

## TELEVISION QUARTERLY ISSUES-PROGRAMS REPORT

Station: WFGX-TV  
Location: Fort Walton Beach, FL  
Quarter ending: December 31, 2013

ISSUE/description: 2. ENVIRONMENT. Maintaining the quality of life desired within our community; protecting wildlife and their natural habitat; maintaining the proper balance between development and protection of resources.

### How Issue was treated (Program, PSA, etc.):

<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time/Duration</u>	<u>Program type</u>	<u>Description</u>
1. Channel 3 News at 9PM On WFGX	10/18/13	09:04PM/3 minutes	News	*

\* In tonight's "Waste Watch" report, Will Kennedy looked at sewage overflows and how they're handled in Escambia County. Whether it's fishing, swimming or skiing, many people in the county live their lives on our waters, and those waters are often dangerous due to rain runoff and sewage spills. ECUA is averaging over 80 overflows per year. The numbers are declining, but spills still occur. In 2011, more than 3 million gallons of sewage spilled and wound up in local waterways. 27 water bodies in our area have failed to meet the requirements for fecal coliform bacteria and nitrogen. The Department of Environmental Protection is the enforcement agency for these overflows, and they've required ECUA to have a plan to upgrade their system and reduce the number of spills. ECUA is borrowing hundreds of millions of dollars for new infrastructure, and spending millions each year on repairs. And while the DEP and ECUA are working together with a consent agreement to clean up area waters, the customers and taxpayers are paying the price.

2. Channel 3 News at 9PM On WFGX	11/15/13	09:00PM/2 minutes	News	**
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\*\* Okaloosa County Reporter Laura Hussey outlined the plan by the city of Mary Esther to replace their small recyclables bins with 96-gallon covered containers, beginning in January, to help reach the state of Florida's goal of 75% recycling by the year 2020. Okaloosa County tried using similar containers last year, and the amount of garbage going into landfills dropped by 40%. The trade-off for consumers is that now regular garbage will be picked up once per week instead of twice. Most customers that we spoke with endorsed the move as a means to help the environment.

3. Channel 3 News at 9PM On WFGX	12/06/13	09:00PM/2 minutes	News	***
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\*\*\* We detailed the proposed \$600 million boost to our environment for restoring our beaches, from the BP Oil Spill settlement.

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4. Channel 3 News at 9PM On WFGX	12/06/13	09:07PM/2 minutes	News	****

\*\*\*\* Reporter Joe Douglass interviewed local fishermen and boaters about plans to build a \$19 million fish hatchery in Pensacola and artificial reefs in nearby waters. Seafood is a huge part of our culture and economy here on the Gulf Coast. The fishermen feel the project will bring more people to the coast and the area may need to build more motels to handle the influx. The plan includes some needed repairs to the Gulf Breeze Wayside Park boat ram. The public will get a chance to give input on the environmental project at a series of meetings beginning in January.

5. Facing Florida	12/07/13	11:30AM/15 minutes	Public Affairs	*****
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\*\*\*\*\* Our guest was Julie Wraithmell from Audubon Florida. She discussed the controversy over the proposal to allow the military to train on state lands, specifically the Blackwater River State Park in Santa Rosa County.

6. Channel 3 News at 9PM On WFGX	12/12/13	09:04PM/2 minutes	News	*****
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\*\*\*\*\* Jenise Fernandez reported live from Milton that a vote is expected tomorrow by Florida's Public Land Management Agency on whether to approve a plan to allow military training exercises in state forests. The military wants to use Blackwater River State Park in Santa Rosa County for training exercises. The Air Force says the training would be non-hazardous, like practicing radio communications with planes of moving troops with helicopters. But local citizens who spoke at a public hearing on the issue in Milton last night were concerned about the environment. A Pentagon spokesman said the training would be "low to no" impact on the environment. The next step is for the Air Force to complete an Environmental Impact Study, and they're hoping to have that done by next year.

7. Channel 3 News at 9PM On WFGX	12/19/13	09:06PM/2 minutes	News	*****
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\*\*\*\*\* The Escambia County Department of Solid waste is inviting area children ages 5 to 10 to take part in a "Day Camp" designed to teach the importance of protecting the environment, held at the Perdido Landfill. Participants are asked to donate one pair of new or gently used shoes to the Soles4Souls charity. Activities include a hands-on Christmas recycling workshop, games and an eco-walk.