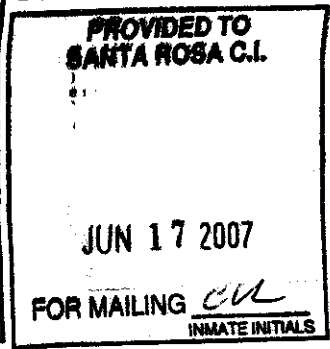
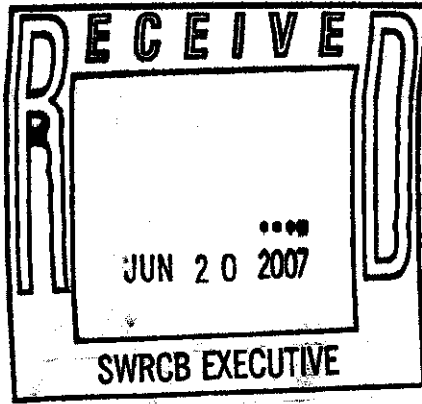


6/12/07 Workshop  
Suction Dredge  
Deadline: 6/22/07 Noon



17 June 07

Dear Ms Songster

Dredging the rivers doesn't change the quality of the water. Granted it turns everything over. Just like the winter and spring floods. Every time there is a lot of rain high up in the mountains or a fast snow melt the rivers flood.

Back in November of 1985, the North Fork of the American River rose twenty feet overnight. I almost lost everything I had because I was camped so close to the waters edge. While walking the bank the next day I noticed a thirty foot deep hole that hadn't been there the day before. I walked all over that gravel bar a couple days before the flood not realizing how deep it went. Within a couple of days the river was clear as glass again. The same thing happens when using a suction dredge on the river.

Why don't you check the water quality around farms using pesticides, herbicides and non organic fertilizers? How about the water quality around manufacturing plants? Dredges don't hurt the water quality of our rivers, but people like to complain about everything.

Ask the fish that congregate behind a working dredge. They are there for all of the free food, being dug up by the dredge. Food that they could never get without a dredger's help.

I'm done. I plan on dredging California rivers again, as soon as I get out of here. I hope this answers all the questions about water quality downriver at all suction dredges.

Sincerely,  
Craig V. Lavanway

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