

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

2010 FIELD REPORT

COUNTY: Nevada

FIELD MAPPER(S): Troy Dick

IMAGE DATA USED:

Source	National Agriculture Imagery Program, USDA
Acquisition date	Summer 2010
Data description	True color mosaic, 1 meter resolution
Coverage gaps	None
Additional imagery used	National Agriculture Imagery Program, USDA; summer 2012, Google Maps

WRITTEN, DIGITAL & ORAL INFORMATION SOURCES:

The following entities and individuals provided information used to conduct 2010 mapping.

Local Review Comments (submitted by cities, counties, & others on 2008 maps)
Lisa Osterholm District Manager Nevada County Resource Conservation District
Tyler Barrington Senior Planner Nevada County Community Development Agency
Personal Contacts
None
Websites Used for Reference
Google Maps, Street View http://maps.google.com/
GIS Data Used for Reference
Place names California City Boundary Layer

2008-2010 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	0 changes
There were no significant conversions of Irrigated Farmland to Urban Land this update.	
Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other Land to Urban Land	1 changes
<p>Conversions of nonirrigated land uses and Other Land to Urban Land were primarily due to the use of high digital imagery to delineate areas of high density housing. This resulted in approximately 30 acres being converted to Urban Land around the Penn Valley area.</p>	
Conversions from Irrigated Farmland aside from urbanization	
Irrigated Farmland to Nonirrigated Land Uses	33 changes
<p>Irrigated pasture having not been irrigated for three or more update cycles was the primary cause of conversion to nonirrigated land uses. These areas will be converted to Farmland of Local Importance or Grazing Land, depending upon if they meet criteria contained in the Farmland of Local Importance definition such as if they are areas of improved dryland pasture, contain high-quality soils or are enrolled in the Williamson Act. The majority of these areas qualified as improved dryland pasture, and were converted to Farmland of Local Importance.</p> <p>Countywide approximately 800 acres was converted from irrigated to nonirrigated land uses. There were three changes which were larger than 100 acres, all of them were irrigated pasture going fallow for three or more update cycles. The largest was approximately 350 acres on the Rough and Ready Quad west of Bald of Mountain Road. Another large change of approximately 220 acres was along State Highway 49, south of Higgins Corner. Lastly approximately 170 acres went out of production northwest of Higgins Corner along Duggans Road.</p>	
Irrigated Farmland to Other Land	3 changes
<p>These changes were due to a combination of the use of high resolution (1 meter) imagery to delineate areas of low-density housing, small water bodies, or irrigated pasture having been fallow for three or more update cycles in plots of land too small to be mapped as nonirrigated land uses. The largest number of conversions in this category occurred on the Rough & Ready quad with approximately 10 acres going to Other Land for low-density housing.</p>	
Conversions to Irrigated Farmland	
Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other Land to Irrigated Farmland	1 changes
<p>Conversions to irrigated farmland were primarily due to the identification of irrigated pasture. The most notable addition of Irrigated Farmland this update occurred on the Camp Far West quad with approximately 20 acres for irrigated pasture.</p>	

Unusual Changes

(Types of change not already described or special circumstances during the 2010 update.)

Grazing Land to Other Land: These changes encompassed approximately 30 acres throughout the county and were primarily due to the identification of small water bodies.

Areas of Concern for Future Updates

(Locations or map categories noted as needing careful checking during 2012 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 2010 update.

Image interpretation, start date	January 10, 2013
Image interpretation, number of days	5
Ground truth dates	January 29, 2013
Number of days for post-ground truth clean up	2

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