

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

2004 FIELD REPORT

COUNTY: San Diego

FIELD MAPPER(S): Kerri Kisko

IMAGERY:

source: Air Photo USA
date: April 2004
scale: 2 foot resolution
film type: true color mosaic
coverage gaps: none
additional imagery: none

WRITTEN, DIGITAL & ORAL INFORMATION SOURCES: *Please list which local governments, interest groups, or individuals submitted comments on the 2002 maps. Also list all phone and in-person contacts made or related GIS data referenced while conducting the 2004 update.*

➤ *local review comments*

cities: City of Escondido, Planning Division
county:
others:

➤ *personal contacts:*

Bill Miller, San Diego County Water Authority (760-480-1991)

➤ *websites:*

County of San Diego (www.co.san-diego.ca.us)
San Diego County Office of Education (www.sdcoe.k12.ca.us)
San Diego County Water Authority (www.sdcwa.org)
Solid Waste Information System (www.ciwmb.ca.gov/SWIS)

➤ *GIS data referenced:*

SWIS landfill/waste facility reference file (swis.dgn)

2002-2004 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.*

➤ **Irrigated Farmland to Urban Land**

There were 12 conversions of irrigated farmland to urban land this update. The majority of these changes were fairly small (10-20 acres) and occurred in the western part of the county. In the City of Carlsbad, the Poinsettia Cove housing development accounted for approximately 15 acres of change and another area of new homes (≈ 20 acres) was added. An approximately 15-acre area of new homes was added in the City of Encinitas. In the City of Escondido two areas of new homes were added, approximately 10 and 20 acres. Another area of new homes (≈ 10 acres) was added in the Community of Fallbrook. In the City of San Diego, two areas of new homes (≈ 10 acres each) and the new Cathedral Catholic High School (≈ 15 acres) were added in the Carmel Valley area and two buildings (≈ 15 and 25 acres) were added in the Otay Mesa area.

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

This update, the majority of the 226 conversions of local, grazing, or other land to urban land occurred in the cities of San Diego and Chula Vista. In the City of San Diego, the Fairbanks Ranch Country Club (≈ 60 acres), the new Belsera housing development (≈ 65 acres), and two areas of new homes (≈ 40 and 75 acres) were added in the Carmel Valley area. In the Rancho Penasquitos area, an area of new condos and an Albertsons shopping center accounted for approximately 75 acres of change. Near Rancho Bernardo, an approximately 175-acre area of new homes was added at the 4S Ranch development. An area of new homes and apartments (≈ 75 acres) occurred near Qualcomm Stadium. In the South San Diego area, the Tijuana River Valley Regional Park Sports Fields (≈ 15 acres) was added. The Esmeralda housing development (≈ 25 acres), a warehouse at the Piper Ranch Business Park (≈ 20 acres), and a new Calpine power facility (≈ 35 acres) were added in the Otay Mesa area.

In the City of Chula Vista, the development was concentrated in the Eastlake area (east of Highway 805). The housing developments of Eastlake Vistas (≈ 235 acres), Rolling Hills Ranch and Eastlake Woods (≈ 210 acres total), San Miguel Ranch (≈ 110 acres), McMillan (≈ 105 acres), Hillsborong (≈ 95 acres), and Winding Walk (≈ 70 acres) were added. The new Otay Ranch High School accounted for approximately 75 acres of change. The Eastlake Terraces Shopping Center (≈ 70 acres), featuring a Walmart and Home Depot, was added. Also, some buildings at the Eastlake Business Park (≈ 30 acres) and the Eastlake Community Church (≈ 10 acres) were noted.

In the northwestern part of the county, an area of new homes (≈ 25 acres) was added in the Community of Fallbrook and the Riverview (≈ 30 acres) housing development was added in the Community of Bonsall. In the City of Oceanside, an approximately 50-acre area of new homes was added along with the Sycamore Springs (≈ 45 acres) housing development and an Albertsons shopping center (≈ 45 acres). The Arch Rock Apartments and new homes (≈ 60 acres total) and the Poinsettia Cove (≈ 35 acres) housing development were noted in the City of Carlsbad. In the City of San Marcos, an area of new homes (≈ 50 acres) was noted along with the new Mission Hills High School (≈ 45 acres); a shopping center featuring Best Buy (≈ 25 acres); some new homes, a park, and the town center area of San Elijo Hills (≈ 70 acres total); and the Woodley Glen and Crestview housing developments (≈ 120 acres total) in the San Elijo Hills area. The Woods Valley Golf Club expanded its golf course by approximately 40 acres in the Community of Valley

Center. In the City of Escondido, two areas of new homes (≈ 40 and 50 acres) and the new Valley High School (≈ 30 acres) were added. The new Crosby National Golf Course (≈ 185 acres) was added in the Community of Rancho Santa Fe.

