

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

2012 FIELD REPORT

COUNTY: Riverside East

FIELD MAPPER(S): Michael Kisko

IMAGE DATA USED:

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| 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.

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| Local Review Comments (submitted by cities, counties, & others on 2010 maps) |
| City of La Quinta |
| Personal Contacts |
| None |
| Websites Used for Reference |
| Google Maps: https://www.google.com/maps Thomas E. Levy Groundwater Replenishment Facility: http://www.cvwd.org/news/gallery/projectvideos/youtube_KG0msaUptUo Desert Water Agency-Groundwater Replenishment: http://www.dwa.org/Groundwater-Replenishment Empire Polo Club: http://empirepolo.com/field-locations-map/ |
| GIS Data Used for Reference |
| California City Boundary Layer Riverside 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 | 5 changes |
| <p>The most notable conversion of irrigated farmland to Urban Land was not the result of new development but, rather, due to the identification of polo fields (~250 acres) for the Empire Polo Club and Eldorado Polo Club in Indio. These areas had previously been classified as either irrigated farmland or irrigated pasture. The appearance of these fields with their short-cropped grass and irrigation piping may have been mistaken for a turf farm or irrigated pasture, in the past. A field visit and some research confirmed that they were polo fields and polo fields are mapped as Urban Land under the IFL classification system, similar to how a soccer field or other developed park would be mapped.</p> <p>A further conversion of irrigated farmland occurred between Mecca and Thermal where the College of the Desert East Valley Campus was added (~10 acres).</p> | |
| Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other Land to Urban Land | 34 changes |
| <p>Nonirrigated land uses were converted to Urban Land primarily due to the construction of new homes, schools, buildings, solar facilities and groundwater recharge ponds.</p> <p>The largest addition of urban land this update was the delineation of the Whitewater Spreading Area, northwest of Palm Springs (~900 acres). This is not a new facility but more consistent storage of water in the facilities' ponds in recent years allowed us to determine the true extent of the ponds. On the other hand, the addition of the Thomas E. Levy Groundwater Replenishment Facility (~160 acres) near La Quinta is a recent addition of groundwater recharge capacity.</p> <p>Meanwhile, new homes, schools, buildings and solar were added throughout the Coachella Valley. Approximately 150 acres of new homes were added in Indio, with most of that total (~130 acres) occurring at the Sun City Shadow Hills development. New homes were also evident in Coachella where approximately 60 acres of homes were built and a solar array was added at the Augustine Casino (~20 acres). Other areas where new homes were added included Palm Desert (~40 acres), La Quinta (~15 acres), Palm Springs (~10 acres) and Rancho Mirage (~5 acres), along with the Thousand Palms Legacy apartments (~15 acres). Further, the Palm Springs Unified School District Service Center in Palm Springs was the cause of the conversion of 15 acres of nonirrigated land. Schools were added in the form of the Painted Hills Middle School (~25 acres) in Desert Hot Springs and the Oasis Elementary School (~30 acres) to the west of the Salton Sea. Finally, solar facilities (1 and 4A) were an addition in the North Palm Springs area that caused the conversion of approximately 40 acres of nonirrigated land.</p> <p>Lastly, there was a conversion of approximately 100 acres of nonirrigated land that was related to the identification of the polo fields mentioned in the previous section of this field report.</p> | |
| Conversions from Irrigated Farmland aside from urbanization | |
| Irrigated Farmland to Nonirrigated Land Uses | 31 changes |
| <p>Conversion from irrigated farmland to nonirrigated land uses was due to irrigated farmland or irrigated pastureland having been fallow for three or more update cycles.</p> | |

Approximately 1,900 acres were converted to nonirrigated land uses, primarily in the Coachella Valley area. These fallow lands may be converted to either Farmland of Local Importance or Grazing Land, depending upon a number of factors including soil classification and agricultural zoning. The largest amount of conversion from irrigated farmland to nonirrigated farmland occurred on the Oasis (~650 acres), Valerie (~340 acres), Indio (~330 acres) and West Berdoo Canyon (~170 acres) quads.

Irrigated Farmland to Other Land

7 changes

Almost half of the conversions from irrigated farmland to Other Land were due to irrigated farmland that had been fallow for three or more update cycles and was shifted to Other Land rather than Grazing Land because the areas were graded for development. The remaining conversions were simply due to the delineation of an existing land use such as a highway interchange or a low-density cluster of buildings.

Conversions to Irrigated Farmland

Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other Land to Irrigated Farmland

57 changes

This update there were 57 additions of newly irrigated farmland, totaling approximately 1,850 acres. These additions were primarily made in the Coachella Valley and the Palo Verde Valley areas and mainly consisted of row crops, alfalfa, palm trees and irrigated pasture. Much of the alfalfa was added in the Palo Verde Valley while the palm trees (primarily date palms) were added in the southern end of the Coachella Valley. The Indio quad had the most additions of new irrigated farmland this update with 18 conversions, totaling approximately 540 acres.

Unusual Changes

(Types of change not already described or special circumstances during the 2012 update.)

