

California Department of Conservation
FARMLAND MAPPING AND MONITORING PROGRAM

2016 FIELD REPORT

COUNTY: Sierra Valley

FIELD MAPPER(S): Andrew McLeod

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)
None
Personal Contacts
None
Websites Used for Reference
Google Maps: www.google.com/maps
GIS Data Used for Reference
FRAP California City Boundary Layer (2016) Sierra Valley 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 from irrigated farmland to Urban Land this update.	
Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other Land to Urban Land	2 changes
Construction around the Grizzly Ranch Golf Course resulted in an increased density of homes. There were two conversions totaling 30 acres that were made from nonirrigated land to Urban Land.	
Conversions from Irrigated Farmland aside from urbanization	
Irrigated Farmland to Nonirrigated Land Uses	34 changes
Conversions from irrigated farmland or pastureland to nonirrigated land uses were primarily due to plots of irrigated farmland or pastureland having been fallow for three or more update cycles. Some of these fallow areas will be converted to Farmland of Local Importance due to the presence of high quality soils or dry pasture. The remainder will be converted to Grazing Land. The largest conversions of this type occurred on the Antelope Valley quad, where approximately 290 acres of irrigated cropland and 280 acres of irrigated pasture were converted to nonirrigated land. The Antelope Valley quad had a total of 12 conversions including the two mentioned above. The Reconnaissance Peak quad was also rather active with 12 such conversions ranging in size from approximately 10 to 75 acres.	
	0 changes
There were no significant conversions from irrigated farmland to Other Land this update.	
Conversions to Irrigated Farmland	
Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other Land to Irrigated Farmland	2 changes
Conversions to irrigated farmland consisted of additions of irrigated crops that were utilizing center pivot irrigation systems. Approximately 300 acres was converted on the Reconnaissance Peak quad, while approximately 230 acres on the Antelope Valley quad were returned to irrigation after several fallow cycles.	
Unusual Changes	
(Types of change not already described or special circumstances during the 2016 update.)	
None	
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: July 25, 2017
Image interpretation, number of days: 2
Ground truth dates: August 8, 2017
Number of days for post-ground truth clean-up: 1

Further information on the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program can be found at:
<http://www.conservation.ca.gov/dlrp/fmmp/Pages/Index.aspx>