

Important Information Regarding Your Drinking Water:

What happened?

1. Secondary water standards are based on aesthetics factors, such as taste, odor and color, and are not considered to present a risk to human health. Specific conductance (a secondary water standard) was measured in the upper ranges of “consumer acceptance contaminant level ranges” at Howlands Landing Wells 03R.

- Howlands Landing Well 03R is a bedrock well with high mineral content, which may elevate levels of specific conductance during times of low water usage and drought. SCE routinely monitors specific conductance at Howlands Landing Well 03R to ensure proper actions are taken when levels are elevated above acceptable ranges.

2. During routine testing in 2020, iron was detected above the secondary maximum contaminant level (SMCL) at Cottonwood Well 02 and Howland’s Landing Well 01.

- Both Cottonwood Well 02 and Howland’s Landing Well 01 were offline for the period of 2020. Both wells are pending redevelopment and will be tested for contaminants before placing into service.

What should I do?

You do not need to boil your water or take other corrective actions. You do not need to use an alternate (e.g., bottled) water supply. If you have health issues concerning the consumption of this water, you may wish to consult your doctor.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this public notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

[Information on 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 materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing systems. SCE 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. 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 at (800) 426-4791 or at: <http://www.epa.gov/lead>.

Si habla Español: Este documento contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo ó converse con alguien que lo entienda bien.

2020 Consumer Confidence Report

Southern California Edison Santa Catalina Island Water System



[Background](#)

Southern California Edison Company (SCE) is providing you with this Consumer Confidence Report for our operations on Catalina Island. This report is required annually for drinking water systems by the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) Division of Drinking Water (DDW). This report was developed to provide you details about where your drinking water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to California water quality standards.

SCE is responsible for providing a safe and dependable supply of drinking water and conducts more than 8,000 tests for over 360 drinking water contaminants. In 2020, SCE tested for regulated, unregulated contaminants, and lead and copper according to the Lead & Copper Rule.

The tests conducted during 2020 indicate that the drinking water provided to you meets all regulatory requirements with exception of those mentioned in the "What happened" section.

If you have any questions about this report, want to discuss the quality of your water, or are looking for public participation opportunities, please contact Ron Hite, SCE Catalina Production Manager at (310) 510-4312. We are committed to providing you information and welcome your comments.

Water Supply Information

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 land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive materials, and pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Contaminants that may be present in source water include: (1) Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife. (2) Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metal, that can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming. (3) Pesticides and herbicides that may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses. (4) 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, agricultural application, and septic systems. (5) 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 U.S. Protection Environmental Agency (U.S. EPA) and the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. State Board regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottle water that provide the same protection for public health.

The groundwater system primarily consist of wells located in Middle Ranch. As part of our continued management of the drinking water system, an assessment of the drinking water sources for the Catalina Island Water System was updated in December 2019. The source water assessment indicates that fresh groundwater sources are considered most vulnerable to the following influences: grazing animals; weathering effects on facilities; and drought. The seawater well watershed contains few contaminant sources and most will not significantly affect the quality of ocean water pumped.

Copies of the assessments are available at SWRCB DDW, Central District Office, 500 North Central Avenue, Suite 500, Glendale, CA 91203 or Southern California Edison, Catalina Water System, #1 Pebbly Beach Road, Avalon, CA 90704. You may request a copy from the DDW District Engineer at (818) 551-2004 or the SCE local office at (310) 510-4312.

References

¹ While your drinking water meets the federal and state standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. The arsenic standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. 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.

² As of 2015, compliance is determined on a locational running annual average (LRAA). Range listed shows the max and min of all monitoring locations and the average value listed represents the highest determined LRAA. Some people who drink water containing TTHMS in excess of the MCL over many years may experience liver, kidney, or central nervous system problems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

³ There are no PHG, MCLG, or mandatory standard health effects language for the constituents because secondary MCLs are set on the basis of aesthetics.

⁴ The notification level for manganese is used to protect consumers from neurobiological effects. High levels of manganese in people have been shown to result in effects of the nervous system.

⁵ Every nine years radiological tests are conducted. The most recent full set of samples were collected in 2020 with the exception of Sweetwater Canyon Well 01 which was sampled for Uranium and Radium 226/228 in 2018.

⁶ Lead and Copper Rule (LCR) samples are currently taken from 20 residences every three years. The most recent September 2020 sampling event was within the 90% and was in compliance with LCR requirements. Results are displayed in the Lead and Copper Data table.

⁷ Iron and Manganese are treated for at **Howlands Landing well 3R**, reported results are post-treatment.

* Value exceeds MCL

In cases where no samples were required in 2020, the most recent results have been included.

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 USEPA.

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 Standard (PDWS): MCLs 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 Maximum Contaminant Level (SMCL): The level for contaminants that is based on aesthetics and are not considered to present a risk to human health at the SMCL.

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

cfu/ml – colony forming units per milliliter

ppb - parts per billion or micrograms per liter

N/A - not applicable

ppm - parts per million or milligrams per liter

ND - not detectable at testing limit

ppt- parts per trillion or nanograms per liter

NTU – Nephelometric Turbidity Unit

µS/cm – micro Siemens per centimeter

pCi/L – picocuries per liter

Unregulated contaminant monitoring helps the US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the SWRCB to determine where certain contaminants occur and whether the contaminants need to be regulated.

