

## News release

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**Media contact:** Jonathan Modie; 971-246-9139; phd.communications@state.or.us  
**Technical questions:** Rebecca Hillwig; 971-673-0431; rebecca.hillwig@state.or.us

### **Health advisory lifted for Willow Creek Reservoir** *Reduced blue-green algae levels confirmed*

A health advisory for Willow Creek Reservoir, located just east of the town of Heppner, was lifted today by the Oregon Health Authority. The advisory was issued Sept. 14 because of high levels of blue-green algae in the lake.

Water monitoring has confirmed the blue-green algae cells present in the lake are below the health advisory guidelines for both individual and combined cell counts and all cyanotoxins produced

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 contact if the water is foamy, scummy, thick like paint, pea-green, blue-green or brownish red in color, or a mat of algae is visible in the water.

For local information contact the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Willow Creek Natural Resource Management Office at 541-676-9009.

For health information, contact the Harmful Algae Bloom Surveillance (HABS) program at 971-673-0400 or visit [www.healthoregon.org/hab](http://www.healthoregon.org/hab). Also contact the Oregon Public Health toll-free information line at 1-877-290-6767.

The Harmful Algae Bloom Surveillance program is funded through September 2013 by a grant from the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.