"Tiffany or Barry Marquart" <tiffandbarry@yahoo.com>

To: nrlarsm@mail.dnr.state.mo.us
cc:
Subject: gravel mining

03/09/2003 10:32 AM

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing regarding the commercial mining of sand and gravel from Missouri's rivers and streams. I understand that a decision will soon be made with regard to the regulations and permitting of such ventures. I'm a concerned Missouri citizen. I grew up in a small community, have a degree in Geology, and have been teaching Ecology and Earth Science for three years. I'm also an avid outdoorsman

Gravel mining and removal is an important industry especially in the rural communities of Missouri. I understand that gravel is needed for many reasons, especially road and concrete work. Many good mining sites exist throughout the Ozarks and people rely on jobs associated with this product. But you cannot put a price on the environment and the fragile ecosystems that still exist throughout our beautiful state. With this in mind, for many reasons, I believe that extreme caution should be used along with strict enforcement of regulations when removing gravel and sand from Missouri's rivers and streams.

Gravel mining in our streams affects the very beauty and wilderness that make our rural areas what they are. Silt stirred up directly affects the water bugs and other small organisms that rely on clean, clear water. Silt blocks out the sunlight that green plants rely on for survival. When this occurs a chain reaction starts in the food chain. Microorganisms are affected along with small bugs. This then affects small fish, reptiles and amphibians. If silt levels build larger game fish and fur-bearing mammals can seriously be affected.

One problem with improper gravel removal is the affect it has down stream on other properties. Many people enjoy the diversity and purity of Ozark waterways. When silted water flows onto state park land or other private land it becomes a problem for the state (our tax money) or other private landowners.

I have three concerns about the recent workgroup recommendations to the Department of Natural Resources' Land Reclamation Commission. (draft 1-10-03)

First, on page 5 item # 9, Dropping spawning seasons restrictions. This seems crazy to me. Spawning season is a very fragile period for Ozark streams. Restrictions need to be enforced during these periods to ensure the cycle of life continues especially for sensitive and even endangered aquatic species.

Second, on page 6 drop as section (14) number 13. and add as section (15)
Some water resources should have extra protection for many reasons. I believe there should be no change in

this restriction. We need to rely on MDC and DNR scientist to help us identify and implement these restrictions.

Third, Page 7 item 15.
THIS SHOULD NOT BE DROPPED!!! Missouri has fish and wildlife species that if we are not careful we could lose forever. We need to rely on professional Biologist to make sure this doesn't happen.

In closing I am not against gravel mining. As a concerned citizen I feel that extreme caution should be used when removing gravel and sand from Missouri streams. Let's let the professionals do their work. That means DNR and/or MDC professionals working with gravel industry professions to ensure that clean, healthy streams continue to thrive in our state forever!

Sincerely,

Barry Marquart

tiffandbarry@yahoo.com

P.S. I can't make the March 26th, 2003 meeting in Jefferson City. Please make this letter a part of the process and forward it to the necessary people. Keep me updated on the situation. Thanks!!!!

Do you Yahoo!?
Yahoo! Tax Center - forms, calculators, tips, more
http://taxes.yahoo.com/

CHUCK TRYON

1 Johnson Street
Rolla, Missouri 65401-3713
(573)364-5509
ctryon@fidnet.com

RECEIVED
MAR 7 2003
MISSOURI LAND
RECLAMATION COMMISSION

March 4, 2003

MoDNR Land Reclamation Commission
PO Box 176
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102-0176

Dear Commissioners:

You have already heard from me by letter to Mike Larsen dated 12/20/02, so I will be brief this time.

First, I urge you not to be discouraged or intimidated by legislative attempts to emasculate your efforts. Let's get some reasonable regulations first, then deal with the legislative process later.

Among the several sets of possible regulations, I favor the American Fisheries Society's proposals as much as any. And please remember--variance negotiations between DNR and the miners should only come after quantitative regulations have been established, not be in place of them.

Thank you for your courage in the face of so much controversy.

