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Carl S. Burbridge

Sidney W. Wells

Sarasota County - Little Salt Springs

Chemical analyses were completed on October 5, 1959, on samples of water collected directly from Little Salt Springs and Warm Mineral Springs. Complete analyses are enclosed, along with similar analyses made in May, 1958, on water collected from the abandoned oil well located on the north side of U. S. Highway #1 just beyond Myakkahatchee Creek (estimated 300 feet) on the way to Venice.

Briefly, there were no essential differences in the analysis from Little Salt Springs and the creek analysis. Water from the abandoned oil well is about twice as highly mineralized as that from Little Salt Springs and, in turn, Warm Mineral Springs water is approximately 2-1/2 times more mineralized than the oil well water. A comparison of their general characteristics is given below.

Results in Parts Per Million

	Little Salt Springs	Warm Mineral Springs	Abandoned Oil Well
Dissolved Solids	3,590	20,360	7,330
Hardness, as CaSo3	960	3,560	1,700
Alkalinity, as CaSo3	148	138	144
Sulfates, as S04	556	1,834	883
Chlorides, as Cl	1,550	9,650	3,550
Temperatures, °F	88	87	83

On the basis of the above results we can be fairly certain that the water for these two springs is not from the same source. From a chemical standpoint and on the basis of location, water from the abandoned oil well is more suitable for a bathing area using highly mineralized water than Little Salt Springs. However, the well yield is low, probably less than a million gallons a day, but there are methods of improving well outputs.

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Page Two

Of all the other natural springs in Florida only one, Sulfur Springs in Hillsborough County, is more highly mineralized than the water from the above mentioned oil well. Sulfur Springs water contains about 8450 ppm of dissolved solids, still well below the 20,360 ppm in Warm Mineral Springs.

The attached folder about Warm Mineral Springs may be of interest to you and others in the Miami Office.

Sidney W. Wells