[ms-0398.028.009.009]

DATE ROUTED
August 21, 1990
DATE DUE
September 7, 1990

ROUTE SLIP

OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

TO
Office of Intergovernmental Affairs

SUBJECT
Attached correspondence re: AB4242

ACTION

- [ ] FOR YOUR INFORMATION
- [ ] INVESTIGATE AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION
- [XX] INVESTIGATE AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION WITH REPORT TO SUPERVISOR
- [ ] YOUR COMMENTS
- [ ] OTHER

COMMENTS:

Please provide comments regarding AB4242.

Ann - follow up note re Board action.
J

Thank You,

Benelia Santos-Hunter
Chairman's Assistant, Chairman Williams Office

BSH:bsh

RETURN THIS ROUTE SLIP WITH YOUR REPLY

DATE ROUTED
August 21, 1990
DATE DUE
September 7, 1990

ROUTE SLIP

OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA

X

TO
Norman W. Hickey, Chief Administrative Officer

SUBJECT
Attached correspondence from the Department of Conservation

ACTION

- [ ] FOR YOUR INFORMATION
- [ ] INVESTIGATE AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION
- [XX] INVESTIGATE AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION WITH REPORT TO SUPERVISOR
- [ ] YOUR COMMENTS
- [ ] OTHER

COMMENTS:

Please provide a response to the Department of Conservation.

4 maps sent.

Thank You,

Benelia Santos-Hunter
Chairman's Assistant, Chairman Williams Office

BSH:bsh

RETURN THIS ROUTE SLIP WITH YOUR REPLY

STATE OF CALIFORNIA—THE RESOURCES AGENCY

GEORGE DEUKMEJIAN, *Governor*

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATION
DIVISION OF MINES AND GEOLOGY
DIVISION OF OIL AND GAS
DIVISION OF RECYCLING

AUG 1 0 1990

1416 Ninth Street
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814
TDD (916) 324-2555
ATSS 454-2555

(916) 322-1080

RECEIVED
AUG 1 7 1990
Ans'd. AB

Honorable Leon Williams, Chair
San Diego County Board of Supervisors
County Administration Center
1600 Pacific Highway
San Diego, CA 92101

Dear Mr. Williams:

This summer, the Department of Conservation's Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program (FMMP) will begin the 1990 Important Farmland map biennial update.

The FMMP was implemented in 1982 to map, monitor and report on important farmland, grazing land, and urban built-up areas. This information is provided to local, state and federal governments to assist them in making informed decisions for the best utilization of our remaining land resources. The first Important Farmland maps were compiled in 1984, and have subsequently been updated in 1986 and 1988. Preparations are now underway for the 1990 update.

We would appreciate any assistance your staff can provide with updating the enclosed 1988 San Diego County Important Farmland map. Your comments and notes are valuable. We have found that the updating process can be facilitated by local input such as simply noting areas where change is taking place. Field crews can then know where to direct their attention and further scrutinize aerial photographs to accurately map the changes.

If you can, please indicate any areas you are aware of that have changed since this map was compiled in July 1988. Changes generally result from urbanization or a shift in agricultural land use. Note, on the map margin or on an attachment, why the changes should be made, e.g., construction of a new subdivision, farming ceased, crop now irrigated, etc. Pointing out subtle agricultural shifts resulting from disease, declining water table, or federal commodity programs affecting the type of crops planted are very helpful. Additional instructions and excerpts from the Advisory Guidelines for the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program are enclosed to assist you in dealing with the map classifications.

The FMMP has also been directed to collect information on "Land Committed to Nonagricultural Use"; however, providing this information is voluntary on the part of cities and counties. As part of the data gathering process, county and city planning directors may identify areas which qualify (see Section 208 of the enclosure). The FMMP staff will then compile this information and merge it with the important farmland data. This allows us an opportunity to obtain acreage data on lands that are currently in agriculture and committed to future nonagricultural use.

