

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

**2008 FIELD REPORT**

**COUNTY:** Ventura

**FIELD MAPPER(S):** Troy Dick

**IMAGE DATA USED:**

Source	Digital Globe Inc.
Acquisition date	July, 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)

Roger Adams, GIS Program  
City of San Buenaventura

**Personal Contacts**

Bruce Hesson; Division of Oil, Gas and Geothermal Resources--Ventura field office

**Websites Used for Reference**

City Maps – City of Ventura

<http://cityofventura.net/maps>

Google Maps, Street View

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

Moorpark Country Club Estates

<http://www.moorparkcountryclub.com>

River Park Life

<http://www.riverparklife.com>

School Digger

<http://www.schooldigger.com/go/ca/city/oxnard/search.aspx>

Seabridge Marina Homes

<http://www.condohouse.com/noname7.html>

Ventura County Star

<http://www.venturacountystar.com/news/2008/feb/19/public-works-director-retire/>

Village at the Park, Camarillo, California  
<http://www.the-village-at-the-park.com>

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	21 changes
----------------------------------	------------

The majority of these changes occurred in or adjacent to the cities of Camarillo, Oxnard, and Ventura. The largest changes took place in the city of Oxnard where a total of ~260 acres were delineated for Seabridge Marina Homes, the River Park Development, Specialty Home Hardware, an expansion of Rio Rosales Elementary School, and other new homes and businesses. Meanwhile, in the city of Camarillo, a total of approximately 150 acres were delineated for the Village At The Park home development, Rancho Rosal Elementary School, YMCA center, and new businesses. Furthermore, in and adjacent to the city of Ventura, a total of approximately 110 acres were developed for Citrus Walk homes, the Ventura Community Park, Thille Park, new apartments, and new businesses.

Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other Land to Urban Land	32 changes
---	------------

The majority of the urbanization this update was due to the expansion of urban development in or adjacent to the cities of Moorpark, Simi Valley, and Thousand Oaks. The largest changes took place in the city of Simi Valley where a total of ~280 acres was added for the Sand Canyon Development Project, Windstone at Big Sky/The Bluffs, Standard Pacific Homes, Shea Homes, expansion of the Simi Valley Town Center, and other new homes and businesses. Meanwhile, in the city of Moorpark, a total of approximately 180 acres was added for Toll Brother Homes, Moorpark Country Club Estates, and a new shopping center. Furthermore in and adjacent to the city of Thousand Oaks a total of approximately 100 acres were developed for new homes, apartments, and a sports field for California Lutheran College.

**Conversions from Irrigated Farmland  
aside from urbanization**

Irrigated Farmland to Nonirrigated Land Uses	58 changes
--	------------

There were two primary reasons for the conversion of irrigated farmland:  
First, the majority of these changes were due to plots of irrigated farmland having been fallow for three or more update cycles. The majority of the changes in this category occurred on the Santa Paula quad with a total of ~260 acres going out of production. This was followed by the Moorpark and Newbury Park quads with a total of ~200 and 180

acres, respectively, going out of production.

Second, areas of irrigated farmland were identified that are no longer being irrigated but, instead, are being used for the cultivation of nonirrigated grain crops. These areas had not been irrigated for multiple update cycles. The largest change occurred on the Newbury Park quad with a total of approximately 360 acres going to nonirrigated grain crops. This was followed by the Ojai quad with a total of ~180 acres going to nonirrigated grain crops.

**Irrigated Farmland to Other Land**

19 changes

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, horse training facilities or natural vegetation throughout the county and irrigated farmland having been fallow for 3 or more update cycles in plots of land too small to be mapped as nonirrigated land uses. The majority of these changes happened on the Newbury Park quad, with a total of approximately 100 acres going to Other Land for low-density housing, horse training facilities, natural vegetation, and nonirrigated land uses. This was followed by the Moorpark quad with a total of ~90 acres going to Other Land uses.

**Conversions to Irrigated Farmland**

**Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other Land to Irrigated Farmland**

32 changes

The most notable addition of irrigated farmland this update occurred on the Moorpark quad with a total of approximately 130 acres. This was followed by the Matilija quad with a total of ~100 acres going to irrigated farmland.

**Unusual Changes**

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

**Nonirrigated land uses to Other Land: 3 changes**

Nearly 4,500 acres of Grazing Land was converted to Other Land due to the delineation oil fields; the largest example occurred on the Ventura quad as ~4,000 acres were converted for the San Miguelito Oil Field. Grazing status was verified with information from the Department of Conservation's Division of Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Resources.

**Nonirrigated grain to Grazing Land: 19 changes**

A majority of these changes were due to plots of nonirrigated grain having been fallow for four or more update cycles. In the whole county approximately 1,580 acres were converted to Grazing Land. The largest changes in this category occurred on the Matilija quad with a total of ~900 acres going to Grazing Land. This was followed by the Newbury Park and Simi Valley East quads with a total of ~290 and 210 acres, respectively, going to Grazing Land.

**Areas of Concern for Future Updates**

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

None

**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	12/8/2008
Image interpretation, number of days	9
Ground truth dates	2/2/2009 to 2/5/2009
Number of days for post-ground truth clean up	3

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

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