

# APPENDICES

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DEMONSTRATING THAT CONSUMPTION OF TURTLE  
MEAT, THEIR SHELL, ORGANS AND BODY PARTS  
CAN BE HARMFUL TO HUMANS

ON RECORD WITH THE GENERAL COUNSEL AND NONGAME  
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STATE HEALTH SERVICES

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- E** NOTES FROM SEMINAR “TURNING TURTLES INTO  
CASH” MARCH 2007 CLEBURNE TEXAS

# EXHIBIT A

## **PUBLISHED SCIENTIFIC LITERATURE DEMONSTRATING THAT CONSUMPTION OF TURTLE MEAT, THEIR SHELL, ORGANS AND BODY PARTS CAN BE HARMFUL TO HUMANS**

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# EXHIBIT B

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH  
SERVICES BANS HUMAN CONSUMPTION OF FISH  
IN THE TRINITY RIVER DUE TO UNSAFE LEVELS  
OF CHLORDANE AND PCBs, KNOWN HUMAN  
CARCINOGENS



*news release*

From The Texas Department of Health  
1100 West 49th Street Austin, Texas 78756 (512) 458-7405

JH

#### Health Commissioner Bans Fishing on Part of Trinity River

Dr. Robert Bernstein, Texas Commissioner of Health, has banned the taking of finfish for human consumption from part of the Trinity River near Dallas and Fort Worth. His action followed a Texas Parks and Wildlife Department study showing that fish samples from the affected area contain unsafe levels of chlordane.

Chlordane, a pesticide banned in Texas since 1987, once was commonly used to control termites.

The area closed to fishing includes the Clear Fork of the Trinity, downstream from the 7th Street bridge in Fort Worth to beyond the fork's confluence with the Trinity's West Fork, as far as the IH 20 overpass southeast of Dallas.

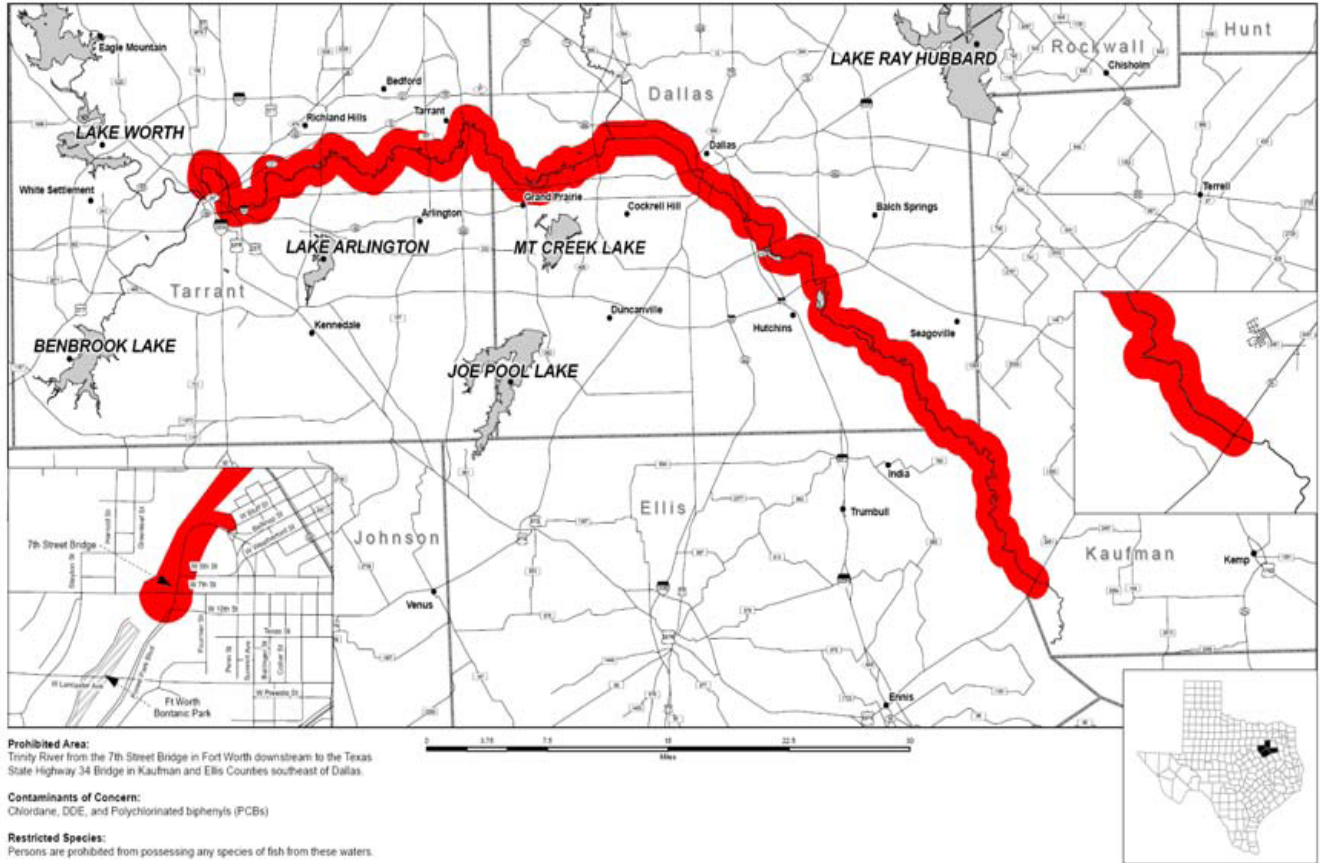
The commissioner said that the area will remain closed to fishing until new tests show acceptable levels in fish samples.