Best regards,

Chuck Tryon

MONITEAU COUNTY COMMISSION

200 East Main Street
California, Missouri 65018

Phone: 573-796-2213

Fax: 573-796-3082

Kenneth Kunze
Presiding Commissioner

Tony Barry
1st Associate Commissioner

Kim F. Roll
2nd Associate Commissioner

RECEIVED
MAR 6 2003
MISSOURI LAND
RECLAMATION COMMISSION

March 4, 2003

Land Reclamation Commission
Department of Natural Resource
P.O. Box 176
Jefferson City, MO 65102

To Whom It May Concern:

The County Commission of Moniteau County would like to voice our opinion on the Land Reclamation Commission's proposal to change the present in-system sand and gravel mining guidelines to regulations.

The Commission feels that the change would put undue hardship on all counties of Missouri. From what we have seen published, there have been numerous testimonies stating all the negative effects this could have on the citizens of the State of Missouri. We have seen no positive remarks. Our county is one of those facing very lean budgets, therefore we don't need more regulations that will cost the county more money. Our county depends heavily on the gravel we excavate from streams to keep our county roads in good repair. We could not afford to purchase crushed stone to replace the gravel used. Many are concerned that leaving too much gravel in streams causes water to divert to farmland where it washes away the topsoil. We also believe these new regulations would affect all counties and not only those with gravel-rich streams. New regulations would probably cause reason for more permits to be purchased by operators, thus raising permit cost that would have to be passed on to consumers.

Moniteau County supports the Land Reclamation Commission's decision to appoint an advisory group and withdraw DNR's proposal to impose new state restrictions on in-stream sand and gravel excavation. We favor the modification of current agency guidelines to make it easier to remove gravel and vegetation from streams and to use that material to repair stream bank erosion sites.

Therefore, Moniteau County is opposed to any changes from guidelines to regulations as proposed.

Sincerely,

Kenneth Kunze
Presiding Commissioner
Moniteau County

Tony Barry
1st District Commissioner
Moniteau County

K. F. Roll
Kim F. Roll
2nd District Commissioner
Moniteau County

3-1-03

RECEIVED
MAR 6 2003
MISSOURI LAND
RECLAMATION COMMISSION

To: Larry Coen
Staff Director
Land Reclamation Commission

From: James & Mary Ingle
Re: commerical mining of sand + gravel from rivers and streams

Dr. Mr. Coen

My husband and I have lived on property we own on Bull creek in Taney Co. over 24 years. In that time we've witnessed first hand the damage done by commerical gravel miners. We have been continually amazed by the fact that those who participate in this activity are unaware of the potential damage to the streams. In discussions with local landowners who haul gravel, and "have lived on these creeks all our lives", we have been told "you can't hurt the creek" or "if we don't take out the gravel, the creek will fill up with it." We once attended a public hearing for a gravel mining permit and were disappointed as a roomful of property owners, some litterly

in tears, left feeling defeated and hopeless after DNR granted the permit despite their opposition. The area mined was to be reclaimed but has since changed ownership and is being mined today without a permit. A friend of mine contacted DNR about this last year and no action has taken place.

The area where we live on Bull creek has a shoal of shelf rock. I helplessly watched as my neighbor across the creek drove his backhoe onto the shelf in the middle of the creek and proceeded to break off sections of rock. One day the neighbor came to my door and said the key was missing to his loader. My son, who was about 8 yr old at the time, later confessed to taking the key because "he (the neighbor) was tearing up our creek!" I had my son return the key and tell the neighbor why he took it. I hoped my son might make more of an impression than if I had complained. However, when he returned

he said the neighbor told him he was "making the creek better" and that he was "making a place for the canoes to go through the falls." You can now see the rock from the falls on our creek at the local bank building that is faced with it.

