



Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

22 August 2019

Dennis Anderson, Operations Director
Dole Packaged Foods, LLC
7919 W. Bellevue Road
Atwater, CA 95301

CERTIFIED MAIL
7018 3090 0001 1194 6602

NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY

CENTRAL VALLEY WATER BOARD RESOLUTION R5-2018-0085, APPROVING WAIVER OF REPORTS OF WASTE DISCHARGE AND WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR SPECIFIC TYPES OF DISCHARGE WITHIN THE CENTRAL VALLEY REGION; DOLE PACKAGED FOODS, LLC; AGRICULTURAL COMMODITY WASTE; MERCED COUNTY

On 1 August 2019, Dole Packaged Foods, LLC (or Discharger) submitted a Report of Waste Discharge (RWD) for coverage under Resolution R5-2018-0085, *Approving Waiver of Reports of Waste Discharge and Waste Discharge Requirements for Specific Types of Discharge Within the Central Valley Region* (or Low Threat Waiver). After review of the RWD and supplemental material submitted by the Discharger, the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) has determined that the recurring application of peach pits for use as a soil amendment and dust control on dirt roads as described in the RWD qualifies for enrollment under the Low Threat Waiver. A check for the application fee was received on 9 August 2019.

Therefore, the discharge to land, as described in the RWD, qualifies for coverage under Category 9 for recurring discharges of agricultural commodity waste as described in the Low Threat Waiver. You are hereby assigned **enrollee number R5-2018-0085-0022**. Please include this number on all correspondence related to this discharge.

A copy of the Low Threat Waiver is enclosed. You can also find a copy of the Low Threat Waiver [R5-2018-0085](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_decisions/adopted_orders/waivers/r5-2018-0085.pdf) on the Central Valley Water Board's website at: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_decisions/adopted_orders/waivers/r5-2018-0085.pdf.

Coverage under the Low Threat Waiver R5-2018-0085 is valid until **7 December 2023**. Prior to this date, the Discharger shall contact the Central Valley Water Board and either cease the discharge or submit a new RWD and application fee to continue under a renewed waiver or to obtain individual waste discharge requirements.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Dole Package Frozen Food Plant (Plant) near Atwater processes apricots, cantaloupes, melons, peaches, strawberries, and carrots for consumer use. The pits removed from peaches during processing operations are considered an agricultural commodity waste. According to the RWD, peach pits generated at the Plant will be collected and taken to various ranches within Merced County where it will be spread along orchard rows and dirt roads for use as dust control. According to the Discharger, spreading operations will take place between July and October of each year. The ranch owner or manager will direct the driver to various roads within the property where dust control is needed. Care will be taken to evenly spread the material over the roads and ensure there is no runoff into surface waters or drainage courses. Application areas within the ranch properties will be alternated about every other year.

PROJECT LOCATION

The Dole Package Frozen Food Plant is at 7919 West Bellevue Road near Atwater in Merced County. According to the RWD the application areas will include the Atwater Ranch, the Fisher Ranch, and Los Cerritos Ranch on land owned by Dole Packaged Foods, LLC. Peach pits will also be applied to dirt roads on land owned by Mr. Billy Grissom and Mr. Tony Homen. The RWD includes signed agreements from both Billy Grissom and Tony Homen. Details on the respective application areas are provided in Table 1 below along with Assessor's Parcel Numbers. Maps showing the respective application areas are included in **Attachment A**.

Table 1 - Application Areas

RANCH/PROPERTY	ACREAGE	ASSESSOR'S PARCEL NUMBER (APN)
Atwater Ranch	73 acres	056-010-030, 056-010-031, and 150-030-022
Fisher Ranch	360 acres	052-030-055, and 052-540-003
Los Cerritos Ranch	421 acres	038-050-024
Billy Grissom Properties	942 acres	065-030-002, and 065-040-005
Tony Homen Properties	800 acres	074-080-001, 074-080-009, 074-080-027, 074-080-028, and 074-080-029

SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

1. Application of agricultural commodity waste at a location or in a manner different from that described in the RWD and this NOA is prohibited.
2. The application shall not cause or threaten to cause conditions of contamination, nuisance, or pollution as defined in California Water Code section 13050.

3. Application of agricultural commodity waste or runoff from storage and/or application areas to adjacent lands, surface waters, or surface water drainage courses is prohibited.
4. Failure to abide by the conditions of the Low Threat Waiver R5-2018-0085, and this NOA could result in enforcement actions, as authorized by provisions of the California Water Code.

