

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

**2014 FIELD REPORT**

**COUNTY:** Riverside East

**FIELD MAPPER(S):** C.K. Williams

**IMAGE DATA USED:**

Source: National Agriculture 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 Maps: <a href="https://www.google.com/maps">https://www.google.com/maps</a>
GIS Data Used for Reference

**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	2 changes
<p>There were two notable conversions of irrigated farmland to Urban Land including an addition of new homes in the Mountain View Estates located in Thermal (~30 acres) and the addition of new homes and a soccer field in Coachella (~15 acres).</p>	
Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other Land to Urban Land	25 changes
<p>Nonirrigated land uses were converted to Urban Land primarily due to the construction of new homes, schools and a solar facility. The majority of the urbanization this update was the expansion of urban development in and adjacent to the Cities of La Quinta, Indio and Coachella. Most additions were for less than 40 acres.</p> <p>The most notable addition of Urban Land on nonirrigated land was the addition of new homes at the Shadow Hills North Course in Indio (~100 acres). Also notable was the new Rancho Mirage Hill School in Cathedral City (~60 acres).</p>	
<b>Conversions from Irrigated Farmland aside from urbanization</b>	
Irrigated Farmland to Nonirrigated Land Uses	17 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. In the eastern part of Riverside County approximately 1,000 acres was converted to nonirrigated land uses. The most notable conversions were approximately 140 acres on the Rabbit quad, approximately 100 acres on the Indio quad and approximately 250 acres on the West Berdoo Canyon quad.</p>	
Irrigated Farmland to Other Land	1 change
<p>Conversion from irrigated farmland to Other Land was due to irrigated farmland that had been fallow for three or more update cycles and was shifted to Other Land primarily because of its small size. This conversion was located on the Indio quad (~9 acres).</p>	
<b>Conversions to Irrigated Farmland</b>	
Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other Land to Irrigated Farmland	23 changes
<p>This update a total of approximately 700 acres were converted to irrigated farmland. These conversions were primarily due to the addition of alfalfa, row crops and palm trees (primarily date palms). The most significant additions were on the Blythe quad in the Palo Verde Valley area (~200 acres).</p>	
<b>Unusual Changes</b>	
(Types of change not already described or special circumstances during the 2014 update.)	
None	

### Areas of Concern for Future Updates

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

To the east of the city of Bythe large area of citrus are going out of production, watch for solar development in this area.

#### 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: 11/23/2015
Image interpretation, number of days: 13
Ground truth dates: 3/15-3/18/2016
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>

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

**2014 FIELD REPORT**

**COUNTY:** Riverside West

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

**IMAGE DATA USED:**

Source: National Agriculture 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)
Cities of Temecula, Moreno Valley and Corona
Southern California Association Of Governments
Personal Contacts
None
Websites Used for Reference
Google Maps: <a href="http://www.google.com/maps">www.google.com/maps</a>
GIS Data Used for Reference
California City Boundary Layer Riverside 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.*

### Conversions to Urban Land

Irrigated Farmland to Urban Land

9 changes

The majority of these changes occurred in the Temecula, Perris and Beaumont areas. The largest conversions occurred near the City of Temecula where approximately 80 acres of irrigated farmland was converted to Standard Pacific Homes, Vintage at Morgan Hill, the Ponte Winery, Ponte Vineyard Inn, the Restaurant at Ponte, the Cellar Lounge, and a new park. Meanwhile, in the City of Perris, approximately 50 acres of irrigated farmland was converted to new warehouses. Finally, in the City of Beaumont, approximately 30 acres of new warehouses were added.

Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other Land to Urban Land

188 changes

The majority of the urbanization of nonirrigated land was due to the expansion of urban development in or adjacent to the Cities of Menifee, Moreno Valley and Murrieta. The largest conversions occurred in the City of Menifee where approximately 460 acres of nonirrigated land was converted to the Ethan A. Chase Middle School, Discovery Park, the Santa Rosa Academy, Sycamore at Hidden Hills, the Lakes, All Star Super Storage, part of the Double Butte Disposal Site and other new homes.

Meanwhile, in and adjacent to the City of Moreno Valley, approximately 440 acres was converted to an Amazon Fulfillment Center, Minka Lighting, the Decker warehouse, Federal-Mogul Motor parts, Renaissance Village Rancho Belago, Rancho Dorado Apartments, a Kaiser Permanente building, P&G Distribution Center, new warehouses, expansion to the Badlands Sanitary Landfill, Masonry Tec Products and other new homes and businesses.

Lastly, in and adjacent to the City of Murrieta, approximately 350 acres of nonirrigated land was converted to the Spencer's Crossing Park, Ironwood at Mahogany Hills, Mahogany Meadow Park, a water control structure, the David L. Long Regional Learning Center, a highway Interchange, areas of Other Land less than 40 acres completely surrounded by Urban Land and other new homes and businesses.

### Conversions from Irrigated Farmland aside from urbanization

Irrigated Farmland to Nonirrigated Land Uses

56 changes

Conversion of irrigated farmland to nonirrigated land uses was primarily due either to irrigated farmland having been fallow for three or more update cycles or the production of nonirrigated crops for three or more update cycles on formerly irrigated land. Many of these converted area will be classified as Farmland of Local Importance due to the presence of high quality soils or their use for nonirrigated crop production. The remainder will be converted to Grazing Land.

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 Perris quad with approximately 340 acres going out of production. This was followed by the Lake Mathews quad with approximately 330 acres going out of production.

Finally, areas of irrigated farmland were identified that were no longer being irrigated but, instead, were being used for the cultivation of nonirrigated crops. The largest changes due to nonirrigated crop production for three or more update cycles occurred on the Perris quad (~680 acres) followed by the Lakeview quad (~270 acres).

**Irrigated Farmland to Other Land**

16 changes

The majority of these conversions were due to a combination of irrigated farmland having been fallow for three or more update cycles which had been graded for development or was too small to be mapped separately as a nonirrigated land use. The use of high resolution (1 meter) imagery also helped delineate areas of low-density commercial throughout the county. The majority of these conversions happened on the Winchester quad with approximately 90 acres being converted to Other Land due to land fallowed for three or more update cycles which had been graded for development. This was followed by the Bachelor Mtn. quad with approximately 80 acres converting to Other Land.

**Conversions to Irrigated Farmland**

**Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other Land to Irrigated Farmland**

58 changes

The most notable addition of irrigated farmland occurred on the Lakeview quad, where approximately 220 acres was converted to irrigated farmland for row crops. This was followed by the Winchester and San Jacinto quads with approximately 180 and 120 acres, respectively, that were converted to irrigated farmland.

**Unusual Changes**

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

None

**Areas of Concern for Future Updates**

(Locations or map categories noted as needing careful checking during 2016 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.

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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.

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#### **LABOR ESTIMATE:**

*Time estimates for conducting the 2014 update.*

Image interpretation, start date: January 14, 2016
Image interpretation, number of days: 13
Ground truth dates: April 11 – 24, 2016
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/dlr/fmmp/Pages/Index.aspx>