



California

**Department of
Conservation**

Division of Land Resource Protection

California Important Farmland

Farmland Mapping & Monitoring Program

September 18, 2025



A Brief History of FMMP

- Established 1982, Gov Code §65570(b)
- Soil Conservation Fund, Gov Code §51283(d)
- Location, Quality, and Quantity
- Conversion over time
- Consistent and Impartial
- Nonregulatory
- First Important Farmland Maps were produced in 1984, covered 30.3 million acres (38 counties)



Photo: R. Yoha

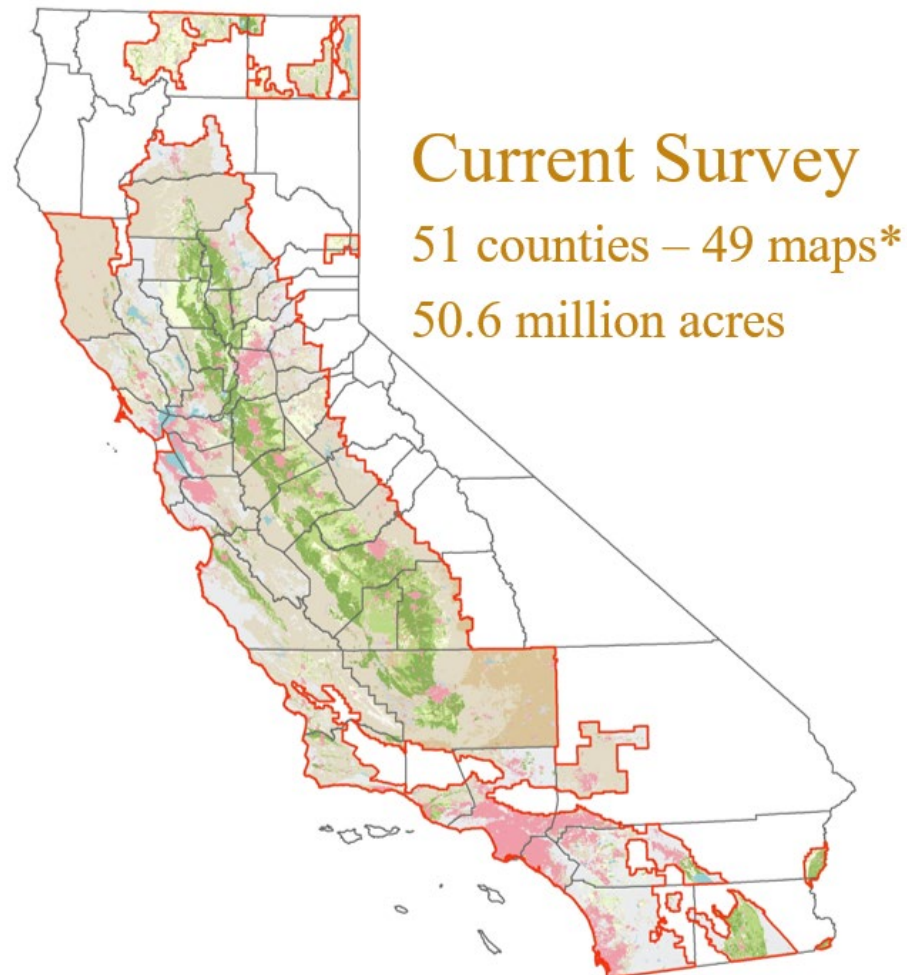
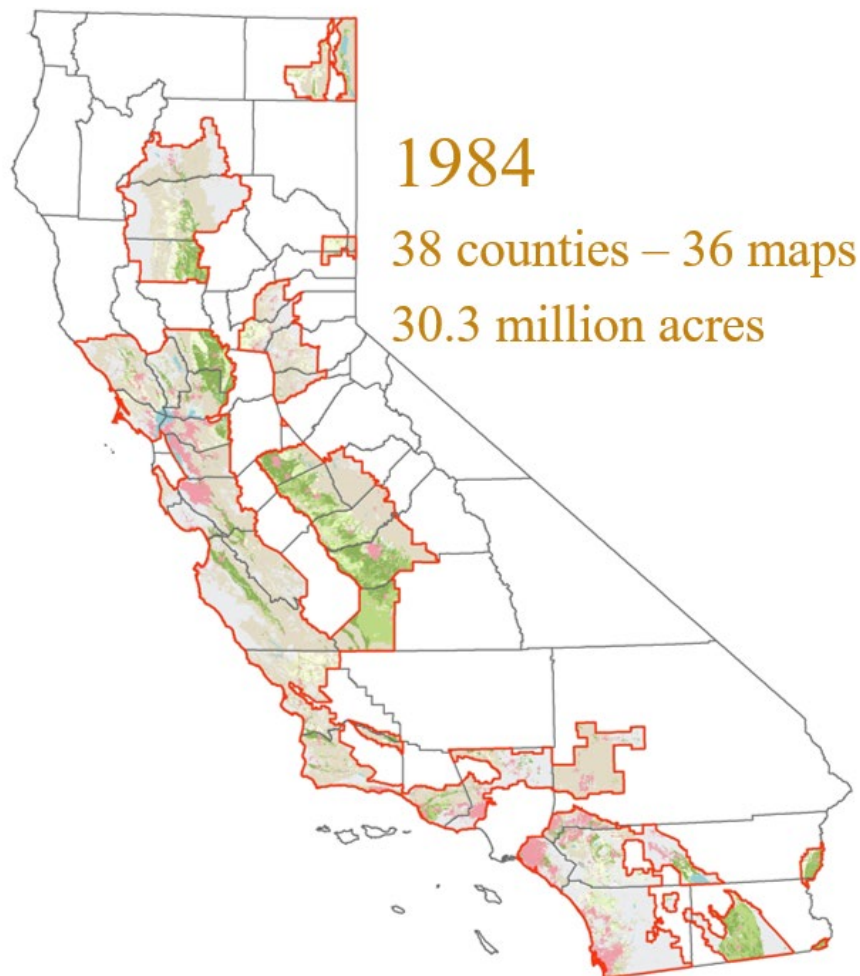


Mandated Deliverables

- Important Farmland Maps
- Land Use Conversion Statistics
- GIS Data
- Biennial Farmland Conversion Report
- Land Committed to Nonagricultural Uses
- Expert Responsibility in Determining Right to Farm Disclosure



Survey Area



California Important Farmland Map

What is it?

How is it made?



