

NEWS RELEASE



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Oregon Public Health Division lifts advisory for South Umpqua River near Lawson Bar

Reduced blue-green algae levels confirmed

A health advisory prompted by high algae levels found in the South Umpqua River Lawson Bar area, located off Interstate 5 Exit 102 near Canyonville, was lifted today by Oregon Public Health Division and Douglas County Health Department officials.

The advisory went into effect Aug. 24, 2010.

Water monitoring has confirmed reduced levels of blue-green algae that can produce toxins harmful to humans and animals.

These reduced levels are not likely to be associated with dangerous toxin concentrations in the water, according to World Health Organization guidelines.

Oregon Public Health advises people who recreate in Oregon water bodies to always be alert to signs of algae blooms. People and their pets should avoid water contact if there are visible clumps of algae in the water.

For health information, contact the Oregon Public Health Harmful Algae Bloom Surveillance program at 971-673-0400 or www.healthoregon.org/hab; also contact the Oregon Public Health Division toll-free information line at 1-877-290-6767 or Douglas County Health Department at 541-440-3578.

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