

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

**2008 FIELD REPORT**

**COUNTY:** Marin

**FIELD MAPPER(S):** Amy Klug

**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 Earth, Street View

**WRITTEN, DIGITAL & ORAL INFORMATION SOURCES:**

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

<b>Local Review Comments</b> (submitted by cities, counties, & others on 2006 maps)
<b>Personal Contacts</b>
Steve Petterle, City of Novato, Planning Department, <a href="mailto:SPetterle@co.marin.ca.us">SPetterle@co.marin.ca.us</a>
<b>Websites Used for Reference</b>
North Marin Water District: <a href="http://www.nmwd.org/">http://www.nmwd.org/</a>
<b>GIS Data Used for Reference</b>

**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.*

<b>Conversions to Urban Land</b>	
Irrigated Farmland to Urban Land	0 changes
Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other Land to Urban Land	27 changes
Near Novato, almost 45 acres of new homes were built on Other Land. The Bolinas area added approximately 20 acres of new urban land largely due to the addition of a school and water treatment ponds. The largest single change on was located near Point Reyes	

Station (≈35 acres) where more detailed imagery had been used and it was determined that there was enough structures to warrant the change. Approximately 45 acres converted near Inverness due to the use of more detailed imagery to delineate more distinct urban boundaries.

The largest change which converted Grazing Land to Urban Land occurred near Sleepy Hollow due to the use of detailed imagery to delineate distinct urban boundaries. The Novato area added industrial buildings, new homes, and a small park (≈15 acres).

**Conversions from Irrigated Farmland  
aside from urbanization**

Irrigated Farmland to Nonirrigated Land Uses	2 changes
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Two small changes led to the conversion to Grazing Land (≈10 acres total). The largest change, approximately 5 acres, occurred near Hicks Valley at the northeast side of the county and was due to land left fallow for three or more update cycles.

Irrigated Farmland to Other Land	3 changes
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Three small changes occurred in this category which nearly equaled 5 acres total and were due to the use of detailed imagery to delineate more distinct boundaries throughout the county.

**Conversions to Irrigated Farmland**

Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other Land to Irrigated Farmland	4 changes
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Approximately 20 acres of row crops were added on Grazing Land in north east Marin County. Also worth noting was an orchard which was expanded onto Other Land and led to an approximately 10 acre conversion.

**Unusual Changes**

(Types of change not already described or special circumstances during the 2008 update.)

Various land use categories (Other Land, Grazing Land, and Urban Built-up Land) were converted to Water due to the expansion of the boundaries of Stafford Lake in Novato (≈100 acres total). After noting the increased water boundary for three or more update cycles, a decision was made to update it. In 1984, Stafford Lake was drained in order to replace a toe drain at the bottom of the dam; hence, the water level was low when the lake was first mapped.

**Areas of Concern for Future Updates**

(Locations or map categories noted as needing careful checking during 2010 update, and reasons.)

**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 29, 2008
Image interpretation, number of days	2.5 days
Ground truth dates	October 6, 2008
Number of days for post-ground truth clean up	1 day

Further information on the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program can be found at:  
<http://www.conservation.ca.gov/dlrp/fmmp/Pages/Index.aspx>