along the Feather River. In Pleasant Grove, a Teichert facility and Consolidated Dealer Systems Inc. (≈ 20 acres) were added.

➤ G, X \rightarrow D

There were 13 conversions of grazing or other land to urban land this update. For the most part these changes were fairly small and scattered throughout the county. Near the City of Sutter, some buildings were added at the Sutter Industrial Park (≈ 45 acres). In Live Oak some new buildings and homes totaling approximately 20 acres were noted. The South Water Reclamation Plant was expanded by approximately 20 acres in Yuba City. In Pleasant Grove, Western Wood Fabricators (≈ 15 acres) and some buildings (≈ 10 acres) were added.

➤ P, S, U \rightarrow G

There were 49 conversions of prime, statewide, or unique farmland to grazing land this update. The majority of these changes (39) were due to agricultural lands being fallow for three or more update cycles resulting in approximately 3,000 acres of change. These conversions occurred throughout the county, however large changes of 100 acres or more were noted on the Sutter Buttes (1), Sutter (1), Gilsizer Slough (1), Olivehurst (1), Nicolaus (1), Sheridan (2), Knights Landing (1), and Pleasant Grove (1) quads. The remaining conversions were due to agricultural boundary adjustments.

➤ P, S, U \rightarrow X

There were 118 conversions of agricultural land to other land this update. The majority of these changes were due to low-density housing. These areas of ranchettes were fairly small (≈ 50 acres or less) and occurred throughout the county. Some of the changes were agricultural processing and staging areas (areas with agricultural buildings, equipment, and gravel lots) that were in parcels of 30 acres or less. Other changes were due to agricultural land being fallow for three or more updates in parcels less than 40 acres. Some changes of note include a few large wetland areas of 200 acres or larger located on the Sanborn Slough (1), Pennington (2), and Meridian (1) quads.

➤ G, X \rightarrow P, S, U

There were 45 conversions of grazing or other land to agricultural land this update. These changes occurred throughout the county and accounted for approximately 1,680

acres of change. The most notable changes include a parcel (≈ 140 acres) of rice on the Sanborn Slough quad, four new orchards (≈ 70 , 95, 135, and 160 acres) on the Pennington quad, a parcel (≈ 320 acres) of irrigated pasture on the Meridian quad, two parcels of alfalfa (≈ 70 and 95 acres) on the Sutter Buttes quad, a parcel of rice (≈ 70 acres) on the Sheridan quad, and a parcel of irrigated pasture (≈ 170 acres) on the Pleasant Grove quad.

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

D→S, P, G: Urban land was converted to statewide, prime, or grazing land primarily due to boundary adjustments. Two changes of note were an orchard (≈ 15 acres) on the Gilsizer Slough quad and an orchard (≈ 20 acres) on the Knights Landing quad.

G↔X: There were 5 conversions between grazing land and other land scattered throughout the county. These changes were primarily due to the addition of ranchettes and boundary adjustments.

W↔X, G: The Feather River has altered its course since the quads were last updated. The conversions involving water are primarily due to boundary adjustments to correctly reflect the course of the river.

P, S, U→U, S, P: Agriculture was shifted between prime, statewide, and unique primarily due to boundary adjustments and isolated polygons of 10 acres or less. One change of note was a large polygon (≈ 215 acres) of prime that was mapped as unique on the Yuba City quad.

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

There are some new orchards near the base and into the valleys of the Sutter Buttes. The orchards are easily identified along the roadways, but there is no access into the buttes. The graded areas in the valleys of the buttes should be watched closely for signs of agriculture in the future.

In the southern portion of the county, there is a 10,500-acre parcel that has been earmarked to be developed in the future as the South Sutter County Industrial/Commercial Reserve. Watch for urban development in this area.

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: February 5, 2002

photo interpretation, number of days: 4

ground truthing dates: February 20-22, 2002

days for map compilation and clean up: 6

*** 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