Over the years we have sadly watched a decline in Bull Creek. I have noted an increase in sediment and algae and my husband believes the number of large small mouth bass is declining. Dr. Beckman from SMSU stated in a recent TV program that he considers Bull creek "moderately impaired." We have seen bank erosion caused from clearing of riparian cover by landowners and commercial operators. We know of "locals" who have bought creek property mainly to sell off the gravel as well as Rock for landscape and building. We have watched locals landowners make gravel dams across the creek to "make a better swimmin' hole" I know some of the locals think that I don't

understand because I haven't "lived all my life on the creek." However I have lived on the creek a long time. I do understand something of watershed hydrology and the impacts of various activities on stream health. Many landowners and commercial gravel miners do not use the best management practices. I do respect property owners rights to use their resources. However, my husband and I are property owners also and believe that we as well as all others who use our streams have a right to enjoy a resource that is not degraded by the quest for profit by a few individuals. We therefore feel there needs to be clear, concise, measurable guidelines regarding sand and gravel mining in our streams. We whole heartedly support the proposed rules of the Land Reclamation Program.

Sincerely,

Concerned Citizens and Bull Creek Property Owners,

James & Mary Ingle

P.S. Re: specific proposals Draft 1-10-03

If applicable, my husband and I would vote as follows:

For: 2. An undisturbed buffer of 20 feet shall be maintained...

3. An undisturbed buffer of 100 feet wide shall....

4. No change

5 –

6. No change

7 –

8 –

9. No change

10. No change

11 –

12 –

13. No change

14. If any part of authorized .... The Permittee remains...

15. – The Land Reclamation Program shall....

MISSOURI CHAPTER
AMERICAN FISHERIES SOCIETY

RECEIVED
MAR 5 2003
MISSOURI LAND
RECLAMATION COMMISSIO

February 28, 2003

Staff Director
Land Reclamation Commission
P.O. Box 176
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Dear Commissioners,

On behalf of the American Fisheries Society, Missouri Chapter, I'm writing to urge you to adopt the instream gravel mining rules we favored in the recommendations from the Gravel Mining Working Group. The Society represents nearly 200 professional scientists who understand the economic, social, and scientific issues involving our state's valuable aquatic resources. For example, we understand that gravel and sand mined from Missouri's streams are economically important commodities ($41 million in 1995). However, we also understand that fishing and other stream-based recreation also are economically important activities in Missouri. In 1996, stream fishing alone accounted for $170 million in direct expenditures (U.S. Department of Interior report). Add to that figure the economic activity generated by swimmers, canoeists, hunters, and other recreationists, and you have an economic powerhouse that far exceeds the economic impact of instream gravel mining in Missouri. In addition, there have been no documented negative economic impacts to the Ozark region or the mining industry under the existing regulations. Therefore, we ask, would you endanger Missouri's already fragile economy by freeing gravel mining from modest rules that would minimize damage to Missouri's nationally recognized rivers and streams?

The negative effects of instream gravel mining have been well documented by scientists. These effects have been documented not only nationally but also in the Ozarks of Missouri and Arkansas. Effects include erosion of streamside private property (and its real estate value), erosion of public property, damage to private and public infrastructure (roads, bridges, pipelines, and utility lines), losses in productivity of our valuable fisheries, and losses to our rich biological diversity. Claims that gravel must be "cleaned out" of our streams to prevent erosion or should be bulldozed against eroding stream banks to protect them are quickly revealed as untrue once these claims are compared to the indisputable facts uncovered by scientists over the last 20 years. We believe that profitable instream gravel mining can be done under modest rules designed to also protect our valuable stream resources.

We have witnessed the damage that uncontrolled gravel mining can produce. Poorly regulated instream gravel mining would not only be a danger to Missouri's economy, it also would be a danger to an important part of Missouri's heritage: laughing children catching their first fish with proud parents looking on. We urge you to support the rules favored by Missouri's aquatic resource professionals.

Sincerely,

Harold A. Kerns

Harold Kerns, President
American Fisheries Society, Missouri Chapter

cc: Fred Harris, President, AFS; Chris Guy, NCD AFS; John Hoskins, Director, MDC; Norm Stucky, Fisheries Division Administrator, MDC

40 Sharon Dr.
St. Charles, MO 63303
March 2, 2003

RECEIVED
MAR 5 2003
MISSOURI LAND
RECLAMATION COMMISSION

Mo Land Reclamation Commission
PO Box 176
Jefferson City, Mo 65102

Re: Proposed Instream Gravel Mining Regulations

Dear Commission Members:

I am writing to urge you to adopt the version of the proposed the regulations for instream gravel mining proposed by the American Fisheries Society at the recent Gravel Mining Working Group and to make those regulations applicable to the entire gravel mining industry.

