

Water Quality on Murphy Lake

	1955	1960	1965	1970	1975
Oxygen(parts per million)	21	20	19	19	17
PH	7.6	7.2	7.1	7.0	6.8
Nitrogen	.05	.18	.19	.25	.28
Salmon	450	455	448	338	235
Moss and grass	0	0	2	5	15

The table list water quality measurements that were taken over a 25 year period at Murphy Lake. Measurements include dissolved oxygen (oxygen), pH, nitrogen, the number of salmon, and the amount of moss and grass. Dissolved oxygen is the measure of the amount of oxygen available to life-forms in the water. Salmon is a common fish found in Murphy Lake. Moss and grass start to appear as the pH of the water becomes more acidic.

10. Which earth systems (biosphere, geosphere, hydrosphere, and atmosphere) are affected according to the data table and above scenario? Explain.
11. Which of the following is a possible reason for the increased amount of moss and grass in Murphy Lake?
 - A. There are more salmon to eat the moss and grass.
 - B. Salmon is a common variety of fish found in Murphy Lake.
 - C. Farmers in the area around Murphy Lake have started to use more fertilizers that raise the pH of the lake.
 - D. Moss and grass do not start to appear with the rise of pH.