In the northeastern part of the county, the Springs at Borrego Golf Course (≈ 60 acres) was added in the Community of Borrego Springs, a new community park (≈ 10 acres) was added in the Community of Julian, and an area of new homes (≈ 75 acres) was added in the Community of Ramona.

In the southern part of the county, an area of new homes (≈ 25 acres) was added in the City of Santee, the Black Wolf (≈ 20 acres) housing development and an area of new homes (≈ 50 acres) were added in the Community of Alpine, and in the town of Moreno an approximately 170-acre area of housing became dense enough to map as urban land.

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

There were 230 conversions of prime, statewide, or unique farmland to local or grazing land this update. The majority of these changes were due to irrigated farmland being fallow for three or more update cycles. Most of these conversions were fairly small (25 acres or less) and were scattered throughout the county. Large conversions of approximately 100 acres or larger occurred on the Aguanga (2), Bonsall (1), Borrego Sink (1), Clark Lake (1), Del Mar (1), Escondido (1), Morro Hill (1), Otay Mesa (2), San Vicente Reservoir (1), and Warners Ranch (1) quads.

➤ **Irrigated Farmland to Other Land**

This update there were 38 conversions of irrigated farmland to other land. The majority of these changes were small (20 acres or less) and were scattered throughout the county. Low-density housing in the form of ranchettes accounted for the bulk (32) of the changes. Two changes of note include an approximately 45-acre area of ranchettes on the Pala quad and the approximately 55-acre Valley View Ranch low-density development on the Valley Center quad. Other changes were due to poultry operations, an equestrian facility, and mining activities.

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

There were 102 conversions of local, grazing, or other land to irrigated farmland this update. These changes occurred throughout the county and primarily were in the form of orchards (avocados and citrus), nurseries, row crops, and irrigated pasture. The majority of the changes were less than 40 acres in size. Some changes of note include an area of field crops (≈ 220 acres) on the Clark Lake quad, two areas of irrigated pasture (≈ 120 and 155 acres) on the San Pasqual quad, two areas of row crops (≈ 95 and 160 acres) on the Rancho Santa Fe quad, and an orchard expansion (≈ 125 acres) on the Boucher Hill quad.

➤ **UNUSUAL:** *Category changes, complications with the Farmland of Local Importance definition, or any other special circumstances in 2004.*

Local or Grazing Land to Other Land: There were 77 conversions of local or grazing land to other land. The majority of these changes were due to ranchettes and were 10 to 40 acres in size. Some changes of note include areas of ranchettes on the Ramona (≈ 90 acres), Rodriguez Mountain (≈ 100 acres), San Pasqual (≈ 135 acres), and Valley Center

(≈ 110 acres) quads. Other changes were due to five equestrian facilities (10-45 acres) on the Ramona quad, a poultry operation, and mining activities.

Other Land to Water: This update the new Olivenhain Reservoir (≈ 220 acres) was constructed by the San Diego County Water Authority on the Rancho Santa Fe quad.

Conversions between Prime, Statewide, and Unique: There were seven conversions between irrigated farmland categories this update. The majority of these changes (6) were due to nurseries (in-ground versus potted plant) and were 10-40 acres in size. Three of these conversions were due to new potted plant nurseries (this type of nursery is mapped as Unique regardless of underlying soil type) on formerly irrigated farmland. This resulted in changes of Prime or Statewide to Unique. Three changes were due to nurseries that, when field checked, were being grown in-ground. This resulted in Unique changing to Prime or Statewide. The other change was due to a formerly irrigated orchard having been non-irrigated for three update cycles and therefore downgraded from Prime to Unique.

PROBLEM AREAS: *What locations and map categories need careful checking in 2006? Why?*

Look for more development, particularly in the cities of Chula Vista, San Diego, and San Marcos.

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

photo interpretation, start date: February 27, 2006

photo interpretation, number of days: 12

ground truthing dates: March 20-24, 2006

days for map compilation and clean up: 9

* **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