

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

**2004 FIELD REPORT**

**COUNTY:** Solano

**FIELD MAPPER(S):** Rain Ananael

**IMAGERY:**

source: NASA-Ames Research  
date: 9-07-03  
scale: 1:130,000  
film type: CIR  
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:*

*county:*

*others:* Lewis Operating Corporation (yee@lewisop.com)

➤ *personal contacts:*

➤ *websites:* <http://www.pulte.com>  
<http://www.ci.fairfield.ca.us/>  
<http://www.ci.vacaville.ca.us/>  
<http://www.ci.dixon.ca.us/>  
[www.dailyrepublic.com](http://www.dailyrepublic.com)  
<http://kbhome.com>

➤ *GIS data referenced:* Federal and State Refuges, Water Resources Land Use Data, SSURGO soil data

**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 ten changes in this category. The majority occurred in and around Dixon and Elmira. These changes are represented by new homes and industry, including the Valley Glen development project by Pulte Homes in Dixon, the Morgan Park Apartments near Vacaville at I-80, shopping center additions and services include a Chevron and a Best Western off I-80 in Dixon. Shopping centers supporting stores like Target, Safeway, Payless, Pier 1, Wells Fargo, and Big 5 have been built adjacent to new housing and apartments just outside the urban boundary of Vacaville along Hwy 113 and I-80

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

There were 34 changes in this category. These changes occurred throughout the county but primarily occurred near existing urban or rural residential communities. The majority of these changes represent new housing developments. The Laurelwood development in Allendale represents an approximately 80-acre addition to urban acreage. In and around Elmira, the Providence Homes development and Discovery at Gold Ridge represent a 250-acre increase in urban acreage. In northern Fairfield, The Colony, The Villas at Tuscany Hills and Whitney Park by KB Homes represent 300-450 acres of new urban. In Cordelia, several hundred acres of new homes are going in with the Mandarich development, Creekside homes and East Ridge development projects. In the more rural Rio Vista area, the 150-acre addition of estate homes and a golf course called Trilogy at Rio Vista was expanded during this update. Some of the apartment and housing additions in Benicia were added this update cycle. Look for more additions of the Blue Rock Village and Frontier apartments.

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

There were 7 changes in this category. The most significant change occurred near Elmira, where roughly 2000+ acres of irrigated farmland was fallowed and put into the grazing land category. This land is fenced and for sale.

➤ **Irrigated Farmland to Other Land**

There were 26 changes in this category that were widely dispersed throughout the county. The majority of these changes resulted from the addition of ranchettes, confined livestock or farmsteads. The rest of these conversions were the result of land fallowed for three or more update cycles.

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

There were 10 changes in this category. Most of these changes represent boundary adjustments and small areas of newly irrigated agriculture or small additions of agriculture to existing orchards and fields.

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

There was one change from urban to water in Cordelia, within the urban boundary of Fairfield, where Lake Chabot was added as a water body. Other changes include a change from grazing to non-irrigated trees where an orchard was added and a few small changes from irrigated farmland to irrigated pasture and irrigated pasture to irrigated farmland.

A significant amount of land was reclassified from Grazing Land to Other Land, over 1,000 acres, as the result of having more detailed imagery of the hilly and more tree-

covered northern part of the county. Rural residential areas were expanded.

**PROBLEM AREAS:** *What locations and map categories need careful checking in 2006? Why? Solano County is growing faster than many Bay Area Cities in industry and housing. Close attention should be paid to development in this county as well as development of the Prospect Island area in the Delta where the US Bureau of Reclamation may be selling the North Bay National Wildlife Refuge for development.*

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

*photo interpretation, start date: 1/24/05*

*photo interpretation, number of days: 8*

*ground truthing dates: 2/1/05- 2/4/05*

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