



DHS Technical Contact: Ken Kauffman (971) 673-0435 DHS Media Contact: Bonnie Widerburg (971) 673-1282

Deschutes N.F. Contact: Sue Olson (541) 383-5561

Klamath Co. Media Contact: Amy Markum (541) 882-8846

Ext. 3422

August 13, 2007

For Immediate Release

Public Health Advisory Lifted For Odell Lake

A health advisory prompted by high algae levels found in Odell Lake was lifted today, August 13, 2007, by the Oregon Department of Human Services (DHS), the Deschutes National Forest and the Klamath County Health Department.

The advisory went into effect on July 25, 2007.

"Water sampling by the Forest Service has confirmed reduced levels of blue-green algae that can produce toxins harmful to humans and animals," said Ken Kauffman, Environmental Health Specialist with the Oregon DHS.

These reduced levels are not likely to be associated with dangerous toxin concentrations in the water, according to World Health Organization guidelines.

DHS advises people who recreate in Oregon water bodies to always be alert to signs of algal blooms. People and their pets should avoid water contact if there are visible clumps of algae in the water.

For local recreation information contact the Deschutes National Forest at (541) 383-5300, www.fs.fed.us/r6/centraloregon.

For health information, contact: Ken Kauffman, DHS Environmental Health Specialist at (971) 673-0435 or http://oregon.gov/DHS/ph/envtox/maadvisories.shtml.

Inquiries can also be addressed to Amy Markum, Klamath County Health Department, at (541) 882-8846, extension 3422.