If you have any changes, or wish to provide information on lands committed to future nonagricultural use, please send your changes within 90 days to:

California Department of Conservation
Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program
Attention: 1990 Update
1516 9th Street, Room 400
Sacramento, CA 95814

Please call Emily Kishi at (916) 324-0868 if you have any questions or need additional copies of the map. An order form for additional maps is also enclosed.

Your assistance with the 1990 Important Farmland map update is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Howard A. Sarasohn

Howard A. Sarasohn
Deputy Director

Enclosures

REY:HAS:dlw

Department of Conservation

FARMLAND MAPPING AND MONITORING PROGRAM

INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMITTING PROPOSED CHANGES
AND
INFORMATION ON "LAND COMMITTED TO NONAGRICULTURAL USE"

The Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program updates the Important and Interim Farmland Map series every even-numbered year beginning in 1984. As part of the updating process staff review recent aerial photos and information from environmental documents such as draft environmental impact reports; solicit comments from local agencies and local agricultural interests; and conduct field verifications. Since any comments you submit for map updating purposes will be verified by staff we recommend that the following points be kept in mind when submitting information.

1. Use maps at a scale of 1:24,000 or maps showing greater detail.

   The blueprinted county map at a scale of 1:100,000 does not provide enough detail for updating purposes. Program staff use field sheets at a scale of 1:24,000 (U.S. Geological Survey 7-1/2 minute topographic maps) for updating purposes. Overlays at the 1:24,000-scale showing Important or Interim Farmland information are available upon request.

   If you are submitting your recommended changes on maps other than 1:24,000-scale maps, please make sure that your map includes enough information so we can locate your area on our field sheets. Reference information that would assist in transferring recommended changes are road intersections, section/township/range references, scale, etc.

   If a comment is general, such as "look for development north of the city", then the 1:100,000-scale blueprint map may be used. Staff will review recent aerial photos and interpret visible land use changes in the indicated area(s).

2. Provide brief descriptions of recommended changes.

   Brief descriptions of the land use changes or "committed" areas are helpful to mapping staff. Land use change notes should provide some level of descriptive detail such as "apartments, shopping center, ranchettes, land cleared for park, drainage problem leading to abandonment, conservation reserve land," etc.

   Information submitted for "committed" data should provide detail on qualifications for the "committed" category such as approved assessment district or approved tentative subdivision maps (see enclosure Section 208 for further detail).

3. Insure that changes meet the minimum mapping unit size and criteria for the new category.

   The minimum mapping unit for all map categories, with the exception of Grazing Land, is 10 acres. Recommended changes, unless contiguous to other parcels of the same category, must be 10 acres or greater in size. Both recommended changes and "committed" areas must meet specified criteria for the recommended category.

Department of Conservation

FARMLAND MAPPING AND MONITORING PROGRAM

IMPORTANT FARMLAND MAP CATEGORIES*

Note: The minimum mapping unit is ten acres unless otherwise specified. Units of land smaller than ten acres will be incorporated into the surrounding map classifications.

Prime Farmland** (Section 201)

"Prime Farmland" is land which has the best combination of physical and chemical characteristics for the production of crops. It has the soil quality, growing season and moisture supply needed to produce sustained high yields of crops when treated and managed, including water management, according to current farming methods. "Prime Farmland" must have been used for the production of irrigated crops within the last three years. It does not include publicly owned lands for which there is an adopted policy preventing agricultural use.

Farmland of Statewide Importance** (Section 202)

"Farmland of Statewide Importance" is land other than "Prime Farmland" which has a good combination of physical and chemical characteristics for the production of crops. It must have been used for the production of irrigated crops within the last three years. It does not include publicly owned lands for which there is an adopted policy preventing agricultural use.

Unique Farmland (Section 203)

"Unique Farmland" is land which does not meet the criteria for "Prime Farmland" or "Farmland of Statewide Importance," that is currently used for the production of specific high economic value crops (as listed in the last three years of California Agriculture produced by the California Department of Food and Agriculture). It has the special combination of soil quality, location, growing season and moisture supply needed to produce sustained high quality or high yields of a specific crop when treated and managed according to current farming methods. Examples of such crops may include oranges, olives, avocados, rice, grapes, and cut flowers. It does not include publicly owned lands for which there is an adopted policy preventing agricultural use.

