

# NewsRelease

## MEDIA CONTACT

■ **Pete Wagner**  
DEQ Boise  
Regional Office  
(208) 830-8586

### *Water quality monitoring reveals high bacteria count at Sandy Point Beach in Lucky Peak State Park*

**BOISE** — Water quality monitoring by the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has identified *E. coli* bacteria levels at the Sandy Point Beach access at Lucky Peak State Park downstream from Lucky Peak Dam that may be in excess of state water quality standards.

The excess levels of *E. coli* indicate the presence of human or animal waste and that pathogenic microorganisms may be present and pose a threat to public health. If ingested, these microorganisms can cause diarrhea, fever, and vomiting, particularly in infants, small children, and the elderly.

To be safe, DEQ recommends that any activity that may result in the ingestion of reservoir water be avoided at the Sandy Point Beach recreational area. These activities include swimming and wading in the water. The source of the bacteria is unknown at this time.

Routine monitoring will continue at this location to assess bacteria levels. Warning signs have been posted at the beach. Consider Barclay Bay Beach or Robie Creek Beach in Lucky Peak Reservoir as an alternative.

*End*