

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

2004 FIELD REPORT

COUNTY:Orange

FIELD MAPPER(S): Patrick Hennessy

IMAGERY:

source: Airphoto USA
date: April 2004
resolution: 2 foot
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 2002 maps. Also list all phone and in-person contacts made or related GIS data referenced while conducting the 2004 update.*

➤ *local review comments*

cities: Brea, Cypress, Fullerton, Irvine, Mission Viejo, Placentia, Santa Ana, Tustin
county:
others:

➤ *personal contacts:*

➤ *websites:* http://www.city-lakeforest.com/parks_map/
<http://www.fishinglakes.com/>
[http://www.surfcity-hb.org/CityDepartments/comm_services/facilities/
Huntington_Central_Park/Sports_Complex.cfm](http://www.surfcity-hb.org/CityDepartments/comm_services/facilities/Huntington_Central_Park/Sports_Complex.cfm)

➤ *GIS data referenced:*

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**

27 total changes. Several of these changes were less than ten acres, but there were a few large changes. In the San Juan Capistrano Area, there was a 10-acre soccer field and a 42-acre conversion to new homes. The Irvine area has a few substantial changes, including a 357-acre change when the Quail Hill homes were built. The Lower

Peters Canyon Area of Irvine added 124 acres of urban with new apartments and the Beckman High School. Near the northeastern part of Tustin, office buildings and Highway 261 construction changed approximately 80 acres. Finally, in Fullerton, there were three changes consisting of 24, 40 and 50 acres. These were new homes and parks.

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

This is the most significant type of change for Orange County. There are 92 changes total. Naturally this type of change has a wide range of sizes. Some are approximately an acre, and the largest is 692 acres. There were 15 changes on the San Clemente quad and some of the biggest were new homes adding 135, 58, 48, 38, and 32 acres. There also was a landfill expansion of 35 acres in that area. There are 13 changes on the San Juan Capistrano quad and most are small, but the large 692 acre change for new homes is on that quad. The El Toro quad has 12 changes, and the largest is 54 acres of new commercial buildings. The Tustin quad has 9 changes and two are large. One of them is 144 acres of homes and apartments and the other is 80 acres of new homes. The Orange quad has 7 changes, the largest is 120 acres (homes again). Yorba Linda has 12 changes and the large ones are 140, 73, 59, and 35 acres (homes). Seal Beach added 92 acres of urban with athletic field and parking lot additions to Huntington Central Park.

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

Only two changes from Irrigated Farmland to Grazing Land. One of the changes is 48 acres that went fallow three update cycles on the Seal Beach Naval Station property. The other change was 13 acres near the Quail Hill Homes where the farmland also went fallow and is appears to be being graded for a park—construction had not been complete during the field check.

➤ **Irrigated Farmland to Other Land**

There are five changes to Other Land in this update. All of these changes are because the Irrigated Farmland went fallow for three updates. The San Juan Capistrano quad has one such change for 20 acres. El Toro has two changes, 29 and 76 acres. The 76-acre change is in Irvine near the Interchange of Bake Parkway and Interstate 5. This area is graded for new buildings, but they were not built during the field check. The last change is 32 acres on the Tustin quad.

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

There were no changes of this type during this update.

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

A few nurseries were correctly identified this update with plants grown in pots. Therefore, there may be some acreage where Prime Farmland or Farmland of Statewide Importance is converted to Unique Farmland. In cases where the nurseries were already on Unique soils, there would be no change in classification.

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

Why?

New homes are being built in the Irvine, Tustin, and Newport Beach areas. Also watch San Juan Capistrano and San Clemente towards the south for new homes.

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

photo interpretation, start date: September 13, 2004

photo interpretation, number of days: 7

ground truthing dates: October 5-7, 2004

days for map compilation and clean up: 2

* **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