I am a canoeist and a fisherman who uses the Ozark streams for recreation year-round. Having moved to Missouri in 1978, I have come to love and treasure the Ozarks for their beauty and wildlife. Gravel mining methods that would damage or destroy stream quality will adversely affect the wildlife that I so enjoy and will damage that portion of the state's economy derived from those sources. I understand that stream fishing alone accounted for approximately $170 million in 1996. Additional income was derived from swimmers, canoeists, floaters and others who use Missouri's streams for recreation.

Claims that regulation would increase the cost of gravel mining are apparently without basis since the proposed rules were in place and followed by gravel miners for a two year period from April, 1995, to April, 1997, with no documented negative economic impact to the Ozark region or to the gravel mining industry. It is my understanding that the larger mining companies favor regulations of some sort in order to level the economic playing field. The question becomes what sort of regulations to impose. This subject has been researched extensively in both the Missouri and Arkansas Ozarks and is well documented in the scientific literature. Therefore, it is my opinion that regulations should reflect the scientific consensus. Claims that gravel must be removed from the stream to protect it from erosion are simply erroneous. Further, that same gravel provides a home for the insects and organisms that are the basis of stream health.

In summary, I urge you to support scientifically based regulations for instream gravel mining such as those proposed by the American Fisheries Society. In addition, I urge you to require these regulations be applied to all commercial gravel mining operations in a manner that can be overseen and enforced.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

Cliff H. Parmer

RECEIVED
MAR 5 2003
MISSOURI LAND
RECLAMATION COMMISSION

Joe Huckins
901 W. Davis
Fayette, Mo. 65248
(660) 248-3928 or heavener@socket.net

March 3, 2003

Staff Director
Land Reclamation Commission
P. O. Box 176
Jefferson City, Mo. 65102

Dear Commissioners:

As Missouri moves from a state that depends on agricultural production, mining and manufacturing for most of their economy to one more dependent on service, high technology, and agricultural production the need to very carefully manage our natural resources increase. This is one reason I am writing to urge you to protect what I consider to be Missouri's greatest natural resource, our Ozark steams. You can do so by adopting the American Fisheries Society version of the instream gravel mining rules.

These streams provide far more economic boost to the state from tourism, fishing tackle sales, canoe rental, and other related sales than will ever be provided by gravel mining with its related cost to our roads and environment. It also seems unfair to allow any business that affects others property and businesses to operate without paying anything for rights that other legitimate businesses have to pay for.

Sincerely:

Joe Huckins

Joe Huckins

James A. Lynch
429 Pam Ave
St. Charles, Mo. 63301
March 3,2003

RECEIVED
MAR 5 2003
MISSOURI LAND
RECLAMATION COMMISSION

Missouri Land Reclamation Commission
PO Box 176
Jefferson City, Mo. 65102

Dear Land Reclamation Commission

I am writing to you today to urge you to adopt the version of in-stream gravel mining proposed by the American Fisheries Society at the recent Gravel Mining Working Group. Proposed rules for in-stream gravel mining were previously in place as regulations and are currently being followed by the gravel miners. Therefore claims by miners that the new rules will increase their costs are without basis. There have been no documented negative economic impacts to the Ozark region or the mining industry under the existing regulations.

I am a fisherman and enjoy the outdoor facilities the state of Missouri offers. In addition, I want these facilities in place for my grandchildren and future generations. The negative effects of in-stream gravel mining are well documented in the scientific research literature. These effects have been documented not only in national literature but also in Missouri Ozarks and Arkansas. Gravel mining effects include erosion of streamside private and public property, damage to property infrastructure such as bridges, roads, utilities, etc., and losses of our rich biological diversity. Claims by rules opponents stated that gravel must be "cleaned out" from the streams to prevent erosion or bulldozed against eroding streams to protect them are false. Scientists over the last 20 years have revealed this is untrue and environmentalists nation-wide are striving to return and maintain streams and rivers to their natural flows.

