IN THE COURT OF APPEAL OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

FOURTH APPELLATE DISTRICT

DIVISION TWO

E064087 IN RE SUCTION DREDGE MINING CASES

THE NEW 49'ERS, INC., et al.; BEN KIMBLE, et al.; and PUBLIC LANDS FOR THE PEOPLE, INC. et al.

Plaintiffs and Appellants,

v.

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH & WILDLIFE, et al.

Defendants and Respondents.

Appeal from the Superior Court of San Bernardino County
Hon. Gilbert Ochoa, Department R-9
Coordinated Proceeding JCPDS4720
SCCVCV1200482 (Siskiyou County); CIVDS1012922 (San Bernardino County);
CIVDS1203849 (San Bernardino County)

DECLARATION OF MYRNA KARNS

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August 5, 2015

Myrna Karns declares:

- I am 77 years old and live in HAPPY CAMP, California. 1.
- 2. I worked all my life, so that I could retire when the time was appropriate and have some fun and enjoy life. It was a very hard life. My husband died when I was 55 and left me penniless. Then when I was 59 I almost died from two aneurysms on my aorta artery and had to have a Dacron artery put in. Again I almost died at the age of 63 when I almost hemorrhaged to death from cancer. As you can see I survived both of these emergencies. Trying to pay my share of these surgeries on my little bit of Social Security was not easy. Due to medication I can't be out in the sun more than 10 or 15 minutes at a time due to medication, so above ground mining is not really an option for me.
- 3. I planned on dredging (which is my favorite way of mining) to fine gold to supplement my income and also to help relieve the pressure on my bad back.
- In fact, my retirement plan was to settle in Happy Camp to pursue my lifelong dream of gold dredging. That was going fine until 2009 when the moratorium was imposed. The loss of 6 years of dredging seasons has caused me irreparable harm by taking away time I can never get back. I'm not getting any younger!!
- 5. Unless relief is granted to expedite this appeal, my health is unlikely to permit me to resume dredging by the time any appeal is decided in the ordinary course of events.

I certify under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed at HAPPY LAMP, California on August 3, 2015. Myrna Karns Myrna Karns