

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

2012 FIELD REPORT

COUNTY: Orange

FIELD MAPPER(S): Farl Grundy

IMAGE DATA USED:

Source: National Agriculture Imagery Program (NAIP)
Acquisition date: Summer 2012
Data description: 1 meter resolution, true color mosaic
Coverage gaps: None
Additional imagery used: NAIP 2010, Google Maps

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) City of San Juan Capistrano, City of Brea, City of Los Alamitos, City of Irvine
Personal Contacts None
Websites Used for Reference Orange County: http://ocgov.com/ Five Point Communities: http://www.fivepointcommunities.com/ City of Huntington Beach: http://www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/ Santa Margarita Water District: http://www.smwd.com/operations/ucr-fact-sheet.html Google Street View: http://maps.google.com
GIS Data Used for Reference California City Boundary Layer Orange 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	7 changes
Six of these changes occurred in the City of Irvine where approximately 170 acres of new homes were built in the “Stonegate” community. Another approximately 160 acres were involved in the construction of the Jeffrey Trail Middle School, Cypress Village Apartments, and the Cypress Community Park. The City of Irvine also constructed approximately 10 acres of new water diversion ponds and a substation. The City of Yorba Linda witnessed the final change in this category with approximately 10 acres of new commercial buildings.	
Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other Land to Urban Land	25 changes
<p>The conversion of Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other Land to Urban Land occurred throughout the county and was primarily due to the construction of new homes, commercial buildings, schools, and sports fields.</p> <p><u>City of Irvine:</u> Significant changes occurred in the new home communities of Portola Springs (~70 acres), San Marino (~30 acres), Laguna Altura (~30 acres), Stonegate (~14 acres), The Park (~10 acres), and University Hills (~10 acres).</p> <p><u>City of Yorba Linda:</u> Approximately 100 acres of new homes were built in the communities of Vista Del Verde, Corte Bella, Terra, and Encanto. Also, approximately 10 acres of new sports fields were constructed at Yorba Linda High School.</p> <p><u>City of Brea:</u> In the community of Blackstone approximately 50 acres of new homes were constructed and approximately 15 acres were converted to urban use for the construction of Olinda Elementary School.</p> <p><u>City of San Clemente:</u> In the City of San Clemente approximately 40 acres of change resulted in a new commercial building (Target) and the San Clemente Aquatic Center & Sports Fields.</p> <p><u>City of Rancho Santa Margarita:</u> The new Upper Chiquita Reservoir of approximately 40 acres was constructed in the northwest corner of Highway 241 and Oso Parkway.</p>	
Conversions from Irrigated Farmland aside from urbanization	
Irrigated Farmland to Nonirrigated Land Uses	2 changes
All of the changes that occurred in this category were due to plots of irrigated farmland having been fallow for three or more update cycles. The City of Irvine had approximately 60 acres of irrigated farmland converted to grazing land this update. The only other change this update, approximately 20 acres, occurred east of San Juan Capistrano.	

Irrigated Farmland to Other Land	2 changes
Changes this update were due to Irrigated Farmland having been fallow for three or more update cycles and which occurred on plots of land too small to be mapped as Nonirrigated Land. These two changes occurred in the City of Irvine and accounted for approximately 30 acres.	
Conversions to Irrigated Farmland	
Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other Land to Irrigated Farmland	4 changes
Conversions to Irrigated Farmland this update consisted of row crops and orchards. The largest of these changes occurred northeast of San Clemente where approximately 60 acres of new orchards were added. The City of Irvine added approximately 10 acres of new row crops, as did the City of Fountain Valley. Lastly, the City of San Juan Capistrano added approximately 10 acres of mixed orchard and row crops.	
Unusual Changes (Types of change not already described or special circumstances during the 2012 update.)	
It is always unusual to change Urban to anything else. This update there were 4 instances around the Orange County Great Park, formally the El Toro Marine Air Base, where this occurred. This conversion of Urban to new Irrigated Farmland took the form of new orchards and row crops for a total of approximately 130 acres.	
Areas of Concern for Future Updates (Locations or map categories noted as needing careful checking during 2014 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 2012 update.

Image interpretation, start date: 9/26/2014
Image interpretation, number of days: 5
Ground truth dates: 11/19/2014
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>