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Comments:

While I can appreciate the need for "some" regulations regarding recovery of locatable minerals, I truly believe that over-regulation in this area is widespread, politically motivated and wholly unnecessary. Mining is a "right", not a "privilege" and is clearly defined as such by the federal mining act of 1872. I realize that a lot has changed in this world since it was written, but to deny any "right" is still a violation of our basic and fundamental protection under the Constitution as it was written. To refine this inalienable "right" to mine essentially down to the point of recreational panning only, is a clear violation of the law, no matter how it's interpreted. Suction dredging is de minimus and actually of great benefit to most marine life that inhabit those waters, according to any of the unbiased and professional studies that have been completed. Occupation and habitation of a mining claim should be allowed as long as it is reasonably incident to mining, providing it is kept orderly and sanitary. We should revert back to the original mining district's laws and regulations as they were adopted for complete authority over mining related issues and or concerns. If outside help is needed or desired, only then should federal agencies be involved.

In closing; I honestly cannot believe there hasn't been a successful case precedent set to date for a federal "takings" violation in regards to this ridiculous over regulation and outright denial of our constitutional right to mine and recover minerals as outlined in the mining act of 1872. Any intelligent and prudent individual can clearly come to the reasonable conclusion that all of these mounting regulations are clearly a "taking" of a federally protected "right". I can only assume that the aforementioned political motivation regarding this over regulation is obviously to blame. I think if the federal government wants these agencies to continue to deny us our "right" to mine the claims we pay annual property taxes and federal fees on, they should offer every claimant a substantially generous compensation for every acre of mineral bearing ground we are denied, including "blue sky" compensation for what the valuable mineral(s) on the claim may be valued at over a considerable length of time.