

From: Joe A <MojaveJoe@verizon.net>
To: <commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov>
Date: Thu, May 24, 2007 5:27 PM
Subject: Comment Letter - Suction dredge mining - AB 1032

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

Suction dredge mining is good for CALIFORNIA's water ways!

What activity removes heavy metal contamination (Mercury, Lead and Iron) from CA waterways at no cost to the public? Suction Dredge Mining!

What activity produces deep cooling pools suitable for maintaining CA fishery populations far into drought seasons? Suction Dredge Mining!

What activity puts more oxygen in CA waterways by creating fresh un-compacted clean gravel rock beds for water to flow through and become more aerated? Suction Dredge Mining!

What activity puts more oxygen in CA waterways merely by the way the water is mixed with air as it goes through the equipment? Suction Dredge Mining!

What activity creates fresh gravel beds (vs. hard compacted streambed) for fish to more easily spawn in thereby creating more fish the next season? Suction Dredge Mining!

In my 10 years of dredging in CA waterways I have recovered and removed several pounds of Mercury, Lead and Iron from CA waterways, while introducing no contaminants whatsoever back into the water. These heavy metals were always properly disposed of in an environmentally safe and sound manner at another location. I am not a unique case. Every dredger I know does this every year.

Suction dredge mining is an asset to California's waterways, water supplies, and fisheries.

The net gain to more regulation will be more bureaucracy and enforcement expense, and less environmental cleanup of CA waterways.

Vote No!..... on AB 1032

Joseph Albrecht
POBox 1674
Helendale, CA 92342

