

In Some Places, In Some Cases, And At Some Times, Harmful Algal Blooms Are The Greatest Threat To Inland Water Quality

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ABSTRACT

The summer season brings surges in outdoor recreational activities each year, with increased visitor attendance to National Parks and protected areas and annual peaks in fishing and swimming in many rivers, lakes, and beaches. The warmer months routinely bring field sampling campaigns for environmental scientists, time for academics to catch up following final exams, and vacations with family or friends. Unfortunately, headlines in North America during summer 2016 reminded us that the incidence of harmful algal blooms (HABs), particularly of cyanobacteria, also tends to increase in summer months and cause impairment to inland recreational waterbodies. In addition to the highly publicized issues in Lake Erie and the HAB event stretching hundreds of miles in the Ohio River, other inland water bodies were impacted by HABs from the east to west coasts of the United States. A state of emergency was declared in 4 Florida counties, Utah closed access to Utah Lake, and California responded to multiple HAB events from the southern to northern parts of the state. Similarly, HABs severely impacted water quality of inland systems in many other regions of the world.

Full Text

http://ftp.sccwrp.org/pub/download/DOCUMENTS/JournalArticles/1003_HarmfulAlgalBloomsWaterQuality.pdf