



Butte County

LAND OF NATURAL WEALTH AND BEAUTY

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

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Recreational and Swimming Area Monitoring/Closure Policy

Fecal Coliform

1. Less than 500 organisms/100 ml

Continue routine sampling unless there is evidence of sewage or other contamination.

2. 500 to 5,000 organisms/100 ml

- A. Resample as soon as possible.
- B. Survey upstream areas for possible source(s) of contamination.
- C. Make a decision to remain open or to close based upon the upstream survey.

3. Over 5,000 organisms/100 ml

- A. Close recreation/swimming area at once as a precaution.
- B. Notify Health Department - Environmental Health Division.
- C. Resample as soon as possible and survey as in #2 B above.
- D. Reopen if results are below 5000 and survey indicates no source of contamination.
- E. Resample according to usual schedule.

As you may be aware, except for chlorinated swimming pools, there is no State bacteriological standard for freshwater swimming areas. The above policy is based upon local bacteriological history including previous fecal coliform levels and recommendations of the Regional Water Quality Control Board.