

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

2002 FIELD REPORT

COUNTY:Ventura

FIELD MAPPER(S): Patrick Hennessy

IMAGERY:

source: Airphoto USA
date: December 2001
scale: 2 foot resolution
film type: True Color
coverage gaps: none
additional imagery: none

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:* Camarillo, Fillmore, Simi Valley
 - county:*
 - others:* Pleasant Valley County Water District

- *personal contacts:*

- *websites:* <http://www.countyofventura.org/index.asp>
<http://www.fillmoreca.com/>
<http://www.ci.santa-paula.ca.us/>
<http://www.ci.ojai.ca.us/>
<http://www.ci.simi-valley.ca.us/>
<http://www.ci.camarillo.ca.us/>
<http://www.calleguas.com/>

- *GIS data referenced:*

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 Ventura 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**

There are 19 changes from irrigated farmland to urban land. Most of the changes were new homes or industrial buildings. The Lost Canyons Golf Course on the Santa Susana quadrangle converted 345 acres. New homes on the Oxnard quad were 330 acres. Similarly, 75 acres on the Saticoy quad were changed to urban. The rest of the changes were less than 50 acres each.

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

During this update, there were 38 changes from Local, Grazing or Other land to Urban land. The majority of these changes were new homes, increases in housing density or golf course construction or expansion. The most significant changes are following. The Lost Canyons Golf course changed 345 acres to urban land on the Santa Susana quad. On the Simi Valley West quad, a golf course converted 200 acres, the expansion of another golf course added 50 acres, and homes were responsible for changes of 185, 73, 31, and 22 acres on that quad. Nearby on the Moorpark quad, another golf course converted 150 acres. The Newberry Peak quad has changes of 205, 94, 63, and 15 acres for homes. The Matilija quad has five changes to urban land, 157, 52, 34, 22, and 12 acres from increased housing density. The remaining changes are all less than 50 acres and located throughout the county.

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

Every change from irrigated farmland to Local or Grazing land (24 total changes) was due to land remaining fallow for three or more updates. Similarly, all of the changes were less than 50 acres with the exception of one change on the Camarillo quad converting 130 acres to Grazing land.

➤ **Irrigated Farmland to Other Land**

There were 10 changes from irrigated farmland to Other land. The changes consisted primarily of low-density housing and farmland that has been fallow for three or more updates. One particular change was a large open pit filled with water associated with a gravel mining operation. That changed 113 acres of irrigated farmland to other land.

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

This change was the most numerous with 49 total changes. The majority were less than 50 acres in size, typically additions to existing irrigated agriculture. The largest change was 116 acres. Citrus and avocado orchards were very common in the hills and canyons, and row crops were common on the coastal plains around Oxnard, Camarillo, and Ventura.

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

There were 7 instances where urban land was changed to irrigated farmland. Two of the changes were orchards, one was strawberries and the rest were nurseries with greenhouses.

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

The Newbury Peak quad might have a significant number of new homes during the next update and many of the local farmland polygons that had dry grains are in the process of going fallow.

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

photo interpretation, start date: January 6, 2003
photo interpretation, number of days: 20
ground truthing dates: February 19-20, 2003
days for map compilation and clean up: 5

* **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