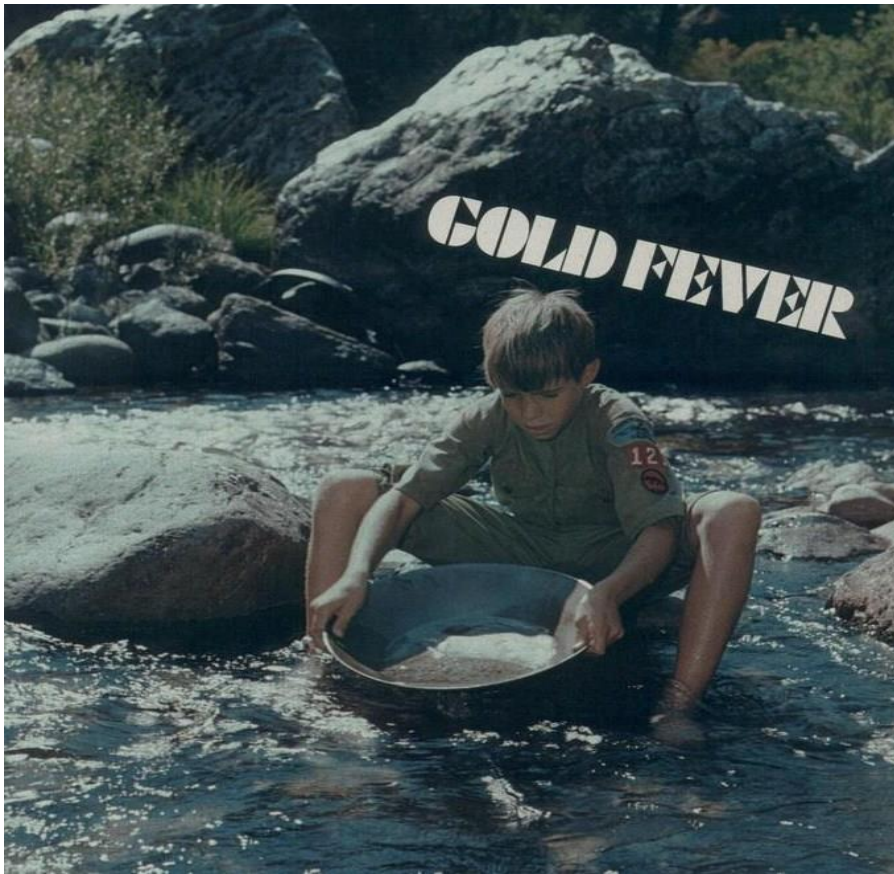


I support SB 644 and the companion bill HB 2106

An exclusion certificate from DOGAMI for ORS 517.753 (<5000cy <1 acre)
This is now required for any amount of excavation including with a shovel
on a placer mining claim for off stream mining and needs to be changed.
DEQ is refusing to issue any new WPCF 600 permit or even start the process
of certifying a new permit in lieu of legislation that may or may not pass.
Gold prospecting and casual use mining are not at the level of mining like what a
NOI or PoO with BLM/FS would trigger, to be assigned a lead agency like DOGAMI.

Our permits are all messed up, they are throwing the baby out with the bath water.
Weekend and mom & pop off stream small placer mining should not be classed the same
as surface mining needing county and land use requirements to look for gold on a granted
mineral estate and public lands from the County or DOGAMI, I could see it if this mining
was a lease of State or County lands but there are already permits and land use zoning
The SB3 suction dredge bill, this is done in "Bad Faith", it is not regulatory it just
prohibits mining on all ESH streams, with no access to our minerals there is no way to
develop or mine our claims, so hundreds of mining claims will not be worth keeping.
SB838 and now SB3 are only meant to destroy our heritage and legacy of gold mining.



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