

Sent: Tuesday, April 16, 2013 10:28 AM

To: Sen Dingfelder; Sen Olsen; Sen Hass; Sen Hansell; Sen Bates

Subject: SB 838 - Suction Dredge Mining: Support

Senator Dingfelder and Members of the Senate Environment and Natural Resources Committee:

Thank you for allowing me to testify last evening in support of SB 838. An issue that came up in conversation with a miner after the hearing is that, when the \$25 DEQ fee was instituted, many "permits" were not renewed. The number of permits might have been higher before that fee--but not like today; however, the actual activity in the streams and rivers was not the same as today.

What I'd like to have you consider is that, currently, the limited enforcement being done by the OSP is being funded by our hunting and fishing licenses. So, as a part of the work to be done during any moratorium related to this issue is to be sure that this activity helps pay for any enforcement activities. Our hunters and fishers shouldn't be the only ones funding this important activity. Of course, enforcement is not only OSP, but our state policies from the various other agencies. That's why fees for those agencies' work should also be considered as a part of the broader discussion.

Thanks for listening yesterday to all parties. Let me know if I can provide further information. P

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