

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

2002 FIELD REPORT

COUNTY: Solano

FIELD MAPPER(S): Sam Coe

IMAGERY:

*source: NASA-Ames Research
date: September 7th 2001
scale: 1:130,000
type: CIR
coverage gaps: none
additional imagery: SPOT 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: none
cities:
county:
others: Scott Frasier, Jones and Stokes, 916-737-3000*
- *personal contacts: Tom Harvey, National Fish and Wildlife Service (916) 775-4426
-concerning Liberty Island*
- *websites: none*
- *GIS data referenced: none*

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 Solano 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**

Two changes came from the newly constructed Sieryo and Neal Hendrix Hay Companies found in Dixon (38121d7) and Allendale (38121d8) respectively. A number of changes occurred in Fairfield South (38122b1) as recent extensions of an already large urban area. New agricultural warehouses were constructed in Dixon. The use of digital imagery also resulted in increases to urban at the periphery of most cities.

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

21 changes. This category contains the greatest number of urban conversions. Half of these changes are caused by new housing developments along urban boundaries. One notable example of this is found in Mt. George (38122c2) where approximately 156 acres of new homes were built around a golf course. Other developments range in size from 12-50 acres.

The rest of the changes mostly involve Other Land (X) being upgraded to urban status due to newly paved roads and additional buildings.

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

17 changes. All of these changes occurred from land being fallow or dry-farmed for three update cycles. The quads include: Monticello Dam (38122e1), Allendale (38121d8), Dozier (38121c7), Elmira (38121c8), Fairfield North (38122c1), Mt. George (38122c2), Cordelia (38122b2), Rio Vista (38121b6), and Fairfield South (38122b1).

➤ **Irrigated Farmland to Other Land**

17 changes. 11 of these changes were from land being fallow for three update cycles. The most significant change involved Liberty Island. Parts of the island had been submerged and other areas had been marked fallow in prior updates. In this update Liberty Island was completely placed in the Other Land category (X). This is due to the fact that the island is completely submerged in our 2001 photo. Tom Harvey, USFWS land manager for the area, stated that since 1998 nearly all of Liberty Island has been in a "tidally flood condition" (e-mail correspondence in the binder). This change caused a 3,455 acre increase in Other Land. The rest of the changes are as follows:

Davis (38121e6) 1 - new ranchettes (11 acres)
Dixon (38121d7) 1 - Wellco Manufacturing Co. (16 acres)
Allendale (38121d8) 2 – Dixon School farm (18 acres), Victory
Thorough Breds Ranch (27 acres)
Fairfield South (38122b1) 1 – Agriculture center (17 acres)

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

6 changes (G to I,iP). Fairfield North (38122c1), Rio Vista (38121b6), and Jersey Island (38121a6) had grazing land that was put back into production. The total amount of irrigated farmland from these changes is approximately 1,220 acres. The largest of these changes occurred in Rio Vista where approximately 667 acres of Grazing Land was converted to Irrigated Pasture.

➤ **UNUSUAL:** *Category changes, complications with the Farmland of Local Importance*

definition, or any other special circumstances in 2002.

There were a number of boundary adjustments between Urban Land (D) Grazing Land (G) and Other Land (X) that occurred in Benicia and Fairfield which resulted in land being reclassified out of Urban. Revisions to the boundary of rural residential areas (G/X) occurred in the Mt. Vaca area (38122d1), and wetland boundaries were improved (G/X) in the Suisun area (Denverton quad, 38121b8).

PROBLEM AREAS: *What locations and map categories need careful checking in 2004? Why?*

The classification of lands into Grazing vs Other Land down in the Suisun area should be reviewed—some areas in Other Land appear to be suitable for placement in Grazing, and vice versa--especially south of the Fairfield sewage treatment facility. Perhaps there are management restrictions associated with these properties that would not be apparent from looking at the photos.

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

photo interpretation, start date: 8/16/02

photo interpretation, number of days: 12

ground truthing dates: 3.5

days for map compilation and clean up: 6 Additional cleanup done in preparation for release in March 2004.

* **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