

**California Department of Conservation
FARMLAND MAPPING AND MONITORING PROGRAM**

2008 FIELD REPORT

COUNTY: Santa Cruz

FIELD MAPPER(S): Troy Dick

IMAGE DATA USED:

Source	Digital Globe Inc.
Acquisition date	April 2007
Data description	true color mosaic
Coverage gaps	None
Additional imagery used	Google Maps

WRITTEN, DIGITAL & ORAL INFORMATION SOURCES:

The following entities and individuals provided information used to conduct 2008 mapping.

Local Review Comments (submitted by cities, counties, & others on 2006 maps)
None
Personal Contacts
Four landowners in the Golf Club Drive area near the City of Santa Cruz contacted FMMP with documentation on irrigation history and land use status.
Websites Used for Reference
Google Maps, Street View http://maps.google.com/
GIS Data Used for Reference
None

2006-2008 CHANGE SUMMARY:

Changes made during the map update are summarized by type and location. Particular attention is paid to large or unusual changes and their estimated acreages. Please note that land use type, size of land use unit, soil quality, and Farmland of Local Importance definition (if any) determines the final Important Farmland (IFL) category. [See definitions](#) at bottom of table.

Conversions to Urban Land	
Irrigated Farmland to Urban Land	5-6 changes
<p>While there were no significant conversions of Irrigated Farmland to Urban Land this update, a small cemetery was delineated (8 acres) in the Watsonville area. A number of other small additions were made due to the availability of increased resolution imagery—these were essentially adjustments to the urban boundary.</p>	

Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other Land to Urban Land	9 changes
<p>The majority of the urbanization this update was due to the use of higher resolution (1 foot) imagery to delineate existing homes throughout the county, some areas had lacked detailed imagery in the past. The largest changes took place in the City of Watsonville where a total of approximately 40 acres was added to Urban Land. Some of this was the result of removing inclusions of Other Land that were surrounded by urban land and smaller than the minimum mapping unit. Meanwhile, sufficient structural density led to approximately 20 acres being added to Urban Land on the Laurel quad a total.</p>	
Conversions from Irrigated Farmland aside from urbanization	
Irrigated Farmland to Nonirrigated Land Uses	23 changes
<p>All of the changes that occurred in this category were due to plots of irrigated farmland having been fallow for three or more update cycles. Countywide, approximately 400 acres went out of production. The majority of the changes in this category occurred on the Watsonville West quad with a total of approximately 190 acres going out of production. This was followed by the Watsonville and Laurel quads with approximately 90 and 50 acres, respectively, going out of production.</p>	
Irrigated Farmland to Other Land	26 changes
<p>The majority of these changes were due to a combination of the use of higher resolution (1 foot) imagery to delineate areas of low-density housing or natural vegetation throughout the county and irrigated farmland having been fallow for 3 or more update cycles in small plots of land. The largest changes happened on the Watsonville West quad, with a total of approximately 250 acres going to Other Land. This was followed by the Watsonville East and Santa Cruz quads with a total of approximately 90 and 50 acres respectively going to Other Land for natural vegetation, low density housing and an area too small to be mapped as Irrigated Farmland located on Golf Club Drive in the city of Santa Cruz.</p>	
Conversions to Irrigated Farmland	
Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other Land to Irrigated Farmland	10 changes
<p>The most notable addition of irrigated farmland this update occurred on the Watsonville West quad with a total of approximately 40 acres going to irrigated farmland. This was followed by the Davenport quad with a total of approximately 30 acres going to irrigated farmland.</p>	
Unusual Changes	
(Types of change not already described or special circumstances during the 2008 update.)	
A shift of ~140 acres from Unique Farmland were converted to Prime Farmland due to	

technical corrections to soil mapping near the boundary of Monterey County.

Areas of Concern for Future Updates

(Locations or map categories noted as needing careful checking during 2010 update, and reasons.)

None

Definitions:

Irrigated Farmland includes most irrigated crops grown in California. When combined with soil data, these farmed areas become the Important Farmland (IFL) categories of Prime Farmland, Farmland of Statewide Importance & Unique Farmland. Because of the nature of the IFL definitions, some irrigated uses, such as irrigated pastures or nurseries, may not be eligible for all three IFL categories.

Nonirrigated land uses include grazing areas, land used for dryland crop farming, and formerly irrigated land that has been left idle for three or more update cycles. These uses are frequently incorporated into county Farmland of Local Importance definitions.

Other Land includes a variety of miscellaneous uses, such as low density rural residential development, mining areas, vacant areas and nonagricultural vegetation. Confined animal agriculture facilities are mapped as Other Land unless incorporated into a county Farmland of Local Importance definition.

Urban Land includes residential, industrial, recreational, infrastructure and institutional uses.

For more on map categories, including Farmland of Local Importance definitions, visit the [FMMP web site](#).

LABOR ESTIMATE:

Time estimates for conducting the 2008 update.

Image interpretation, start date	April 5, 2010
Image interpretation, number of days	5
Ground truth dates	5/4/2010 – 5/5/2010
Number of days for post-ground truth clean up	2

Further information on the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program can be found at:
<http://www.conservation.ca.gov/dlrp/fmmp/Pages/Index.aspx>