

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

2014 FIELD REPORT

COUNTY: Alameda

FIELD MAPPER(S): Kerri Kisko

IMAGE DATA USED:

Source: National Agriculture Imagery Program, USDA
Acquisition date: Summer 2014
Data description: True color mosaic, 1 meter resolution
Coverage gaps: None
Additional imagery used: None

WRITTEN, DIGITAL & ORAL INFORMATION SOURCES:

The following entities and individuals provided information used to conduct 2014 mapping.

Local Review Comments (submitted by cities, counties, & others on 2012 maps)
None
Personal Contacts
None
Websites Used for Reference
County of Alameda: https://www.acgov.org Google Earth, Street View: http://maps.google.com Golf Course Ranking: www.golfcourseranking.com Oak Knoll Community: www.oakknollcommunity.com San Francisco Public Utilities Commission: www.sfwater.org
GIS Data Used for Reference
California City Boundary Layer Alameda County Base Map Alameda County Digital Soil Surveys Solid Waste Information System data

2012-2014 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.	
Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other Land to Urban Land	52 changes
<p>These changes were primarily due to the construction of homes, buildings, parks, infrastructure and a school.</p> <p><u>City of Dublin:</u> There was approximately 250 acres of new homes added throughout the City of Dublin, including the Positano, Schaefer Ranch, Fallon Crossing, and Sorrento developments. New businesses were added at the Fallon Crossing shopping center (~10 acres), as well as other new buildings (~25 acres) within the city. New parks were also added, such as the Park at Positano (~5 acres), Passatempo Park (~5 acres) and Schaefer Ranch Park (~10 acres). Also, the J.M. Amador Elementary School (~10 acres) was added.</p> <p><u>City of Pleasanton:</u> Approximately 140 acres of new homes were added, including the Stonebridge Creek Retirement Community and the Reserve development. The new Stonebridge Creek Park (~5 acres) was added as well as two paved parking areas.</p> <p><u>City of Livermore:</u> The Cayetano Park (~15 acres) was added, as well as new buildings at the Livermore Veterans Hospital (~5 acres). New parking lots were added at the San Francisco Premium Outlets (~30 acres) and the Vasco Road Landfill was expanded by approximately 20 acres.</p> <p><u>City of Fremont:</u> The new Thermo-Fisher Scientific Facility (~15 acres) was added as well as new buildings (~10 acres) near Quarry Park. A new parking lot (~10 acres) at a Bart station (under construction) was added and the Tri Cities Landfill was expanded by approximately 85 acres.</p> <p><u>City of Hayward:</u> Approximately 25 acres of new homes were added at the TPC Stonebrae Golf Course along with approximately 15 acres of water treatment ponds.</p> <p><u>Community of Altamont:</u> A new water control pond (~30 acres) was added and the Altamont Landfill was expanded by approximately 170 acres.</p>	

Conversions from Irrigated Farmland aside from urbanization	
Irrigated Farmland to Nonirrigated Land Uses	10 changes
<p>These changes were due to irrigated farmland being fallow for three or more update cycles. Fallow farmland is mapped as Grazing Land in Alameda County. These changes were primarily located in the Livermore Valley and ranged in size from 10 acres to 320 acres. Most of the changes (8) were less than 40 acres each. The largest changes occurred on the Livermore (~80 acres of former irrigated pasture) and Altamont (~320 acres at Beyer Farms) quads.</p>	
Irrigated Farmland to Other Land	6 changes
<p>Low-density housing (ranchettes), an agricultural equipment storage area and disturbed land accounted for the majority of the changes. These changes were primarily in the Livermore Valley area of the county and were 20 acres or less in size. Finally, approximately 45 acres of ranchettes were added (3 changes) as well as gravel parking areas (~15 acres) and an agricultural staging area (~15 acres).</p>	
Conversions to Irrigated Farmland	
Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other Land to Irrigated Farmland	10 changes
<p>The majority of the irrigated farmland was added in the Livermore Valley. Most of the changes were 10-60 acres in size and consisted of vineyards, irrigated pastures, row crops and an orchard. Some changes of note include the addition of vineyards (~55 acres) on the Altamont quad and an area of irrigated pasture (~45 acres) on the Clifton Court Forebay quad.</p>	
Unusual Changes	
(Types of change not already described or special circumstances during the 2014 update.)	
<p><u>Nonirrigated Land Uses to Other Land:</u> There were 111 conversions of nonirrigated land uses to Other Land. These changes were primarily due to expansion of low-density housing (ranchettes), farmsteads, rural commercial, agricultural equipment storage areas and disturbed land. These changes occurred throughout the county and were primarily 10-40 acres in size. The largest change occurred on the Niles quad where approximately 70 acres was converted to ranchettes.</p>	
<p><u>Conversions from Urban Land:</u> There were 19 conversions from Urban Land. Urban Land was converted to Other Land and Grazing Land. These conversions were primarily due to the abandonment or removal of infrastructure for three or more update cycles and occurred throughout the county. Most of the changes were primarily 10-35 acres. One change of note is the abandonment of the Mountain House Golf Course (~135 acres) on the Midway quad. The remaining changes were due to improved digital imagery that allowed for the delineation of more distinct urban boundaries.</p>	
<p><u>Conversions to Water:</u> There were 5 conversions of Grazing Land to Water. These changes were due to the increased water level at the San Antonio Reservoir (~85 acres total) on the La Costa Valley quad.</p>	

Areas of Concern for Future Updates

(Locations or map categories noted as needing careful checking during 2016 update, and reasons.)

Watch for new housing to be built at the site of a former Naval Hospital in Oakland. The SunCal company is waiting on permits to build a new housing community called Oak Knoll.

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 2014 update.

Image interpretation, start date: March 25, 2016
Image interpretation, number of days: 9
Ground truth dates: August 25-26, 2016
Number of days for post-ground truth clean-up: 7

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