

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

2016 FIELD REPORT

COUNTY: Sacramento

FIELD MAPPER(S): C.K. Williams and Jacob Kizer

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)
Helen Selph, Associate Planner, City of Sacramento Community Development Department
Personal Contacts
None
Websites Used for Reference
Google Maps, Street View: http://maps.google.com Twitchell Island: http://soilcarboncoalition.org/twitchell
GIS Data Used for Reference
California City Boundary Layer (2016) Sacramento County Base Map

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	0 changes
There were no significant conversions of irrigated farmland to Urban Land this update.	
Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other Land to Urban Land	38 changes
The construction of new homes, commercial and industrial buildings and parks were the primary cause of the urbanization of nonirrigated land this update.	
<u>Rancho Cordova</u>	
Approximately 90 acres of new homes were added throughout the City of Rancho Cordova, including additions to the Kavala Ranch, Sunridge Park Village and Anatolia Village developments. Most conversions were approximately 20 to 30 acres.	
<u>Elk Grove</u>	
New homes were added in Elk Grove (~200 acres). The most significant additions being Pulte Homes-Spectrum (~50 acres) and Fireside at Madeira-KB Home (~150 acres) developments. Other notable additions include a new apartment complex (~20 acres), the new Franklin light rail station (~20 acres) and an addition to the Elk Grove Auto Mall (~25 acres).	
<u>Sacramento</u>	
Approximately 130 acres of new homes were added throughout the Sacramento area, the most significant was at Natomas Landing (~30 acres). There were approximately 50 acres of new parks also added in the Natomas area. Commercial development was seen in the form of a new Penske truck rental facility and an addition to the Mygrant Glass Company in Rio Linda (~30 Acres).	
<u>Folsom</u>	
New homes (~20 acres), the addition of new soccer fields at Granite High School (~15 acres) and the addition of a new spillway at Folsom Dam (~15 acres) were the most significant conversions this update.	
<u>Galt</u>	
New homes (~15 acres) and the addition of an El and El Wood Products building (~15 acres) were the most significant conversions this update.	
Conversions from Irrigated Farmland aside from urbanization	
Irrigated Farmland to Nonirrigated Land Uses	27 changes
The majority of these conversions were due to plots of irrigated farmland or irrigated pasture having been fallow for three or more update cycles. The most significant conversions from irrigated farmland this update were an approximately 260-acre change that occurred on the Florin quad and an approximately 120- acre change on the Taylor Monument quad. Most of the other conversions were between 10-40 acres and located throughout the county. 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.

Irrigated Farmland to Other Land

6 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 restoration of native vegetation or to the construction of levees in Sacramento County. The most significant conversion was due to the restoration of Twitchell Island (~680 acres) on the Jersey Island quad. Twitchell Island is the site of an experiment being conducted by the U.S. Geological Survey to study whether growing tules and cattails on the sinking islands of the Sacramento Delta can reverse the soil loss caused by wind, rain and farming. This conversion was to Other Land due to the fact that it is a restoration area and grazing is not permitted. The second most notable change was the addition of “adjacent levees” of approximately 100 acres located on the Taylor Monument quad south of the Sacramento International Airport. All other conversions were less than 20 acres each.

Conversions to Irrigated Farmland

Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other Land to Irrigated Farmland

8 changes

Additions of irrigated farmland were primarily made in the southern part of Sacramento County where vineyards and new orchards were added. The majority of these conversions were for less than 30 acres each.

The most notable conversions this update were the conversion of nonirrigated grain to new orchards, predominately almonds (~330 acres) and new vineyards (~260 acres) located on the Bruceville and Galt quads, respectively, north of the town of Galt.

Unusual Changes

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

Farmland of Local Importance to Grazing Land:

Confined livestock was found to be abandoned for three or more update cycles. This will result in the conversion of Farmland of Local Importance to Grazing Land.

Conversions from Urban Land: The largest conversion was due to the abandonment and closure of the Champions Golf Links in Elk Grove (~40 acres).

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: 9/9/2016
Image interpretation, number of days: 15
Ground truth dates: 11/7 to 11/9/2016
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/dlrp/fmmp/Pages/Index.aspx>