Larry Coen

03/25/2003 01:12 PM

To: "Verna Schneider" <vrjschne@osagecon.missouri.org>
cc: Mike Larsen/LRP/DEQ/MODNR
Subject: Land Reclamation Commission Hearing.

Thank you Jason for your comment.

We will provide your comment to the Land Reclamation Commission.

Larry Coen, RG, Staff Director
MDNR Land Reclamation Program
573-751-4041
"Verna Schneider" <vrjschne@osagecon.missouri.org>

"Verna Schneider" <vrjschne@osagecon.missouri.org>

03/25/2003 12:56 PM

To: "LARRY Coen" <nrcoenl@mail.dnr.state.mo.us>
cc:
Subject: Land Reclaimation Commission Hearing.

Please support Sen. Sarah Steelman's Senate Bill 360 on Gravel and Land Reclamation. Gravel should be removed from streams to reduce erosion of stream banks, to reduce sedimentation of fish habitat and to use gravel on roads in the surrounding areas.

I am in favor of S.B. 360 gravel removal guidelines to be used as guidelines only, not mandatory regulations.

Thanking you,

Jason Schneider
Hermann, Mo. 65041

RECEIVED
MAR 2 8 2003
MISSOURI LAND
RECLAMATION COMMISSION

March 20, 2002

Land Reclamation Commission

Dear Commissioners: I am writing in support of SB360 sponsored by Senator Sara Steelman. This bill will give landowners more opportunities to get gravel removed from their streams in a cost efficient manner and also help stop stream bank erosion while improving fish habitat.

I am in favor of leaving the gravel removal guidelines as guidelines instead of making them regulations.

Sincerely,

Theresa Jahnsen

Theresa Jahnsen

RECEIVED

MAR 2 8 2003

MISSOURI LAND
RECLAMATION COMMISSION

March 20, 2002

Land Reclamation Commission

Dear Commissioners: I am writing in support of SB360 sponsored by Senator Sara Steelman. This bill will give landowners more opportunities to get gravel removed from their streams in a cost efficient manner and also help stop stream bank erosion while improving fish habitat.

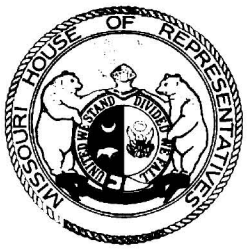
I am in favor of leaving the gravel removal guidelines as guidelines instead of making them regulations.

Sincerely,

Kurt A. Johnsen

Kurt A. Johnsen

CAPITOL OFFICE
State Capitol
201 West Capitol Avenue
Jefferson City, MO 65101-6806
Tele: 573-751-2205
Fax: 573-751-5123
E-Mail:
vkelly@services.state.mo.us



VAN A. KELLY
State Representative
District 144

HOME ADDRESS
Rt. 2 Box 518
Norwood, MO 65717
Tele: 417-746-4209

RECEIVED
MAR 2 8 2003
MISSOURI LAND
RECLAMATION COMMISSION

DNR Conference Center
1738 East Elm
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Land Reclamatic Commission,

I am writing in concern of the rules you want to impose on private landowners. I see some serious problems with the DNR rules for the gravel industry. Our economy is at stake. Gravel companies contribute much to local economies through business purchases and jobs. Without them the businessmen and local schools in my district will suffer. Having to haul sand and gravel longer distances because we are not able to utilize our own resources will result in higher costs to build houses and roads. Every stream and stretch of streams is different. Consideration must be given for those differences. The "One size fits all" rule should not be applied here. A lack of thought whether intentional or un-intentional causes streams to become so clogged with gravel that float trips become canoe drags. The deep holes where lunker fish used to hide are now filled in. We need people on this commission who represent farmers and small businesses. It has been said that property owners are exempt from those laws as long as the gravel is not sold. There is no property owner who would want to pile gravel on his property and then not be allowed to sell that resource which is from off the land that he owns. I do not believe that the best interests of everyone have been properly addressed. The land is the property of the owners and they should have the right to make the choices they feel are best for their property. After all, they pay the taxes and maintain the land. I think that SB 360 presented by Sen. Steelman will help in this matter.

