

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

From: Donald DeLauder <ddelauder@prodigy.net>
To: <commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov>
Date: Fri, Jun 8, 2007 1:39 PM
Subject: Comment Letter - Suction Dredge Mining

Small scale suction dredging of our streams, rivers and waterways actually help clean up the pollutants such as mercury and other heavy debris in our waterways.

Suction dredging cleans the silt which makes for better fish spawning in our waterways.

Damming up our rivers to make dams are much more harmful than suction dredging.

By damming up our rivers we constrict the flow of water which naturally flushes out the river beds of all the silt and algae.

Suction dredging cleans up the mess that damming up our rivers creates. While we should do suction dredging responsibly and only during the times when fish are not spawning, we should be allowed to continue to do our part in a simple small scale mining activity that actually HELPS the environment.

We remove lots of mercury from our streams using sluices, panning and suction dredging which the mercury would remain there to poison our fish if it weren't for us removing it.

You didn't stop LARGE scale mining in this state when they were allowed to pollute the land with mercury, cyanide leaching pools, and hydro licking, but now you want to stop the small scale miner from going in and cleaning up the mess the government allowed to be left by the large scale mining companies.

Please allow us to use our nations land responsibly and sensibly by allowing the small scale prospector to continue our hobby.

We fill in the small holes we dig (not only ours but other peoples holes as well).

Donald DeLauder

