

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

**2016 FIELD REPORT**

**COUNTY:** Sonoma

**FIELD MAPPER(S):** Troy Dick

**IMAGE DATA USED:**

<b>Source:</b> National Agriculture Imagery Program, USDA
<b>Acquisition date:</b> Summer 2016
<b>Data description:</b> True color mosaic, 1 meter resolution
<b>Coverage gaps:</b> None
<b>Additional imagery used:</b> None

**WRITTEN, DIGITAL & ORAL INFORMATION SOURCES:**

*The following entities and individuals provided information used to conduct 2016 mapping.*

<b>Local Review Comments</b> (submitted by cities, counties, & others on 2014 maps)
None
<b>Personal Contacts</b>
None
<b>Websites Used for Reference</b>
Google Maps, Street View: <a href="http://maps.google.com">http://maps.google.com</a> San Francisco Bay Joint Venture: <a href="http://www.sfbayjv.org/project-sears-point-wetland-restoration-san-pablo-bay.php">http://www.sfbayjv.org/project-sears-point-wetland-restoration-san-pablo-bay.php</a> State of California Coastal Conservancy: <a href="http://scc.ca.gov/climate-change/climate-ready-program/sears-point-restoration-project/">http://scc.ca.gov/climate-change/climate-ready-program/sears-point-restoration-project/</a>
<b>GIS Data Used for Reference</b>
California City Boundary Layer (2016) Sonoma 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.](#)

<b>Conversions to Urban Land</b>	
Irrigated Farmland to Urban Land	0 changes
There were no significant conversions of irrigated farmland to Urban Land.	
Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other Land to Urban Land	13 changes
<p>The majority of the urbanization of nonirrigated land and Other Land was due to the expansion of urban development in or adjacent to the Cities of Petaluma, Santa Rosa, and Windsor. The largest conversions occurred in the City of Petaluma where approximately 110 acres was converted to the Deer Creek Village, Deer Creek Dog Park, Petaluma Community Sports Field, sections of highway, and a highway interchange of US 101 and State Highway 116. Meanwhile, in and near the City of Santa Rosa, approximately 50 acres was converted for new homes and apartments. Lastly, adjacent to the City of Windsor, approximately 20 acres was converted for the expansion of runway 14 at the Sonoma County Airport and new businesses.</p>	
<b>Conversions from Irrigated Farmland aside from urbanization</b>	
Irrigated Farmland to Nonirrigated Land Uses	40 changes
<p>There were two primary reasons for the conversion of irrigated farmland to nonirrigated uses:</p> <p>First, the majority of these changes were due to plots of irrigated land having been fallow for three or more update cycles. The largest changes in this category occurred east of the town of Shellville Colony where approximately 70 acres went out of production. This was followed by two areas: one was south of the City of Windsor and the other area was east of the City of Petaluma, both with approximately 70 acres going out of production.</p> <p>Second, areas of irrigated farmland were identified that were no longer being irrigated but, instead, were being used for the cultivation of nonirrigated grain crops. Nonirrigated grain crops appear as Farmland of Local Importance on Sonoma County's Important Farmland Map. These areas had not been irrigated for multiple update cycles. The largest changes due to nonirrigated grain production occurred to the west of the City of Sonoma for approximately 30 acres.</p>	
Irrigated Farmland to Other Land	0 changes
There were no significant conversions of irrigated farmland to Other Land.	

Conversions to Irrigated Farmland	
Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other Land to Irrigated Farmland	63 changes
<p>The majority of the new irrigated crops this update consisted of the addition of vineyards with smaller additions of orchards, row crops, and irrigated pasture. The largest single addition of a vineyard was approximately 160 acres. It was located about 2 miles southeast of the City of Sonoma, along Napa Road. Another large, single addition of vineyards was approximately 120 acres. It was located approximately 2 miles southeast of the intersection of Annapolis Road and Stewarts Point – Skaggs Springs Road.</p>	
Unusual Changes	
(Types of change not already described or special circumstances during the 2016 update.)	
<p><u>Grazing and Farmland of Local Importance to Water:</u> These conversions were primarily due to the Sears Point Restoration Project. The biggest single conversion in this category occurred on the Sears Point Quad where approximately 940 acres were converted to Water.</p>	
<p><u>Water to Other Land:</u> These conversions were primarily due to the use of high resolution imagery to delineate the shoreline of San Pablo Bay. The majority of these conversions happened on the Petaluma Point and Sears Point quads with approximately 1,930 acres converted to Other Land.</p>	
<p><u>Conversion from Grazing Land to Farmland of Local Importance:</u> These conversions were primarily due to areas where Grazing Land is now being used for the cultivation of nonirrigated grain crops. There were 6 conversions. Most of the changes in this category occurred on the Two Rock quad where approximately 150 acres were converted to Farmland of Local Importance.</p>	
Areas of Concern for Future Updates	
(Locations or map categories noted as needing careful checking during 2018 update, and reasons.)	
None	
<p><b>Definitions:</b></p> <p><b>Irrigated Farmland</b> 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 &amp; 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.</p>	

**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: December 19, 2017
Image interpretation, number of days: 17
Ground truth dates: March 21-23, 2018
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>