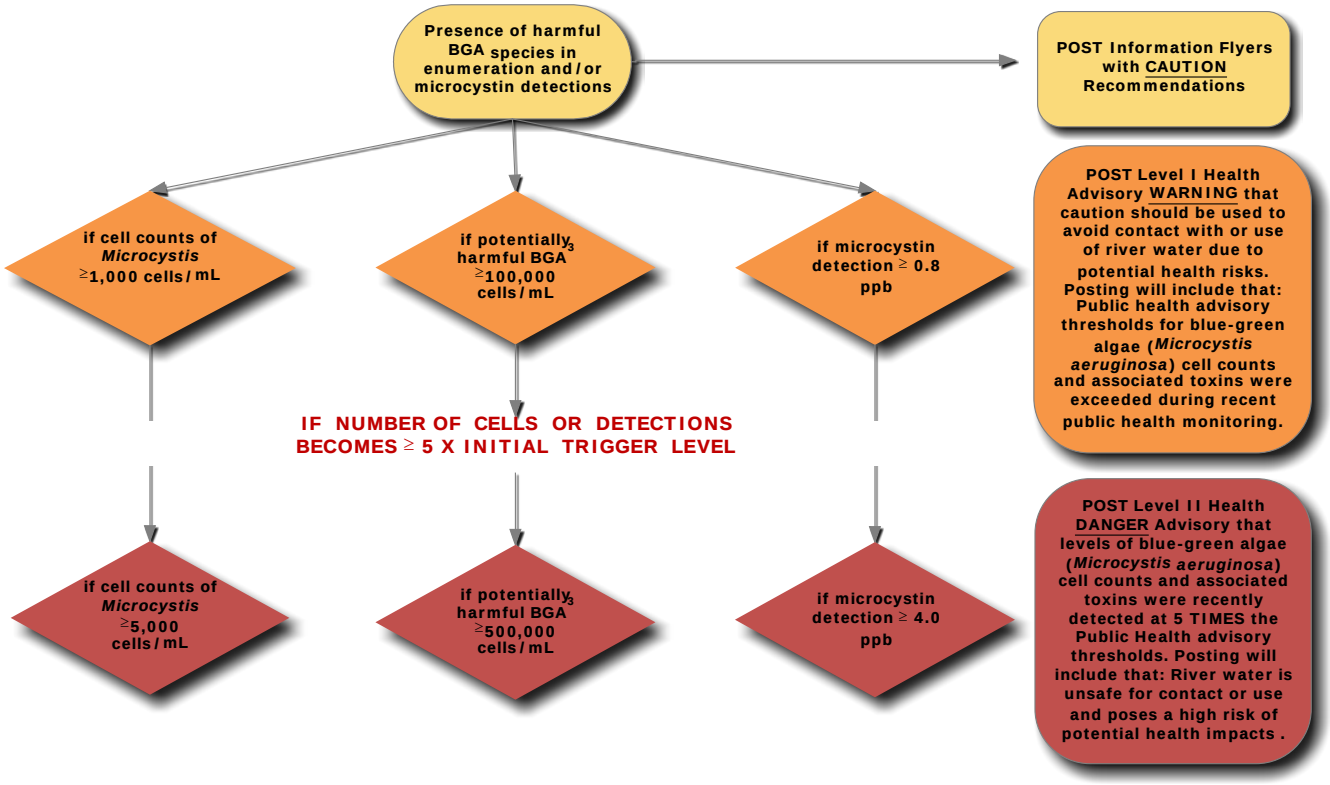
Yurok Tribe Environmental Program (YTEP) Memorandum

2016 *Posting* Guidelines for Public Health Advisories

To ensure that people have the knowledge necessary to make informed decisions regarding the potential risks to their health and are not exposed to concentrations of microcystin in Klamath River water that could cause adverse health effects, YTEP will be posting Public Health Advisory signs within the exterior boundaries of the Yurok Reservation based on the decision tree below. A WARNING flyer will be posted using the recommended level[1] of 0.8 µg/L as the maximum dose a child swimmer could be exposed to with little to no risk of harm. Additionally, while we agree with statements that cell counts are not a good indication of toxin levels, they do provide an early warning of the likelihood of toxin presence and as such will contribute to the safeguarding of the Public Health. Therefore, YTEP has incorporated algal cell counts[2] into the decision tree along with microcystin levels.



2016 *De-Posting* Guidelines

The removal and de-posting of Public health advisories and flyers will be based on **TOXIN ANALYSIS**.
After toxin results are below the guideline level of 0.8 µg/L for two consecutive sampling events that are at least one week apart, advisories will be lifted and flyers removed.

- If the dominant species of blue-green algae is known to produce microcystin and anatoxin-a, it is recommended that BOTH toxins be tested prior to lifting an advisory.)
- In some situations there may be reason, such as reported illness and/or persistence of the toxin, to prolong the advisory beyond the recommended waiting period.

[1]CalEPA, OEHHA, SWRCB. 2012. Toxicological Summary & Suggested Action Levels to Reduce Potential Adverse Health Effects of Six Cyanotoxins.
[2]Kann, J. January 17, 2014. Technical Memorandum: Evaluation of Cyanobacteria and Cyanobacterial toxins with reference to Selection of Water Quality Criteria for the Karuk Tribe of California.
[3]Potentially toxic blue-green algae that have been detected in California include those of the genera *Anabaena, Microcystis , Aphanizomenon, Planklothrix* / *Oscillitoria*, and *Gloeotrichia*. This list may be added to as additional blue-green algae that have toxic potential become known.