

We Need Your Help to Make Mining and Reclamation in America Great Again

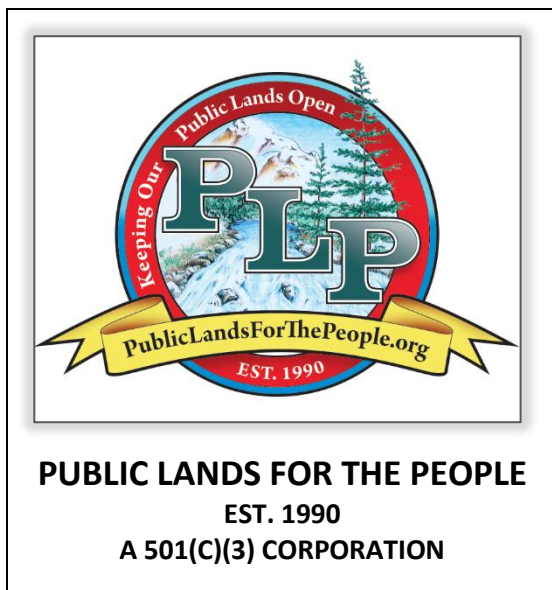
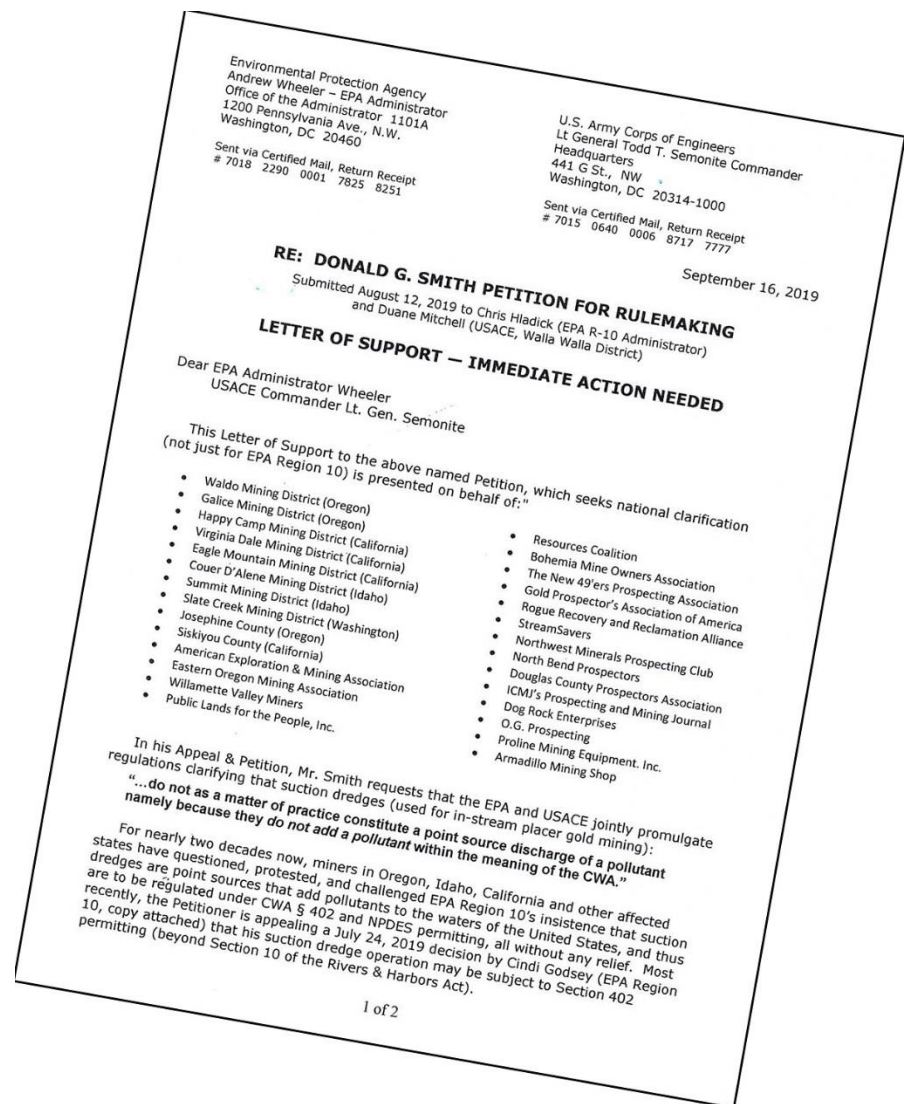
On August 12, 2019, Idaho miner Don Smith petitioned the EPA to correct a glaring error in their permitting process.

On September 16, 2019, a total of 28 groups signed on as supporters, including the American Exploration and Mining Association.

We are extremely grateful for the support of top-tier organizations like AEMA, but we need your help, too.

Within the past four years, two courts have ruled that the addition of a pollutant is required to trigger the need for a permit, but the EPA has not yet addressed the situation in a rulemaking.

Officials within the Trump administration have expressed a willingness to address the issue but they need a little push in the right direction.



Please take a moment to add your company or organization to the list of supporters. We've made it very easy; just visit www.icmj.com/resources/epa/ to view the petition and endorsement letter, and to download a blank copy of the letter to support this petition for rulemaking.

Also, please take a look at the online petition for proposed legislative reform in support of the US critical minerals supply chain. It can be found online at:

www.publiclandsforthepeople.org/take-action/

Public Lands for the People
PO Box 1660, Inyokern, CA 93527
(844) 757-1990

Environmental Protection Agency
Andrew Wheeler, EPA Administrator
Office of the Administrator 1101A
1200 Pennsylvania Ave NW
Washington, DC 20460

US Army Corps of Engineers
Lt General Todd T Semonite, Commander
Headquarters
441 G St NW
Washington, DC 20314-1000

Re: Donald G. Smith Petition for Rulemaking

(Submitted August 12, 2019 to Chris Hladick, EPA R-10 Administrator;
and Duane Mitchell, USACE, Walla Walla District)

Dear EPA Administrator Wheeler and USACE Commander Lt General Semonite:

In his Appeal & Petition, Mr. Don Smith requested the EPA and USACE jointly promulgate regulations to clarify that suction dredges (used for gold mining and reclamation) “do not as a matter of practice constitute a point source discharge of a pollutant namely because they *do not add a pollutant* within the meaning of the CWA.”

As we are sure you are aware, the Clean Water Act clearly states that NPDES permits are required for the “addition” of a pollutant and no such “trigger” is met when utilizing a suction gold dredge.

You already received a Letter of Support to the above-named Petition seeking national clarification of the NPDES permitting process under Section 402 of the Clean Water Act. This letter was signed by a broad spectrum of organizations, companies and counties—28 in total.

We wish to be added to the list of those requesting an expedited rulemaking to correct this regulatory error.

Sincerely,

Signature

Date

Name (Print): _____

Company or Organization: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

I would like to be included by email when the EPA and USACE address this issue

Email: _____