California Department of Conservation FARMLAND MAPPING AND MONITORING PROGRAM

2012 FIELD REPORT

COUNTY: Siskiyou

FIELD MAPPER(S): C.K.Williams

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)

none

Personal Contacts

none

Websites Used for Reference

Google Earth, Street View: http://maps.google.com

GIS Data Used for Reference

Williamson Act enrollment data

California Protected Areas database (CPAD)

California City Boundary Layer

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

0 changes

There were no significant conversions of Irrigated Farmland to Urban Land this update.

Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other Land to Urban Land

2 changes

There were only 2 notable conversions of nonirrigated and Other Land to Urban Land this update. These were primarily due to increased density on the City of Mount Shasta quad and the Montague quad, both less than 20 acres.

Conversions from Irrigated Farmland aside from urbanization

Irrigated Farmland to Nonirrigated Land Uses

13 changes

These conversions were primarily to Farmland of Local Importance and were due to irrigated cropland or irrigated pasture (including high water table pasture) having been fallow or used for dry grain production for three or more update cycles. The most significant change occurred southwest of I-5 and south of the city of Yreka (~160 acres). Other changes were less than 50 acres each.

Irrigated Farmland to Other Land

2 changes

These conversions were primarily due to the use of high resolution imagery to delineate ranchettes or farmsteads. These minor changes totaled about 20 acres.

Conversions to Irrigated Farmland

Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other Land to Irrigated Farmland

65 changes

Irrigated cropland and irrigated pasture (including high water table pasture) was added primarily near the town of Dorris (~650 acres) south and west of Hwy 97 (~290 acres). There were also conversions on the Gazelle quad (~600 acres), two of these being larger than 100 acres—one was located south Yreka near I-5 and the other on the Bogas Mountain quad (~120 acres). Most of the other changes were less than 100 acres each. Additions of new cropland were primarily alfalfa or other irrigated hay crops, often in the form of center-pivot fields.

Unusual Changes

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

<u>Conversions between Grazing and Farmland of Local Importance</u>: The largest statistical changes this update were associated with the use of updated GIS public lands and Williamson Act enrollment GIS data, that were used to update the extent of Farmland of Local Importance. As a result, a few thousand acres shifted between Grazing Land and Farmland of Local Importance.

Conversion between Irrigated Farmland categories: There were 5 conversions between

irrigated farmland categories, conversions were between ~20 and 90 acres. These changes were due to either irrigated pasture being replaced by irrigated crops or irrigated crops being replaced by irrigated pasture. These changes may result in conversions between Farmland of Local Importance and Unique Farmland.

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: 11/2013

Image interpretation, number of days: 10

Ground truth dates: NA

Number of days for post-ground truth clean-up: 5

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