

*copy to: M. P. Adams
Faye Warner*

INSTITUTE FOR FISHERIES RESEARCH
UNIVERSITY MUSEUMS
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN

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MAY 14 1931

FISH DIVISION

May 12, 1931

Report No. 61

REPORT ON THE INVESTIGATION OF THE CAUSE OF
DEATH OF CALICO BASS IN BAW BEESE LAKE, HILLSDALE
HILLSDALE COUNTY, MICHIGAN, MAY 8, 1931.

This investigation was made possible by E. W. Chapman of Hillsdale, who furnished the boat, motor and his time for the afternoon and took Mr. Faye Warner, Conservation Officer, and myself around the chain of lakes.

We examined a considerable portion of the shore and shallow water along the shore of these lakes for dead and dying fish without finding any evidence of an epidemic. We examined carefully the end of the lake where the city water works is located. It had been reported that many fish were dying in this vicinity but no evidence of such a condition was found. We picked up a dying bluegill at this end of the lake which showed evidence of having been caught in a gill net.

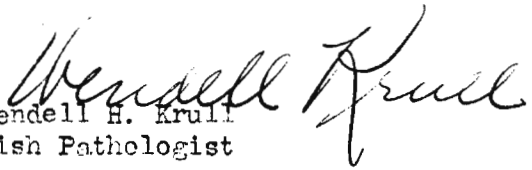
A few days prior to our visit reports of schools of bluegills moving sluggishly in the shallow water had come to Mr. Warner. We examined the portion of the lake in which these schools of fish had been seen but no evidence of dead or dying fish was found. This was in a peat-bog area which probably had something to do with the condition which had been observed in the fish in this locality. The shallow water, near the shore above the peat bottom, was ~~not~~ saturated with oxygen on the day this investigation was made.

There is no evidence to indicate that there is a diseased condition among the

fish in Baw Beese Lake. Temporary water conditions and the exceedingly low lake level apparently were responsible for the distressed condition of the fish. There is no evidence and there seems to be no possibility of pollution in this lake.

While at Hillsdale, Mr. Warner told us of a high mortality of fish in the Jonesville Mill Pond and stated that we should have received some of the fish for examination; however, such fish have not been received by us. As a result of the discussion of this situation with Mr. Warner it must be concluded that the mortality in this millpond was, no doubt, the result of pollution.

INSTITUTE FOR FISHERIES RESEARCH


Wendell H. Krull
Fish Pathologist

Copies to:

*Milton P. Adams, Stream Control Comm.
Mr. Page Warner, Conservation Officer, Hillsdale*



✓ A.B.

J. Discussed the situation at Jonesville with Adams. - who had learned ~~of~~ of the loss of fish in this stream in connection with the trouble reported at Bamseer Lake. -

Hopler has made some examination of water samples from the lake and stream. -

Adams seems to think that the reduction in normal stream flow is largely responsible.
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