

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

2006 FIELD REPORT

COUNTY: Riverside (West)

FIELD MAPPER(S): Kerri Kisko

IMAGERY:

source: Air Photo USA

date: February 2006

scale: 1 foot resolution

film type: true color mosaic

coverage gaps: none

additional imagery: National Agricultural Imagery Program, summer 2005, 1 meter resolution, true color mosaic

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: Corona, Riverside, Temecula

county:

others:

➤ *personal contacts:*

Becky Rathbone, Systems Control Manager
Eastern Municipal Water District (951) 928-3777

➤ *websites:*

Eastern Municipal Water District (www.emwd.org)

League of California Cities (www.californiacities.org)

Riverside County Office of Education (www.rcoe.k12.ca.us)

Riverside County Transportation and Land Management Agency
(www.tlma.co.riverside.ca.us/GIS)

Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority (www.sawpa.org)

Search the Solid Waste Information System (www.ciwmb.ca.gov/swis/search)

➤ *GIS data referenced:*

Municipal boundary layer for the State of California (cities_07_Albrs.shp)

Street layer for the County of Riverside (GDT_riv.mdb\ Street)

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: 52 conversions**

Conversion from Irrigated Farmland to Urban Land was primarily due to new single-family housing developments, businesses, and schools. The most notable changes occurred in the Eastvale and Mira Loma areas and the Cities of Corona, Perris, Riverside, San Jacinto, and Temecula.

Eastvale/Corona

In the community of Eastvale, the Heartland (~130 acres) and River Glen (~75 acres) housing developments were added as well as two other areas of new homes (~85 and 95 acres). Two retail developments were added, totaling approximately 65 acres. Also, the Harada Heritage Park (~25 acres) was noted.

In the City of Corona, multiple additions of homes, including the Sycamore Creek (~240 acres), Crown Ranch (~80 acres), and Pinnacle (~55 acres) developments were noted.

Riverside/Mira Loma

Single-family housing was added in the City of Riverside. Approximately 90 acres of new homes were noted in the Orangecrest neighborhood as well as the Bridgeport, Stone Harbour, and Larkspur developments (~140 acres total).

In the community of Mira Loma, three new warehouses (~70 acres total) were noted. The Quicksilver distribution center was the largest at approximately 35 acres.

Perris

New housing developments in the City of Perris included Amberly Place (~125 acres), The Boulders (~120 acres), and Harmony Grove (~35 acres), as well as another area of new homes (~160 acres). Citrus Hill High School (~60 acres) was also noted.

San Jacinto

In the City of San Jacinto, the new housing developments San Jacinto Ranch (~185 acres) and Durango (~45 acres) were added. Approximately 225 acres of new homes in five other developments were also noted.

Temecula

The Morgan Hill (~185 acres) and Wolf Creek (~185 acres) housing developments were added in the City of Temecula. Tony Tobin Elementary School (~25 acres) was also an addition.

➤ **Local, Grazing or Other Land to Urban Land: 359 conversions**

The conversion of Local, Grazing, or Other Land to Urban Land consisted primarily of new single-family housing developments. New shopping centers, commercial buildings, schools, and parks occurred to a lesser extent. Notable changes include:

Riverside/Mira Loma/Glen Avon

In the City of Riverside, multiple additions of new homes (~360 acres total), including approximately 160 acres in the Orangecrest neighborhood, were noted. Several warehouses were also added, including two business parks (~90 and 75 acres) and the Western States Distribution Center (~30 acres). The Turner Ranch Medical Offices (~35 acres) were noted as well as Sycamore Highlands Park (~10 acres).

In the community of Glen Avon, multiple warehouses (~55 acres total) were noted and the UPS Distribution Center (~40 acres) was added in the community of Mira Loma.

Corona/Eastvale/Norco

In the City of Corona, new housing occurred in the southern part of the city. Approximately 390 acres of new single-family homes were added. The golf course communities of Dos Lagos (~140 acres) and The Retreat (~300 acres) were also additions. A business park (~45 acres) and a shopping center (~60 acres) were noted as well as Buena Vista Park (~10 acres). South of the city, the El Sobrante Landfill was expanded by approximately 75 acres.

