California Department of Conservation FARMLAND MAPPING AND MONITORING PROGRAM

2012 FIELD REPORT

COUNTY: Glenn

FIELD MAPPER(S): C.K. Williams

IMAGE DATA USED:

Source: National Agriculture Imagery Program, USDA

Acquisition date: Summer 2012

Data description: True color mosaic, 1 meter resolution

Coverage gaps: None

Additional imagery used: Google Maps

WRITTEN, DIGITAL & ORAL INFORMATION SOURCES:

The following entities and individuals provided information used to conduct 2012 mapping.

Local Review Comments

(submitted by cities, counties, & others on 2010 maps)

None

Personal Contacts

Kelly Moroney, Sacramento River National Wildlife Refuge, (530) 934-2801 kelly_moroney@fws.gov

Websites Used for Reference

United States Fish and Wildlife Service, Sacramento River National Wildlife Refuge: http://www.fws.gov/sacramentovalleyrefuges/r sacriver.html

GIS Data Used for Reference

California City Boundary Layer California Protected Areas Database data (2011)

Department of Fish and Game Land Ownership data (2000)

Glenn County Base Map

2010-2012 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

0 changes

There were no significant conversions of Irrigated Farmland to Urban Land this update.

Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other Land to Urban

0 changes

There were no significant conversions of Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other to Urban Land this update.

Conversions from Irrigated Farmland

aside from urbanization

Irrigated Farmland to Nonirrigated Land Uses

17 changes

The majority of these changes were due to plots of irrigated land having been fallow for three or more update cycles. Every effort was made to field check these sites if possible. The majority of these changes were less than 40 acres. The most significant conversions occurred on the Stone Valley Quad (H130 acres) south of Stone Valley Road and the Willows Quad (H75 acres) south of Road 35 and east of Road D.

Two other conversions were due to the identification of nonirrigated grain. Nonirrigated grain is mapped as Farmland of Local Importance in Glenn County. One of these changes were less than 20 acres. The largest conversions occurred on the Fruto NE Quad (H120 acres) located south of Road 30 west of Road D.

Further conversions were due to the identification of habitat restoration areas within the Sacramento River National Wildlife Refuge complex. When habitat restoration occurs, the trees are often planted in rows to facilitate easier planting. Unfortunately, it can be hard to distinguish these habitat plantings from agricultural plantings in the early growth stages on aerial photography. Site visits for this update confirmed that these areas were habitat restoration plantings, not agricultural plantings. The largest conversions occurred on the Butte City (H275 acres) and Princeton (H30 acres) quads. Both areas are located at Hwy 162 west of the community of Butte City. The Wildlife Refuge staff noted that these areas are open for seasonal grazing; these areas are now mapped as Farmland of Local Importance based on the County's definition.

Irrigated Farmland to Other Land

7 changes

Low-density housing (ranchettes), farmsteads (H60 acres), an intersection located at Road 60 between Interstate 5 and County Rd 99W (H60 acres), and confined livestock (H95 acres) accounted for the majority of the conversions.

Two conversions to note occurred on the Butte City quad where approximately 400 acres of irrigated farmland was changed to Other Land due to the identification of a wetland area near the Upper Butte Basin Wildlife Area.

Conversions to Irrigated Farmland

Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other Land to Irrigated Farmland

29 changes

The primary conversions were due to the addition of new orchards, field crops, row crops, and irrigated pasture. Most of the changes were between 10-60 acres. The largest change was the addition of a new orchard on the Orland Quad (H230 acres) located east of I-5 and south of Road 27.

Unusual Changes

(Types of change not already described or special circumstances during the 2012 update.)

<u>Conversion between Irrigated Farmland categories:</u> There were 18 conversions between irrigated farmland categories most were about 10-70 acres. These changes were due to either irrigated pasture being replaced by irrigated crops or irrigated crops being replaced by irrigated pasture. These changes may result in conversions between Unique Farmland and Grazing Land.

<u>Conversions from Urban Land:</u> There was only 1 significant conversion from Urban Land (H10 acres). This was due to improved digital imagery that allowed for the delineation of more distinct urban boundaries and from areas that had been prematurely converted to urban for three or more update cycles that was vacant.

Areas of Concern for Future Updates

(Locations or map categories noted as needing careful checking during 2014 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 2012 update.

Image interpretation, start date: 9/8/14

Image interpretation, number of days: 9

Ground truth dates: 9/18 and 9/19/14

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