Photo: M. Kisko

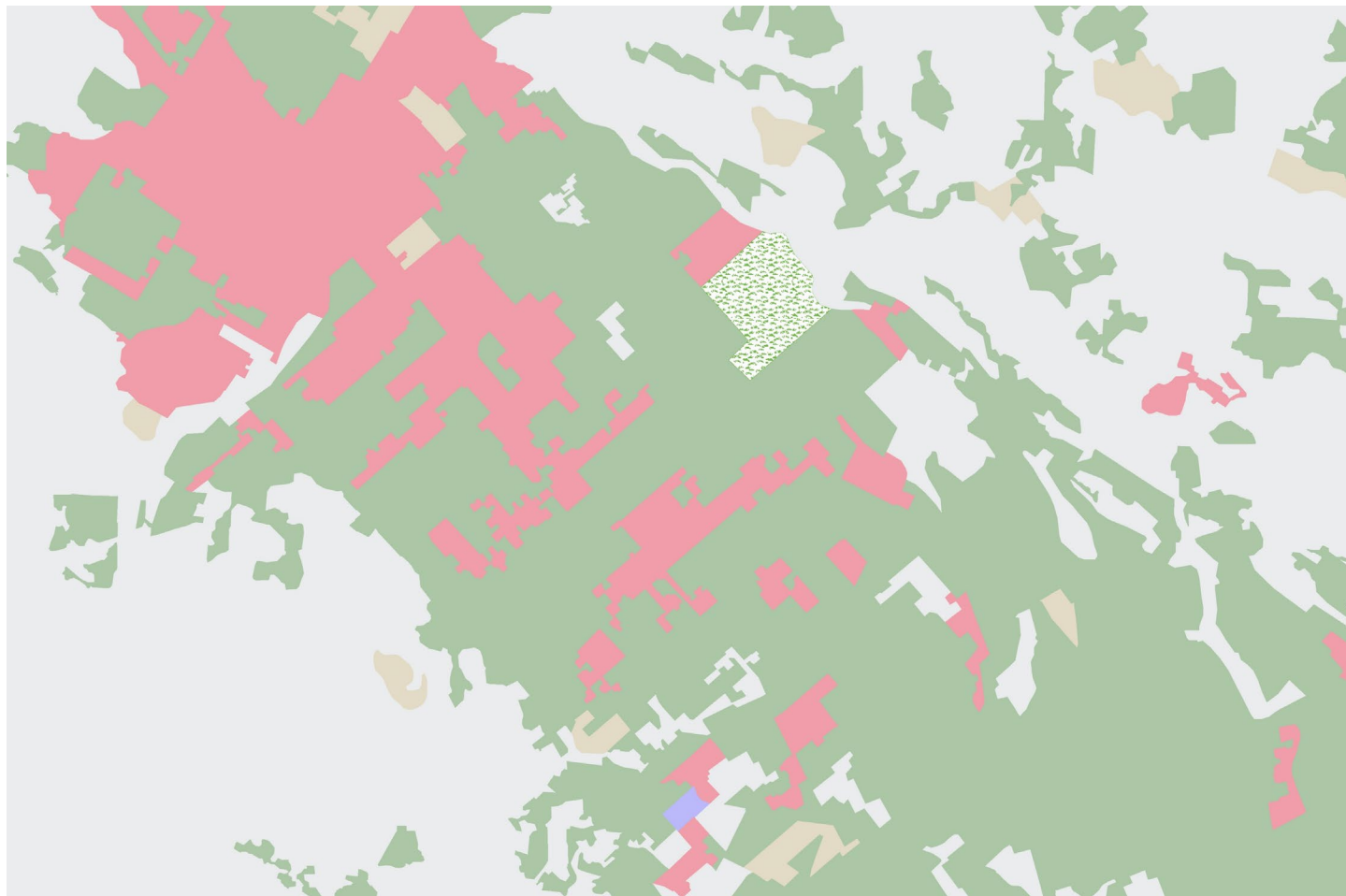


Photo Interpretation



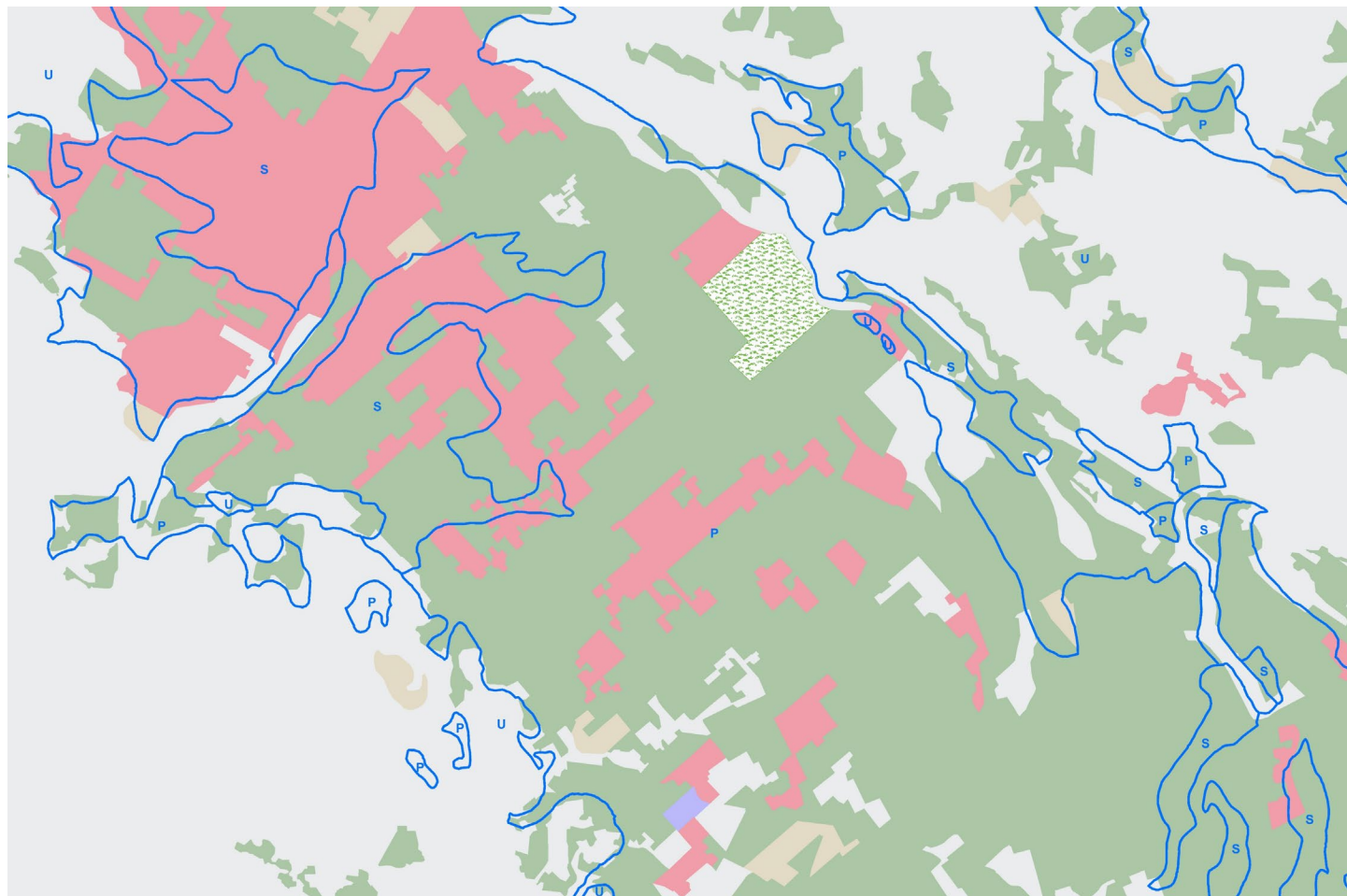


Land Use Data



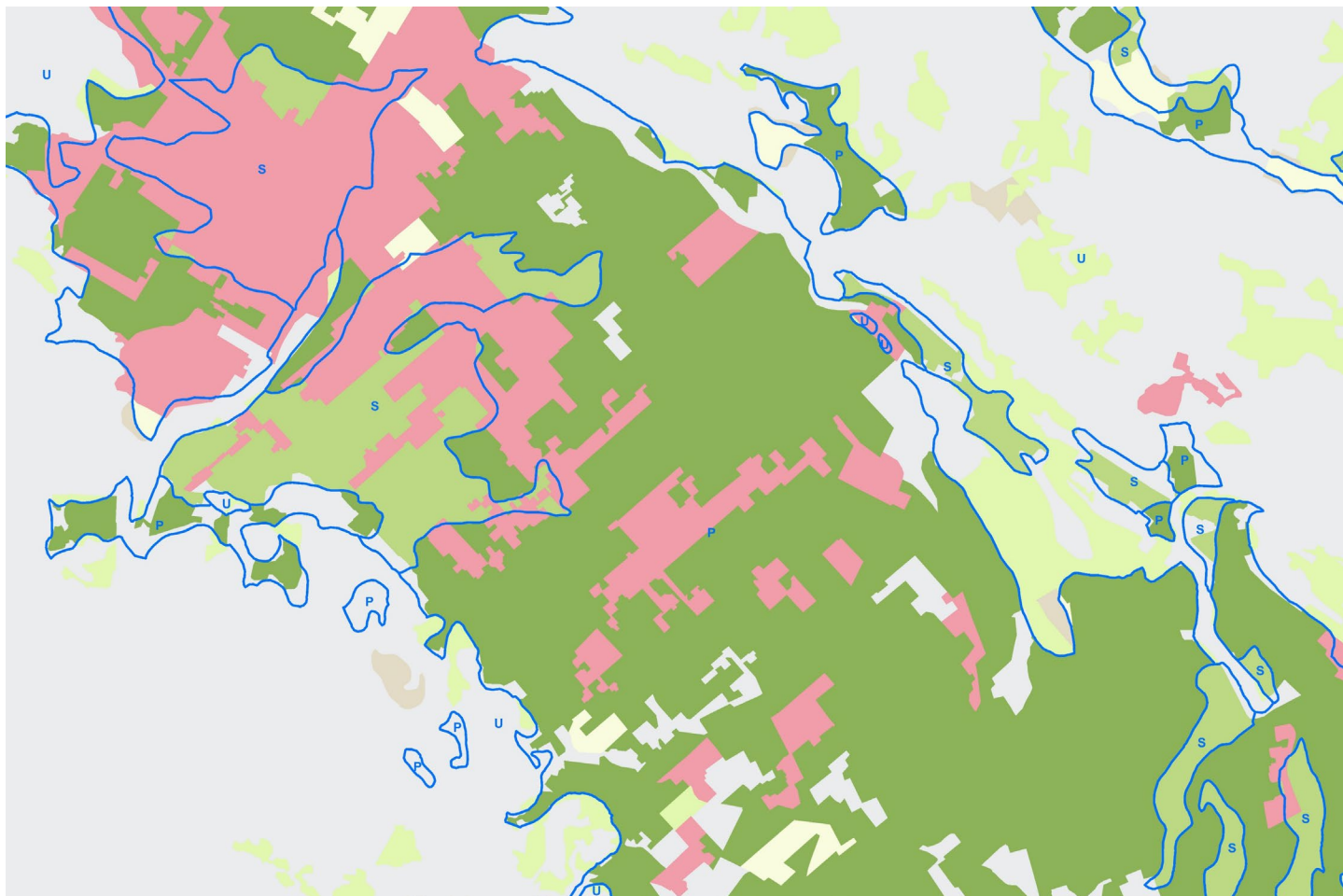


Land Use combined with the Soil Survey





Agricultural Categories affected by Soils





Important Farmland Data

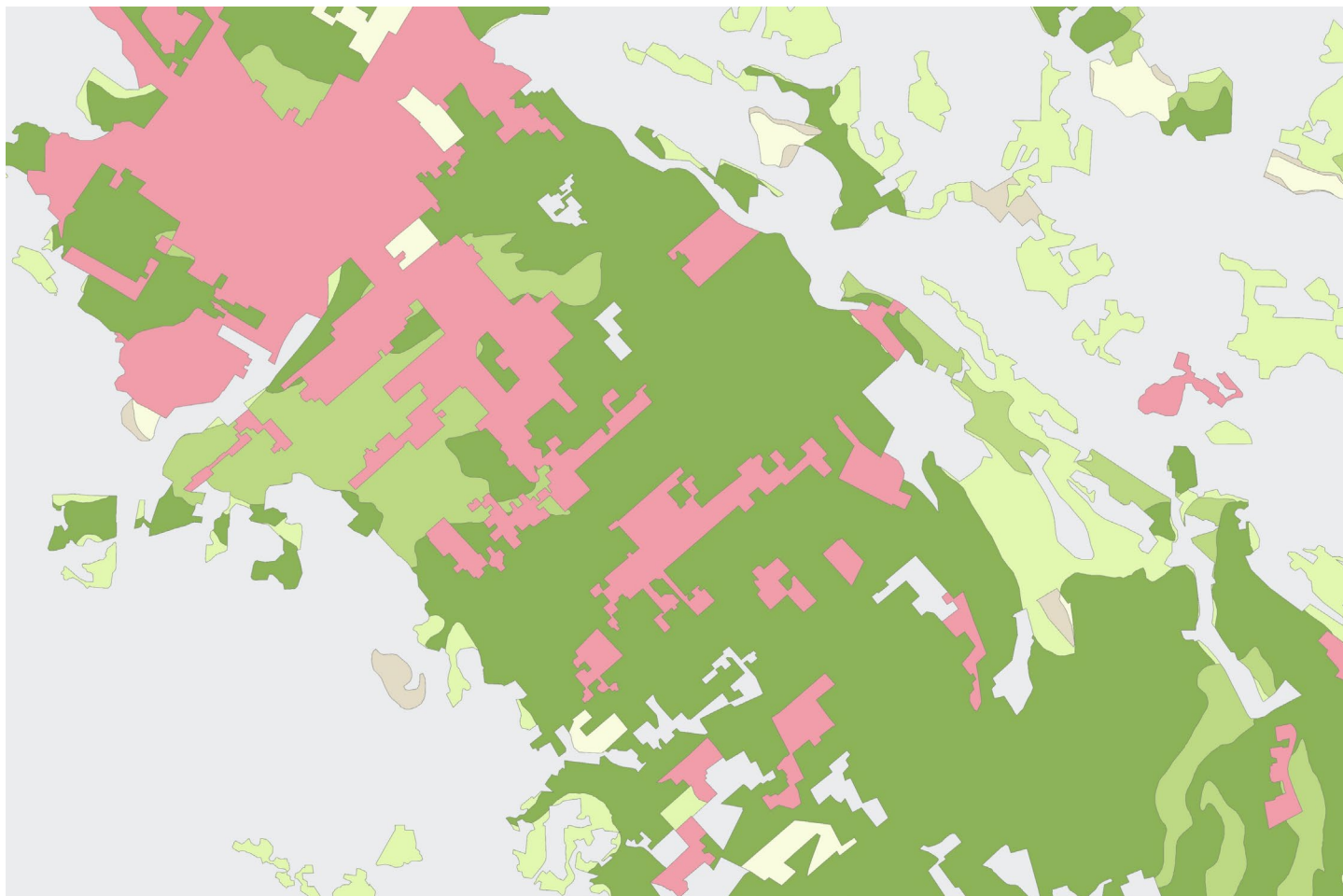


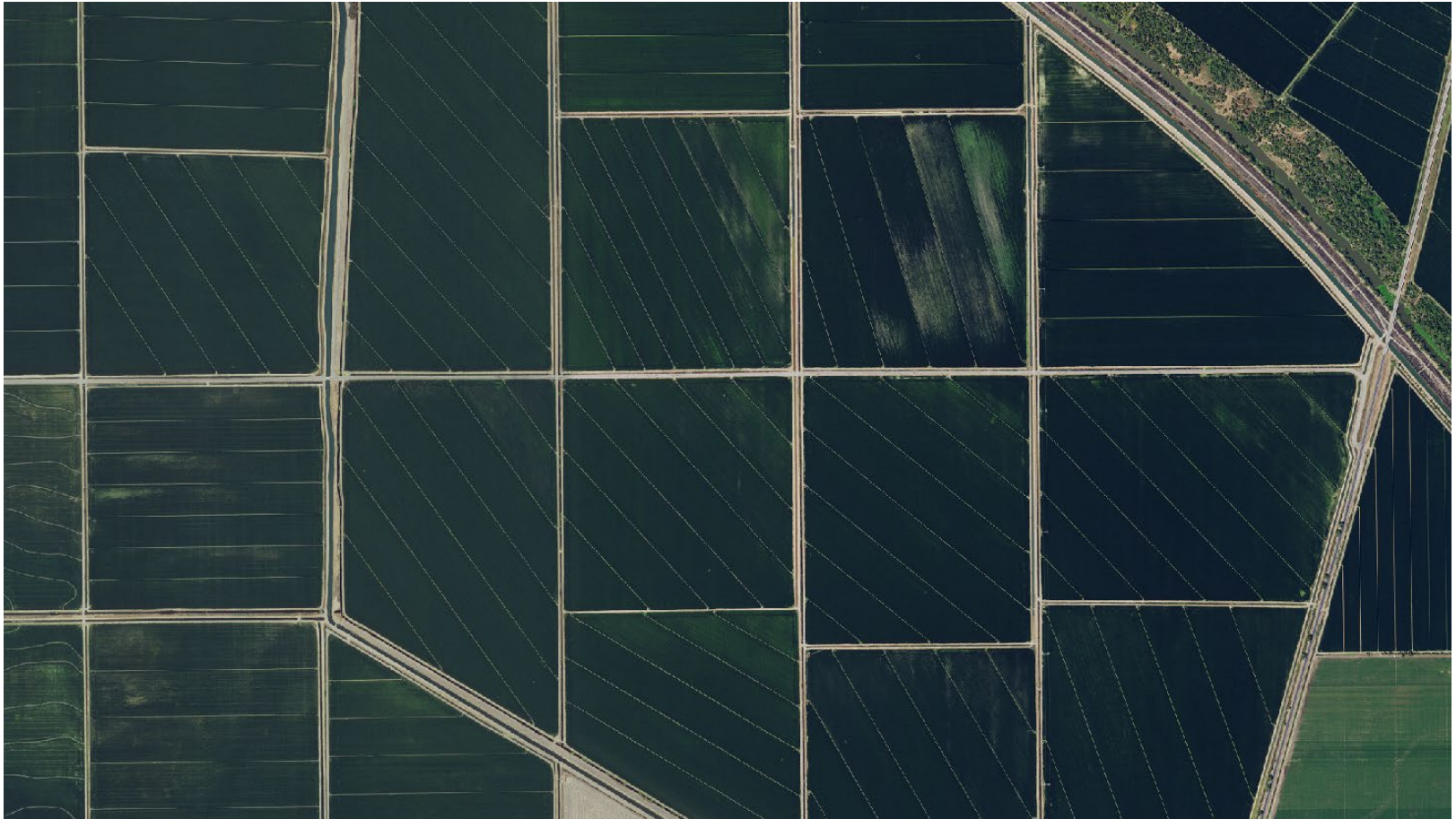


Photo Interpretation





Rice



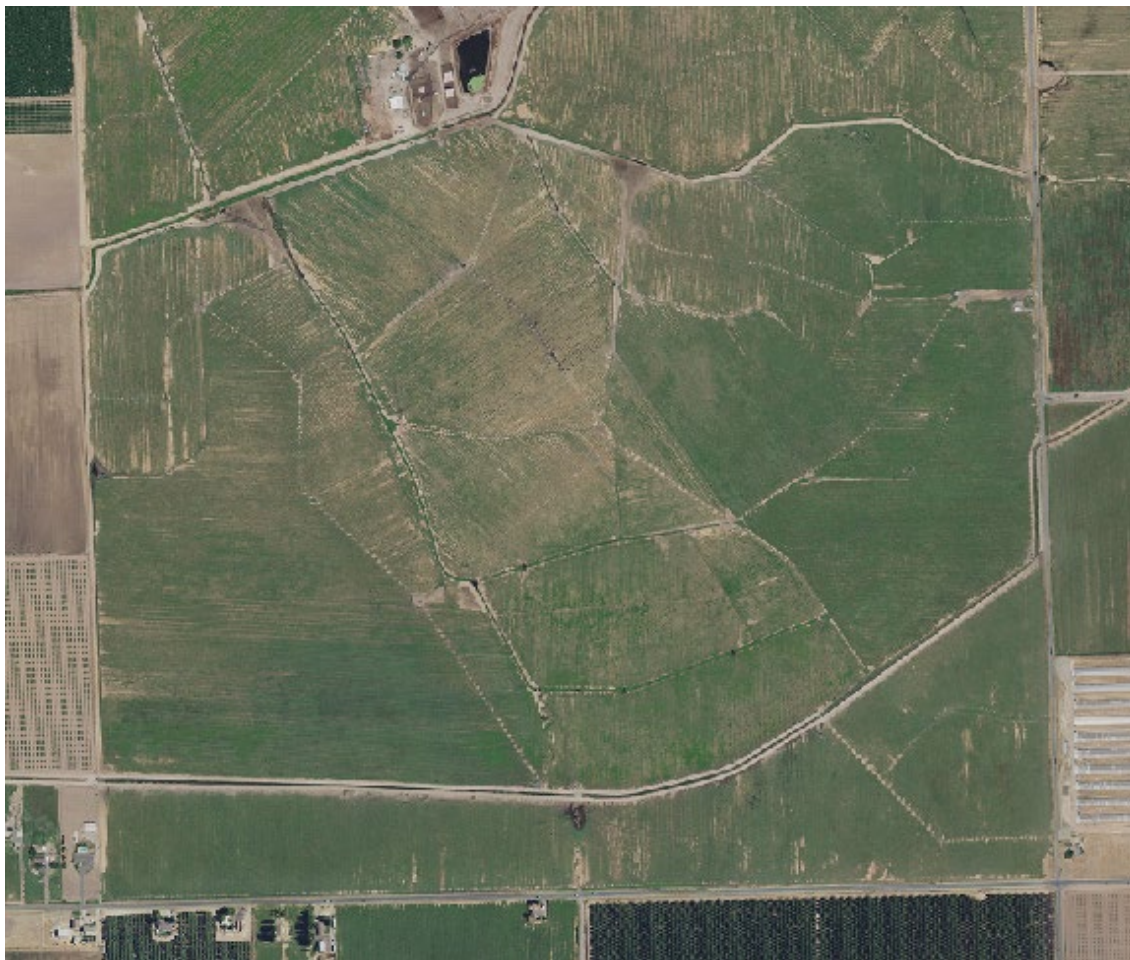


Citrus Orchard





Irrigated Pasture





Almonds





Non-irrigated Grains





Solar Photovoltaic Panels





Landfill





Polo Fields



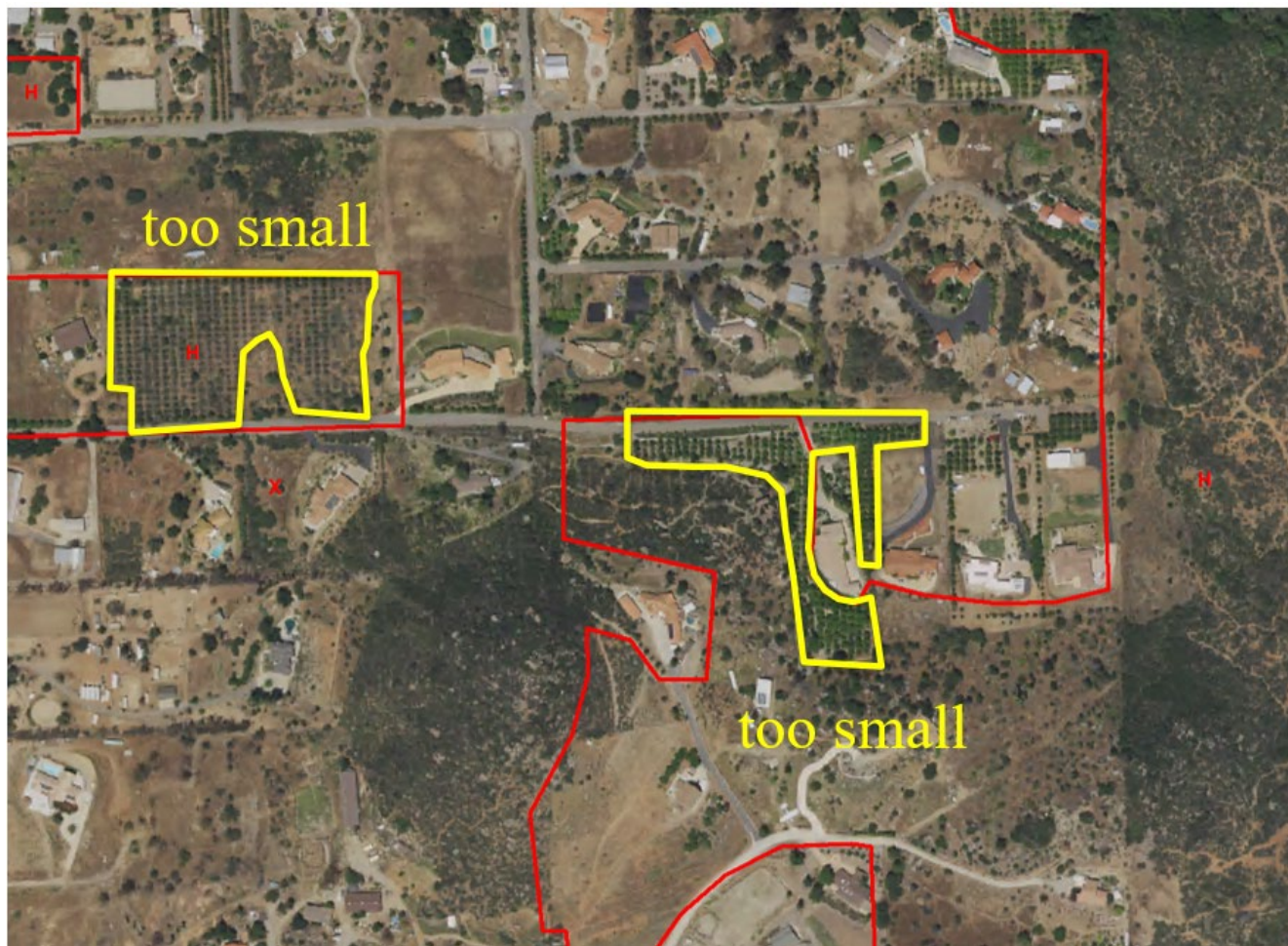


Land Use Data





Minimum Map Unit 10 Acres





Minimum Map Unit 10 Acres



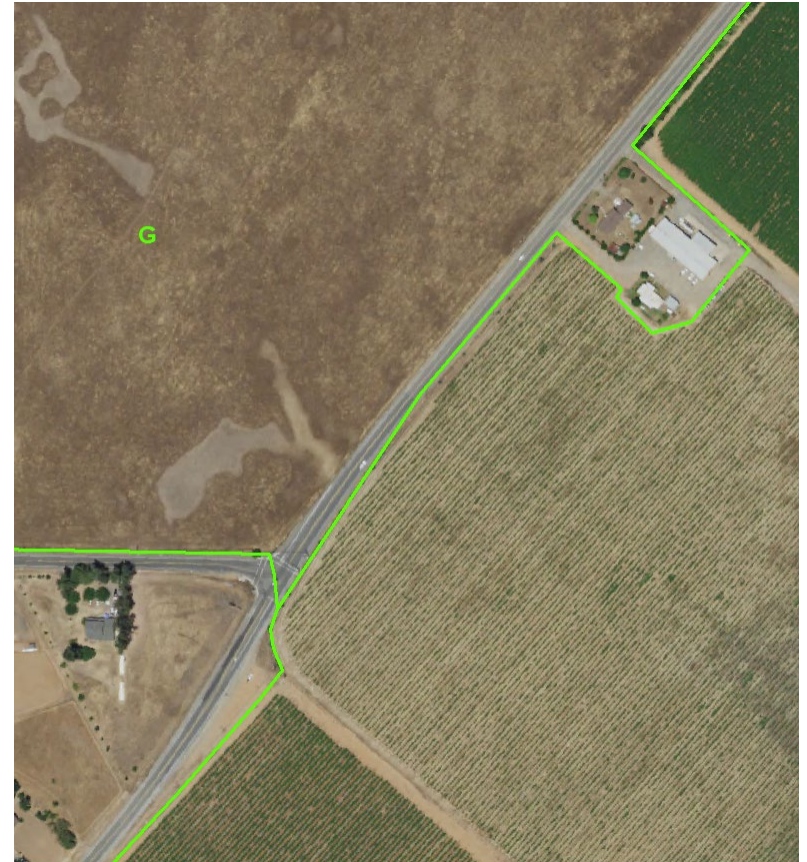
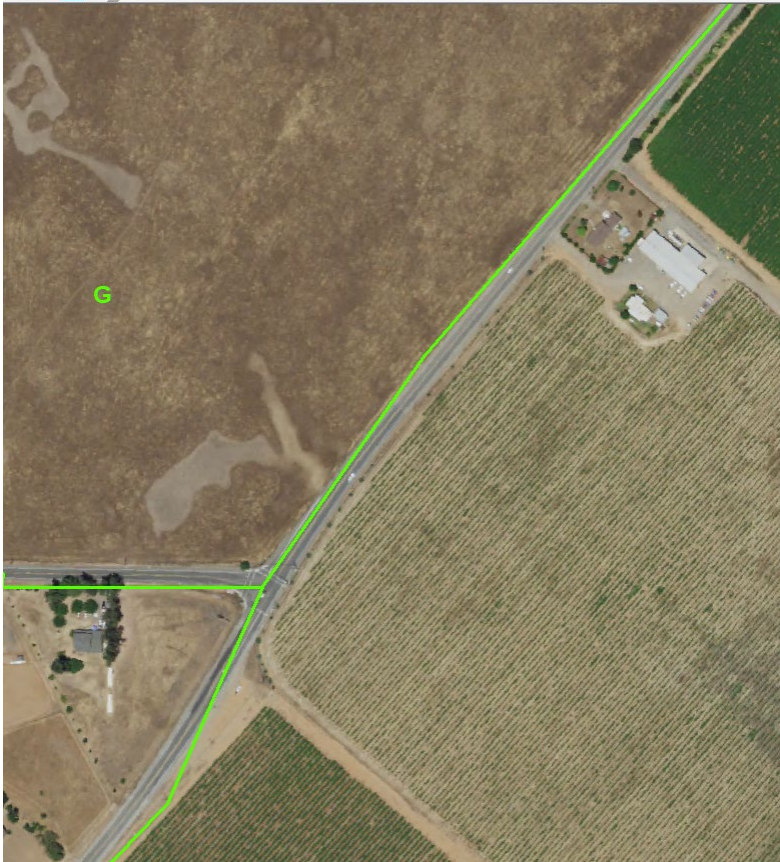


Looking for land use changes





Boundary Adjustments



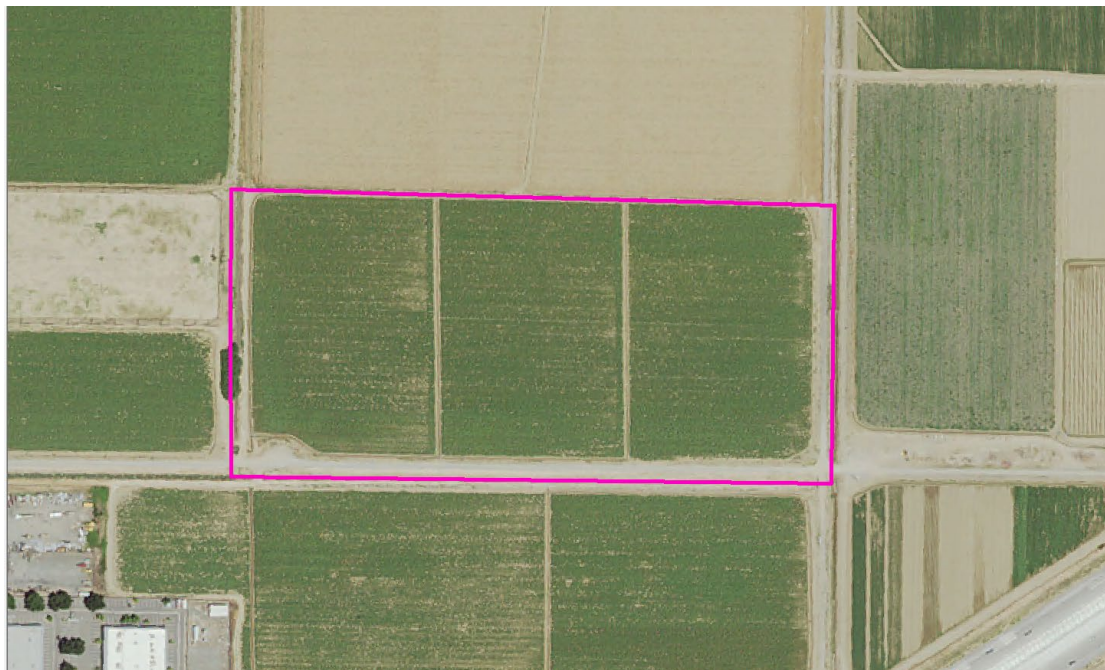


Internal Notes & Tracking





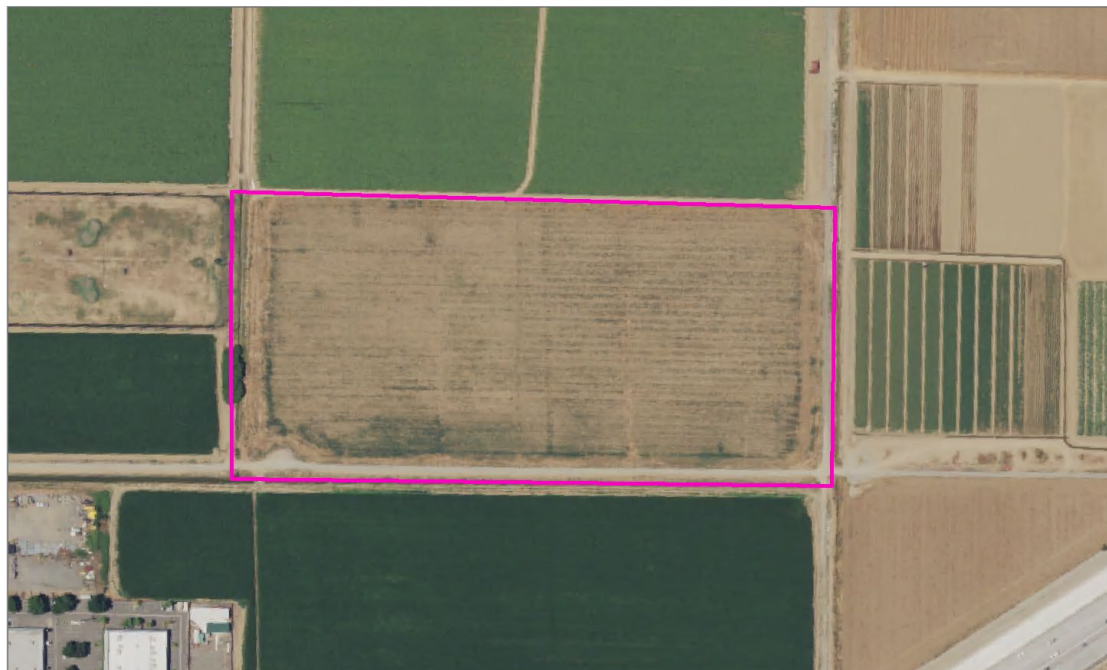
Irrigation Status



Irrigated agriculture



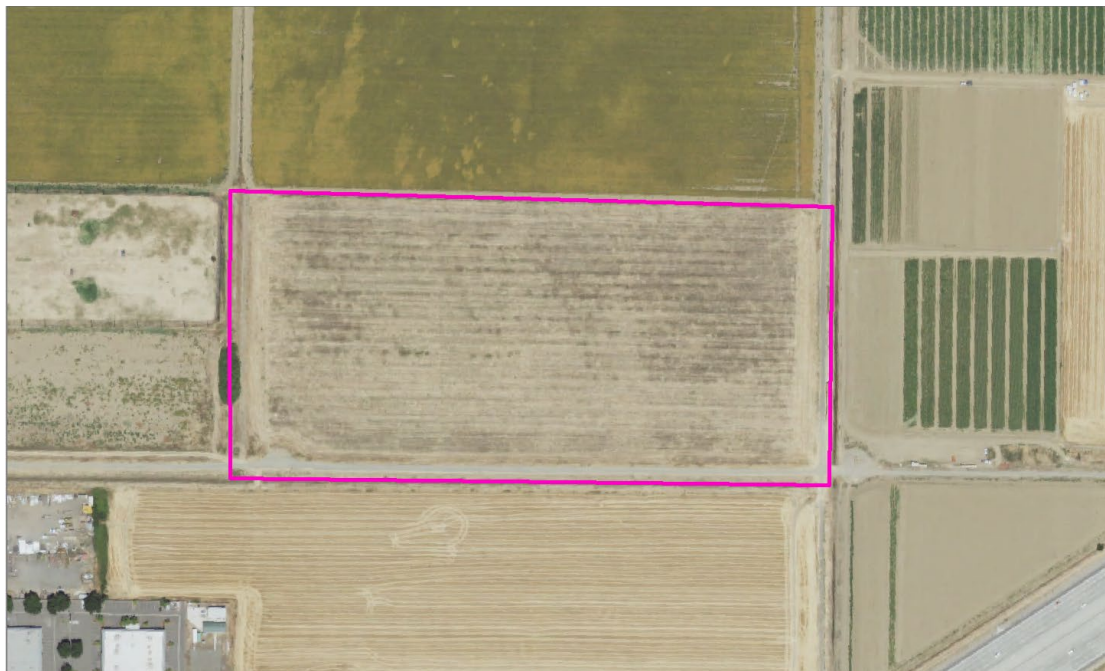
Irrigation Status



Irrigated agriculture
Fallow or non-irrigated grains noted (0 years)



Irrigation Status



Irrigated agriculture
Fallow or non-irrigated grains noted (2 years)



Irrigation Status



Land use changed from irrigated agriculture
Fallow or non-irrigated grains noted (4 years)



Irrigation Status

Land must have been used for irrigated agricultural production at some time during the four years prior to the mapping date.

