

July 8, 1948

11.0
11.5

In reply to your letter of June 29, 1948,

East Park and Stony Gorge Reservoirs are fairly typical spiny ray lakes. So far as we know fishing is as good as or better than average. The major complaint from anglers is that the fish are too wormy. This complaint is engendered by the presence of large numbers of the larval stage ~~or~~ of a nematode worm encysted in the viscera and coelomic wall. ~~The Bureau of~~ Mr. Paul A. Nelson of the Bureau of Reclamation suggested in a letter of April 9, 1948 that the lake might be poisoned late this fall and restocked with uninfected fish. This, however, would not be practical as, as we have lately learned, the adult ^{stage} of this particular species of nematode is carried by ~~B. p.~~ pelicans and other aquatic birds. Because of this, poisoning would give, at best, temporary relief from the worms. The excessive abundance of the worms in this reservoir is probably due to a favorable ecological situation. It would, I think, be a real help to the anglers if ~~a~~ signs were put up explaining that the worms ^{are} ~~was~~ harmless to humans at the main access points.

to the lake. This would probably curtail the waste of fish that occurs at present.

It may be that there is a species ~~unbalance~~ imbalance in the lakes that is unfavorable to maximum production. If this is the case it might be alleviated by poisoning or additional introductions. I plan to visit these lakes for a brief period this summer and ^{subsequently} may be able to offer additional suggestions. at that time after

cc. Paul A. Nelson

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C.O.