

I N T E R

O F F I C E

MEMO

To: Steve
From: Wendy S. Halverson Martin
Subject: Ag Impacts - Stone Lakes
Date: October 18, 1996

I checked on North Stone Lakes and North Delta Conservancy for other environmental documents which might have been the focus of the Food and Ag comments. Neither of these projects have environmental documents out. The Stone Lakes NWR draft and final EIS has what I consider to be a pretty straight forward analysis of the potential impacts to agriculture. Impacts to agriculture are separated into:

Direct

- Conversion of agricultural land
- Loss of agricultural production
- Potential for accelerated termination of Williamson Act Contracts

Indirect

- Increased risk of seepage onto adjacent agricultural lands
- Increased restrictions on Pesticide Use
- Potential for increased pest management problems
- Potential for increased incidence of trespass, theft and vandalism
- Potential for increased predation at aquaculture facilities by birds

Mitigation measures include:

Direct

- Minimize acquisitions of prime and highly productive farmlands

Indirect

- Establish internal buffers adjacent to farmlands
- Manage insect pest populations within the refuge
- Construct perimeter fences near hunting and public access areas

If you have any questions, let me know.

cc: Rick B.