

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

2010 FIELD REPORT

COUNTY: Orange

FIELD MAPPER(S): Patrick Hennessy

IMAGE DATA USED:

Source	National Agriculture Imagery Program (NAIP)
Acquisition date	Summer 2010
Data description	1 meter resolution, true color mosaic
Coverage gaps	None
Additional imagery used	NAIP 2009 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)
Cities of Costa Mesa and Westminster.
Personal Contacts
None.
Websites Used for Reference
None.
GIS Data Used for Reference
None.

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	19 changes
This type of change was not very common or extensive. The largest is only 35 acres and most of them are less than 20 acres. New homes are the most common reason for the change, such as the largest; which involved new homes near Irvine, where the toll Highway 133 splits from the toll Highway 241. There was a 25 acre parking lot paved in Anaheim, very close to Disneyland. Some nurseries also were converted to Urban Land in various locations, the largest of those only 15 acres.	

Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other Land to Urban Land	70 changes
This is definitely the most common change for this update. There were 20 changes from Grazing Land, but the biggest is only 25 acres. Conversions from Other Land make up for the remaining 50 of these changes. The largest is just over 100 acres, where the toll Highway 241 and the toll Highway 261 interchange. This Highway interchange has a high amount of paved roadways, therefore meriting the change. The Bowerman Landfill also expanded its operation by 30 acres. The rest of the changes are new homes, parks, and commercial buildings with paved parking lots.	
Conversions from Irrigated Farmland aside from urbanization	
Irrigated Farmland to Nonirrigated Land Uses	16 changes
Lots of activity in the Little Joaquin Valley by Rattlesnake Reservoir. Large portions of the orchards here have been tracked as fallow for three updates. Unfortunately, the area is not publically accessible, but a very large 180 acres were changed to Grazing because they appeared very fallow and lacking trees. There are two more 65 acres fields in the vicinity that are still marked as fallow three updates, but they were not removed due to a very smooth texture on the ground surface. These will probably also go to Grazing next update if new agriculture doesn't appear in the plowed fields.	
Irrigated Farmland to Other Land	9 changes
The majority of this change was land that has gone fallow for three or more updates, and had streets, but no homes or buildings. The largest is just over 300 acres and the rest are small, less than 30 acres each. The large one is near Portola Parkway in the Little Joaquin Valley, an area that is clearly in transition. Other Land was more appropriate here rather than Grazing because the paved roads and infrastructure don't seem to facilitate the land use of grazing livestock.	
Conversions to Irrigated Farmland	
Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other Land to Irrigated Farmland	7 changes
Not much of this type of change. The largest is interesting, however. It is 27 acres in area, and located on Irvine Boulevard at the north end of the runways of the old El Toro USMC air station. Several rows of large mature trees were being tended and grown in very large wooden planters for future transport. This seemed like a nursery situation, with the rare instance of being very large mature trees. The rest were all less than 10 acres and usually just additions to existing adjacent Irrigated Farmland.	
Unusual Changes (Types of change not already described or special circumstances during the 2010 update.)	
It's always unusual to change Urban to something else, but there were a small number of these changes to improve the existing urban edge and twice for new agriculture (an orchard and a nursery).	
Areas of Concern for Future Updates (Locations or map categories noted as needing careful checking during 2012 update, and reasons.)	
The area of most concern is the Little Joaquin Valley east of Irvine by the toll Highway 241	

and Portola Parkway. The agriculture seems to be going fallow and some homes are being built there. Expect more changes in this area for future updates.

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	12/30/2011
Image interpretation, number of days	8
Ground truth dates	1/12/2011
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>