

From: David James Kuhn <djkuhn2k@webtv.net>
To: <commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov>
Date: Wed, Jun 13, 2007 10:13 AM
Subject: Comment Letter- Suction Dredge Mining

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

Dear Sirs , it has been brought to my attention that the Water Resources Control Board is asking for comments regarding the effects of Suction Dredge Mining on rivers and streams in California. According to all data collected over the last 20 years by many government sources, there has been "No Significant Impact on Water Quality Due to Suction Dredge Mining" (quotes my own) Due to the limited number of suction dredge miners on the rivers and streams studied, their negative impact has been insignifiant to non-existent, whereas the positive impact of suction dredging has been proven. This proof has even been cited by the California Department of Fish & Game, because of observed "stream bed holes" created by Suction Dredging has resulted in increased cold water pockets which are needed by salmon. The question of down stream turbidity has been laid to rest many times by studies which say that the observed turbidity was only present for a matter of tens of yards downstream, and quickly dissipated back to normal levels. Natural stream activity throughout the year created many times the disturbance, covering much greater areas, for much longer periods of time, than suction dredge activity. I could give you numerous quotes, and send volumes of text related to these studies compiled by many researchers over quite a number of years, but I'm sure you already have this information. Instead, I will just say that I have personally observed Suction Dredging operations for several years, on many diverse waterways, and do not belive that this type of Mining activity is harmful or detrimental to the water enviroment at all. Thank you, James D. Kuhn Port Orford, Oregon, 97465 You may call me if you have any need or further questions, at 541-332-1096

