

KDHE News Release

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Health Advisory Issued for South Fork of Republican River

TOPEKA, Kan. -- The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) has issued a public health advisory for the South Fork of the Republican River due to suspected elevated levels of bacteria and other pollutants, along with a fish kill. This health advisory extends through the portion of the South Fork of the Republican River from the Colorado state line to the Nebraska state line. The public is advised that contact with the water poses a health risk to both humans and animals.

The cause of the pollutants and fish kill is thought to be an overflow from a confined animal feeding operation located near Hale, Colorado. The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment is investigating the release. KDHE will rescind the advisory once water samples show no health risk and water contact has been deemed safe.

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At KDHE, our mission is to protect and improve the health and environment of all Kansans.

Through education, direct services and the assessment of data and trends, coupled with policy development and enforcement, KDHE will improve health and quality of life. We prevent illness, injuries and foster a safe and sustainable environment for the people of Kansas.

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