

2021 Consumer Confidence Report

Water System Information

Water System Name: CITY OF FIREBAUGH

Report Date: 6/29/22

Type of Water Sources in Use: SIX GROUND WATER WELLS

Name and General Location of Sources: WELLS #13, #15, #16 SERVE WATER TREATMENT PLANT #1 WELLS #11, #12 AND #17 SERVE WATER TREATMENT PLANT #2

Drinking Water Source Assessment Information: Source water assessment surveys for Wells #11, #12 and #13 which produce water for the City of Firebaugh Water System was conducted on July 1st, 2002. A source water assessment survey was completed September 2012 for Wells #15 and #16. The State Water Resource Control Board Division of Drinking Water is currently working on the source water assessment for Well #17

WELL #11

The source is considered most vulnerable to the following activities not associated with any detected contaminants: surface water bodies, automobile-gas stations and septic systems-high density >1 acre. The city's water quality monitoring has not detected any contaminants that are associated with the identified Possible Contaminating Activities in the area. Naturally occurring arsenic is present in three of the wells and naturally occurring iron and manganese are present in all of the wells. The city provides treatment to reduce arsenic, iron, and manganese concentrations. The discharge from this well is blended with wells No. 12 and 17 prior to treatment

WELL #12

The source is considered most vulnerable to the following activities not associated with any detected contaminants: Surface water bodies, automobile-gas stations and septic systems-high >1 acre. The city's water quality monitoring has not detected any contaminants that are associated with the identified Possible Contaminating Activities in the area. Naturally occurring arsenic is present in three of the wells and naturally occurring iron and manganese are present in all of the wells. The city provides treatment to reduce arsenic, iron, and manganese concentrations. The discharge from this well is blended with wells No. 11 and 17 prior to treatment.

WELL #13

The source is considered most vulnerable to the following activities not associated with any detected contaminants: Surface water bodies, automobile-gas stations, landfill/dumps, waste water treatment plants and septic systems-higher density >1 acre. The city's water quality monitoring has not detected any contaminants that are associated with the identified Possible Contaminating Activities in the area. Naturally occurring arsenic is present in three of the wells and naturally occurring iron and manganese are present in all of the wells. The city provides treatment to reduce arsenic, iron, and manganese concentrations. The discharge from this well is blended with wells No. 10, 15 and 16 prior to treatment.

WELL #15

The source is considered most vulnerable to the following activities associated with contaminants detected in the water supply: Schools. The source is considered most vulnerable to the following activities not associated with any detected contaminants: Agricultural drainage. Manganese, arsenic, and iron were detected at levels above MCL. Iron and manganese are naturally occurring and were not associated with any PCA activities. Arsenic could be naturally occurring or the nearby school could be contributing to the arsenic contamination. All three contaminants are currently removed from the water supply via a treatment plant.

WELL #16

The source is considered most vulnerable to the following activities associated with contaminants detected in the water supply: Airports-maintenance fueling areas, automobile-body shops, automobile-repair shops, fleet/truck/bus terminals, junk/scrap/salvage yards, schools. The source is considered most vulnerable to the following activities not associated with contaminants detected in the water supply: historic gas stations. The water system's water quality monitoring has identified arsenic, manganese, and iron as testing above the MCL set for these constituents. The arsenic contamination was associated with 16 possible contaminating activities in the zones surrounding well 16. It is also possible that the Arsenic contamination could be naturally occurring. Iron was

not associated with any possible contaminating activities and must be naturally occurring. All three contaminants are currently removed from the water supply via a treatment plant.

WELL #17

Not completed

Time and Place of Regularly Scheduled Board Meetings for Public Participation: 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month at 6:00 pm. Location: Firebaugh Community Center 1655 13th Street Firebaugh Ca. 93622

For More Information, Contact: BEN GALLEGOS (559)659-2043

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, 2021 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 CITY OF FIREBAUGH a (559)659-2043 para asistirlo en español.

Terms Used in This Report

Term	Definition
Level 1 Assessment	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.
Level 2 Assessment	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.
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 is economically and technologically feasible. Secondary MCLs are set to protect the odor, taste, and appearance of drinking water.
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 (U.S. EPA).
Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL)	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.
Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG)	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.

