• **TENMILE LAKES' BASIN PARTNERSHIP**
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tenmile Lakes water monitoring – August 2016 Update

Tenmile Lakes Basin Partnership is monitoring the Tenmile Lakes waters on a regular basis over the summer with help from a contribution of up to $5,000 from Coos County through its Coos Health & Wellness Public Health Division.

Because Blue Green Algae have been present in the lakes for many years, it is important that the toxicity levels of the lakes be monitored to ensure toxin levels remain within safe levels, especially when the lakes are used by the public and their pets for recreational activities such as swimming, boating, and fishing.

The water sampling occurred on August 15th and the results came in on August 22th 2016 for three different sites:

1. Wulfy Beach swimming area and immediate surroundings (C1)
2. Coos Bay Yacht Club swimming area (C2)
3. Tenmile Lakes Canal near North Lake RV Resort and Marina swimming area (C3)

See below sampling results:

Toxin levels are below OHA recreational advisory standards; however, it is not recommended for people or pets to drink the Tenmile Lakes waters unless properly treated prior to consumption.

Sample Site	Collection Date	Anatoxin-A (ug/L)	Cylindrospermopsin (ug/L)	MYC-RR (µg/L)	MYC-YR (µg/L)	MYC-LR (µg/L)	MYC-LA (µg/L)	MYC-LF (µg/L)	MYC-LW (µg/L)	**Total MYC (ug/L)**
C1	8/15/16	<0.20	<0.20	<0.20	<0.20	0.52	<0.20	<0.20	<0.20	**1.52**
C2	8/15/16	<0.20	<0.20	<0.20	<0.20	0.87	<0.20	<0.20	<0.20	**1.87**
C3	8/15/16	<0.20	<0.20	<0.20	<0.20	2.20	<0.20	<0.20	<0.20	**3.2**

Summary of Blue Green Algae toxin safety levels for health advisory from the Oregon Health Authority (2015)

Guideline	**Microcystin (ug/L) MYC**	**Anatoxin –a (ug/L)**	**Cylindrospermopsin (ug/L)**
Pets	0.2	0.4	0.1
Drinking water	1.0	3.0	1.0
Recreational	10	20	6

Some additional information about the attached results:

- Microcystin has various congeners (slightly different forms of the same molecule). The HPLC toxin test we are using tests for the most common congeners. That's the -RR, -YR, -LR, -LA, -LF, -LW that you see on the test results.
- To get the TOTAL Microcystin at a particular site, you need to add all the congeners together. So in the above results, one would calculate the total microcystin at site C1 by adding (MYC-RR) + (MYC-YR) + (MYC-LR) +(MYC-LA) + (MYC-LF) + (MYC-LW) = total Microcystin ug/L

Disclaimer:

Due to the patchy nature of blue-green algal blooms it is possible for higher *Microcystis* and *Anabaena* densities (and therefore higher microcystin or anatoxin concentrations) to be present in areas not sampled in this survey, particularly along shorelines or during calm conditions of little to no wind. Given the lakes' demonstrated

history of toxic *Microcystis* and *Anabaena* blooms, and the fact that all areas of the lake cannot be tested at all times, those utilizing the lake for drinking water should always follow Oregon Health Division recommendations for purification. In addition, recreational users should always avoid contact with water whenever noticeable surface concentrations of algae are evident or when the lake has an obvious green to blue-green appearance. Moreover, because pets or other domestic animals are the most likely to ingest contaminated water, these animals should not be allowed access to the lakeshore whenever either noticeable surface concentrations of algae or an obvious green to blue-green appearance is evident.

The next water sampling is scheduled for August 29th. We would like to thank North Lake Resort and the Tenmile Yacht club for their cooperation.