

# Naval Base Ventura County

## 2023 Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Report

Water System Names and Public Water System Numbers:

Point Mugu – CA5610700 Port Hueneme – CA5610701 San Nicolas Island – CA5610702

> Report Date: 01 July 2024



## **OUR COMMITMENT TO PROVIDING SAFE DRINKING WATER**

Naval Base Ventura County (NBVC) is pleased to present our Water Quality Report, also referred to as the Consumer Confidence Report (CCR). The CCR is an annual report containing data from water quality testing performed during the past year and may include earlier monitoring data for some constituents.

Last year, the water delivered to you met U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and State Water Resources Control Board Division of Drinking Water (State Board) drinking water health standards. Details within provide information on where we get our water, what is in your water, and how it compares to state standards that are considered safe for the public.

Our water comes from local drinking water treatment plants where it is treated in accordance with the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) to remove contaminants prior to being disinfected at multiple locations throughout NBVC's water distribution system. Our essential water system personnel continuously monitor, sample, and disinfect the water prior to reaching your tap. The water system operators, utility managers, contractors, laboratory personnel, and the Navy command work with State regulatory agencies to ensure, with a high level of confidence, that NBVC's drinking water quality meets state and federal regulations.

**Español:** Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua de beber. Favor comunicarse con Naval Base Ventura County (NBVC) Point Mugu Sistema #5610700, o para Port Hueneme para Sistema #5610701, o para Isla San Nicolas Sistema #5610702; y hay asistencia en espanol: NBVC\_PAO@navy.mil.

## IS MY TAP WATER SAFE TO DRINK?

Yes. In 2023, as in years past, your tap water meets all EPA and State Board water quality standards.

NBVC is committed to providing you complete and accurate information regarding the safety of the water you drink. This Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) includes information showing the quality of the drinking water delivered to personnel and residents at NBVC Point Mugu, Port Hueneme, and San Nicolas Island (SNI) during 2023. This CCR also includes details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to regulatory standards.

## WHERE DOES MY WATER COME FROM?

## Point Mugu and Port Hueneme

NBVC Point Mugu and Port Hueneme receive the same drinking water as the City of Port Hueneme and the Channel Islands Beach Community Services District, which is purchased from the Port Hueneme Water Agency (PHWA). The water supply for the PHWA treatment plant comes from the United Water



Conservation District (United) and state water imported by the Metropolitan Water District (MWD) of Southern California. PHWA provides NBVC an Annual Water Quality Report (PHWA AWQR; Attachment 1) describing these sources, source water assessments that were completed on them, and activities to which those water sources are most vulnerable. The PHWA AWQR also includes information on the treatment that PHWA provides, including information on disinfection.

## San Nicolas Island

The Navy produces drinking water for NBVC San Nicolas Island (SNI) through the desalination of sea water. Beach wells draw seawater from groundwater and pumps push the water through two Reverse Osmosis (RO) treatment systems that include desalination and water disinfection. The groundwater source is within a watershed that is highly vulnerable to contamination from wildlife and fuel storage activities. A 2019 watershed sanitary survey concluded that SNI's source water has not been impacted by these potential contaminants. For additional information please contact the NBVC Water Quality Program Manager at (805) 982-3983.

## HOW IS MY WATER MONITORED?

NBVC monitors the drinking water quality by taking daily, weekly, monthly, quarterly, and annual water samples according to federal and state drinking water regulations. The site-specific tables in this report list the drinking water constituents that were sampled during the 2023 calendar year. Water quality sample results from PHWA (purchased water), Point Mugu and Port Hueneme water distribution system, and SNI (treated water and distribution system) are presented in Attachments 1, 2 and 3, respectively.

NBVC also monitors water quality in the distribution systems at each installation. Water quality parameters tested included bacteriological, lead and copper, and chlorine residual. We are pleased to report that none of the water quality parameters tested at each installation were above State Board water quality standards. If these water quality test results ever exceed the State Board standard, NBVC will notify all drinking water consumers with the test results and any necessary actions.

NBVC also monitors for disinfection byproducts (DBP; Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM); Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) = 0.080 mg/L) and Haloacetic Acids Five (HAA5); MCL = 0.060 mg/L) at Point Mugu, Port Hueneme and San Nicolas Island and all three installations remain in compliance and have not exceeded the State Water Board standard.

Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as indicators that other, potentially harmful, waterborne pathogens may be present in the water. Indicator bacteria such as coliform can also reveal that a potential pathway may exist allowing contaminants to enter the drinking water distribution system. We found coliforms indicating the need to investigate potential problems in



the water treatment or distribution process. When this occurs, we are required to conduct assessment(s) to identify problems and quickly correct them.

