

Appendix 5. CDC's Harmful Algal Bloom-related Illness Surveillance System

The National Center for Environmental Health has developed the Harmful Algal Bloom-related Illness Surveillance System (HABISS) to support public health decision-making. This unique system collects data on human and animal health and on the environmental effects of harmful algal blooms (<http://www.cdc.gov/hab/surveillance.htm>). The modular format allows for data collection to be expanded to suit the needs of state and local health and environmental protection agencies. In the future, stored data will be used to help predict local harmful algal blooms so that state public health and environmental health will be able not only to respond to reports of human or animal illnesses, but also anticipate public health problems.

More information on harmful algal blooms is available from the HABs main page on CDC's website (<http://www.cdc.gov/hab/about.htm>).