

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

2004 FIELD REPORT

COUNTY: Glenn

FIELD MAPPER(S): Michael Kisko

IMAGERY:

source: USDA National Agricultural Imagery Program (NAIP)
date: summer 2004
scale: 2 meter
film type: true color
coverage gaps: none
additional imagery: NASA color infrared imagery (2003)

WRITTEN, DIGITAL & ORAL INFORMATION SOURCES: *Please list which local governments, interest groups, or individuals submitted comments on the 2002 maps. Also list all phone and in-person contacts made or related GIS data referenced while conducting the 2004 update.*

➤ *local review comments:* none
cities:
county:
others:

➤ *personal contacts:*
Staff at Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge on grazing practices in Sacramento River units (530) 934-2801.

Dave Rose, Natural Resources Conservation Service, on mapping of Farmland of Local Importance using digital soil data, water district boundaries, and current dryland farming data. (530) 934-4601.

➤ *websites:*
Sacramento Natl. Wildlife Refuge: <http://www.fws.gov/sacramentovalleyrefuges/>

➤ *GIS data referenced:*
SWIS landfill/waste facility file: SWIS.dgn
Federal refuge/wildlife areas: joint_venture.shp

2002-2004 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.*

➤ **Irrigated Farmland to Urban Land: 6 changes**

The majority of the conversions were small and due to the addition of a few homes around the urban periphery of cities and towns. The most notable change this update occurred on the eastern edge of the City of Orland where new homes in the “Fieldstone” development accounted for the conversion of approximately 6 acres. An almond hulling facility (~9 acres) was also delineated nearby the community of Ordbend.

➤ **Local, Grazing or Other Land to Urban Land: 7 changes**

Conversions in this category were due to small additions of new homes and buildings as well as the upgrading of existing areas of homes and buildings to the urban land category due to increased density of structures. Two additions of buildings and paved areas were made on the western edge of Willows, alongside I-5. These additions included the new Amerihost Inn (~6 acres) with another approximately 6 acres of buildings and paved area added a bit to the north. Meanwhile, just to the west and northwest of the City of Orland, one plot of homes and another of buildings (~30 acres) were upgraded to the urban land category due to increased density. Finally, a boundary adjustment to a landfill on the Fruto NE quad increased urban land by approximately 27 acres.

➤ **Irrigated Farmland to Local or Grazing Land: 55 changes**

This category of change involved either farmland that had been fallow for three or more update cycles going to local or grazing land or the delineation of nonirrigated grain as farmland of local importance.

The vast majority of conversions to local or grazing land were due to farmland having lain fallow for three updates and were for less than 20 acres. However, larger conversions of 50 acres or greater were seen on the Foster Island (2), Orland (1), Hamilton City (1), Rail Canyon (1), Ord (1), and Butte City (1) quads. The largest conversions of irrigated farmland this update occurred on the Stone Valley (138 acres), Stonyford (150 acres), and Princeton (322 acres) quads. Finally, the largest single conversion of irrigated farmland this update took place on the Princeton quad where approximately 190 acres of irrigated agriculture was converted to grazing land due to orchards being removed on land that is now the Sul Norte Unit of the Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge. According to staff at the Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge (SNWR), most of the Sacramento River units of the SNWR have grazing plans and allow some form of grazing, at least for control of nonnative plants.

On the other hand, conversions were also made from irrigated farmland to farmland of local importance due to the delineation of areas of nonirrigated grain. These conversions took place on the Foster Island (137 acres) and Orland (97 acres) quads.

➤ **Irrigated Farmland to Other Land: 52 changes**

The delineation of farmsteads, ranchettes, and dairies accounted for most of the conversions of this type. These types of land use conversions were made throughout the county with many of the changes attributable to improved imagery. The delineation of farmsteads accounted for 37 of the 52 changes with most conversions encompassing 10 acres or less.

➤ **Local, Grazing or Other Land to Irrigated Farmland: 36 changes**

There was a significant addition of irrigated farmland this update with new orchard plantings making up the largest additions, along with some field and row crops and irrigated pasture. The most notable addition of new orchards occurred around the Hamilton City area where a large plot of approximately 320 acres of orchards was added just to the west of Hamilton City along Highway 32. Just to the north of this large addition, another 70-acre plot of new orchards was also in evidence. Meanwhile, two additions on the Orland quad accounted for approximately 200 acres of new field or row crops. A further 70-acre addition of field or row crops was made on the Stone Valley quad. Finally, a 100-acre addition of field crops, possibly rice, was made on the Butte City quad.

➤ **UNUSUAL:** *Category changes, complications with the Farmland of Local Importance definition, or any other special circumstances in 2004.*

There is lots of irrigated pasture in the county. The next mapper should be on the lookout to delineate even more in the next update cycle.

In compiling the 2002 map, digital soil survey data (SSURGO data), water district boundaries, and current extent of dryland farming areas were used to map Farmland of Local Importance (Local). Acreage of Local decreased significantly relative to that of Grazing Land in the 2002 data due to this improved method of compiling the map. Decreases in dryland farming in the coast range and the automated selection of qualifying soil units were responsible for this change, which was reviewed with NRCS prior to publication.

PROBLEM AREAS: *What locations and map categories need careful checking in 2006? Why?*

There are sizeable areas in the extreme southeastern portion of the county that are flagged as being possible expansions of existing wetland areas, these will need to be field checked in the 2006 update.

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

photo interpretation, start date: 11/4/05

photo interpretation, number of days: 5

ground truthing dates: 11/16/05 and 11/17/05

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