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Recommended Citation

Walter A. Lawrance Androscoggin River Studies Twenty Seventh Annual Report, October, 1969, Androscoggin River Studies, Box 5, Folder 3, Walter A. Lawrance Papers, Edmund S. Muskie Archives and Special Collections Library, Bates College, Lewiston, Maine.

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TWENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT

PART TWO

ANDROSCOGGIN RIVER AND POOL DISSOLVED OXYGEN AND OTHER TESTS

1969

Introduction.

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Part two of this report contains the results and comparisons of analytical

data and certain observations. Emphasis is given to the statistics of the dissolved oxygen content of the river water, sampled at the regular stations, including natural aeration at the Riley and Chisholm dams. A special section deals with artificial reaeration at Gulf Island Dam. Biochemical Oxygen Demands are described in Parts Three and One. This year daily data have been averaged by a computor on a weekly basis at all stations from Berlin to Turner Center.

On September 4, William J. Walsh, of the Federal Water Pollution Control Administration, telephoned to request several years of analytical data on the Androscoggin river water. He was told that the Thursday data was public and available at the Attorney-General's office in Augusta. He informed the writer that in July the F.W.P.C.A. had begun testing the river water at Gilead Bridge and would continue on a monthly basis through October. The 1970 program would cover the period May to October inclusive.

Later Raeburn MacDonald informed me that he had mailed Xerox copies of the Thursday reports, for the period 1966 to August 14, 1969.

DISSOLVED OXYGEN.

Dissolved oxygen content of the river

was larger than that of most previous years due, of course, to the much above average flows and storage water. In the Pool although the Dissolved Oxygen was above normal from North Turner Bridge to about Mile 4.25, the loss of oxygen southward to the Gulf Island Dam was above normal. We attribute this loss to the very abnormal benthal activity from June to the middle of September.

<u>1. Bell's (Berlin)</u>. The quality of river water passing this station seldom varies from year to year;

the dissolved exygen content is normally above 70% of saturation. Tests made twice a week indicate a daily average of 112730 lbs for the period June 2 to September 13. The averages for certain previous years are:

1969	112,700	lbs/day	1966	88,900	lbs/day
1968	104,000	11	1965	70,200	99
1967	82,400	77	1964	87,500	28

The variations reflect the conditions of flow and temperature.

2. Gorham, N.H. From June two to September 13, river water analyses for dissolved oxygen were recorded as 6.0 ppm or higher on eighty-one days (1968, sixty-seven days); there were no tests below 5.0 ppm. The seasons low was 5.3 ppm on July 18. However, during July and August except only one week (August nine), the dissolved oxygen in the water was not sufficient to meet the five day B.O.D. demands (cf. Part One)



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The average daily loads of available oxygen were:

1969	103,300	lbs/day	1966	82,660	lbs/day
1968	95,800	99	1965	57,600	57
1967	66,590	77	1964	85,820	23

<u>3. Gilead, Maine</u>. The quality of the river water at this sampling station may be considered as

substantially the same as that crossing the New Hampshire-Maine State boundary. This location has been made a F.W.P.C.A. sampling station. Prior to 1967 only weekly tests were made, since then daily tests have been conducted. Although there were no daily tests recorded below five ppm, the B.O.D.5 loads during the week ending July 12 were almost as large as the dissolved oxygen and on the week ending July 26 they exceeded the available dissolved oxygen by an average of 14490 lbs/day.

The record for the seasons is:

	Below FIVE ppm	Below FOUR ppm	Lowest ppm
1969 1968 1967	0 days 27 " 27 "	0 days 4 "	5.10 (7/24) 3.25 4.30

This season the river flow, water temperature and pollution load were such that the daily dissolved oxygen content was more than adequate to meet the legal requirements (5.0 ppm) for Class C at the boundary.

<u>4. Virginia Bridge</u>. Although river flow was above normal <u>Rumford</u>. oxygen was recorded below 6.0 ppm but only five days below 5.0 ppm. The 1969 low was recorded at 4.4 on July 24.

1969	5	days	below	FIVE	ppm	40	days	below	SIX	ppm
1968	40	99	77	99	79	68	44	ŦŦ	ŦŦ	11
1967	25	19	99	79	88	45	11	88	77	19
1966	0	99	25	99	12	8	92	25	77	17
1965	3	83	12	99	88	21	7 9	78	72	99

During July the natural aeration between Gorham and Virginia Bridge appears to have averaged 1500 lbs/day/mile.

1. 2.	Gorham Virginia Bridge increase	D.O.	69080 77020 7940	lbs/day
3. 4.	Gorham B.O.D.5 Virginia Bridge Loss	B.O.D.5	93560 33470 60090	lbs/day "

Natural reaeration, including dissolved oxygen in water from tributaries appears to be 7940 / 60090 or 68050 lbs/day equivalent to about 1510 lbs/mile. This is much higher than in previous years.