--more--

# EXHIBIT B

# Trinity River

Dallas, Ellis, Kaufman and Tarrant Counties  
AL-2 Issued January 4, 1990  
AL-14 Issued September 27, 2002



# EXHIBIT B

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
ORDER NUMBER AL-2

WHEREAS, the Department of Health is charged by Section 436.003, Health and Safety Code, to establish by order the areas which are prohibited and unsatisfactory for the taking of aquatic life that is unfit for human consumption, and

WHEREAS, it is desirable to classify public water within the jurisdiction of the state in accordance with recent sanitary, chemical, or bacteriological survey information, and

WHEREAS, chlordane levels in finfish in an area of the Clear Fork and West Fork of the Trinity River exceed the established guideline, and

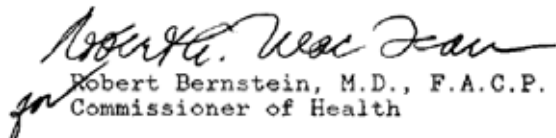
WHEREAS, this results in the finfish in this area being unfit for human consumption,

THEREFORE, the Commissioner of Health issues the following order:

The area of the Clear fork of the Trinity River downstream from the 7th Street Bridge in Fort Worth to the confluence with the West Fork, and the West Fork of the Trinity River from the confluence with the Clear Fork downstream to the Interstate Highway 20 Bridge southeast of Dallas, is declared a prohibited area for the taking of finfish, effective 12:01 a.m., January 4, 1990.

This order shall remain in full force and effect until rescinded or modified by further written order.

Issued this 3rd day of January, 1990.

  
Robert Bernstein, M.D., F.A.C.P.  
Commissioner of Health

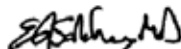
## EXHIBIT B

IN THE MATTER OF CLOSING \* BEFORE THE TEXAS  
OF AQUATIC LIFE \* DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
HARVESTING AREA \* AUSTIN, TEXAS

AQUATIC LIFE ORDER NUMBER 14

Pursuant to Chapter 436, Texas Health and Safety Code, it is hereby ORDERED that the Trinity River from the Interstate 20 bridge in Dallas County downstream to the Texas State Highway 34 bridge in Kaufman and Ellis counties is declared a prohibited area for the possession of all fish species. This order is effective at 12:01 a.m., September 27, 2002, and remains in full force and effect until modified or rescinded by further written order.

