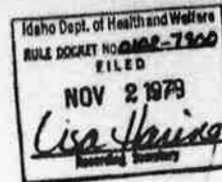


PUBLIC MEETING ON  
WATER QUALITY STANDARDS

Twin Falls, Idaho  
October 3, 1979



AL MURREY: We would like you to come forward by the mike, you stand there, and give your name and if you are representing anyone. So, first I would like to call upon Mr. Jerry Zinn.

JERRY ZINN: My name is Jerry Zinn. You are going to have to excuse me a little bit, I have a cold and I'm about to lose my voice, so I'll make this as short as possible. I am presently employed by Idaho Trout Processors with my home base being at Clear Lakes Trout Farm. I wish to speak on behalf of the following companies which I'm affiliated with: Idaho Trout Processors, Clear Lakes Trout Farm, Rimview Trout Farms and Rainbow Trout Farms.

I graduated from Oregon State University with a degree in fishery biology, and I have been affiliated with the fish industry for 15 years either on the state or private sector. My main expertise has been primarily in the field of fish diseases and fish research. Through my former employer, which was Wildlife Vaccines Incorporation of Wheatridge, Colorado, which is a suburb just outside of Denver, I became familiar with the magnitude of the trout industry in the State of Idaho. My work at Wildlife Vaccines required extensive travel throughout the United States. I did some vaccinations and some field work for the company and this area, the Magic Valley, the industry is recognized all over the United States by the various trout growers that I came across or in contact with, and they recognize this area as one of the leaders in the aquaculture industry, so we are definitely not a small, isolated industry here in the Magic Valley.

The industry here in Idaho is fairly unique in that most of the ownership within the industry is comprised of local people within the immediate area and this industry is annually producing between 20 and 25,000 million pounds of processed trout. Now this may be a conservative figure. Now this poundage, nearly 100% of these fish are sold outside of the State of Idaho. These sales bring in upwards of \$40 million of revenue that are real dollars inside, back into Idaho. You have to realize that nearly 100% or a lot of this money is being spent or reinvested right here in our own State of Idaho. So, there is a quite a bit, it represents a sizeable industry.

The industry is also becoming more self-sufficient in that more and more of the companies in the area here are building their own food mills and, therefore, processing their own feeds so they are not dependent on outside sources for food. The money is here is one of the main economical, or one of your main costs in the trout industry as you are well

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DENNIS GRAY: No, that is one of the things that I was not able to speak of a mixing zone, and I had intended to before you took the stand and a mixing zone is an area, a free area below the discharge in the receiving water where the initial impact of wastewater treated wastewater is allowed to mix with the receiving water and these should be established for each and every point source type discharge.

BRENDA ELLIS: So the mixing area could be different for each pond.

DENNIS GRAY: So the mixing area could actually be lower than 6 but by the time it reached the end of the mixing zone, then it would be back up to 6.

BRENDA ELLIS: Will you be establishing the mixing zones in length and time from water flows?

DENNIS GRAY: Yes, they will be established.

AL MURREY: If it is necessary, I don't think.

ROBERT BUSH: At the headwaters of the stream so that the sum total of the discharge into the hatchery forms the stream. What would in that case constitute a mixing zone?

AL MURREY: You mean if they are diverting the entire stream?

ROBERT BUSH: The entire stream.

DENNIS GRAY: Again, as we said sometimes or as Al said, or did you say that? Maybe I said that in the regulations. In the proposal, it does not indicate that a mixing zone has to be established. Under some circumstances there may not be an applicable, a mixing zone that could be allowed. I can envision some circumstances where perhaps an industrial concern is processing something with a highly toxic or a highly carcinogenic compound. In that case there would be no mixing zone. It would be zero with no mixing zone and possibly under circumstances such as the extreme that you were thinking of it might be such that there is no mixing zone if the, then again it may not be necessary depending upon the quality of the discharge. It's hard to say, it would have to be considered on a case-by-case basis.

BRENDA ELLIS: Thank you.

AL MURREY: I would like to comment, though, re-say that again. Basically, you know, the fish hatcheries or any industry has been operating under a 6 part per million standard for the last 6 years, and if they, they have not been operating under an EPA standard of 5, there is no EPA standard instream. In effect the EPA standard is the same one the state has, because they approved our standards back in 1973. They approved this standard, in effect they accepted this standard for the waters of Idaho. We are proposing somewhat of a reduction in that dissolved oxygen standard from what it is right now because of, you know, new research, new information that we have received over the past 6 years.

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AL MURREY: Probably, Mr. Ling could answer that better than I could. Basically it is a matter as I understand it of federal supremacy or whatever, and Mr. D. Ling could expand on that probably, like I said, much better than I could as an attorney. But, we are, well, state supposedly are required to abide by federal requirements and federal requirements if they are more stringent, ours supercede it. Is there any more questions? Yes sir.

PAT O'ROURKE: I just, maybe in closing here or something like that, I just feel guilty if somebody didn't speak up and maybe question the absence of, I know these people are in business and everything and it seems like we are talking about dollars in cents more than anything else. It would really be nice if we could have some type of idea as to what a clean environment and perhaps fishing means to us and our families and our children's families, especially in the future, and I think it is an important thing that everybody realizes that you don't cut these tolerances too damn close. You can tell somebody that he is not going to hit ya, but he can stay a quarter of an inch away from you, but as far as I'm concerned I don't want him swinging near me. That's all I have to say. There is no way that you can put a monetary value on the aesthetic beauty that Idaho has and hopefully it will keep through your efforts.

AL MURREY: Thank you. Anything else? Dr. Bush.

DR. BUSH: Back to my question again. You go to page 49, mixing zones and definition and if you go to item 4, go back to my original example of mixing zones that is not to include more than 25% of the volume of the stream flow. Now, on Billingsly virtually every hatchery diverts more than 25% of the volume of the stream. Does that put no mixing zone limit on it?

DENNIS GRAY: No, it says principles.

AL MURREY: Dr. Bush, you might look up back under .03, that's paragraph 3. It's the last sentence, it says in defining mixing zones, the Department will consider the following principles and perhaps some of those, the verbage in the rest of this needs to be modified.

DENNIS GRAY: Those are idealic situations and that's the best we can do is that we can always at least present the ideal and work from there.

AL MURREY: Basically, we are saying that we have to consider each one on a case-by-case basis.

DENNIS GRAY: Which is really the way it ought to be. Yes, because you've got, because each one is different or meanders are different, the whole, everything.

DR. BUSH: Thank you.

AL MURREY: No more questions? Thank you very much.