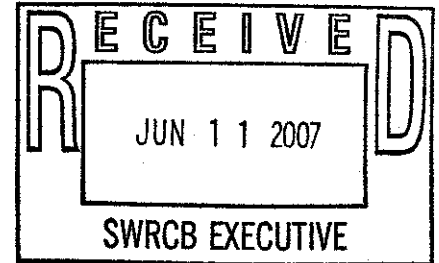


6/12/07 Workshop
Suction Dredge Mining
Deadline: 6/22/07 Noon

From: "Lawrence Locken" <lh_locken@comcast.net>
To: <commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov>
Date: Mon, Jun 11, 2007 5:28 PM
Subject: Suction dredge mining



To Song Her
Clerk of the Board

I am and have been a suction dredge miner since 1969. My family Has been involved in Mining, Logging Farming and Land developement for over 100 years. I recently retired from the 940th civil engineering unit at Beal AFB. I am currently a full time suction dredge miner with 3 mining claims in two different counties in California, Eldorado and Trinity, this includes the Consumnes river, the South Fork of the American River and the Main Stem Trinity river. Currently there no valid studies that show that suction dredging has anything but a positive effect on water quality and fish habitat, there are many studies show a positive effect. Three of these are (Turbidity by CFDG 1997),(effect on water temp by W L Somer and G R Stern 1986),(effect on stream temp. by SNFS 2001). In 38 years of suction dredging, I have seen only positive effects from suction dredge mining. I have however seen many negative effects from other users of the waterways as many dredgers will bear witness from the trash that dredgers remove from the rivers and creeks every year.

Sincerly
Lawrence H. Locken