



www.PinedaleOnline.com
www.Pinedale.com

Pinedale on the Web!

Pinedale, Wyoming

[Home](#) | [Calendar of Events](#) | [Photo Gallery](#) | [Local Businesses](#) |

[Pinedale Online](#) > [News](#) > [September 2007](#) > Algae toxins found in Fontenelle Reservoir

Algae toxins found in Fontenelle Reservoir

Toxins in water harmful to humans and animals

by Bureau of Reclamation

September 19, 2007

Editor's Note: Below is a news release from the Bureau of Reclamation. It came with this note: "Bureau of Reclamation Water Quality Group in Salt Lake City, Utah has issued a potential toxic algae alert in Fontenelle Reservoir. People are being asked not to risk ingestion of reservoir water by humans or any animals." The potential toxic risk is very high and people are advised to stay away from Fontenelle Reservoir for now while this algae toxin danger is still high. Fontenelle Reservoir is located on the Green River, a few miles south of LaBarge, in southwest Wyoming. It is accessed from U.S. Hwy 189.

Media Release, September 13, 2007:

The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation), in cooperation with the Water Quality Division of the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), is currently evaluating the water quality related to algae blooms in Fontenelle Reservoir, located on the Green River in southwestern Wyoming.

Algae of many varieties are naturally present in the reservoir and can experience increased growth from time to time. When sunlight, water temperature, and nutrient conditions are optimal, blue-green algae blooms can reproduce rapidly in fresh water. Additionally, the reduced water volume in Fontenelle Reservoir due to below average inflows from reduced snow pack last winter has further facilitated the algae growth.

Tests at Fontenelle Reservoir are underway to evaluate the extent of certain blue-green algae species known to release toxins potentially harmful to humans and animals. Once the water temperature drops in the reservoir in the coming weeks, the subsequent algae die-off will reduce the odor and unusual water color. If these algae have produced toxins, it will take several weeks following the die-off before the water quality will improve as the toxins dissipate. Meantime, while Reclamation continues testing water samples in the reservoir and in the river below the dam, minimized contact with the water in the reservoir by people and animals is recommended.

Fontenelle Reservoir is owned and operated by Reclamation, and the DEQ's Water Quality Division has oversight responsibility for pollution control and watershed management in the state of Wyoming. The recreational areas at Fontenelle are co-managed by Reclamation and the Bureau of Land Management.

Contacts for more information:

Lisa Iams, Reclamation, (801) 524-3673

Keith Guille, Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality, (307) 777-6105

Related Links

- [Late season algae problems found in Fontenelle Reservoir](#) - Bureau of Reclamation

[Pinedale Online](#) > [News](#) > [September 2007](#) > **Algae toxins found in Fontenelle Reservoir**

PINEDALE
Online!

Pinedale Online! PO Box 2250, Pinedale, WY 82941
Phone: (307) 360-7689 or (307) 276-5699, Fax: (307) 276-5414
Office Outlet in Pinedale, 43 S. Sublette
E-mail: support@pinedaleonline.com

Copyright © 2007 [Pinedale Online](#). All rights reserved.
Pictures and content cannot be used in whole or part without permission.