

California Department of Conservation
FARMLAND MAPPING AND MONITORING PROGRAM

2014 FIELD REPORT

COUNTY: San Joaquin

FIELD MAPPER(S): C.K.Williams

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 Charles Tyson: ctyson@water.ca.gov
Websites Used for Reference Medford Island: http://www.water.ca.gov/floodsafe/fessro/environmental/dee/medford.cfm Google Earth, Street View: http://maps.google.com
GIS Data Used for Reference

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	11 changes
<p>These changes were primarily due to the construction of buildings, homes, and infrastructure. Most were between 10-20 acres. The most notable change was approximately 70 acres of new homes added throughout the City of Lathrop, primarily expansion of the Del Webb development (~50 acres). In the City of Tracy, the new Amazon Fulfillment Center (~100 acres) was added. Finally a solar facility was added south of the community of Lockeford (~15 acres).</p>	
Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other Land to Urban Land	15 changes
<p>These changes were primarily due to the construction of homes, buildings, infrastructure, and schools. In Mountain House, approximately 100 acres of new homes were added at the Questa development and approximately 45 acres added due to the new Mountain House High School. Approximately 70 acres of new homes were added in the City of Lathrop along with a new baseball park (~20 acres) and new school (~25 acres).</p>	
<p>Conversions from Irrigated Farmland aside from urbanization</p>	
Irrigated Farmland to Nonirrigated Land Uses	60 changes
<p>The majority of these changes were due to irrigated farmland being fallow for three or more update cycles. These changes were located throughout the county. The majority of these changes were 30 acres or less. The most notable change was a vineyard going fallow west of the City of Woodbridge (~100 acres). Other conversions were due to the identification of land being cropped with nonirrigated grain for multiple updates. Nonirrigated grain is mapped as Farmland of Local Importance in San Joaquin County. Most of these changes were 30 acres or less. The largest change occurred on the Lockeford quad (~75 acres).</p>	
Irrigated Farmland to Other Land	18 changes
<p>Low-density housing (ranchettes), farmsteads, rural commercial, disturbed land and nonagricultural vegetation areas accounted for the majority of the changes. These changes were scattered throughout the county and were primarily between 10-25 acres.</p>	
<p>Conversions to Irrigated Farmland</p>	
Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other Land to Irrigated Farmland	65 changes
<p>The majority of the irrigated farmland additions were 10-60 acres in size and consisted of orchards, grape vines, field crops, and row crops. The most notable conversions were the addition of a new walnut orchard (~600 acres) on the Valley Springs SW quad north of Highway 26 and a new orchard (~300 acres) on the Linden quad north of the community of Linden. Other notable changes were new vines (~280 acres) and a new orchard (~220 acres) on the Valley Springs SW quad, two new orchards (~150 acres) each on the Peters quad and two new orchards (~200 acres) each on the Tracy and Lockeford quads.</p>	
<p>Unusual Changes (Types of change not already described or special circumstances during the 2014</p>	

update.)

Conversions from Urban Land: There were 4 conversions from Urban Land. The most notable change was approximately 80 acres in size and resulted from a golf course on the Lodi quad being closed and converted to a vineyard. Urban Land was also converted to other categories due to improved digital imagery that allowed for the delineation of more distinct urban boundaries.

Nonirrigated Land Uses to Other Land: There were 5 conversions of nonirrigated land uses to Other Land. These changes were primarily due to low-density housing (ranchettes), farmsteads, rural commercial, disturbed land and natural vegetation. These changes occurred throughout the county and were primarily 10-30 acres in size. One notable change due to improved digital imagery was approximately 200 acres of natural vegetation along the San Joaquin River.

Conversion between Irrigated Farmland categories: There were 27 conversions between irrigated farmland categories, most were between 10 and 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, Farmland of Local Importance, and Grazing Land.

Areas of Concern for Future Updates

(Locations or map categories noted as needing careful checking during 2016 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 2014 update.

Image interpretation, start date: 3/13/15
Image interpretation, number of days: 30
Ground truth dates: 4
Number of days for post-ground truth clean-up: 5

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