Sincerely,

Van Kelly
State Representative
District 144

3 Sun Drop Court
St. Charles, MO 63303-4606
March 25, 2003

RECEIVED
MAR 27 2003
MISSOURI LAND
RECLAMATION COMMISSION

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

Attention: Mr. Larry Coen

Dear Mr. Coen,

I urge the Land Reclamation Commission to support the standards being proposed by the American Fisheries Society, since the mining industry is attempting to weaken the standards now in place for gravel mining.

Sincerely,

Marjorie E. Fay

RECEIVED

MAR 2 6 2003

MISSOURI LAND
RECLAMATION COMMISSION

March 20, 2002

Land Reclamation Commission

Dear Commissioners: I am writing in support of SB360 sponsored by Senator Sara Steelman. This bill will give landowners more opportunities to get gravel removed from their streams in a cost efficient manner and also help stop stream bank erosion while improving fish habitat.

I am in favor of leaving the gravel removal guidelines as guidelines instead of making them regulations.

Sincerely,

Catherine R Johnsen

RECEIVED
MAR 2 6 2003
MISSOURI LAND
RECLAMATION COMMISSION

Staff Director
Land Reclamation Commission
Post Office Box 176
Jefferson City Missouri

Sue Wooldridge
7200 Zuwalt Road
Hartsburg, MO 65039

Dear Staff Director,
This letter is directed to the members of the Land Reclamation Commission,

I am writing regarding the upcoming SB 360. As an individual who is concerned with the health of Missouri streams and a resident of the state of Missouri, I would like to express my opinion on Senate bill 360.

Though the mining of gravel and sand from Missouri streams provides a livlihood for some number of individuals, I feel like the economic benefit generated from this activity is not worth the cost to the stream resources of Missouri.

Many of our streams are degraded. There is a long list of riparian zone species that are extirpated, endangered, or in decline. The state of the water quality and physical integrity of our streams has been significantly impacted by many activities of our society. The conditions of our stream corridors are variable, but many miles of our streams have cut banks, dredge piles, and trash dumps. Some of the most visually devestating destruction of our streams has been due to instream mining. Not only does this destroy the biotic integrity of the dredged area, it destroys the aesthetic value of the stream. Additionally, effects on downstream sections below dredging sites can be marked.

Senate bill 360 would exempt a large portion of the commercial gravel mining sector from regulation for up to 5000 tons of gravel. Do we choose to allow this type of activity go unregulated? Can we put a price on Missouri streams in terms of cubic yards or tons of gravel and sand? I believe not.

Please consider the devestating effects of SB 360 upon our streams, and make sure this insult to our resource base does not survive under our watch.

Respecfully,
Sue Wooldridge

3/24/03 I understand this is now tacked on to SB 36. Please protect our Streams!

RECEIVED
MAR 2 6 2003
MISSOURI LAND
RECLAMATION COMMISSION

March 20, 2002

Land Reclamation Commission

Dear Commissioners: I am writing in support of SB360 sponsored by Senator Sara Steelman. This bill will give landowners more opportunities to get gravel removed from their streams in a cost efficient manner and also help stop stream bank erosion while improving fish habitat.

I am in favor of leaving the gravel removal guidelines as guidelines instead of making them regulations.

Sincerely,

KEITH JAHNSEN
3188 SCHLOTTOG RD
BLAND MO 65014

Keith Johnsen

RECEIVED

MAR 2 6 2003

MISSOURI LAND
RECLAMATION COMMISSION

Staff Director
Land Reclamation Commission
PO Box 176
Jefferson City, Missouri 65201

Steve Olson
7200 Zumwalt Rd.
Hartsburg, MO 65039
573-635-6088

Dear Staff Director,

Subject: sand and gravel mining in Missouri streams

To the members of the Land Reclamation Commission,

I am writng to express my opinion on the upcoming SB 360. As an individual concerned with the health of Missouri streams, I feel it is important to make my opinion known. Along with my family and friends, I utilize Missouri streams for recreation. This includes floating, fishing, study of natural history, hunting along riparian zones, and most importantly, utilizing stream corridors as a place to relax and reconnect with the natural environment. We have many stream types in Missouri, from the prairie streams of the northern portion of the state, to the streams of the Ozarks. The diversity of our streams is reflected in the diversity of life that exists within the stream corridors.

