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North Dakota Department of Health Rescinds Blue-green Algae Advisories for Patterson Lake, Twin Lakes, and Lake LaMoure

BISMARCK, N.D. – The North Dakota Department of Health (NDDoH) and Agriculture (NDDA), Animal Health Division, have rescinded the blue-green algae advisories which were issued for Patterson Lake, located near Dickinson, and Twin Lakes and Lake LaMoure located near LaMoure in LaMoure County. Advisories were issued for Patterson Lake on July 11, 2016, and for Twin Lakes and Lake LaMoure on July 15, 2016, 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.

The NDDoH has been monitoring each of these lakes since the advisories were posted and results from samples collected the past few weeks show concentrations to be well below the NDDoH's health risk threshold of 10 µg/L (parts per billion).

While the advisories have been rescinded for Patterson Lake, Twin Lakes, and Lake LaMoure, the public is reminded that advisories and warnings are still in effect for several lakes and reservoirs across the state and that blue-green algae blooms may still occur on lakes and wetlands not currently listed. For a list of current advisories and warnings go to the NDDoH Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs) website at <http://www.ndhealth.gov/WQ/SW/HABs/defaultHABs.htm>.

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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