

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

**2002 FIELD REPORT**

**COUNTY: Orange**

**FIELD MAPPER(S):** Jan Carey

**IMAGERY:**

*source:* AirPhoto USA  
*date:* January 2002  
*resolution:* 2 foot  
*film type:* true color  
*coverage gap :* none  
*additional imagery:* SPOT 2000 satellite images

**WRITTEN, DIGITAL & ORAL INFORMATION SOURCES:** *Please list which local governments, interest groups, or individuals submitted comments on the 2000 maps. Also list all phone and in-person contacts made or related GIS data referenced while conducting the 2002 update.*

➤ *local review comments*

*cities:* Anaheim, Cypress, Fullerton, Irvine, Placentia, Seal Beach, and Tustin.  
*county:* none  
*others:* none

➤ *personal contacts:* none

➤ *websites:* <http://www.oc.ca.gov/>

**2000-2002 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.*

**Note:** This is the first digital update for Orange County. Using improved digital resources, more accurate boundaries were drawn throughout the county. Therefore adjustments were made in all categories throughout the county. The changes listed below are only representative of the total number of actual changes.

➤ **Irrigated Farmland to Urban Land:**

27 changes:

The majority of these changes are housing additions. There are also some commercial, office, and apartment buildings, as well as road and freeway additions. One significant change is approximately 620 acres of housing conversion in the North Park area of Irvine on the Tustin quad (33117-f7). There is a smaller housing and golf course expansion on the Los Alamitos quad (33118-g1) near the Old Ranch County Club. Other lesser conversions are parking lots on the sites of former urban nurseries located under power lines on the Anaheim quad (33117-g8). Smaller additions are also on the Yorba Linda (33117-h7), Orange (33117-g7), Newport Beach (33117-e8), San Juan Capistrano (33117-e6), and Dana Point (33117-d6) quads.

➤ **Local, Grazing or Other Land to Urban Land:**

43 changes:

This conversion category has the most numerous and largest urban additions. The new housing and accompanying commercial development primarily took place on the Other Land designated areas throughout the county.

Notable changes are:

- San Juan Capistrano quad. The Ladera Ranch development in Mission Viejo currently has over 600 acres of finished housing along with commercial and office facilities and *much* more on the way. The west Laguna Hills area has approximately 190 acres of housing additions. There are smaller additions of housing, commercial, industrial, and roads throughout the quad area.
- Tustin quad. The addition of the Shady Canyon Golf Course is approximately 235 acres. The Oak Creek area of Irvine added approximately 135 acres of housing.
- San Clemente quad (33117-d5). The Telega Golf Club, housing community, and business park added approximately 250 acres. “The Reserve” and other communities in the San Clemente Hills added approximately 200 acres of housing along with the large commercial addition of the Plaza Shopping Center.
- Laguna Beach quad (33117-e7). This quad has some development on Grazing Land as well as Other Land. We added over 290 acres of housing along with smaller additions to a golf course in the Pelican Hill area, a school, freeways, and the Crystal Cove Shopping Center.
- Yorba Linda quad. Over 225 acres of housing was added in the Vista Del Verde Communities and additions to the Black Gold Country Club golf course.
- Orange quad. Approximately 190 acres of housing was added to western Cerro Villa Heights, and other areas along with additional freeway acreage.
- La Habra quad (33117-h8). Approximately 35 acres was added with the inclusion of the Fullerton Dam and adjoining Craig Park.

➤ **Irrigated Farmland to Local or Grazing Land:**

3 changes:

There is a change on the San Juan Capistrano quad due to an overdrawn polygon. Two changes on the Canada Gobernadora quad (33117-e5) due to land left idle for 3 and 4 update cycles.

➤ **Irrigated Farmland to Other Land:**

8 changes:

One change on the Orange quad, 3 changes on the Tustin quad, and 4 changes on the El Toro quad (33117-f6) are due to land left idle for three update cycles.

➤ **Local, Grazing or Other Land to Irrigated Farmland:**

no changes.

➤ **UNUSUAL:** *Category changes, complications with the Farmland of Local Importance definition, or any other special circumstances in 2002.*

**Urban Land to Other Land:**

Most of the urban line was modified as a result of the first update over digital imagery, with shifts out of Urban amounting to thousands of acres. In addition, polygons less than the minimum mapping unit (<10 ac.) were removed.

**Urban Land to Irrigated Farmland:**

5 changes: small changes to nurseries and greenhouses in urban areas (Orange and Newport Beach quads).

**Urban to Grazing Land:**

2 changes: delete small urban polygons.

**AREAS TO WATCH:** *What locations and map categories need careful checking in 2004?*

There are areas graded for development located throughout the county, but the Ladera development in Mission Viejo has approximately 1200 acres graded for further expansion.

In addition, detailed information on the location of land committed to nonagricultural use was submitted by the City of Irvine and other entities.

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

*photo interpretation, start date: 11-6-02*

*photo interpretation, number of days: 12*

*ground truthing dates: 12-3 to 12-5-02*

*# days for map compilation and clean up: 4*

\* **Note:** **Irrigated Farmland** = Prime Farmland, Farmland of Statewide Importance or Unique Farmland; **Local** = Farmland of Local Importance

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

[www.consrv.ca.gov/dlrp/fmmp](http://www.consrv.ca.gov/dlrp/fmmp)