



Third Newsletter

Glenn County Groundwater Reliability and Recharge Pilot Program

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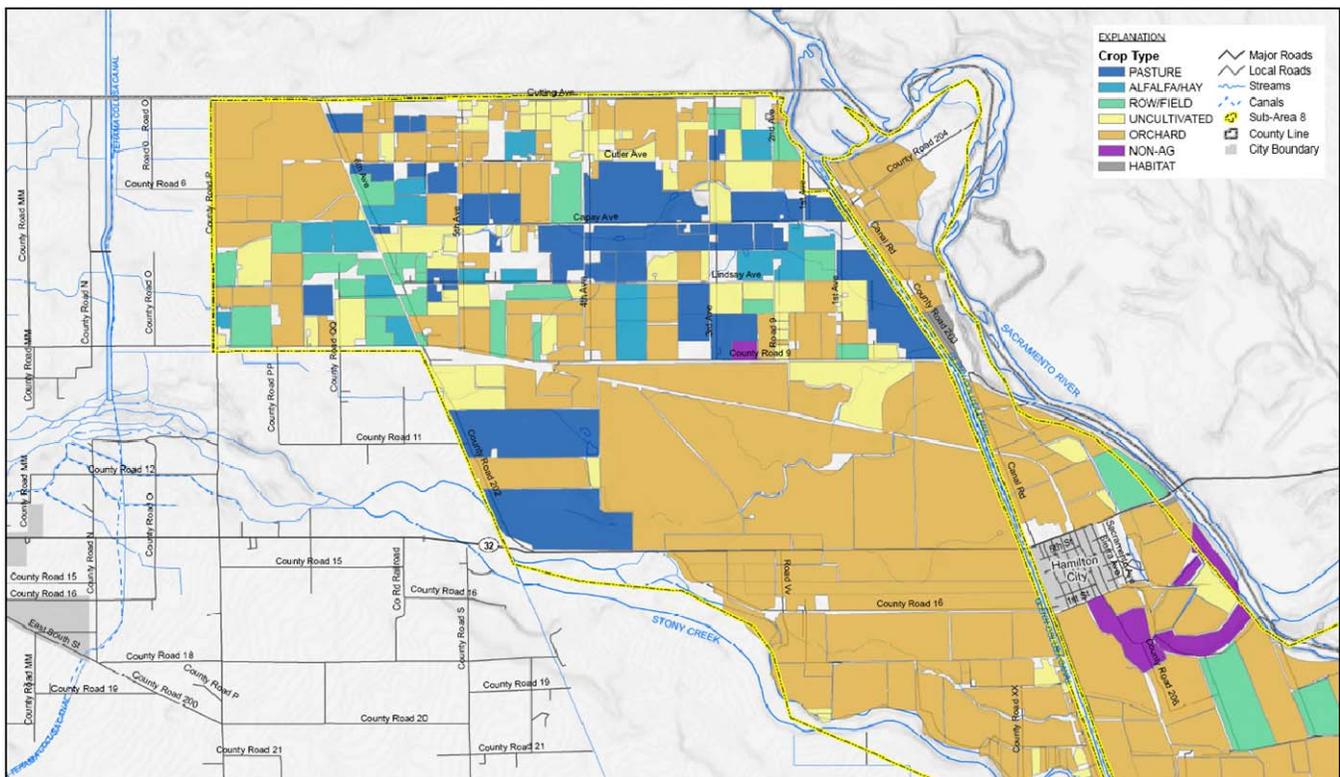
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Project Summary

The Glenn County Department of Agriculture on behalf of the Glenn County Water Advisory Committee is investigating the feasibility of utilizing surface water in lieu of groundwater pumping to provide increased water supply flexibility and investigate the benefits of in-lieu recharge in the East Corning Basin, a groundwater dependent area in the northeastern corner of Glenn County. As part of the study, information about land use and irrigation was collected.

Land Use Survey

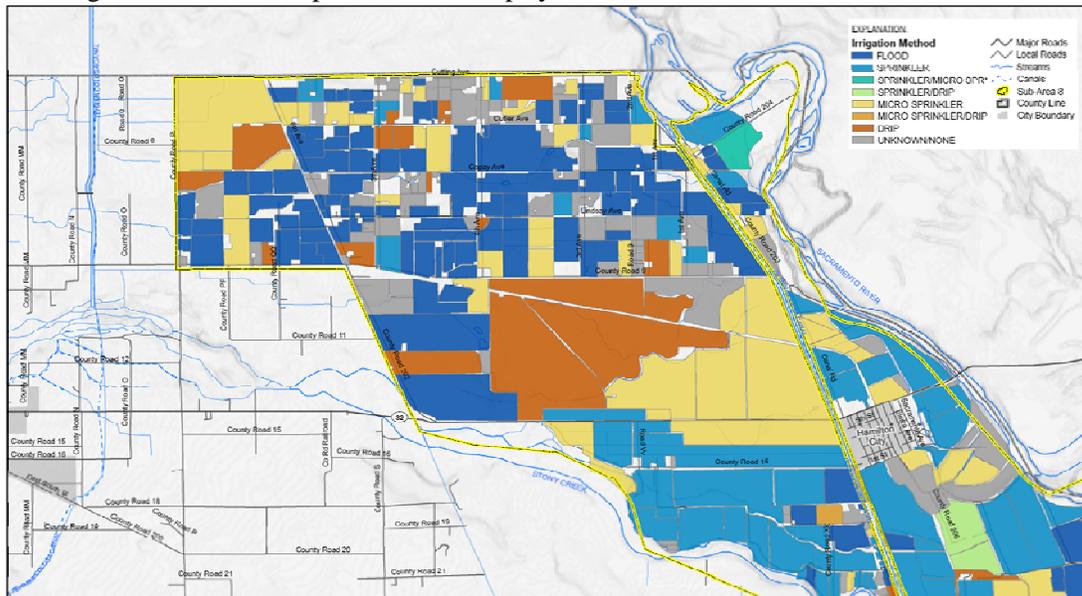
As part of the feasibility study, land use and irrigation practices were field surveyed by the project team. The map below shows the results of the survey. The majority of the study area is used for farming orchard crops, with areas near Capay Avenue also used for pasture and row or field crops. Land use information is used to help identify areas that may be able to benefit from using surface water.



Map Showing Crop Types Within the Study Area

Irrigation Methods

Water is delivered to crops by a variety of methods within the study area. Since certain types of irrigation are more compatible with surface water than others, a field survey of the types of irrigation in use in the study area was performed. The study revealed that much of the study area utilizes flood irrigation methods, with micro-sprinklers being the second most used methodology. Flood irrigation is compatible with surface water, however irrigation methods with small openings that water moves through, such as micro-sprinklers and drip systems, are not.



Map Showing Irrigation Methods Within the Study Area

Contact Us

Lester Messina or Lisa Hunter
C/O Glenn County
Department of Agriculture
PO Box 351
Willows, CA 95988

Phone:
(530) 934-6501

Email:
wateradv@countyofglenn.net

Additional Information
available at:
www.glenncountywater.org and
www.glennwac-eastcorning-recharge.org

Suitable Areas for Surface Water

By comparing crop type and irrigation methods, irrigated areas that may benefit from utilizing surface water were identified. Within the study area, there are over 3,000 acres of pasture, alfalfa, row crops, orchard or uncultivated land that are irrigated by flood irrigation, and over 400 acres of the same crops that are irrigated by sprinkler irrigation. Knowledge of both the amount and location of the crops that may benefit from surface water is critical for creating a preliminary canal layout, which will be discussed in Newsletter #4.