

October 7, 2014

Arizona Navigable Stream Adjudication Commission
1700 West Washington Street, Room B-54
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

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BY:

Reference: Verde River Navigability

Dear Commissioners,

I have been informed of the ongoing hearings intended to determine the navigability of various Arizona streams and rivers. It is my belief that the Verde River, which courses through central Arizona is indeed navigable now and certainly was navigable at the time of statehood. I have personally been boating all reaches of this river for over 10 years.

It is in the public's best interest that ownership of the Verde River streambed is vested in the State of Arizona thereby ensuring the most effective means of managing this threatened resource for the public trust.

It is sad that Arizona's streams and rivers have been highly exploited and less than a handful remain free-flowing and navigable by watercraft. The Verde is one of the last remaining rivers in Arizona with dependable flow and is high up on the list of destinations for not only Arizona citizens but also for boaters from other states as well. Restoring and maintaining the public's access to the Verde is not only important for the rivers preservation but it is a right that people were granted at statehood, a right which citizens have clearly exercised and that right should be cherished and never be taken away.

Your decision to determine navigability for the Verde River would ensure public access in perpetuity and I encourage you to do just that.

Respectfully Submitted,

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