

# Quechan Utility Annual Water Quality Report

Public Water System #090400089

2020

This report is a snapshot of your water quality. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies.

## Do I need to take special precautions?

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791).

## Where does my water come from?

Your water comes from 2 ground water sources.

## Why are there contaminants in my drinking water?

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity including:

microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife; inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming; pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses; organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems; and radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

# WATER QUALITY TABLE

The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants detected during the calendar year of this report. The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The EPA or the State requires monitoring for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently.

Contaminants	MCLG	MCL	Your Water	Range		Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
				Low	High			

## Inorganic Contaminants

Arsenic Units: ppb	0	10	4.9	1.2	4.9	2020	No	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; glass and electronics production wastes
Barium Units: ppm	2	2	0.04	0.028	0.04	2020	No	Discharge of oil drilling wastes and from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Chromium Units: ppb	100	100	1.2	ND	1.2	2020	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills and chrome plating; erosion of natural deposits
Sodium Units: ppm			130	120	130	2020	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits; salt water intrusion

Contaminants	MCLG	Action Level	Your Water	Range	Sample Date	A.L. Exceeded	Typical Source
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## Lead and Copper Rule

Copper Units: ppm - 90th Percentile	1.3	1.3	0.14	0 sites over Action Level	2020	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead Units: ppb - 90th Percentile	0	15	2.2	0 sites over Action Level	2020	No	Corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits

Contaminants	MCLG	MCL	Your Water	Range		Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
				Low	High			

### Radiological Contaminants

Adjusted Alpha (Excl. Radon & U) Units: pCi/L	0	15	2	N/A	N/A	2020	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium (combined) Units: ppb	0	30	2.4	1.9	2.384	2020	No	Erosion of natural deposits

Contaminants	MCLG	MCL	Your Water	Range		Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
				Low	High			

### Volatile Organic Contaminants

Tetrachloroethylene Units: ppb	0	5	0.6	ND	0.58	2020	No	Leaching from PVC pipes; discharge from factories, dry cleaners and auto shops (metal degreaser)
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### Special Education Statements

#### Additional Information for Lead

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. PWS system is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or at <http://www.epa.gov/your-drinking-water/basic-information-about-lead-drinking-water>.

### Microbiological Testing

We are required to test your water regularly for signs of microbial contamination. Positive test results could lead to follow-up investigations called assessments and potentially the issuance of public health advisories. Assessments could lead to required corrective actions. The information below summarizes the results of those tests.

Sampling Requirements	Sampling Conducted (months)	Total E.Coli Positive	Assessment Triggers	Assessments Conducted
8 Samples due monthly	12 out of 12	0	2	1

During the year 2020, two Level 2 Assessments were required to be completed for our water system. One Level 2 Assessment was completed.

A Level 2 Assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our system on multiple occasions.

Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful, waterborne pathogens may be present or that a potential pathway exists through which contamination may enter the drinking water distribution system. We found coliforms indicating the need to look for potential problems in water treatment or distribution. When this occurs, we are required to conduct assessment(s) to identify problems and to correct any problems that were found during these assessments.

## **Significant Deficiencies**

*Sanitary deficiencies are defects in a water system's infrastructure, design, operation, maintenance, or management that cause, or may cause interruptions to the "multiple barrier" protection system and adversely affect the system's ability to produce safe and reliable drinking water in adequate quantities.*

*The following is a listing of significant deficiencies that have yet to be corrected. Your public water system is still working to correct these deficiencies and interim milestones are shown, as applicable.*

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### **Deficiency Title: Cross-Connection Control Program**

Date Identified: 3/21/2019 Overall Due Date: 3/1/2020

Deficiency Description: The PWS does not have a formal, written CCCP. It does have several high risk service connections with backflow prevention assemblies but there is no assurance the assemblies are tested and functional.

Corrective Action Plan: Cross-connections and backflow into the distribution system present a significant threat to the public's health. The PWS should "implement, administer, and maintain an on-going backflow and cross-connection control program to protect the public water system from the hazards originating on the premises of their customers and from temporary connections that may impair or alter the water in the public water system." The PWS should develop and implement a CCCP, including annual inspection and testing of all backflow prevention assemblies.

The CCCP should include periodic surveillance of the distribution system by an individual familiar with complex plumbing systems, high risk service connections and identification of cross-connection and backflow potential. SGEC recommends that the surveillance be extended to the plumbing systems within the casino's facilities (e.g., detergent dispensers, soda machines, etc.). All backflow prevention activities, including testing, should be documented. All hose bibs within the facilities should be equipped with vacuum breakers. EPA's guidance for developing a CCCP can be found at the following site  
<https://nepis.epa.gov/Exe/ZyPDF.cgi/2000262T.PDF?Dockey=2000262T.PDF>

## Health-Based Violations

The table below lists the health-based violations the water system incurred during the last calendar year. While you should have received notification of the violations at an earlier date, we are required to list them in this report.

Contaminant Name	Type of Violation	Begin/End Date	Comments	Steps Taken to Correct the Violation	Return to Compliance	Return Date	Action Comment
Revised Total	Failure to conduct	2/1/2020	Failure to collect routine	Following month	Yes	11/18/202	Subsequent
Coliform Rule (RTCR)	routine monitoring	2/29/2020	samples at appropriate site/frequency.	reporting of all required results.			0 reporting of required results.

## Public Notice for Monitoring/Reporting and Other Violations

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. During the period covered by this report, we did not complete all monitoring or testing for the contaminants listed below, and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of your drinking water during that time. Violations which have not been returned to compliance will be repeated annually. The table below lists the contaminants we did not properly test for or other violations during the report period.

Contaminant Name	Type of Violation	Begin/End Date	Comments	Steps Taken to Correct the Violation	Return to Compliance	Return Date	Action Comment
Synthetic Organic Compounds/Pesticides	Major monitoring/reporting violation for routine chemical monitoring.	1/1/2020 3/31/2020	Failed to monitor and/or report required monitoring results due quarterly.	Reporting monitoring results as required.	Yes	11/18/202	Subsequent 0 reporting of required results.
Synthetic Organic Compounds/Pesticides	Major monitoring/reporting violation for routine chemical monitoring.	4/1/2020 6/30/2020	Failed to monitor and/or report required monitoring results due quarterly.	Reporting monitoring results as required.	Yes	11/18/202	Subsequent 0 reporting of required results.
Nitrate [reported as Nitrogen]	Major monitoring/reporting violation for routine chemical monitoring.	7/1/2020 9/30/2020	Failed to monitor and/or report required monitoring results due quarterly.	Reporting monitoring results as required.	Yes	12/29/202 0	

What should I do, as a consumer?

There is nothing you need to do at this time.

What is being done by the utility?

We will work with our regulatory official to conduct all required contaminant monitoring as directed.

## Definitions

<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>
ppm	parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
ppb	parts per billion, or microgram per liter (ug/L)
positive samples	the number of positive samples taken that year
% positive samples/month	% of samples taken monthly that were positive
pCi/L	picocuries per liter
ND	Not detected
N/A	Not applicable
MCLG	Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
MCL	Maximum Contaminant Level: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
TT	Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
AL	Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, trigger treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
90th Percentile	Statistical value used to determine if Action Level is exceeded. Determined by calculating the value at which 90% of the samples tested were below that value.
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