Farmland of Local Importance (Section 204)

"Farmland of Local Importance" is either currently producing crops, or has the capability of production. "Farmland of Local Importance" is land other than "Prime Farmland," "Farmland of Statewide Importance," or "Unique Farmland." This land may be important to the local economy due to its productivity. It does not include publicly owned lands for which there is an adopted policy preventing agricultural use.

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* Excerpts from the Advisory Guidelines for the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program, 1984, Department of Conservation, Office of Land Conservation (formerly called the Division of Land Resource Protection, Publication Number FM-84-01. Numbers in parentheses refer to that section of the document.

** Soil types qualifying for these two categories are provided by the U.S. Soil Conservation Service. Prime Farmland and Farmland of Statewide Importance must meet specific criteria for soil quality and availability of irrigation.

Grazing Land (Section 205)

"Grazing Land is land on which the existing vegetation, whether grown naturally or through management, is suitable for grazing or browsing of livestock. The minimum mapping unit for "Grazing Land" is 40 acres.
Urban and Built-up Land (Section 206)

"Urban and Built-up Land" is used for residential, industrial, commercial, construction, institutional, public administrative purposes, railroad yards, cemeteries, airports, golf courses, sanitary landfills, sewage treatment plants, water control structures, and other development purposes. Highways, railroads, and other transportation facilities are mapped as a part of "Urban and Built-up Land" if they are a part of the surrounding urban areas.

The building density for residential use must be at least one structure per 1.5 acres (or approximately 6 structures per 10 acres). "Urban and Built-up Land" must contain man-made structures or the infrastructure required for development (e.g., paved roads, sewers, water, electricity, or in specific circumstances, drainage or flood control facilities) that are specifically designed to serve that land. Parking lots, storage and distribution facilities, and industrial uses such as large packing operations for agricultural produce will generally be mapped as "Urban and Built-up Land," even though they are associated with agriculture.

"Urban and Built-up Land" does not include strip mines, borrow pits, gravel pits, farmsteads, ranch headquarters, commercial feedlots, greenhouses, poultry facilities, and road systems for freeway interchanges outside of areas classified as "Urban and Built-up Land" areas.

(Section 206.1)

Within areas classified as "Urban and Built-up Land" areas, vacant and nonagricultural land which is surrounded on all sides by urban development and is 40 acres or less in size will be mapped as "Urban and Built-up." Vacant and nonagricultural land larger than 40 acres in size will be mapped as "Other Land."

Other Land (Section 207)

"Other Land" is that which is not included in any of the other mapping categories. The following types of land are generally included:

a. Rural development which has a building density of less than one structure per 1.5 acres, but with at least one structure per ten acres;

b. Marginal agricultural lands;

c. Brush, timber and other lands not suitable for livestock grazing;

d. Government lands not available for agricultural use;

e. Road systems for freeway interchanges outside of "Urban and Built-up Land" areas;

f. Vacant and nonagricultural land larger than 40 acres in size and surrounded on all sides by urban development;

g. A variety of other rural land uses.

Land Committed to Nonagricultural Use (Section 208)

"Land Committed to Nonagricultural Use" is land that is permanently committed by local elected officials to nonagricultural development by virtue of decisions which cannot be reversed simply by a majority vote of a city council or county board of supervisors.

County boards of supervisors and city councils will have the final authority to designate lands in this category pursuant to the requirements of this section. The Department will work with city and county planning staffs to obtain this information.

"Land Committed to Nonagricultural Use" will be shown on an overlay to the Important Farmland Series map (and Interim Farmland Map). The current land use will be indicated on the base map, with the overlay indicating the areas that are "Committed to Nonagricultural Use."

(Section 208.1)

"Land Committed to Nonagricultural Use" must be designated in an adopted, local general plan for future nonagricultural development. The resulting development must meet the requirements of "Urban and Built-up Land" (Section 206) or "Other Land" (Section 207(a)).