I understand that stream mining for sand and gravel has been a source of materials for development of roads and construction, and that this has benefited all of us through the use of the infrastructure that exists in our state. I have read that sand and gravel mining in Missouri produces over forty million dollars in revenue annually. Though stream based recreation also produces considerable revenue, I do not think that this is a purely economic issue.

A quick check of the health of our streams will reveal numerous fish, mussels, shore bird, and plant species that have greatly suffered or have been extirpated from our riparian zones. As a traveler of Missouri streams I have seen first hand evidence of stream degredation – increased nutrient loading from septic systems, lagoons, and surface runoff, bank erosion due to overgrazing and deforestation, and the choking of streams due to soil erosion, to name just a few. Yet some of ugliest and most devastating destruction of streams I have witnessed resulted from gravel dredging in tributaries of the once beautiful Black river system of southeast Missouri. The dollar value of Missouri streams cannot be measured in cubic yards of gravel or sand. Both the diversity of life and the aesthetic beauty of our streams are degraded by instream gravel mining. What cost does this have to our generation and future generations?

Senate bill 360 would exempt a large number of commercial gravel miners from regulation for up to 5000 tons of gravel. Whether or not the current regulations would cause economic hardship upon this sector of industry, is this something we would choose to allow to go on unregulated? The current state of large sections of our streams is a disgrace. On our watch will we ok the further destruction of our streams? Do we not have the responsibility to utilize all of our natural resources wisely?

I would urge the Commision to adopt the instream gravel mining rules that would best safeguard the physical integrity and biotic diversity of our flowing waters.

Respectfully,

Steve J. Olson

Director of Land Reclamation
Department of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 176
Jefferson City, Mo. 65102

RECEIVED
MAR 26 2003
MISSOURI LAND
RECLAMATION COMMISSION

Dear Mr. Jerry Coen,

I love the beauty of my Country and My State and have enjoyed this beauty Many Year. While I still retained my eye sight, I could see how our wonderful lands and Riverways ever becoming More exploited and polluted. We must put the brakes on and make a Concerted effort to not only preserve what we still have but reclaim as Much as we can for those that come after us.

Please support the standards being proposed by the American Fisheries Society. You are in a unique place to fight against such issues as SB. 360. These Types of bills that restrict the dredging companys must be opposed and this Bill that leaves them free and clear to do what they please with our rivers and surroundings land must be defeated

Sincerely,

Ethel Fischer
731 N. Elizabeth
St. Louis, Mo. 63135

March 18, 2003

Land Reclamation Commission

Dear Land Reclamation Commissioners:

As a Private Landowner with a ½ mile gravel clogged stream which has caused extensive erosion of my streambanks with corresponding widening of the channel destroying precious bottom ground, I wholeheartedly support Senator Sarah Steelman's SB 360 for the following reasons:

-It will give more opportunity for landowners to keep the their streams maintained and will also help stop streambank erosion and improve fish habitat.

-I oppose the DNR regulation of the gravel industry, but if there must be rules, I urge that they be the 10 which came out of the workgroup and approved by the majority.

Note: This letter is from a hard working, tax paying **LANDOWNER**. Not from one of those freeloading, Socialistic, landgrabbing so-called **STAKEHOLDING SOB'S.**

Sincerely,

Wm. H. Benton

Wm. H. Benton
Rt 3 Box 987-J
Salem, Missouri 65560
573-729-2615

18 March 2003

LAND RECLAMATION COMMISSION

c/o Senator Sarah Steelman
Room 422
Capitol Building
Jefferson City MO 65101

SAND AND GRAVEL

I support SB 360 sponsored by Senator Sarah Steelman.

Government agencies need to stay out of management of private property. SB 360 will help by providing more opportunity for land owners to maintain streams which border or flow through their property. Land owners generally do the job better than any government agency. Government agencies may be called upon by a land owner to offer help and advice, but the agency needs to butt-out of regulation and decision making. Government intrusion into decisions concerning privately owned property is generally a disaster and opens the door to all species of extremists and extremism.

