

# City of Biggs

2017 Water Quality Consumers Confidence Report  
Public Water System 0410001

Este informe contiene información **muy importante** sobre su agua beber.

For additional information concerning your drinking water, contact Hayden Wasser at 530-868-5685.

Water for the City of Biggs originates from three groundwater sources known as Well # 1 (Bertha, source 003).

Well #3 (Henry, source 004), and Well #4 (Willard, source 008).

## DEFINITIONS OF SOME OF THE TERMS USED IN THIS REPORT:

**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 technologically, and economically feasible.

**Primary Drinking Water Standards (PDWS):** MCLs for contaminants that affect health along with their monitoring and reporting requirements, and surface 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.

**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 Federal Environmental Protection Agency USEPA.

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

ppb: parts per billion or micrograms per liter

ppm: parts per million or milligrams per liter

N.D.: non detectable at testing limit

TDS: total dissolved solids

UCMR: unregulated chemical with no MCL

## MICROBIOLOGICAL WATER QUALITY:

Testing for bacteriological contaminants in the distribution system is required by State regulations. This testing is done regularly to verify that the water system is free from Coliform bacteria. The minimum number of tests required per month is two. In our distribution system, we test the water twice per month for Coliform bacteria. The highest number of samples found to contain Coliform bacteria during any one month was zero.

## LEAD & COPPER TESTING RESULTS:

Lead above 15 ppb (the regulatory AL) in more than 5%, and up to and including 10%, of sites sampled (if your system samples fewer than 20 sites and has even one sample above the AL, include the standard explanation for an AL exceedance):

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 lead levels in your home's water, you may wish to have your water tested and/or flush your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using tap water. Additional information is available from the USEPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791)

Lead & copper testing of water from individual taps in the distribution system is required by State regulations. The table below summarizes the most recent testing results for lead and copper.

	Year Tested	Number of samples collected	Number of above action level	90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile Result (ppb)	Action Level (ppb)
Lead	2015	12	0	NA	15
Copper	2015	12	0	NA	1300

Lead and Copper sampled every 3 years.

## DETECTED CONTAMINANTS IN OUR WATER:

The following table gives a list of all detected chemicals in our water during the most recent sampling. Please note that not all sampling is required annually so in some cases our results are more than one year old. These values are expressed in ppm unless otherwise stated.

As of 12/31/16						
Chemical Detected	Source	Year Tested	Level Detected	MCL	PHG	Origin
Aluminum	Well 3	2001	90 ppb	1000 ppb	600	Erosion/leaching of natural deposits
Arsenic	Well 1 Well 3	2011 2015	4.9 ppb 4 ppb	10	.004	Erosion/leaching of natural deposits, runoff from orchards
Nitrate (NO <sub>3</sub> )	Well 1 Well 3	2016 2016	1.6 ppm 4.2 ppm	45	45	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use leaching from septic tanks, sewage
Boron	Well 1 Well 3	2015 2005	N.D. N.D.	UCMR	None	Erosion/leaching of natural deposits
Fluoride	Well 1 Well 3	2007 2011	0.2 ppb 0.2 ppb	2	1	Erosion/leaching of natural deposits
Sodium	Well 1 Well 3	2015 2005	14 13	None	None	Erosion/leaching of natural deposits
Hardness	Well 1 Well 3	2015 2005	131 190	None	None	Erosion/leaching of natural deposits
TDS	Well 1 Well 3	2005 2005	180 280	1500	None	Erosion/leaching of natural deposits
Chloride	Well 1 Well 3	2015 2005	6 6.0	600	None	Erosion/leaching of natural deposits
Sulfate	Well 1 Well 3	2015 2005	5 N.D.	600	None	Erosion/leaching of natural deposits
Vanadium	Well 3 Well 1	2002	15 ppb 16 ppb	UCMR	None	Erosion/leaching of natural deposits
Total Trihalomethanes	System	2016	0.6	80 ppb	None	Disinfection byproduct
5 Haloacetic acids	System	2016	2	60 ppb	None	Disinfection byproduct

## GENERAL INFORMATION ON DRINKING WATER:

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 USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 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 have other immune system disorders, some elderly individuals, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. The USEPA/Center for Disease Control guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

### Arsenic:

While your drinking water meets the current standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. The standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the cost of removing arsenic from drinking water. The California Department of Public Health 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 other circulatory problems.

## SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT:

A source water assessment has been completed for the wells serving the City of Biggs. The sources are considered most vulnerable to the following activities not associated with any detected contaminants:

**Well 1:** Existing and historic gas stations

**Well 3:** Agricultural drainage, sewer collection systems, agricultural and irrigation wells, existing and historic gas stations

**Well 4:** Sewer collection systems, agricultural and irrigation wells

A copy of the complete assessment may be viewed at

C.D.P.H. Valley District Office  
415 Knollcrest Drive, Suite 110  
Redding, CA 96002  
Richard Hinrichs, 530-224-4867

or at  
City of Biggs  
P.O. Box 307  
Biggs, CA 95917  
Hayden Wasser, 530-868-5685

### VIOLATION INFORMATION:

No Violations.

**PUBLIC MEETING DATES & TIMES:** Council Meetings 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. 3016 Sixth Street, Biggs, CA 95917

### NOTES:

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 storm water 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 storm water 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 storm water 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.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the State Department of Public Health (Department) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Department regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that provide the same protection for public health.