

H H & J FARMS, INC.

March 5, 1998

To whom it may concern:

I have been asked to make a comment on the wet conditions on the west side of Ryer Island, next to Miner Slough, east of Prospect Island.

I am a farmer on Ryer Island. I have farmed here since 1957, when my two brothers and I purchased the first of the property that we now own. Our property is in the middle of the island and also on the east side next to Steamboat Slough and Sutter Slough.

It has been my observation, over the years, that when Prospect Island floods there are several wet spots on the west side of Ryer Island. When the water is removed from Prospect Island, these wet spots disappear, regardless of the height of the water in Miner Slough. In the spring of the years that Prospect Island is flooded, and when the ground on Ryer Island is dry enough to work, these wet spots next to Miner Slough are always the last part that the farmers in that area can work to prepare and plant a crop. Many times they have had to change their cropping plans and plant a later crop, sacrificing yield, hence income, or if it is too late just skip these spots and have no crop there at all for that year.

It has been my observation that in the years that Prospect Island was not flooded (it has happened a few times) Ryer Island has not had these wet spots. Over the years, when I viewed this, I asked some of the farmers that farmed in this area if this was true and they confirmed my views.

As a Trustee of Reclamation District No. 501 on Ryer Island I am very concerned about Prospect Island being flooded and having these wet spots on Ryer Island. I believe that these conditions could have a effect on Ryer Islands west levee.



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Chairman/Trustee, Reclamation District No. 501



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