

Kern River Valley District

2005 Water Quality Report for Bodfish

At California Water Service Company, we are committed to supplying you with high-quality water. We are pleased to provide this annual water quality report, which includes information about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to state and federal standards. It also explains the steps we take to protect your water supply.

We care about what you think. If you have any suggestions or concerns, please call us. Also, please watch for bill inserts, where you will find announcements of any water-related public meetings or workshops as well as important information about your water.

About Your Water Supply

California Water Service Company's (Cal Water) Kern River Valley District provides high-quality water to more than 4,500 customers throughout the Valley with a local supply pumped from rock fissures beneath the ground. In 2005, Cal Water's Juniper Hills system was interconnected with the Lower Bodfish system. This report reflects the merger of the Juniper Hills and Lower Bodfish systems, and it provides results of water quality testing conducted in our Upper and Lower Bodfish systems.

**If you have any questions, please contact Local Manager
Chris Whitley at (760) 379-5336.**

7138 Lake Isabella Boulevard
Lake Isabella, CA 93240
(760) 379-5336
www.calwater.com



¹ Some people who drink water containing uranium in excess of the MCL over many years may have kidney problems or an increased risk of getting cancer. Compliance with the uranium MCL is determined by calculating the average of four quarterly samples. We recently installed uranium removal treatment at well CH 2-A.

² Some people who drink water containing arsenic in excess of the MCL over many years could experience skin damage or problems with their circulatory system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer. We recently installed arsenic removal treatment at well CH 2-A.

³ The Juniper Hills water system was interconnected with the Lower Bodfish water system during the summer of 2005. Lead and copper data shown in this table for the Lower Bodfish system represent the combined results for the Lower Bodfish and Juniper Hills systems. Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. If you are concerned about elevated levels of lead in your home's tap water, you may wish to have your water tested and flush your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using tap water. Additional information is available from the USEPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

⁴ Some men who drink water containing boron in excess of the notification level over many years may experience reproductive effects, based on laboratory studies.

umhos/cm = measure of specific conductance
pCi/L = picoCuries per liter (measure of radioactivity)
ppm = parts per million (milligrams per liter)
NTU = nephelometric turbidity unit
ppb = parts per billion (micrograms per liter)
SMCL = secondary maximum contaminant level
ND = none detected
n/a = not applicable

Cal Water is coordinating with state and federal agencies to enhance the security of our water supplies. Please report any suspicious activities near water facilities to us immediately.

