

Sent: Friday, January 18, 2002 1:32 PM
Subject: DEVASTATED WATER IN NICARAGUA

Archives - 1/18/2002 9:09:13 AM

In brief: Population growth affects water quality

NICARAGUA — Deforestation, pesticides, population growth and inequality in access to basic services are contributing to a decline in available drinking water and increased illness, said a report in *Source Water and Sanitation Weekly*.

The report said that demand for water in Nicaragua will increase by 50 percent within the next decade. Continuing deforestation has led to erosion and drying of water sources. There has been a rise in cases of water-related illnesses such as diarrhea, malaria and dengue. Some 19 percent of Nicaraguan children under age 6 suffer from diarrhea during any given month, the report said.