The Central Valley Water Board is implementing a Paperless Office System to reduce paper use, increase efficiency, and provide a more effective way for our staff, the public, and interested parties to view documents in electronic form. All monitoring and technical reports required by the Provisions of the General Order and its Monitoring and Reporting Program must be submitted by email to our Electronic Content Management (ECM) system at: centralvalleyfresno@waterboards.ca.gov. Documents that are 50MB or larger should be transferred to a disk and mailed to the appropriate Regional Water Board office, in this case 1685 E Street, Fresno, CA 93706. To ensure that your submittals are routed to the appropriate staff, the following information block should be included in any email used to transmit documents to this office:

Program: Non-15;

Facility Name: Dole Packaged Foods – Agricultural Commodity Applications;

Place ID: 860548;

Order: R5-2018-0085-0022.

If you have any questions regarding this NOA, please contact Katie Carpenter at (559) 445-5551 or by email at katie.carpenter@waterboards.ca.gov.

Original Signed by Clay Rodgers for:

Patrick Pulupa
Executive Officer

Attachment: Attachment A – Site Maps

- Figure 1 – Atwater Ranch
- Figure 2 – Fisher Ranch
- Figure 3 – Los Cerritos Ranch
- Figure 4 – Billy Grissom Properties
- Figure 5 – Tony Homen Properties

Enclosure: Low Threat Waiver Order R5-2018-0085

cc w/enclosure:

- Tony Homen, Homen Dairy, 5579 West Sandy Mush Road, Merced, CA 95341
- Bill Grissom, Grissom Properties, Merced (via email)
- Connie Fagundes, Dole Packaged Foods, LLC (via email)
- Amanda Duran, Merced County Environmental Health, Merced (via email)
- Kassy Chauhan, State Water Board, Division of Drinking Water (via email)

ATTACHMENT A - SITE MAPS

NOTICE OF APPLICABILITY R5-2018-0085-0022
DOLE PACKAGED FOODS, LLC
AGRICULTURAL COMMODITY WASTE APPLICATIONS
MERCED COUNTY

