

California Department of Conservation
FARMLAND MAPPING AND MONITORING PROGRAM

2016 FIELD REPORT

COUNTY: Alameda

FIELD MAPPER(S): Andrew McLeod and Michael Kisko

IMAGE DATA USED:

Source: National Agriculture Imagery Program, USDA
Acquisition date: Summer 2016
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 2016 mapping.

Local Review Comments (submitted by cities, counties, & others on 2014 maps) City of Livermore
Personal Contacts
Websites Used for Reference Google Maps, Street View: http://maps.google.com
GIS Data Used for Reference FRAP California City Boundary Layer (2016)

2014-2016 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
<p>There was one conversion from irrigated farmland to Urban Land that took place in the City of Fremont where new homes (~5 acres) were built on land that had formerly been a potted plant nursery.</p>	
Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other Land to Urban Land	26 changes
<p>Conversions to Urban Land from nonirrigated uses were primarily due to the construction of new homes, commercial and industrial buildings, county buildings, and solar panels.</p> <p><u>City of Dublin:</u> There were approximately 120 acres of new homes added in Dublin, including homes in the Irongate (15 acres) and Jordan Ranch (~40 acres) developments. Meanwhile, the Persimmon Place shopping center (~20 acres) and the expansion of the Fallon Gateway shopping center (~10 acres) were notable additions of commercial development. Finally, a new Superior Court of Alameda County and associated parking caused the urbanization of approximately 20 acres of nonirrigated land.</p> <p><u>City of Livermore:</u> The Oaks Business Park (~150 acres) was a notable addition of industrial buildings. Meanwhile, the San Francisco Premium Outlets were expanded by approximately 30 acres. On the other hand, approximately 20 acres of residential housing was in evidence. New solar was added in the form of solar panels (~20 acres) adjacent to Lawrence Livermore National Lab. Lastly, a CrossWinds church (~10 acres) with associated parking was a notable addition.</p> <p><u>City of Fremont:</u> Approximately 50 acres of new homes, mostly in the Patterson Ranch development, were added this update. Further, three large warehouses (~50 acres) were added along Interstate 880 nearby Curtner as well as the nearby Delta Products headquarters (~20 quarters). Meanwhile, the Warm Springs/South Fremont BART Station (~20 acres) was a notable addition of infrastructure.</p> <p><u>City of Pleasanton:</u> First, approximately 30 acres of new homes were in evidence in the Township Square development. Next, commercial development made a showing in the form of a CarMax dealer and the adjacent Stoneridge Chrysler Jeep Dodge (~30 acres for both).</p> <p><u>City of Hayward:</u> Residential development was the most notable cause of urbanization with approximately 30 acres of new homes added.</p>	

**Conversions from Irrigated Farmland
aside from urbanization**

Irrigated Farmland to Nonirrigated Land Uses

8 changes

Conversions from irrigated farmland to nonirrigated land uses were due to irrigated farmland having been fallow for three or more update cycles. These conversions primarily occurred in the Livermore (5 conversions) and Sunol Valley (2 conversions) areas. The five changes that occurred in the Livermore Valley area accounted for the conversion of approximately 110 acres of irrigated farmland to nonirrigated land. The largest change in the Livermore Valley area was for approximately 40 acres and took place north of Livermore, along Livermore Ave. On the other hand, the two changes that occurred in the Sunol Valley area involved potted plant nurseries going out of production for approximately 50 acres of conversion to nonirrigated land uses.

Irrigated Farmland to Other Land

4 changes

These conversions were all approximately 10 acres or less and were primarily made to delineate low-density housing, riparian or disturbed areas.

Conversions to Irrigated Farmland

Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other Land to Irrigated Farmland

5 changes

Irrigated farmland was primarily added in the Livermore Valley, Mountain House, and Fremont areas in the form of vineyards, orchards, or potted plant nurseries. There were two additions of vineyards (~70 acres) in the Livermore Valley, to the south of Livermore. Meanwhile, new orchards were added to the west of Mountain House (~60 acres) and to the south of Crane Ridge (~10 acres). Finally, a potted plant nursery (~10 acres) was shifted to an adjacent vacant field in Fremont, along Highway 680 at Palm Ave.

Unusual Changes

(Types of change not already described or special circumstances during the 2016 update.)

Conversions between Water and Urban Land or Other Land: The boundary of the San Francisco Bay shoreline and their associated sloughs was not very accurate for many updates. This update an effort was made to improve all of the county shoreline boundaries throughout the bay area. In Alameda County, improvements in delineation were primarily made to the bay shoreline.

Areas of Concern for Future Updates

(Locations or map categories noted as needing careful checking during 2018 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 2016 update.

Image interpretation, start date: April 16, 2018
Image interpretation, number of days: 5
Ground truth dates: N/A
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>