Term	Definition
Primary Drinking Water Standards (PDWS)	MCLs and MRDLs for contaminants that affect health along with their monitoring and reporting requirements, and water treatment requirements.
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.
Regulatory Action Level (AL)	The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.
Secondary Drinking Water Standards (SDWS)	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.
Treatment Technique (TT)	A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
Variances and Exemptions	Permissions from the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) to exceed an MCL or not comply with a treatment technique under certain conditions.
ND	Not detectable at testing limit.
ppm	parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
ppb	parts per billion or micrograms per liter (µg/L)
ppt	parts per trillion or nanograms per liter (ng/L)
ppq	parts per quadrillion or picogram per liter (pg/L)
pCi/L	picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation)

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, 6, and 8 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

Complete if bacteria are detected.

Microbiological Contaminants	Highest No. of Detections	No. of Months in Violation	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source of Bacteria
Total Coliform Bacteria (State Total Coliform Rule)	3	1	(a)	0	Naturally present in the environment

(a) Routine and repeat samples are total coliform-positive and either is *E. coli*-positive or system fails to take repeat samples following *E. coli*-positive routine sample or system fails to analyze total coliform-positive repeat sample for *E. coli*.

Table 1.A. Compliance with Total Coliform MCL between January 1, 2021 and June 30, 2021 (inclusive)

Microbiological Contaminants	Highest No. of Detections	No. of Months in Violation	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source of Bacteria
Total Coliform Bacteria	3	1	1 positive monthly sample (a)	0	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform and <i>E. coli</i>	0	0	0	None	Human and animal fecal waste

(a) For systems collecting fewer than 40 samples per month: two or more positively monthly samples is a violation of the total coliform MCL

For violation of the total coliform MCL, include potential adverse health effects, and actions taken by water system to address the violation: Violation was due to operator error. More training was given.

Table 2. Sampling Results Showing the Detection of Lead and Copper

Complete if lead or copper is detected in the last sample set.

Lead and Copper	Sample Date	No. of Samples Collected	90 th Percentile Level Detected	No. Sites Exceeding AL	AL	PHG	No. of Schools Requesting Lead Sampling	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead (ppb)	9/18/18	20	ND	0	15	0.2	0	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	9/18/18	20	.096	0	1.3	0.3	Not applicable	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

Table 3. Sampling Results for Sodium and Hardness

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Sodium (ppm)	2017	131.6	100-500	None	None	Salt present in the water and is generally naturally occurring
Hardness (ppm)	2017	195	100-270	None	None	Sum of polyvalent cations present in the

						water, generally magnesium and calcium, and are usually naturally occurring
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Table 4. Detection of Contaminants with a Primary Drinking Water Standard

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	Typical Source of Contaminant
ARSENIC (PPB) Treatment Plant #1 Treatment Plant #2	2021	6.7 3.4	3.9-10.4	10	.004	Erosion of natural deposits: runoff from orchards: glass and electronics products wastes.
Chlorine (ppm) Distribution System Residual	2021	1.30	.95-1.48	4	4	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment.
Barium (ppm)	2017	.014	.089-23	4	4	Discharge of oil drilling waste and from metal refineries: erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	2017	.058	0-.24	2	1	Some people who drink water containing fluoride in excess of the federal MCL of 4 mg/L over many years may get bone disease, including pain and tenderness of the bones. Children who drink water containing fluoride in excess of the state MCL of 2 mg/L may get mottled teeth.
Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	2017	8.3	1.76-15.4	15	N/A	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
Selenium (ppb)	2017	1.21	0-2.7	50	30	Discharge from petroleum, glass and metal refineries: erosion of natural deposits: discharge from mines and chemical manufacturers
Turbidity (ntu)	2017	1.19	17-2.5	5	N/A	Soil runoff

Radium 228 (pci/L)	2018	.807	.615-1.0	5	N/A	Some people who drink water containing radium 226 or 228 in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increase chance of getting cancer
TTHM (ppb)	2018	58	55-61	80	N/A	Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience liver, kidney, or central nervous system problems, and may have increased risk of getting cancer