FIGURE 1 – Atwater Ranch

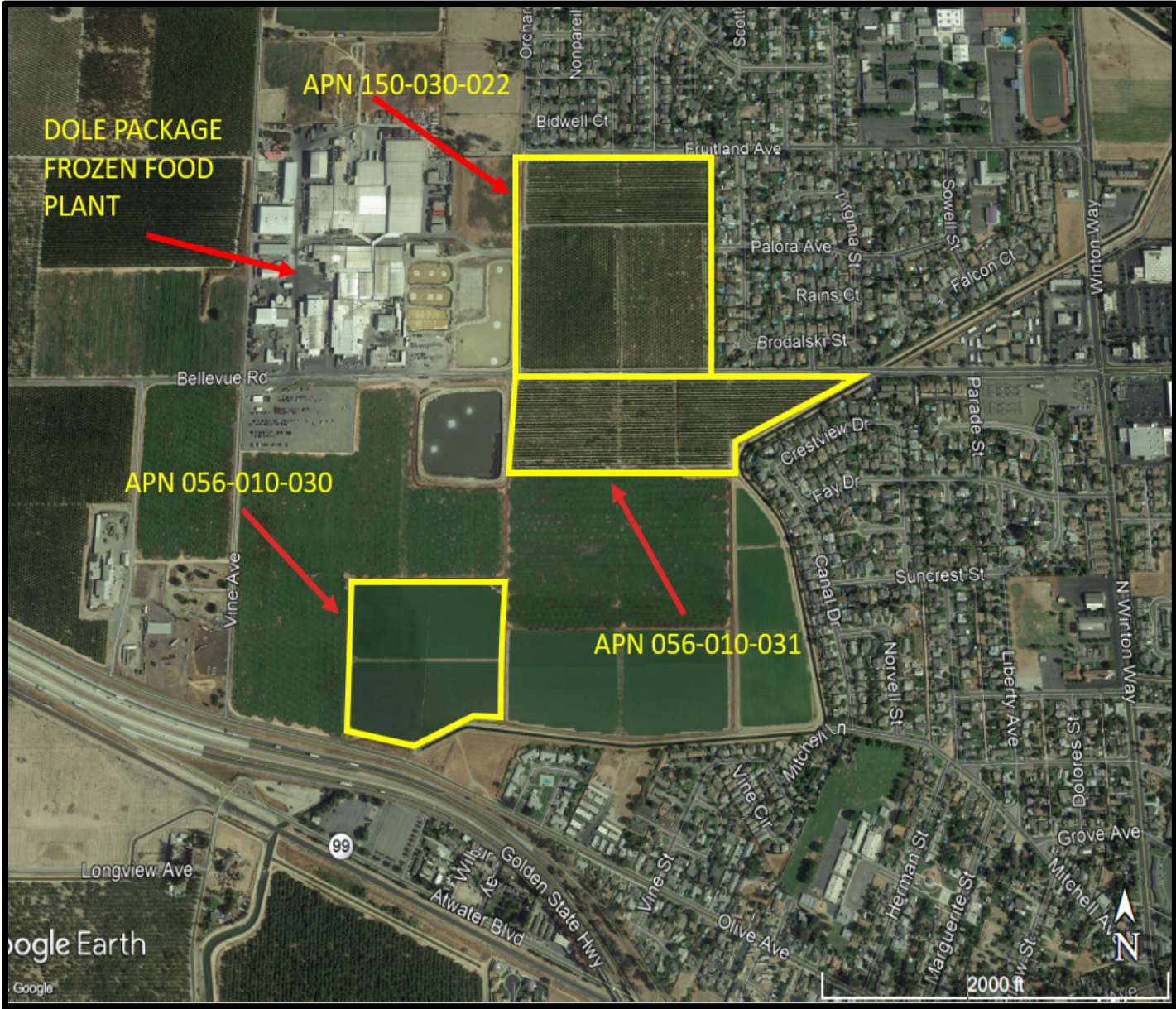


FIGURE 2 – Fisher Ranch