I am not encouraging elimination of gravel mining but recommend maintaining the gravel mining industry to their current set of regulations. The gravel and sand mined from Missouri's streams are economically important commodities ($41 million in 1995). However, the fishing and other stream-based recreation are also economically important activities in Missouri; stream fishing alone accounted for $170 million in 1996. This figure does not include the additional economic impact by canoeists, swimmers, hunters and other stream related activities.

I have personally seen the effects of creek erosion by gravel mining at a Boy Scout camp near Jonesburg, Mo. The stream's flow was drastically changed by the gravel extraction, and the fishing and swimming opportunities for the scouts were significantly reduced. I feel that small streams must be kept for future generations to allow our grandchildren to

have the opportunity to walk to a stream near their home with a fishing pole and catch a couple bluegill or take a cool swim on summer afternoon.

I thank you for you time and effort and hope that you will consider helping in the effort to adapt rules for the gravel mining rules in accordance with the recommendations of the scientific community .

Sincerely

James Lynch

James A. Lynch

3/3/03

Dear MO Land Reclamation Commission,

I strongly urge the implementation of strong gravel mining rules to protect land and stream resources in the state.

I am particularly concerned over the "Gravel Mining Exemption Bill (SB0360). This bill "flies in the face" of all common sense and reasonable legislation concerning our rivers here in Missouri

Over the past few years we Missourians have been touting Missouri as "Missouri - Where The Rivers Run"; obviously we have pride in our aquatic resources and yet, somehow, this bill has come about.

I beseech you to implement strong gravel mining rules immediately!!!

Thank You,

Chris Welker
112 W. Loretta Ave.
St. Louis, MO 63125
314/631-7413

RECEIVED
MAR 4 2003
MISSOURI LAND
RECLAMATION COMMISSION

Louis A Juranas
12564 Larkwood Drive
St. Louis, MO 63146-4502

RECEIVED
MAR 4 2003
MISSOURI LAND
RECLAMATION COMMISSION

March 3, 2003

MO Land Reclamation Commission
P.O. BOX 176
Jefferson City, MO 65102

I have written to Senator Joan Bray to kill **SB0360,** the gravel mining exemption bill proposed by Senator Steelman. I'm writing to you now to adopt the version of the instream gravel mining rules proposed by the American Fisheries Society at the recent Gravel Mining Working Group.

I have 13 grandchildren who enjoyed clean water to fish and swim in. I want these same children and their future off-springs to enjoy Missouri's nationally recognized rivers and streams as I've known them.

The proposed rules for instream-based gravel mining were previously in place and followed by gravel miners, so claims by miners that the new rules will increase their costs are without basis. There has been no documented negative economic impact to the Ozark region or the mining industry under the existing regulations. In fact, per my son-in-law living in Van Buren, MO, not one single gravel miner found with improper mining practices affect water quality has been fined or denied additional permits. All the harm they have done has never been repaired. I, as my son-in-law believes that the miners will not be "regulated" out of business. In fact, most of the gravel miners as of today and in the future, without better controls and rules, are now and will continue to create a negative economic impact on the outstanding recreation opportunities offered by Missouri wonderful rivers and streams.

Missouri needs more stronger gravel mining rules not a VOID of control to the harm already done to our Missouri streams, and some of my favorite creeks for small mouth bass, and the kid's favorite bluegills.

Please help my grandchildren and their future children for better water and soil conservation.

Lou Juranas

Robert D Becker
4605 Hickory Ridge View Ct.
Eureka, Missouri 63025

RECEIVED
MAR 3 2003
MISSOURI LAND
RECLAMATION COMMISSION

Mr. Ted A. Smith, Chairman
Missouri Land Reclamation Comission
P.O. Box 176
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

Dear Mr. Smith,

I am a resident, land owner, and registered voter in the state of Missouri.

In writing you this letter, I would like you to know that I am opposed to in-stream gravel mining.

Please make every effort to impose strict regulations in reguard to the removal of materials such as gravel and sand from stream beds and other locations.

