

Quechan Utility Annual Water Quality Report

Public Water System #090400089

2016

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.

Is my water safe?

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 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. To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes limits on the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems.

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 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791) or visit their website: www.epa.gov/safewater

How can I get involved?

Please feel free to contact the number provided below for more information or for a translated copy of the report if you need it in another language.

For more information please contact:

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Where does my water come from?

The Quechan Public Water System consists of one well at the North end of Picacho Road. That pumps water to the two storage tanks with a capacity of 1.5 million gallon storage.

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	Your MCL	Range Water	Sample Low	Sample High	Date	Violation	Typical Source
Inorganic Contaminants								
Barium	2	2	0.024	N/A	N/A	2014	No	Discharge of oil drilling wastes and from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Units: ppm								
Sodium			140	N/A	N/A	2014	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits; salt water intrusion
Units: ppm								
Contaminants	MCLG	Action Level	Your Water	Range	Sample Date	A.L. Exceeded	Typical Source	
Lead and Copper Rule								
Copper	1.3	1.3	0.35	0 sites over Action Level	2015	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives	
Units: ppm - 90th Percentile								
Lead	0	15	2	0 sites over Action Level	2015	No	Corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits	
Units: ppb - 90th Percentile								

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>.

Contaminants	Your Range			Sample		Date	Violation	Typical Source
	MCLG	MCL	Water	Low	High			
Radiological Contaminants								
Adjusted Alpha (Excl. Radon & U)	0	15	4.5	N/A	N/A	2015	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Units: pCi/L								
Uranium (combined)	0	30	6.7	N/A	N/A	2015	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Units: ppb								

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
5 Samples due monthly	12 out of 12	0	1	1

During the year 2016 we were required to conduct One Level 1 Assessment. One Level 1 Assessment was completed.

Definitions

A Level 1 Assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.

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.

Unit Descriptions

Term	Definition
ppm	ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
ppb	ppb: parts per billion, or microgram per liter (ug/L)
positives samples	positive samples/yr: the number of positive samples taken that year
% positive samples/month	% positive samples/month: % of samples taken monthly that were positive
N/A	N/A: Not applicable
ND	ND Not detected
NR	NR: Monitoring not required, but recommended.
MCLG	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	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	TT: Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
AL	AL: Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, trigger treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
Variances and Exemptions	Variances and Exemptions: State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.
MRDLG	MRDLG: Maximum residual disinfection level goal. The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
MRDL	MRDL: Maximum residual disinfectant level. The highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
MNR	MNR: Monitored Not Regulated
MPL	MPL: State Assigned Maximum Permissible Level
mrem/yr	mrem/yr: Millirem per year