

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

**2002 FIELD REPORT**

**COUNTY:** San Mateo

**FIELD MAPPER(S):** Michael Kisko

**IMAGERY:**

*source:* NASA-Ames  
*date:* September 7th and 28th, 2001  
*scale:* 1:130,000  
*film type:* CIR Transparency  
*coverage gaps:* none

**WRITTEN, DIGITAL & ORAL INFORMATION SOURCES:** *Please list which local governments, interest groups, or individuals submitted comments on the 2000 maps. Also list all phone and in-person contacts made or related GIS data referenced while conducting the 2002 update.*

➤ *local review comments*

*cities:* City of San Carlos, Town of Colma  
*county:*  
*others:*

➤ *personal contacts:* n/a

➤ *websites:*

San Mateo County Planning: <http://www.co.sanmateo.ca.us/planning/index.htm>

➤ *GIS data referenced:* SWIS landfill, waste facility reference file

**2000-2002 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.*

**Note:** This is the first digital update for San Mateo County. Using improved digital resources, more accurate boundaries were drawn throughout the county. Therefore, adjustments were made in all categories throughout the county. The changes listed below are only representative of the total number of actual changes.

➤ **Irrigated Farmland to Urban Land**

There were no notable conversions of irrigated farmland to urban land this update.

➤ **Local, Grazing or Other Land to Urban Land**

There were 21 conversions of local, grazing, or other land to urban land. First, in the Bayshore area, new homes were added in the form of “Summit Ridge Homes (~25 acres) next to the Cow Palace. In the Guadalupe Valley area, new apartments in a development known as “The Ridge” accounted for the urbanization of approximately 40 acres. On the northern urban fringe of south San Francisco, the “Mandalay Heights” development provided for the development of another ~30 acres of new homes tucked into San Bruno Mountain. New hotels and office buildings along Highway 101 to the south of Sierra Point also accounted for the conversion of approximately 40 acres of land. Another large office complex called “Vintage Park” with its associated parking lot accounted for the conversion of ~50 acres on the northwestern end of Brewer Island. A further office development which proved to be the largest single conversion to urban land this update was seen adjacent to the Port of Redwood City in the form of the Pacific Shores office development (~110 acres).

Meanwhile, in more rural parts of the county, housing was the source of much of the urbanization. Just to the south of Half Moon Bay, the “Moon Ridge Village” townhomes (~35 acres) were added. Additions of homes were also made in the Portola Valley area.

Finally, the Costanoa Lodge and Camp near Año Nuevo State Reserve accounted for the conversion of approximately 35 acres of land.

Please note that corrections made to the urban boundary throughout the county with the first use of digital imagery offset the acreages described above, resulting in a small net increase in urban land between 2000-2002.

➤ **Irrigated Farmland to Local or Grazing Land**

There were 3 conversions of irrigated farmland to local or grazing land. These conversions all involved fairly small parcels of farmland that had been fallow for the last three updates.

➤ **Irrigated Farmland to Other Land**

There were 8 conversions of irrigated farmland to other land. These conversions were pretty evenly split between coastal and mountainous regions of the county and involved parcels of farmland that had been fallow for the last three updates.

➤ **Local, Grazing or Other Land to Irrigated Farmland**

There were no notable conversions of local, grazing, or other land to irrigated farmland this update.

➤ **UNUSUAL:** *Category changes, complications with the Farmland of Local Importance definition, or any other special circumstances in 2002.*

P→U There were a few instances where nurseries which had been mapped as Prime Farmland were found to be areas with greenhouses and plants grown in containers. These nurseries were subsequently shifted to their correct mapping category of Unique Farmland since the plants are grown in containers and not in-ground.

D→X Sharp Park near Pacifica was redrawn to include only the developed portion

of the park in the urban category, the undeveloped portion was shifted to the other land category.

D<->G, X There were extensive urban boundary adjustments made throughout the county due to both workflow and imagery improvements such as orthorectification of imagery to correct for hilly terrain and the ability to digitize linework directly over the imagery for the first time in this county. These improvements, while boosting the accuracy of our maps, give rise to multiple conversions in and out of the urban category which, when added together, can be quite sizeable.

**PROBLEM AREAS:** *What locations and map categories need careful checking in 2004? Why?*

Many of the nurseries, especially the greenhouses, should be checked next time to determine if plants are being grown in containers or in-ground.

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

*photo interpretation, start date:* October 10, 2002

*photo interpretation, number of days:* 4

*ground truthing dates:* October 23-24, 2002

*# days for map compilation and clean up:* 3

\* **Note:** **Irrigated Farmland** = Prime Farmland, Farmland of Statewide Importance or Unique Farmland; **Local** = Farmland of Local Importance

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

[www.consrv.ca.gov/dlrp/fmmp](http://www.consrv.ca.gov/dlrp/fmmp)