

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

2006 FIELD REPORT

COUNTY: Placer

FIELD MAPPER(S): Troy Dick

IMAGERY:

source: National Agricultural Imagery Program (NAIP)

date: summer 2006

scale: 2 meter resolution

film type: true color mosaic

coverage gaps: none

additional imagery: NAIP 2005 (1 meter); Landsat 7 Infrared Imagery (2005)

WRITTEN, DIGITAL & ORAL INFORMATION SOURCES: *Please list which local governments, interest groups, or individuals submitted comments on the 2004 maps. Also list all phone and in-person contacts made or related GIS data referenced while conducting the 2006 update.*

➤ *local review comments:* none

➤ *personal contacts:*

Chris Brown, GIS analyst with Placer County Community Development Resource Agency (CBrown@placer.ca.gov), provided a current GIS file of lands zoned for agriculture. This file is used for updating boundaries of Farmland of Local Importance.

2004-2006 CHANGES*: *Please summarize the most common changes to the maps. List representative locations (quad or city) 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:** 6 conversions

The majority of these changes occurred on the Roseville quad. The largest change took place in the City of Lincoln where approximately 180 acres was delineated for the expansion of the Lincoln Crossing Community. The second largest change occurred near the City of Lincoln which saw the addition of ~110 acres of urban for the Lincoln Wastewater Treatment Plant. Further, on the Citrus Heights quad, the Waterstone home development accounted for the conversion of approximately 20 acres of Irrigated Farmland.

➤ **Local, Grazing or Other Land to Urban Land:** 127 conversions

The majority of the urbanization this update was due to new development mostly on the Roseville, Rocklin, and Citrus Heights quads. The largest single change took place in the City of Lincoln where ~410 acres of new homes were added for the expansion of the Sun City Lincoln Hills Del Webb Community. The next largest changes occurred on the Citrus Heights quad, where new home construction accounted for the conversion of approximately 340 acres for the Doyle Ranch and Waterstone home developments. The City of Lincoln saw the addition of ~310 acres of new homes and businesses for the Lincoln Crossing Community and the City of Roseville saw the addition of approximately 130 acres of new homes for the Emerald Creek and Diamond Creek home developments. Other notable conversions in the City of Lincoln included approximately 70 acres for the Woodbury home development and Foscett Elementary School. Meanwhile, in the City of Rocklin approximately ~70 acres were added for the Whitney Senior High School and some new homes. An addition of ~20 acres for the Canyon View Estates was added near the City of Auburn.

➤ **Irrigated Farmland to Local or Grazing Land:** 66 conversions

A majority of the changes that occurred in this category were due to plots of Irrigated Farmland having been fallow for three or more update cycles. In the whole county approximately 1,750 acres was converted into Local or Grazing Land. The largest change in this category occurred on the Lincoln quad with a total of ~370 acres going out of production. This was followed by the Gold Hill and Rio Linda quads with ~350 and 270 acres, respectively, going out of production. Finally, conversions to irrigated pasture were made on land formerly classified as irrigated cropland, due to field identification. In instances where irrigated pastures occur on lesser quality soils, this may result in the conversion from Unique Farmland to Farmland of Local Importance.

➤ **Irrigated Farmland to Other Land:** 14 conversions

Half of these changes were due to Irrigated Farmland having been fallow for 3 updates cycles, in plots too small to be mapped as Grazing Land. The largest change occurred on the Lincoln quad with a total of ~30 acres.

Other changes of this type were due to the use of higher resolution (1 meter) imagery to delineate areas of low-density housing or natural vegetation throughout the county. The largest of these changes happened on the Rocklin quad, totaling ~20 acres.

➤ **Local, Grazing or Other Land to Irrigated Farmland:** 15 conversions

The most notable addition of Irrigated Farmland this update occurred on the Gold Hill quad totaling approximately 100 acres. This was followed by the Pleasant Grove and

Rocklin quads both with a total of ~50 acres of Irrigated Farmland going into production.

➤ **UNUSUAL:** *Category changes, complications with the Farmland of Local Importance definition, or any other special circumstances in 2006.*

Water to Other Land: 2 conversions

Both changes of this type were due to the use of higher resolution (1 meter) imagery which led to a decision to update the boundaries for the Sugar Pine Reservoir.

Shifts between Grazing Land and Farmland of Local Importance: multiple instances

Placer County's Farmland of Local Importance definition includes land zoned for agriculture. A new, more detailed version of the zoning data was obtained from the County during the 2006 update to update that component of the map. As a result, approximately 15,600 acres were reclassified from Grazing Land to Farmland of Local Importance countywide.

PROBLEM AREAS: *What locations and map categories need careful checking in 2008? Why?*

Irrigated pasture is prevalent in Placer County. However, there are several areas where irrigated pasture coincides with rural estates. These areas need careful checking the next couple of updates to determine whether the area represents rural estates or an agricultural usage. Watch for new urban due to increased development in the Lincoln, Rocklin, and Roseville areas.

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

photo interpretation, start date: 4/7/2008

photo interpretation, number of days: 14

ground truthing dates: May 5, 6, and 7, 2008

days for map compilation and clean up: 5

* **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