2018 = fallow but mapped as irrigated farmland - 0 years

2020 = fallow but mapped as irrigated farmland - 2 years

2022 = fallow and removed from irrigated farmland - 4 years





Field Work on iPads



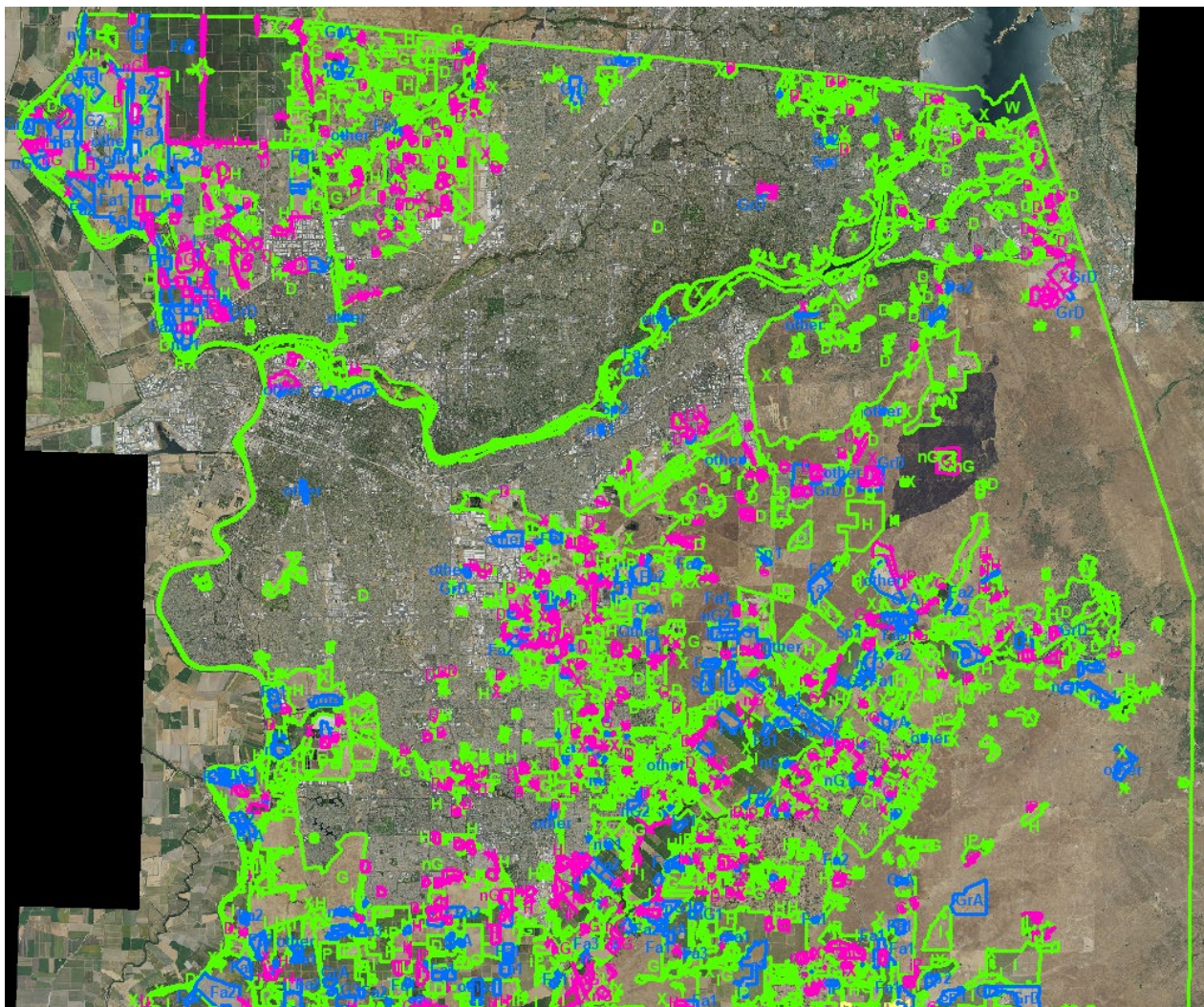


Google Streetview





Managing the Project





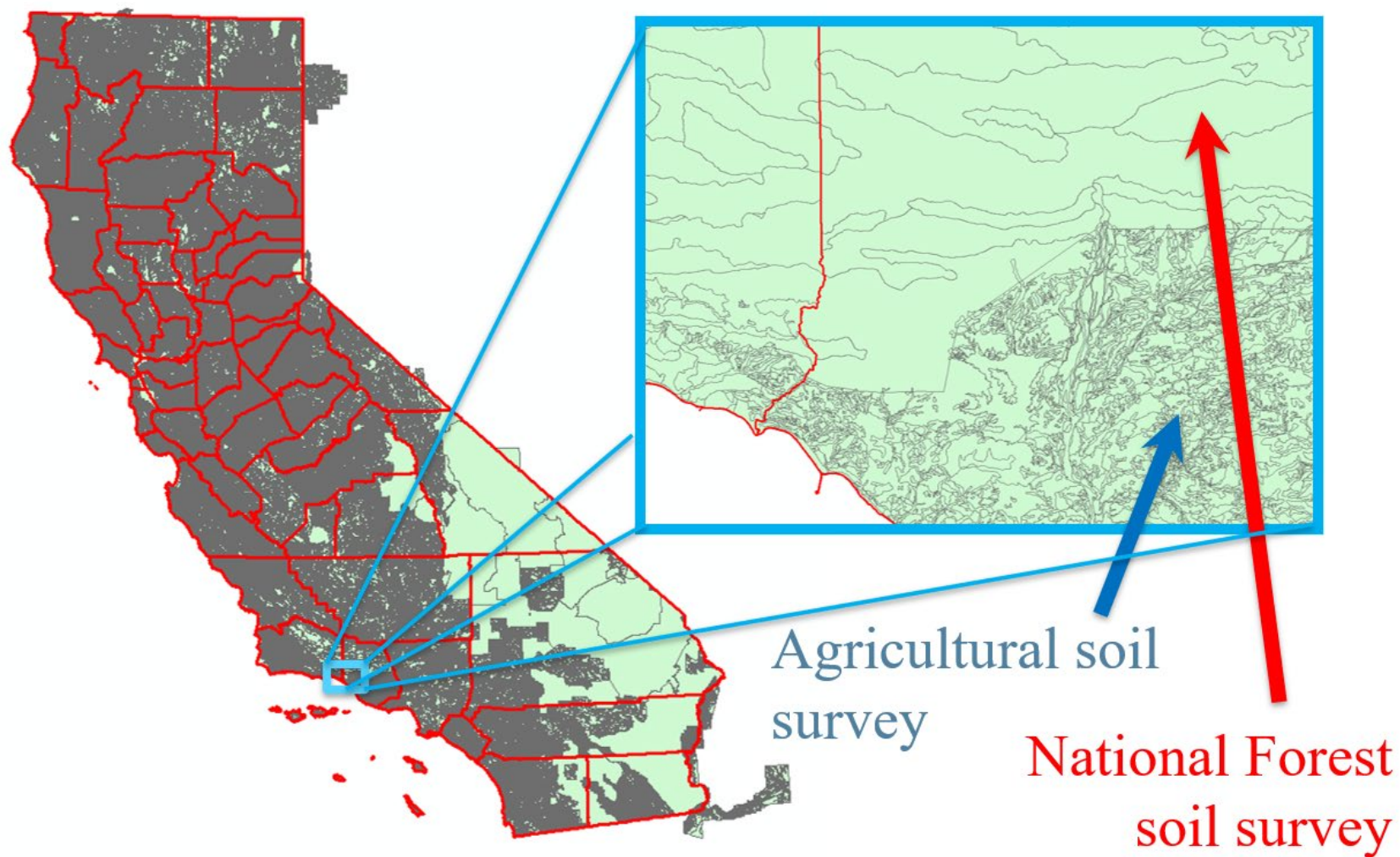
Soil Quality



Photo: M. Kisko

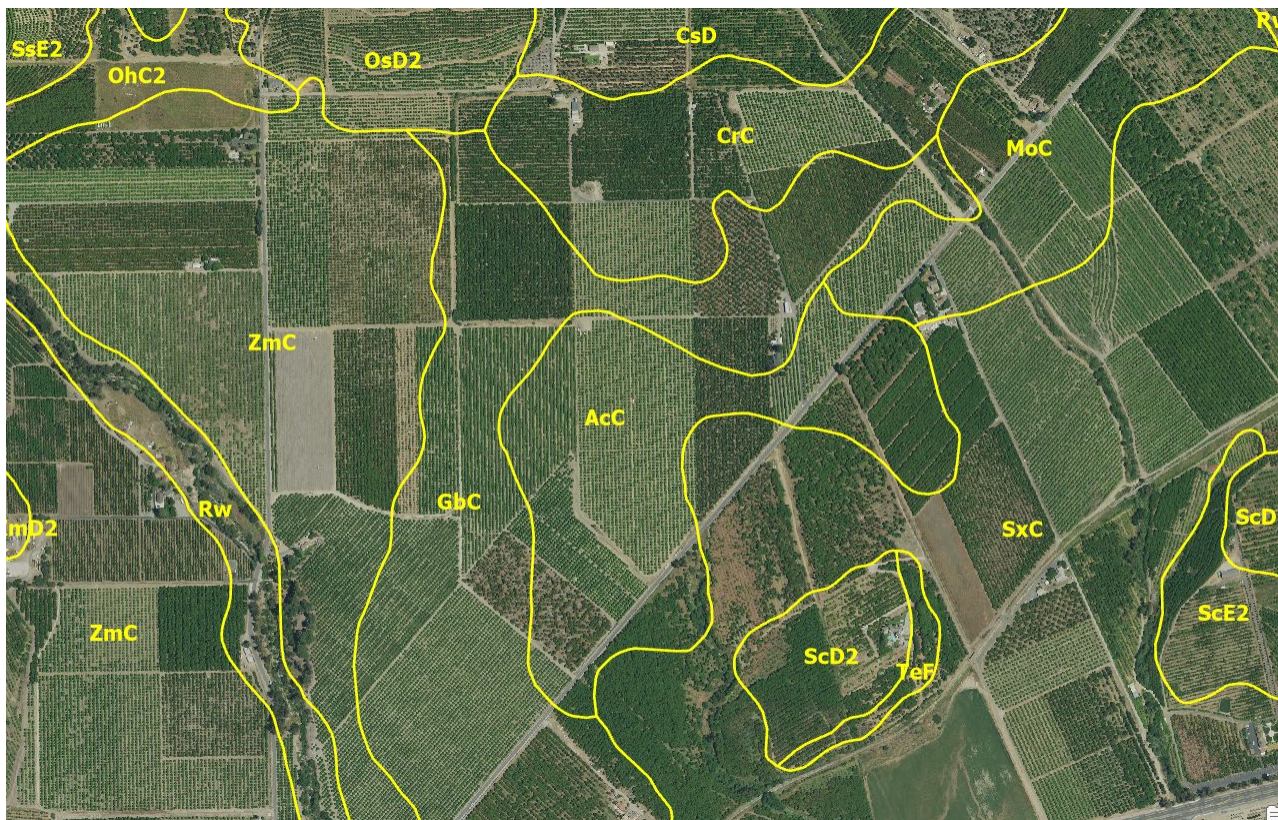


USDA-NRCS Soil Survey





NRCS soil units





USDA-NRCS determines which soils are Prime and Statewide Importance

SACRAMENTO COUNTY PRIME FARMLAND SOILS

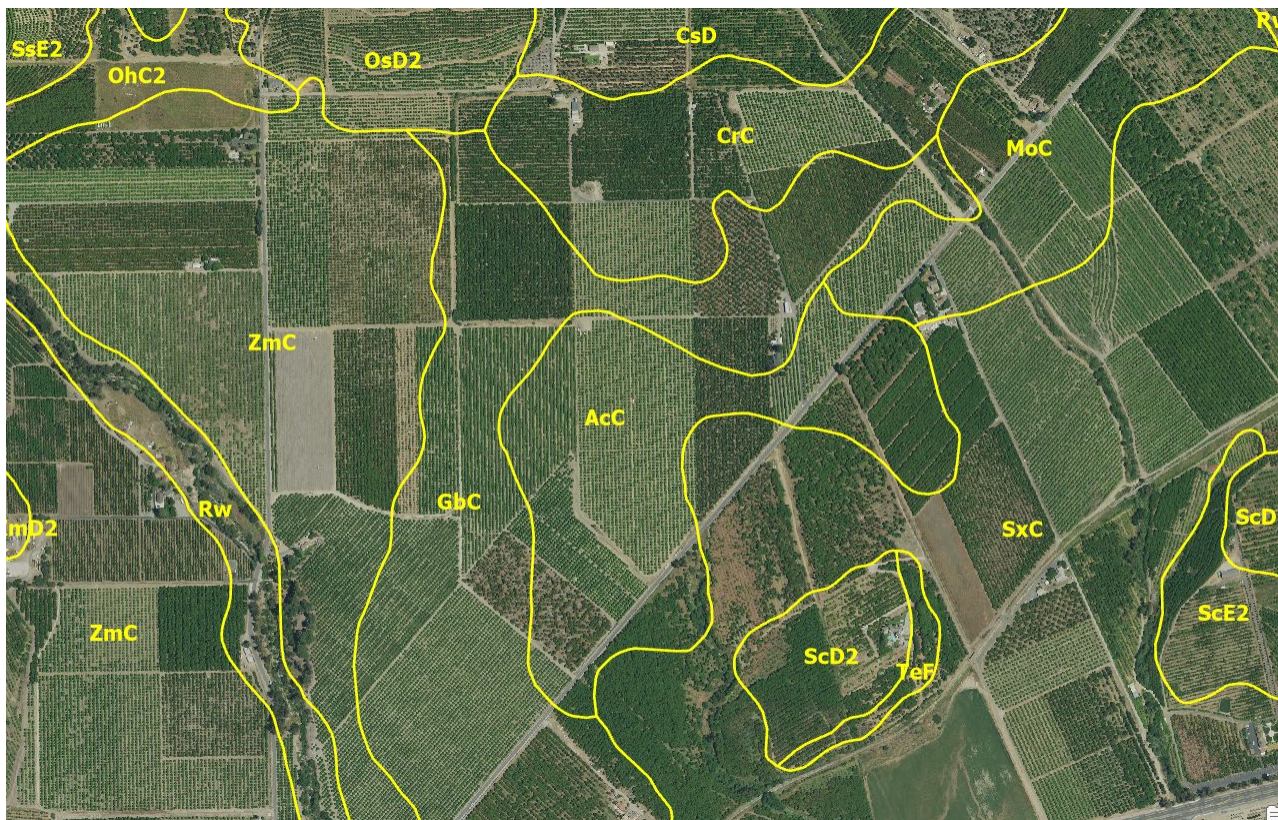
THESE SOIL MAPPING UNITS MEET THE CRITERIA FOR PRIME FARMLAND AS
OUTLINED IN THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE'S LAND INVENTORY
AND MONITORING (LIM) PROJECT FOR THE SACRAMENTO COUNTY SOIL
SURVEY.

SACRAMENTO COUNTY

SYMBOL	NAME
111	Bruella sandy loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes
112	Bruella sandy loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes
113	Capay clay loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, occasionally flooded
114*	Clear Lake clay, partially drained, 0 to 2 percent slopes, frequently flooded
115	Clear Lake clay, hardpan substratum, drained, 0 to 1 percent slopes
116	Columbia sandy loam, partially drained, 0 to 2 percent slopes
117	Columbia sandy loam, drained, 0 to 2 percent slopes
118	Columbia sandy loam, drained, 0 to 2 percent slopes, occasionally flooded
119	Columbia sandy loam, clayey substratum, partially drained, 0 to 2 percent slopes
120	Columbia sandy loam, clayey substratum, drained, 0 to 2 percent slopes
121	Columbia sandy loam, clayey substratum, drained, 0 to 2 percent slopes, occasionally flooded
122	Columbia fine sandy loam, partially drained, 0 to 2 percent slopes
123	Columbia silt loam, drained, 2 to 5 percent slopes
127	Cosumnes silt loam, partially drained, 0 to 2 percent slopes
128	Cosumnes silt loam, drained, 0 to 2 percent slopes
129	Cosumnes silt loam, drained, 0 to 2 percent slopes, occasionally flooded
131	Coyotecreek silt loam, 0 to 2 percent slopes, occasionally flooded
132	Creviscreek sandy loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes
135	Dierksen clay loam, deep, drained, 0 to 2 percent slopes

