NEW HOLSTEIN, WIS.
REPORTER
W. 1,800

JUN 19 1975

Trout, Salmon Consumption Caution Given

MADISON -- The Department of Natural Resources (DNR), upon advice of the Wisconsin Division of Health, suggests that people limit their consumption of large trout and salmon from Lake Michigan, and other fish from the Upper Mississippi River, and the Fox River near Portage.

Fish in these waters contain more than the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's acceptable level of PCB's (Polychlorinated Biphenyls).

The FDA has set the public health action level for market fish at 5 parts per million (ppm) of PCB's. Recognizing that some larger fish in these waters contain more than 5 ppm, the Division of Health recommends that, "sports fishermen be advised to refrain from eating more than one meal per week of such fish and that pregnant women and children be cautioned to limit their intake to one average size serving of such fish per week."

Fish from the following waters have been found to exceed these levels: 1. Lake Michigan and Green Bay trout and salmon, including lake trout, coho salmon, chinook salmon, and brown trout, over 24 inches in length. 2. Many fish in the Mississippi River between Prescott and Lower Lake Pepin. 3. Many fish in the Fox River from Portage north to the Columbia county line.

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