

**California Department of Conservation
Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program**

2000 FIELD REPORT

COUNTY: Orange

FIELD MAPPER(S): Patrick Hennessy

PHOTOGRAPHY:

source: Aerial Fotobank Inc
date: February 2, 2000
scale: 1 : 42,000
film type: 9x9 true color
coverage gaps: western edge of county on Los Alamitos quad, no vertical overlap between photos 738 & 798 on the Anaheim quad

WRITTEN OR ORAL INFORMATION SOURCES: *Please list which local governments, interest groups, or individuals submitted comments on the 1998 maps. Also list all phone and in-person contacts made while conducting the 2000 update.*

➤ *local review comments*

cities: Tustin, Garden Grove
county:
others: Seal Beach Naval Weapons Station (Gregg Smith)

➤ *personal contacts:* none

➤ *websites:* www.sbeach.navy.mil

1998-2000 CHANGES*: *Please summarize the most common changes to the maps. List representative locations (quads) of each type of change encountered. Make sure to list and describe particularly large, unusual or notable changes and give estimates of the acreage involved.*

➤ P, S, U → D

The expansion of urban land is the predominant land change in Orange county. There were 28 total changes of farmland to urban land. The Tustin quad had 12 of the changes, mostly on the eastern edge. One of the changes is approximately 200 acres. The rest of the changes occurred on the Orange quad (3), Yorba Linda (1), La Habra (1), Los Alamitos (1), Newport (2), Seal Beach (1), Anaheim (4), San Juan Capistrano (1), and El Toro (2).

➤ G, X → D

The open land in Orange county is being converted to housing developments, reflected by the 56 total changes of this type. Most of the areas were small additions to existing urban land. The Orange quad had 5 changes, Yorba Linda (1), Newport (2), Seal Beach (2), Tustin (9), Cañada Gobernadora (3), Santiago Peak (5), Laguna Beach (4), El Toro (6), and Dana Point (1). San Juan Capistrano had 13 changes, one of them was approximately 180 acres and another 100 acres. Black Star Canyon only had 2 changes, but one is 100 acres. San Clemente had only 3 changes, one nearly 300 acres of new homes and a golf course in the hills.

➤ P, S, U → G

Two changes from farmland to grazing land, both were fallow for the third cycle (Fa3). One is on Los Alamitos, the other is on Cañada Gobernadora.

➤ P, S, U → X

Seven total changes, Tustin (1), Cañada Gobernadora (1), and El Toro (5) where a new freeway interchange (Hwy 261 & 231) bisected some orchards.

➤ G, X → P, S, U

There are two of these changes, one on Tustin (line adjustment) and one on Cañada Gobernadora.

➤ D → P, S, U

Only one change from urban land to farmland on the Yorba Linda quad, where a new strawberry field was found.

➤ D → G, X

Two changes, a small one on Dana Point and a large change on the El Toro quad where the Wilderness Glen Park was identified among residential housing developments. Initially, I was hesitant to make the El Toro change because the park is in a canyon surrounded by homes. I finally decided the change was reasonable because it is wilderness and comprises a large area (probably close to 150 acres).

➤ **UNUSUAL:** *Category changes, complications with the Farmland of Local Importance definition, or any other special circumstances in 2000.*

The most unusual change is the wilderness park just previously mentioned.

PROBLEM AREAS: *What locations and map categories need careful checking in 2002? Why?*

Tons of flags for housing developments on Tustin, El Toro, Yorba Linda, San Clemente, San Juan Capistrano, Orange, and Laguna Beach. Cañada Gobernadora quad deserves special checking in 2002 because of the new housing and the prime and unique farmland in the southern portion of the valley there. The land is private and not

accessible to field checks. It is already labeled fallow for three cycles (Fa3) but a change was not made because the photo didn't help much.

OUT OF DATE BASE MAPS: *Please list any base maps used for update or publication of this county which are woefully out of date due to extensive new development, road construction, etc.*

Extensive development is occurring in southern Orange county and consequently a couple of quads are extremely out of date. The location of fields can be difficult when the map doesn't have roads on it. San Clemente, Dana Point, San Juan Capistrano, and El Toro are severely out of date

LABOR ESTIMATE: *Please estimate the amount of time spent on the following tasks.*

photo interpretation, start date: October 25, 2000

photo interpretation, number of days: 11

ground truthing dates: November 13-15, 2000

days for map compilation and clean up: 4

* **Note:** P = Prime Farmland; S = Farmland of Statewide Importance; U = Unique Farmland; L = Farmland of Local Importance; G = Grazing Land; D = Urban and Built-up Land; X = Other Land; W = Water Areas; I = Irrigated Farmland; N = Nonirrigated Farmland

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

www.consrv.ca.gov/dlrp/fmmp