Multiple additions of homes occurred in the community of Eastvale. Approximately 700 acres of new homes were added, including the Brookdale Terrace and Inspiration developments. The Eastvale Elementary School and Eleanor Roosevelt High School (~65 acres total) were also added.

In the City of Norco, two housing developments (~230 and 70 acres) were new additions.

Moreno Valley/Perris/Sun City/Menifee

In the City of Moreno Valley, multiple housing additions (~785 acres total), including the Promontory Point development, were noted. Three new schools were added: La Jolla Elementary, Laselle Elementary, and Red Maple Elementary (~15 acres each). The Moreno Beach Plaza shopping center (~35 acres), featuring a Wal-Mart, was noted as well as Celebration Park (~10 acres).

The Monument Ranch (~130 acres) and Villages of Avalon (~235 acres) housing developments were the largest conversions in the City of Perris. Other housing developments accounted for approximately 200 acres of new urbanization. Avalon Elementary School (~15 acres) was also an addition.

Multiple housing developments (~330 acres) were added in the community of Sun City. A shopping center and park (~10 acres each) were also noted.

In the community of Menifee, the Heritage Lake development (~115 acres) was added as well as approximately 530 acres of new homes in multiple developments.

Lake Elsinore/Wildomar

The Rosetta Canyon (~110 acres) and Alberhill Ranch (~45 acres) housing developments were added in the City of Lake Elsinore. Other housing developments accounted for approximately 300 acres of new urbanization. The West Elsinore Community Center (~75 acres) was added as well as a new school (~15 acres). Two new shopping centers were noted: one featuring a Lowe's (~35 acres) and the other a Home Depot (~10 acres).

In the City of Wildomar, new housing accounted for most of the conversions. The Saratoga (~40 acres) and Estrella Hills (~30 acres) developments were added as well as approximately 250 acres of new homes in multiple developments. Ronald Reagan Elementary School (~10 acres) was also an addition.

Murrieta/Temecula/French Valley

In the City of Murrieta, several housing developments, including: Northstar Ranch (~165 acres), Greer Ranch (~140 acres), Mapleton (~115 acres), Murrieta Oaks (~105 acres), and another area of new homes (~115 acres) were added. Multiple smaller housing developments accounted for approximately 630 acres of new urbanization. New shopping centers include: Albertson's (~20 acres), Home Center (~35 acres), Murrieta Place (~25 acres), and Murrieta Spectrum (~10 acres). The Mammoth at Silverhawk business park (~40 acres) and the Jefferson Business Center (~30 acres) were also noted.

In the City of Temecula, the Harveston (~155 acres), Temecula Creek (~60 acres), and Oak Creek (~40 acres) housing developments were added. Vail Ranch Plaza shopping center (~20 acres) and the Rancho Community Church (~30 acres) were also added. In addition, the Crowne Hill Elementary School (~15 acres) was noted.

Multiple housing developments accounted for approximately 575 acres of new urbanization in the French Valley area. A new school (~20 acres) and new parks (~15 and 10 acres) were also noted.

Hemet/San Jacinto

In the City of Hemet, several housing developments were added, totaling approximately 530 acres. A shopping center (~35 acres) was noted and the Hemet Auto Mall was expanded by approximately 20 acres. Cawston Elementary School (~20 acres) was also an addition.

The Park Hill (~50 acres) housing development was added in the City of San Jacinto. Other housing developments accounted for approximately 200 acres of new urbanization.

Beaumont

In the City of Beaumont, the Solera by Del Webb housing community was expanded by approximately 220 acres. Other notable housing developments include: Tournament Hills (~130 acres), Four Seasons (~90 acres), and Stetson (~75 acres). The Brookside Elementary School (~15 acres), Sundance Elementary School (~30 acres), and the new location of Beaumont High School (~40 acres) were added. The Second Street Marketplace (~30 acres), featuring a Wal-Mart, was noted. To the south of the city, the Lamb Canyon Landfill was expanded by approximately 50 acres.

➤ Irrigated Farmland to Local or Grazing Land: 123 conversions

The majority (101) of these changes were due to Irrigated Farmland being fallow for three or more update cycles. These changes were scattered throughout the agricultural areas of the county. Most of the changes were between 10 to 50 acres. Larger conversions of 100 acres or larger were noted in the Moreno and Perris Valleys and near Lake Mathews. These large conversions occurred on the Corona North (~140 acres), Lakeview (~195 acres), Lake Mathews (~125 and 190 acres), Murrieta (~250 acres), Perris (~155

acres), Steele Peak (~110 acres), and Sunnymead (~165 acres) quads.

