

→ Scott Watson

**CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM**

**State of Wisconsin**

**Date:** October 7, 1994  
**To:** The File - C.M. Christensen Properties-Military Creek  
**From:** Jim Kreitlow *JJK*  
**Subject:** Summary of the September 22, 1994 Field Sampling  
(Caged Fish Study Military & North Twin Lakes)

On September 22, 1994, Jim Kreitlow and Brad Johnson visited Military Creek and North Twin Lake. This site visit involved removing the minnows from the cages (30-day exposure) and pulling the cages from the stream.

After all the recent rain, Military Creek was about 1½-2 feet higher than the previous two sampling dates. A lot of debris and sediment was being transported as a result of this high water.

At Site #1 (background) which is located above the pole dipping area, all the minnows within the three cages were alive. There was roughly 4-5 inches of sediment accumulated in each trap, but this did not affect the fish. The sediment was rinsed out of the traps and the fish were collected.

At Site #2 placed adjacent to the pole dipping area (impact site) also contained 4-5 inches of sediment within the traps. Again, this did not affect the fish and they were in good condition.

At Site #3, as in the earlier sites, the traps had accumulated quite a bit of sediment. The fish were in good shape with one mortality from one of the three cages. At this site, some of the minnows may have escaped from one trap as it was difficult to remove these traps because of the high water. A portion of the cage was crimped when I used my foot as a method of pulling the traps up to where I could grab them. In the future, all traps should have ropes on them to allow easier retrieval.

Of the three cages in North Twin Lake, only one of them had live minnows. In this cage, only seven of them survived. In the second cage, all the fish were dead and at various stages of decomposition. The third cage contained crayfish and a burbot. Somehow, whether the traps were tampered with or the crayfish worked their way in, all the minnows within this trap were gone. I did collect the burbot in case we would want to analyze this fish. It is not known how long it was in the trap.

**CORRESPONDENCE/MEMORANDUM****STATE OF WISCONSIN**

DATE: October 10, 1994

TO: Michelle Owens - DNR, Rhinelander

FROM: Chuck Warzecha - DOH

SUBJECT: C.M. Christiansen Pole Dipping Site

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In past discussions with Scott Watson and yourself, concern has been raised about the type of public access that would be appropriate for this site. The primary potential for exposure to contaminants on-site is related to surface soil contamination. Should the soils be disturbed and brought up to the air, there is a potential that they could be inhaled or ingested. This concern is focussed primarily on "hot spot" areas during dry summer periods. Although the "hot spot" areas of surface soil contamination have not been identified, visual inspection of the site indicates that contamination potential is quite low on the on-site access road and trails passing through the site. Even in the "hot spot" areas exposure potential does not exist during frozen and snow cover periods. However, I would recommend that trail users be asked to stay on the designated trails in order to minimize erosion from the site to the creek.


There is no health related reason to restrict site access to snowmobiles or other recreational activities during the winter months. If you have any questions please contact me at (608) 267-3732. Thank you.

cc: Scott Watson - DNR, Rhinelander

DATE: October 14, 1994

FILE REF: 4190

TO: C.M. Christiansen File

FROM: Michelle Owens 

SUBJECT: The Closing of the Snowmobile Trail

On October 10&11, 1994, I talked with Chuck Warzecha (DOH), Ray Roder (P.C. Christiansen's Attorney) and Bert Moline (of the snowmobile club) on separate instances concerning the closing of the snowmobile trail across the Christiansen property.

Chuck wrote a memo explaining that DOH did not have any concerns regarding exposure to the contaminated surface soils during the winter months. He would have concerns during the hot dry summer months. I explained this to Ray and let him know that the Department was not ordering the closure of the trail. This decision would be solely up to Mr. Christiansen. I requested that Ray ask Mr. Christiansen to work things out with the snowmobile club directly and that he let the club know that the Department did not order the closing of the trail. Ray said that he explained all of this to Mr. Christiansen. I also called Bert back and explained the situation to him. He was going to talk directly with Mr. Christiansen.

cc: Scott Watson, Rhinelander  
Pat Zatopa, Rhinelander  
Chuck Warzecha, DOH