

State of Oregon DEQ and U.S. Forest Service Requirements for Recreational Miners Dredging CRME's Chetco River Claims:

OREGON STATE LAW REQUIRES RECREATIONAL SUCTION DREDGERS to have a 700-PM General Permit

This permit covers suction dredges not to exceed 30 horsepower with an inside diameter suction hose no greater than 6 inches that are used for recovering precious metals or minerals from stream bottom sediments.

Here are the state requirements for the 700-PM permit:

Discharge Limitations

1. Suction dredge operation in Oregon is allowed for the person assigned to this General Permit. Persons assigned to this permit may only operate one dredge at a time. Other persons not assigned to this permit may operate that dredge under the supervision of the person assigned to this permit if all conditions of this permit are met.
2. Suction dredge activities covered by this permit may not discharge except in compliance with this General Permit. This permit does not authorize mining of stream banks (highbanking) or upland areas. Such out-of-stream mining requires a General Permit WPCF 600 or an individual WPCF permit from the DEQ.
3. Except as restricted in Oregon Scenic Waterways or Essential Salmon Habitat, dredging is allowed into gravel bars up to 10 feet outside the wet perimeter of the stream. In no case is dredging of stream banks allowed.
4. Suction dredges with suction hoses that have an inside diameter of 4 inches or greater must not create visible turbidity beyond 300 feet downstream from a working dredge.
5. A single operating suction dredge equipped with a suction hose with an inside diameter less than 4 inches has no turbidity discharge limitation.
6. Two or more dredges, each equipped with a suction hose with an inside diameter less than 4 inches that operate at the same time, must not create visible turbidity beyond 300 feet downstream from the combined dredge operations.
7. Suction dredge operation is prohibited during non-daylight hours.
8. No wastes may be discharged and no activities may be conducted that will violate Water

Monitoring Requirements

1. Suction dredges with suction hoses that have an inside diameter of 4 inches or greater must visually monitor each day of operation to assure turbidity is not visible beyond 300 feet downstream at any time.
2. Suction dredges with suction hoses that have an inside diameter less than 4 inches do not have to monitor for turbidity.
3. Visual monitoring is required during daylight hours to determine compliance with the turbidity limits (listed above in #4-6).

Special Conditions Best Management Practices

1. Harassment of fish in the stream is prohibited as required in ORS 498.006.
2. Except where the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) has given expressed written authorization, suction dredging is not allowed outside the periods set out in the attached in-water work schedule (*on the Chetco in water work window is July 15 to Sept. 15*). A copy of that written ODFW approval must be in the possession of the operator or readily available during

dredging activities.

3. The permittee must provide a safe passage for fish around and through the active mining area if the stream was historically or is currently inhabited by native migratory fish.
4. Moving boulders, logs, or other natural stream infrastructure within the stream channel as described in Schedule A3 is allowed. However, in no case may this infrastructure be removed entirely from the stream channel. Removal of infrastructure that extends into the stream channel from the stream bank is also prohibited.
5. Dredging stream banks is not allowed under this permit. Undercutting or eroding stream banks and removal or disturbance of boulders, rooted vegetation, or embedded woody plants from stream banks is prohibited. Boulders include cobbles and larger rocks that protect and prevent erosion of the banks from spring run runoff and storm event stream flow. Woody plants include living or dead trees and shrubs. Vegetation includes grasses, wildflowers, weeds, and other vegetation that stabilizes the stream banks or provides cover for fish or provides shade.
6. Creating areas of pooled water is allowed within the stream boundaries provided in A3. However, construction of dams that prevent fish passage is prohibited.
7. Suction dredge activity must not result in the formation of organic or inorganic deposits that are harmful to fish or other aquatic life as required in OAR 340-041-0007(13).
8. The suction dredge equipment must be properly maintained and petroleum products managed as follows:
 - a. Discharging oil, grease and fuel from suction dredge activity is prohibited.
 - b. Equipment used for suction dredging must not release petroleum products. Equipment surfaces must be free of oils and grease, and must be checked for fuel and oil leaks prior to start of operation on a daily basis.
 - c. A polypropylene pad or other appropriate spill protection and a funnel or spill-proof spout must be used when refueling to prevent possible contamination of surface waters or groundwater.
 - d. All fuel and oil must be stored in an impermeable container and must be located at least 25 feet from the wet perimeter of the stream. For dredge locations where a 25 foot buffer is not possible, additional precaution must be taken to ensure that petroleum products cannot spill or otherwise enter the stream.
 - e. In the event a spill occurs, suction dredge operators must contain, remove and mitigate such spills immediately. All waste oil or other clean up materials contaminated with petroleum products must be disposed off-site.

