

**California Department of Conservation
FARMLAND MAPPING AND MONITORING PROGRAM**

2008 FIELD REPORT

COUNTY: Contra Costa

FIELD MAPPER(S): Troy Dick

IMAGE DATA USED:

Source	Digital Globe Inc.
Acquisition date	April, 2007
Data description	1 foot resolution, true color mosaic
Coverage gaps	None
Additional imagery used	Google Maps

WRITTEN, DIGITAL & ORAL INFORMATION SOURCES:

The following entities and individuals provided information used to conduct 2008 mapping.

Local Review Comments

(submitted by cities, counties, & others on 2006 maps)

Personal Contacts

Websites Used for Reference

Dutch Slough Wetlands Restoration Project

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

Franks Tract State Recreation Area Wetlands Habitat Restoration

<http://nrm.dfg.ca.gov/FileHandler.ashx?DocumentVersionID=12554>

Google Maps, Street View

<http://maps.google.com/>

The Lakes Discovery Bay

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

Lennar Homes

<http://www.lennar.com>

Spinnaker Cove, The Waterfront homes

<http://www.hawkeyecompanies.com/html/spinnaker.html>

GIS Data Used for Reference

2006-2008 CHANGE SUMMARY:

Changes made during the map update are summarized by type and location. Particular attention is paid to large or unusual changes and their estimated acreages. Please note that land use type, size of land use unit, soil quality, and Farmland of Local Importance definition (if any) determines the final Important Farmland (IFL) category. [See definitions](#) at bottom of table.

Conversions to Urban Land	
Irrigated Farmland to Urban Land	16 changes
<p>The majority of these changes occurred in or adjacent to the cities of Brentwood and Oakley. The largest changes took place in the city of Brentwood where a total of approximately 180 acres were delineated for Riata Neighborhood, Rose Garden Homes, Brighton Station, and other new homes and businesses. Meanwhile, in the city of Oakley, a total of approximately 160 acres were delineated for the Wildrose Homes, the Courtyards of Cypress Grove, and other new homes and businesses.</p>	
Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other Land to Urban Land	59 changes
<p>The majority of the urbanization this update was due to new homes, shopping centers, businesses, and schools for a total of approximately 490 acres for the following developments Brentwood area:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Approximately 110 acres for Marsh Creek Elementary School and adjacent new homes.• Approximately 90 acres for Riata Neighborhood, Rose Garden Homes, and adjacent new homes.• Approximately 70 acres for Wildrose Homes and the Courtyards of Cypress Grove.• Approximately 60 acres for Sage Glen Estates and adjacent shopping center.• Approximately 50 acres for Live Oak Ranch and adjacent new homes. <p>Meanwhile a total of approximately 360 acres of conversions occurred in the city and adjacent area of San Ramon:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Approximately 210 acres for the Escalante and Windemere Homes, Live Oak Elementary School, and San Ramon Sports Park.• Approximately 100 acres for Milano at Monterosso, adjacent new homes, and a sports field added to Diablo Vista Middle School. <p>On the other hand, higher resolution (1 foot) imagery was used to delineate existing homes throughout the county, as some areas had lacked detailed imagery in the past. On the Walnut Creek quad, this higher resolution imagery allowed approximately 120 acres of Urban Land to be added. Meanwhile, on the Tassajara quad, approximately 40 acres was added. Further, on the Brentwood quad, approximately 30 acres of existing homes were delineated.</p>	

Conversions from Irrigated Farmland aside from urbanization	
Irrigated Farmland to Nonirrigated Land Uses	55 changes
<p>Most of the changes that occurred in this category were due to plots of irrigated farmland having been fallow for three or more update cycles. Countywide approximately 3,200 acres was converted to nonirrigated land uses. The largest single change in this category occurred on the Bouldin Island quad with approximately 1,310 acres going out of production. This was followed by the Brentwood quad with approximately 1,040 acres going out of production.</p>	
Irrigated Farmland to Other Land	15 changes
<p>A majority of these changes were due to a combination of the use of higher resolution (1 foot) imagery to delineate areas of low-density housing or natural vegetation throughout the county and irrigated farmland having been fallow for 3 or more update cycles in plots too small to be mapped as nonirrigated land uses. The largest single change happened on the Jersey Island quad with approximately 150 acres of Department of Water Resources land for the Dutch Slough Tidal Marsh and Flood Plain Restoration Project. Other notable changes were on the Brentwood quad with a total of approximately 150 acres.</p>	
Conversions to Irrigated Farmland	
Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other Land to Irrigated Farmland	9 changes
<p>The most notable addition of irrigated farmland this update occurred on the Jersey Island quad with a total of approximately 70 acres. This was followed by the Tassajara quad with a total of approximately 40 acres of irrigated farmland.</p>	
Unusual Changes	
(Types of change not already described or special circumstances during the 2008 update.)	
<p>Grazing Land and Other Land to Water: 3 changes</p> <p>The largest of these changes was on the Jersey Island quad where approximately 320 acres of Other Land to Water were due to Franks Tract State Recreation Area wetlands habitat restoration. Other changes of this type were due to the use of higher resolution (1 foot) imagery to delineate more distinct Water boundaries for the Briones Reservoir and the Los Vaqueros Reservoir. These changes consisted of a total of approximately 210 acres which occurred on the Briones Valley and Byron Hot Springs quads.</p>	
Areas of Concern for Future Updates	
(Locations or map categories noted as needing careful checking during 2010 update, and reasons.)	
<p>In the Brentwood area, conversions of Other Land and nonirrigated farmland to Urban Land will continue to occur for new homes and shopping centers.</p>	
Definitions:	

Irrigated Farmland includes most irrigated crops grown in California. When combined with soil data, these farmed areas become the Important Farmland (IFL) categories of Prime Farmland, Farmland of Statewide Importance & Unique Farmland. Because of the nature of the IFL definitions, some irrigated uses, such as irrigated pastures or nurseries, may not be eligible for all three IFL categories.

Nonirrigated land uses include grazing areas, land used for dryland crop farming, and formerly irrigated land that has been left idle for three or more update cycles. These uses are frequently incorporated into county Farmland of Local Importance definitions.

Other Land includes a variety of miscellaneous uses, such as low density rural residential development, mining areas, vacant areas and nonagricultural vegetation. Confined animal agriculture facilities are mapped as Other Land unless incorporated into a county Farmland of Local Importance definition.

Urban Land includes residential, industrial, recreational, infrastructure and institutional uses.

For more on map categories, including Farmland of Local Importance definitions, visit the [FMMP web site](#).

LABOR ESTIMATE:

Time estimates for conducting the 2008 update.

Image interpretation, start date	September 25, 2008
Image interpretation, number of days	10
Ground truth dates	10/22/2008 – 10/24/2008
Number of days for post-ground truth clean up	5

Further information on the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program can be found at:

<http://www.conservation.ca.gov/dlrp/fmmp/Pages/Index.aspx>