

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

**2014 FIELD REPORT**

**COUNTY:** Mendocino

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

**IMAGE DATA USED:**

Source: National Agricultural Imagery Program, USDA
Acquisition date: Summer 2014
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 2014 mapping.*

Local Review Comments (submitted by cities, counties, & others on 2012 maps)
None
Personal Contacts
None
Websites Used for Reference
Google Earth, Street View: <a href="http://maps.google.com">http://maps.google.com</a>
GIS Data Used for Reference
California City Boundary Layer Mendocino County Base Map

**2012-2014 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	2 changes
<p>The majority of the urbanization this update was due to the expansion of urban development in or adjacent to the town of Covelo and the City of Willits. The largest conversions occurred adjacent to the town of Covelo where approximately 10 acres were converted for new homes.</p> <p>Meanwhile, in the City of Willits, approximately 10 acres were converted for the Frank R. Howard Memorial Hospital.</p>	
<b>Conversions from Irrigated Farmland aside from urbanization</b>	
Irrigated Farmland to Nonirrigated Land Uses	80 changes
<p>Irrigated farmland was converted to a nonirrigated land use due either to the area having been fallow for three update cycles or due to a conversion to dryland farming for three update cycles. 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 Covelo East quad with approximately 760 acres going out of production. This was followed by the Potter Valley quad with approximately 230 acres going out of production.</p> <p>Finally, areas of irrigated farmland were identified that were no longer being irrigated but, instead, were being used for the cultivation of nonirrigated grain crops. The largest changes due to nonirrigated crop production occurred on the Covelo West quad (140 acres) followed by the Covelo East quad (100 acres).</p>	
Irrigated Farmland to Other Land	4 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 bodies of water, and low density development. The use of high resolution (1 meter) imagery assisted in delineating areas of rural residential land throughout the county. The largest conversions happened on the Potter Valley quad with approximately 30 acres going to rural residential and a small body of water. This was followed by the Redwood Valley quad with approximately 10 acres converting to Other Land for rural residential.</p>	

### Conversions to Irrigated Farmland

Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other Land to Irrigated Farmland

14 changes

The most notable addition of irrigated farmland occurred on the Boonville quad with approximately 40 acres being converted to vineyards. This was followed by the Purdys Gardens and Navarro quads with approximately 40 and 30 acres, respectively, also being converted to vineyards.

### Unusual Changes

(Types of change not already described or special circumstances during the 2014 update.)

Eleven areas of nonirrigated grain were added, totaling approximately 720 acres, in the Covelo area.

### Areas of Concern for Future Updates

(Locations or map categories noted as needing careful checking during 2016 update, and reasons.)

#### 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 2014 update.*

Image interpretation, start date: March 16, 2016
Image interpretation, number of days: 12
Ground truth dates: June 14 – 16, 2016
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>