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### **North Dakota Department of Health Rescinds Blue-green Algae Advisory for the Des Lacs River**

BISMARCK, N.D. – The North Dakota Department of Health (NDDoH) and Agriculture (NDDA), Animal Health Division, have rescinded the blue-green algae advisory previously issued for the Des Lacs River, located northwest of Minot in Ward County, due to high levels of microcystin in the water. Microcystin is a cyanotoxin caused by blue-green algae. When present in water, cyanotoxins are dangerous for both people and animals.

Following the issuance of the blue-green algae advisory last week, the NDDoH conducted follow-up monitoring for microcystin at six sites on the Des Lacs River and three sites on the Souris River on Monday. “Microcystin concentrations at all the sites on both the Des Lac River and the Souris River were well below the NDDoH health risk threshold of 10 µg/L (parts per billion) this week,” said Mike Ell with the NDDoH Division of Water Quality.

For more information on public health issues, contact Mike Ell, North Dakota Department of Health, at 701.220.5025, or Susan Keller, State Veterinarian, at 701.328.2655.

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