

News Advisory

Harmful Algal Blooms Identified in Prado Regional Park Lake

Visitors Advised to Avoid Water Contact and Keep Dogs from Swimming

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SAN BERNARDINO – Due to a harmful algal bloom (HAB), the State Water Resources Control Board and Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board are urging recreational water users and dog owners to avoid water contact until further notice while visiting Prado Regional Park Lake (see <u>incident map</u> for more information).

It is highly recommended that the public and their dogs stay out of the water and avoid contact with floating algal material and scum in the water or along the shore. Fish caught at the lake should not be consumed until this advisory is lifted. This recommendation is based on the potential health risks posed by the algal organisms, called cyanobacteria, and the high level of toxins measured in water samples collected July 22, 2020. The HAB appears as bright to dull-green material near the water surface or floating, sometimes appearing similar to spilled paint.

As the bloom continues to grow, cyanobacteria colonies may form thick algal mats or scum on the water surface and accumulate on the shore. Bloom conditions can change rapidly, as the flow of surface water and wind may mix, move, or concentrate the bloom into different areas. The bloom is being monitored by the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board to inform users when the bloom dissipates.

To learn how to stay safe around HABs, report a bloom, and more, visit the <u>CA HABs Portal</u>.

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