

## 2023 Consumer Confidence Report

### Water System Information

**Water System Name:** County Service Area No. 7

**Report Date:** 6/24/2024

**Type of Water Source(s) in Use:** Surface Water

**Name and General Location of Source(s):** Alpine Creek, La Honda

**Drinking Water Source Assessment Information:** Prepared by Bracewell Engineering, Inc. July 2015.

**Time and Place of Regularly Scheduled Board Meetings for Public Participation:** 9:00 am, Tuesday Mornings, Board of Supervisors Chambers, 400 County Center, Redwood City, CA 94063

**For More Information, Contact:** Mark Chow, Principal Civil Engineer (650) 599-1489

### About This Report

We test the drinking water quality for many constituents as required by State and Federal regulations. This report shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2023 and may include earlier monitoring data.

### Importance of This Report Statement in Five Non-English Languages (Spanish, Mandarin, Tagalog, Vietnamese, and Hmong)

**Language in Spanish:** Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua para beber. Favor de comunicarse County Service Area No. 7 a (650) 599-1473 para asistirlo en español.

**Language in Mandarin:** 这份报告含有关于您的饮用水的重要讯息。请用以下地址和电话联系 County Service Area No. 7 以获得中文的帮助: 1336 Pescadero Creek Road, Loma Mar, CA 94021 (650) 599-1489.

**Language in Tagalog:** Ang pag-uulat na ito ay naglalaman ng mahalagang impormasyon tungkol sa inyong inuming tubig. Mangyaring makipag-ugnayan sa County Service Area No. 7 1336 Pescadero Creek Road, Loma Mar, CA 94021, (650) 363-4100 o tumawag sa (650) 363-4100 para matulungan sa wikang Tagalog.

**Language in Vietnamese:** Báo cáo này chứa thông tin quan trọng về nước uống của bạn. Xin vui lòng liên hệ County Service Area No. 7 tại (650) 363-4100 để được hỗ trợ giúp bằng tiếng Việt.

**Language in Hmong:** Tsaab ntawv no muaj cov ntsiab lus tseem ceeb txog koj cov dej haus. Thov hu rau County Service Area No. 7 ntawm (650) 363-4100 rau kev pab hauv lus Askiv.

TERMS USED IN THIS REPORT	
<p><b>Level 1 Assessment:</b> 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.</p> <p><b>Level 2 Assessment:</b> A Level 2 assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an <i>E. coli</i> MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.</p> <p><b>Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL):</b> The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. Primary MCLs are set as close to the PHGs (or MCLGs) as is economically and technologically feasible. Secondary MCLs are set to protect the odor, taste, and appearance of drinking water.</p> <p><b>Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG):</b> The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs are set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA).</p> <p><b>Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL):</b> The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.</p> <p><b>Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG):</b> 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.</p>	<p><b>Primary Drinking Water Standards (PDWS):</b> MCLs and MRDLs for contaminants that affect health along with their monitoring and reporting requirements, and water treatment requirements.</p> <p><b>Public Health Goal (PHG):</b> The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. PHGs are set by the California Environmental Protection Agency.</p> <p><b>Regulatory Action Level (AL):</b> The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.</p> <p><b>Secondary Drinking Water Standards (SDWS):</b> MCLs for contaminants that affect taste, odor, or appearance of the drinking water. Contaminants with SDWSs do not affect the health at the MCL levels.</p> <p><b>Treatment Technique (TT):</b> A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.</p> <p><b>Variations and Exemptions:</b> Permissions from the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) to exceed an MCL or not comply with a treatment technique under certain conditions.</p> <p><b>ND:</b> not detectable at testing limit</p> <p><b>ppm:</b> parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L)</p> <p><b>ppb:</b> parts per billion or micrograms per liter (µg/L)</p> <p><b>ppt:</b> parts per trillion or nanograms per liter (ng/L)</p> <p><b>ppq:</b> parts per quadrillion or picogram per liter (pg/L)</p> <p><b>pCi/L:</b> picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation)</p>

## Sources of Drinking Water and Contaminants that May Be Present in Source Water

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.

### Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- 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, that 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, that 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, that are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, agricultural application, and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, that can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

## Regulation of Drinking Water and Bottled Water Quality

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. EPA and the State Board prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration regulations and California law also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that provide the same protection for public health.

## About Your Drinking Water Quality

### Drinking Water Contaminants Detected

Tables 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 list all of the drinking water contaminants that were detected during the most recent sampling for the constituent. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. The State Board allows us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, are more than one year old. Any violation of an AL, MCL, MRDL, or TT is asterisked. Additional information regarding the violation is provided later in this report.

**Table 1 – Sampling Results Showing the Detection of Coliform Bacteria**

Microbiological Contaminants	Highest No. of Detection s	No. of Months in Violation	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source of Bacteria
<i>E. coli</i>	(In the year) 0	0	(a)		Human and animal fecal waste
(a) Routine and repeat samples are total coliform-positive and either is <i>E. coli</i> -positive or system fails to take repeat samples following <i>E. coli</i> -positive routine sample or system fails to analyze total coliform-positive repeat sample for <i>E. coli</i> .					

**Table 2 – Sampling Results Showing the Detection of Lead and Copper**

Lead and Copper	Sample Date	No. of Samples Collected	90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile Level Detected	No. Sites Exceeding AL	AL	PHG	No. of Schools Requesting Lead Sampling	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead (ppb)	2/2023	11	2	0	15	0.2		Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits
	9/2023	10	3	0				
Copper (ppm)	2/2023	11	0.298	0	1.3	0.3		Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
	9/2023	10	0.299	0				

**Table 3 – Sampling Results for Sodium and Hardness**

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected			MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
		Average	Min	Max			
Sodium (ppm)	4/27/2023	36			None	None	Salt present in the water and is generally naturally occurring
Hardness (ppm)	4/27/2023	377			None	None	Sum of polyvalent cations present in the water, generally magnesium and calcium, and are usually naturally occurring

**Table 4 – Detection of Contaminants with a Primary Drinking Water Standard**

Chemical or Constituent (units)	Sample Date	Level Detected			MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
		Average	Min	Max			
Arsenic (ug/L)	4/27/2023	1			10	0.004	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; glass and electronics production wastes
Barium (mg/L)	4/27/2023	0.0512			1	2	Some people who drink water containing barium in excess of the MCL over many years may experience an increase in blood pressure.
Fluoride (ppm)	4/27/2023	0.3			2	1	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Gross Alpha Particle Activity (pCi/L)	7/20/2016	1.8			15	0	Erosion of natural deposits
Nickel (ug/L)	4/27/2023	7.6			100	12	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from metal factories
Nitrate (mg/L)	2023	0.3	0.1	0.4	10	10	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Selenium (ug/L)	4/27/2023	2.1			50	30	Discharge from petroleum, glass, and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines and chemical manufacturers; runoff from livestock lots (feed additive)
Total Haloacetic Acids - HAA5 (ppb)	2023	32	19	42	60		Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
TTHM (ppb)	2023	52	40	68	80	None	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Total Organic Carbon (ppm)	2020	2.2	1.7	2.8	TT	None	Various natural and man-made sources

**Table 5 – Detection of Contaminants with a Secondary Drinking Water Standard**

Chemical or Constituent (units)	Sample Date	Level Detected			MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
		Average	Min	Max			
Chloride (ppm)	4/27/2023	22			500	None	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Color (Units)	4/27/2023	15			15	None	Naturally-occurring organic materials
Specific Conductance (@ 25 c umhos/cm)	4/27/2023	810			1600	None	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence
Odor (TON)	4/27/2023	<1			3		Naturally-occurring organic materials
Sulfate (ppm)	4/27/2023	175			500	None	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
TDS (ppm)	4/27/2023	548			1000	None	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Turbidity (NTU)	4/27/2023	0.6			5	None	Soil runoff

