

F: lot of acorns in the woods and game would get fat in the fall of the year, instead of being so poor, and it was good -- fitting to eat.

P: Uh huh.

F: Anything most you kill. I've killed, I've killed squirrels that was plumb white all along the _____ Now, when you just, lean meat and skin and bones is all you find in the wild meat today cause the mass is gone. I don't know what the answer is.

P: Do you have any ideas? Do you think its people, a lot of people moving in?

F: No, that wouldn't have anything to do with it. It's just one of the things the good Lord is taking care of, I reckon. We don't know what the answer is, but we didn't have any mass this last year. Last gobbler or two that I've killed was poor and tough and you'd have to cook them about twice as much time to get them where you could eat them as you would when I was a boy and killed them by the woods.

P: Uh huh. How about fishing? Is it the same way? Are fish nowadays as common anymore?

F: Fish is a lot scarcer than what they was when I was a boy or even just a few years back. You could go to the river and catch you a mess of fish in two or three hours' time easy enough. Now, today, you have to fish half a day to get a mess of fish and you got a big family, you better go spend a week.

P: (laughter) Earl was complaining just the same way the other day. He said there weren't any fish left out here.

F: Mr. Earl told you that? That's right. That's right. They not there. Game department tell you they're there, but they're not.

P: 'Cause you've lived here all your life.

F: I've been right here and fished it for years and I know. I've fishing ever since I was a boy.

P: Uh huh.

F: And the fish is not there.

P: Did you ever see big old sturgeon fish?

F: Oh, yeah.

P: And you don't see them much anymore, do you?

F: No, they few sturgeons in there and I don't, I don't know the answer for it except that I think it's the big boats that run up and down the river because you don't never see