

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

**2010 FIELD REPORT**

**COUNTY:** San Joaquin

**FIELD MAPPER(S):** Michael Kisko

**IMAGE DATA USED:**

Source	National Agriculture Imagery Program (NAIP)
Acquisition date	Summer 2010
Data description	True color mosaic, 1 meter resolution
Coverage gaps	none
Additional imagery used	2009 NAIP Imagery

**WRITTEN, DIGITAL & ORAL INFORMATION SOURCES:**

*The following entities and individuals provided information used to conduct 2010 mapping.*

<b>Local Review Comments</b> (submitted by cities, counties, & others on 2008 maps)
City of Lathrop
<b>Personal Contacts</b>
Tom Reed, San Joaquin County
<b>Websites Used for Reference</b>
<b>GIS Data Used for Reference</b>
California City Boundary Layer San Joaquin County Base Map

**2008-2010 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	38 changes
<p>These conversions were primarily due to the construction of new homes, commercial buildings, schools, and water control or groundwater recharge ponds.</p> <p><b>City of Manteca:</b> Approximately 160 acres of irrigated farmland was converted to Urban Land in the form of new homes throughout the Manteca area this update. Additions of new homes were made in the Tesoro, Woodbridge, and Union Ranch home developments, among others.</p>	

**City of Stockton:** Approximately 50 acres of homes were added in the Stockton area in developments that included the Sterling Shore, Preston Meadows, and Riverbend home developments. The Valentine M. Peyton Elementary School (~15 acres) was a further notable addition this update.

**City of Tracy:** Tracy saw the addition of a Home Depot distribution center (~60 acres) and a Crate and Barrel distribution center (~60 acres) as well as the Kimball High School (~60 acres) and approximately 10 acres of new homes.

**Further Notable Additions of Urban Land:** New homes were also added in the Lathrop (~30 acres) and Ripon (~15 acres) areas. Finally, the Austin Road Landfill was expanded by approximately 50 acres.

**Water Treatment or Recharge Ponds:** Approximately 100 acres of water treatment-related recharge ponds were added on formerly irrigated lands throughout the county.

Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other Land to Urban Land	31 changes
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**City of Stockton:** The Stockton Soccer Complex (~40 acres) was the only notable instance of the urbanization of nonirrigated land this update.

**City of Tracy:** The Red Maple Village shopping center with a Raleys and a Walgreens across the street (~20 acres) were notable additions. A new retail building (~10 acres) and a church (~10 acres) were also added in the Tracy area.

**Community of Mountain House:** New homes (~25 acres) and the Sebastian Questa Elementary School (~20) were in evidence.

**Further Notable Additions of Urban Land:** The Terminous Boat and RV Storage facility (~10 acres) was added and the Foothill Sanitary Landfill was expanded by approximately 15 acres.

**Water Treatment or Recharge Ponds:** Approximately 35 acres of water treatment-related recharge ponds were added on nonirrigated land throughout the county.

**Urbanization Due to Increased Density or the Use of High Resolution Imagery:** Pockets of urbanization were added throughout the county due either to increased density of structures or the use of high resolution imagery, totaling approximately 160 acres.

### Conversions from Irrigated Farmland aside from urbanization

Irrigated Farmland to Nonirrigated Land Uses	256 changes
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These conversions were primarily due to irrigated farmland having been fallow or used for dry grain production (41 conversions of this type) for three or more update cycles. In either case, these areas will be converted to Farmland of Local Importance on the 2010 Important Farmland Map.

Quads which showed 10 or more conversions from irrigated farmland included the Lodi South (27), Lockeford (26), Escalon (18), Lodi North (17), Waterloo (16), Lathrop (16),

Stockton East (15), Manteca (15), Stockton West (14), Bouldin Island (14), and Tracy (11) quads. Conversions varied in size but the majority of changes were for less than 100 acres.

Singular conversions from irrigated farmland for greater than 500 acres due to fallowing occurred on the Clifton Court Forebay (~1,200 acres), Lathrop (~1,070 and 600 acres), and Terminous (~570 acres) quads. On the other hand, singular conversions from irrigated farmland for greater than 500 acres due to a shift to dry grain production occurred on the Tracy (~1,300 acres) and Vernalis (~550 acres) quads.

**Irrigated Farmland to Other Land**

94 changes

These conversions were primarily due either to the delineation of low-density housing or ranchettes (45 changes), plots of farmland that had been fallow for three or more update cycles and were disturbed or graded in preparation for future development (20 changes), the delineation of farmsteads or farm staging areas (13 changes) or the identification of wetland or natural vegetation areas (12 changes). Notable conversions this update included a couple of wetland areas (~170 acres) added on the Brack Tract and an expansion of aggregate mining at the Teichert Aggregates, Vernalis Plant (~330 acres).

**Conversions to Irrigated Farmland**

**Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other Land to Irrigated Farmland**

61 changes

These additions of new irrigated farmland were primarily in the eastern agricultural fringe areas of the county and consisted mainly of new walnut orchards, vineyards, alfalfa or other irrigated hay crops. The most notable change occurred on the Farmington quad where one large addition of approximately 1,000 acres of new vineyards and a couple of additions of primarily walnut orchards (~600 acres) were added. Further notable additions included approximately 700 acres of primarily walnut orchards added in the Peters area, including additions at the Concar Ranch.

Lastly, there were significant conversions from irrigated pasture to orchards and row crops. Many of these conversions from irrigated pasture to irrigated crops occurred on lesser quality or Unique soils. Previously, these areas of irrigated pasture on lesser quality or Unique soils were classified as Grazing Land on our maps since irrigated pasture cannot be classified as Unique Farmland per our mapping conventions. However, now that these areas have been converted to cropland rather than pastureland, they will show up as Unique Farmland on the 2010 Important Farmland map.

**Unusual Changes**

(Types of change not already described or special circumstances during the 2010 update.)

Conversions from Urban Land: These conversions were primarily due to the use of high resolution imagery that allowed for the delineation of more distinct urban boundaries.

**Areas of Concern for Future Updates**

(Locations or map categories noted as needing careful checking during 2012 update, and reasons.)

Bouldin and Bacon Islands should be monitored for possible conversion to nonagricultural uses per the 2010 EIR for the Delta Wetlands Project. Also, Stewart Island

should be monitored for the construction of the River Islands at Lathrop development.

**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 2010 update.*

Image interpretation, start date	October 31, 2011
Image interpretation, number of days	15
Ground truth dates	January 10-12 and 17-18, 2012
Number of days for post-ground truth clean up	10

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