California Department of Conservation

FARMLAND MAPPING AND MONITORING PROGRAM

2016 FIELD REPORT

COUNTY: San Joaquin

FIELD MAPPER(S): Andrew McLeod

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.

Local Review Comments (submitted by cities, counties, & others on 2014 maps)
None
Personal Contacts
None
Websites Used for Reference
Google Earth, Street View: http://maps.google.com
GIS Data Used for Reference
None

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.

Conversions to Urban Land	
Irrigated Farmland to Urban Land	17 changes
These conversions were primarily due to the construction of buildings, houses, and	

infrastructure. Most changes were between 10-20 acres. The two largest changes were on the outskirts of Manteca, converting approximately 85 acres near Woodward Park and approximately 60 acres in the Woodbridge subdivision to Urban Land. Another large addition was the Legacy Fields sports complex (~ 65 acres) just north of Tracy. The Manteca quad had the most overall development activity with 8 changes for an aggregate of over 250 acres of development, primarily the construction of new homes.

Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other Land to Urban Land	42 changes

These changes were primarily due to the construction of houses, buildings, infrastructure, and schools. The largest single conversion was approximately 125 acres of new homes and a school in the River Islands subdivision just southwest of Lathrop. The Mountain House area northwest of Tracy remained active with two additions of homes, totaling approximately 125 acres. The area near the intersections of I-580 and I-205 saw the addition of four new distribution centers, totaling approximately 200 acres. The largest retail development was a new shopping center anchored by Walmart on Kettleman Lane in Lodi (~ 40 acres).

Conversions from Irrigated Farmland **aside from urbanization**	
Irrigated Farmland to Nonirrigated Land Uses	101 changes

The majority of these changes were due to irrigated farmland having been fallow or having been converted to nonirrigated grain for three or more update cycles. These changes were located throughout the county. The Terminous quad saw the largest single change, with 195 acres of former irrigated farmland converted to nonirrigated land. The largest conversion to nonirrigated grain was approximately 175 acres on the Stockton East quad. A further large, single conversion to nonirrigated land was approximately 145 acres on the Bouldin Island quad. The largest concentration of fallowing took place on the Union Island quad with three large changes for an aggregate total of approximately 300 acres fallowed. Meanwhile, the Lockeford quad had 14 changes for a total of approximately 270 acres fallowed.

Irrigated Farmland to Other Land	77 changes

Low-density housing (ranchettes), farmsteads, rural commercial, disturbed land, and nonagricultural vegetation areas accounted for the majority of these conversions. These changes were scattered throughout the county and were primarily between 10-25 acres. The largest changes were approximately 190 acres on the Lathrop quad that was converted to Vacant Land and approximately 130 acres that was converted to Natural Vegetation on the Holt quad. The Vernalis quad had the most conversions to Other Land, with seven changes for a total of approximately 100 acres.

Conversions to Irrigated Farmland	
Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other Land to Irrigated Farmland	188 changes

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 as follows:

The Lodi South quad saw a large planting of row crops totaling approximately 330 acres. A new planting of almonds (~325 acres) was added on the Goose Creek quad. Grapes were also a common new crop, including additions of approximately 275 acres of vines on the Lodi North quad, approximately 225 acres of vines on the Clay quad, and approximately 175 acres of new vines on the Linden quad. The largest conversion to irrigated pasture was approximately 120 acres on the Clements quad. The Clements quad was, overall, the most active with 26 changes for an aggregate of approximately 1,375 acres of new irrigated farmland, primarily new grapevines.

Unusual Changes

(Types of change not already described or special circumstances during the 2016 update.)

Conversions from Urban Land:
There were 16 conversions from Urban Land. The most notable change was approximately 40 acres in size and resulted from a defunct nursery on Beckman Road, near Lodi. Urban Land was also converted to other categories due to improved digital imagery that allowed for the delineation of more distinct urban boundaries.

Conversion between Irrigated Farmland categories:
The most significant conversion of this type was the planting of 365 acres of almonds on former irrigated pasture on the Escalon quad. In addition, 85 acres of grapevines on the Lodi North quad were reclassified as nonirrigated land.

Adjustments to Water boundaries:
Numerous conversions were made in the Delta based on improved imagery. The largest of these was approximately 200 acres on the Terminous quad, which were previously classified as Natural Vegetation.

Areas of Concern for Future Updates

(Locations or map categories noted as needing careful checking during 2018 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 2016 update.

Image interpretation, start date: 9/12/17
Image interpretation, number of days: 12
Ground truth dates: 3.5
Number of days for post-ground truth clean-up: 9

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