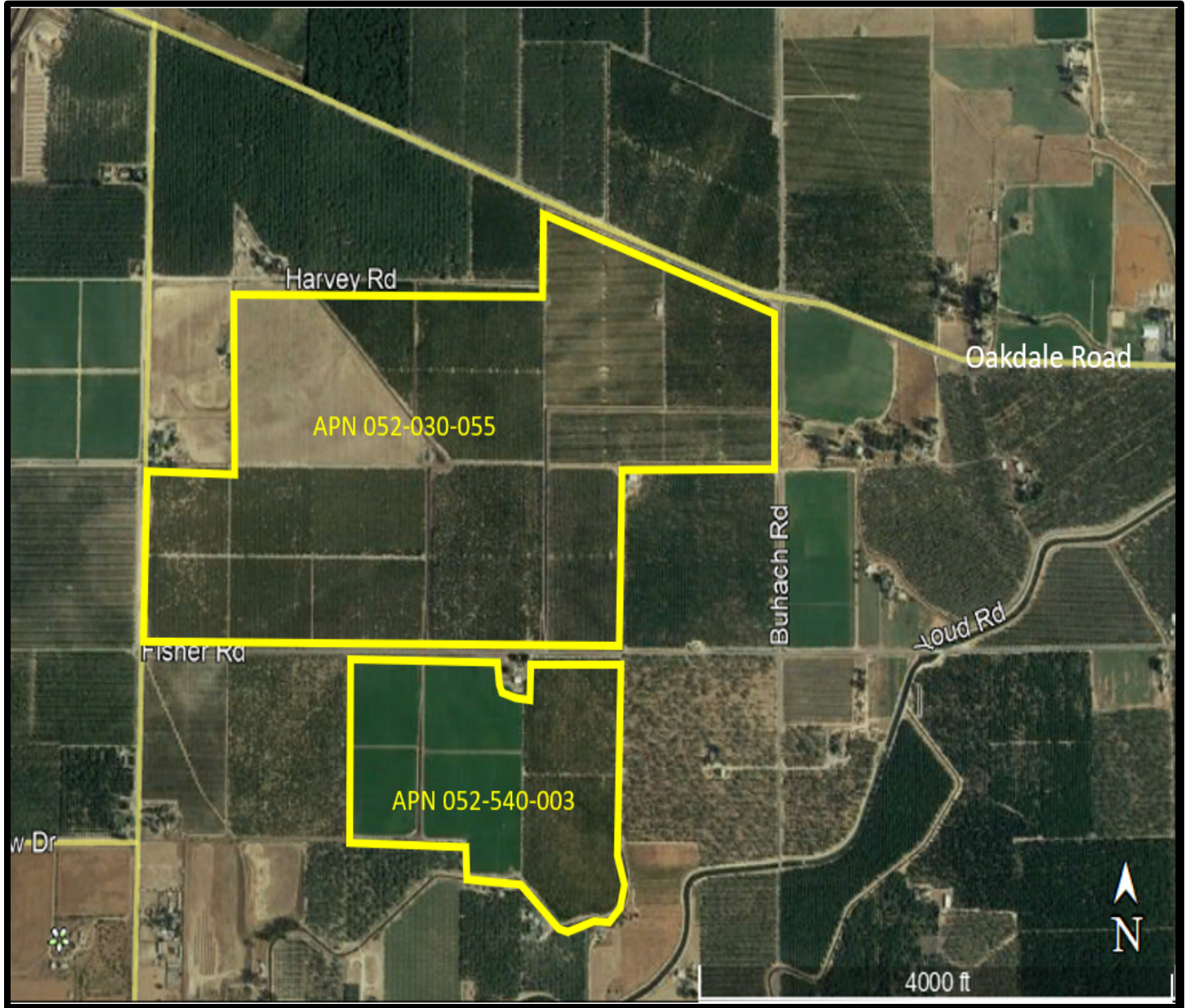


FIGURE 3 – Los Cerritos Ranch

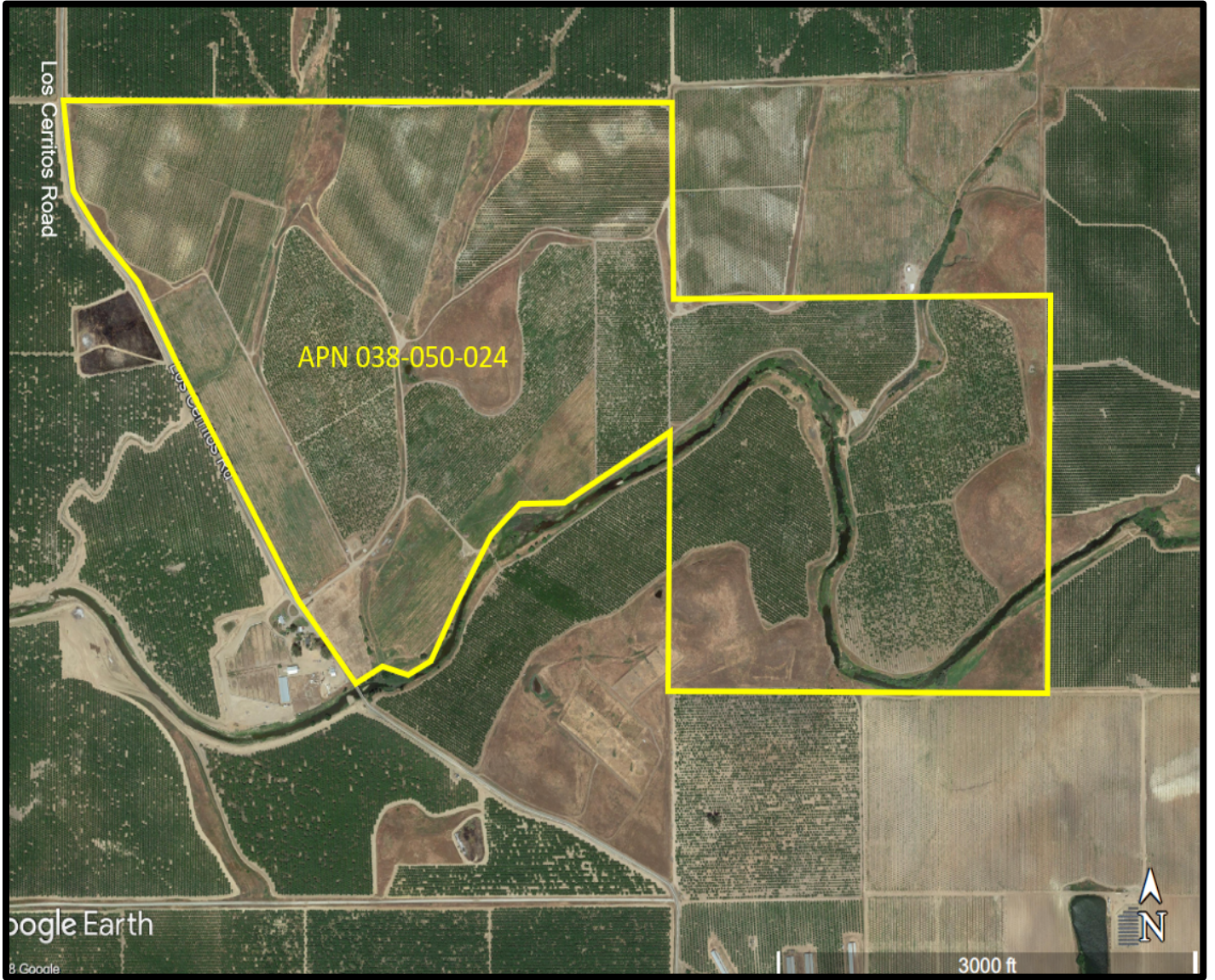