NBVC Point Mugu water system (#5610700) received a citation on September 5, 2023 from the State of California Division of Drinking Water (DDW) for not properly resampling or conducting a required coliform assessment after a July 6, 2023 positive total coliform (TC+) result in the distribution system. The Citation requires a Tier 2 public notification to all water system users and completion of a Level 1 coliform assessment. Both requirements were completed before receipt of the Citation as acknowledged by the DDW on September 5, 2023. August 2023 five (5) samples were taken to ensure the water system was safe and all results were in compliance (total coliform negative) and no health or safety issues were identified. The root cause for the citation was miscommunication between the laboratory and NBVC water managers. Corrective actions were taken immediately via training and updates to the communication procedures.

## WHY ARE CONTAMINANTS IN MY WATER?

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and commercial bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and groundwater. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals (inorganic and in some cases radioactive) and can pick up substances resulting from animals and/or human activities. Contaminants that **may** be present in source water (**before** it is treated) include:

*Microbial Contaminants:* Viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.

*Inorganic Contaminants:* Salts and metals, that can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.

**Pesticides & Herbicides:** May come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.

**Organic Chemicals:** Including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, agricultural application, and septic systems.

*Radioactive Contaminants:* Can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.



## What about 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 material and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. NBVC is responsible for providing high quality drinking water; however, there may be an unknown variety of installed and outdated materials used in plumbing components. The Reduction of Lead in Drinking Water Act (RLDWA) went into effect on January 4, 2014. The RLDWA has reduced the lead content allowed in water system and plumbing products by changing the definition of lead-free in Section 1417 of the SDWA from not more than 8% lead content to not more than a weighted average of 0.25% lead with respect to the wetted surfaces of pipes, pipe fittings, plumbing fittings, and plumbing fixtures. The SDWA prohibits the use of these products in the installation or repair of any public water system or facility providing water for human consumption if they do not meet the lead-free requirement. In 2019, the lead in service (plumbing) line inventory confirmed that NBVC does not have any lead service lines. During 2024, additional service lines will be assessed per Revised Lead and Copper Rule requirements.

## How can I minimize exposure to lead?

- <u>Flush</u>. It is always a good idea to flush your faucet at work and/or at home, especially when water has been sitting for several hours (i.e. overnight or over a weekend). You can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes prior to utilizing for consumption. You may need to flush longer if your building has recently been shut down or experienced reduced occupancy. Contact your Facility Manager or Assistant Public Works Officer for flushing guidance.
- <u>Use cold water</u>. Hot dissolves lead more quickly than cold water, so use cold water to prepare food and drinks.
- <u>Clean your aerator</u>. Debris can be trapped on the aerator screens on water outlets containing metals, especially if construction or plumbing work may have occurred in your area. Simply twist off the aerator, tap and clean any debris which may be caught on the filtration screen, and reinstall.
- 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 <u>http://www.epa.gov/lead</u>.



## WHAT ABOUT AT THE CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTERS (CDC) AND YOUTH CENTERS (YC)?

In the U.S., the EPA recommends, but does not require, testing for lead in drinking water in schools and childcare centers. However, Navy policy, OPNAV M-5090.1 requires the Lead in Drinking Water in Priority Areas (LIPA) testing program in the best interest of all the staff and families served by the distribution system. This routine sampling is conducted every five years at all drinking water fixtures. NBVC personnel conducted routine sampling in 2019 at our CDCs and YCs. All drinking water fixtures sampled in 2019 tested below the action level of 15 parts per billion (ppb).

Changes to OPNAV M-5090.1 now requires installations to conduct an annual audit of all their CDCs and YCs to identify any newly installed or repaired drinking water fixtures during the calendar year (CY). Any newly installed or repaired fixture identified during the audit must be sampled and tested for lead to ensure lead-free products were used. The LIPA audit was conducted in 2023 to ensure that all newly installed or repaired drinking water fixtures test below the action level of 15 ppb.

Routine test results are available from the Commander Navy Region Southwest website at: <u>https://cnrsw.cnic.navy.mil/Operations-and-Management/Environmental-Support/Drinking-Water-</u> Quality-Information/.

For more information, please contact the NBVC Water Program Manager at (805) 982-3983.

## What are per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances and where do they come from?

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a group of thousands of man-made chemicals. PFAS have been used in a variety of industries and consumer products around the globe, including in the U.S., since the 1940s. PFAS have been used to make coatings and products that are used as oil and water repellents for carpets, clothing, paper packaging for food, and cookware. They are also contained in some foams (aqueous film-forming foam or AFFF) currently used for fighting petroleum fires at airfields and in industrial fire suppression processes. PFAS chemicals are persistent in the environment, and some are persistent in the human body – meaning they do not break down and they can accumulate over time.



## Is there a regulation for PFAS in drinking water?

On April 10, 2024, the US EPA established MCLs for a subset of PFAS chemicals. EPA requires implementation of sampling in accordance with the new MCLs within three years of the publication date and implementation of any required treatment within five years.