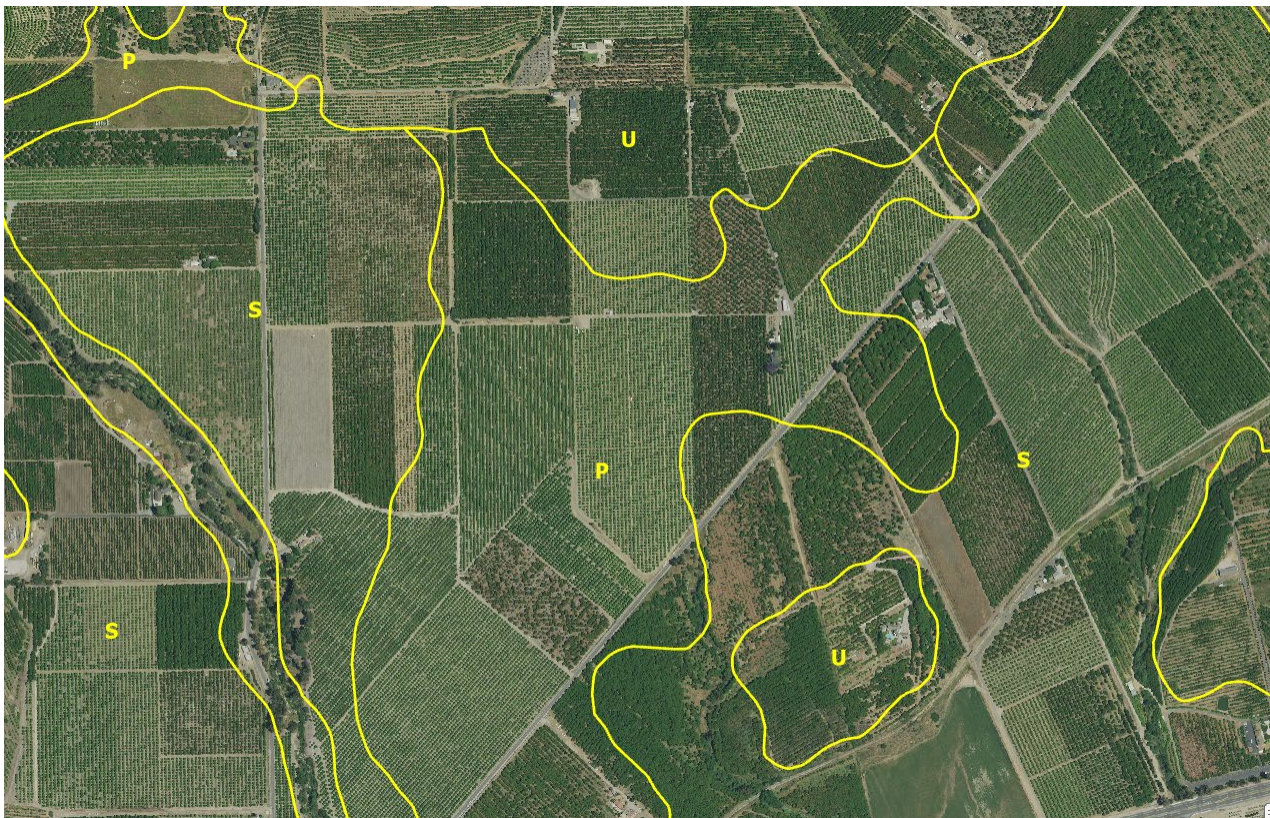


Soil Units Classified as Prime Soils or Soils of Statewide Importance



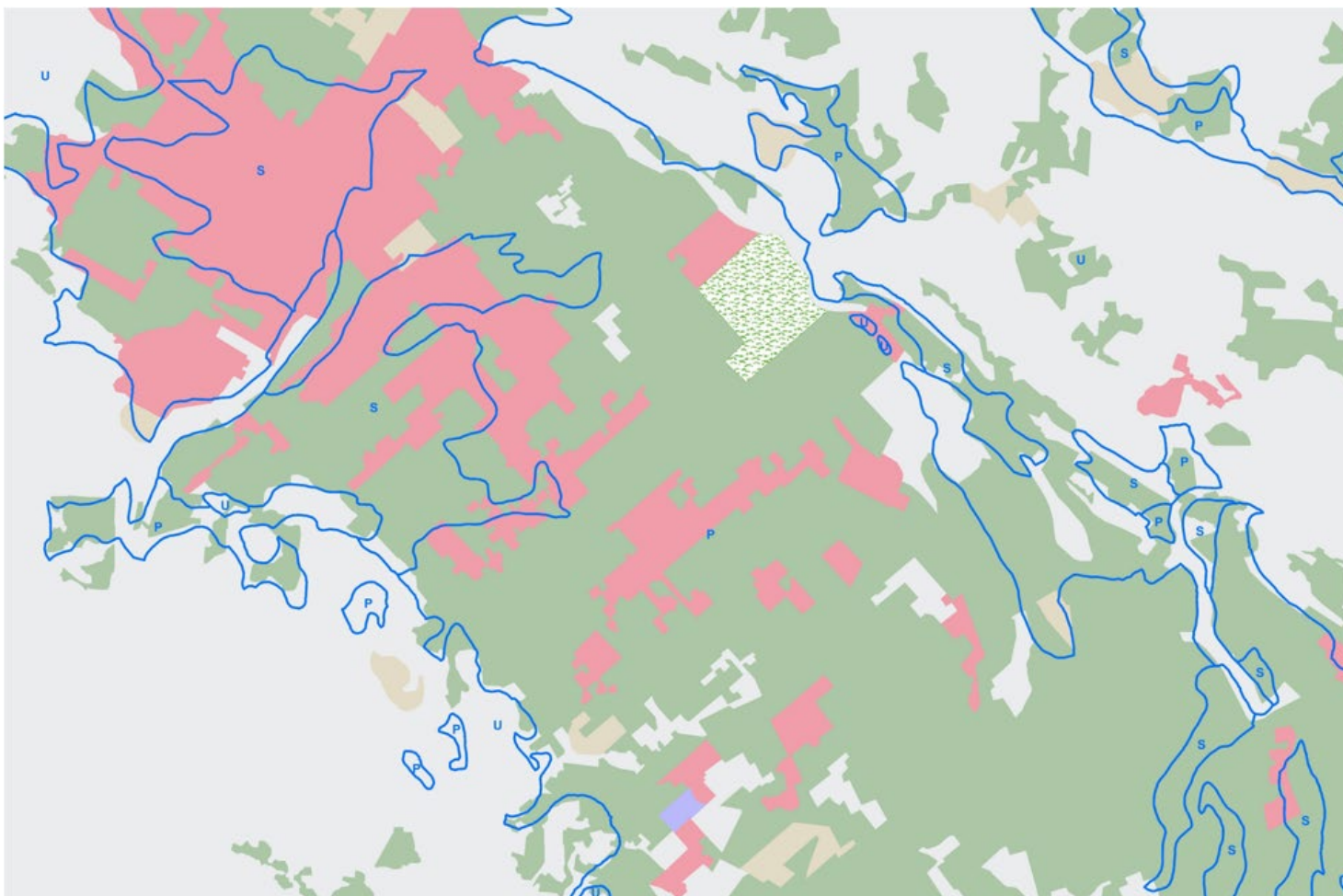


Soil Units Classified as Prime Soils or Soils of Statewide Importance



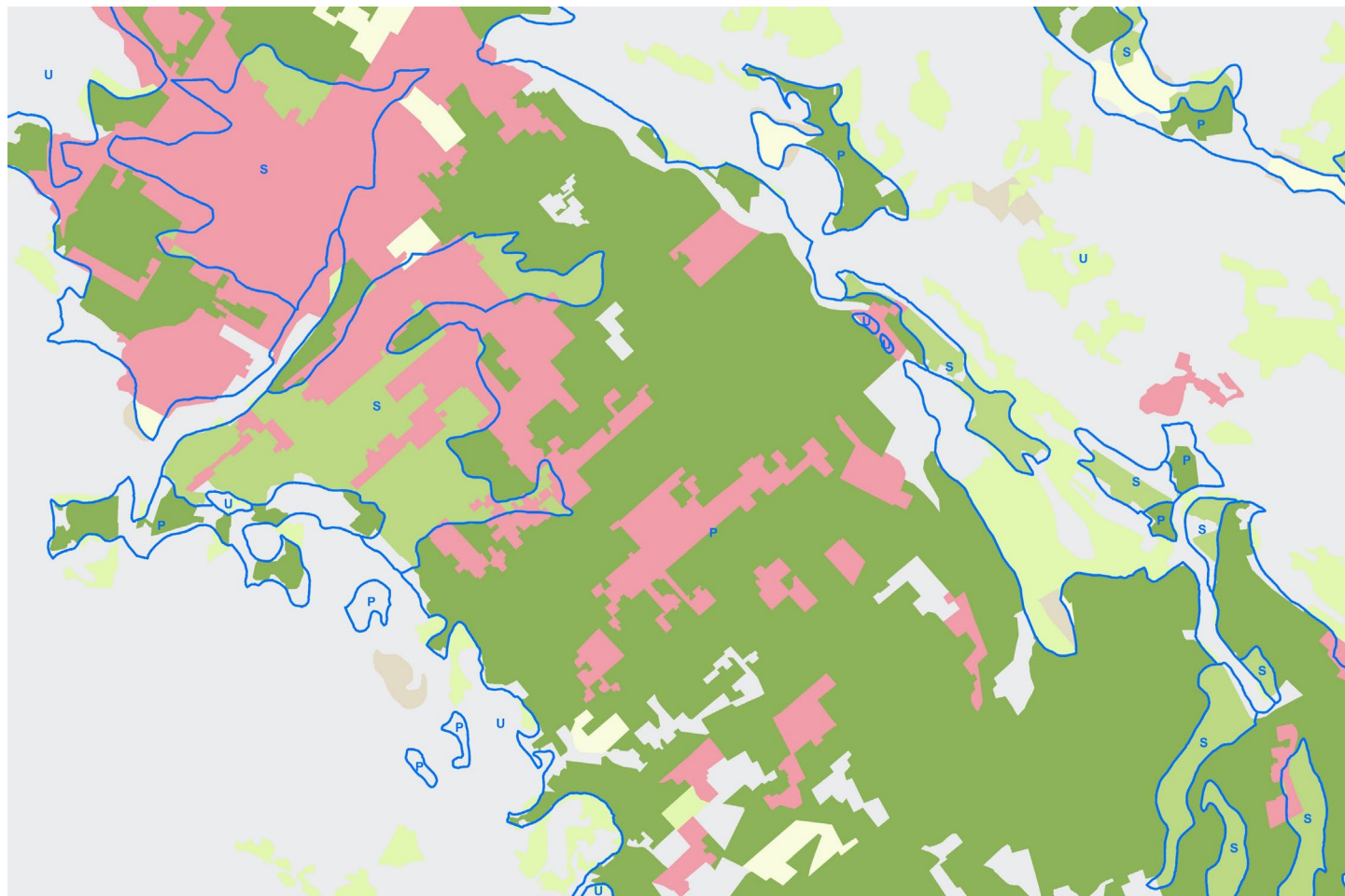


Land Use combined with the Soil Survey



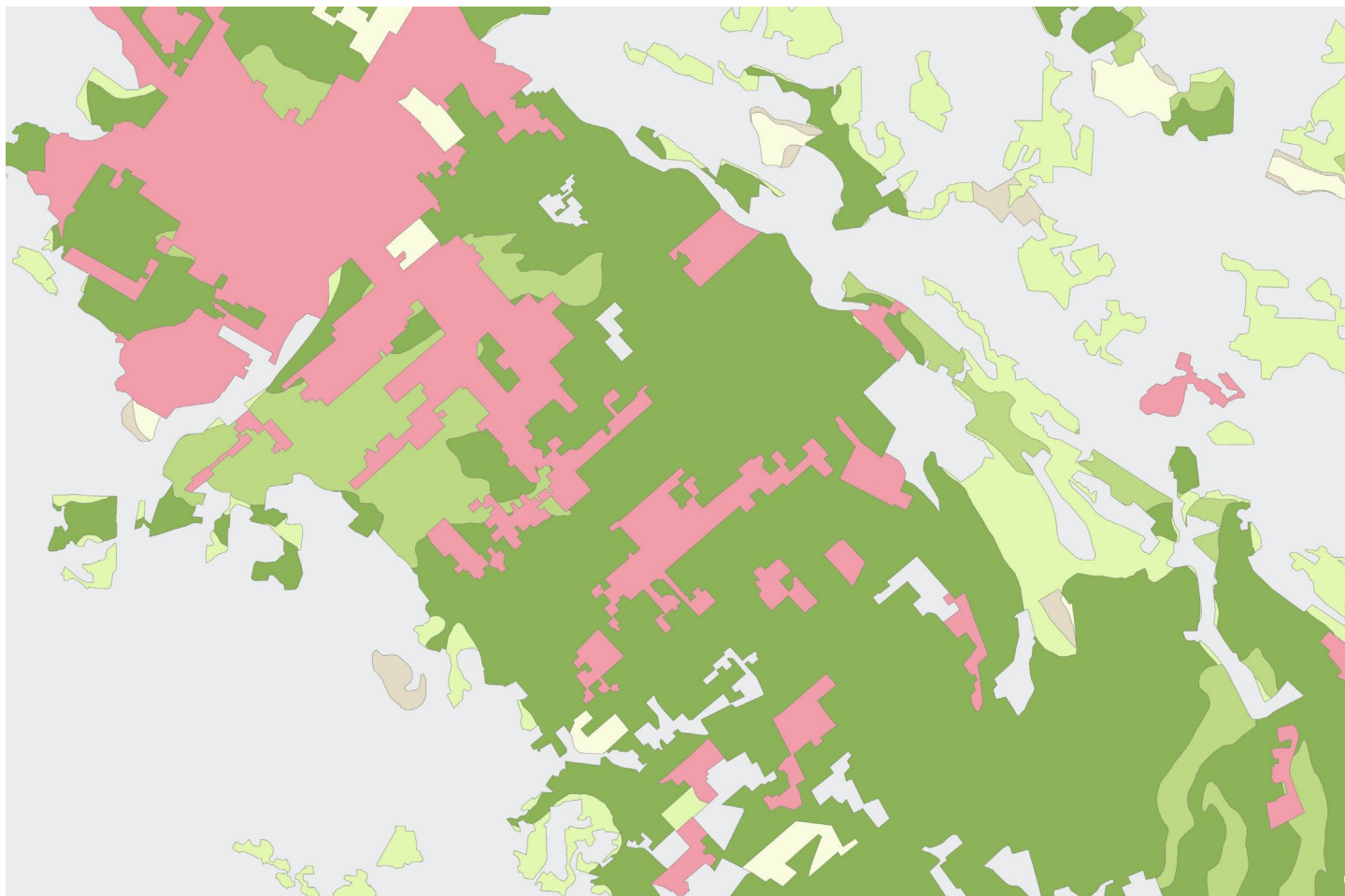


Agricultural Categories affected by Soils



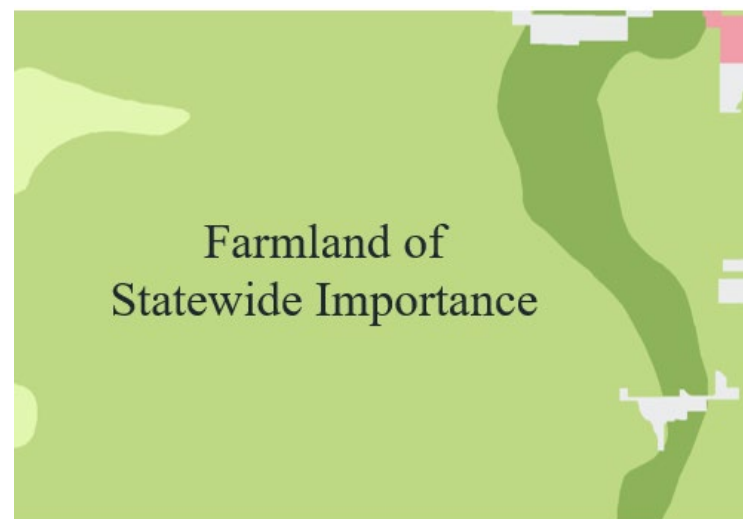


Important Farmland Data





Important Farmland Categories





Prime Farmland

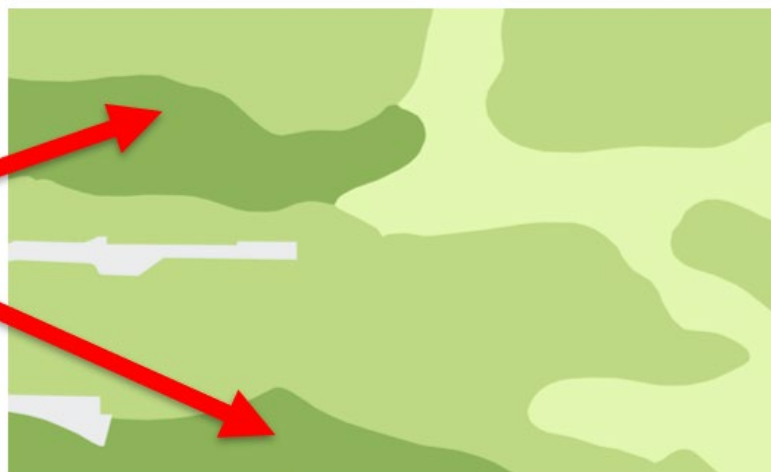


+



Prime
Soils

Prime
Farmland

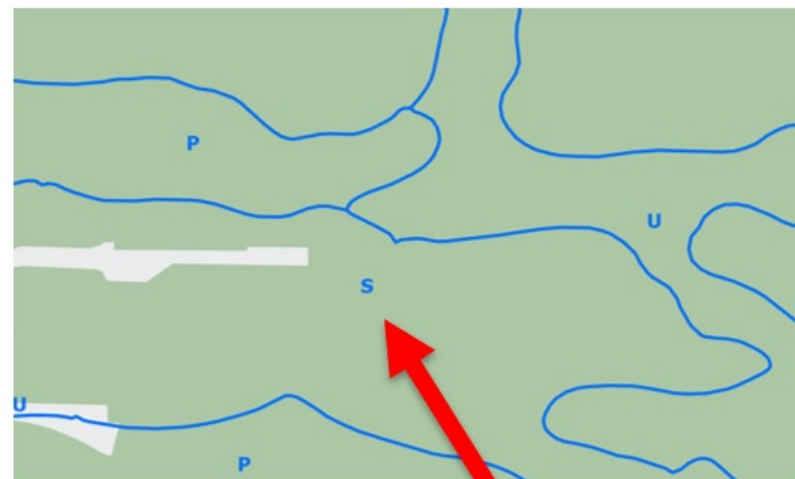




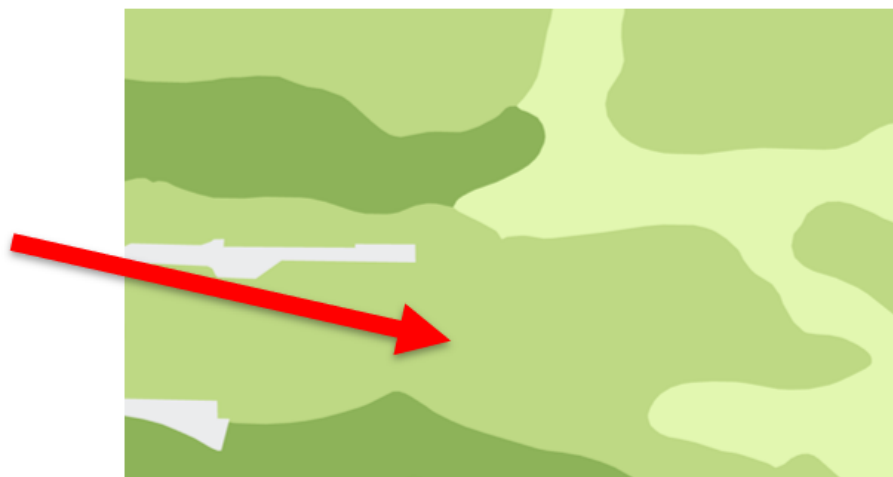
Farmland of Statewide Importance



+



Farmland of
Statewide
Importance



Soils of
Statewide
Importance



Unique Farmland

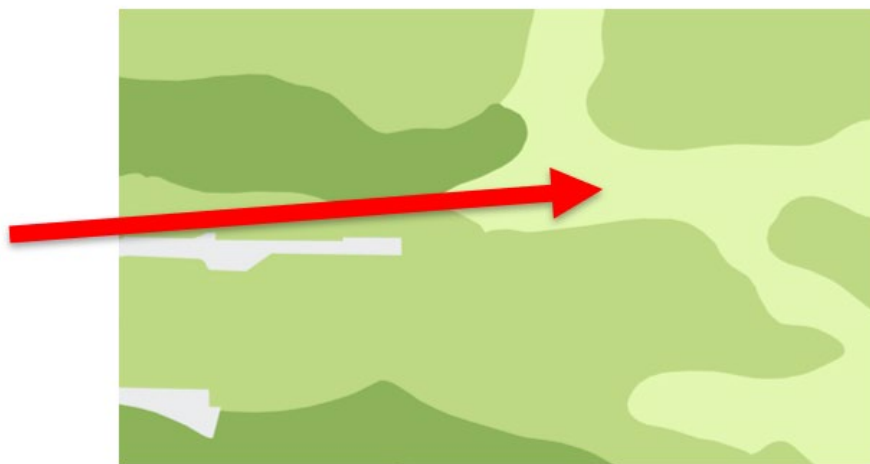


+



Unique
Soils

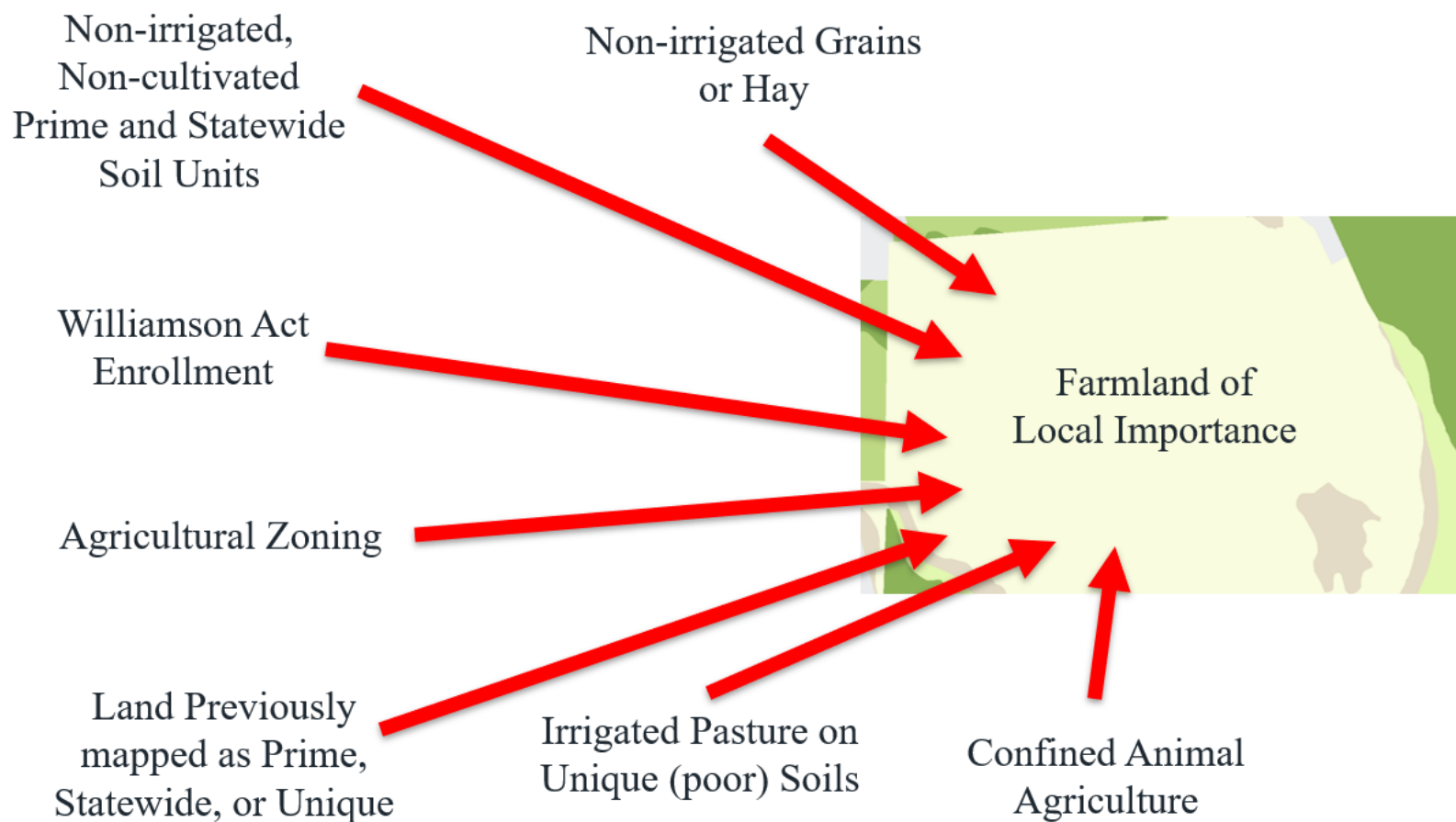
Unique
Farmland





Farmland of Local Importance

(possible definition components)





Additional Map Categories



[illegible]



GIS Data for Download

DLRP Data Downloads

D

Downloadable GIS data from the Division of Land Resource Protection, California Department of Conservation
owned by [DOCGIS](#)

Description

An in-depth description of the group is not available.

