



# Greene Environmental Services

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Governor Jerry Brown  
State Capitol, Suite 1173  
Sacramento, CA 95814

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COPY SENT TO BOARD MEMBERS  
FOR THEIR INFORMATION

DATE 6-16-11

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FYI  
from  
Steve  
Tyler

2011 JUN 16 PM 1:25

RECORDED  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
EL DORADO COUNTY

June 16, 2011

**RE: Please remove the 5-year small-scale gold suction dredge ban from the budget before signing.**

Dear Governor Brown,

I am a retired US EPA research biologist. I was invited to participate on the Department of Fish and Game Public Advisory Committee for the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) on small-scale gold suction dredging. If you sign the budget with the 5-year dredging moratorium still attached you will destroy the hard work of many individuals that participated in this endeavor.

The moratorium is without merit. The environmental community participated in the EIR process, along with miners and a large number of Department of Fish and Game personnel. At the conclusion of months of effort the environmental community found that small-scale suction dredging had less-than-significant effects on the environment. Unable to accept this fact they had this moratorium placed into the budget.

These environmentalists falsified new cost analysis that totally disagrees with the known facts of the issue at hand. They claim that thousands of dollars will be spent from the general fund to write permits and fund enforcement. I refer you to the attached letter written by Supervising Deputy Attorney General Robert W. Byrne who was an assistant under your command while you served at the California Attorney General. He clearly states in this letter that, "As we informed the court at the hearing, issuance of suction dredge permits is supported chiefly, if not entirely, by funds from permit fees. Furthermore, legislative analysis of SB670 reported that the Department of Fish and Game collects \$175,000 in suction dredge permit fees. They further reported that the cost to the Department of Fish and Game for this service was \$50,000. Therefore, the State was making a profit of \$125,000 each year of this program.

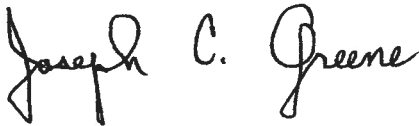
I also want to point out that the State of California has spent \$1,200,000 to \$1,800,000 to produce the court ordered EIR.

The impact on the industries and communities serving this industry, using Department of Fish and Game figures, is somewhere in the neighborhood of \$23,000,000. This figure is derived from the loss of business from the sale of new mining equipment, and the local impacts on grocery stores, fueling stations, lodging, campgrounds, etc.

The numbers provided by the sponsors of the 5-year suction dredging moratorium trailer bill just do not add up. They are false. They are a lie submitted by organizations unwilling to lose a position they advocate when the scientific facts clearly demonstrate that they are dead wrong!

Sincerely,

Joseph C. Greene

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joseph C. Greene". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the typed name.

Research Biologist  
US EPA (Retired)