

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

**2012 FIELD REPORT**

**COUNTY:** Tehama

**FIELD MAPPER(S):** Troy Dick

**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 Maps: <a href="https://www.google.com/maps">https://www.google.com/maps</a>
GIS Data Used for Reference
California City Boundary Layer Tehama 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.*

<b>Conversions to Urban Land</b>	
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	5 changes
<p>The majority of the urbanization this update was due to the expansion of urban development in or adjacent to the cities of Red Bluff and Corning. The largest conversions occurred in the City of Red Bluff, where approximately 20 acres was added for a new solar facility, Holiday Inn Express &amp; Suites, Arco am/pm, and new homes. Meanwhile, adjacent to the City of Corning approximately 10 acres was added for Lak-Tite Self Storage.</p>	
<b>Conversions from Irrigated Farmland aside from urbanization</b>	
Irrigated Farmland to Nonirrigated Land Uses	38 changes
<p>There were two primary reasons for the conversion of irrigated farmland to nonirrigated uses:</p> <p>First, 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 Corning quad with approximately 130 acres going out of production. This was followed by the Gerber and Red Bluff East quads with approximately 90 and 70 acres, respectively, going out of production.</p> <p>Second, areas of irrigated farmland were identified that were no longer being irrigated but, instead, were being used for the cultivation of nonirrigated grain crops. These areas had not been irrigated for multiple update cycles. The largest changes due to nonirrigated grain production occurred on the Kirkwood quad (120 acres) followed by the Corning quad (110 acres).</p>	
Irrigated Farmland to Other Land	5 changes
<p>Most of these conversions to Other Land were due to a combination of irrigated farmland having been fallow for three or more update cycles, which were too small to be mapped separately as nonirrigated land uses, small water bodies, and low density development. The use of high resolution (1 meter) imagery assisted in delineating areas of rural residential land and areas of low-density commercial throughout the county. The largest conversions happened on the Corning quad with 20 acres of small water bodies. This was followed by the Los Molinos and Red Bluff East quads each with approximately 10 acres converting to Other Land for rural residential and low-density commercial.</p>	
<b>Conversions to Irrigated Farmland</b>	

Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other Land to Irrigated Farmland

59 changes

The most notable addition of irrigated farmland occurred on the Corning quad with approximately 1,170 acres being converted to irrigated farmland for new walnut and almond orchards. This was followed by the Gerber and Foster Island quads with approximately 420 and 180 acres, respectively, converting to irrigated farmland for new orchards.

**Unusual Changes**

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

Irrigated Farmland or Other Land to Water: 3 conversions

These conversions of Irrigated Farmland or Other Land to Water were due to shifts in the course of the Sacramento River which led to a decision to update the boundaries. Notable conversion due to these adjustments consisted of approximately 30 acres, located on the Los Molinos quad.

Water to Other Land: 1 conversion

This conversion was also due to shifts in the course of the Sacramento River. It consisted of approximately 30 acres on the Los Molinas quad.

Conversion between Irrigated Farmland categories: There were 19 conversions between irrigated farmland categories. 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 Prime Farmland, Farmland of Statewide Importance, Unique Farmland, and Farmland of Local Importance.

**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: November 21, 2014
Image interpretation, number of days: 12
Ground truth dates: February 24 – 25, 2015
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>