Table 5. Detection of Contaminants with a Secondary Drinking Water Standard

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	SMCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Color (units)	2017	4.16	0-10	15	N/A	Natural occurring organic materials.
Conductivity (uhmos/cm)	2017	947	910-1100	1600	N/A	Substances that form ions when in water: sea water influence
Iron (ppb) Treatment Plant #1 Treatment Plant #2	2021	0 0	0 0-.096	300	N/A	Leaching from natural deposits. industrial waste
Manganese (ppb) Treatment Plant #1 Treatment Plant #2	2021	0	0	50	N/A	Leaching from natural deposits.
Odor (units)	2017	0	0	3	N/A	Natural occurring organic matter.
Sulfate (ppm)	2017	84	49-110	500	N/A	Runoff/Leaching from natural deposits: industrial wastes
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	2017	560	460-660	1000	N/A	Runoff/Leaching from natural deposits
Chloride (ppm)	2017	168	140-210	500	N/A	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits: seawater influence

Table 6. Detection of Unregulated Contaminants

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	Notification Level	Health Effects
Chlorate (ppb) Treatment Site #2 (raw) Distributions system	2013	1222 715	944-1500 431-1000		EPA does not have health effect language at this time

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. [Enter Water System’s Name] 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>.

Additional Special Language for Nitrate, Arsenic, Lead, Radon, and *Cryptosporidium*: [Enter Additional Information Described in Instructions for SWS CCR Document]

State Revised Total Coliform Rule (RTCR): [Enter Additional Information Described in Instructions for SWS CCR Document]

Summary Information for Violation of a MCL, MRDL, AL, TT, or Monitoring and Reporting Requirement

Table 7. Violation of a MCL, MRDL, AL, TT or Monitoring Reporting Requirement

Violation	Explanation	Duration	Actions Taken to Correct Violation	Health Effects Language

[Enter Violation Type]	[Enter Violation Explanation]	[Enter Duration]	[Enter Actions Taken]	[Enter Language]
[Enter Violation Type]	[Enter Violation Explanation]	[Enter Duration]	Enter Actions Taken]	[Enter Language]

For Water Systems Providing Groundwater as a Source of Drinking Water

Table 8. Sampling Results Showing Fecal Indicator-Positive Groundwater Source Samples

Microbiological Contaminants (complete if fecal-indicator detected)	Total No. of Detections	Sample Dates	MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	Typical Source of Contaminant
<i>E. coli</i>	(In the year) [Enter No.]	[Enter Dates]	0	(0)	Human and animal fecal waste
Enterococci	(In the year) [Enter No.]	[Enter Dates]	TT	N/A	Human and animal fecal waste
Coliphage	(In the year) [Enter No.]	[Enter Dates]	TT	N/A	Human and animal fecal waste

Summary Information for Fecal Indicator-Positive Groundwater Source Samples, Uncorrected Significant Deficiencies, or Violation of a Groundwater TT

Special Notice of Fecal Indicator-Positive Groundwater Source Sample: [Enter Special Notice of Fecal Indicator-Positive Groundwater Source Sample]

Special Notice for Uncorrected Significant Deficiencies: [Enter Special Notice for Uncorrected Significant Deficiencies]

Table 9. Violation of Groundwater TT

Violation	Explanation	Duration	Actions Taken to Correct Violation	Health Effects Language
[Enter Violation]	[Enter Explanation]	[Enter Duration]	[Enter Actions]	[Enter Language]
[Enter Violation]	[Enter Explanation]	[Enter Duration]	[Enter Actions]	[Enter Language]

For Systems Providing Surface Water as a Source of Drinking Water

Table 10. Sampling Results Showing Treatment of Surface Water Sources

Treatment Technique ^(a) (Type of approved filtration technology used)	[Enter Treatment Technique]
Turbidity Performance Standards ^(b) (that must be met through the water treatment process)	Turbidity of the filtered water must: 1 – Be less than or equal to [Enter Turbidity Performance Standard to Be Less Than or Equal to 95% of Measurements in a Month] NTU in 95% of measurements in a month. 2 – Not exceed [Enter Turbidity Performance Standard Not to Be Exceeded for More Than Eight Consecutive Hours] NTU for more than eight consecutive hours. 3 – Not exceed [Enter Turbidity Performance Standard Not to Be Exceeded at Any Time] NTU at any time.
Lowest monthly percentage of samples that met Turbidity Performance Standard No. 1.	[Enter No.]
Highest single turbidity measurement during the year	[Enter No.]
Number of violations of any surface water treatment requirements	[Enter No.]