Recently added content

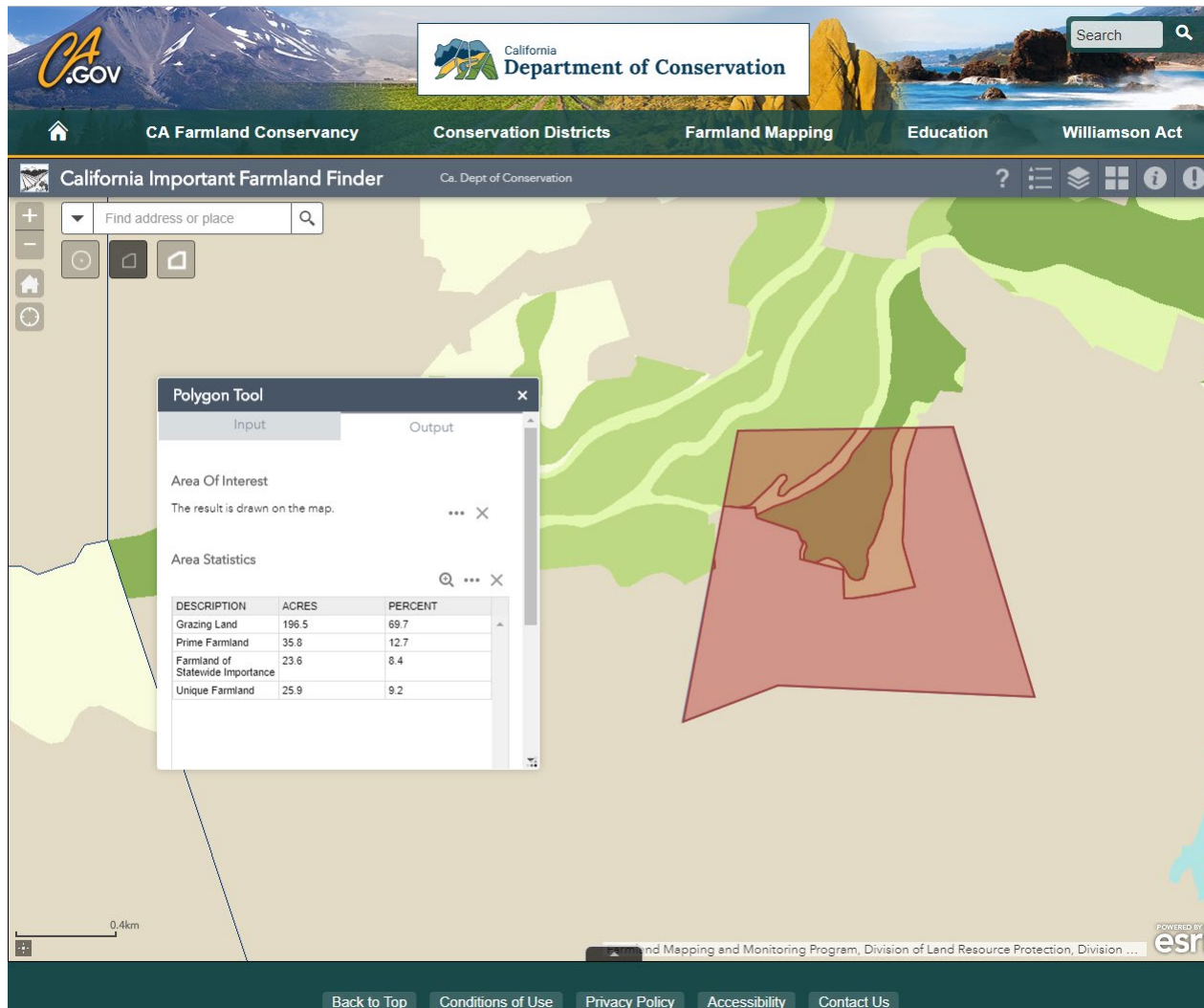
CA Important Farmland: 2020  File Geodatabase  2020 FMMP File Geodatabase File Geodatabase Created: Dec 27, 2024 Updated: Dec 27, 2024 Number of downloads: 237 DOCGIS  	CA Important Farmland: 2022  File Geodatabase  2022 FMMP File Geodatabase File Geodatabase Created: Dec 27, 2024 Updated: Apr 16, 2025 Number of downloads: 504 DOCGIS  	CA Important Farmland: 2014  File Geodatabase  2014 FMMP File Geodatabase File Geodatabase Created: Dec 9, 2024 Updated: Dec 9, 2024 Number of downloads: 43 DOCGIS  	California Williamson Act Enrollment 2023  Geodatabase  California Williamson Act Enr... File Geodatabase Created: Apr 12, 2024 Updated: Apr 12, 2024 Number of downloads: 629 DOCGIS  
CA Important Farmland: 2016 	California Williamson Act Enrollment 2022 	CA Important Farmland: 2018 	California Williamson Act Enrollment 2021 

<https://gis.conservation.ca.gov/portal/home/group.html?id=b1494c705cb34d01acf78f4927a75b8f#overview>



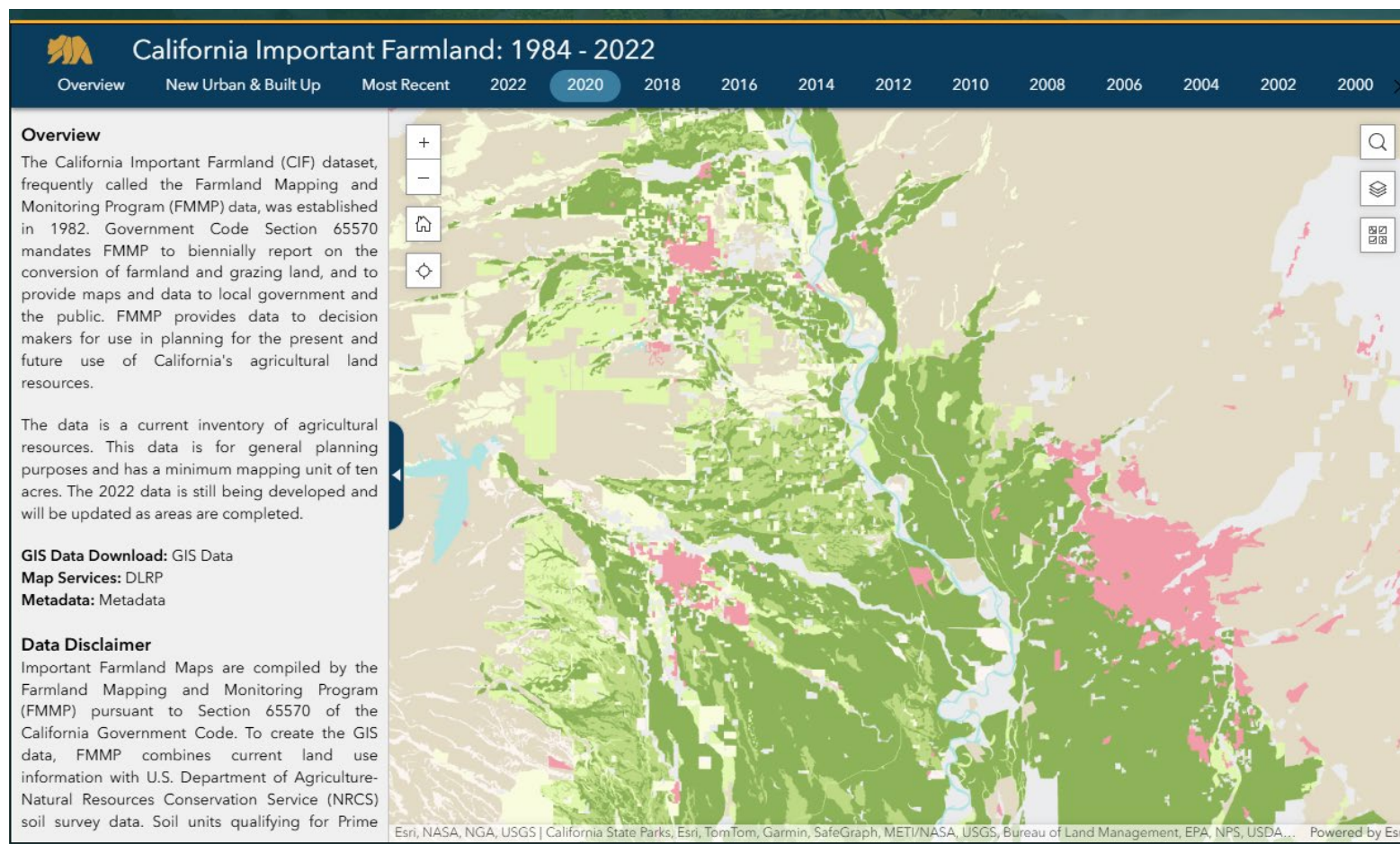
California Important Farmland Finder

<https://maps.conservation.ca.gov/DLRP/CIFF/>





Important Farmland Time Series



<https://maps.conservation.ca.gov/DLRP/CIFF/>



Land Use Conversion Table

**TABLE A-12
KINGS COUNTY
2018-2020 Land Use Conversion**

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
Division of Land Resource Protection

**PART I
County Summary and Change by Land Use Category**

LAND USE CATEGORY	TOTAL ACREAGE 2018	TOTAL ACREAGE 2020	2018-2020 ACRES LOST (-)	2018-2020 ACRES GAINED (+)	2018-2020 TOTAL ACREAGE CHANGED	2018-2020 NET ACREAGE CHANGED
Prime Farmland	107,913	109,698	2,623	4,408	7,031	1,785
Farmland of Statewide Importance	320,052	315,272	6,452	1,672	8,124	-4,780
Unique Farmland	20,531	20,272	274	15	289	-259
Farmland of Local Importance	10,534	10,514	64	44	108	-20
IMPORTANT FARMLAND SUBTOTAL	459,030	455,756	9,413	6,139	15,552	-3,274
Grazing Land	358,342	359,932	6,952	8,542	15,494	1,590
AGRICULTURAL LAND SUBTOTAL	817,372	815,688	16,365	14,681	31,046	-1,684
Urban and Built-up Land	39,428	40,930	125	1,627	1,752	1,502
Other Land	33,942	34,186	737	981	1,718	244
Water Area	62	0	62	0	62	-62
TOTAL AREA INVENTORIED	890,804	890,804	17,289	17,289	34,578	0

Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program

**PART II
Land Committed to Nonagricultural Use**

LAND USE CATEGORY	TOTAL ACREAGE 2020
Prime Farmland	DATA NOT AVAILABLE
Farmland of Statewide Importance	
Unique Farmland	
Farmland of Local Importance	
IMPORTANT FARMLAND SUBTOTAL	
Grazing Land	
AGRICULTURAL LAND SUBTOTAL	
Urban and Built-up Land	
Other Land	
Water Area	
TOTAL ACREAGE REPORTED	

PART III Land Use Conversion from 2018 to 2020

LAND USE CATEGORY	Prime Farmland	Farmland of Statewide Importance	Unique Farmland	Farmland of Local Importance	Subtotal Important Farmland	Grazing Land	Total Agricultural Land	Urban and Built-up Land	Other Land	Water Area	Total Converted To Another Use
Prime Farmland (1) to:	---	0	0	7	7	2,319	2,326	133	164	0	2,623
Farmland of Statewide Importance (2) to:	0	---	0	25	25	5,564	5,589	333	530	0	6,452
Unique Farmland (3) to:	0	0	---	0	0	252	252	13	9	0	274
Farmland of Local Importance (4) to:	7	13	2	---	22	4	26	0	38	0	64
IMPORTANT FARMLAND SUBTOTAL	7	13	2	32	54	8,139	8,193	479	741	0	9,413
Grazing Land (2) to:	4,291	1,624	12	12	5,939	---	5,939	875	138	0	6,952
AGRICULTURAL LAND SUBTOTAL	4,298	1,637	14	44	5,993	8,139	14,132	1,354	879	0	16,365
Urban and Built-up Land (3) to:	11	0	0	0	11	12	23	---	102	0	125
Other Land (4) to:	99	35	1	0	135	329	464	273	---	0	737
Water Area (4) to:	0	0	0	0	0	62	62	0	0	---	62
TOTAL ACREAGE CONVERTED	4,408	1,672	15	44	6,139	8,542	14,681	1,627	981	0	17,289

(1) Conversion to Grazing Land is primarily due to land left idle or land used for dryland grain production for three or more update cycles.

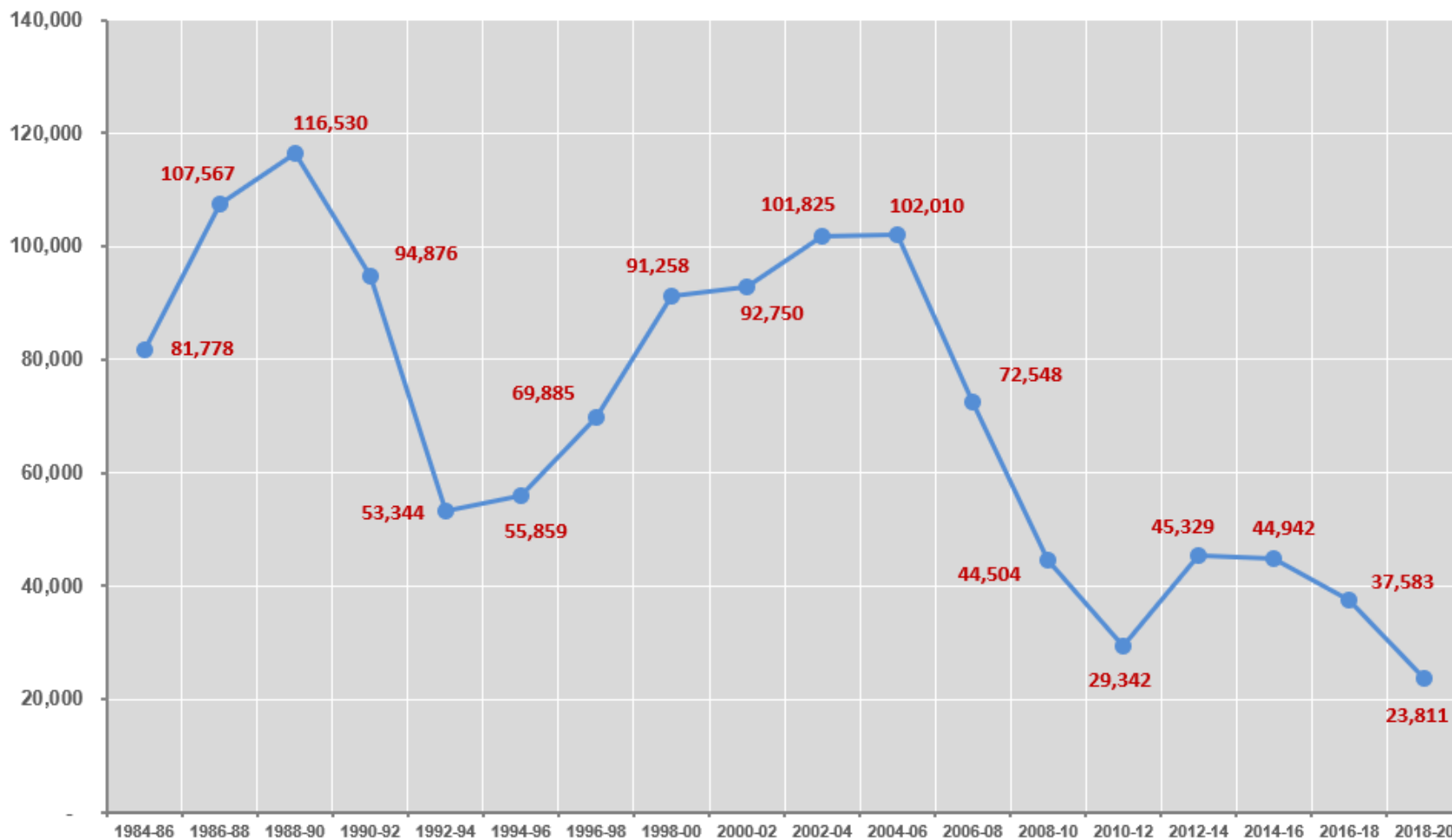
(2) Conversion to irrigated farmland is primarily due to the addition of irrigated orchards, row crops and field crops.

(3) Conversion from Urban and Built-up Land is primarily the result of a defunct golf course, land lacking sufficient infrastructure, and the use of detailed digital imagery to delineate more distinct urban boundaries.

(4) Conversion from Water due to a water body northeast of Lemoore Naval Air Station that had been dry for multiple updates.

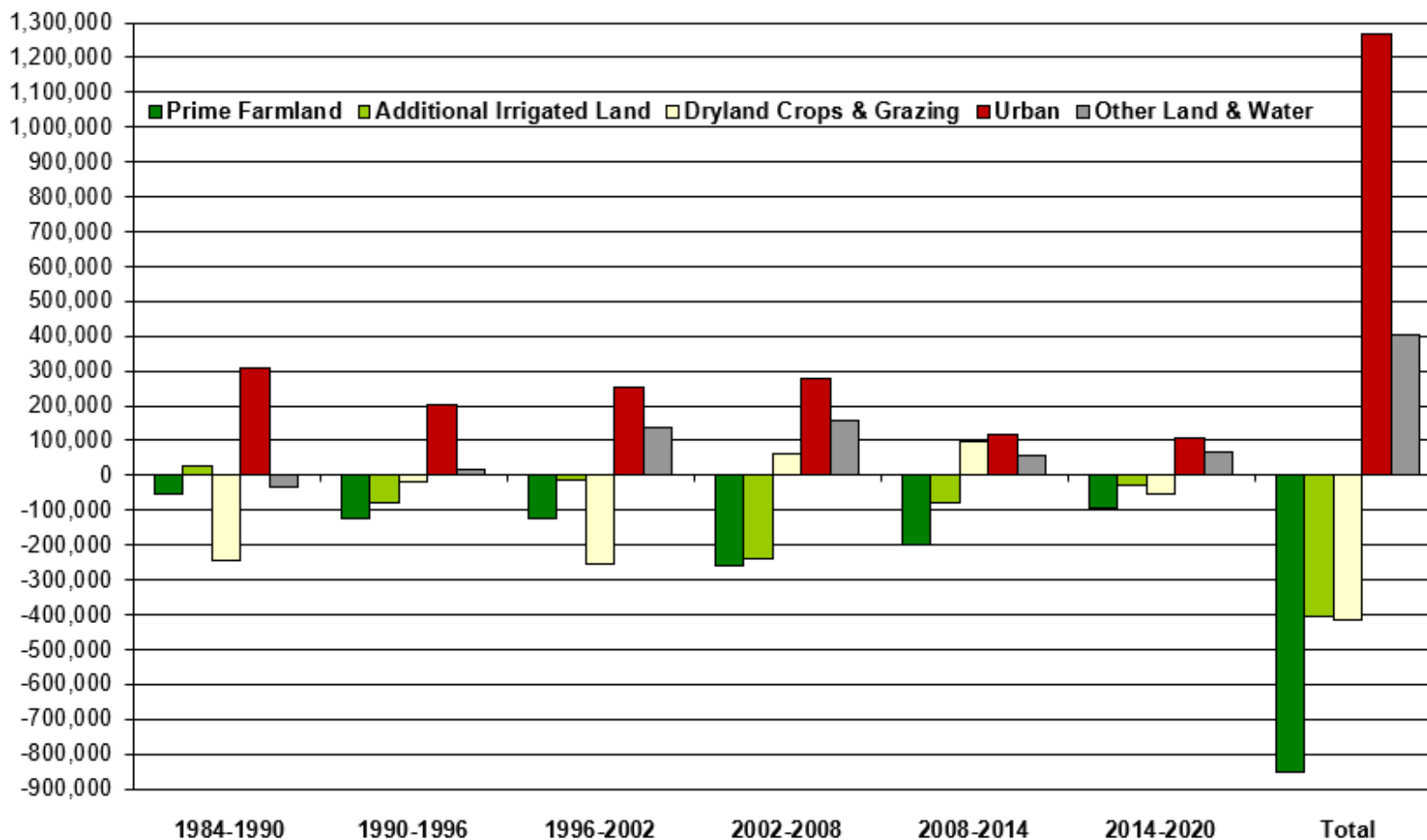


Net Urban Acreage Change 1984-2020





Net Acreage Change 1984-2020



Total irrigated farmland loss – 1,222,166 acres
Prime Farmland loss – 850,488 acres - 70% of total



#1 Urbanizing Region



1984-2014

Southern California

2014-2016

San Joaquin Valley

2016-2018

Southern California

2018-2020

Southern California

2018-2020
Urbanization
Totals

Southern California 12,726 acres
San Joaquin Valley 12,279 acres



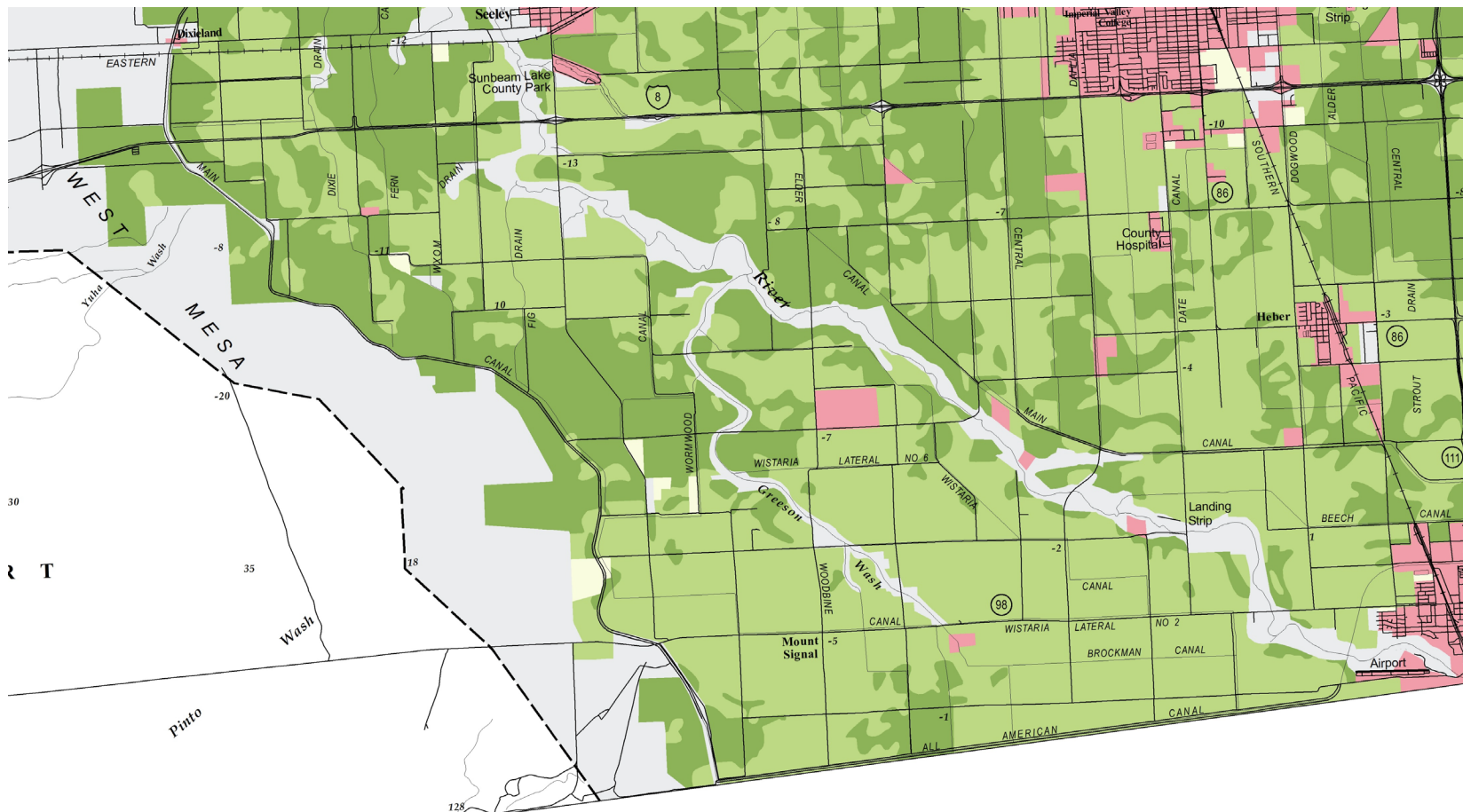
New Urban Due to Solar (within FMMP survey area)

