



News Advisory

Danger advisory issued at Lake Crowley due to a harmful algal bloom

August 22, 2025

Contact: [Blair Robertson](#) – Public Information Officer

SACRAMENTO – The Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board is urging visitors to stay out of the water at Lake Crowley in Mono County after tests confirmed the presence of harmful algal blooms, which pose a health threat to humans and their pets. Signs with the with a recreational advisory of “[DANGER](#)” have been posted at two locations -- the Marina and Hilton Creek Drainage -- to alert lake users of the elevated risk. Everyone visiting the area is encouraged to follow the below guidance until further notice.

Danger

- Stay out of the water until further notice, including watercraft.
- Do not let pets and other animals drink or go into the water or go near the scum.
- Stay away from scum, and cloudy or discolored water.
- Do not eat fish or shellfish from this water.
- Do not use this water for drinking or cooking. Boiling or filtering will not make the water safe.

Water Board staff monitored Crowley Lake on August 11th and noticed visual signs of a harmful algal bloom spanning a length longer than a football field along the shoreline near the South Landing area of the lake at both the Marina and the Hilton Creek Drainage. Sample results confirmed that toxin levels were present at dangerous levels at both locations.

Note that cyanobacteria, a group of organisms that form harmful algal blooms, can produce potent toxins. Health risks are associated with HABs as they produce dermatotoxins that can cause skin inflammation, as well as gastrointestinal distress, headaches, agitation and weakness, or abnormal breathing if HAB material is swallowed while swimming. Dogs and children are most susceptible to exposure because of their smaller body size, increased potential to swallow water while swimming, and tendency to stay in the water longer. If you suspect exposure, wash your children and dog immediately.

The bloom occurring in the lake appears suspended on the water's surface. Bloom conditions can change rapidly, as the winds and waves move or concentrate the bloom into different regions of the lake. In some areas, the bloom may concentrate and form a film or scum on the water surface. The color of the water may also appear discolored as



bright or dark green and brown.

The Water Boards will provide regular updates to inform the community when postings are removed on the [California HAB Reports Web Map](#).

The Water Boards recommend that people practice [healthy water habits](#) while enjoying the outdoors.

For more information about HABs, please visit:
[California Harmful Algal Blooms Portal](#)





DANGER

Toxins from algae in this water can harm people and kill animals



**Stay out of the water until further notice.
Do not touch scum in the water or on shore.**



Do not let pets or other animals drink or go into the water or go near the scum.



Do not eat fish or shellfish from this water.



Do not use this water for drinking or cooking.
Boiling or filtering will not make the water safe.

For people, the toxins can cause:

- Skin rashes, eye irritation
- Diarrhea, vomiting

For animals, the toxins can cause:

- Diarrhea, vomiting
- Convulsions and death

Call your doctor or veterinarian if you or your pet get sick after going in the water.

For information on harmful algae, go to mywaterquality.ca.gov/monitoring_council/cyanohab_network
For local information, contact: Enter your contact information in this text box