From: Millie & Francis <mtft@shaw.ca>
To: <commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov>
Date: Sat, Jun 9, 2007 12:00 PM
Subject: Suction dredging

Dear members of the California state water board
I am a Canadian who loves to come to California and Arizona to pan & sluice as a hobby. In regards to suction dredging I have found from watching different dredging operations both up here on our rivers and down in California that they have very little effect if any on water as it ran clean after only 50 to 150 feet down stream from the area where it was being preformed. I also have noticed when I went back to these areas later on in the fall panning and fishing that the cutthroat trout were spawning in and over the areas where the dredging had been preformed earlier on in the year. It may be that the gravel was cleaner and easier to spawn in then the unworked river bed. In closing my personal opinion is that these small prospecting operations have no effect on water or fishing but may actually help. FROM Francis Theriault at mtft@shaw.ca up here in Canada and I do hope you will see fit to allow these small prospecting operations to continue as my wife and I very much enjoy your country and these hobbies as pastimes.
Thank YOU A Canadian Tourist for 2 to 4 months a year