

News release

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Oregon Public Health Division lifts advisory for Cougar Reservoir *Reduced blue-green algae levels confirmed*

A health advisory prompted by high algae levels found in Cougar Reservoir, located 52 miles east of Eugene on Highway 126, was lifted today by Oregon Health Authority's Public Health Division and Lane County Health Department officials.

The advisory went into effect June 14.

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 health officials advise 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 local information contact the U.S. Forest Service McKenzie River Ranger Station at 541-822-3381.

(more)

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

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The Oregon Health Authority is at the forefront of lowering and containing costs, improving quality and increasing access to health care in order to improve the lifelong health of Oregonians.