Natural reaeration and inflow dissolved oxygen during August 1968, was calculated as about 1220 lbs per mile per day, for August 1967 as 1040 lbs per day.

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Prior to June 13 all tests were made at Dixfield Dixfield Bridge. During the period June

30 to July 26, the daily average dissolved oxygen was 5.9 ppm or 87700 lbs; the accompanying B.O.D.5 load was 6.0 ppm or 85030 lbs. The summer's dissolved oxygen low was 4.6 ppm (July 7) and the highest B.O.D.5 was 13.3 ppm. (September 5).

The data tabulated below indicates the favorable effect of the above normal river flow which existed through most of the summer.



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1969°	0	days	below	FOUR	ppm	1 3	days	below	FIVE	ppm
19680	0	99	58	25	11	29	11	19	17	11
19670	5	88	77	88	99	32	72	99	17	99
1966*	Ó	77	14	44	11	0	79	79	12	18
1965*	4	92	72	88	18	24	97	79	99	77
	oswar	i's P	it *]	Dixfi	eld	Bridg	ze			

Mention should be made of the fact that through July and August the average weekly pollution load exceeded the available dissolved oxygen during five weeks; those ending July 12, 26, August 16, 23 and 30. (cf. Part Three)

6. Canton Point Bridge. At this location daily sampling was begun in 1967 and continued through the 1968 and 1969 seasons. This summer the lowest dissolved oxygen was recorded on July 7 at 4.2 ppm. Eight days were below FIVE ppm, none below FOUR ppm. During July, August and September there were five weeks when the dissolved oxygen was not sufficient to meet the five day B.O.D. requirement. The average daily deficits were:

Week	ending	July 12	47248	lbs
86	88	July 26	11175	Ħ
88	78	August 23	17049	22
99	77	August 30	22303	77
77	25	Sept. 6	4703	72

Natural reaeration from Virginia Bridge to Canton Point Bridge was not calculated for this season, owing to the unusual varied inflows in this sector.

7. Riley Dam. Due to comparatively high river flows the water arriving at this station, had a higher dissolved oxygen content than that of the two previous summers. The shut-downs on July 4 and September 1 plus 'upstream'

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polluting spills and usual pollution loads, produced the seasons lows: July 8, 3.4 ppm; July 23, 25, 26, 3.3 ppm; September 4, 3.4 ppm. During the week ending July 26, the river water had a daily average dissolved oxygen deficit of 15161 lbs.

Thirty-six days were reported below FIVE ppm (D.O.) and eight days below FOUR ppm (1968, thirty-eight days).

Reaeration at Riley Dam.

Higher dissolved oxygen content of the river water reduced the ppm pick-up but

the larger volume made the average lbs/day increase slightly larger than in 1968. The accompanying table records the increased dissolved oxygen content for each week for the sector from just above the Dam to the Pump House. For the period June 2 to September 13 the average ppm gain is 1.6, or 30850 lbs/day. This is a very real and important contribution to improving water quality and, of course, provided oxygen for about 30850 lbs B.O.D.5 per day.

Reaeration at Riley

June	2 to July 26 incl Pump House (47 Riley Dam (47 D.O. gain	tests) tests)	167860 139170 28690	av. av. av.	lbs/day "	7.4 5.9 1.5	aver. "	ppm n
July	28-Sept.13 Pump House (41 Riley Dam (41 D.O. gain	tests) tests)	191900 158560 33340	av, av. av.	lbs/day	7.1 5.4 1.7	aver.	ppm n

<u>8. Pump House</u>. With the exception of Biochemical Oxygen Demands all the usual tests were made on river water entering the Pump House, located about 0.6 miles downstream from the Dam. The daily data are recorded on the adjacent page.



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DISSOLVED OXYGEN

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Reareation at Riley Dam 1969