| Primary Drinking Water Standards | | | | | | Lower Bodfish | | Upper Bodfish (Canyon Heights) | | |
|--|-------------|------------------|------------|------------|-----------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| RADIOLOGICAL | Year Range | Reporting Units | MCL (SMCL) | PHG (MCLG) | Violation | Result Range | Average | Result Range | Average | Source of Substance |
| Uranium ¹ | 2005 | pCi/L | 20 | 0.43 | Yes | | | 14 - 28 | 21 | Erosion of natural deposits |
| INORGANIC CHEMICALS | Year Range | Reporting Units | MCL (SMCL) | PHG (MCLG) | Violation | Result Range | Average | Result Range | Average | Source of Substance |
| Arsenic ² | 2004 - 2005 | ppb | 50 | (0.004) | No | 2.2 - 15 | 7.7 | 16 - 41 | 28 | Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; glass and electronics production wastes |
| Chromium | 2004 - 2005 | ppb | 50 | (100) | No | ND - 14 | ND | | | Discharge from steel and pulp mills and chrome plating; erosion of natural deposits |
| Fluoride | 2004 - 2005 | ppm | 2.0 | 1 | No | ND - 0.8 | 0.3 | 1.1 - 1.1 | 1.1 | Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories |
| Nitrate (as NO ₃) | 2005 | ppm | 45 | 45 | No | ND - 21 | 11 | 3.3 - 4.7 | 4.0 | Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits |
| DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS | Year Range | Reporting Units | MCL (SMCL) | PHG (MCLG) | Violation | Result Range | Highest Running Annual Average | Result Range | Highest Running Annual Average | Source of Substance |
| Total Trihalomethane (TTHM) | 2005 | ppb | 80 | n/a | No | 0.8 - 2.0 | 1.5 | | | By-product of drinking water chlorination |
| DISINFECTANT | Year Range | Reporting Units | MRDL | PHG (MCLG) | Violation | Result Range | Highest Running Annual Average | Result Range | Highest Running Annual Average | Source of Substance |
| Chlorine (as Cl ₂) | 2005 | ppm | 4.0 | (4) | No | 0.2 - 1.5 | 0.7 | 0.2 - 1.3 | 0.7 | Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment |
| MICROBIOLOGICAL | Year Range | Reporting Units | MCL (SMCL) | PHG (MCLG) | Violation | Highest Monthly % | | Highest Monthly % | | Source of Substance |
| Total Coliform | 2005 | positive samples | 1 | (0) | No | 1 | | | | Naturally present in the environment |
| OTHER REGULATED SUBSTANCES | Year Range | Reporting Units | AL | PHG (MCLG) | Violation | Level Detected (90th percentile) | # Samples Exceeding AL | Level Detected (90th percentile) | # Samples Exceeding AL | Source of Substance |
| Copper | 2003 - 2004 | ppm | 1.3 | 0.17 | No | 0.14 | 0 of 15 | 0.15 | 0 of 10 | Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives |
| Lead ³ | 2003 - 2004 | ppb | 15 | 2 | No | 6 | 1 of 15 | 7 | 0 of 10 | Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits |
| Secondary Drinking Water Standards and Unregulated Compounds | | | | | | | | | | |
| INORGANIC CHEMICALS | Year Range | Reporting Units | MCL (SMCL) | PHG (MCLG) | Violation | Result Range | Average | Result Range | Average | Source of Substance |
| Alkalinity | 2004 - 2005 | ppm | n/a | n/a | No | 200 - 320 | 248 | 102 - 104 | 103 | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Boron ⁴ | 2003 | ppb | NL=1000 | n/a | No | ND - 1100 | 380 | | | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Calcium | 2004 - 2005 | ppm | n/a | n/a | No | 47 - 82 | 69 | 28 - 38 | 33 | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Chloride | 2004 - 2005 | ppm | (500) | n/a | No | 11 - 19 | 17 | 8.1 - 9.5 | 8.8 | Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence |
| Color | 2004 - 2005 | UNITS | (15) | n/a | No | ND - 3 | 2 | 1 - 3 | 2 | Naturally occurring organic materials |
| Hardness | 2004 - 2005 | ppm | n/a | n/a | No | 240 - 420 | 325 | 92 - 99 | 96 | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Magnesium | 2004 - 2005 | ppm | n/a | n/a | No | 30 - 69 | 41 | 1.9 - 5.3 | 3.5 | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Odor | 2004 - 2005 | T.O.N. | (3) | n/a | No | ND - 1 | ND | | | Naturally occurring organic materials |
| pH | 2004 - 2005 | UNITS | n/a | n/a | No | 7.56 - 8.00 | 7.69 | 7.06 - 7.13 | 7.10 | Inherent characteristic of water |
| Potassium | 2004 - 2005 | ppm | n/a | n/a | No | ND - 2 | 1.4 | 1.2 - 1.7 | 1.4 | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Sodium | 2004 - 2005 | ppm | n/a | n/a | No | 11 - 37 | 23 | 28 - 29 | 29 | Erosion of natural deposits; seawater influence |
| Specific Conductance (E.C.) | 2004 - 2005 | umhos/cm | (1600) | n/a | No | 590 - 750 | 670 | 312 - 316 | 314 | Substances that form natural deposits; seawater influence |
| Sulfate | 2004 - 2005 | ppm | (500) | n/a | No | 75 - 99 | 91 | 34 - 37 | 36 | Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes |
| Total Dissolved Solids | 2004 - 2005 | ppm | (1000) | n/a | No | 370 - 480 | 425 | 218 - 224 | 221 | Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence |
| Turbidity | 2004 - 2005 | NTU | (5) | n/a | No | ND - 0.3 | 0.1 | 0.15 - 0.20 | 0.18 | Soil runoff |
| Vanadium | 2005 | ppb | NL=50 | n/a | No | 4.8 - 11 | 7.4 | | | Erosion of natural deposits; manufacturing of alloys and steel |