Issued on this 27<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2002, in Austin, Travis County, Texas.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Eduardo J. Sanchez, M.D., M.P.H.  
Commissioner of Health  
Texas Department of Health

April 19, 2000



*news release*

From The Texas Department of Health

1100 West 49th Street Austin, Texas 78756 (512) 458-7400

TDH Web Site: [www.tdh.state.tx.us](http://www.tdh.state.tx.us)

### **TDH Warns Against Eating Fish from Lake Worth**

The Texas Department of Health (TDH) officially advised today that fish from Lake Worth in Tarrant County should not be eaten.

TDH issued the consumption advisory after tests confirmed high levels of Polychlorinated biphenyls, or PCBs, in fish taken from the lake. PCBs, a group of compounds once used in electrical capacitors and transformers, were banned in the United States in the late 1970s.

PCBs can cause liver damage and reproductive disorders and are believed to cause cancer in humans.

TDH officials said eating fish from Lake Worth would pose a "significant health risk."

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*(For more information contact Kirk Wiles, Director, TDH Seafood Safety Division, Austin, at 512-719-0215; or Doug McBride, TDH Public Information Officer, Austin, at 512-458-7524.)*



# EXHIBIT C

## ONLINE SOLICITATION FROM BUYERS IN ASIA TO PURCHASE "HUGE NUMBERS" OF FRESHWATER TURTLE FROM THE UNITED STATES

snake.com  
Online Since 1997®



- Businesses
- Classifieds
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- News
- Video/Podcast
- Features
- Mail Lists
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# EXHIBIT D

2005-2002 US FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
LAW ENFORCEMENT MANAGEMENT  
INFORMATION SYSTEM DATA OF WILD  
CAUGHT TURTLES FOR EXPORT FROM  
DALLAS FORT WORTH AIRPORT.

ON RECORD WITH THE GENERAL COUNSEL AND NONGAME  
DIVISION OF THE TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT  
AND THE SEAFOOD UNIT OF THE TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF  
STATE HEALTH SERVICES

# EXHIBIT E

## NOTES FROM SEMINAR “TURNING TURTLES INTO CASH” COMMERCIAL TURTLE TRAPPING RECRUITMENT SEMINAR. CLEBURNE TEXAS MARCH 2007

Audio tape and notes on record with General Counsel and the  
Nongame Division of TPWD and the Seafood Unit of TDSHS.

Bayou Bob recruitment meeting  
Cleburne Civic Center, Cleburne, TX  
March 7, 2007 – 6:30 pm

Unless otherwise indicated, all the comments listed were made by “Bayou” Bob  
Poplewell during his presentation

- The purpose of this meeting is to enlist an “army”, the motivation to join this army is money.
- The company holds licenses to collect in Texas, Florida, Oklahoma and Louisiana
- There are currently 450 people that are currently collecting turtles in Texas as part of the co-op; these people come from all walks of life
- Some members of the co-op collect full-time; that is not recommended because it is such hard work and it would be easy to get burned out
- Joining the co-op will help people gain life long skills
- People that join will receive a membership kit that includes:
  - Instructional DVD starring Bob
  - 2 traps
  - Field guide book
  - Rules and regulations for your area
  - Lots of useful materials for best results
  - Tickets (\$300 value) to a training seminar at the ranch that includes a day of field demos, chuck wagon lunch and camping the night before
  - Access to a hotline number answered by Bob for any turtling questions
  - Electronic files of posters that you can distribute to grow your business
    - ⌚ Full color images
    - ⌚ You can insert you name and contact information
    - ⌚ Poster verbiage “Do you want more fish in your lake? Do you have too many turtles?”
    - ⌚ These can be distributed door to door, posted in various locations (cafes, tractor supply stores, farm bureaus, feed stores)

