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Delta Vision  
650 Capital Mall  
Sacramento, Ca. 95814

**"Weir and Drainage Locations San Joaquin Bypass" (Alternative 1)**  
Entire Roberts Island **INUNDATED**

**"Setback Levee: San Joaquin River" (Alternative 2)**

One half mile wide flood release buffer on the West bank of the San Joaquin River, reaching from Stewart Tract on the South to the North end of Roberts Island

My grandfather came to this country with no money. He started farming in the early 1900's in the Delta. He saved his hard earned money and acquired property through the years in the Delta. My father, brother and myself are still farming. We are three generations later, still farming and living on Roberts Island next to the San Joaquin River. Both of these two proposals would dramatically destroy our livelihood and our place of residence along with our heritage. Roberts Island has such a diverse farming background, it has one of the richest soils in the world. It has many permanent crops such as almonds; walnuts, asparagus, grape, alfalfa, olives, tomatoes, cucumbers, parsley, safflower, corn, wheat and also a cattle feed lot. All these commodities would not exist under either one of these proposals. My family is diversified with different crops as asparagus, walnuts, olives, cannery tomatoes and alfalfa. If either one of these two issues were to pass the crops that we currently raise would all be destroyed. It would put us out of business and force us out of our home plus employees who live on our ranch would be forced out on the streets. We employ up to 400 employees throughout the year which would put all these people out of jobs. **Roberts Island** supports many local businesses in the area who would be dramatically affected by either one of these proposals.

**Roberts Island** has approximately 37,000 acres which these crops feed many people in the United States and the world. With pesticides and food safety issues a large concern for Americans, California farmers produce the safest food in the world. **Roberts Island** being such a large island plays a major role in supplying that California food supply. This would be unjust to the American people to allow this to happen. What a shame to waste this fertile ground for environmentalist and flood protection and to make us dependent on foreign foods as we are today for our oil.

Just the thought of these proposals is devastating to our family. It's so sad to think that we live in America and our rights are being taken away from us. We have been here for years, those Lathrop and Weston Ranch homes were knowingly built in a flood plain area and Roberts Island should not be used as a pawn as a bail out. Please reconsider your proposals because we feel it is an injustice to use **Roberts Island** as an escape goat for a problem that we didn't create.

  
Richard Marchini  
  
Debbie Marchini