

## TELEVISION QUARTERLY ISSUES-PROGRAMS REPORT

Station: WEAR-TV  
Location: Pensacola, FL  
Quarter ending: March 31, 2017

ISSUE/description: 5. 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. Full Measure with Sharyl Attkisson	01/01/17	09:00AM/5.5 minutes	News	*
* Lisa Fletcher reported that wildfires have been burning bigger, hotter and faster over the last several years, fueled by extremely dry grasses and trees that have seen prolonged drought due to changing climate conditions. Robert Bonney, head of the U.S. Forest Service, has spent the last four years trying to get Congress to treat forest fires more like natural disasters such as hurricanes and floods. Programs designed to prevent forest fires are in jeopardy because the budget is all going to fighting the fires.				
2. Channel 3 News at 6PM	01/04/17	06:00PM/2.5 minutes	News	**
** Pensacola city leaders would like to turn an old Superfund site on Sanders Beach into a park. It was once the site of the American Creosote Works until it closed in the early 1980s. It has a long history of hazardous chemicals on the ground and environmental workers have long been monitoring and cleaning the land. Pensacola Assistant City Manager Keith Wilkins said the time has come to make use of it again. Wilkins said they wouldn't be able to put in something like a football field without doing extensive environmental work, but he said it's perfectly safe for activities that don't include rolling around the dirt like walking trails, kiosks and pavilions. "Its 18 acres in the Sanders Beach community, an upcoming neighborhood," Wilkins explained. "A lot of reinvestment in that area and we want to try and stimulate that investment and property values." The city council plans to discuss this issue at its January 12th meeting.				
3. Channel 3 News at 10PM	01/10/17	10:00PM/1.5 minutes	News	***

\*\*\* A packed house at the Escambia County Extension Office voiced their opposition to a proposed concrete recycling facility next to their neighborhood. J. Miller Construction held a town hall meeting on Tuesday night to hear from residents about their concerns before moving forward with the permit process. A majority of those who filled the town hall meeting said they're against the facility in the 8900 Waring Road. They're worried about silica dust and noise levels. Others are worried about their property values. The permit would allow J. Miller to crush concrete on the property up to ten days out of the year. The Escambia County Board of Commissioners will host a public meeting to discuss this in the future before making a final decision on the permit.

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4. Channel 3 News at 6PM	01/11/17	06:00PM/2.5 minutes	News	****

\*\*\*\* Plastic bags can choke waterways and threaten marine life. Last year there was a proposal in the Florida legislature that would have allowed coastal communities to ban plastic bags, but it failed. Now the Pensacola City Council will consider a resolution designed to change state law to allow local governments to regulate plastic bags use.

5. Channel 3 News First at 4	01/13/17	04:00PM/3.5 minutes	News	*****
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\*\*\*\*\* Ten schools in the area are now helping a University of West Florida scientist research what lionfish eat to study how they affect our reefs in the Gulf. All are high schools, except one, and the work is pretty high tech. Students at Woodlawn Beach Middle School are doing research that was unheard of at any level of schooling not so long ago. Eighth graders have already dissected lionfish that were provided by fishermen in the Pensacola area, removed the contents of the stomachs and are now using state of the art methods to extract DNA. The extracted strands of DNA from lionfish food will be sequenced and the results will be sent to researcher Dr. Jeff Eble at UWF, whose goal is to find a way to keep the lionfish from decimating stocks of native fish in the Gulf.

6. Channel 3 News at 10PM	02/08/17	10:00PM/1 minute	News	*****
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\*\*\*\*\* Following the International Paper Mill explosion which caused hundreds of homes in the immediate Cantonment area to be covered with chemicals used in the paper-making process, the Unified Command team has finalized a long-term monitoring plan. It will continue for six months after active cleanup is complete. They've contacted residents of about 150 homes in the affected area and about 135 people have had at least some cleanup work done.

7. Channel 3 News at 10PM	03/22/17	10:00PM/3 minutes	News	*****
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\*\*\*\*\* People that live in one west Pensacola neighborhood hope to find a solution to a messy issue. Since service to their trash pickup changed, they have had problems with litter along a main road. One resident called WEAR-TV for help because there was a big pile of trash on Jackson Street that had not been picked up in several days. Emerald Coast Utilities Authority formerly pick up trash bins at the homes on Coker Lane. There was a change in service in January and now residents have to haul their bins to Jackson Street, and that has created a problem of a bunch of people littering. About an hour after WEAR-TV contacted ECUA about the issue, they had trucks at the site cleaning up the mess. A spokesperson with ECUA said they had to stop picking up on Coker Lane for safety reasons. It is narrow dirt road and there is nowhere for a big truck to turn around. Coker Lane is a private road, so it is up to homeowners to make improvements if they want a truck to come through. A spokesperson with ECUA said this is an issue that they have at other places in the county.