

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

2000 FIELD REPORT

COUNTY: Santa Cruz

FIELD MAPPER(S): Kerri Kisko

PHOTOGRAPHY:

source: NASA-Ames Research Center
date: October 25, 1999
scale: 1:130,000
film type: CIR Transparencies
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:* none

cities:
county:
others:

➤ *personal contacts:* none

➤ *websites:*

About Santa Cruz, CA (<http://santacruz.about.com/citiestowns/caus/santacruz>)
California School Districts with Web Servers (www.slocs.k12.ca.us/calpage1.htm)
Santa Cruz County Government (www.co.santa-cruz.ca.us)

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 11 conversions of agricultural land to developed land this update. The majority of these conversions occurred in the Watsonville area. In the Watsonville area the changes consisted mainly of small housing developments, however, the Corralitos Information Center, Corralitos Union School, and Anheuser-Busch Distribution Center were added to the Watsonville West quad and the Boyer Fertilizer Plant was added to the Watsonville East quad. Other changes occurred near the City of Santa Cruz, most

notably the addition of the Wilder Ranch State Park Cultural Preserve on the Santa Cruz quad.

➤ L, G, X → D

The majority of the changes are marginal land being converted into urban land. These changes occurred in three main areas: the foothills, the coast, and the Pajaro Valley. In the foothills near Felton and Scotts Valley the Michael Gray Memorial Field/Santa Cruz County Juvenile Hall and Probation Department, Salvation Army Redwood Glen Camp and Convention Center, and the new Scotts Valley High School were added to the Felton quad. Near the Pacific Coast the Santa Cruz County Landfill and Recycling Center was added to the Santa Cruz quad and new homes, the Shoreline Middle School, and the Seascape Resort were added to the Soquel quad. In the Pajaro Valley new homes, the Buena Vista Drive Sanitary Landfill expansion, the Overlook Shopping Center, the Rio del Mar Elementary School, and the Stone Creek Apartments were added to the Watsonville West quad.

➤ P, S, U → X

There were only five changes of agricultural land to other land this update. All of these changes occurred on the Watsonville West quad. Two of these changes were due to the fallowing of agricultural land. These lands were either too small to be considered for grazing land or in a swampy area. The other changes that occurred were due to ranchettes and an isolated polygon of less than 10 acres.

➤ L, G, X → P, S, U

There were eight conversions of marginal land to irrigated agriculture. Most of these changes were in the Watsonville area. All of the changes were relatively small (less than 60 acres) and consisted of new row crops, orchards, and a nursery.

➤ L, G → X

There were only two conversions of local or grazing land to other land. On the Felton quad a grazing polygon became isolated and was less than 40 acres. On the Laurel quad new low density housing was added.

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

D → P, S: On the Watsonville West quad there were two areas of agricultural land that were mapped as developed land. Both of these changes consisted of orchards and were less than 25 acres each.

P, S, U → U, S, P: Agriculture was shifted between prime, statewide, and unique due to soil boundary corrections on the Watsonville West quad.

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

The Watsonville area continues to have the most change. Look for more urban growth around the city and shifting agriculture throughout the valley.

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.*

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

photo interpretation, start date: March 15, 2001

photo interpretation, number of days: 4

ground truthing dates: March 27-29

days for map compilation and clean up: 4

* **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