Our Commitment to Our Customers

All of us at Cal Water appreciate having the opportunity to serve you, our valued customer. We know that water quality is important to you, and we are committed to providing water that meets or surpasses all water quality standards. Toward that end, our team of leading water quality experts vigilantly monitors our supply and maintains a state-of-the-art water quality laboratory. And we are always looking for opportunities to improve our operations. In fact, our mission is to be **the** leader in providing communities and customers with traditional and innovative utility services.

Recommendation for Those Who May Have Special Water Needs

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised people, such as those with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, those who have undergone organ transplants, those with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly people, and infants, can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. USEPA/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 at (800) 426-4791.

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

General Information About Water

The sources of drinking water (both tap and bottled) 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 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, 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, that are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

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, USEPA and the California Department of Health Services (DHS) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. DHS regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

Water Hardness

Water is considered soft if total hardness is less than 75 ppm; moderately hard at 75 to 150 ppm; hard at 150 to 300 ppm; and very hard at 300 ppm or higher. To determine total hardness of your water in grains per gallon, simply divide amount given in parts per million by 17.1.

Drinking Water Source Assessment and Protection Program (DWSAPP)

By the end of 2002, Cal Water had submitted to the California Department of Health Services a DWSAPP report for each water source in the water system. The DWSAPP report identifies possible sources of contamination to aid prioritizing cleanup and pollution prevention efforts. All reports are available for viewing or copying at our Customer Center.

The water sources in your system are considered most vulnerable to high-density housing, wastewater, storm water, automobile body and repair shops, fire stations, hotels/motels, medical/dental offices, utility stations (maintenance areas), hardware/lumber/parts stores, recreational areas, agriculture, animal operations, schools, existing and historic gas stations, above-ground and underground storage tanks, water supply wells, drinking water treatment plants, and freeways/state highways.

We encourage customers to join us in our efforts to prevent water pollution and protect our most precious natural resource.

What About Radon?

Radon is a radioactive gas that you cannot see, taste, or smell. It is found throughout the United States. Cal Water tested in 2004 and detected radon at 22,300 – 40,000 pCi/L in the finished water supply. There is no federal regulation for radon in drinking water at this time. If you are concerned about radon in your home and would like additional information, contact the EPA's Radon Hotline (800-SOS-RADON).

How to Read the Table

We test your water for more than 100 contaminants for which state and federal standards have been set. THIS TABLE LISTS ONLY THOSE THAT WERE DETECTED. All 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. Environmental Protection Agency's (USEPA's) Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791. The water quality test results shown in this table are divided into two main sections: those related to "primary standards" and those related to "secondary standards." Primary standards protect public health by limiting the levels of contaminants in drinking water. Secondary standards are limits for substances that could affect the water's taste, odor, and appearance.

Definitions of terms and abbreviations used in the table

Public Health Goal (PHG): 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.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): 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.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. Primary MCLs are set as close to the PHGs (or MCLGs) as are economically and technologically feasible. Secondary MCLs are set to protect the odor, taste, and appearance of drinking water.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG): The level of a disinfectant added for water treatment below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs are set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): The level of a disinfectant added for water treatment that may not be exceeded at the consumer's tap.

Notification Level (NL): A health-based advisory level for an unregulated contaminant in drinking water. It is used by DHS to provide guidance to drinking water systems.

Primary Drinking Water Standard or PDWS: MCLs and MRDLs for contaminants that affect health along with their monitoring and reporting requirements, and water treatment requirements.

Regulatory Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

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