This advisory is issued as a result of additional sampling of the Arroyo Colorado in Hidalgo and Cameron Counties and modifies the advisory (not numbered) for the Arroyo Colorado upstream of the Port of Harlingen, issued September 1980, and ADV-6, issued November 17, 1993. Samples of fish taken from the Arroyo Colorado indicate that concentrations of PCBs have decreased to acceptable levels in all species tested and that concentrations of pesticides have decreased to acceptable levels in all species tested except smallmouth buffalo. Samples of smallmouth buffalo continue to contain elevated levels of chlorinated pesticides; therefore, consumption of smallmouth buffalo poses a risk to human health.

COUNTIES: Cameron and Hidalgo

AREA: All waters of the Arroyo Colorado, Llano Grande Lake, and the Main Floodway upstream of the Port of Harlingen

SPECIES AFFECTED: Smallmouth Buffalo

CONSUMPTION ADVISORY: Persons should limit consumption of smallmouth buffalo from these waters to two meals per month, not to exceed 8 ounces per meal for adults and 4 ounces per meal for children. Persons may consume other species of fish from these waters without restriction.

This advisory shall remain in effect until rescinded or modified in writing.

Issued this 4th day of May, 2001

Charles E. Bell, M.D.
Executive Deputy Commissioner