To: CA State Water Resources Control Board

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Date/Time: 6/11/2007 12:17:20 PM
Subject: Suction Dredge Mining

It has come to our attention that you are evaluating the use of suction dredging in CA streams and rivers, and may decide to stop future dredging. My husband and I would like to share our comments with you.

There have been several state & federal agencies that have done studies on suction dredging over several years now, all coming to the same or similar conclusions...that there is little or no effect to water quality due to suction dredging.

There have been several studies done by CDFG over the years concluding that 'little or not impact to the water quality or to the immediate environment has occurred.

The US Army Corp of Engineers has also done several studies and have determined that the science supports de minimus status for 6-inch dredges. Turidity is also de minimus.

Concluding that the water quality has shown to be de minimus, we respectively request you give all previous published studies full consideration in assessing and evaluating the effect of suction dredging. We hope you will decide to renew suction dredge permits for continued suction dredging.

Sincerely,
John & Patsy Rylance