

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

2012 FIELD REPORT

COUNTY: Placer

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) City of Rocklin
Personal Contacts None
Websites Used for Reference Google Earth, Street View: http://maps.google.com
GIS Data Used for Reference

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 Land	75 changes
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The majority of conversions of this type were due to new homes being built on nonirrigated land. This totalled approximately 400 acres, with only two of the changes being greater than 50 acres—both were located in Roseville. The first was approximately 70 acres of new houses and a park in the West Park development; and the second was approximately 60 acres in the Stone Mill development.

The next largest conversion was due to the road improvements along the Highway 65 corridor between Roseville and Lincoln. This included approximately 90 acres for the new Lincoln bypass. Approximately 500 acres were converted due to the use of high resolution (1 meter) imagery that assisted in delineating areas of increased density of structures throughout the county.

**Conversions from Irrigated Farmland
aside from urbanization**

Irrigated Farmland to Nonirrigated Land Uses	26 changes
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First, 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 most significant conversion of approximately 120 acres was on the Sheridan Quad west of the Lincoln Bypass and north of Waltz Road.

Second, areas of irrigated farmland were identified that were no longer being irrigated but, instead, were being used for the cultivation of nonirrigated grain crops. These areas had not shown evidence of irrigated use for three update cycles. The largest (approximately 360 acres) was on the Sheridan Quad, northwest of the City of Lincoln and south of Wise Road.

Irrigated Farmland to Other Land	6 changes
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These conversions were due to two reasons. First, irrigated farmland having been fallow for three or more update cycles, with the remaining areas being too small to be mapped as separate nonirrigated land uses. Secondly, conversions to vacant or disturbed land or natural vegetation. The use of high resolution (1 meter) imagery assisted in delineating areas of rural residential land and low-density commercial areas throughout the county. The latter of these accounted for the majority of the conversions, totaling approximately 60 acres.

Conversions to Irrigated Farmland

Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other Land to Irrigated Farmland	22 changes
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The majority of the conversions to irrigated farmland are due to the addition of irrigated pasture, vineyards, orchards, and rice. These conversions account for approximately 400 acres, most of which were 10-20 acres each. The largest was for new vineyards on the Rocklin quad (approximately 70 acres at the Rock Hill Winery north of the City of Loomis). Second was an approximately 60 acre conversion to rice on the Pleasant Grove quad

east of Highway 99 and north of Baseline road.

Unusual Changes

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

Farmland of Local Importance to Grazing Land: The primary reason for conversion of Farmland of Local Importance this update was due to the incorporation of updated agricultural zoning data for Placer County. Other conversions were due to nonirrigated grain that had been fallow for four updates. (H780 acres).

Conversions from Urban Land: There were 17 conversions from Urban Land that total approximately 390 acres. Small to moderate units within Urban Land boundaries were converted to Grazing Land or to Other Land. This was possibly due to improved digital imagery that allowed for the delineation of more distinct urban boundaries. Some of these areas had been prematurely converted to urban and remained that way for three or more update cycles. In other instances, areas of vacant land, undisturbed land, riparian corridors, or low-density areas were delineated throughout the county. The largest examples were riparian/greenways on the Folsom and Roseville quads, totaling 70 and 50 acres, respectively.

Areas of Concern for Future Updates

(Locations or map categories noted as needing careful checking during 2014 update, and reasons.)

There were a lot of irrigated pastures identified in this update due to the improved digital imagery. Careful checking may be required in the future to determine if land is irrigated farmland or irrigated pasture.

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: 6/10/2014
Image interpretation, number of days: 7/2/2014
Ground truth dates: 7/7 and 7/8/2014
Number of days for post-ground truth clean-up: 6

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