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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
EL DORADO COUNTY

November 24, 2009

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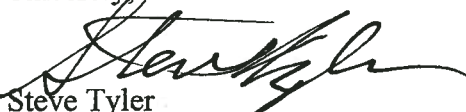
Mark Stopher
California Dept. of Fish and Game
601 Locust Street
Redding CA. 96001

Mark Stopher:

I am submitting this document per your request for economic impacts of the ban of suction dredging in Calif. I have been making 30% to 70% of my income from the production of gold by using a suction dredge since 1979, 30 years ago. I have personally recovered hundreds and hundreds of ounces of placer gold during that time to help support my family in El Dorado County. I have logbooks going back to 1984 and have income tax records dating back to 1987 verifying this production. This illegal ban on mining in California has cost my family and my partners no less than \$32,500 considering the present price of gold in this year alone. This can be verified from reasonable estimates based on current financial statements, log book entries for 2009, testing logs and production logs from the mining of adjacent river gravels in recent years. Not included in this estimate are the weeks of extra labor that will be required next year, to remove the many yards of gravel that will inevitably infill and erase our work from this year. This infilling will most certainly occur during the first few major storm events of the coming winter. What do you think a months extra work for two professional divers and one other experienced miner is worth these days? I would say something on the order of \$9,000 is a very conservative estimate. **WE ARE NOT** recreational gold miners. Any delay in the restoration of Federally and Constitutionally protected private property and mining rights will only add to an ever-increasing debt owed to gold miners in California by those obstructing this valuable work. Your efforts to restore these rights as soon as possible and produce an accurate, unbiased, factual EIR based on indisputable peer reviewed studies would be appreciated.

Thanks for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Steve Tyler
5601 Bumper Road
El Dorado CA. 95623

Enclosures

Cc: El Dorado County Board of Supervisors
Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger
Jerold Hobbs, PLP