

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

2012 FIELD REPORT

COUNTY: Los Angeles

FIELD MAPPER(S): Michael Kisko

IMAGE DATA USED:

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

WRITTEN, DIGITAL & ORAL INFORMATION SOURCES:

The following entities and individuals provided information used to conduct 2012 mapping.

Local Review Comments (submitted by cities, counties, & others on 2010 maps)
Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
Personal Contacts
Michael Flood with Antelope Valley-East Kern Water Agency
Websites Used for Reference
Google Earth, Street View: http://maps.google.com Sepulveda Garden Center: http://www.laparks.org/dos/horticulture/sepulveda.htm Sepulveda Basin Sports Complex: http://www.alongventura.com/new-sepulveda-dam-sports-complex-in-lake-balboa-to-open-early-2012/ Tehachapi Renewable Transmission Project: http://www.transmissionhub.com/documents/2011/10/overview-tehachapi-renewable-transmission-project-sce-pdf.pdf
GIS Data Used for Reference
California City Boundary Layer Los Angeles County Base Map

2010-2012 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	1 change
<p>The only notable conversion of irrigated farmland to Urban Land occurred in the City of Los Angeles where the Sepulveda Basin Sports Complex (~30 acres) was added, consisting of four softball fields, a soccer field and associated parking.</p>	
Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other Land to Urban Land	44 changes
<p>Conversion to Urban Land from nonirrigated land uses was primarily due to the construction of new homes, solar facilities, schools and commercial development.</p> <p><u>Antelope Valley</u></p> <p><u>Lancaster</u>: Approximately 80 acres of new homes were added in Lancaster, along with the Discovery School (~10 acres).</p> <p><u>Palmdale</u>: New homes (~30 acres) and a Vallarta supermarket along with a CVS Pharmacy (~15 acres) were notable additions in Palmdale.</p> <p><u>Solar</u>: Solar facilities were a significant source of Urban Land in the Antelope Valley in the form of the Palmdale 1 Solar Facility (~20 acres) east of Lancaster, a solar facility (~15 acres) nearby Alpine Butte and a solar array (~10 acres) added nearby Los Angeles County State Prison. There was also a major expansion (~50 acres) of an electrical substation which is part of the Tehachapi Renewable Transmission Project.</p> <p><u>Santa Clarita Valley and Los Angeles</u></p> <p><u>Santa Clarita Valley</u>: Approximately 125 acres of new homes were added in Santa Clarita, along with a new fire station (~5 acres) along Sand Canyon Road.</p> <p><u>Los Angeles</u>: New homes and apartments (~30 acres) were added in Los Angeles, along with the Porter Ranch Community School (~10 acres).</p>	
Conversions from Irrigated Farmland aside from urbanization	
Irrigated Farmland to Nonirrigated Land Uses	90 changes
<p>Conversion from irrigated farmland to nonirrigated land uses was due to irrigated farmland having been fallow for three or more update cycles. The vast majority of these conversions occurred in the Antelope Valley area. The Del Sur quad exhibited the most change, converting approximately 1,100 acres. Meanwhile, the largest, single conversion of approximately 320 acres occurred on the Rosamond Lake quad, nearby Redman.</p>	

Irrigated Farmland to Other Land	6 changes
<p>Conversions from irrigated farmland to Other Land were primarily due to small plots of irrigated farmland having been fallow for three or more update cycles that were too small to shift to Grazing Land (<10 acres).</p>	
<p>Conversions to Irrigated Farmland</p>	
Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other Land to Irrigated Farmland	16 changes
<p>Additions of irrigated farmland were generally smaller than 40 acres, occurred in the Antelope and Santa Clarita Valley areas and primarily consisted of field or row crops. The most notable addition of irrigated farmland this update was the addition of two, center-pivot fields, likely hay or alfalfa, nearby Redman (~230 acres). Meanwhile, nearby Santa Clarita, approximately 40 acres of irrigated row or field crops were delineated at the Lombardi and Golden Oak Ranches. A plot of irrigated agriculture (~25 acres) was delineated near Providence Holy Cross Medical Center in Mission Hills due to a field check. Finally, a small orchard (~10 acres) was identified near Barney Knob on the Point Dume quad.</p>	
<p>Unusual Changes</p>	
<p>(Types of change not already described or special circumstances during the 2012 update.)</p>	
<p><u>Farmland of Local Importance to Grazing Land:</u> Conversions from Farmland of Local Importance were primarily due to dry grain areas that have been left idle for four or more update cycles in the Antelope Valley area. The largest conversions occurred on the Del Sur (~490 acres), La Liebre Ranch (~320 acres) and Fairmont Butte (~110 acres) quads.</p> <p><u>Conversions from Urban Land:</u> There were 3 conversions totaling approximately 30 acres due to a lack of sufficient infrastructure and the use of detailed digital imagery to delineate more distinct urban boundaries. Also, the delineation of the Sepulveda Garden Center, not a new land use, where various fruits, vegetables, herbs and flowers are grown caused the conversion of approximately 10 acres of Urban Land.</p>	
<p>Areas of Concern for Future Updates</p>	
<p>(Locations or map categories noted as needing careful checking during 2014 update, and reasons.)</p>	
<p>Watch for the addition of solar generating stations in the west Antelope Valley area. A large amount of these were noted in the field check but were not present in the 2012 imagery so were flagged to be added in the 2014 mapping update.</p>	
<p>Definitions:</p>	
<p>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.</p>	

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 2012 update.

Image interpretation, start date: 9/18/14
Image interpretation, number of days: 6
Ground truth dates: October 21-23, 2014
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>