Conditions To Protect Oregon Scenic Waterways And Essential Salmon Habitat

1. Suction dredging is prohibited in the portions of the Clackamas River, McKenzie River, and North Santiam River subbasins that have been designated as Oregon Scenic Waterways, as provided in OAR 340-041-0350.
2. Suction dredging in other Oregon Scenic Waterways must follow the applicable requirements provided in ORS 390.835.
3. Suction dredging in Oregon Scenic Waterways is restricted to recreational placer mining, and is not allowed outside the wet perimeter of the stream. Recreational placer mining as defined in Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS) 390.835(17)(b) includes the use of a motorized surface dredge having an intake of four inches or less and a motor no larger than sixteen horsepower.
4. Except when allowed by the applicable federal land management agency, suction dredging on Oregon Scenic Waterways that are located on federal lands is prohibited as provided in ORS

390.835.

5. Recreational placer mining in essential salmon habitat is restricted to the wet perimeter of the stream.

6. Until an agreement is made between DEQ and DSL to administer this permit through one agency, suction dredging in Oregon Scenic Waterways and Essential Salmon Habitat streams requires an additional, separate authorization from the DSL.

a. Maps and lists of scenic waterways and essential salmon habitat streams are available at the following web sites:

<http://www.oregonstatelands.us/esshabitat.htm>

<http://www.oregonstatelands.us/scenicwaterways.htm>

The permittee must notify the DEQ of any spills of petroleum products into waters of the State.

THE ROGUE-SISKIYOU NATIONAL FOREST EXPECTS MINERS TO FOLLOW STATE LAW AND LISTED THESE ADDITIONAL "EXPECTATIONS" in letter authorizing CRME to begin mining in the Chetco River:

1. Operations are proposed during calendar years 2008 through 2018, and that suction dredging will occur within the state regulated time periods of July 15 through September 30 each year.
2. The planned mining activity will take place on placer claims Gold #3, #4, #5, #6, #7 and #8 in the Chetco River in Curry County, Oregon.
3. Access to the site will be on existing roads and that there will be no new road or trail construction.
4. Equipment to be used will be a 4", 3", or 2" dredge with additional use of portable sluices, hand tools, and routine camping equipment with a portable camp toilet.
5. You expect to move an average of three cubic yards per day.
6. You have stated that no vegetation will be cut or removed.
7. Resource protection measures will be applied as described in your May 29, 2008 addendum to your Notice of Intent, including:
 - collecting firewood only from upland sources,
 - periodically raking and grading dredge piles to restore a more natural streambed condition,
 - properly muffling engine noise to assure maximum noise reduction,
 - maintaining large woody debris within the stream course,
 - use of a camp toilet, rather than burial of human waste,
 - use of approved fuel storage containers and storage of same at the vehicle, as far

from the waters edge as is practical; with only minimal amounts transported to the dredge site each day.

- keeping dredges spaced at least ½ mile apart if more than one dredge is to be operating.

[This is from the Rogue-Siskiyou National Forest's Letter of approval/acknowledgement (6-17-2008) in response to CRME's Notice of Intent, (5-22-2008)]