

Mass Fish Deaths Hit Central Russia

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Vasili Shitov / TASS

A massive die-off of marine life has hit the republic of Bashkortostan, nestled between the Volga River and the Ural Mountains, in what residents suspect to be a [mass poisoning](#).

Videos posted on social media showed dead fish, [floating](#) belly up, lining the banks of a local river.

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The regional environmental protection service took samples from the local river for analysis, with possible contamination coming from a river in the neighboring Perm region, Interfax [reported](#) Friday.

The results of the tests are expected on Monday, the Bashkortostan environmental protection department's spokeswoman Liliya Nuretdinova [told](#) the Proufu.ru news website.

“We’re now informing the public. We’ve posted an announcement asking [people] to refrain from swimming in the river and fishing until all circumstances are fully clarified,” the head of the village council Razif Makhatov [told](#) the Ufa branch of RBC business portal.

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