

**California Department of Conservation
Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program**

2000 FIELD REPORT

COUNTY: Napa

FIELD MAPPER(S): Michael Kisko

PHOTOGRAPHY:

source: NASA-Ames
date: September 14, 1999
scale: 1:130,000
film type: CIR transparency
coverage gaps: None

WRITTEN OR ORAL INFORMATION SOURCES: *Please list which local governments, interest groups, or individuals submitted comments on the 1998 maps. Also list all phone and in-person contacts made while conducting the 2000 update.*

➤ *local review comments*

cities:
county: Patricia Hornisher
others:

➤ *personal contacts:* Jim Swanson w/ the Department of Fish and Game regarding the Napa-Sonoma Marsh (Jswanson@dfg.ca.gov)
Virginia Boucher w/ U.C. Davis regarding the Quail Ridge Ecological Reserve (vlboucher@ucdavis.edu)

➤ *websites:*

Napa Valley Gateway Business Park: <http://www.napagateway.com/index.html>
Napa-Sonoma Marsh: <http://sfbay.wr.usgs.gov/access/saltponds/nsmarsh.html>
CA Wetlands Info. System: <http://ceres.ca.gov/wetlands/>
Quail Ridge Reserve: <http://www.ice.ucdavis.edu/nrs/quail.html>

1998-2000 CHANGES*: *Please summarize the most common changes to the maps. List representative locations (quads) of each type of change encountered. Make sure to list and describe particularly large, unusual or notable changes and give estimates of the acreage involved.*

➤ P, S, U → D

There were few conversions of farmland to urban land this update, with only 10 changes taking place in Napa County and about half of these being simple

farmland/urban boundary adjustments. The most notable conversions took place in Yountville where the new Yountville Golf Course (a 9-hole facility ~90 acres) was added adjacent to the Yountville Veterans Home and the Villagio Inn and Spa was added across the highway. Other conversions of farmland to urban land this update included approximately 30 acres of new homes and buildings in the Napa area, an expansion of an existing baseball field in Angwin (St. Helena quad), and an expansion (~8 acres) of the boundaries of Crane Park in the St. Helena area (Rutherford quad).

➤ L, G, X → D

The urbanization of local, grazing, and other land made a good “showing” this update with 19 conversions taking place countywide with much of the change centered around the Napa County Airport (Cuttings Wharf quad). Approximately 150 acres of new warehouse/industrial buildings were added in the vicinity of the Napa County Airport. Much of this urbanization can be attributed to the new Napa Valley Gateway Business Park. It has really started to grow with the addition of lots of new warehouse/industrial buildings. Some of the new tenants include Santen, Inc. (an eye care pharmaceutical company), A.P. Tech (a company which makes precision valves and regulators), and G&W Management. There is room for continued growth as not all of the lots in the business park have been filled so watch for future growth! Another notable conversion south of the Napa County Airport area is the new CDM Engineers and Constructors building which, along with several other new buildings in this heavily industrial area, total approximately 25 acres. Finally, new homes and buildings in the Napa and American Canyon areas (Cordelia quad) accounted for approximately 100 more acres of development on local, grazing, or “other” lands.

➤ P, S, U → L, G

Not much farmland was converted to local or grazing land this update with only 8 conversions taking place countywide. Half of these conversions took place in the hills near Aetna Springs, all of which were due to land being fallow for three updates. The remaining conversions were also areas of farmland in various mountainous parts of the county that had been fallow for three updates.

➤ P, S, U → X

There were a modest 10 conversions of farmland to other land throughout Napa County this update. These conversions were fairly evenly distributed throughout the county and were mainly the result of farmland having been fallow for three updates, as well as various farmland boundary adjustments. A few winery buildings and farm ponds were also added this update. The most notable addition made during this update was a quarry along Highway 29 near Napa Junction.

➤ L, G, X → P, S, U

Agriculture is definitely going strong in Napa County! There were 100 conversions of local, grazing, or other land to farmland this update! These conversions of land going from local, grazing, or “other” uses to agriculture were centered in the Napa Valley with almost a third of the conversions taking place directly on the Napa quad (29 changes)! Three of the new plots on the Napa quad totaled 360 acres by themselves! The vast

majority of these conversions were, of course, due to new plantings of vines (wine grapes).

However, other areas besides Napa, proper, are also experiencing a boom in wine grape planting or replanting. One particularly notable new planting is a 600-acre plot of new vines in the hills just south of the Chardonnay Golf Club, along Highway 29 near Napa Junction (Cordelia quad). Other notable plantings of new vines include the Hess Vineyards near Aetna Springs with approximately 280 acres of new vines and two plots of new vines totaling approximately 350 acres in the Pope Valley on the St. Helena quad. Other plantings of new vines were found distributed throughout the county with Calistoga (10 changes), Yountville (10 changes), Cuttings Wharf (8 changes), Chiles Valley (7 changes), Rutherford (7 changes), and Mt. George (5 changes) quads all showing significant conversions.

➤ **UNUSUAL:** *Category changes, complications with the Farmland of Local Importance definition, or any other special circumstances in 2000.*

G→X On the Lake Berryessa quad, the Quail Ridge Ecological Reserve (400+ acres) was added and there is no grazing allowed in the reserve.

G→X On the Cuttings Wharf quad, approximately 90 acres was removed from grazing on lands which are part of the Napa-Sonoma Marsh in which grazing is not allowed.

W→X On the Cuttings Wharf quad, an old salt pond which had been mismapped as a waterbody and is now part of the Napa-Sonoma Marsh was removed from "W."

Soil line adjustments

As part of the normal update process, while adding new farmland, I found various soil lines which needed to be adjusted.

PROBLEM AREAS: *What locations and map categories need careful checking in 2002? Why?*

OUT OF DATE BASE MAPS: *Please list any base maps used for update or publication of this county which are woefully out of date due to extensive new development, road construction, etc.*

None

LABOR ESTIMATE: *Please estimate the amount of time spent on the following tasks.*

<i>photo interpretation, start date:</i>	March 14, 2001
<i>photo interpretation, number of days:</i>	6
<i>ground truthing dates:</i>	March 27 th , 28 th , and 29 th
<i># days for map compilation and clean up:</i>	7

* **Note:** P = Prime Farmland; S = Farmland of Statewide Importance; U = Unique Farmland; L = Farmland of Local Importance; G = Grazing Land; D = Urban and Built-up Land; X = Other Land; W = Water Areas; I = Irrigated Farmland; N = Nonirrigated Farmland

Further information on the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program can be found at:

www.consrv.ca.gov/dlrp/fmmp