

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

2018 FIELD REPORT

COUNTY: San Mateo

FIELD MAPPER(S): Michael Kisko

IMAGE DATA USED:

Source: National Agriculture Imagery Program, USDA
Acquisition date: Summer 2018
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 2018 mapping.

Local Review Comments (submitted by cities, counties, & others on 2016 maps)
None
Personal Contacts
Websites Used for Reference
Google Maps, Street View: http://maps.google.com
GIS Data Used for Reference
FRAP California City Boundary Layer (2018)

2016-2018 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	2 changes
<p>There was a conversion of irrigated farmland to Urban Land due to the addition of a few structures (~2 acres) on the eastern edge of Miramar in the vicinity of Miramar Farms. The other conversion was not actually a change of land use but simply due to the identification of Oceanview Driving Range in Half Moon Bay. The driving range had been mismapped as agriculture because it had looked irrigated in the past and is surrounded by irrigated agriculture on two sides. In recent years, irrigation has seemingly been curtailed. Golf courses and driving ranges are both considered Urban Land under our mapping conventions.</p>	
Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other Land to Urban Land	11 changes
<p>The most notable conversion of nonirrigated land to Urban land was an expansion of Skylawn Memorial Park (~20 acres), which is located to the west of Crystal Springs Reservoir. Another notable example of urbanization was the addition of new homes (~10 acres) in Half Moon Bay, adjacent to Half Moon Bay High School. The remaining conversions were primarily due to the delineation of existing pockets of dense homes and rural commercial uses throughout the county, totaling approximately 100 acres.</p>	
Conversions from Irrigated Farmland aside from urbanization	
Irrigated Farmland to Nonirrigated Land Uses	14 changes
<p>Conversions from irrigated farmland to nonirrigated land uses were primarily due to irrigated farmland and nurseries going fallow for three or more update cycles. The most numerous conversions were seen on the Franklin Point quad which had five changes with approximately 100 acres of former irrigated farmland going out of production. The Half Moon Bay quad had the next most conversions with four changes for 70 acres of conversion from irrigated farmland. Finally, a small plot (~10 acres) was converted from irrigated farmland to nonirrigated grain on the San Gregorio quad.</p>	
Irrigated Farmland to Other Land	1 change
<p>The change from irrigated farmland to Other Land was due to a small plot of irrigated pasture (~10 acres) that had been tracked for three update cycles and looked more like natural vegetation.</p>	
Conversions to Irrigated Farmland	
Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other Land to Irrigated Farmland	8 changes
<p>Additions of new irrigated farmland were modest in acreage with most additions of irrigated farmland around 10 acres. The irrigated farmland additions primarily consisted of row crops and vines. Half of the additions occurred in the Half Moon Bay area. Three of the remaining four additions were in other coastal areas with the final addition consisting of an expansion of vines added nearby La Honda.</p>	

Unusual Changes

(Types of change not already described or special circumstances during the 2018 update.)

I delineated a potted plant nursery near Half Moon Bay that caused a shift of approximately 20 acres of Prime Farmland to Unique Farmland. Potted plant nurseries are mapped as Unique Farmland regardless of the soil quality at the site since the soil is not being utilized to grow the plants.

Areas of Concern for Future Updates

(Locations or map categories noted as needing careful checking during 2020 update, and reasons.)

The irrigation status of the beans grown on the Half Moon Bay airport property should be monitored.

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 2018 update.

Image interpretation, start date: April 30, 2019
Image interpretation, number of days: 5
Ground truth dates: June 3-4, 2019
Number of days for post-ground truth clean-up: 1

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

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