

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

2000 FIELD REPORT

COUNTY: Stanislaus (East and West)

This County was mapped in two sections for this update only.

FIELD MAPPER(S): Jan Carey

PHOTOGRAPHY:

- 1) *source:* NASA-Ames Research
date: 8 Sept 1999
scale: 1:130,000
film type: CIR
coverage gaps: none

- 2) *source:* SPOT satellite images
date: 2000
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: Modesto Irrigation District, City of Hughson, City of Riverbank
county: none
others: none

➤ *personal contacts:*

Michael McElhiney, NRCS,
Michael.McElhiney@ca.usda.gov
209-491-9320

Alan Forkey, USDA (easements)
Alan.Forkey@ca.usda.gov

➤ *websites:*

http://www.csac.counties.org/counties_close_up/county_web/stanislaus
<http://www.ci.modesto.ca.us>
<http://www.diablogrande.com>
<http://www.cityofnewman.com>

Eastern Stanislaus County

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: 33 changes. These changes are primarily increases in development of housing the Modesto, Ceres, Turlock, and Riverbank areas. The locations are mainly on the Riverbank (35-29), Salida (35-28), Ceres (36-29), and Denair (36-30) quads. There are also additions to the industrial areas as well as a small Amtrak station in Modesto. There are a few new or extensions to agricultural processing facilities and 2 schools mapped throughout the county.

➤ L, G, X → D: 10 changes. These changes are additions to housing and athletic fields on the Riverbank (35-29), Oakdale (34-30), and Ceres (36-29) quads.

➤ P, S, U → L, G: 2 changes. These changes are the result of areas taken out of irrigated agriculture for 3 update cycles.

➤ P, S, U → X: 122 changes. This is by far the most active category. Many changes (although some are small changes of a few acres) are due to the creation of new, or the extension of existing, confined livestock facilities throughout the county. There are also the additions of ranchettes in all parts of the county. The most changes occur on the Ripon (35-27), Salida (35-28), Waterford (35-30), Brush Lake (36-28), Ceres (36-29), Denair (36-30), and Hatch (37-29) quads.

➤ L, G, X → P, S, U: 61 changes. This category shows the most substantial amount of acreage changing designations. There is a trend in this county away from irrigated pasture and toward corn/oat rotations for feed. Many changes in this category reflect the upgrade of L designated land. There are also additions to irrigated agriculture due to the inclusion of very large areas of newly planted orchards and crops, primarily in the eastern section of the county.

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

There are 23 changes that would fall into this category. The primary reason is the due to the creation of new, or the extension of existing, confined livestock facilities (X) in areas that were formerly designated L.

PROBLEM AREAS: *What locations and map categories need careful checking in 2002? Why?* There will be more changes in L designated land as the "irrigated pasture to corn/oat" trend continues. There is an indication of more new irrigated ag in the eastern section of the county.

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.*

*photo interpretation, start date: 9/4/01
photo interpretation, number of days: 9
ground truthing dates: 9/18 through 9/20
days for map compilation and clean up: 8*

*** 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

Western Stanislaus County

This is the first field report for the western part of Stanislaus County. This addition to our mapping area is derived from the newly completed NRCS soil survey and the 1997 DWR digital map designating land use and irrigation status. Using this base material and current imagery, I updated the boundary lines for urban areas and other land uses. This data was then field checked for accuracy.

Although the primary land use for the part of the county west of Interstate 5 is grazing, be aware of further development of the Diablo Grande residential golf resort and vineyards. The owners have more vineyards (Isom Ranch, ~20 acres vines and additional orchards) in the hills east of the resort, but these were not in our photo coverage area.

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

*photo interpretation, start date: 8/13/01
photo interpretation, number of days: 6
ground truthing dates: 8/20 through 8/22/01
days for map compilation and clean up: 7*

*Further information on the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program can be found at:
www.consrv.ca.gov/dlrp/fmmp*