

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

**2006 FIELD REPORT**

**COUNTY:** Contra Costa

**FIELD MAPPER(S):** Larelle Burkham-Greydanus

**IMAGERY:**

*source:* National Agricultural Imagery Program (NAIP)

*date:* summer 2005

*scale:* 2 meter resolution

*film type:* true color mosaic

*coverage gaps:* none

*additional imagery:*

**WRITTEN, DIGITAL & ORAL INFORMATION SOURCES:** *Please list which local governments, interest groups, or individuals submitted comments on the 2004 maps. Also list all phone and in-person contacts made or related GIS data referenced while conducting the 2006 update.*

➤ *local review comments*

*cities:*

*county:*

*others:*

➤ *personal contacts:*

*Denise Nunn*

*Ironhouse Sanitary District*

*(925) 625-2279*

*for information on irrigated pasture, irrigated farmland, and reclaimed water on Jersey Island*

*and <http://www.delta.ca.gov/meetings/2001/ac101.htm>*

➤ *websites:* Delta wetlands project for possible permanent conversion of wetlands  
<http://www.deltawetlands.com/>

Dutch Slough Wetlands Restoration Project

<http://www.dutchslough.org/homepage.html>

Ironhouse Sanitary District

For information of irrigated pasture and irrigated farmland conversion

<http://www.ironhousesanitarydistrict.com/mainframe.html>

Hoffman Homes

For new homes in Discovery Bay City

<http://www.hofmannhomes.com/reflections/reflections.htm>

New Homes Magazine

[http://www.newhomesmag.com/home\\_finder/results.asp?county=12&price=0&bedroom=0](http://www.newhomesmag.com/home_finder/results.asp?county=12&price=0&bedroom=0)

➤ *GIS data referenced:*  
none

**2004-2006 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:** 13 changes

A majority of changes from irrigated farmland to urban land were for additions of homes, schools, and shopping centers. The largest single change was for ~160 acres of “Reflections at the Lake” housing development in Discovery Bay. The additions of Montellima, Ashford Park, and Sterling Gate Homes accounts for ~170 acres of change in Brentwood. Other additions to urban in Brentwood were ~60 acres of Rose Garden Homes, ~30 acres of Sterling Preserve Homes, and ~20 acres for Pioneer Elementary School. In Antioch, the largest addition to urban was for ~90 acres of Slatten Ranch Shopping Center, Walgreen Drugs, and Amber Park Homes. Also in Antioch, was the ~50 acre conversion for Cross Point Apartments, Lone Tree Plaza, Kohls, and Home Depot shopping centers.

➤ **Local, Grazing or Other Land to Urban Land:** 41 changes

New additions of businesses, shopping centers, homes, and schools for a total of ~190 acres were made for the following developments in the city and adjacent area of Brentwood:

- ~80 acres for Heritage High School and J. Douglas Middle School.
- ~20 acres total for Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church and adjacent new homes.
- ~20 acres each for Garin Shopping Center and Pioneer Elementary School.
- ~ 15 acres for Balton Village Shopping Center.
- ~15 acres total for Meridian Professional Center, John Muir Medical Center, Brentwood Surgical Center, and adjacent fire station.

Other notable changes accounting for conversions to urban land occurred:

- In San Ramon, ~90 acres for Centex Homes.
- In Antioch, ~ 30 acres for Slaten Ranch Shopping Center.
- In Pittsburg, ~20 acres for KB Homes.

➤ **Irrigated Farmland to Local or Grazing Land:** 54 changes

The largest number of conversions in this category involved farmland that had fallowed for three consecutive update cycles. These conversions occurred throughout the county and were generally less than 40 acres in size. However, large acreage changes were found in and around Knightsen:

- ~350 acres northeast of Tule Lane and Knightsen Avenue,
- ~160 acres northeast of Eden Plains and Sunset roads, and
- ~110 acres adjacent to intersection of Delta and Bartels road.

Other notable single conversions occurred in the Oakley area for ~100 acres near Brownstone Road, on Palm Tract for ~70 acres, and just north of Orword street before Palm Tract for ~60 acres. Furthermore, near Bryon, there was ~140 acre conversion off of Highway J4, as well as, ~80 acres at the southeast county boundary.

➤ **Irrigated Farmland to Other Land:** 33 changes

The first group of changes in this category occurred after irrigated farmland had fallowed for three update cycles and low-density housing was found during the field check. Large changes of this type were found in the Knightsen area for ~120 acres adjacent to Sellers Avenue, ~100 acres south of Sunset road, and ~60 acres north of Delta Road. Oakley had ~110 acres of conversion adjacent to Brownstone Road and ~60 acres adjacent to Laurel Road, and ~40 acres adjacent to Ohara Road. Likewise, the Brentwood area had 50 acres of ranchettes delineated adjacent to Sellers Avenue.

Other conversions in this category occurred when irrigated farmland had been out of production for three update cycles and land was heavily disturbed in preparation for development. Some notable changes of this type were located in Brentwood adjacent to Minnesota Street for ~185 acres and ~110 acres west of Main Street in Oakley.

➤ **Local, Grazing or Other Land to Irrigated Farmland:** 8 changes

On Jersey Island, ~780 of irrigated pasture and ~340 acres of sudan and rye grass was delineated after confirmation with the manager of the property. And in the Bryon area near the J4 Highway, ~ 40 acre of new vines was delineated.

➤ **UNUSUAL:** *Category changes, complications with the Farmland of Local Importance definition, or any other special circumstances in 2006.*

None

**PROBLEM AREAS:** *What locations and map categories need careful checking in 2008? Why?*

In the north Brentwood area, large conversions of other and grazing land to urban land will occur for new homes and shopping centers.

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

*photo interpretation, start date: December 11, 2006*

*photo interpretation, number of days:*

*ground truthing dates: 1/23/07-1/24/07*

*# days for map compilation and clean up: 10*

\* **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)