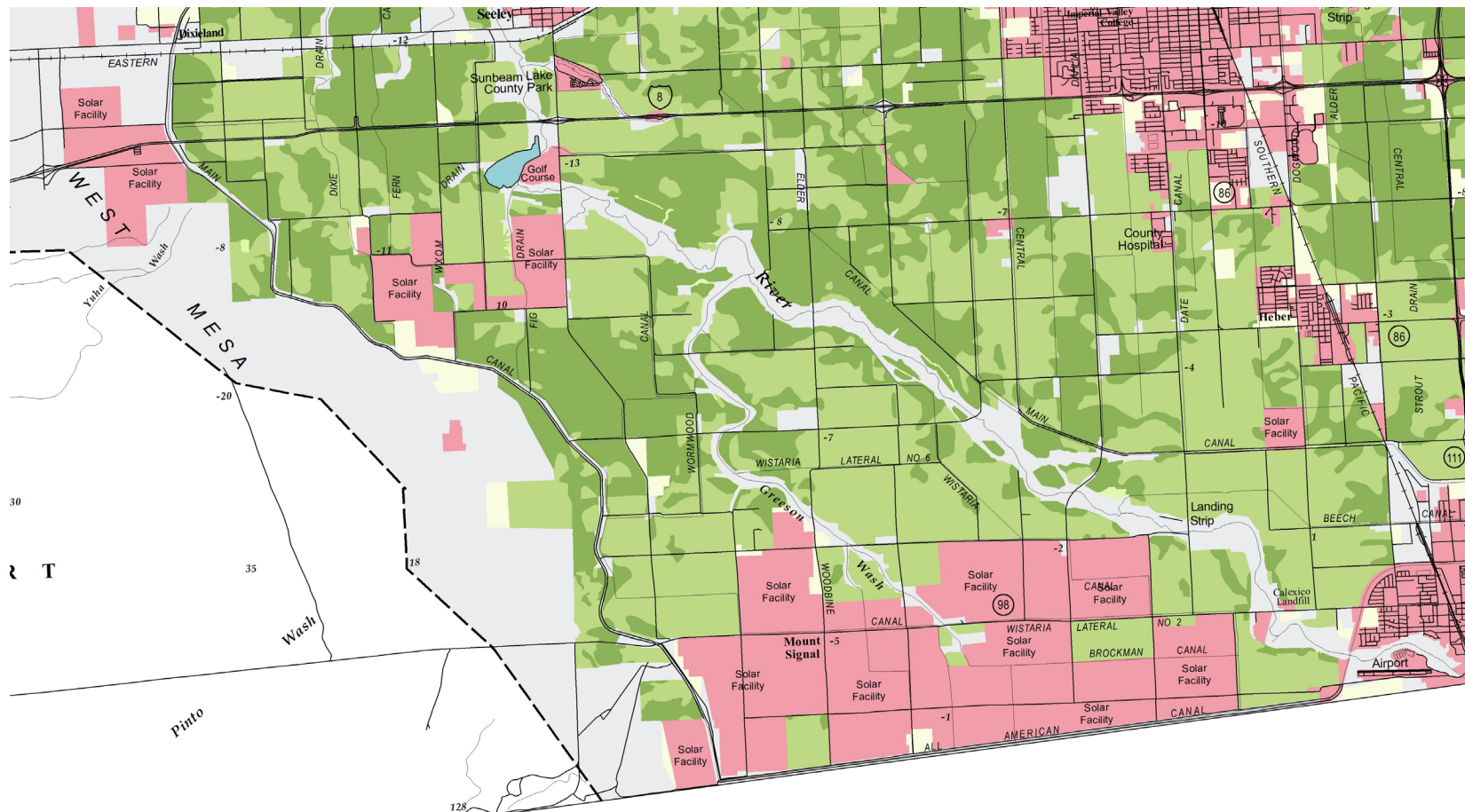
- 2012-2014 19,809 acres
- 2014-2016 19,744 acres
- 2016-2018 17,192 acres
- 2018-2020 10,499 acres



