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October 16, 2014

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

BY: .....

Reference: Verde River Navigability

Dear Commissioners,

I am a native Arizonan and lifelong resident of Arizona for over 51 years. I have become aware of the ongoing hearings intended to determine the navigability of various Arizona streams and rivers. The Verde River, which courses through central Arizona, is indeed navigable now and I believe would have been navigable at the time of statehood. I have personally boated many different sections of this river for over 11 years and am aware of others having boated these same sections and other sections of this river over a longer period of time. I have boated the Verde River with many other people essentially every year since I started over 11 years ago, and often multiple times per year. Ownership of the Verde River streambed should be vested in the State of Arizona to ensure the most effective means of managing this threatened resource for the public trust.

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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