

The following announcement was released by the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley region (5), Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program on July 21st, 2020. Environmental Health Department staff are currently posting Marianas and select sites with a copy of the attached “Caution” warning.

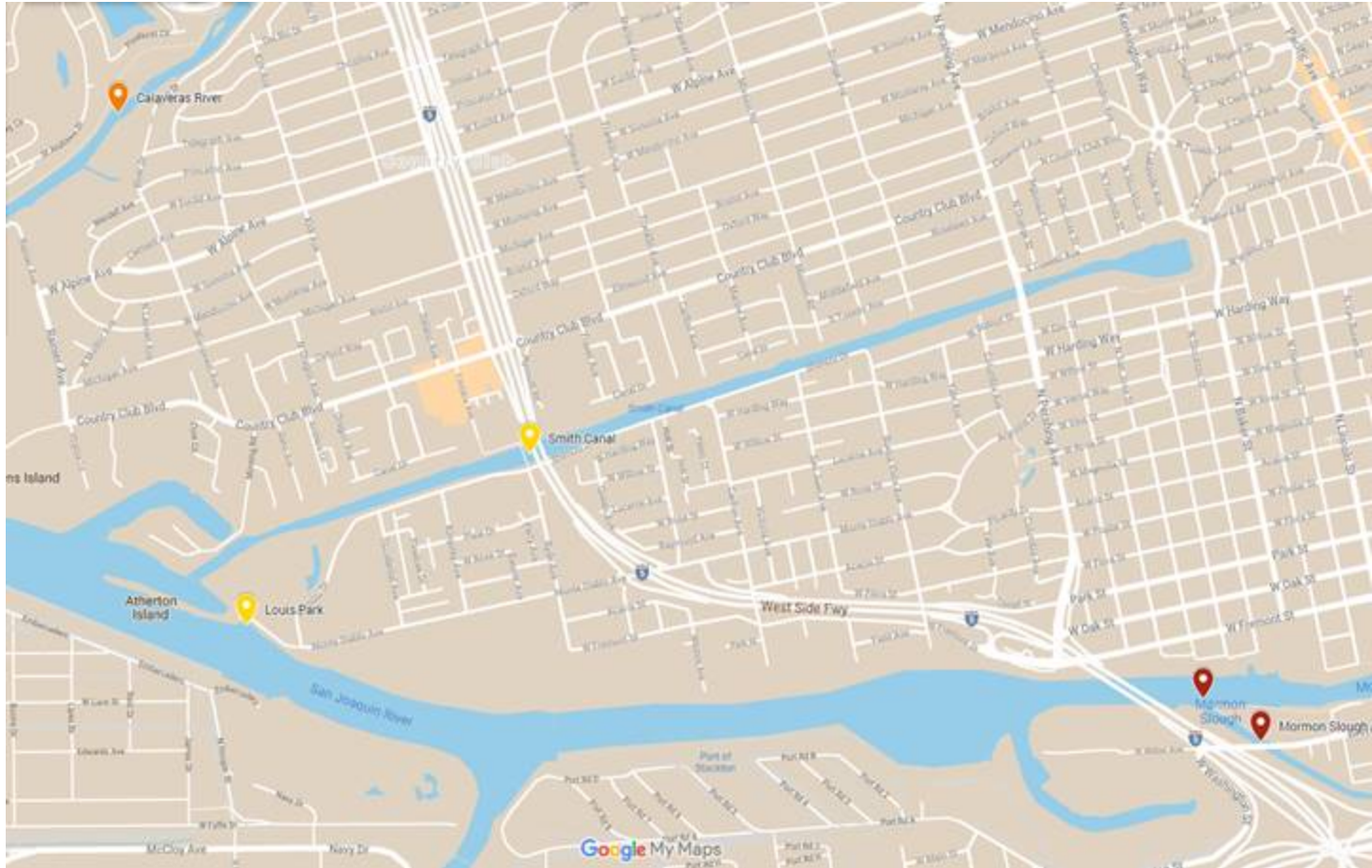
Good Afternoon,

The Water Boards received a report of significant cyanobacteria harmful algal bloom (HAB) occurring in the Stockton downtown waterfront (McLeod Lake, Mormon Slough) and conducted a field investigation including multiple nearby locations. On 7/20/20, State Water Board’s FHAB Program received lab results of the July 14th water samples collected by Central Valley Regional Water Board staff. Some sample results detected cyanotoxins at the DANGER level (highest advisory threshold) – results are summarized in the table below.

Incident Details:

- Extensive cyanobacteria HABs throughout the Stockton downtown waterfront, San Joaquin River, Mormon Slough, Smith Canal and the Calaveras River with elevated cyanotoxins in the bloom material (scum, film) that accumulates near slow moving areas (e.g. coves, docks).
- Multiple cyanobacteria genera (*Microcystis*, *Pseudanabaena*, *Dolichospermum*) detected at locations sampled
- Microcystins exceeding recommended Guidance for posting of planktonic blooms (https://mywaterquality.ca.gov/habs/resources/habs_response.html#posting_guidance) up to 49 times higher than the Danger level (highest advisory threshold).

Sample #	Site	Microcystins (ug/L)		Recommended Signage
		Water Sample	Scum Sample	
10	Mormon Slough	11.2	80.1	Danger
11	Downtown Marina	5.64	256.4	Danger
12	Morelli Park Boat Launch	1.79	990.6	Danger
13	SJR @ Louis Park	4.69	Not collected	Caution
14	Smith Canal @ I-5	2.49	Not collected	Caution
15	Calaveras River @ Stockton Yacht Club	9.37	Not collected	Warning



Next Steps:

- Post recommended Danger, Warning, and Caution signs (https://mywaterquality.ca.gov/habs/resources/habs_response.html#advisory_signs) at public access points at or near sampling locations.
 - Consider posting Caution signs at additional areas if visual indicators (discolored water, mats/scums, paint-like appearance) observed.
- Request Division of Drinking Water and Dept. Of Water Resources staff coordinate with entities who have downstream drinking water intakes.
- State Water Board will request public notification via the Water Board public information officer and will also post the recommended advisories to the Water Boards [FHABs web map](#).
- Continue coordination with State Water Board (via cyanohab.reports@waterboards.ca.gov email) and Central Valley Regional Water Board (Matt Krause as new HAB coordinator; Matthew.Krause@Waterboards.ca.gov)
- Report any potentially HAB-related illness reports by submitting an online bloom report [California Harmful Algal Blooms Portal](#) (or email to cyanohab.reports@waterboards.ca.gov)
- HAB-related illness workgroup will notify nearby veterinary and medical hospitals.

Trigger Levels For Human and Animal Health				
Criteria*	No Advisory ^a	Caution (TIER 1)	Warning (TIER 2)	Danger (TIER 3)
Total Microcystins ^b	< 0.8 µg/L	0.8 µg/L	6 µg/L	20 µg/L
Anatoxin-a	Non-detect ^c	Detected ^c	20 µg/L	90 µg/L
Cylindrospermopsin	< 1 µg/L	1 µg/L	4 µg/L	17 µg/L
Cell Density of potential toxin producers	< 4,000 cells/mL	4,000 cells/mL	_____	_____
Site-specific indicator(s)	No site-specific indicators present	Discoloration, scum, algal mats, soupy or paint-like appearance. Suspected illness	_____	_____

* Action levels are met when one or more criteria are met.

^a For de-posting, all criteria for no advisory must be met for a minimum of 2 weeks. General awareness sign may remain posted and healthy water habits are still recommended.

^b Microcystins refers to the sum of all measured Microcystin congeners.

^c Must use an analytical method that detects ≤ 1µg/L Anatoxin-a.

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