In addition, the Department of Natural Resources needs to stay out of regulating the gravel industry, and for the same reasons. Gravel NEEDS to be removed from many Missouri streams, in particular in the Ozarks. There is much more to be gained environmentally by removing and using LOCAL gravel deposits than may be temporarily lost by stirring up sediment. Again, government agency intervention in the gravel industry is environmentally counterproductive and economically stupid. It leads to asinine regulations such as requiring gravel to be hauled from a dredge two hundred miles away to be used for building and road construction beside an Ozarks stream that is choked with gravel.

Environmental extremism in Missouri is a much greater problem than anything resulting from gravel mining. Do you recall DNR's eagerness to become the official Attack Dog of The Natural Streams Act? Anything connected with environmentalism, conservation, and environmental organizations must always be viewed with extreme suspicion. Membership in an environmental organization should be sufficient grounds for immediate dismissal of any government employee.

William and Judy Jud
3429 Madison 423
Fredericktown MO 63645-7084

Wm Jud

from the desk of ...

RAY E. CUNIO

3-25-03

TO: SENATOR STEELMAN
FAX 573-751-5747

DEAR SENATOR:

PLEASE SUBMIT THE ATTACHED LETTER IN SUPPORT OF S.B. 360 AT TOMORROW'S HEARING.

THANKS

Ray

March 25, 2003

Missouri Land Reclamation Commission
Jefferson City, Missouri

Dear Commissioners

I strongly urge you to support S.B. 360. It is common knowledge that significant gravel accretion in the majority of Missouri streams has become a major problem; resulting in considerable erosion problems (bank blow-outs), loss of established riparian corridor and fish habitat (water depth). My wife and I own 680 acres on the Bourbuse River (east central Missouri). I have lived here all my life and have seen the average water depth decrease by 25-35% at normal pool stage.

Therefore, I ask that you leave current gravel removal guidelines in place and not incorporate them as regulations. This will provide more flexibility to the individual streamside landowner in dealing with this gravel accretion problem. Thank you.

Sincerely

Ray E. Cunio

Ray E. Cunio
President
Citizens For Private Property Rights
5605 Wilson Bend Rd.
Sullivan, Missouri 63080
573-627-3328
FAX 573-627-2043

Gerald Klessig
HC2 Box 95
Gainesville, MO 65655-9209
417-679-4708
March 17, 2003

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

Re: Proposed Sand & Gravel Rules

Concerning previous correspondence about the above mentioned subject.

I SUPPORT SB 360 as sponsored by Senator Sarah Steelman, as it will give more opportunity for landowners to keep the streams maintained and will also help stop bank erosion and improve fish habitat.

I OPPOSE the DNR regulation of the gravel industry, but if there m ust be rules, I urge that they be the 10 which came out of the workgroup and approved by the majority.

There is already too much regulation of industry and private property. In viewing the streams in our local area I noticed that what should be the middle of the streams is piled full of gravel. If this gravel were removed there would be deep pockets of water for the fish to hide and feed in, but with the piles of gravel in the middle of the stream bed the water must run around these piles and wash out the banks of the streams causing further erosion.

Further regulation that would require hauling sand/gravel longer distances will add further burden on the state budget as it will require additional highway maintenance expenses, on top of that it will also hurt the local economy by reducing jobs and adding hardships to the local schools and busineses.

Gerald Klessig

March 21, 2003

I, Max Aubuchon, support Sarah Steelman's Senate Bill #360 on instream gravel removal and I oppose the 13 mining rules being regulated by the Department of Natural Resources.

The Department of Natural Resources said less than 1% of businesses have violated these rules.

Why punish all businesses, when only 1% of the businesses are in violation of the rule. The businesses violating the rule should be fine, do not punish the rest of the businesses.

Max G Aubuchon

3-21-03

Betty Adams
PO Box 307
Houston, MO 65483

RE: Land Reclamation Com.

Dear Senator Steelman;

I thank you and support you on your stand taken with the sand & gravel issue and D.N.R. If people only understood fish need water to live, breathe and survive winters. Why is it fish were so abundant 20 to 30 years ago in our streams? Could it be the streams were in better shape (habitat) because gravel was taken out? Keep fighting for the Common Sense so needed in these issues.

Thank You,
Betty Adams

March 18, 2003

Land Reclamation Commission,

Dear Ser.

I support SB 360 sponsored by Senator Steelman, as it will give more opportunety for landowners to keep the streams maintained and will also help stop bank erosion and improve fish habital

I oppose the DNR regulations of the gravel industry.