(Section 208.2)

"Land Committed to Nonagricultural Use" must also meet the requirements of either (a) or (b) below:

a. It must have received one of the following final discretionary approvals:

   1. Tentative subdivision map (approved per the Subdivision Map Act);

   2. Tentative or final parcel map (approved per the Subdivision Map Act);

   3. Recorded development agreement (per Section 65864 of the Government Code);

   4. Other decisions by a local government which are analogous to items #1-3 above and which exhibit the element of permanence discussed in Section 208. Zoning by itself does not qualify as a permanent commitment.

OR

b. It must be the subject of one of the final fiscal commitments to finance the capital improvements specifically required for future development of the land in question as shown below:

   1. Recorded Resolution of Intent to form a district and levy an assessment;

   2. Payment of assessment;

   3. Sale of bonds;

   4. Binding contract, secured by bonds, guaranteeing installation of infrastructure;

   5. Other fiscal commitments which are analogous to items #1-4 above and exhibit the element of permanence discussed in Section 208.

(Section 208.3)

"Land Committed to Nonagricultural Use" will be mapped when the respective local government notifies the Department that the land meets the criteria of Section 208 and submits 1:24,000 scale maps identifying the area and showing its boundaries. The notification referred to will be subject to verification by the Department. In the case of land identified per Section 208.2(a)4 and (b)5, the local government must also provide the Department with documentation of the permanent commitment.

Date Requested: _____
Order Taken By: _____
Order Filled By: _____
Date Filled: _____

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
Office of Land Conservation
Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program
1516 9th Street, Room 400
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 324-0859

REQUEST FOR IMPORTANT FARMLAND MAPS, REPORTS & DATA

Please send a copy of the following maps, data or reports to:

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____

_____ *Telephone*: _____

To Be Used for: _____

****

MAP REQUESTS

Please check desired county(ies). (See reverse side for extent of mapping.)

_____ ALAMEDA	_____ MERCED (P)	_____ SANTA BARBARA
_____ AMADOR (P)	_____ MODOC (P)	_____ SANTA CLARA
_____ BUTTE (I)	_____ MONTEREY	_____ SANTA CRUZ
_____ COLUSA (I)	_____ NAPA	_____ SHASTA (P)
_____ CONTRA COSTA	_____ NEVADA (P)	_____ SIERRA VALLEY
_____ EL DORADO (P)	_____ ORANGE	_____ SISKIYOU (P)
_____ FRESNO (P)	_____ PLACER (P)	_____ SOLANO
_____ GLENN	_____ PLUMAS (see Sierra)	_____ SONOMA
_____ IMPERIAL (P)	_____ RIVERSIDE (P)	_____ STANISLAUS (P)
_____ KERN (I/IFL)	_____ SACRAMENTO	_____ SUTTER
_____ KINGS	_____ SAN BENITO	_____ TEHAMA
_____ LOS ANGELES (P)	_____ SAN BERN. (P)	_____ TULARE (I/IFL)
_____ MADERA (P)	_____ SAN DIEGO (P)	_____ VENTURA (P)
_____ MARIN	_____ SAN L. OBISPO (P)	_____ YOLO
_____ MARIPOSA (P)	_____ SAN MATEO (P)	_____ YUBA (I)

P = Portion of county mapped (see map on reverse side)
I = Interim Farmland Map - Farmland categories of Irrigated, Non-irrigated and Grazing Land only
I/IFL = Combination of Important Farmland categories and Interim Farmland categories.

_____ Blueprint maps at 1:100,000 scale (approx. 1 inch to 1.63 miles)

_____ Overlays at 1:24,000 scale (7-1/2 minute, USGS quadrangle scale). Please indicate name of requested quadrangles _____

