

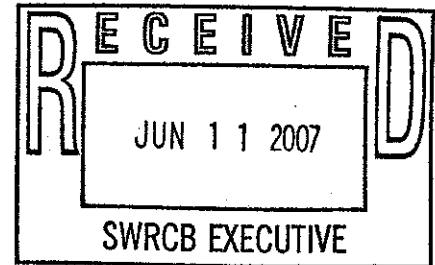
From: "galaxy1253" <galaxy1253@embarqmail.com>
To: <commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov>
Date: Mon, Jun 11, 2007 6:30 PM
Subject: Comment Letter - Suction Dredge Mining

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

From: George W. Wright
418 US Highway 22 W
Whitehouse Station, NJ 08889

June 10, 2007

To: State Water Resources Control Board
Division of Water Quality
P.O. Box 100 Sacramento, California 95812-0100
Fax: 916-341-5620



To whom it may concern:

This is a short note to ask you to please consider all the evidence carefully when making your upcoming decision whether to continue the state-wide water quality exemption for suction dredging in California's rivers and tributaries.

I was notified of the need for concerned citizens to contact your agency by Mr. Dave McCracken, general manager of the New 49'ers Prospecting Organization in northern California. He is aware of my interest in the continuance of the public's reasonable and affordable access to California's rivers and streams for suction dredging. I support his organization's position in this matter, but I have written this letter to make my personal opinion known to you. I live in New Jersey now, but I was born in Monterey, California in 1953. I have always been happy and proud to be a native Californian, and I would not take any position which I thought might possibly harm California in any way. I just want you to know that.

I will not burden you with more copies of published reports (of which there are many), by qualified scientists which attest to the benign effects of suction dredging as currently permitted. I am sure you have been presented with a large volume of documentation in this regard. The evidence shows that this type of dredging has been done for generations, with no proof of it causing any deterioration of California's water quality.

Suction dredging as a recreational activity brings much needed revenue to remote areas of California, and much enjoyment of the beautiful California environment by a great many people. With no evidence of negative effects on water quality, it would be very poor public policy to effectively curtail an activity with such a demonstrable positive impact on California's culture and economy.

Thank your for your time, and consideration of my concern.

Sincerely,

George Wright