

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

**2016 FIELD REPORT**

**COUNTY:** Mariposa

**FIELD MAPPER(S):** Kerri Kisko

**IMAGE DATA USED:**

Source: National Agriculture Imagery Program, USDA
Acquisition date: Summer 2016
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 2016 mapping.*

<b>Local Review Comments</b> (submitted by cities, counties, & others on 2014 maps)
None
<b>Personal Contacts</b>
None
<b>Websites Used for Reference</b>
Google Maps, Street View: <a href="http://maps.google.com">http://maps.google.com</a> Merced Sun-Star: <a href="http://www.mercedsunstar.com/news/local/community/mariposa-and-yosemite/article3244700.html">http://www.mercedsunstar.com/news/local/community/mariposa-and-yosemite/article3244700.html</a> The Modesto Bee: <a href="http://www.modbee.com/latest-news/article3125807.html">http://www.modbee.com/latest-news/article3125807.html</a>
<b>GIS Data Used for Reference</b>
California City Boundary Layer (2016) Mariposa County Base Map

**2014-2016 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.](#)

<b>Conversions to Urban Land</b>	
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	3 changes
<p>These changes were all small and not necessarily new construction. In the City of Mariposa, a church and some other buildings were added (~10 acres). A new parking lot (~5 acres) was added at the McClure Point Recreation Area on the Merced Falls quad. Finally, approximately 10 acres of dense homes were added in the Whiskey Flat area. Other, less significant conversions were due to improved digital imagery that allowed for the delineation of more distinct urban boundaries.</p>	
<b>Conversions from Irrigated Farmland aside from urbanization</b>	
Irrigated Farmland to Nonirrigated Land Uses	6 changes
<p>These changes were due to irrigated farmland being fallow for three or more update cycles. Five of these changes occurred on the Owens Reservoir quad, south of Highway 140, and close to the border with Merced County where approximately 200 acres of orchards were removed. The other change (~10 acres) occurred on the Stumpfield Mountain quad where a vineyard went out of production.</p>	
Irrigated Farmland to Other Land	0 changes
There were no significant conversions of irrigated farmland to Other Land.	
<b>Conversions to Irrigated Farmland</b>	
Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other Land to Irrigated Farmland	0 changes
There were no significant conversions of nonirrigated land uses or Other Land to irrigated farmland.	
<b>Unusual Changes</b>	
(Types of change not already described or special circumstances during the 2016 update.)	
<p><u>Nonirrigated Land Uses to Other Land</u>: There were 112 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 10-20 acres in size. The largest change occurred on the Mariposa quad where approximately 50 acres was converted to Other Land for ranchettes.</p>	

Conversions from Urban Land: There were 9 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 in the northern half of the county. Most of the changes were for less than 20 acres. One change of note is the abandonment of the Lake Don Pedro Golf Course (~165 acres) on the Peñon Blanco Peak quad. The remaining changes were due to the use of high resolution digital 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 2018 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 2016 update.*

Image interpretation, start date: 2/14/2017
Image interpretation, number of days: 2
Ground truth dates: 09/11/2017
Number of days for post-ground truth clean-up: 2

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

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