

Sent: Monday, April 15, 2013 9:46 AM
To: Lutman Jennifer
Subject: dredge mining hearing today

Dear Ms. Lutman,

We would like to submit the following testimony for today's Committee hearing on the above matter. Thank you very much.

My husband and I read the article in the Oregonian today regarding SB 838 and would like to submit testimony to curtail this practice.

We are farmers in Washington County, avid fishermen for salmon, and also own 6 pack mules which we use for elk hunting in the backwoods and wilderness areas. We really enjoy the Umpqua, Rogue, Imnaha and other rivers of the state. We have seen firsthand the destruction of habitat that this activity causes.

We are both appalled that suction dredge mining continues to occur in anadromous fish bearing rivers of this state in this day and age! So much money is being invested to improve salmon and their habitat, and the destructive nature of dredge mining directly undermines that work and wastes taxpayer money.

On top of that, according to the Oregonian article, there is little if any enforcement or oversight of these operations. We urge you and the committee to stop this destructive practice, or, to make sure that enforcement and oversight is adequately funded by those who participate in this practice within our public waterways. Pay to play seems right in this case.

Thanks very much

Jean and Phil Muir
30350 NW Scotch Church Rd
Hillsboro, OR 97124
503 706-9663