# California Department of Conservation FARMLAND MAPPING AND MONITORING PROGRAM

#### **2014 FIELD REPORT**

**COUNTY**: Siskiyou

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)

None

**Personal Contacts** 

None

Websites Used for Reference

Google Maps, Street View: <a href="http://maps.google.com">http://maps.google.com</a>

GIS Data Used for Reference

California City Boundary Layer Siskiyou 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

0 changes

There were no significant conversions of irrigated farmland to Urban Land this update.

Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other Land to Urban Land

0 changes

There were no significant conversions of nonirrigated land uses and Other Land to Urban Land this update.

## Conversions from Irrigated Farmland aside from urbanization

Irrigated Farmland to Nonirrigated Land Uses

148 changes

Irrigated farmland was converted to a nonirrigated land use due either to the area having been fallow for three or more 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 Lower Klamath Lake quad with approximately 2,460 acres going out of production. This was followed by the Etna and Lake Shastina quads with approximately 590 and 440 acres, respectively, 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 grain crops. The largest changes due to nonirrigated crop production occurred on the Hatfield quad (~380 acres) followed by the Hawkinsville quad (~140 acres).

#### Irrigated Farmland to Other Land

3 changes

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 and the use of high resolution imagery assisted in delineating areas of natural vegetation and vacant and disturbed lands. The largest conversions happened on the Hatfield quad with approximately 40 acres going to natural vegetation. This was followed by the Macdoel quad with approximately 10 acres converting to Other Land for vacant and disturbed lands.

#### **Conversions to Irrigated Farmland**

Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other Land to Irrigated Farmland

45 changes

The most notable addition of irrigated farmland occurred on the Dorris quad with approximately 920 acres being converted to irrigated farmland that was primarily alfalfa or other irrigated hay crops. This was followed by the Sams Neck and Macdoel quads with approximately 390 and 140 acres, respectively, converting to irrigated farmland.

#### **Unusual Changes**

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

Conversion between Irrigated Farmland categories: There were 10 changes between irrigated farmland categories, with conversions between ~10 and 90 acres. These changes were due to either irrigated pasture being replaced by irrigated crops or irrigated crops being replaced by irrigated pasture. This change 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 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.

Image interpretation, start date: July 13, 2016
Image interpretation, number of days: 12
Ground truth dates: October 10 – 13, 2016
Number of days for post-ground truth clean-up: 2

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

<a href="http://www.conservation.ca.gov/dlrp/fmmp/Pages/Index.aspx">http://www.conservation.ca.gov/dlrp/fmmp/Pages/Index.aspx</a>