

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

2006 FIELD REPORT

COUNTY: Nevada

FIELD MAPPER(S): Amy Klug

IMAGERY:

source: National Agricultural Imagery Program (NAIP)

date: summer 2006, summer 2005

scale: 2 meter resolution

film type: true color mosaic

coverage gaps:

additional imagery:

WRITTEN, DIGITAL & ORAL INFORMATION SOURCES: *Please list which local governments, interest groups, or individuals submitted comments on the 2004 maps. Also list all phone and in-person contacts made or related GIS data referenced while conducting the 2006 update.*

➤ *local review comments*

cities: None

county: None

others: None

➤ *personal contacts:* None

➤ *websites:* <http://maps.google.com/>

➤ *GIS data referenced:* GDT Roads.

2004-2006 CHANGES*: *Please summarize the most common changes to the maps. List representative locations (quad or city) 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.*

➤ **Irrigated Farmland to Urban Land: 0 changes**

➤ **Local, Grazing or Other Land to Urban Land: 23 changes**

The three largest changes in this category involved reclassifications of Other Land to Urban due to the use of detailed imagery to delineate more distinct boundaries. Approximately 190 acres was added near Quaker Hill, approximately 175 acres converted 2.5 miles east of Nevada City, and approximately 145 acres was added in Alta Sierra.

➤ **Irrigated Farmland to Local or Grazing Land: 16 Changes**

Irrigated pasture left idle for multiple update cycles accounted for the majority of acres converting to Local or Grazing. Specific areas will convert to Local or Grazing depending on the soil type, due to the Farmland of Local Importance definition.

The largest examples of areas converting to Local occurred on the Lake Combie (≈135 acres), Wolf (≈30 acres), and Chicago Peak (≈25 acres) quads. Most of the conversions to Grazing Land were small and less than 10 acres. The largest was due to irrigated farmland following for three update cycles on the French Corral quad (≈75 acres).

➤ **Irrigated Farmland to Other Land: 3 Changes**

The three changes in this category were due to the delineation of low density housing by using more detailed imagery on the Wolf (≈20 acres), Nevada City (≈10 acres), and Chicago Peak (≈10 acres) quads.

➤ **Local, Grazing or Other Land to Irrigated Farmland: 6 Changes**

There was one change from Other Land on the Grass Valley quad (≈20 acres) which was due to the addition of row crops. There were two changes on the Smartville (≈15 acres) and Wolf (≈5 acres) quads in which irrigated pasture was added on Grazing Land. Row crops on the French Corral quad (≈30 acres) occurred on what had been Farmland of Local Importance.

➤ **Grazing Land to Other Land: 41 Changes**

Nearly all the changes were due to the use of more detailed imagery to delineate low density housing throughout the county. Five changes were 200 or more acres in size this update: two were south of Lake Wildwood and totaled over 1,100 acres, two on the Wolf quad added up to ≈600 acres, and one on the French Corral quad in the western foothills at ≈260 acres.

➤ **UNUSUAL:** *Category changes, complications with the Farmland of Local Importance definition, or any other special circumstances in 2006.*

The County is considering revising its Farmland of Local Importance definition to reflect current agricultural patterns and priorities. Land use related changes were kept to a minimum this update in anticipation of this process. However, FY 2005-06 Williamson Act enrollment data was used to update that aspect of Farmland of Local Importance. This data was not edited in advance of incorporating it into the Important Farmland GIS file. As a result, polygons that are thinner or smaller than the Important Farmland Maps would normally portray could exist in the final product.

PROBLEM AREAS: *What locations and map categories need careful checking in 2008? Why?*

The extent of nonirrigated grain, improved dryland pasture, and other components of the Farmland of Local Importance should be carefully scrutinized next update.

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

photo interpretation, start date: 5/7/2008

photo interpretation, number of days: 6

ground truthing dates: May 21-23, 2008

days for map compilation and clean up: 4

* **Note:** **Irrigated Farmland** = Prime Farmland, Farmland of Statewide Importance or Unique Farmland; **Local** = Farmland of Local Importance

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

www.consrv.ca.gov/dlrp/fmmp