

## Segment Completion Report

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### TITLE

Pollution Studies.

### OBJECTIVES

To determine the source and nature of natural and man-made pollutants which affect the fish populations.

### PROCEDURE

In conjunction with other jobs for this project, a search was made for sources of pollution in all of the waters under study.

### FINDING

The only instance of man-made pollution where the cause and responsibility were believed to be accurately known occurred when a sewage retaining tank, owned by the City of San Angelo, overflowed and released raw sewage into the Concho River, about one-half mile below Bell Street Dam. Discovery and examination of the contaminated area was not accomplished until at least twelve hours after the first fish were reported to have died. At that time the dissolved oxygen content was 3.5 ppm and dissolved carbon dioxide was 16 ppm. A second water analysis was taken about one hundred yards above the point where sewage entered the river and in that locality dissolved carbon dioxide was 11 ppm and oxygen was 10 ppm. The exact number of fish destroyed and the completeness of the fish kill was impossible to determine. However, twenty-eight smallmouth buffalo, eighteen carp, twenty-one river carp suckers, fourteen freshwater drum, eight red horse suckers, four largemouth black bass, eleven southern channel catfish, two flathead catfish and two white crappie carcasses were counted. Only adult fish were included in this count. In addition to these many gizzard shad, sunfishes and shiners were also destroyed. Pools containing fish carcasses included about one-half mile of the stream and the river below the point appeared to be unaffected. Since insufficient evidence was obtained because of the delay in examination of the area, and because city officials are attempting to prevent a re-occurrence of the pollution while finding a more adequate method of sewage disposal, no charges were filed. Malicious pollution with rotenone was reported in two pools of the North Concho River, however subsequent investigation failed to reveal the identity of the persons responsible for these violations. In addition to these known sources of pollution possible oil field pollution may occur on the South Concho River however no evidence has been found to date.

### SUMMARY

1. Only one instance of pollution where responsibility was determined occurred during this segment.
2. Insufficient evidence was available to determine the extent of damage resulting from an overflow of the City of San Angelo sewage disposal system into the Concho River. City officials are attempting to prevent a reoccurrence of this pollution and to find a more adequate disposal system.
3. Two pools on the North Concho River were maliciously polluted by unknown persons.
4. Oil pollution on the South Concho River is suspected, however evidence is lacking to date.