Analyte	PFAS Compound	Final MCLG	<u>Final MCL</u> (enforceable levels)
Perfluorooctanoic Acid	PFOA	Zero	4.0 parts per trillion (ppt) (also expressed as ng/L)
Perfluorooctane sulfonic Acid	PFOS	Zero	4.0 ppt
Perfluorohexane sulfonic Acid	PFHxS	10 ppt	10 ppt
Perfluorononanoic Acid	PFNA	10 ppt	10 ppt
Hexafluoropropylene oxide	HFPO – DA	10 ppt	10 ppt
dimer Acid	(GenX)		

These limits did not apply for the 2023 calendar year because they had not been published. However, the DoD proactively promulgated policies to monitor drinking water for PFAS at all service owned and operated water systems at a minimum of every two years. The DoD policy states that if water sampling results confirm that drinking water contains PFOA and PFOS at individual or combined concentrations greater than the 2016 EPA health advisory (HA) level of 70 ppt, water systems must take immediate action to reduce exposure to detected PFOS or PFAS. For levels less than 70 ppt but above the 4 ppt level (draft at the time of policy publication), DoD committed to planning for implementation of the levels once EPA's published MCLs take effect.

## Has NBVC tested its water for PFAS in 2023?

Yes. In September 2023, one sample was taken from a Port Hueneme groundwater well and another sample was taken from the distribution system on San Nicolas Island.

## **Below MRL**

We are pleased to report that drinking water testing results were below the Method Reporting Limit (MRL) for all 25 PFAS compounds covered by sampling method 533, including PFOA and PFOS. This means that PFAS were not detected in your water system. In accordance with DoD policy, the water system will be resampled every two years for your continued protection.



## ARE CONTAMINANTS REMOVED FROM MY WATER?

State of the art treatment systems utilized by PHWA and SNI are designed to remove contaminants and ensure that tap water is safe to drink. The EPA and State Board issue regulations that limit the number of contaminants in water provided by public water systems. State Board regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that provide the same protection for public health. PHWA and the Navy follow and comply with drinking water regulations.

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 some infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking tap water from their health care providers. EPA/ 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.

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.** *EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).* 

## WATER CONSERVATION

Despite recent rainfall events, Ventura County remains in a drought. NBVC residents and personnel are encouraged to continue to conserve water. To ensure NBVC drinking water remains at the highest of quality, water system operators perform hydrant and water system flushing. Although this may appear to be misuse of water, it is essential to keep water at the highest of quality. For more information on ways to conserve water, visit <u>www.epa.gov/watersense/</u> or contact **NBVC Installation Energy Manager at (805) 989-9011.** 

## WATER COMPLAINTS

Does the filter on your fountain or faucet need to be changed? Please coordinate with your building monitor or facility manager. Make sure filters are marked with the date they were changed out and keep a logbook.

Does your water have an odd taste, color, odor, suspended solids, or do you suspect a water-related illness? Please email NAVFAC\_SW\_NBVC\_PWD\_EV\_Water\_UD@us.navy.mil with details (i.e. building number, concern, complaint POC).



## **HOW CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION?**

For additional information or questions regarding this report, please contact, NBVC Water Quality Program Manager at (805) 982-3983.

## WATER QUALITY DATA

Tables summarizing drinking water contaminants sampled in the water distributed to NBVC customers during the 2023 calendar year are provided as follows: Port Hueneme and Point Mugu water quality information and data (Attachment 1: water purveyor (PHWA) and Attachment 2: NBVC distribution data) and San Nicolas Island water quality information and data (Attachment 3: NBVC water purveyor and distribution data). Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in these tables is from testing done January 1 through December 31, 2023. State Board requires that we monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Therefore, some of the data, though representative of water quality, is more than one year old.

## TEMPORARY WATER DISINFECTANT CHANGE AND WATER FLUSHING

The drinking water supply entering NBVC Port Hueneme and Point Mugu will temporarily disinfect with chlorine instead of the normal chloramines disinfectant. NBVC Public Works Department (PWD) is performing this operation as needed to keep the formation of nitrites in the water system to a minimum. Nitrites exceeding 10 mg/L may affect how blood carries oxygen and can cause methemoglobinemia (blue baby syndrome). Nitrite levels in the Port Hueneme and Point Mugu water systems have an average of 0.2 mg/L which is well below the state levels of 4 mg/L. This ongoing water operation ensures that our water remains within State standards and continues to be safe for our customers. See Attachment 4 for further information in these ongoing water operations.

Facilities and homes that have been vacant or have low water use should utilize on-going water "flushing" to maintain water quality. "Flushing" involves opening taps and letting the water run to remove water that has been standing in the interior pipes and/or the outlets. The "flushing" time can vary by the type of outlet being cleared. See Attachment 5 for further information on "flushing" guidance.



Attachment 1

Port Hueneme Water Agency 2023 Annual Water Quality Data and Report



Attachment 2

NBVC Point Mugu and Port Hueneme 2023 Distribution System Water Quality Data



# Attachment 3

# NBVC San Nicolas Island

## 2023 Treatment and Distribution System Water Quality Data



Attachment 4

NBVC Port Hueneme and Point Mugu

Temporary Water Disinfectant Change – Public Announcement



Attachment 5

NBVC Port Hueneme, Point Mugu and San Nicolas Island Suggested Water Flushing Guidance