

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

2006 FIELD REPORT

COUNTY: Ventura

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- none available*

cities:

county:

others:

➤ *personal contacts:* none

➤ *websites:*

Rancho Fino

<http://www.ranchofino.com/index.htm>

for irrigated pasture in Ojai area

Beylik Hydroponics

<http://www.beylikhydroponics.com/>

for status of irrigated farmland

Mejia's Nursery

http://www.manta.com/comsite5/bin/pddnb_company.pl?pdlanding=1&referid=4490&id=cvkip5

for status of nursery in Fillmore

La Verne Nursery

<http://www.lavernenursery.com/>

for verification of nursery growing ornamental plants

Brokaw Nursery

<http://www.brokawnursery.com/>

for verification of nursery name

Conejo Creek South Playing Fields

<http://www.crpd.org/index.cfm?go2=parks>

for confirmation of park name and playing fields

Simi Valley Town Center

<http://www.simivalleytc.com/>

United Water Conservation District

<http://www.unitedwater.org/report/adcr/index.cfm>

for groundwater recharge basin-Saticoy Facilities

➤ *GIS data referenced:* O:\Vector\SWIS\swis.dgn used for landfill locations in Ventura County

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** 29 changes

The largest total acreage change from irrigated farmland to urban land was for an ~100 acre groundwater recharge basin enlargement near Saticoy. Camarillo also had ~80 acres of change for the Village Common Homes development. Other additions of urban land occurred in Oxnard:

- ~50 acres for Sysco Food Services buildings.
- ~40 acres for John Lang Homes.
- ~30 acres for Kingfield Homes.

➤ **Local, Grazing or Other Land to Urban Land** 25 changes

Changes in this category represented new homes, parks, and shopping centers this update. In Thousand Oaks, the largest single change to urban was for Conejo Creek South Playfield at ~90 acres. The delineation of Sand Canyon Development Homes and Simi Valley Town Center resulted in the most notable Simi Valley change of ~140 acres. And near Saticoy City, the groundwater recharge basin enlargement accounted for ~70 acres conversion to urban land.

➤ **Irrigated Farmland to Local or Grazing Land** 68 changes

Conversions in this category occurred primarily after irrigated farmland had fallowed three update cycles or more. The conversions were located primarily in the following areas:

Saticoy/Santa Paula

The largest changes were for ~130 acres in Aliso Canyon, ~70 acres adjacent to the Santa Clara River south of Saticoy City, and ~60 acres on the urban periphery of Santa Paula.

Moorpark/Somis

- ~120 acres near Somis just south of Bradley Road.
- ~100 acres north of Moorpark in Grimes Canyon.
- ~70 acres west of Moorpark, adjacent to State Highway 118 and Poindexter Road.
- ~70 ac in Santa Rosa Valley, off of Hill Canyon Road.

Ojai Valley

Other changes to this category occurred after irrigated farmland had fallowed three update cycles and nonirrigated grains were found growing. The most notable change of this type, at ~70 acres, was in the Upper Ojai Valley. Otherwise, there were three conversions to grazing land, all ~ 20 to 40 acres, on the periphery of Ojai city.

Casitas Pass/Rincon Mountain

Two orchards, totaling ~90 acres, were found fallow for the third update cycle just south of Casitas Pass. All remaining conversions were ~10 acres or less in this area.

➤ **Irrigated Farmland to Other Land** 50 changes

The delineation of rural ranchettes, farmsteads, and agriculture related businesses accounted for the majority of changes in the category. These changes occurred throughout the county encompassing 20 acres or less. However, there were five areas of notable changes:

Moorpark

After irrigated farmland had undergone three or more update cycles of fallowing, ~130 acres of rural ranchettes were delineated in Santa Rosa Valley and ~40 acres in Tierra Rejada Valley.

Somis

North of Somis, a total ~110 acres of rural ranchettes were delineated off of Kingrove Drive and Sand Canyon Drive.

Ojai/Upper Ojai Valley

The single largest area of conversion was off of Reeves Road for ~40 acres. Otherwise, there were five areas of conversion, all ~ 20 or less, spread out from east of Ojai city to the Upper Ojai Valley.

➤ **Local, Grazing or Other Land to Irrigated Farmland** 2 changes

The largest addition of irrigated farmland was for ~60 acres of citrus and strawberries just northeast of Somis off of Jackson Road. And ~ 50 acres of non-irrigated grains was converted to irrigated pasture in the upper Ojai Valley.

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

Unusual changes occurring this update were for ~560 acres of irrigated farmland converting to new or enlarged potted plant nurseries including Bordiers Nursery (~160 ac), LaVerne Nursery (~70 ac), and Brokaw Nursery (~40 ac). This will be evident in the statistics as a conversion from Prime or Statewide Farmland to Unique Farmland.

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

The Fillmore and Santa Paula areas will need careful checking for continued enlargement or additions of potted plant nurseries.

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

photo interpretation, start date: November 15, 2006

photo interpretation, number of days: 5

ground truthing dates: 1/8-1/11/07

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