Sincerely

Carol Moore

March 17, 2003
Land Reclamation Commission

Dear Land Reclamation Commission,

I support Senator Sarah Steelman's bill, SB360. It will help stop stream bank erosion and help land owners keep their streams maintained.

I OPPOSE DNR regulation of the gravel industry, especially on private property, but if there just have to be rules, I prefer that they be the 10 which the majority approved in workshop.

Sincerely
Tahnie Burton
Rt 3, Box 981
Salem, Mo 65560

March 18, 2003

Land Reclamation Commission,

Dear Sir,

We support SB 360 sponsored by Senator Steelman, as it will give more opportunity for landowners to keep the streams maintained and will also help stop bank erosion and improve fish habitat.

We oppose the DNR regulation of the gravel industry.

Sincerely

Ray Moore

March 18, 2003
Land Reclamation Commission

Dear Land Reclamation Commission,

As a land owner, I support Senator Sarah Steelman's bill, SB 360. It will help stop streambank erosion and assist land owners in keeping their streams maintained.

I oppose DNR regulation of the gravel industry, especially on private property, but if there has to be rules, I ~~prefer that they be the 10 which were approved~~ in workshop.

Sincerely

Wanda Benton

Wanda Benton
~~Rt.~~ 3, ~~Box~~ 987-J
Salem, Mo 65560

FACSIMILE COVER PAGE

To :	**Senator Sarah Steelman**	**From :**	Carolin Burch
Sent :	3/19/2003 at 12:20:28 PM	**Pages :**	2 (including Cover)
Subject :	S360		

Dear Senator Steelman,

I am sending you letter in support of your S360 and the work you have done with the Land Reclamation Commission on the Gravel guidelines.

Thank you for your great efforts on behalf of the streams and rivers of Missouri. They need to be clean and free running. After all isn't Missouri "where the rivers run?" Let them run free. You can't float over a gravel bar.

I am sending a copy of this to Senator John T. Russell and one to the Land Reclamation Commission.

Sincerely,

Carolin Burch

10191 Highway AF
Mountain Grove, MO 65711
carolin@getgoin.net

Land Reclamation Commission
P.O. Box 176
Jefferson City, MO 65101

I support SB 360 sponsored by Senator Steelman as it will give more opportunity for landowners to keep the streams maintained and will also help stop bank erosion and improve fish habitat. Missouri's motto is "Where The Rivers Run." It is difficult for a river to run when it is filled up with gravel and silt.

Gravel can be removed from streams without damage to fish habitat and with great benefit to the streams.

I oppose the DNR regulation of the gravel industry, but if there must be rules, I urge that they be the 10 which came out of the workgroup and approved by the majority of the workgroup.

Gravel operations contribute to the state and local economy in so many ways. Without local sand and gravel production, building, housing, and road construction will be subjected to severely increased costs.

I urge you to take these things into consideration when making you decisions.

Yours truly,

Carolin Burch

March 14,2003

Land Reclamation Commission

Dear Commissioners:

I am writing in support of SB360 sponsored by Senator Sarah Steelman. This bill will permit farmers to manage their farms more efficiently by permitting the remove of gravel from stream choke points. This activity will encourage the stream to stay in its existing channel & not cause sever bank or field erosion. This Gravel can be removed without significantly impacting fish & wildlife habitat. The excess gravel/aggregate can be used on rural farm roads & in concrete. A source of road building materials & aggregate on or near farms is desirable to help keep down farm operational cost.

Gravel removal guidelines should be left as just guidelines instead of making them rigid regulations.

Sincerely,

Zenas C. Blevins

March 18, 2003

Land Reclamation Commission
State of Missouri
Jefferson City, Missouri 65101

I support SB 360 sponsored by Senator Steelman.

This will provide flexibility to landowners in maintaining streams so there is less bank erosion and improvement of fish habitat.

I oppose DNR regulations of gravel industry. The "one size" rule doesn't "fit all". Added regulatory cost means loss of jobs in local area which translates to less business and school tax awards. Also, it contributes to higher construction costs for homes.

Sincerely,

Laura Mize
P. O. Box 219
New Bell, Mo 63365-0219
636-398-8035