

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

**2008 FIELD REPORT**

**COUNTY:** Yuba

**FIELD MAPPER(S):** Troy Dick

**IMAGE DATA USED:**

Source	Digital Globe Inc.
Acquisition date	September, 2008
Data description	1 foot resolution, 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.*

<b>Local Review Comments</b> (submitted by cities, counties, & others on 2006 maps)
<b>Personal Contacts</b>
<b>Websites Used for Reference</b>
Google Maps, Street View <a href="http://maps.google.com/">http://maps.google.com/</a>
Yuba City, CA Metro by City Search <a href="http://national.citysearch.com/guide/yuba-city-ca-metro">http://national.citysearch.com/guide/yuba-city-ca-metro</a>
<b>GIS Data Used for Reference</b>

**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.*

<b>Conversions to Urban Land</b>	
Irrigated Farmland to Urban Land	11 changes
<p>The majority of these changes occurred on the Olivehurst and Nicolaus quads. The largest changes took place on the Olivehurst quad where a total of ~260 acres were delineated for the Plumas Lake Cobblestone Community, expansion of the Del Rio</p>	

Community, expansion of the Three River Plumas Lake Community, Wheeler Ranch Homes, Woodside Homes – Montrose at Edgewater, Plumas Lake Park, Cobblestone Elementary School, and expansion of the Del Rio Elementary School. Meanwhile, on the Nicolaus quad, approximately 10 acres were delineated for the Plumas Lake Homes / Plumas Ranch Community.

Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other Land to Urban Land	13 changes
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The majority of the urbanization this update was due to the expansion of urban development on the Olivehurst and Nicolaus quads. The largest changes took place on the Olivehurst quad where a total of ~230 acres was added for the Edgewater Homes, Draper Ranch Homes, a new water holding structure, Pow/Mia Park, other new homes and businesses. Meanwhile, on the Nicolaus quad, a total of approximately 80 acres was added for the Riverside Meadows Community, part of the River Oaks East Community, and Riverside Intermediate School.

**Conversions from Irrigated Farmland  
aside from urbanization**

Irrigated Farmland to Nonirrigated Land Uses	24 changes
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Most 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 990 acres converted to nonirrigated land uses. The largest changes of this type occurred on the Olivehurst quad with ~590 acres going out of production. This was followed by the Yuba City and Camp Far West quads with a total of ~230 and 180 acres, respectively, going out of production.

Irrigated Farmland to Other Land	11 changes
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A majority of these changes were due to a combination of irrigated farmland having been fallow for three or more update cycles which had been graded for development and the addition of wetlands. The largest changes in this category occurred on the Nicolaus quad, with a total of approximately 230 acres going to Other Land for irrigated farmland having been fallow for three or more update cycles and that had been graded for development. This was followed by the Honcut quad with a total of ~220 acres going to Other Land for the addition of wetlands.

**Conversions to Irrigated Farmland**

Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other Land to Irrigated Farmland	57 changes
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This update a total of ~ 1,300 acres was converted to irrigated farmland. The most notable addition of irrigated farmland this update occurred on the Wheatland quad with a total of approximately 380 acres. This was followed by the Loma Rica and Nicolaus quads with a total of ~210 and 160 acres, respectively, going to irrigated farmland.

**Unusual Changes**

(Types of change not already described or special circumstances during the 2008 update.)

## Grazing Land to Other Land: 35 changes

There were two primary reasons for the conversion of Grazing Land to Other Land:

The majority of these changes were due to the use of higher resolution (1 foot) imagery that led to the delineation of scattered low-density housing areas throughout the county. The majority of these changes happened on the Smartville quad, affecting approximately 280 acres.

Second, these changes were due to the addition of wetlands. All of these changes happened on the Honcut quad, affecting approximately 300 acres.

## Urban Land Adjustments:

The availability of 1 foot resolution imagery allowed more detailed mapping of urban boundaries throughout the county; just over 130 acres were affected.

## County Boundary Update:

Adoption of an updated county boundary file led to an increase of 197 acres in the Yuba County total. Adjacent counties lost acreage by a similar amount.

## Areas of Concern for Future Updates

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

### 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	October 7, 2009
Image interpretation, number of days	6
Ground truth dates	11/2/2009 – 11/3/2009
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>