

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

2010 FIELD REPORT

COUNTY: Mendocino

FIELD MAPPER(S): Patrick Hennessy

IMAGE DATA USED:

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Source | National Agriculture Imagery Program (NAIP) |
| Acquisition date | Summer 2009 & 2010 |
| Data description | 1 meter resolution, true color mosaic |
| Coverage gaps | None |
| Additional imagery used | Google Maps |

WRITTEN, DIGITAL & ORAL INFORMATION SOURCES:

The following entities and individuals provided information used to conduct 2010 mapping.

Local Review Comments

(submitted by cities, counties, & others on 2008 maps)

None.

Personal Contacts

None.

Websites Used for Reference

Round Valley Indian Reservation wastewater treatment plant:

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/2dd7f669225439b78525735900400c31/04cb3aee82da9388852575ed006dec64!OpenDocument>

<http://www.standupca.org/tribes/Redding%20Rancheria/area-tribes-receive-recovery-act-funds-to-improve-water-services/>

Potter Valley High School football field and structures verified with airphoto and this video:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M0dvICUNKjI>

Solar array installed on Mendocino College property:

<http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/mendocino-college-dedicates-sunpower-solar-power-system-78857457.html>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a6uGL-O9HJI>

Casper Beach RV park:

<http://www.rvingusa.com/maps/799map.jpg>

GIS Data Used for Reference

None.

2008-2010 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 | 6 changes |
|----------------------------------|-----------|

Not too much activity in this type of change. The largest is 13 acres for winery buildings and associated ponds. A couple changes were due to buildings or homes adjacent to existing urban land.

| | |
|---|------------|
| Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other Land to Urban Land | 36 changes |
|---|------------|

There are more changes to Urban from the nonirrigated land use categories, but they are not much bigger in size. The largest is 27 acres and only 10 of the changes are greater than 10 acres. Mendocino College in Ukiah installed a solar panel array on the college property that affected 15 acres. The college even created a you-tube video of the entire construction. On the coast, next to Casper Headlands State Beach is a campground and RV park (11 acres). A map of the campground found online assisted in determining the Urban boundary. In the Round Valley area, the Hidden Oaks Casino and Round Valley Indian Reservation wastewater treatment expansion converted 7 acres to Urban. In Potter Valley, the Russian River separated the high school from what appeared to be a grass field. A you-tube video of Potter High School football highlights helped confirm that the grass field was in fact the football field (6 acres), and buildings in the video were also present in the airphotos.

Conversions from Irrigated Farmland aside from urbanization

| | |
|--|------------|
| Irrigated Farmland to Nonirrigated Land Uses | 17 changes |
|--|------------|

Interestingly, only one small area (2 acres) went fallow for three updates and only two areas were changed due to farmsteads (17 & 8 acres). The rest of the changes are due to irrigation ponds less than 10 acres that were built adjacent to Grazing land. It was surprising to observe the trend, but the older imagery verified that they are new.

| | |
|----------------------------------|------------|
| Irrigated Farmland to Other Land | 19 changes |
|----------------------------------|------------|

Plenty of this change scattered throughout the county. Most of the changes are less than 10 acres and consist of homes and new irrigation ponds that are adjacent to Other land. In the northern part of Potter Valley, almost 25 acres of low density housing was mapped.

Conversions to Irrigated Farmland

| | |
|---|------------|
| Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other Land to Irrigated Farmland | 49 changes |
|---|------------|

This type of change is characterized by small additions to existing agriculture, particularly vineyards. There was the occasional orchard or row crop, but grape vines clearly dominated the new agriculture with an approximate contribution of 400 acres. The largest is just over 100 acres of new grapes at a Fetzer vineyard near Hopland and Highway 175.

The next largest is only 25 acres, indicating that individual changes are not typically large.

Unusual Changes

(Types of change not already described or special circumstances during the 2010 update.)

None.

Areas of Concern for Future Updates

(Locations or map categories noted as needing careful checking during 2012 update, and reasons.)

The Round Valley is a challenge. Much of the field checking in that area was just to determine the status of agricultural fields. The type of agriculture there tends to lean towards pastures, possibly alfalfa or livestock feed or grains. These are more difficult to interpret in the imagery.

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 2010 update.

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| Image interpretation, start date | 10/04/2011 |
| Image interpretation, number of days | 9 |
| Ground truth dates | 11/16- 11/17/ 2011 |
| Number of days for post-ground truth clean up | 4 |

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