

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

**2010 FIELD REPORT**

**COUNTY:** Yuba

**FIELD MAPPER(S):** Patrick Hennessy

**IMAGE DATA USED:**

Source	National Agriculture Imagery Program (NAIP)
Acquisition date	
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.*

<b>Local Review Comments</b> (submitted by cities, counties, & others on 2008 maps)
None.
<b>Personal Contacts</b>
None.
<b>Websites Used for Reference</b>
Renaissance Winery <a href="http://www.renaissancewinery.com/">http://www.renaissancewinery.com/</a>
<b>GIS Data Used for Reference</b>
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.*

<b>Conversions to Urban Land</b>	
Irrigated Farmland to Urban Land	5 changes
This type of change was very limited in Yuba County. The largest of the five changes was only 12 acres of new homes near Feather River Boulevard and Plumas-Arboga Road. The rest of the changes are less than 10 acres each, also with new homes.	
Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other Land to Urban Land	22 changes
There is moderate activity for nonirrigated land uses going to Urban land. The largest is over 75 acres of Highway 70 improvements, such as making it wider. This was adjacent to	

the Plumas Lake community and includes the freeway on-off ramps at Plumas Lake Boulevard. The Foothill Intermediate school was field checked in the Loma Rica area, and with the homes along the road it shares, added 17 acres of Urban. The New Bullards Bar Reservoir concrete dam and the adjacent parking lots for the marina contributed another 30 acres. The rest of the changes were due to increased building density and small additions of homes and roads.

#### **Conversions from Irrigated Farmland aside from urbanization**

<b>Irrigated Farmland to Nonirrigated Land Uses</b>	<b>60 changes</b>
Nearly every one of these changes was due to Irrigated Farmland going fallow for three or more updates. After that, the important details consist of: how big and where. The largest is just over 250 acres of farmland west of River Oaks Boulevard in the Plumas Lake community. Over in the Wheatland area, 130 acres of farmland went fallow just south of town along Highway 65. The land has roads marked in the dirt, indicative signs of a future housing development. North of Marysville near Highway 70 and Ramirez Road, another 130 acres was changed to Grazing Land. Unfortunately this area was not accessible from a public road and couldn't be field checked. North of the Linda area, a 120 acre orchard was verified as fallow and appeared to be plowed for weed control but not for agriculture. It is located on Dantoni Road past the Peach Tree Golf and Country Club. The rest of the changes were less than 100 acres.	

<b>Irrigated Farmland to Other Land</b>	<b>57 changes</b>
This type of change could be generalized into three different causes for the change. The first is riparian and marshy wetland areas. The largest of this group is 90 acres along the county line with riparian areas and banks of the Feather River. The second cause is farmsteads and agriculturally related buildings. These are small, less than 10 acres each, and usually adjacent to existing Other land. The last group is land that had streets and other infrastructure in preparation for housing developments that stalled. The largest of this type is 100 acres. Grazing land was not appropriate even though these areas went through the normal fallowing for three updates. This is prevalent in south Olivehurst and the Plumas Lake community, where most of the new urban growth is focused.	

#### **Conversions to Irrigated Farmland**

<b>Nonirrigated Land Uses and Other Land to Irrigated Farmland</b>	<b>17 changes</b>
The new Irrigated Farmland was usually a new rice field or new irrigated pasture. This was very common north and south of the main urban areas of Marysville and Linda/Olivehurst. The changes are not large, only two are over 50 acres and another three are over 25 acres.	

#### **Unusual Changes**

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

There were over 70 acres of Urban Land on Beale Air Force Base that has been tracked for six updates for lacking structures. The Urban Land was changed to the surrounding Other Land. This was centered near the intersection of 8<sup>th</sup> street and B street. Internet research for demolished buildings or redevelopment on the base was fruitless. Not surprisingly, another very large area of Urban Land on the base is also poised to be

removed in the near future. Both of these areas have been in Urban since the initial release of Yuba County in 1986.

### Areas of Concern for Future Updates

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

Watch for housing developments in the Plumas Lake community to start up again. Many streets are paved and complete and building could begin any time.

It appears to be a common practice for irrigated pasture to convert to rice fields, or for the opposite to occur. Many times, an extended fallow period precluded the changes and this could result in areas mapped as Grazing Land intermittently.

As mentioned in the Unusual Changes section, watch for large portions of Urban Land on Beale Air Force Base to be removed due to a lack of structures. Historical information on these areas is seriously limited.

#### 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	9/20/2010
Image interpretation, number of days	10
Ground truth dates	10/25 & 10/27/ 2010
Number of days for post-ground truth clean up	2

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