

# PROTECT LIVESTOCK & PETS FROM **HARMFUL** CYANOBACTERIA BLOOMS



HCBs may be brown, green, or blue-green in color.

## What are harmful cyanobacteria blooms?

- HCBs are dense accumulations of cyanobacteria or “blue-green algae”
- HCBs can produce toxins that can be lethal to animals and cause illness in humans

## Sources of exposure:

- Animals can be exposed to toxins by eating bloom material, drinking or swimming in water with a HCB, or licking their fur after contact with a HCB

You cannot tell if a cyanobacteria bloom is toxic by looking at it.

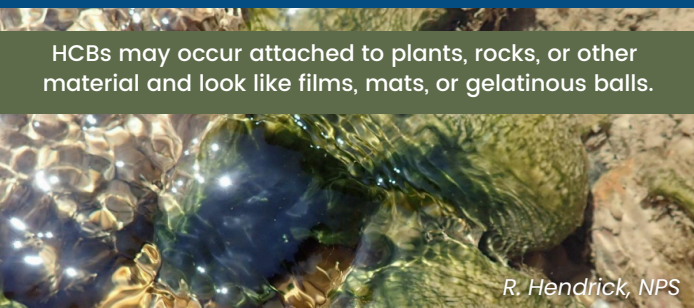
## How can you protect animals?

- Be aware of HCBs in Wyoming waters and keep animals away from any water with signs of a HCB
- Do not let animals drink, swim in, or eat near discolored or scummy water
- Keep animals from licking fur, eating dead fish or animals found near a HCB, or eating HCB material

HCBs may occur floating in or on the water and can look like spilled-paint, grass clippings, clumps, or scums.



Symptoms in animals can occur minutes to days after exposure to a HCB.



HCBs may occur attached to plants, rocks, or other material and look like films, mats, or gelatinous balls.

*R. Hendrick, NPS*

- Lack of energy
- Decreased appetite
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Yellow gums or eyes
- Bruising
- Dark urine
- Weakness
- Seizures/Tremors
- Difficulty breathing
- Excessive drooling

If an animal appears sick after coming into contact with water, immediately wash off with clean water and seek veterinary care.

ASPCA Poison Control Hotline

(888) 426-4435



Wyoming State Veterinarian

(307) 840-1389



See Current Advisories Report Blooms & Illnesses



WyoHCBs.org



When in doubt,  
**STAY OUT!**



WYOMING DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