Sincerely,

Robert D Becker

Robert D Becker

MISSOURI WATERSHED COALITION

February 28, 2003

RECEIVED
MAR 3 2003
MISSOURI LAND
RECLAMATION COMMISSION

Staff Director
Land Reclamation Commission
P.O. Box 176
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Dear Land Reclamation Commission:

I'm writing to you today to urge you to adopt the version of the instream gravel mining rules proposed by the American Fisheries Society during the recent Gravel Mining Working Group deliberations. I am writing to you as President of the Missouri Watershed Coalition. The Missouri Watershed Coalition is a statewide organization representing the interests of Stream Teams. There are currently over 2140 Stream Teams and an estimated 40,000 individual Stream Team members.

Gravel and sand mined from Missouri's streams are economically important commodities and were valued at $41 million in 1995. However, fishing and other stream-based recreation also are economically important activities in Missouri. Stream fishing alone accounted for $170 million in 1996. This figure does not include the additional economic activity generated by swimmers, canoeists, hunters, and other stream recreationists.

The proposed rules for instream gravel mining were previously in place and followed by gravel miners for two years (April 1995 to April 1997), so claims by miners that the new rules will increase their costs are without basis. There have been no documented negative economic impacts to the Ozark region or the mining industry under the existing regulations.

The negative effects of instream gravel mining are well documented. These effects have been documented not only nationally, but also in the Ozarks of Missouri and Arkansas. Effects include erosion of streamside private property, damage to private and public infrastructure (roads, bridges, pipelines, and utility lines), losses in

productivity of our valuable fisheries, and losses to our rich biological diversity. Claims by rules opponents that gravel must be "cleaned out" of our streams to prevent erosion or should be bulldozed against eroding stream banks to protect them are quickly revealed to be untrue, and harmful to our streams, once these claims are compared to the indisputable facts uncovered by scientists over the last 20 years.

I've personally witnessed the damage that uncontrolled gravel mining can produce on numerous Missouri streams. Uncontrolled mining is not only a danger to Missouri's economy, it's also a danger to an important part of Missouri's heritage: a family enjoying an early morning float on a clear Ozark stream.

Sincerely,

James Czyk

James Czarnezki
President, Missouri Watershed Coalition
4820 O'Neal Road
Columbia, MO 65202

RECEIVED
MAR 3 2003
MISSOURI LAND
RECLAMATION COMMISSION

LESLIE J. ANDERHUB
5441 DANTONAIRE PLACE
ST. LOUIS MO., 63128
314 894-8945 • V.M. 314 308-6053

March 1, 2003

Missouri Land Reclamation Commission
P.O. B ox 176
Jefferson City Mo. 65102

Dear Commission members:

It is imperative we have a major change to the Senate Bill 360 regarding gravel mining for streams sponsored by Senator Steelman of Rolla. In its present form there will be a major rape of this precious fragile resource.

The greedy mining industry and a few county commissioners are putting their heads in the sand (or gravel) and ignoring the incredible possible harm for a small-perceived economic benefit. They are looking for the cheapest way to obtain gravel and to hell with its consequences. Most conservation minded people I know are suggesting gravel mining, but with strong and strictly enforced regulations. Regulations that prohibit in stream mining and protect the miners to insure they have the same costs and the same regulations so no one is hurt financially.

The no regulation people are quoting grossly inaccurate science and will not allow the stream experts to speak at the committee meetings except to answer questions. They are ramming their nonscientific opinions through the committee based on emotion and not on science.

The County Commissioners are claiming economical harm and yet strictly enforced regulations would not cost much more and it would save our streams. Revenue from recreational sources far outweighs the small extra cost of getting the miners out of the streams and onto the banks a safe distance away from the ecological danger zones. If the streams were destroyed the recreational revenue loss would be far greater than the small savings of in stream mining.

It is extremely important that you help change the bill to include strong training, regulations and enforcement.

Sincerely,

Leslie J. Anderhub

RECEIVED
MAR 3 2003
MISSOURI LAND
RECLAMATION COMMISSIC

8026 Cedar Grove Lane
Russellville, MO 65074
(573) 782-4490
e-mail: jvance@sockets.net

March 1, 2003

Staff Director
Land Reclamation Program
Box 176
Jefferson City MO 65102

Director:

I am writing in support of the American Fishseries Society recommendations for stream graveling regulations.

