

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

2014 FIELD REPORT

COUNTY: Sacramento

FIELD MAPPER(S): Michael Kisko

IMAGE DATA USED:

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| 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.

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| Local Review Comments (submitted by cities, counties, & others on 2012 maps) |
| Leighann Moffitt, Planning Director, Sacramento County Dept. of Community Development |
| Personal Contacts |
| None |
| Websites Used for Reference |
| Google Maps: www.google.com/maps Recurrent Energy Solar in Sacramento County: http://recurrentenergy.com/portfolio/smud/ |
| GIS Data Used for Reference |
| California City Boundary Layer Sacramento 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 | 1 change |
| Conversion from irrigated farmland to Urban Land was primarily due to the build-out of the McKenzie Solar Facility near Galt (~150 acres). | |
| Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other Land to Urban Land | 49 changes |
| The construction of new homes, commercial and industrial buildings, parkland and solar facilities was the primary cause of the urbanization of nonirrigated land this update. | |
| <u>Sacramento</u> | |
| Approximately 100 acres of new homes were added throughout the Sacramento area, including portions of the “Gables at Vineyard Point” (~60 acres) and the “Destinations at Vineyard Point” (~20 acres) developments located to the east of the Florin area. Meanwhile, commercial development was seen in the form of a new CarMax dealership (~20 acres) near Highway 99 and Calvine Road. New parkland also made a showing at the North Natomas Regional Park where new baseball fields and a picnic area was added (~15 acres). Finally, sludge disposal sites were delineated at the Sacramento Wastewater Treatment Plant (~100 acres). | |
| <u>Elk Grove</u> | |
| New homes were added in Elk Grove (~130 acres), including portions of the “Glenbrooke by Del Web” (~25 acres) and “Valencia” (~25 acres) home developments. Approximately 50 acres of new commercial and office buildings were also added, including two large office buildings and associated parking (~20 acres) off Longleaf Drive. | |
| <u>Rancho Cordova</u> | |
| New homes and associated parks (~150 acres) were in evidence in Rancho Cordova, including additions to the “Kavala Ranch” (~50 acres), “Stone Creek” (~50 acres) and Woodside Homes (~40 acres) developments. | |
| <u>Folsom</u> | |
| Approximately 100 acres of new homes were added throughout Folsom, including an Elliott Homes development (~15 acres) and additions to the Parkside and Hideaway at Treehouse (~20 acres) developments. Another notable development consisted of a new stadium, tennis courts, baseball diamond, and soccer field at Folsom Lake College (~10 acres). | |
| <u>Galt</u> | |
| New homes (~10 acres) and a new Walmart (~10 acres) were notable additions this update. | |
| <u>Solar</u> | |
| Finally, a solar facility (~10 acres) was added along I-5 at Twin Cities Road. | |

**Conversions from Irrigated Farmland
aside from urbanization**

Irrigated Farmland to Nonirrigated Land Uses

52 changes

The majority of these conversions were due to plots of irrigated farmland or pastureland having been fallow for three or more update cycles. The quads with the most conversions of this type were the Taylor Monument (~1,070 acres), Bruceville (~570 acres), Jersey Island (~560 acres), Elk Grove (~330 acres) and Florin (~230 acres) quads. The largest, single conversion from irrigated farmland this update was an approximately 680-acre change that occurred on the Taylor Monument quad, to the north of the Sacramento International Airport. The next largest conversion from irrigated farmland was an approximately 490-acre change that occurred on the Bruceville quad, just south of the Cosumnes River Preserve. These areas will be converted either to Farmland of Local Importance or Grazing Land, depending upon the soil quality underlying these areas, as determined by the NRCS.

There were also 15 conversions from irrigated farmland or pastureland due to the cessation of irrigation and the production of nonirrigated grain crops. These areas will be converted to Farmland of Local Importance. The most notable examples of this type of change occurred south of Elk Grove nearby Hwy 99 where two changes occurred totaling approximately 400 acres and east of the Sacramento International Airport where two changes totaled approximately 570 acres.

Irrigated Farmland to Other Land

14 changes

A majority of these conversions from irrigated farmland to Other Land were due to a combination of small plots of irrigated farmland having been fallow for three update cycles or to the delineation of small areas of natural vegetation or farmsteads. Two notable areas of conversion this update included widened levee areas (~180 acres) along the Sacramento River in the Natomas area and an expanded area of wetlands or sloughs (~110 acres) west of Natomas in the "Fisherman's Lake" area.

Conversions to Irrigated Farmland

Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other Land to Irrigated Farmland

62 changes

Additions of irrigated farmland were primarily made in the southern part of Sacramento County where vineyards, corn, alfalfa, various row crops and irrigated pasture were added. The majority of these conversions were for less than 30 acres each.

New vineyards (vines) were the most notable conversions made this update. Approximately 1,300 acres of new vines were added in Sacramento County this update. The largest plantings of new vines occurred on the Sloughhouse (~470 acres), Clay (~450 acres), Bruceville (~140 acres), Galt (~100 acres) and Elk Grove (~100 acres) quads. The most notable, large additions of vines were an addition (~380 acres) to the southwest of Sloughhouse and an addition (~210 acres) in the Walmort area. Two other significant plantings of vines were an addition (~140 acres) in the Franklin area and an addition (~120 acres) near Clay.

Finally, multiple rice plantings (~180 acres) were made to the east of the Sacramento International Airport and corn and irrigated hay (~125 acres) were added near Twin Cities.

Unusual Changes

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

Conversions between Irrigated Farmland and Irrigated Pasture: There was a lot of shifting between the irrigated farmland and irrigated pasture land use category this update due to the use of high resolution imagery, Google Streetview and site visits to more accurately delineate the extent of irrigated pasture vs irrigated cropland in the county. These changes will only cause a conversion on areas of lesser quality soils since irrigated pasture, unlike irrigated cropland, cannot be mapped as Unique Farmland.

Conversions between Irrigated Farmland categories: There was one conversion (~140 acres) from Farmland of Statewide Importance to Unique Farmland. This change was due to the identification of a nursery where the plant stock is grown in containers. Nurseries where stock is grown in containers are always classified as Unique Farmland, regardless of the underlying soils.

Conversions from Urban Land: There were 26 conversions totaling approximately 170 acres due to a lack of sufficient infrastructure and the use of detailed digital imagery to delineate more distinct urban boundaries.

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.

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.

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| Image interpretation, start date: July 6, 2015 |
| Image interpretation, number of days: 10 |
| Ground truth dates: August 4-6, 2015 |
| Number of days for post-ground truth clean-up: 2 days |

Further information on the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program can be found at:

<http://www.conservation.ca.gov/dlrp/fmmp/Pages/Index.aspx>