- ☉ Getting the word out to a few ranchers will create a ripple effect as they spread the word to their friends
- The education and training that co-op participants will receive is equal to 13 years of turtling expertise, condensed into a two day intensive training session
- Turtles have little pea brains and are easy to outsmart, but there are still techniques that can increase your success
- Another recruitment meeting will be held in Stephenville tomorrow at the A&M Research Center
- There are incentives for bringing your friends into the co-op; for everyone that you recruit you will receive either an additional trap or \$50 cash
- The company needs to have enough people working in every region to make a trip to that area to pick up turtles economically feasible
- “You will never catch all of the turtles out of any lake”
- There are “millions and millions” of red-eared sliders in Texas. These numbers are grossly inflated because of all of the artificial habitat that we have created (including lakes, tens of thousands of stock ponds, etc.). They are not supposed to be here.
- Bob will buy red-eared sliders, common snapping turtles, softshell turtles (spiny and smooth), water turtles, cooters, chicken turtles, mud turtles, any and all snakes and bait fish for turtle traps (especially carp).
- He recommends leaving public waters alone.
- Turtles move into ponds and other bodies of water via migration. They are motivated to migrate when they run out of food in one pond and are forced out to find more food (overpopulated).
- There are more turtles in Texas today (4000-5000% more) than there were just 100 years ago
- He hatches 60,000 turtles each year at his ranch
- Running 6-8 traps can result in 100 turtles per night
- You’ll learn to hate red-eared sliders; they are cheap because they are so abundant (you’ll catch 95 RES for every 5 of any other kind of more valuable turtle). However, you will make up the money in the sheer quantity.
- One example, if you have eight traps you can catch 112 turtles in a night that equal about 350 lbs. If you get just one good size softshell or snapper in there you could have a \$40 turtle that could really boost the value of that catch
- Snapping turtles are what they really want – they are currently going for \$1 per pound, with a \$0.40 per pound bonus.
- Regarding catching hatchlings – there is no problem with doing so. Only 3% of them survive anyway and their mothers don’t take care of them.
  - “There is no such thing as too small a turtle”
  - “A pound is a pound”
  - There are “crazy” rules in Oklahoma about the size of mesh on traps that allow the little ones to escape, but we don’t have that in Texas
  - When the small turtles die, they make them into Indian rattles and sell them to the Indians in Oklahoma (“they don’t want to kill them themselves because of

the bad karma so they have Bayou Bob do it and then they shake them around and dance and get their good karma”)

- Turtles can grow by 1 lb. per year with a good food supply.
- Stock tanks represent a lot of turtle meat; there are some in virtually every stock tank.
- Ranchers don't want turtles around; they eat their fish.
- Bob is not interested in buying box turtles and other land turtles; they may be protected soon anyway
- Strengths of the co-op
  - Power in numbers
  - Volume harvest at one source
  - Selling with new contracts
  - Lobby efforts are improved
  - Buying power is improved
  - Stabilizes market prices
  - Networking and sharing of technology is increased
  - Bonuses / profit sharing
  - Win with numbers
  - Learning curves are minimized
- Ponds that are ‘turtled’ will be restocked via migration
- It is important that you dump the turtles in your traps into your vehicle and get them back in the water ASAP: if they're not in the water, you can't make money
- Your instructional materials will show you how to make more traps, but they will not be of as high a quality as the ones that Bob provides
- You have to have a hunting license and a non-game collector's permit
- Bob's company also has a dealer's license
- They are looking to recruit at least 15-20 people through this meeting for this area
- They have faxed flyers to some of the rural high schools looking for boys to join
- This is the only turtle co-op in Texas; if you corner a “market” or area you are it – no competition
- The turtles that you bring to Bob have to be healthy enough to make a 90 hour trip to China
- Turtles live in water to control temperatures, avoid insects and to access their food supply
- Chicken did better than carp in traps in parts of Texas last year; advantage is that chicken can be cheap and is not as smelly as carp
- You can also make a deal with your local meat market manager to get the outdated meat for free (chicken and salmon are best; turtles don't eat beef or pork – not a natural food supply)
- If you want to use carp, there is an easy way to catch a lot of them very quickly
  - Buy a bag or bucket of range cubes from the feed store and dump them in a single pile in the water
  - Wait for about an hour and then start casting near that pile and you can catch all you want
- “You have to spend money to make money” – that's why it costs to join the co-op.
  - There are other advantages - Investment increases motivation