**Table 6 – Detection of Unregulated Contaminants**

Chemical or Constituent (units)	Sample Date	Level Detected			MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
		Average	Min	Max			
Potassium (ppm)	4/27/2023	3.1			None	None	NA

**Additional General Information on 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 the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

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. U.S. EPA/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 Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

**Lead-Specific Language:** 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. County Service Area No. 7 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. [Optional: If you do so, you may wish to collect the flushed water and reuse it for another beneficial purpose, such as watering plants.] 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 (1-800-426-4791) or at <http://www.epa.gov/lead>.

This Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) reflects changes in drinking water regulatory requirements during 2023. These revisions add the requirements of the federal Revised Total Coliform Rule, effective since April 1, 2016, to the existing state Total Coliform Rule. The revised rule maintains the purpose to protect public health by ensuring the integrity of the drinking water distribution system and monitoring for the presence of microbials (i.e., total coliform and *E. coli* bacteria). The U.S. EPA anticipates greater public health protection as the rule requires water systems that are vulnerable to microbial contamination to identify and fix problems. Water systems that exceed a specified frequency of total coliform occurrences are required to conduct an assessment to determine if any sanitary defects exist. If found, these must be corrected by the water system. The state Revised Total Coliform Rule became effective July 1, 2021.

### **For Systems Providing Surface Water as a Source of Drinking Water**

**Table 7 – Sampling Results Showing Treatment Of Surface Water Sources**

Treatment Technique <sup>(a)</sup> (Type of approved filtration technology used)	Conventional filtration
Turbidity Performance Standards <sup>(b)</sup> (that must be met through the water treatment process)	Turbidity of the filtered water must: 1 – Be less than or equal to <u>0.3</u> NTU in 95% of measurements in a month. 2 – Not exceed <u>1.0</u> NTU for more than eight consecutive hours. 3 – Not exceed <u>5.0</u> NTU at any time.
Lowest monthly percentage of samples that met Turbidity Performance Standard No. 1.	100%
Highest single turbidity measurement during the year	0.27
Number of violations of any surface water treatment requirements	0

(a) A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

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(b) Turbidity (measured in NTU) is a measurement of the cloudiness of water and is a good indicator of water quality and filtration performance. Turbidity results which meet performance standards are considered to be in compliance with filtration requirements.

### **Summary Information for Operating Under a Variance or Exemption**

CSA 7 did not operate under a variance or exemption in 2023.



**Drinking Water Source Assessment and Protection (DWSAP) Program**

A source water assessment was conducted for the ALPINE CREEK INTAKE of the County Service Area 7 water system in July 2015. The source is considered most vulnerable to the following activities not associated with any detected contaminants:

- Septic Systems – Low Density (<1/acre)
- Other Animal Operations
- Agricultural Drainage
- Wells – Agricultural/Irrigation
- Sedimentation

**Discussion of Vulnerability**

There have been no contaminants detected in the water supply, however the source is still considered vulnerable to activities located in the watershed. The source is most vulnerable to the following activities that were identified within the watershed:

1. Low Density Septic Systems (<1/acre)
2. Animal operations (Horse Camp)
3. Agricultural drainage
4. Wells – Agricultural/Irrigation
5. Drinking Water Treatment Plant (for CSA 7)
6. Irrigated and Non-irrigated crops
7. Fertilizer, pesticide/herbicide application
8. Wells – Water supply
9. Transportation Corridors – Road right-of-ways (herbicide use) and Roads and Streets
10. Injection wells/dry wells/sumps (unknown if these exist in the watershed)
11. Campgrounds/Recreational areas
12. Surface water – streams and lakes
13. Sedimentation

A copy of the complete assessment can be obtained at:

State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water  
850 Marina Bay Parkway  
Building P, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Richmond, CA 94804-6403

**Summary Information for Surface Water Treatment**

County Service Area No. 7 operates in compliance with the Surface Water Treatment Regulations.