

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

**From:** Howard Charleboix <major157@comcast.net>  
**To:** <commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov>  
**Date:** Sun, Jun 10, 2007 12:22 AM  
**Subject:** "Comment Letter - Suction Dredge Mining"

I find it very disheartening that my constitutional rights are slowly being eroded. Continually, small interest groups that have an "axe to grind", target legal actives with malice. These groups file countless court actions, that are have no merit. But the cost to individuals or groups is enormous. All the while they are well funded. The individual or group are not able to withstand the onslaught of court action. Often these malicious, find other Organizatgion to champion there cause , to hide there idenity to the courts. Or, they want the government to champion their cause at the expense of my constitutional rights.

I am a suction dredge miner. I enjoy my Constitutional right as a small scale miner. In my activity not only do I recover Gold and other metals, but I also recover fishing lures, lead fishing weights, Mercury and other trash objects from the river beds. Yes I do remove the Trash! How can this be harmful to the over all scheme to water management. We as miners do not add anything harmful or objectionable into the waters. While we do lift the sediment from the river bottom , we create a healthier environment for both the insect aquatic life and the fishery.

Howard Charleboix, Major, USAF, ret  
Gladstone, Or