FIGURE 4 – Billy Grissom Properties

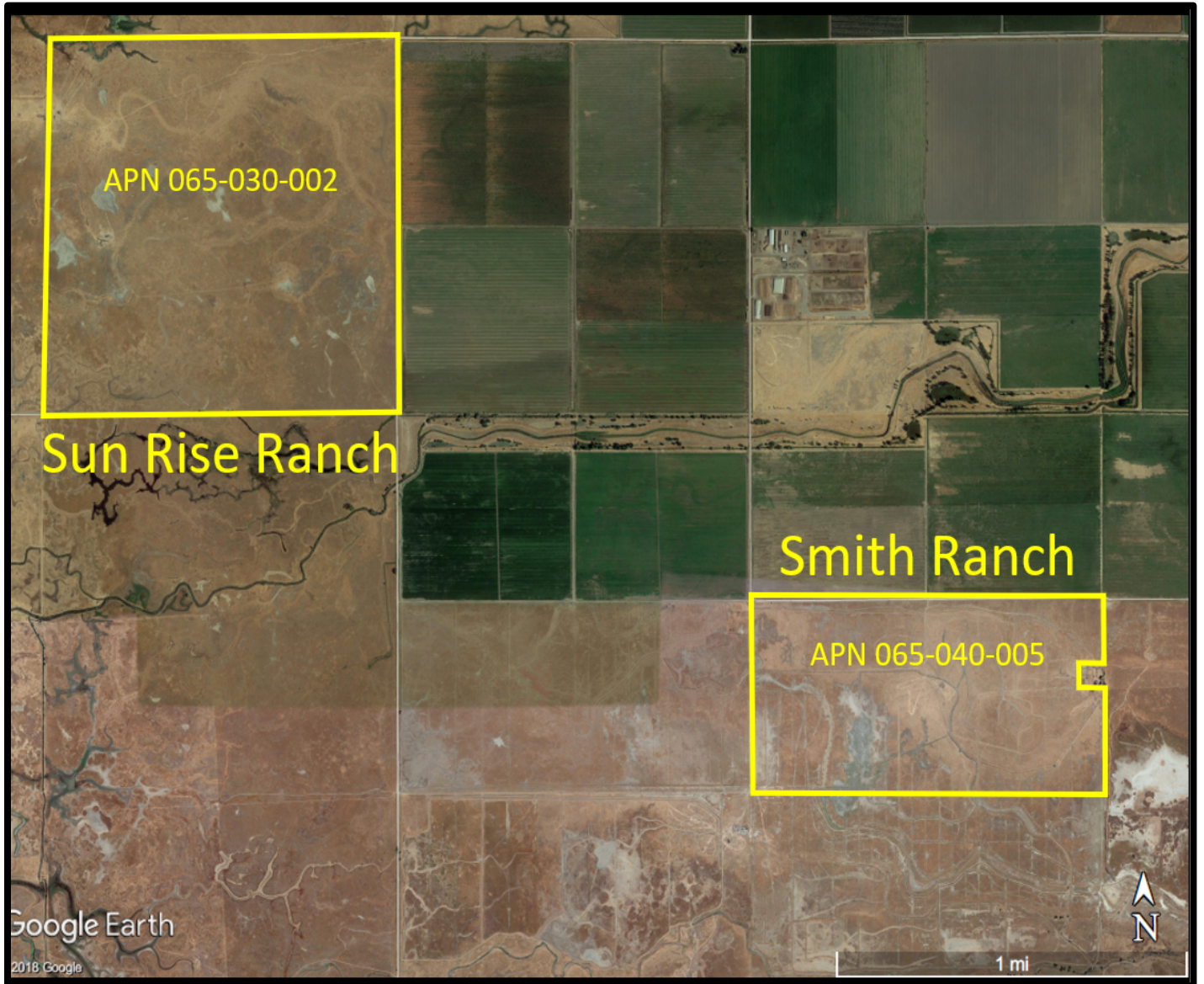


FIGURE 5 – Tony Homen Properties

