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**Submission date:** 02-Apr-2021 02:09AM (UTC-0400)

**Submission ID:** 1548848751

**File name:** river.docx (23.59K)

**Word count:** 1174

**Character count:** 6542

**REPORT ON WATER CONSERVATION IN NECHAKO RIVER**

By

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## **1. INTRODUCTION**

Water plays a crucial role on the livelihood of Human beings. It is part of nature and it is needed by human beings and animals for the purposes of survival. There are a number of uses of water. Some of the uses are such as Drinking, Required by Plants for purposes of growth, development and Photosynthesis, Washing and much more. In these recent times, Water has been used by human beings for personal uses and personal satisfaction. This behavior possesses a big threat to the lives of human beings and animals as well as Human being. This report highlights the positive side of Water as well as reasons why Water conservation is important in our daily lives. This report will address the conditions that face Nechako River and highlight possible solutions to the users of the Water. It will also talk of Water Pollution and the major types of surface and Ground water pollutants. This report will in details discuss the threats that can face the Life cycle if Human beings give room for Water pollution and wrong use of water to continue. It briefly highlights the relationship that exists between Water and other co-factors that a Human being requires majorly for the purposes of survival.

## **2. WATER POLLUTION**

Water Pollution is usually the act whereby water bodies such as Oceans and Lakes are usually contaminated by activities of Human beings (Jerry, 2021). In other words, Water pollution is any type of change that usually affects the water properties physically, chemically or biologically and such a change will have a negative effect on the Human being's life.

### 2.1 Negative Effects of Water Pollution

There are a number of negative effects that polluted water can cause on the lives of Human beings. First and foremost, Polluted Water can lead to deadly diseases in Human beings such as Cholera. This occurs when Human beings consume the water which is polluted and contains harmful chemicals which alter with their normal functioning of their bodies. Polluted Water ends up affecting negatively the Biodiversity. This is as a result that it causes unbridled proliferation of Phytoplankton in major lakes as well as Oceans. Polluted Water usually contaminates the food chain. This is caused by fishing in areas which Water is polluted as well as using polluted water in livestock farms and agriculture will lead to introduction of toxins into foods that will be harmful to our health conditions when consumed.

### 2.2 Ground Water Pollutants

There is a long list of Ground Water Pollutants that are responsible for causing Water Pollution. (Laurell, 2020). Report shows 80% of these pollutants are usually artificially made by Human beings. Some of these pollutants are such as;

1. Gasoline
2. Oil
3. Road Salts
4. Waste Chemicals from Factories

Materials from the surface of the land can be pushed to the nearby water sources such as rivers. A good and vivid example of such is the fertilizers and the pesticides when sprayed close to the river.

### **3. WAYS WATER POLLUTANTS WILL PENETRATE NECHAKO RIVER**

According to the area of study, there are a number of factors that should be considered. Nechako River surrounds a number of factories and it is evident that it carries polluted water which will be harmful when used by Human beings. One mile upstream, River Nechako passes closer to Kraft Pulp Mill and Detergent Factory. The Mill deposits its wastes which is untreated into River Nechako. Once it is deposited into the River, The quality of the water is affected by the chemicals hence polluting it more (Jerry, 2021). The Polluted water mixed with untreated wastes from the Mill flows down to an agricultural plain where it contaminates with the fertilizers and pesticides. The Human activities whereby Zinc is mined will also pollute the water because of quantities of zinc waste which are large in number. Zinc also increases the levels of acidity in water.

### **4. POTENTIAL HEALTH HARZADOUS ASSOCIATED WITH THE POLLUTANTS**

It is evident that each and every pollutant listed in Section 3 of this Report has a negative effect on health of Human beings and Animals. The Untreated industrial wastes from Kraft Pulp Mill and Detergent Factory pose a number of threats to the health of Human beings and animals. It can cause deaths to people. The Untreated Industrial Wastes majorly from Kraft Pulp Mill has a mixture of chemicals that when consumed by human beings, may cause sicknesses and affect their conditions. They might also pose a threat to the skin of Human

beings. The pesticides and the fertilizers also have chemical effects which are a threat to both the health of Human beings and also the Fish in Water. Some of the chemicals both from the Industrial wastes and the pesticides may block Oxygen from penetrating into the water causing the Fish to die because of failure of breathing.

## **5. RECOMMENDATIONS**

The following are a list of measures that opt to be taken by the Water department, the Kraft Pulp Mill and the agricultural farmers for the purposes of preventing the water pollution in Nechako River. The first measure which will assist to reduce the levels of water pollution in Nechako River is for the Kraft Pulp Mill to treat the Industrial wastes before releasing it into water. The farmers should be careful when spraying off the pesticides and fertilizers to avoid it from affecting the Nechako River. It is also healthy that an awareness campaign should be done to the workers of the factory as well as the Agricultural farmers for the purposes of enlightening them on importance of water conservation and various ways to prevent water pollution (Arcadia, 2017). The clients who need to use the water for personal advice should also be educated on ways of treating water that has been populated. They need to use and implement measures such as boiling water before use and using treating water with chemicals like Water guard.

## **6. CONCLUSIONS**

Nechako River is very important and it plays a key role in maintaining the Life cycle. Water Pollution should not be allowed and it is supposed to be highly discouraged as it endangers life of many species. Water conservation is the best strategy to avoid pollution in

water bodies such as Nechako River. This report has documented possible threats that come along with water pollution as well as benefits of Water Conservation.

References

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