

TDH Lifts Selenium-Based Advisories for Three East Texas Reservoirs

The Texas Department of Health (TDH) has lifted advisories in effect since 1992 that had recommended limiting consumption of fish from Brandy Branch Reservoir in Harrison County, Welsh Reservoir in Titus County and Martin Creek Reservoir in Rusk and Panola counties.

The advisories were issued because of high selenium levels in the fish. But the latest TDH testing of fish samples from the reservoirs found that selenium levels no longer pose a health risk.

Selenium is an essential trace element in the human diet. But long-term consumption of high levels of it may cause hair and fingernail loss and kidney, liver, nerve and circulatory system damage.

The testing was funded by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

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