Stream graveling is a serious environmental problem and Missouri's streams are a vital natural resource—a source of clean water, recreation and ecological diversity. Without regulation gravel operations could seriously damage many miles of our stream resource.

The AFS pan provides a good balance between landowner concerns and environmental concerns. It deserves to be chosen. AFS represents many disciplines and many years of research into what makes up a healthy stream. Please adopt their ideas into your final plan.

Sincerely,

Joel M. Vance

ACTIVE
MEMBER
OUTDOOR WRITERS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

Tim Kirchhoff
6623 Creekstone Drive
Barnhart, Mo. 63012

RECEIVED
MAR 3 2003
MISSOURI LAND
RECLAMATION COMMISSION

Mr. Ted A. Smith, Chairman
Missouri Land Reclamation Commission
P.O. Box 176
Jefferson City, Mo. 65102

Dear Mr. Smith:

As a Missouri voter who owns property in Washington and Crawford counties I am very opposed to in-stream gravel mining.

Please do all you can to see that regulations are put in place to control sand and gravel mining. Note that I am not asking that no mining be done but that it be controlled by reasonable, science-base regulations.

Sincerely,

Tim Kirchhoff

RECEIVED
MAR 3 2003
MISSOURI LAND
RECLAMATION COMMISSION

February 25, 2003

Scott Voney
6650 E. South Field Dr.
Columbia, Missouri 65201

Staff Director
Land Reclamation Commission
P.O. Box 176
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

Re: Instream Gravel Mining

Dear Land Reclamation Commission:

I am writing you today to encourage you to adopt the instream gravel mining rules proposed by the American Fisheries Society during the recent Gravel Mining Working Group discussions. As an avid angler and outdoor recreation person, I am deeply concerned regarding the future of our Missouri stream. I have two young boys (ages three and five) that also enjoy family activities which largely include activities on Missouri streams.

I am aware that gravel mining is an economically important commodity in Missouri. However, fishing and other stream activities generated near $170 million to the economy in 1996. This figure does not include activities such as swimming, canoeing, hunting and other stream activities.

If passed, this bill would exclude 74% of commercial gravel miners from any rules and allow each of those to take 5000 tons of gravel, which is approximately 500 dump truck loads. Private landowners using gravel for personal use are already exempt under existing laws.

The gravel miners followed the proposed instream gravel mining rules for two year (April 1995 to April 1997). That being stated, the claim by gravel miners of the new rule increasing their cost is not valid.

The negative effects of gravel mining are well documented in the research literature. The effects have been documented not only nationally, but also in Missouri. Some detrimental effects include erosion of privately owned stream banks, erosion of public property, damage to private and public infrastructure (roads, bridges, pipelines and utility lines) loses in productivity of our valuable fisheries and losses to aquatic biodiversity. Claims by miners that gravel should be "cleaned out" or pushed against eroding stream banks are false when compared to the volumes of scientific literature which prove otherwise.

I have personally witnessed the damage that uncontrolled gravel mining will cause. Numerous encounters I have had with private landowner with severe stream bank erosion have been caused by gravel mining activity downstream of their property. I'm confident that uncontrolled gravel mining is hazardous to Missouri's economy as well as the aquatic life in these streams. I would hope my boys will have the opportunity to enjoy wade fishing a natural Missouri stream as I have experienced.

Sincerely,

Scott J. Voney

Michael G. Hoffmeyer
18 LOOKOUT AVE.
VALLEY PARK, MO 63088

RECEIVED
MAR 3 2003
MISSOURI LAND
RECLAMATION COMMISSION

Mr. Ted A. Smith, Chairman
Missouri Land Reclamation Commission
P.O. Box 176
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Mr. Smith

I am writing to inform you of my opposition towards in-stream gravel mining.

As you can see, I am a resident, property owner, and a registered voter in our great stream state of Missouri.

Please work towards take positive steps to implement strict regulations towards the regulation of the removal of sand/gravel from our great streams (and areas surrounding them) of Missouri.

Sincerely,

Michael G. Hoffmeyer