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

(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 Violation of a Surface Water TT

Table 11. Violation of Surface Water TT

Violation	Explanation	Duration	Actions Taken to Correct Violation	Health Effects Language
[Enter Violation]	[Enter Explanation]	[Enter Duration]	[Enter Actions]	[Enter Language]
[Enter Violation]	[Enter Explanation]	[Enter Duration]	[Enter Actions]	[Enter Language]

Summary Information for Operating Under a Variance or Exemption

[Enter Additional Information Described in Instructions for SWS CCR Document]

Summary Information for Revised Total Coliform Rule Level 1 and Level 2 Assessment Requirements

If a water system is required to comply with a Level 1 or Level 2 assessment requirement that is not due to an *E. coli* MCL violation, include the following information below [22 CCR section 64481(n)(1)].

Level 1 or Level 2 Assessment Requirement not Due to an *E. coli* MCL Violation

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.

The water system shall include the following statements, as appropriate:

During the past year we were required to conduct [Insert Number of Level 1 Assessments] Level 1 assessment(s). [Insert Number of Level 1 Assessments] Level 1 assessment(s) were completed. In addition, we were required to take [Insert Number of Corrective Actions] corrective actions and we completed [Insert Number of Corrective Actions] of these actions.

During the past year [Insert Number of Level 2 Assessment] Level 2 assessments were required to be completed for our water system. [Insert Number of Level 2 Assessments] Level 2 assessments were completed. In addition, we were required to take [Insert Number of Corrective Actions] corrective actions and we completed [Insert Number of Corrective Actions] of these actions.

If the water system failed to complete all the required assessments or correct all identified sanitary defects, the water system is in violation of the treatment technique requirement and shall include the following statements, as appropriate:

During the past year we failed to conduct all of the required assessment(s).

During the past we failed to correct all identified defects that were found during the assessment.

[For Violation of the Total Coliform Bacteria TT Requirement, Enter Additional Information Described in Instructions for SWS CCR Document]

If a water system is required to comply with a Level 2 assessment requirement that is due to an *E. coli* MCL violation, include the information below [22 CCR section 64481(n)(2)].

Level 2 Assessment Requirement Due to an *E. coli* MCL Violation

E. coli are bacteria whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes. Human pathogens in these wastes can cause short-term effects, such as diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms. They may pose a greater health risk for infants, young children, the elderly, and people with severely compromised immune systems. We found *E. coli* bacteria, indicating the need to look for potential problems in water treatment or distribution. When this occurs, we are required to conduct assessment(s) identify problems and to correct any problems that were found during these assessments.

We were required to complete a Level 2 assessment because we found *E. coli* in our water system. In addition, we were required to take [Insert Number of Corrective Actions] corrective actions and we completed [Insert Number of Corrective Actions] of these actions.

If a water system failed to complete the required assessment or correct all identified sanitary defects, the water system is in violation of the treatment technique requirement and shall include the following statements, as appropriate:

We failed to conduct the required assessment.

We failed to correct all sanitary defects that were identified during the assessment.

If a water system detects *E. coli* and has violated the *E. coli* MCL, include one or more the following statements to describe any noncompliance, as applicable:

We had an *E. coli*-positive repeat sample following a total coliform positive routine sample.

We had a total coliform-positive repeat sample following an *E. coli*-positive routine sample.

We failed to take all required repeat samples following an *E. coli*-positive routine sample.

We failed to test for *E. coli* when any repeat sample tests positive for total coliform.

[If a water system detects *E. coli* and has not violated the *E. coli* MCL, the water system may include a statement that explains that although they have detected *E. coli*, they are not in violation of the *E. coli* MCL.]