Conversion between Irrigated Farmland categories: These conversions were between Prime Farmland and Unique Farmland. They were due either to the delineation of potted plant nurseries on former in-ground, irrigated agricultural areas or vice versa.

Conversions from Urban Land: There were 5 conversions totaling approximately 280 acres due to a lack of sufficient infrastructure and the use of detailed digital imagery to delineate more distinct urban boundaries.

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.

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| Image interpretation, start date: 7/3/14 |
| Image interpretation, number of days: 8 |
| Ground truth dates: August 25-28, 2014 |
| 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>

California Department of Conservation
FARMLAND MAPPING AND MONITORING PROGRAM

2012 FIELD REPORT

COUNTY: Riverside West

FIELD MAPPER(S): Troy Dick

IMAGE DATA USED:

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

WRITTEN, DIGITAL & ORAL INFORMATION SOURCES:

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

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| Local Review Comments (submitted by cities, counties, & others on 2010 maps) |
| City of Corona City of Riverside |
| Personal Contacts |
| None |
| Websites Used for Reference |
| Google Earth, Street View: http://maps.google.com |
| Richmond American Homes: http://richmondamerican.com/ |
| Singleton Heights: Calimesa, Ca: http://singletonheights.com/ |
| GIS Data Used for Reference |
| California City Boundary Layer Riverside 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 |
| <p>The majority of these changes occurred in and adjacent to the cities of Temecula, Perris, and Riverside. The largest conversions occurred adjacent to the City of Temecula where approximately 40 acres were converted for Standard Pacific Homes, Vintage at Morgan Hill development, and other new homes.</p> <p>Meanwhile in the City of Perris approximately 40 acres converted for a distribution Center.</p> <p>Furthermore in and adjacent to the City of Riverside approximately 30 acres converted for new homes and Arlington Heights Sports Park.</p> | |
| Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other Land to Urban Land | 96 changes |
| <p>The majority of the urbanization this update was due to the expansion of urban development in or adjacent to the cities of Menifee, Eastvale and Moreno Valley. The largest conversions occurred in or adjacent to the City of Menifee where approximately 270 acres were converted for San Mario development, Heritage Lake development, The Lake development, Cottonwood At Pacific Mayfield development, Sunrise Park, Mosaic Collection development, Sagemore development, Businesses at Scotts Stripe Mall, and Marion V. Ashely Community Center.</p> <p>Meanwhile in the City of Eastvale, approximately 230 acres converted for Park View Meadows development, New Bridge development, Carmody development, Heartland development, Spaces Community, Ramirez Intermediate School, Eastvale Community Center, Hearthside Lanes development, The Enclaves development, and other new homes.</p> <p>Furthermore in the City of Moreno Valley, approximately 200 acres were converted for First Industrial Realty Trust, a distribution center, Skechers Distribution Center, and expansion to a parking lot.</p> | |
| Conversions from Irrigated Farmland aside from urbanization | |
| Irrigated Farmland to Nonirrigated Land Uses | 58 changes |
| <p>The majority of these changes were due to plots of irrigated land having been fallow for three or more update cycles. Most of the changes in this category occurred on the Bachelor Mtn. quad with approximately 520 acres going out of production. This was followed by the Steele Peak and Corona South quads with approximately 420 and 320 acres, respectively, going out of production.</p> | |

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| Irrigated Farmland to Other Land | 16 changes |
| <p>A majority of these conversions to Other Land were due to a combination of irrigated farmland having been fallow for three or more update cycles and which has been graded for development, or were too small to be mapped as nonirrigated land uses. The use of high resolution (1 meter) imagery assisted in delineating areas of rural residential land and low-density commercial areas throughout the county. The majority of these conversions happened on the Corona North quad with approximately 40 acres converting to Other Land for irrigated farmland having been fallow for three or more update cycles which has been graded for development. This was followed by the Temecula and Fallbrook quads with approximately 20 acres, each converting to Other Land for irrigated farmland having been fallow for three or more update cycles and were too small to be mapped as nonirrigated land uses.</p> | |
| Conversions to Irrigated Farmland | |
| Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other Land to Irrigated Farmland | 44 changes |
| <p>The most notable addition of irrigated farmland occurred on the Bachelor Mtn. quad with a total of approximately 350 acres being converted to irrigated farmland for vineyards and row crops. This was followed by the Lakeview and Romoland quads with approximately 300 and 220 acres, respectively, converting to irrigated farmland.</p> | |
| Unusual Changes | |
| (Types of change not already described or special circumstances during the 2012 update.) | |
| None | |
| Areas of Concern for Future Updates | |
| (Locations or map categories noted as needing careful checking during 2014 update, and reasons.) | |
| None | |
| Definitions: | |
| <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> | |
| <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.</p> | |

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.

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| Image interpretation, start date: July 3, 2014 |
| Image interpretation, number of days: 12 |
| Ground truth dates: September 30 – October 2, 2014 |
| Number of days for post-ground truth clean-up: 4 |

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