Week Ending	Pı ppm	mp House av.lbs/day	R± ppm	lley Dam av.lbs/day	Pump H ppm	Riley Dam av.lbs/day
June 7 14 21 28	9.2 7.7 8.2 8.3	333927 167 532 248393 195229	8.0 6.3 7.4	290449 139136 208418 175021	1.2 1.4 1.4 0.9	43478 28396 39975 20208
average	8.4	236270	7.1	203256	1.3	33014
July 5 12 19 26	6.6 6.8 6.9 5.7	95860 92810 131231 77902	5.3 4.8 5.6	78106 66342 106908 48973	1.3 2.0 1.4 2.1	17754 26468 24323 28929
average	6.5	99451	4.8	75082	1.7	24369
Aug. 2 9 16 23 30	8.0 8.2 6.6 6.4 6.6	484330 289969 135309 105450 101474	6.7 7.2 5.4 4.5 4.5	433524 257719 111176 74876 68696	1.3 1.0 1.2 1.9 2.1	50806 32250 24133 30574 32778
average	7.2	223306	5.7	189198	1.5	34108
Sept. 6 13	6.3 7.5	90043 136715	4.3 5.6	60702 103181	2.0 1.9	29341 33534
average	6.9	113379	5.0	81942	2.0	31438
season	7.3	179070	5.7	148220	1.6	30850
Sept.20 27	6.9	98952 109564	5.0	72952 80261	1.9	26000 29303

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June, 1969

Date	Temp.	рН	D.O. ppm	D.O. % Sat.	D.O. lbs/d
23456790112346789013456780	15.0 15.2 14.7 15.2 15.2 15.2 15.2 17.6 17.6 19.2	565555574543455465557656	989999988777778888888789876 .7932218224217552110871658	989999988458660399966666537981. 98845860399966666537981. 988458888888888888888888888888888888888	334854 297500 353456 359040 337520 239290 187050 165593 136582 131335 145543 252652 331670 298189 231420 192618 183805 166528 238258 237246 199047 153615 105237

July, 1969

Date	TEMP. C	рН	D.O. ppm	D.O. % Sat.	D.O. 1bs/d
123	22.8 21.8 21.7 No Test	6.6 6.5 6.6	6.2 6.6 6.6	71.3 75.0 75.1	86162 94638 93040
5789011245678901 112456789122234568901 11222222222233	21.4 20.0 19.4 19.3 19.6 19.1 18.9 21.0 23.1 23.5 23.9 22.8 21.2 22.6 22.7 20.2 19.2 19.2 19.2	\$\$766654655445555454656 666666666666666666	67666668776555665555679	74.148843028294821800201 10221	100225 96608 81562 89086 85130 93038 111435 208872 176413 134656 1062228 78995 75713 87439 85428 80535 66888 71410 85322 247132 786301 991613

August, 1969

Date	TEMP.	рH	D.O. ppm	D.O. % Sat.	D.O. lbs/d
124567891234568901223567890	19.0 19.6 21.2 19.2 20.2	666666666666666666666666666666666666666	9878888776666604340680542566	101.0 93.25 92.56 931.97 82.56 71.83 74.57 74.56 72.57	498351 297259 211270 298282 399080 348962 263720 218500 184665 145213 134581 126364 107832 113190 113728 91778 97968 100860 107767 110600 104026 100877 113451 99853 95496 95139

September, 1969

Date	Temp.	рН	D.O. ppm	D.O. % Sat.	D.O. lbs/day
12345689011215678902234567	No Test 22.4 21.3 20.7 21.2 20.7 21.2 20.7 21.2 20.7 21.2 19.6 15.8 15.8 15.8 15.8 15.8 17.6 17.6 17.6 17.6 17.6 17.6 15.9 16.7 15.1 15.1	s 66776777776666666676666666 	6666666678876667768777777	71.6 72.0 71.3 71.3 71.3 71.3 73.3 71.3	90575 91424 88509 89741 89964 99080 124524 173303 175638 134848 112897 100225 99187 90405 104584 102323 10378 105323 105323 104405
29	14.8	6.7	7.3	71.5	

9. Jay.

River water passing this station had a recorded dissolved oxygen low 4.9 ppm

on July 19 and 25; these were the only reports below FIVE ppm during the entire summer.

1969	74	days	above	SIX	ppm	2	days	below	FIVE	ppm
1968	61	99	11	99	- 17	6	11	TT	77	- ¥¥
1967	47	55	11	17	77	8	99	99	99	11

The seasons daily average available dissolved oxygen was 179340 lbs: a surplus of oxygen was present during the summer with the exception of the week ending July 26.

A small fish kill, about twenty was reported here on September 17 when the recorded dissolved oxygen in the region varied from 6.0 to 4.5 ppm and pH 6.8. (cf. Part One).

10. Chisholm, Otis (in) Conclusions made on the basis of the Livermore Falls,(out) statistics for this sector may be in-

fluenced by the assumption that the samples are representative. There is no question about them when all of the river water passes at the sampling stations. At high flows this condition does not exist, however, effluent mixing probably is such that the Livermore results were reasonably representative during much of the season. For the fifteen week period, June 2-September 13, the dissolved oxygen averages are:

Otis (in)	174650	lbs/day
L.F. (out)	190840	lbs/day
Gain	16190	lbs/day

This increase indicates that there was in this sector a significant reaeration equivalent to a daily average of 0.4 ppm.