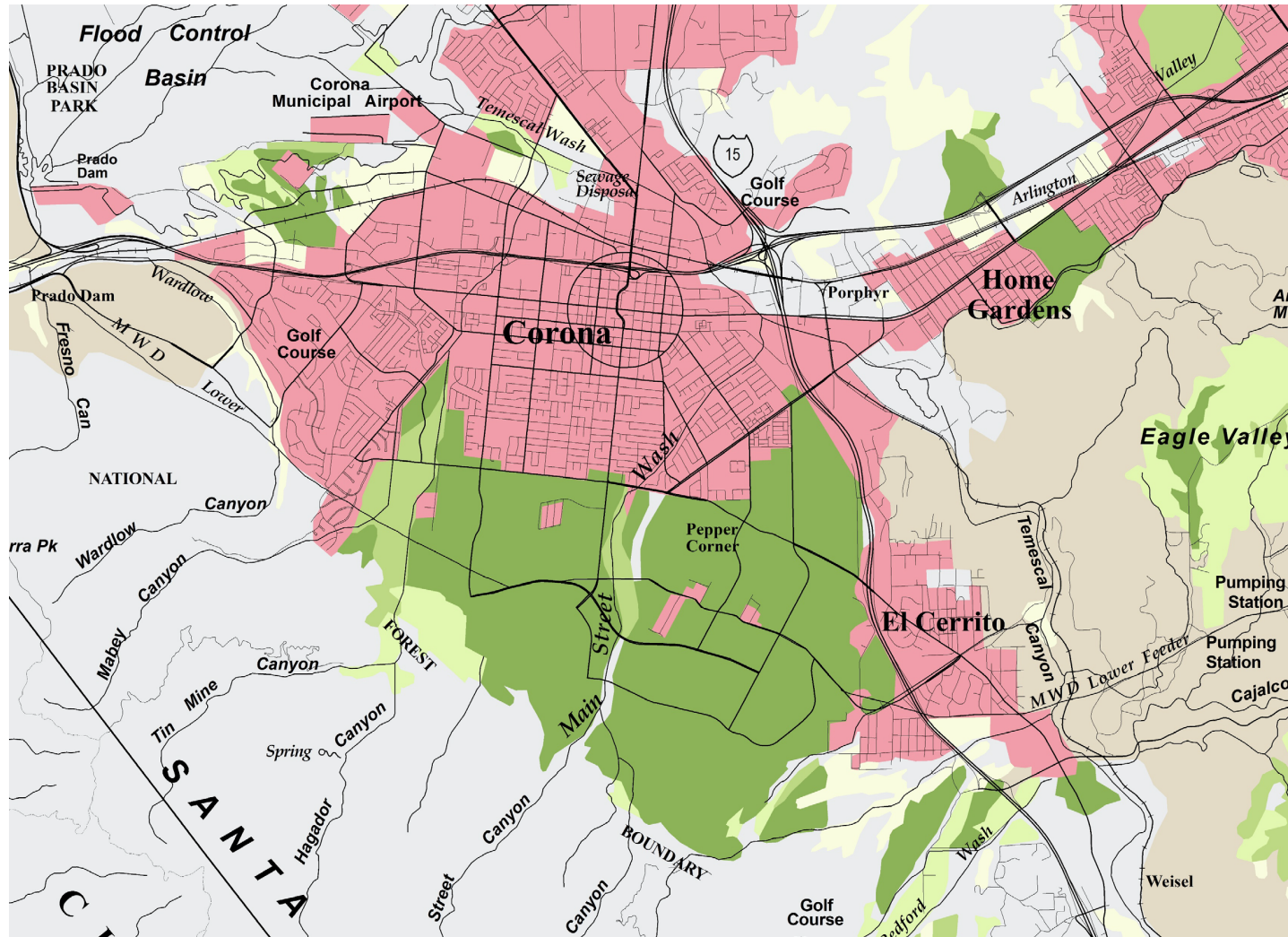


Solar, Imperial County 1984

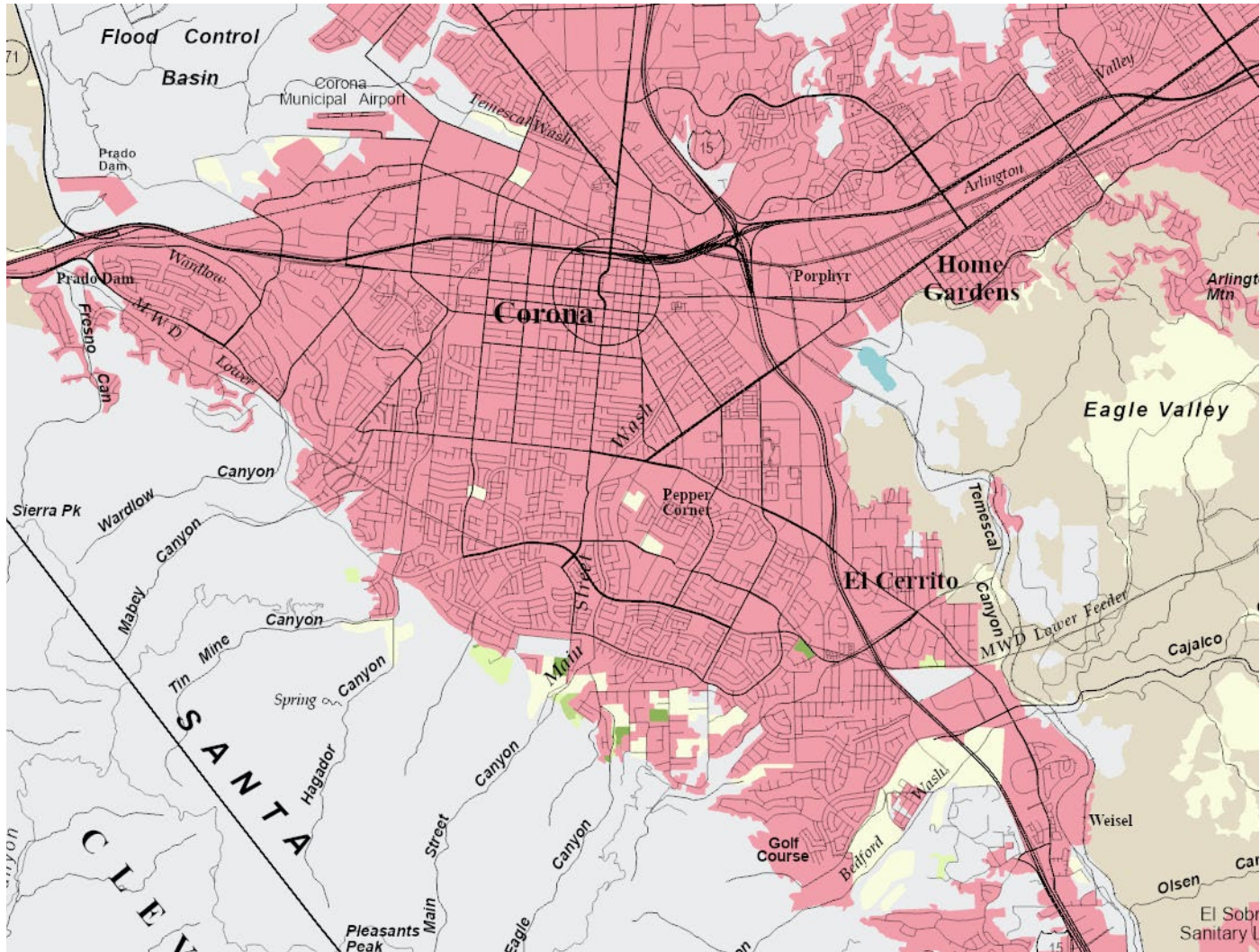




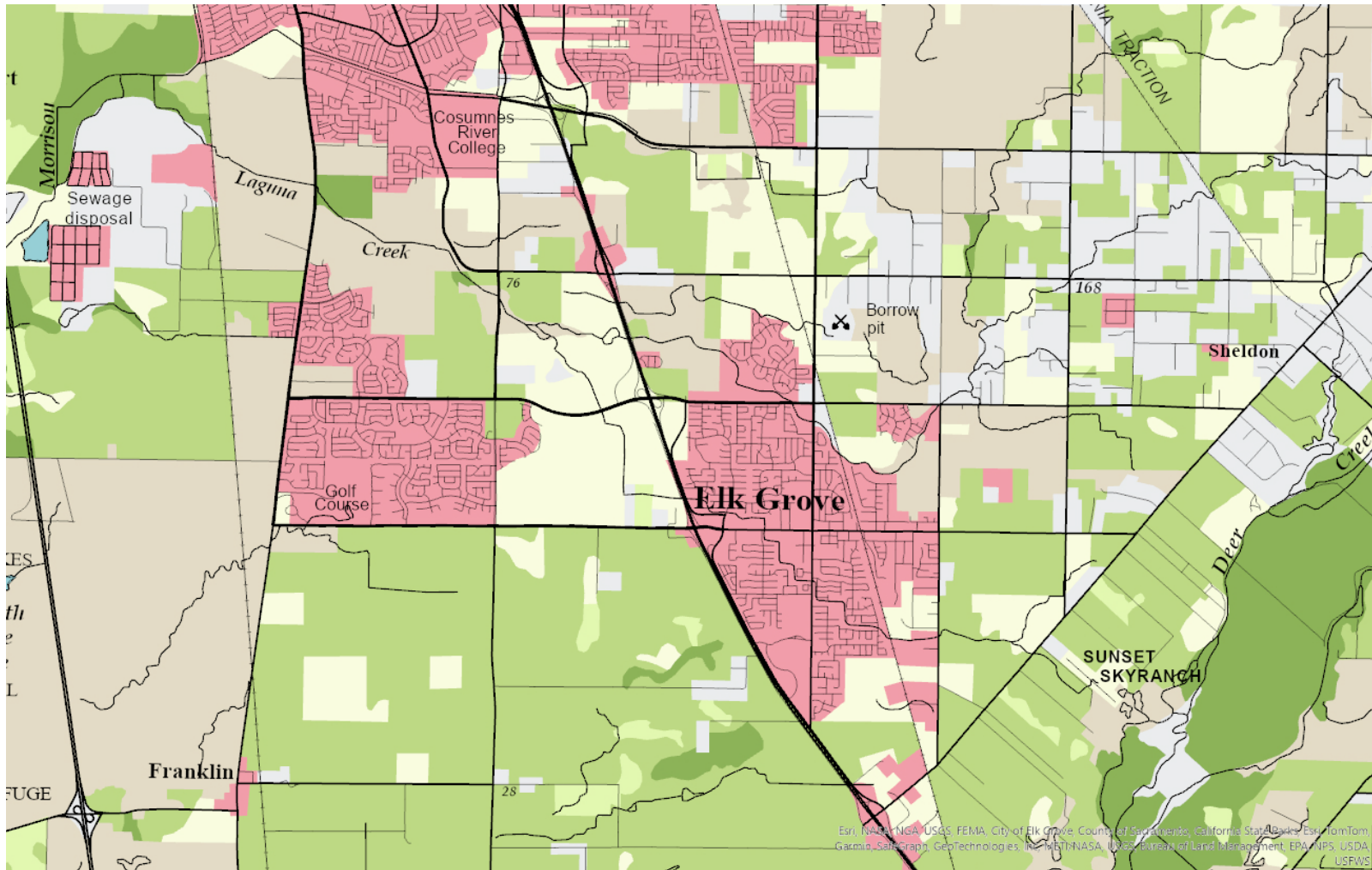
Corona, Riverside County 1984



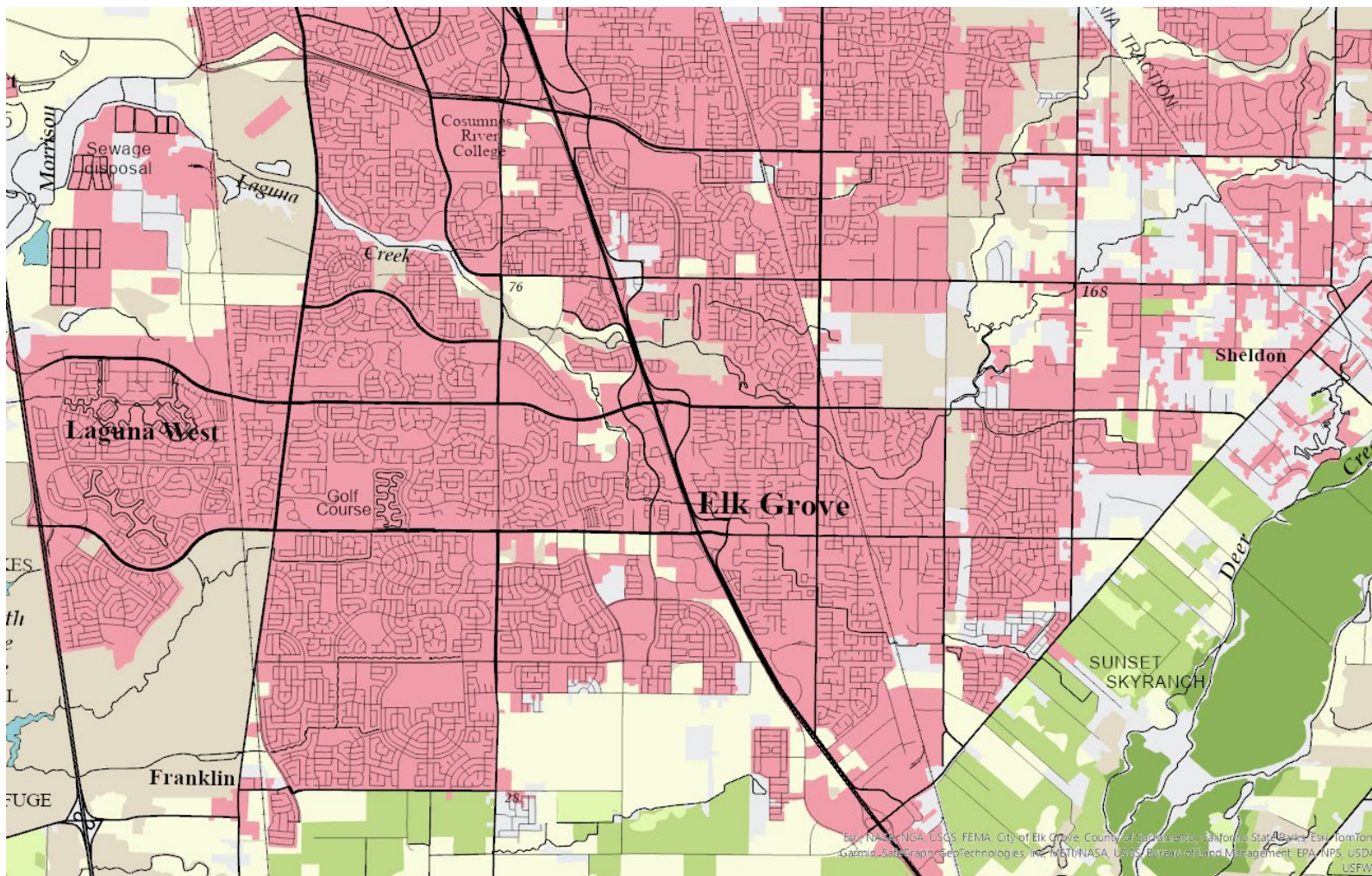
Corona, Riverside County 2020



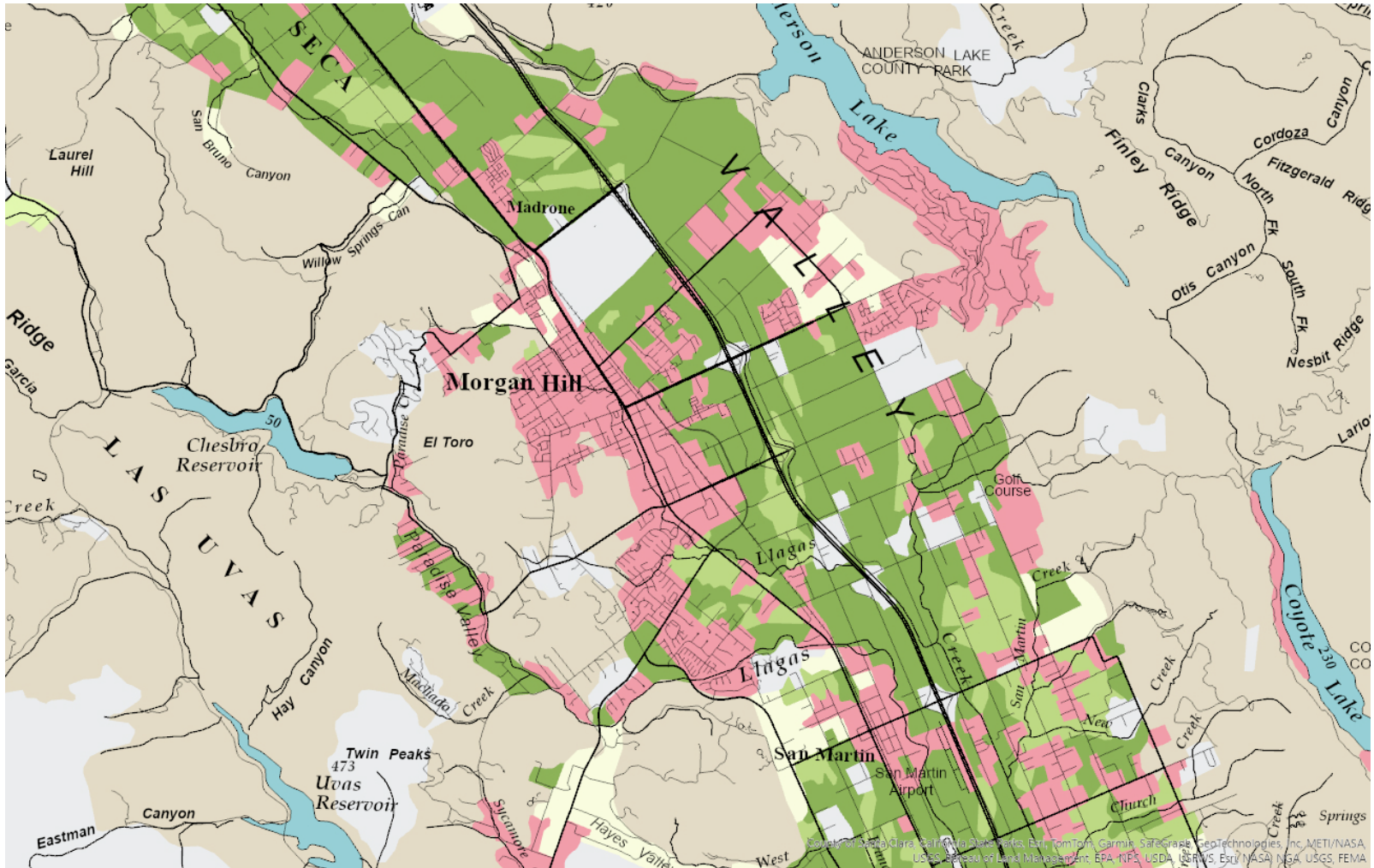
Elk Grove, Sacramento County 1988



Elk Grove, Sacramento County 2020

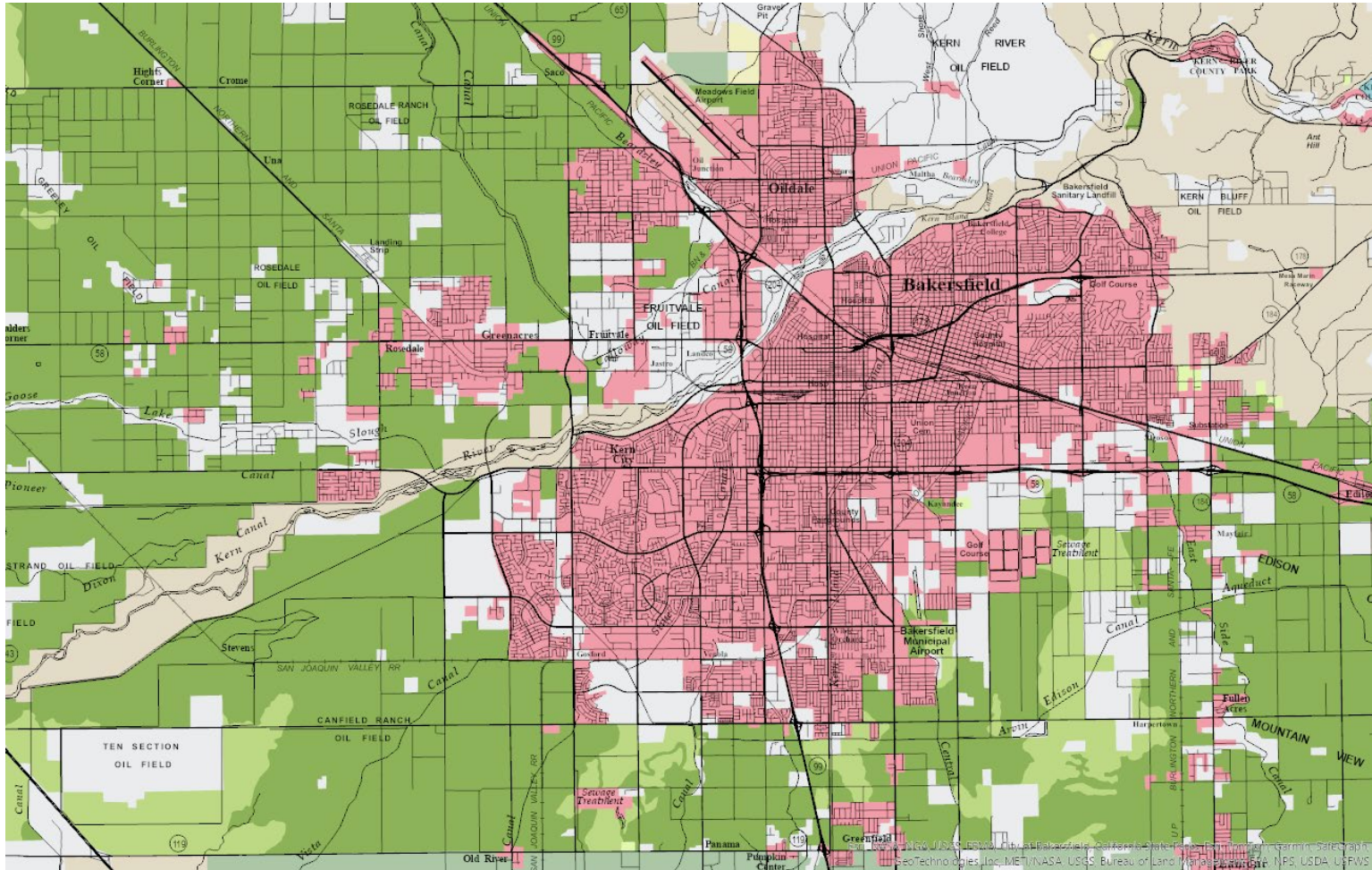


Morgan Hill, Santa Clara County 1988

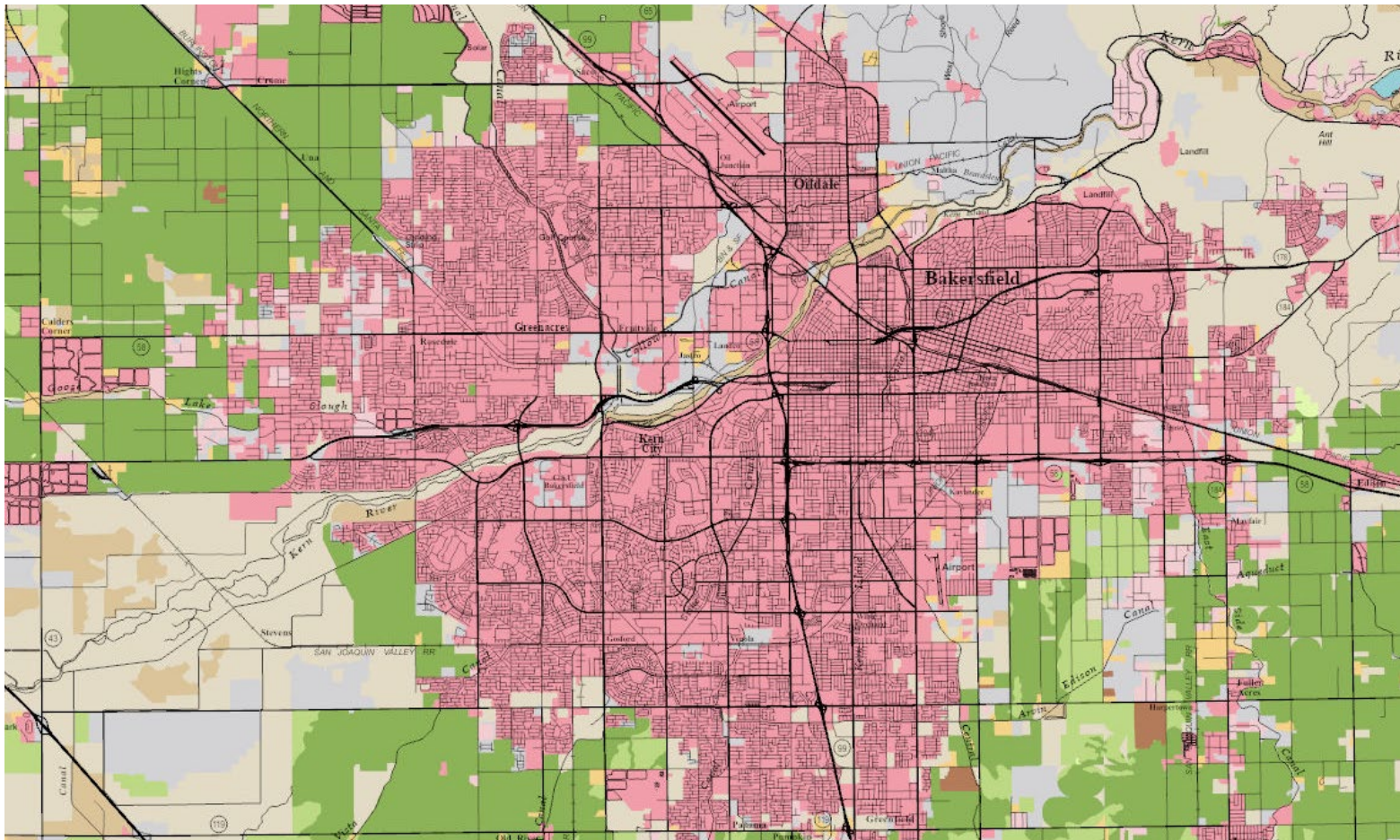




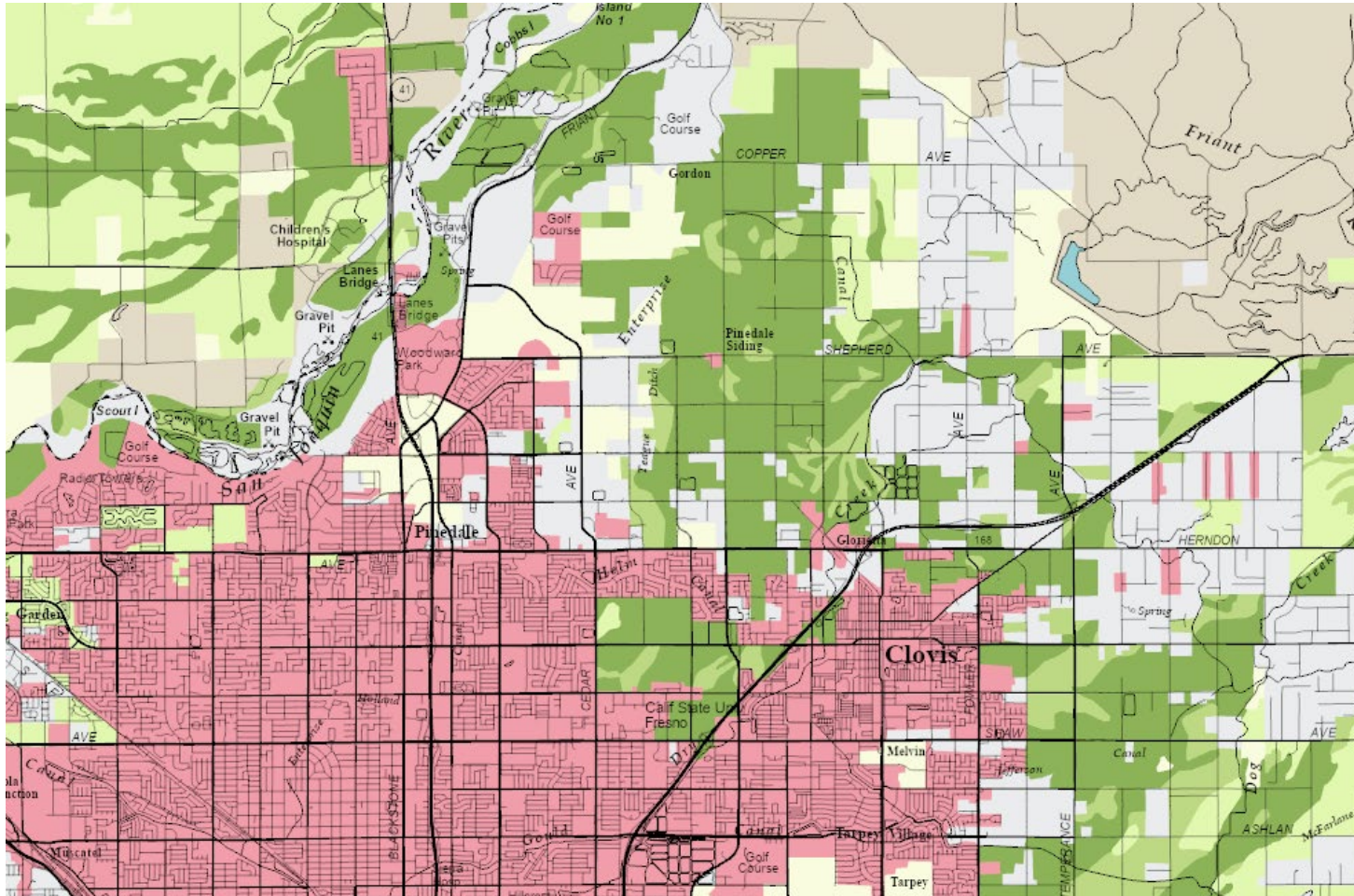
Bakersfield, Kern County 1988



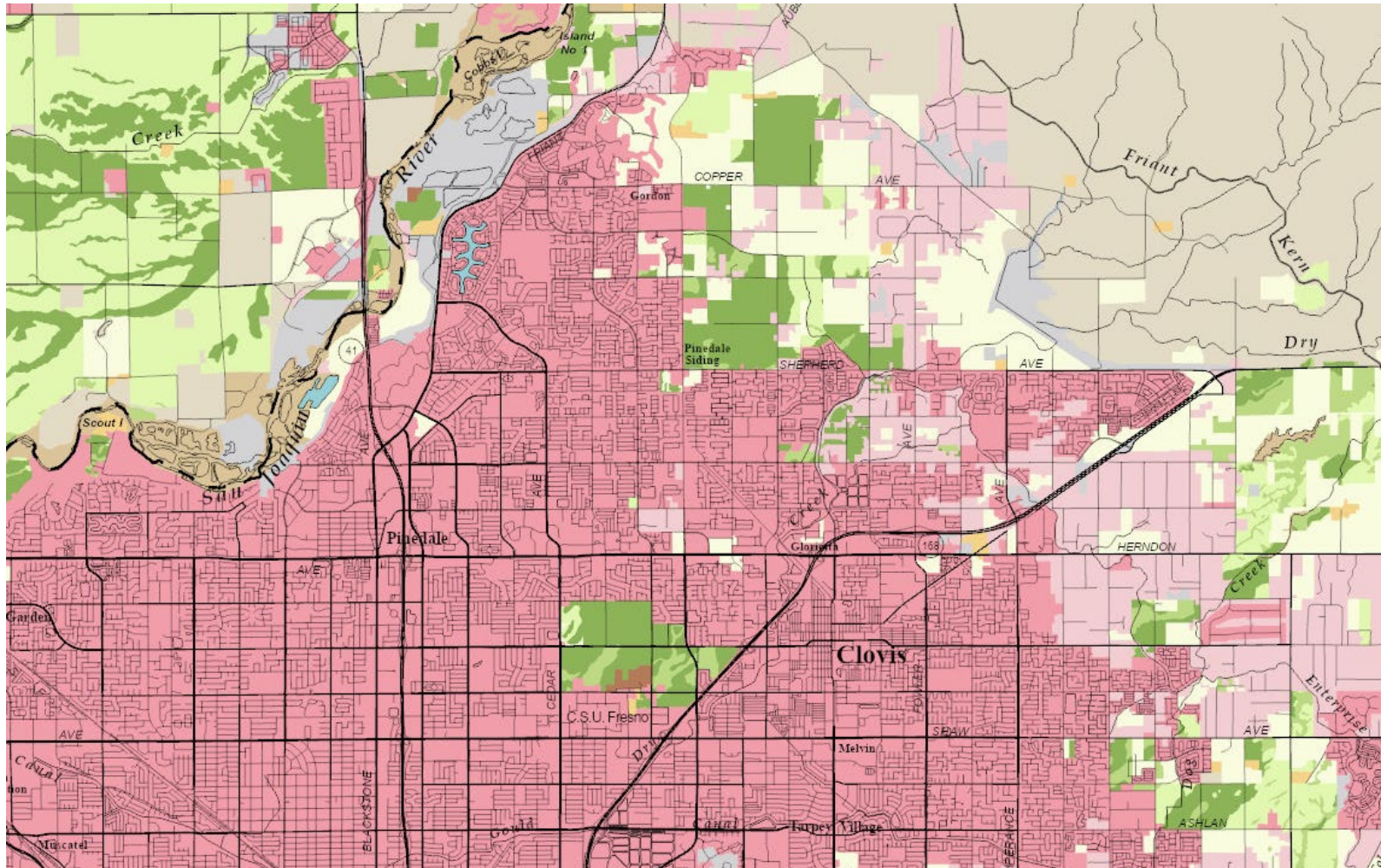
Bakersfield, Kern County 2022



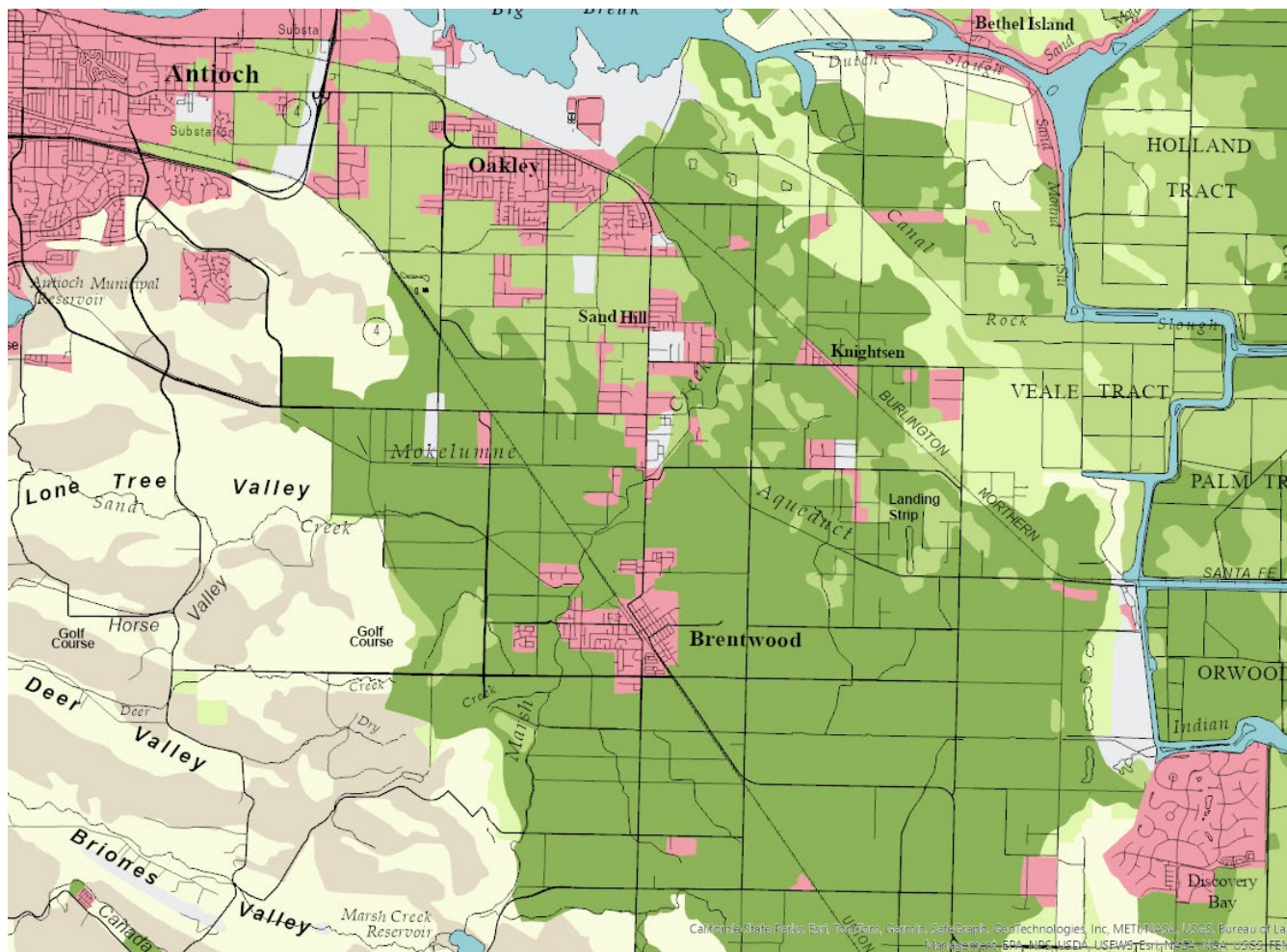
Clovis, Fresno County 1984



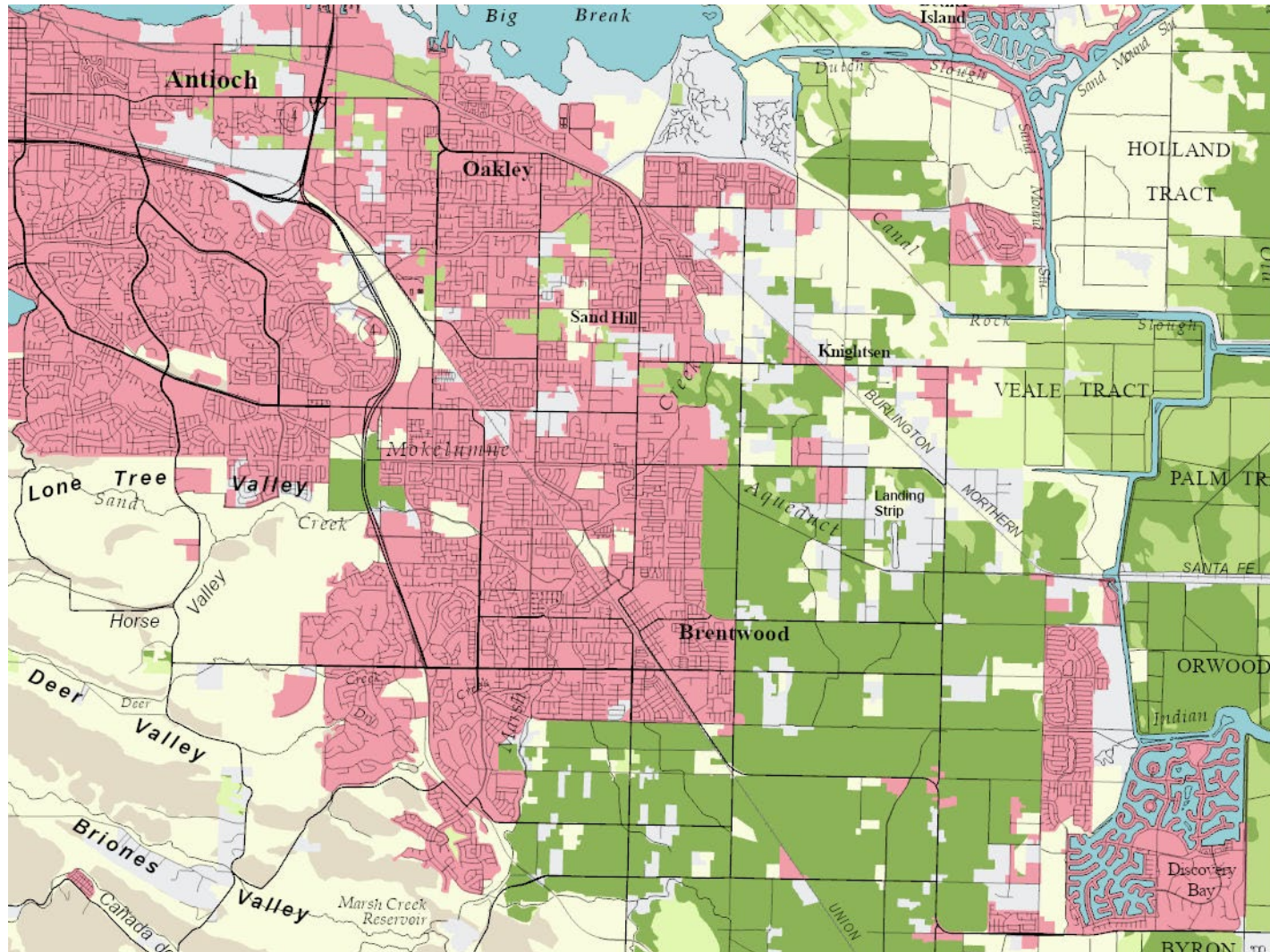
Clovis, Fresno County 2022



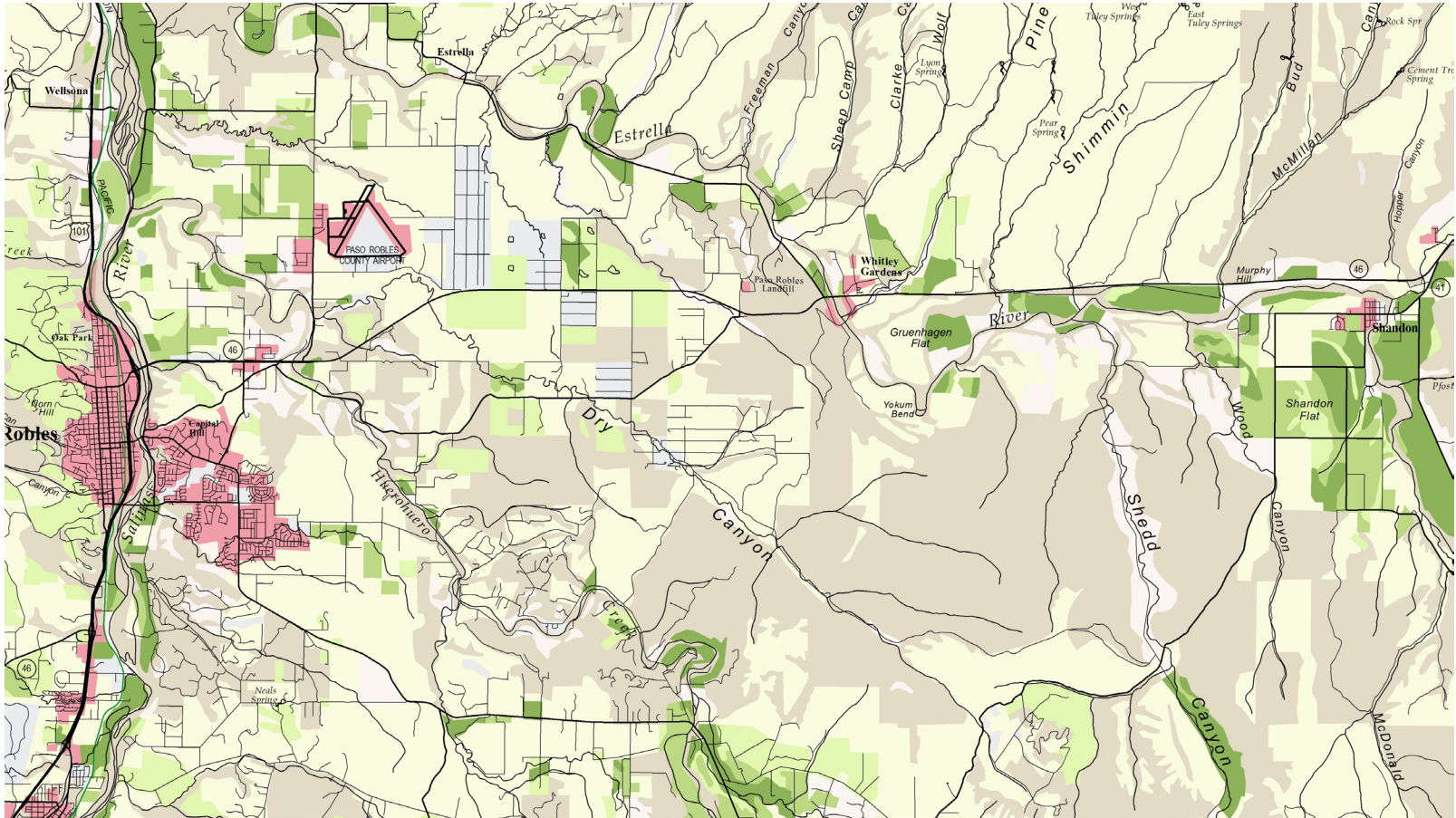
Brentwood, Contra Costa County 1984



