To whom it may concern:

Just want to say that suction dredging does not hurt the environment and can prove very helpful in cleaning up rivers and streams. I have no intention of quoting a bunch of studies that say this or that as many others have on this issue. I just want to raise my hand as a small scale miner and dredger who believes that this kind of nonsense is what puts our heritage at risk.

Follow the example of Oregon and collect the mercury found by those running suction dredges for one year and ask that the people on the other side of the fence also collect mercury from the rivers and creeks and see who does more for the environment by removing the mercury from that eco system entirely.

Sincerely,

Richard Lee