11. North Turner Bridge. The higher than average river flows

during the entire season, resulted in the highest average dissolved oxygen (6.5 ppm) load on record. Equally important is the fact only <u>one</u> day was recorded as below FOUR ppm; on July 24, 3.8 ppm was present.

	above FIVE ppm	below FOUR ppm
1969	78 days	l days
1968	47 "	20 "
1967	49 "	19 "
1966	19 "	51 "
1965	8 "	63 "

Dissolved Oxygen Summer Daily Averages

1969 1968	6.50 ppm 5.89	1965 1964	2.23	ppn n
1967	5.17 "	1963	4.51	77
1966	4.04 "	1962	4.77	99

During the fifteen week period, the daily average dissolved oxygen entering the pool was 172240 lbs, compared with an average daily load of 91500 lbs B.O.D.5 or 146400 lbs B.O.D. ult. The large quantity of available oxygen at this station together with natural aeration in the Pool was not sufficient to prevent anaerobic water at Mile One in the Pool and arriving at Gulf Island Dam on many days during the season. There were a few days, July 5 to 7 and 25 to 28, when the Pool water was anaerobic from Mile 4.25 to Gulf Island Dam. Additional details are described in Part Three of this report.

12. Turner Center Bridge. The lowest dissolved oxygen recorded during the summer was 1.7 ppm, July eleven. The available oxygen at this station was larger than that during the summer of 1968, however, during this season there

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were three weeks in July when the dissolved oxygen was insufficient for the B.O.D.5 by considerable amount. (cf. Table Part Three). Actually there was an overall average daily oxygen deficit of about 550 lbs through the month.

Between the two Bridges benthal activity has always created a very considerable oxygen demand but due to two upstream purgings of the river which removed large quantities of organic solids to the Pool, the oxygen demand was greater than that of many previous years. For the period June 30 to July 26 inclusive:

North Turner Bridge 86780 D.0. lbs/day
 Turner Center Bridge 64090 D.0. "
 Reported Loss 22690 D.0, "
 North Turner Bridge 76500 B.0.D. lbs/day
 Turner Center Bridge 64640 B.0.D. "
 Reported Loss 11860 B.0.D. "

The dissolved oxygen and biochemical oxygen demand data for the Pool south of Turner Center Bridge are recorded and described in Part Three.

14. Lewiston. Water sampled from the Canal at Chestnut Street, was of very poor quality from July one to September eight inclusive, however, there were fewer

days below ONE ppm than in 1968. The considerable reduction in samples testing below 1.0 ppm is due to the effect of natural and mechanical reaeration at Gulf Island and Deer Rips Dams.

Lewiston

	Below	ONE ppm	Below	0.5 ppm
1969 1968 1967 1966		14 days 44 " 35 " 26 "		5 days 31 " 12 " 13 "
1965		0 11		0 "

DISSOLVED OXYGEN

Summer Averages Tons/day

	Location	1969	1968	1967	1966
1. 2. 3.	Berlin (Bell's) Gorham (Public Service) Gilead	56.37** 51.65 59.10	52.45* 47.90 46.45	41.19* 33.29 32.91	44.43 41.33 38.96
4.	Virginia Bridge Canton Point Bridge	67.05 80.57	58.20 63.95	37.22	46.52
7.	Kiley Jay Chichelm (Otic)	74.11 89.67	84.95	33.02	48.55
9.	Livermore Falls	95.42	38.70	47.00	44.00
10.	North Turner Bridge ^Z	86.12	70,55	45.84	27.91
12.	Deer Rips Dam ^Z	48.42	43.550	6.68	4.17

* Limited data Thursdays only
**Twice weekly
Z All season
O cf. Plot 1968 report

Tyrosine Lignin Tests. A plot of the daily test results obtained at North Turner and Deer Rips Dam indicates the variations in the lignin content of the water. There is no consistent relation between this test and B.O.D.5 but a sudden increase in Tyrosine number may point to a "spill" or an unusual change in the pollution load.

pH. Due to lime kiln discharge of acid, variations in the hydrogen ion content have been larger and more frequent than normal. The maximum and minimum reported at a few stations are listed below:

Station	Maximum pH	Minimum pH
Gorham	8.6 (July 9)	6.4
Dixfield	7.9 (Sept.10)	6.4 (Aug. 1)
Jay	7.9 (Sept. 9)	6.3 (several)
North Turner	7.3 (Sept.11)	6.2 (July 30)
Deer Rips Dam	6.8 (June 5)	6.2 (several)

The acidity of the water increases slightly as it passes through Pool probably due to the diffusion of weak organic acids from the benthal.

