JOHN EILERS FARMS
21355 Walnut Drive
Linden, California 95236

Aug. 9, 2000

Mr. Steve Ritchie, Exec. Dir.
CalFed Bay-Delta Program
1416 Ninth St.
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: CalFed Program EIS-EIR

I am a 5th generation farmer in the Central San Joaquin Valley. I'm also president of Land Utilization Trust, a Land Trust in San Joaquin County.

On my farm I am now in a BIOS program to grow walnuts in an environmentally friendly manner. I am providing a habitat for many "little critters" and am do it at my expense. There are many farmers in this county doing the same.

CalFed doesn't need to acquire more land for habitat restoration until it has fully addressed the restoration in progress or already completed.

I would ask that you extend the period of Environmental Review of the EIS-EIR so that everyone can comment on this <u>very</u> <u>complex</u> and important issue.

Sincerely, John Eilers

C-114737

C-114737

JOHN EILERS FARMS
21355 Walnut Drive
Linden, California 95236

Cc: Senator Barbara Boxer
Governor Gray Davis
Senator Dianne Feinstein
Assemblyman Mike Machado
Senator Patrick Johnston
Rep. Richard Pombo
Chairman Ed Simas, San Joaquin Bd of Supr