

THE EFFECTS OF THERMAL EFFLUENTS OF PHYTOPLANKTON PRODUCTIVITY IN FAIRFIELD RESERVOIR, TEXAS

Author: Kevin Clark Rudy

Phytoplankton productivity measurements were made along a thermal gradient in Fairfield Reservoir every two weeks to determine what effects, if any, the Big Brown Steam Electric Station had on the productivity. In Addition, tests for ten physical and chemical parameters were run to assess their influence, if any, upon the productivity.

Increased temperature was found to generally enhance phytoplankton productivity, with inhibition occurring at one station and only during the summer. Other physical and chemical parameters affected the productivity to a lesser degree, with a high degree of uniformity between stations for a particular parameter on a given sampling date.

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Department of Biology
Stephen F. Austin State University
Nacogdoches, Texas 75962