California Department of Conservation FARMLAND MAPPING AND MONITORING PROGRAM

2012 FIELD REPORT

COUNTY: Sierra Valley

FIELD MAPPER(S): Farl Grundy

IMAGE DATA USED:

Source: National Agriculture Imagery Program (NAIP)

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.

Local Review Comments

(submitted by cities, counties, & others on 2010 maps)

None

Personal Contacts

None

Websites Used for Reference

Plumas County

http://www.countyofplumas.com/

GIS Data Used for Reference

County Base Map

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 from irrigated farmland to urban land this update.

Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other Land to Urban Land

1 changes

The only noteworthy conversion this update occurred primarily due to the use of detailed imagery to more clearly define urban boundaries. It was found that approximately 10 acres of homes near Sierraville were dense enough to be classified as urban land.

Conversions from Irrigated Farmland

aside from urbanization

Irrigated Farmland to Nonirrigated Land Uses

22 changes

Conversions this update were primarily due to plots of irrigated farmland and irrigated pasture having been fallow for three or more update cycles. Approximately 1080 acres of this type of conversion occurred in the Antelope Valley quad followed by the Chilcoot and Evans Canyon quads which both experienced approximately 300 acres of change. Remain conversions were minimal in size and were scattered throughout Plumas, Lassen, and Sierra county.

Irrigated Farmland to Other Land

0 changes

There were no significant conversions from irrigated farmland to other land this update.

Conversions to Irrigated Farmland

Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other Land to Irrigated Farmland

8 changes

Conversions in this category were mainly due to the identification of field crops and irrigated pasture. The Chilcoot quad had the most conversions with approximately 240 acres of newly identified irrigated pasture, while the Reconnaissance Peak and Loyalton quads added approximately 190 and 180 acres of new field crops. Lastly the Antelope Valley quad saw the conversion of approximately 110 acres of mixed irrigated pasture and field crops.

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:

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: 1/2/15

Image interpretation, number of days: 3

Ground truth dates: 0

Number of days for post-ground truth clean-up: 0

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