

## 2023 Consumer Confidence Report

### Water System Information

Water System Name: Naval Air Facility (NAF) El Centro

Report Date: April 23, 2024

Type of Water Source(s) in Use: Colorado River Surface Water

Name and General Location of Source(s): The Imperial Irrigation District (IID) supplies NAF El Centro with raw water via the All-American Canal and Central Main Canal, through the Elder Canal - Gate 104b.

Drinking Water Source Assessment Information: NAF El Centro regularly inspects the source water to ensure the raw water coming into the treatment plant continues to be safe. The Imperial Irrigation District (IID) conducted a Watershed Sanitary Survey in 2022. A copy of this survey may be obtained by contacting the State Water Resources Control Board-Division Water, 1350 Front Street, Rm 2050, San Diego, CA 92101 at (619) 525-4169.

Time and Place of Regularly Scheduled Board Meetings for Public Participation: For additional information about your water quality or any schedule meetings for public participation, contact Mr. Joao Garza, Water Program Manager at (760) 339-2532.

For More Information, Contact: Ruth A Erro at 760-339-2317

### 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 NAF El Centro a 1605 3rd St. Building 504, El Centro, CA 92243 or 760-339-2532 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 [NAF El Centro] 以获得中文的帮助: 1605 3rd St. Building 504, El Centro, CA 92243 or 760-339-2532.

Language in Tagalog: Ang pag-uulat na ito ay naglalaman ng mahalagang impormasyon tungkol sa inyong inuming tubig. Mangyaring makipag-ugnayan sa NAF El Centro a 1605 3rd St. Building 504, El Centro, CA 92243 or 760-339-2532.

Language in Vietnamese: Báo cáo này chứa thông tin quan trọng về nước uống của bạn. Xin vui lòng liên hệ NAF El Centro a 1605 3rd St. Building 504, El Centro, CA 92243 or 760-339-2532.

Language in Hmong: Tsab ntawv no muaj cov ntsiab lus tseem ceeb txog koj cov dej haus. Thov hu rau [Enter Water System's Name] ntawm NAF El Centro a 1605 3rd St. Building 504, El Centro, CA 92243 or 760-339-2532.

## 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.
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)

Term	Definition
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

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the California State Water Resource Control Board prescribe regulations that limits the number 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, 4A, 4B, 5, 6, and 7 list all of the drinking water contaminants that were monitor 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 Water Resource Control 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 a year old. Any violation of an AL, MCL, MRDL, or TT is asterisked.

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

Microbiological Contaminants	Highest No. of Detections	No. of Months in Violation	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source of Bacteria
<i>E. coli</i>	(2023) [0]	[0]	(a)	0	Human and animal fecal waste

(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 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 <sup>th</sup> Percentile Level Detected	No. Sites Exceeding AL	AL	PHG	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead (ppb)	October 2023	10	0.0012	0	15	0.2	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	October 2023	10	0.068	0	1.3	0.3	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

(a) We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not your drinking water meets health standards. During 2023, we did not complete all monitoring for lead and copper within the seasonal collection period. NAF El Centro conducted the Lead and Copper sampling outside of the June 01-September 30 monitoring period. Lead and copper sampling will be conducted at the end of June 2024.

**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)	11/30/2023	135	130 - 160	None	None	Salt present in the water and is generally naturally occurring
Hardness (ppm)	11/30/2023	338	280 - 390	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
Aluminum	11/30/2023	0.072	0 – 1.2	1 mg/L	0.60	Erosion of natural deposits; residue from surface water treatment sources
Fluoride	11/30/2023	0.4 mg/L	0.4 - 0.5	2 mg/L	1	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Arsenic	11/30/2023	0.0024	0.002 - 0.0029	0.010 mg/L	0.000004	Erosion from natural deposits, runoff from glass & electronic waste.

**Table 4A-Stage 1 Site 3 Monitoring Trihalomethanes/Haloacetic Acids (TTHM/HAA5)**

Contaminant	1 <sup>st</sup> QTR 2023	2 <sup>nd</sup> QTR 2023	3 <sup>rd</sup> QTR 2023	4 <sup>th</sup> QTR 2023	MCL (MRDL)	Typical Source of Contaminant
TTHM (ppb)	35.0	61.0	32.0	30.0	80.0 ug/L	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TTHM LRAA (running Avg.)	63.0	60.0	49.0	40.0	80.0 ug/L	
HAA5	5.7	4.7	3.6	4.1	60.0 ug/L	By-product of drinking water disinfection
HAA5 LRAA (running Avg.)	5	6	4	5	60.0 ug/L	

**Table 4B-Stage 2 Site 3 Monitoring Trihalomethanes/Haloacetic Acids (TTHM/HAA5)**

Contaminant	MCL	Sample Date	Average (Highest LRAA)	Range	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
TTHM Building 504	80.0	4 Quarters in 2023	63.0	30 – 61	NO	By-product of drinking water disinfection
HAA5 Building 504	60.0	4 Quarters in 2023	6	0 - 11	NO	By-product of drinking water disinfection