_____

_____

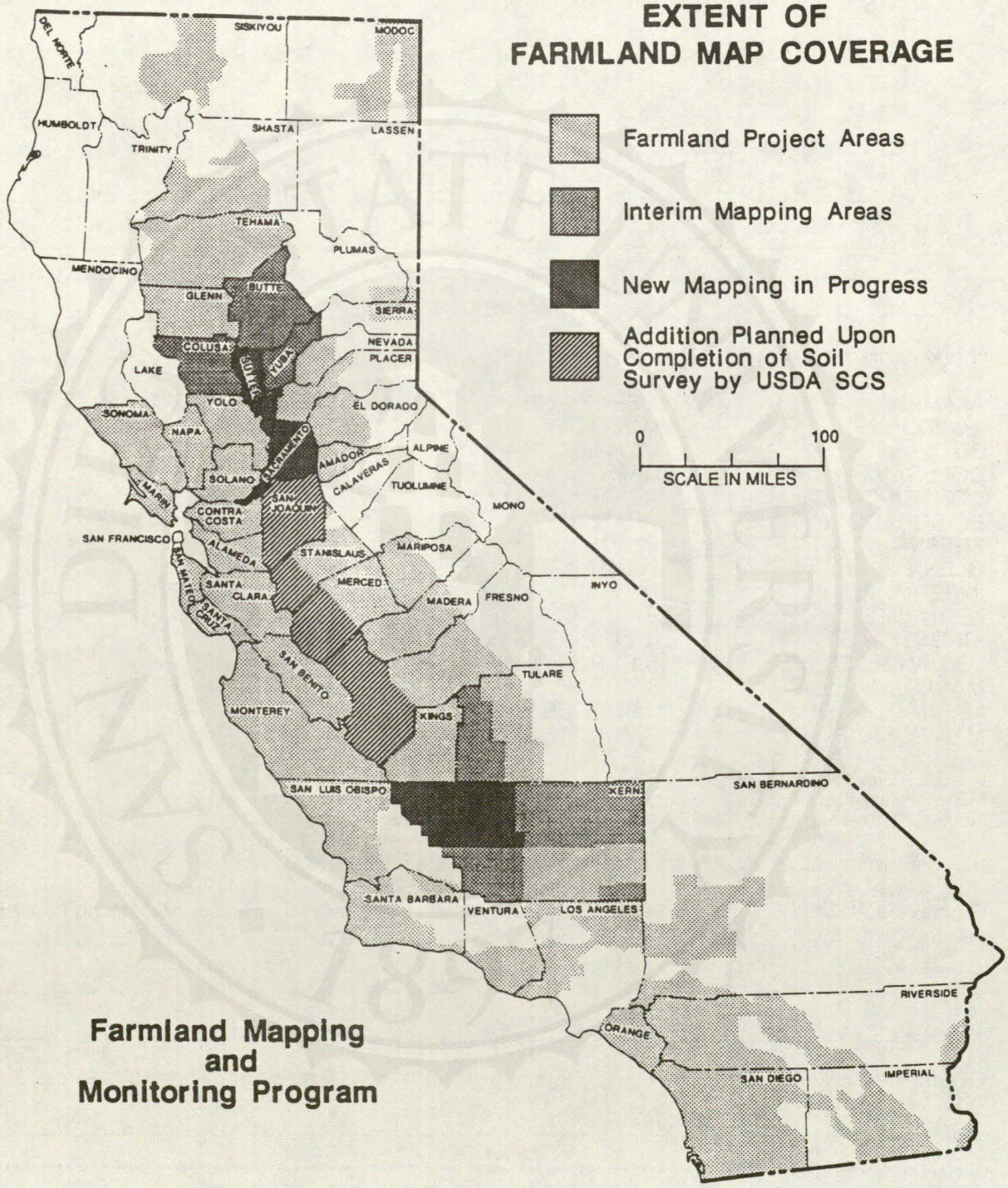
_____ Overlays at the following scale: _____ (please include description of area of interest)

_____

****

REPORT/DATA REQUESTS

_____ Lists of soil units meeting criteria for Prime Farmland and Farmland of Statewide Importance for above counties.
_____ Acreage tables for above counties.
_____ *1984 To 1986 Farmland Conversion Report* (1988, FM 88-01A)
_____ *1986 To 1988 Farmland Conversion Report* (1990, to be published)
_____ *Advisory Guidelines for the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program*



Department of Conservation

1989