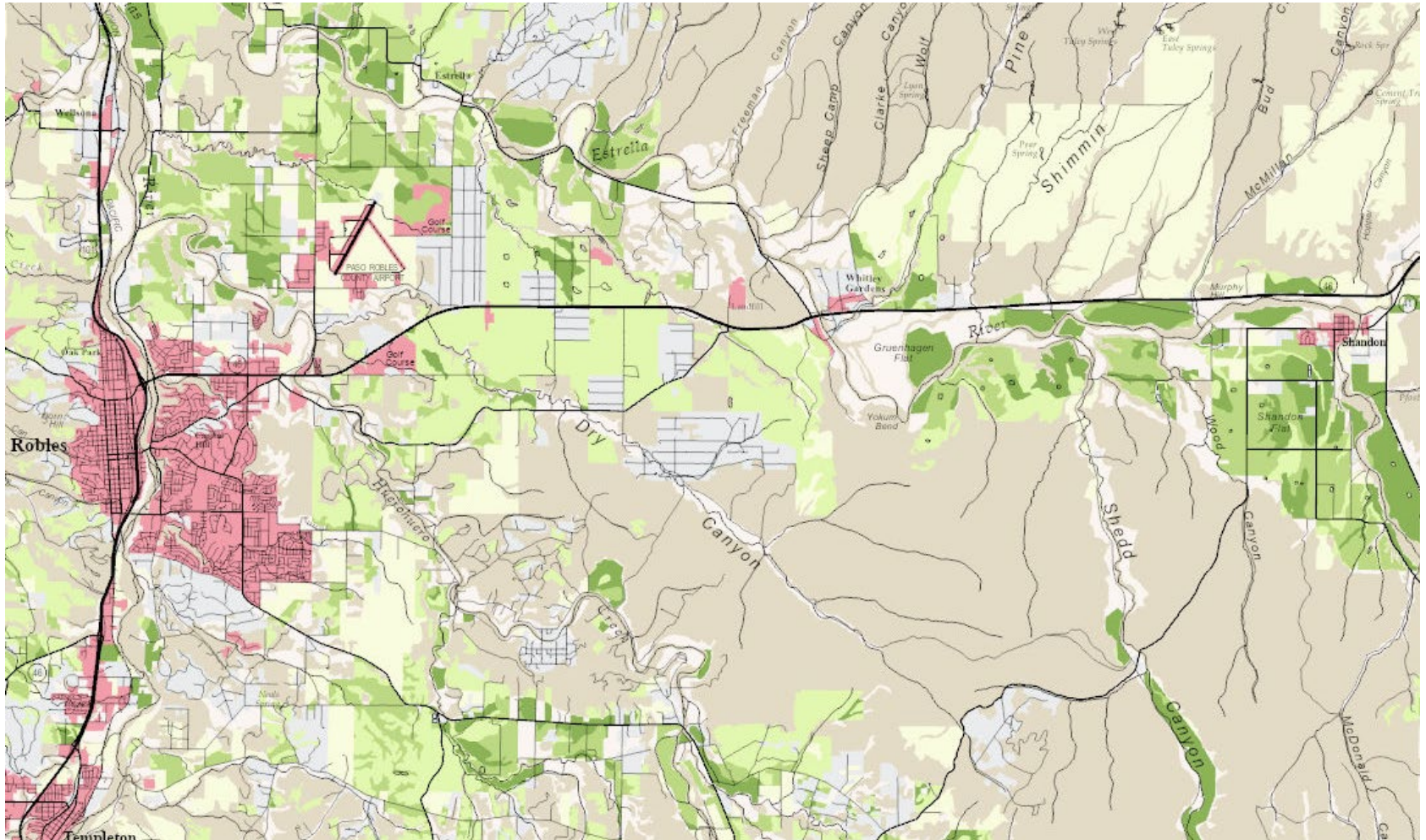
Brentwood, Contra Costa County 2022



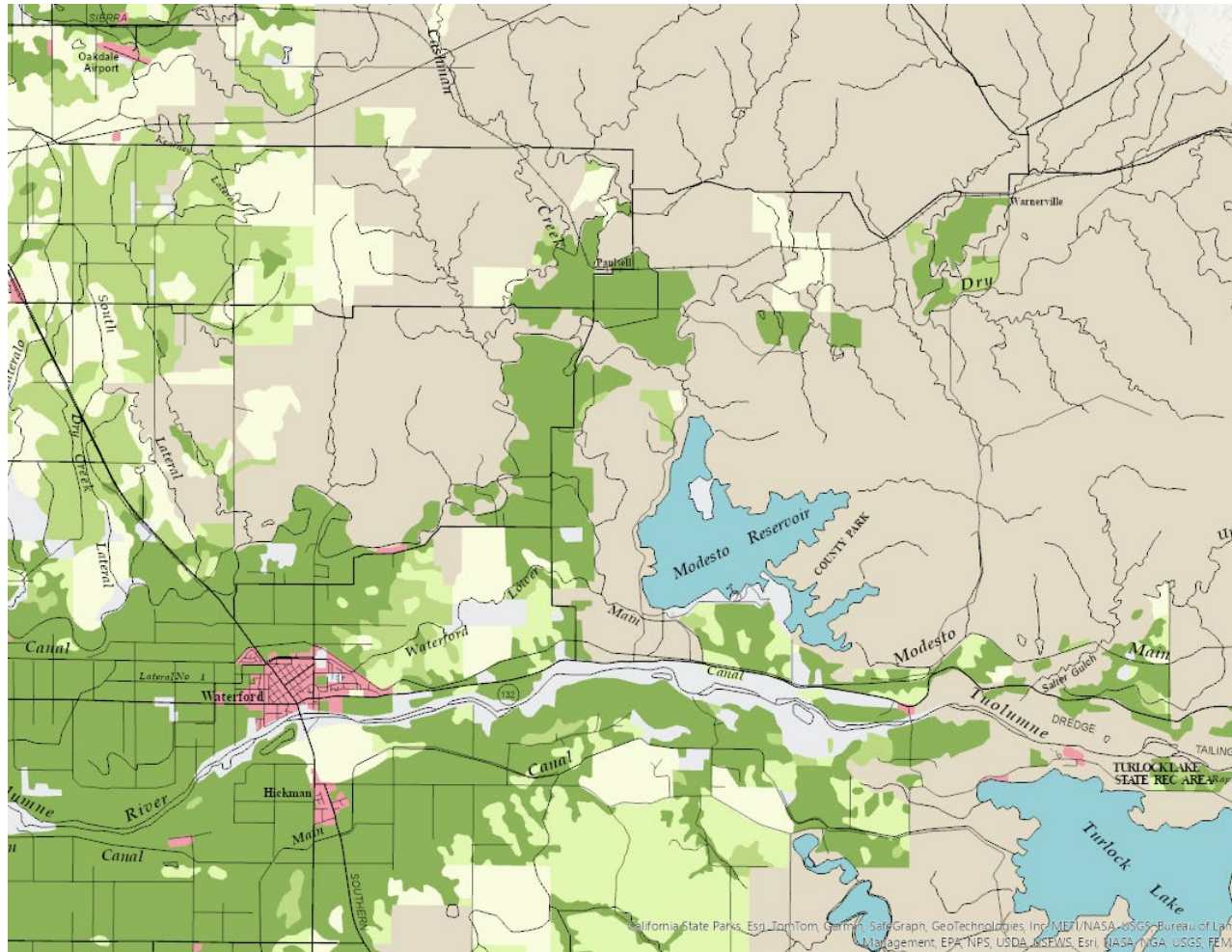
Paso Robles, San Luis Obispo County 1988



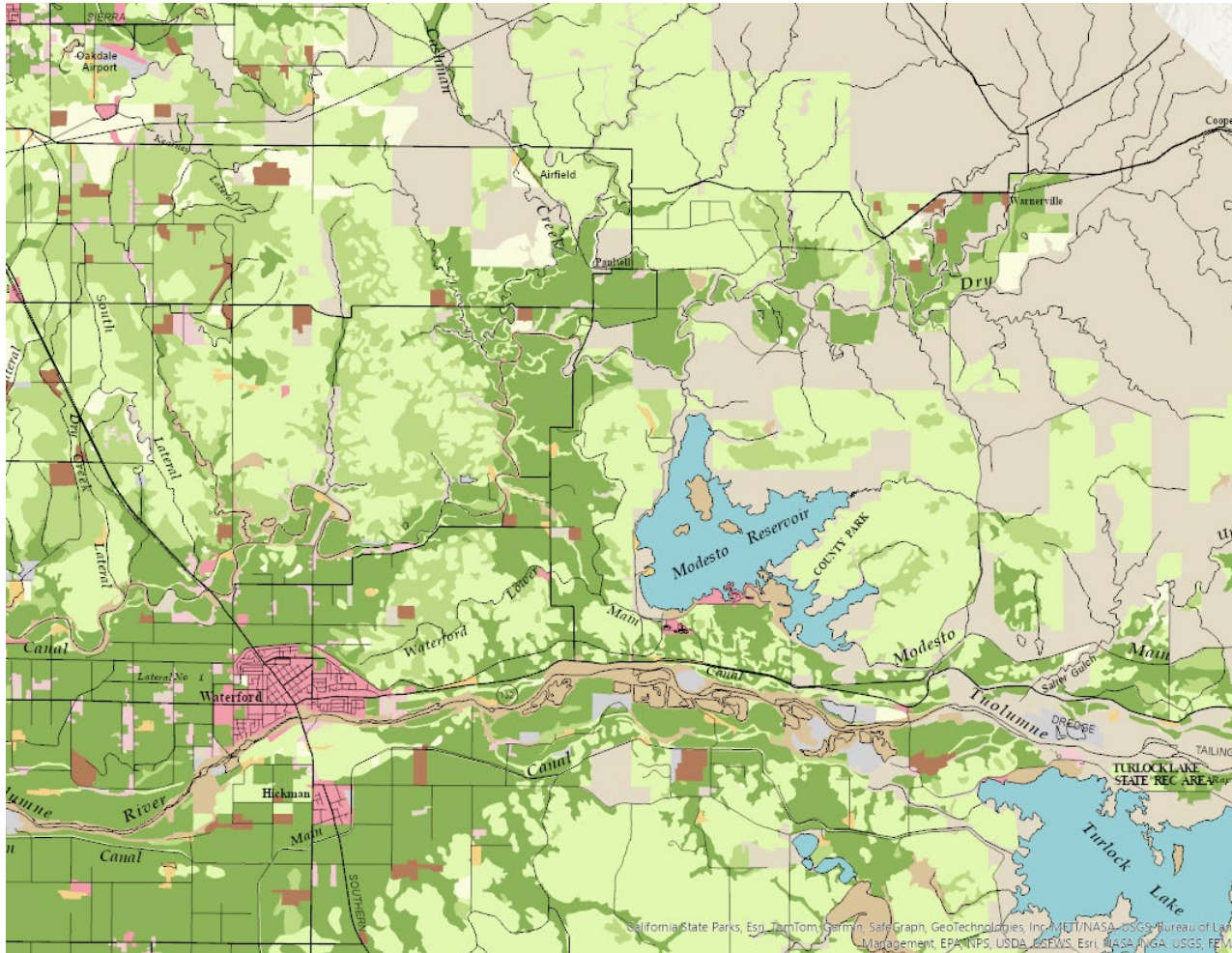
Paso Robles, San Luis Obispo County 2020



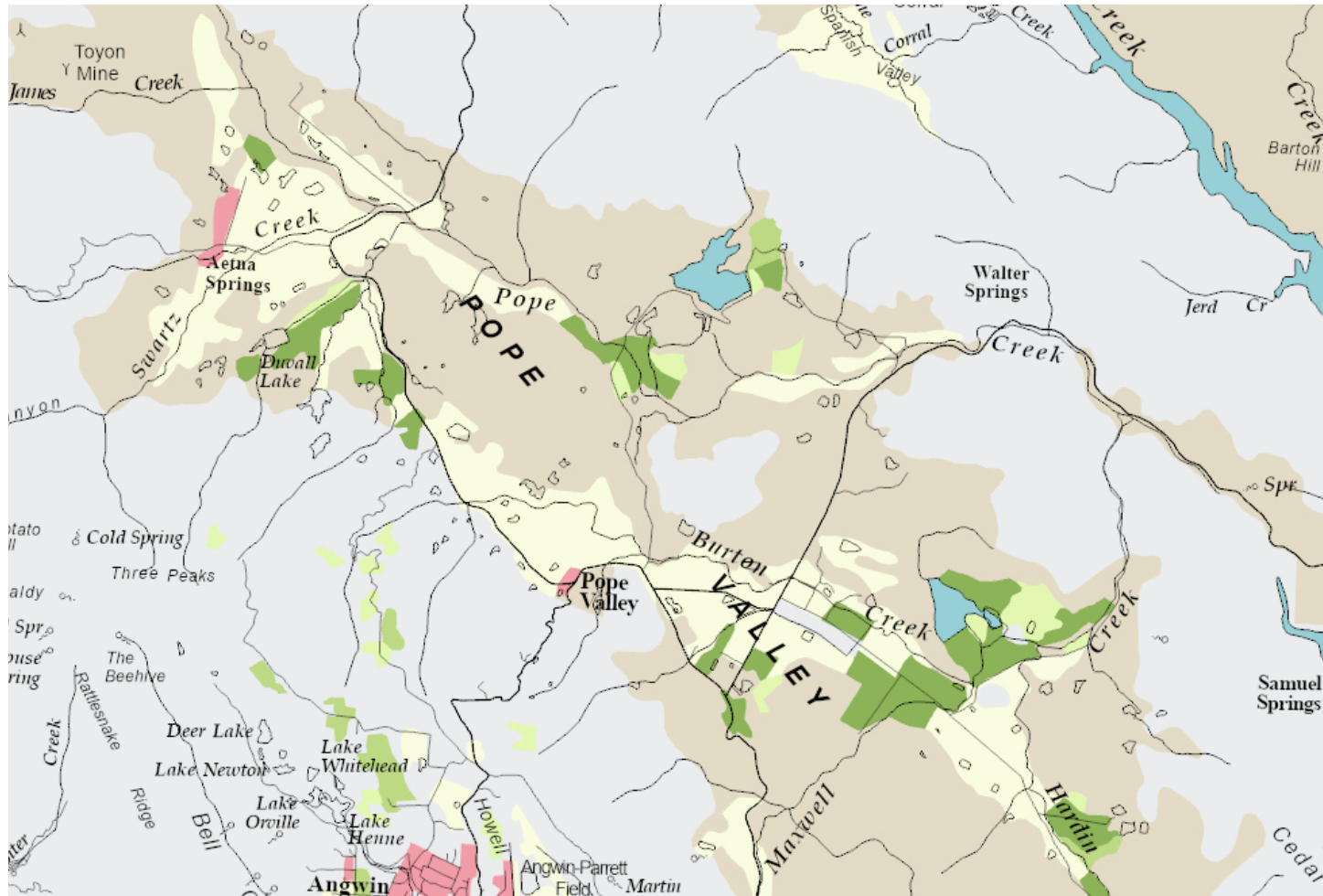
Eastern Stanislaus County 1984



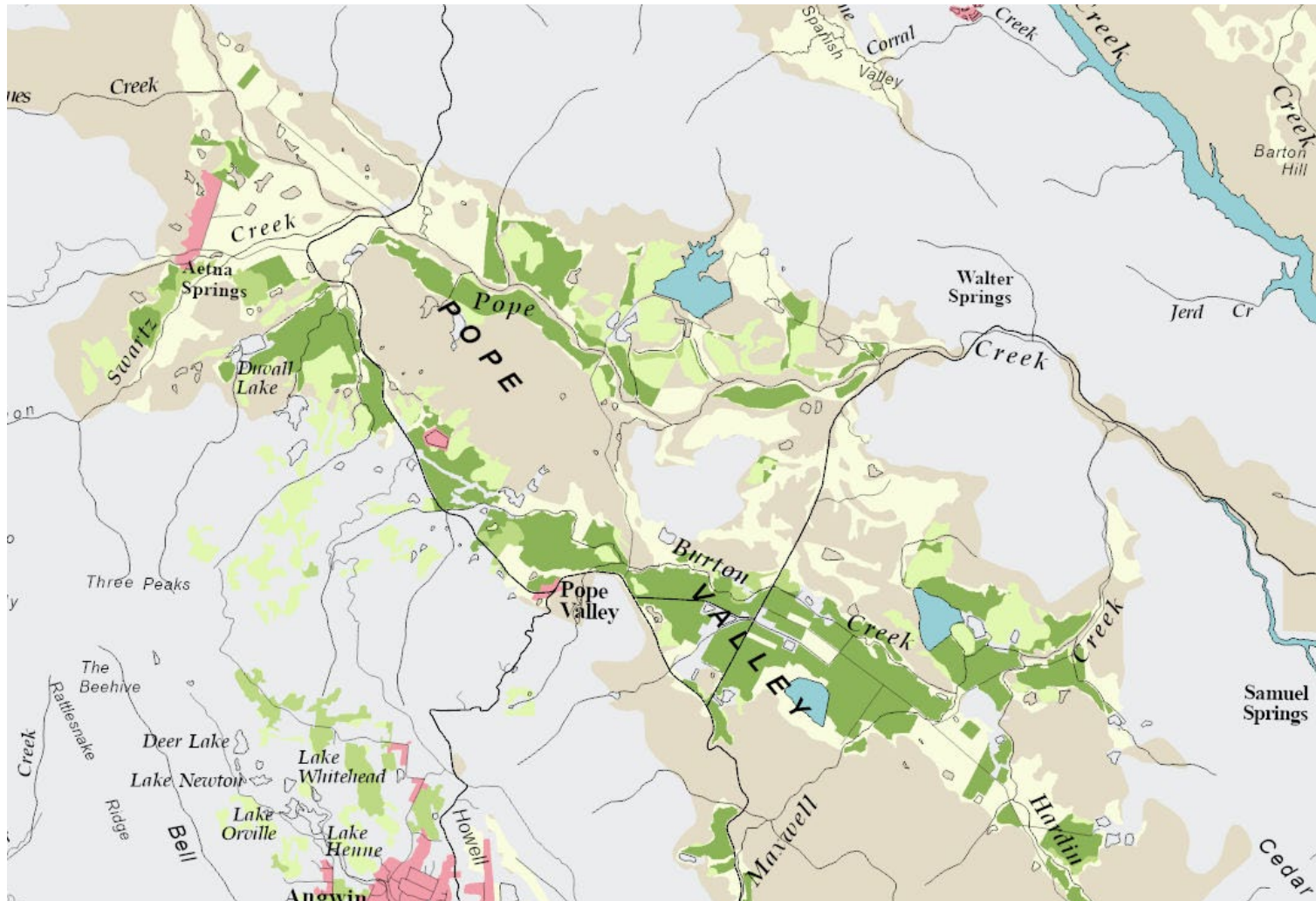
Eastern Stanislaus County 2020



Pope Valley, Napa County 1984



Pope Valley, Napa County 2022





Farmland Mapping & Monitoring Program

<https://www.conservation.ca.gov/dlrp/fmmp>
fmmp@conservation.ca.gov



Photo: M. Kisko



References

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Gridded Soil Survey Geographic (gSSURGO) Database.

<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov>

U.S. Department of Agriculture, Farm Services Agency, National Agricultural Imagery Program.

<https://www.fsa.usda.gov>



Photo: M. Kisko