Unknown

From: Woody Barnes [BarnesWL@dhec.sc.gov]

Sent: Friday, February 29, 2008 10:08 AM

To: BARGENTIERI@scana.com

Subject: Fwd: Comment on FERC relicensing application for lake Murray

Here is a link to a statement from DNR on the parasite. http://www.dnr.sc.gov/news/yr2008/feb18/feb18_achtheres.html

>>> Woody Barnes 2/26/2008 12:46 PM >>>

DNR freshwater fisheries recently released a statement about the outbreak of parasitic copepod Achtheres in Lake Murray on the majority of Striped Bass sampled. What factors in the lake may be responsible for this infestation? Are there any management options for the dam that should be considered to help minmize/eliminate the abundance of the copepod and protect downstream Striped Bass populations? I realize the copepod doesn't appear to harm the fish but failure to investigate the occurrence before relicensing could be a mistake. The prolific copepod population could be an environmental red flag/symptom that something far more problematic is taking place.

I emailed this comment to Bill Argentieri as well. I tried to submit the comment through the website on a comment form on a couple of occasions but the comment would not go through. I'm employed with SCDHEC and also tournament director for the Midlands Striper Club. I was the first member of the club to identify the parasite in Lake Murray Striped Bass in December 2007.