**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
Iron	11/30/2023	0.009 mg/L	0 – 0.12	0.3 mg/L	N/A	Erosion from natural deposits; corrosion of iron or steel casing or water pipes.
Manganese	11/30/2023	0.013 mg/L	0 – 0.013	0.05 mg/L	N/A	Erosion from natural deposits; found naturally in groundwater.
Chloride	11/30/2023	140 mg/L	110 - 140	500 mg/L	N/A	Runoff / leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence.
Sulfate	11/30/2023	313 mg/L	300 - 320	500 mg/L	N/A	Runoff / leaching from natural deposits; industrial waste.
Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)	11/30/2023	779 mg/L	760 – 800	1000 mg/L	N/A	Runoff / leaching from natural deposits; nature of piping or hardware used to convey the water/plumbing.
Specific Conduct. Aggregate	11/30/2023	1295 umhos/cm	1200 - 1300	1600 umhos /cm	N/A	Dissolved salts and other inorganic chemicals compounds, negatively or positively charged when dissolved in water.

**Table 6. Detection of Unregulated Contaminants – None****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. NAF El Centro is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and even though drinking water may meet Federal, State, and Local standards, a facility may still encounter elevated levels of lead at the water outlets due to lead in plumbing materials and water use patterns.

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 Arsenic:** NAF El Centro met federal and state standards for arsenic; all 19 collected samples resulted below the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL). The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.

**State Revised Total Coliform Rule (RTCR):** 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 microbial (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.

Summary Information for Violation of a MCL, MRDL, AL, TT, or Monitoring and Reporting Requirement - NONE

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

**Table 7. Sampling Results Showing Treatment of Surface Water Sources**

Treatment Technique	Dual-Media / Conventional Filters
Turbidity Performance Standards <sup>(b)</sup>	Turbidity of the filtered water must: 1 – Be less than or equal to 0.2 NTU in 95% of measurements in a month. 2 – Not exceed 1.0 NTU for more than eight consecutive hours. 3 – Not exceed 1.0 NTU at any time.
Lowest monthly percentage of samples that met Turbidity Performance Standard No. 1.	100%
Highest single turbidity measurement during the year	0.180
Number of violations of any surface water treatment requirements	None

(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**

**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. 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 Perfluorooctanoic (PFOA) and Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (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 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.

Chemical	Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)	Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)
PFOA	0	4.0 ppt
PFOS	0	4.0 ppt
PFNA	10 ppt	10 ppt
PFHxS	10 ppt	10 ppt
HFPO-DA (GenX chemicals)	10 ppt	10 ppt
Mixture of two or more: PFNA, PFHxS, HFPO-DA, and PFBS	Hazard Index of 1	Hazard Index of 1
<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 allow for a margin of safety and are non-enforceable public health goals.		

**Has Naval Air Facility El Centro tested its water for PFAS in 2023?**

Yes. In August 2023, samples were collected from at Building 504, representing the effluent of the water treatment plant.

**Below MRL**



We are pleased to report that drinking water testing results were below the Method Reporting Limit (MRL) for all 29<sup>a</sup> PFAS compounds covered by sampling method 533 and 537.1, 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.

### Water Conservation Strategies

- **Install low-flow showerheads or flow restrictors.** Switching to a high-performance showerhead with an output of no more than 2.5 gallons per minute can reduce water use by up to 75 percent.
  - **Shut off the tap while brushing teeth.** After you wet your brush, turn off the water and rinse briefly, you will need only 0.5gallon of water. A running tap uses up to 10 gallons.
  - **Prevent and repair leaks.** Leaky faucets can waste hundreds of gallons of water overnight. Please notify Liberty Military Housing of water leaks. Repair the leak with a new washer and prevent leaks by checking all faucet washers at least once per year.
  - **Always wash full loads.** Your washing machine uses about 60 gallons per cycle. Most automatic dishwashers use 16 gallons per cycle. When shopping for a new machine, purchase one with water and energy saving features.
  - **Keep a jug of cold water in the refrigerator instead of letting the tap run until cool.**
  - **Check your toilet for leaks by placing a few drops of food coloring in the tank. If it shows up in the bowl, replace the flapper.**
  - **When washing your car, use soap and water from a bucket. Use a hose with a shut-off nozzle for the final rinse.**
  - **Adjust your sprinklers so only the lawn is watered, reducing overflow to the sidewalk or street.**
  - **When mowing your lawn, raise the level on the mower. Shorter cut grass exposes the root, which absorbs more water.**
  - **Consider drought resistant plants or native vegetation for landscaping.**
  - **Add mulch on planting beds to reduce evaporation.**
  - **Monitor lawn for moisture stress. Tip: Walk across the lawn, if footprints appear, it is time to water.**
  - **Adjust irrigation controllers for seasonal changes. Apply water only as fast as the soil can absorb it and during the cooler parts of the day to reduce evaporation.**
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- **Teach your kids about water conservation to ensure a future generation that uses water wisely.**
- **Visit [www.epa.gov/watersense](http://www.epa.gov/watersense) for more information.**

