

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

2014 FIELD REPORT

COUNTY: Sonoma

FIELD MAPPER(S): C.K. Williams

IMAGE DATA USED:

Source: National Agriculture Imagery Program (NAIP), USDA
Acquisition date: Summer 2014
Data description: 1 meter resolution, true color mosaic
Coverage gaps: None
Additional imagery used: Google Maps

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 Santa Rosa and Cloverdale
Personal Contacts None
Websites Used for Reference Sonoma County Crop Report http://www.sonoma-county.org/agcomm/crop_report.htm Sonoma County Regional Parks http://parks.sonomacounty.ca.gov/ Sonoma County Water Agency http://www.scwa.ca.gov/how-wastewater-is-treated/
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.](#)

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	13 changes
Changes were primarily due to new homes and buildings, solar panels, a water control pond and the increased density of already existing homes and buildings. The most notable changes were the addition of the Graton Resort and Casino (~ 70 acres) and the Green Music Center at Sonoma State University (~10 acres) in the City of Rohnert Park. Other changes were scattered throughout the county and were less than 20 acres in size.	
Conversions from Irrigated Farmland aside from urbanization	
Irrigated Farmland to Nonirrigated Land Uses	17 changes
The majority of these changes were due to irrigated farmland having been fallow for three or more update cycles. While this type of conversion had a significant number of changes, few were greater than 20 acres in size. These changes will result in the conversion to Farmland of Local Importance. The most significant of these conversions occurred southwest of the town of Schellville (~70 acres).	
Irrigated Farmland to Other Land	1 change
There was only one significant change of irrigated farmland to Other Land due to the tracking of a wetland for three or more update cycles. The wetland is located south of the town of Gravenstein (~30 acres).	
Conversions to Irrigated Farmland	
Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other Land to Irrigated Farmland	17 changes
The majority of the irrigated farmland was added to the east and west of the City of Santa Rosa and along the eastern foothills. Most of the changes were due to the addition of vineyards and most were less than 20 acres. The most significant of these conversions was the addition of new vines at the Terra de Promissio vineyard southeast of the City of Petaluma (~400 acres).	
Unusual Changes	
(Types of change not already described or special circumstances during the 2014 update.)	
<u>Conversion between Irrigated Farmland categories:</u> There were 3 conversions between irrigated farmland categories. These changes were due to irrigated crops being replaced by irrigated pasture and the identification of an in-ground nursery. These changes may result in conversions between Prime Farmland, Farmland of Statewide Importance, Unique Farmland, and Farmland of Local Importance.	

Conversions affecting Grazing Land and Farmland of Local Importance: There were approximately 200 acres of change involving the conversion of nonirrigated land going to Farmland of Local Importance. This type of change is due to areas of nonirrigated land having been tracked for four or more update cycles. Nonirrigated grain is part of the Farmland of Local Importance category in Sonoma County.

Areas of Concern for Future Updates

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

This update exhibited many land use changes within categories, most specifically the increased production of nonirrigated grains. The southern portions of the county had a higher prevalence of these grains as compared to the northern portions of the county. The recognition of these grains can be somewhat difficult and extra care should be taken when trying to reach a determination of land use in these complex areas.

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: 6/16/2016
Image interpretation, number of days: 20
Ground truth dates: 8/16/2016-8/18/2016
Number of days for post-ground truth clean-up: 6

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

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