Other conversions were due to the identification of nonirrigated grain. Nonirrigated grain is part of the Farmland of Local Importance category. These changes primarily occurred in the Moreno and Perris Valleys. Most of the changes were between 20 to 100 acres. The largest conversions occurred on the Perris (~110, 115, 130, 130 acres), Romoland (~160 acres), Sunnymead (~ 200 acres), and Winchester (~275 acres) quads.

➤ **Irrigated Farmland to Other Land: 36 conversions**

Low-density housing (ranchettes) accounted for the majority of the changes. These changes were scattered throughout the county and were primarily 10-25 acres in size. Other changes were due to equestrian facilities and the identification of small agricultural ponds.

➤ **Local, Grazing or Other Land to Irrigated Farmland: 80 conversions**

The majority of the Irrigated Farmland was added in the Perris Valley and in the foothills on either side of Temecula. Most of the changes were between 10-30 acres in size and consisted of row crops, field crops, orchards, nurseries, vineyards, and irrigated pasture. Some changes of note include an area of row crops (~540 acres) and an area of field crops (~150 acres) on the Lakeview quad, and two areas of row crops (~210 and 380 acres) on the Perris quad.

➤ **Local, Grazing to Other Land: 475 conversions**

Low-density housing (ranchettes) accounted for the majority of the changes to Other Land. These changes were scattered throughout the county and were primarily less than 30 acres each. Large changes occurred on the Anza (~135 acres), Butterfly Peak (~150 acres), Cabazon (~195 acres), Lake Mathews (~100 acres), Murrieta (~220 acres), Redlands (~125 acres), Steele Peak (~155 acres), Sunnymead (~190 acres), and Wildomar (~155 acres) quads. Other changes were due to rural commercial, small agricultural ponds, mining facilities, and equestrian facilities.

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

Conversions from Urban Land: There were 18 conversions from Urban Land. Urban Land was converted to other categories primarily due to the identification of areas that were vacant for three or more updates. One change of note was an area of crops (~105 acres) on the Lakeview quad.

Grazing, Other Land to Local: There were 25 conversions to Farmland of Local Importance. All of these changes were due to the identification of nonirrigated grain on previously vacant areas. Conversions of 100 acres or greater occurred on the Cahuilla Mountain (~105 acres), Romoland (~120 acres) and Perris (~960 acres) quads.

Conversions between Irrigated Farmland categories: There were 9 conversions

between irrigated farmland categories. These changes were due to the identification of potted plant nurseries, primarily south of Victoria Avenue in Riverside. Potted plant nurseries are considered Unique Farmland regardless of the underlying soil. These changes may result in Prime Farmland or Farmland of Statewide Importance being converted to Unique Farmland.

Water Conversions: There were 5 conversions involving Water. Two of these conversions were due to former bodies of water being subdivided into ponds and used by the Eastern Municipal Water District as storage for reclaimed water. This type of water storage is considered to be an urban use. A new boat ramp and parking lot was installed at Diamond Valley Lake resulting in a conversion from Water to Urban Land. Lake Elsinore's shoreline needed to be adjusted and this resulted in a conversion from Other Land to Water. Lastly, a water body shrunk in size and a small amount of Water was converted to Other Land.

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

Dry farming is currently expanding in the county. Watch for more conversions of Grazing Land or Irrigated Farmland to nonirrigated grain.

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

photo interpretation, start date: March 17, 2008

photo interpretation, number of days: 13

ground truthing dates: April 14-18, 2008

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

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

2006 FIELD REPORT

COUNTY: Riverside (East)

FIELD MAPPER(S): Md. Murshidul Hoque

IMAGERY:

source: Air Photo USA ; NAIP
date: Feb 2006 ; Summer, 2005
scale: 2 foot resolution ; 2 meter
film type: natural color; natural 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 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: none
county: none
others:

➤ *personal contacts:* none

➤ *websites:*

<http://www.worldgolf.com/courses/usa/california/ranchomirage/>

➤ *GIS data referenced:*

SWIS landfill/waste facility reference file: SWIS.dgn

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**

This update there were 42 conversions of irrigated farmland to urban land. The majority of these conversions were in the form of new housing developments in Myoma, La Quinta, and Indio. The largest examples included new homes in Myoma (143, 104, and 98 acres), Indio (164, 79, and 56 acres), and La Quinta (138, 56, and 31 acres). A 22 acre

addition of housing was observed in the Blythe area. Two more changes were noted in the areas of West Berdoo Canyon (69 and 39 acres). Additionally, 28 acres of new housing was noted on the Blythe NE quad. Three golf courses were added in Valerie (~276 acres- PGA West Greg Norman Golf Course); in Desert Hot Springs (~222 acres- Belaire Golf Course); and in Palm Springs (~ 194 acres-Palm Springs Golf and Tennis Club).

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

There were 129 conversions of this type in the eastern half of the county. The majority of these conversions were in the form of new housing developments in the Indio (164 and 51 acres), Myoma (86 and 52 acres), Cathedral City (79 and 73 acres), and La Quinta areas. More land devoted to housing was noted in Desert Hot Springs (~60 acres) and in Palms Springs (~ 59 acres). The Indian Wells Golf Course (~325 acres) was added in La Quinta. There were five more golf courses community added in Valerie (~276 acres- PGA West Greg Norman Golf Course); in Desert Hot Springs (~222 acres- Belaire Golf Course); in Palm Springs (~ 194 acres-Palm Springs Golf and Tennis Club); in Myoma (~190 acres- Ivory Golf and County Club); and in Rancho Mirage (~152 acres).

Other conversions included schools, businesses, landfills, and buildings and paved parking facilities.

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

There were 31 conversions of prime, statewide, or unique farmland to farmland of local importance or grazing land this update. All of these changes were due to irrigated farmland being fallow for three or more update cycles. These changes primarily occurred in the Indio, Valerie, and Blythe areas. The majority of the changes were relatively small (30 acres or less). Large conversions of ~50 acres or more occurred on the Indio (3), Valerie (3), Blythe NE (2), and Mecca (1) quads. Notable large changes were on the Mecca (~250 acres) and on Indio quads (149 acres).

➤ **Irrigated Farmland to Other Land**

This update there were nine conversions of irrigated farmland to other land. These changes were mainly due to the use of Air Photo USA to distinguish low-density housing (ranchettes) and farmsteads (main farm house with gravel area used for equipment storage) in areas that previously lacked imagery. These changes were relatively small, approximately 10-30 acres each.

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

This update there were 25 conversions of local, grazing, or other land to irrigated farmland. These changes mainly occurred in Indio, Valerie, Mecca, and McCoy Wash areas and primarily were in the form of date orchards, other new orchards, field crops, irrigated pastures or nurseries. The majority of the changes were relatively small (~10-30 acres). The most notable changes include an approximately 103-acre parcel of crops on the Mecca quad, 58-acres of ag land on Valerie quad and an approximately 50-acre new orchard on the McCoy Wash quad.

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

Local or Grazing to Other Land→ There were 9 conversions. On the Ripley quad, 39 acres were found as agricultural staging areas. On the Oasis quad 40 acres of aquaculture was noted as other land. No name was found for the farm during field check. On Blythe quad thirty-one acres rural community were noted. All other changes were small in size (5 to 25 acres).

Urban Land to Local or Grazing Land→ There were 2 conversions. All of these changes were due to areas that were over-mapped and corrected due to improved digital imagery. These conversions occurred on the La Quinta quads (~8 to 10 acres).

Other unusual conversions were Irrigated farmland to irrigated pastures and nurseries. They were observed on Indio quad (~20 to 30 acres) and on Oasis quad (~15 acres).

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

In the Coachella Valley there are numerous areas of agriculture that are being grown under low plastic tunnels (the tunnels allow earlier planting of crops). These areas are for growing very sensitive crops like strawberry and some other crops, which need careful maintenance.

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

photo interpretation, start date: December 12, 2006

photo interpretation, number of days: 10

ground truthing dates: January 2 -6, 2005

days for map compilation and clean up: 12

* **Note:** **Irrigated Farmland** = Prime Farmland, Farmland of Statewide Importance or Unique Farmland; **Local** = Farmland of Local Importance

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