

Caldwell, Dwayne

From: Caldwell, Dwayne
Sent: Tuesday, June 25, 2024 2:42 PM
To: Raleigh, Alysa A; Harmon, Andrew S; ICO Dispatch DNR
Cc: Bolt, Erick; Heidenreich, Patrick; Bailey, Adam D
Subject: RE: Dead fish in the Wabash River

Hello,

This is the same site where we investigated a fish kill in September 2021. Results of that investigation indicated low levels of dissolved O₂ was the cause of the fish die off at that time.

I met CO Harmon on site this morning and we observed a large number of dead fish of various sizes and species in the side channel of the Wabash River. We proceeded to sample the water for dissolved oxygen.

East side of WWTP 2.82 mg/l
West side of WWTP channel 1.22 mg/l
West Side of WWTP inlet 5.8 mg/l
Near inlet from Wabash River 1.67 mg/l

There was a concentration of live fish gathered in the stream of the inlet on the west side of the WWTP with the highest O₂ readings. Live fish were also observed in other areas. I observed no sheens, odors or colors that might indicate a chemical contamination. Judging by my observations and the results of the DO readings it appears the low levels of O₂ caused this fish die off.

v/r



Dwayne S. Caldwell

On Scene Coordinator Emergency Response
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Indiana Department of Environmental Management

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From: Raleigh, Alysa A <ARaleigh@dnr.IN.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, June 25, 2024 12:17 PM
To: Harmon, Andrew S <AHarmon@dnr.IN.gov>; ICO Dispatch DNR <ICODispatch@dnr.IN.gov>
Cc: Caldwell, Dwayne <DCaldwel@idem.IN.gov>; Bolt, Erick <ebolt@dnr.IN.gov>; Heidenreich, Patrick <PHeidenreich@dnr.IN.gov>; Bailey, Adam D <AdBailey@dnr.IN.gov>
Subject: RE: Dead fish in the Wabash River

Thank you for the update! I talked to Dwayne a little while ago and he shared the DO levels as well. I will update my report.

Alysa Raleigh

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From: Harmon, Andrew S <AHarmon@dnr.IN.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, June 25, 2024 12:15 PM
To: Raleigh, Alysa A <ARaleigh@dnr.IN.gov>; ICO Dispatch DNR <ICODispatch@dnr.IN.gov>
Cc: Caldwell, Dwayne <DCaldwel@idem.IN.gov>; Bolt, Erick <ebolt@dnr.IN.gov>; Heidenreich, Patrick <PHeidenreich@dnr.IN.gov>; Bailey, Adam D <AdBailey@dnr.IN.gov>
Subject: RE: Dead fish in the Wabash River

Alysa,

Dwayne took multiple readings in the area that sampled below a 2 on dissolved oxygen. This appears to be a natural fish kill. Roush F&W and the Army Corps at Roush have been made aware in case they get any calls.

Thanks,

Andrew S. Harmon 
INDIANA CONSERVATION OFFICER
District 2
IDNR, Law Enforcement Division
1353 S. Governors Dr.
Columbia City, IN 46725
(260)- 244-3720

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From: Harmon, Andrew S
Sent: Monday, June 24, 2024 9:12 PM
To: Raleigh, Alysa A <ARaleigh@dnr.IN.gov>; ICO Dispatch DNR <ICODispatch@dnr.IN.gov>
Cc: Caldwell, Dwayne <DCaldwel@idem.IN.gov>; Bolt, Erick <ebolt@dnr.IN.gov>; Heidenreich, Patrick <PHeidenreich@dnr.IN.gov>; Bailey, Adam D <AdBailey@dnr.IN.gov>
Subject: Dead fish in the Wabash River

Alysa,

Yesterday evening a Markle resident reported dead fish in the Wabash River. I checked out the area yesterday and there were dead fish in the water with many alive still swimming. Last few weeks it was very hot up here with no rain. This area of the river is near homes in town with a control structure to minimize the flow of water. The rest of the Wabash River flows around town to the south. The area with dead fish is in the small pools where it is shallow. We had rain early Sunday morning allowing cool water to enter what was heated up in the pools. There were still live fish swimming the area today with no visible contaminants. I contacted Dwayne with IDEM to help confirm if this is a turnover or something else. We plan on meeting tomorrow morning. Just call if you have any questions.

Thanks,

Andrew S. Harmon 
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