

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

2012 FIELD REPORT

COUNTY: Sutter

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:	National Agriculture Imagery Program, USDA (Summer 2010); Google

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
None
Websites Used for Reference
Google Maps, 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	3 changes
Not much activity in this type of change. The largest is a new extension of Yuba College Sutter County Center in Yuba City, approximately 20 acres. A few small changes were due to buildings or homes adjacent to existing urban land.	
Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other Land to Urban Land	4 changes
The major conversion in this area was due to backyards of existing urban land being added, approximately 20 acres. Small changes were due to addition of new homes on the Gilsizer Slough quad approximately 5 acres and Gridley quad approximately 10 acres. Also a new building and existing home was added at the intersection of Butte House Road and Tharp Road in Yuba City, approximately 5 acres.	
Conversions from Irrigated Farmland aside from urbanization	
Irrigated Farmland to Nonirrigated Land Uses	33 changes
The majority of these changes were due to irrigated farmland being fallow for three or more update cycles. Every effort was made to field check the sites if possible. There were two significant conversions in excess of 100 acres. On the Meridian quad, approximately 130 acres, located southwest of the Butte Sink; and on the Sanborn Slough quad, approximately 100 acres, located north on West Butte road southeast of the Butte Sink. Eleven other sites were between approximately 30 and 90 acres. The remaining sites were less than 20 acres each.	
Irrigated Farmland to Other Land	24 changes
This update a total of approximately 3,500 acres was converted to wetlands, six of these being over 300 acres. The two most significant additions were approximately 900 acres on the Meridian quad (located at the south end of the Butte Sink and north of the Sutter Bypass). The second being three conversions of approximately 1,700 acres on the Sutter Causeway quad located along the Sutter Bypass southeast of State HWY 113. Other changes were primarily due to improvements to HWY 99 and the addition of farmsteads/ranchettes.	
Conversions to Irrigated Farmland	
Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other Land to Irrigated Farmland	41 changes
This update a total of approximately 1,420 acres was converted to irrigated farmland. Two significant additions were due to new orchards. One new orchard, approximately 135 acres, is located near the community of Meridian, northwest of the Sutter Buttes; and the second, approximately 130 acres, on the Sutter quad south of the Sutter Buttes and north of Colusa HWY 113. The rest of the new irrigated farmland was primarily new rice, approximately 700 acres, and other crops.	
Unusual Changes	
(Types of change not already described or special circumstances during the 2012 update.)	
<u>Conversion between Irrigated Farmland categories:</u> There were 19 conversions between irrigated farmland categories. These changes were due to either irrigated pasture being	

replaced by irrigated crops or irrigated crops being replaced by irrigated pasture.

Conversions from Urban Land: There were 2 conversions from Urban Land. Small units within Urban Land boundaries were converted to irrigated farmland and to Other Land. This was possible 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 2014 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 2012 update.

Image interpretation, start date: 3/12/14
Image interpretation, number of days: 7
Ground truth dates: 4/28/14 and 4/29/14
Number of days for post-ground truth clean-up: 4

Further information on the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program can be found at:

<http://www.conservation.ca.gov/dlrp/fmmp/Pages/Index.aspx>