Total Coliform Bacteria					
MCL / [MRDL]		Months in Violation		Total Positive	
One Detection Allowed / month		0 - Detection = Positive sample with positive repeat sample.		3 Total Positive for the year	
Resampled Locations / Result		Max # Detects (in one month)		Repeat Samples	
Three resampled / Absent		0- with positive repeat sample		5/6/2020; 5/7/2020; 6/4/2020	
Source of Contamination					
Naturally present in the environment: Used as 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.					
Lead and Copper Data ⁶					
Contaminant	Date	90 th Percentile	Sites Exceeding AL/No of Samples	AL	PHG
		Level Detected			
Lead (ppb)	Sept' 20	1.8	0	15	0.2
Source of Contamination: Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits					
Copper (ppm)	Sept' 20	0.19	0	1.3	0.3
Source of Contamination: Corrosion of plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching of wood preservatives					

Be Water Wise!

SCE is requesting residents to practice water conservation measures due to the finite amount of water on Catalina Island and the arid state of the land. Do not leave water running when washing dishes or brushing your teeth, install a low-flow showerhead or faucet aerators, and fix leaky faucets and pipes. SCE provides low-flow showerheads and garden hose nozzles at no charge. Please visit SCE at #1 Pebbly Beach Road, Avalon, CA 90704 to obtain these items.



EPA Resources

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 USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791 or by visiting www.epa.gov/ccr.

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. 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 (1-800-426-4791).

SCE Monitoring

SCE is required to test for a number of different contaminants in the Catalina Island Water System, with the timing of the sampling varying based on the state's requirements. In order to ensure that drinking water is safe to drink, USEPA and the State Board prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. California Department of Public Health regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same level of protection for public health.

Drinking water contaminants detected during tests in 2020 are listed in the table within this brochure as well as an explanation of terms and abbreviations. The presence of the listed contaminants in water does not necessarily mean that the water poses a health risk and that all contaminants detected are below regulatory levels established by State Board.

Sincerely,

Ron Hite, SCE Catalina Production Manager

2020 Santa Catalina Island Drinking Water Quality

Contaminant	Sample Date	Average of Levels Detected	Range of Detections	MCL/[MRDL]	PHG/(MCLG) / [MRDLG]	Typical Source of Contaminant/Additional Information
Contaminants with a Primary Drinking Water Standard						
Arsenic (ppb) ¹	11/18/20– 12/15/20	1.05	0.22– 4.2	10	0.004	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; glass and electronics production wastes
Barium (ppm)	11/18/20 – 12/15/20	0.103	0.043– 0.24	1	2	Discharges of oil drilling wastes and from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Chlorine, Total Residual (ppm)	1/2/20 – 12/28/20	1.07	0.18 – 2.8	[4]	[4]	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment
Fluoride (ppm)	11/18/20 – 12/15/20	0.23	ND – 0.32	2	1	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate as N (ppm)	11/18/20 – 12/15/20	0.58	ND – 1.2	10	10	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate and Nitrite as N (ppm)	11/18/20 – 12/15/20	0.58	ND – 1.2	10	10	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Total Organic Carbon (TOC) (ppm)	1/16/20 - 11/25/20	1.13	0.95– 1.3	TT	N/A	Various natural and man-made sources
Heterotrophic Plate Count (cfu/ml)	1/2/20 – 12/28/20	59	ND – 2900	TT	N/A	Naturally present in the environment. Inadequately treated water may contain disease-causing organisms. (All SCE water has chlorine residual so testing for HPC is not required.)
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs) (ppb) ²	5/20/19 -11/18/20	49.25	23 – 58	80	N/A	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection. 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 an increased risk of getting cancer.
Haloacetic acids (ppb) ²	5/20/19 –11/18/20	34.80	3.6 - 43	60	N/A	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Contaminants with a Secondary Drinking Water Standard³						
Chloride (ppm)	11/18/20 – 12/15/20	196.4	110 – 310	500	N/A	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Color (units)	1/7/20 - 12/17/20	7.5	ND – 7.5	15	N/A	Naturally-occurring organic materials
Copper (ppm)	11/18/20-12/31/20	0.08	ND– 0.06	1	N/A	Internal corrosion of household plumbing system; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Iron (ppb) ⁷	1/14/20 - 12/15/20	504*	ND – 2,600*	300	N/A	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Manganese (ppb) ^{4,7}	11/18/20 – 12/15/20	26.30	ND – 74*	50	N/A	Leaching from natural deposits
Odor-Threshold (units)	1/7/20 - 12/17/20	1.0	ND – 1	3	N/A	Naturally-occurring organic materials
Specific conductance (µS/cm)	11/18/20 – 12/15/20	1341	980 - 1800*	1,600	N/A	Form ions when in water; seawater influence.
Sulfate (ppm)	11/18/20 – 12/15/20	59	32 - 82	500	N/A	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) (ppm)	11/18/20 – 12/15/20	742	550 –970	1,000	N/A	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Turbidity (NTU)	1/7/20 - 12/17/20	0.84	ND – 7.4*	5	N/A	Microbiological Contaminant: Soil runoff. Turbidity is a measure of water cloudiness; a good indicator of water quality. High turbidity can hinder disinfection.
Zinc (ppm)	11/18/20 – 12/15/20	0.053	ND – 0.053	5	N/A	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Unregulated Contaminants, State Regulated, & Assessment Monitoring						
Alkalinity as CaCO ₃ (ppm)	11/18/20 – 12/15/20	348	ND – 460	N/A	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits
Bicarbonate Alkalinity as HCO ₃ (ppm)	11/18/20 – 12/15/20	425	330 – 560	N/A	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits
Bromodichloromethane (ppb)	1/16/2020 - 12/17/20	4.4	ND – 9.5	N/A	N/A	Disinfection Byproducts
Bromoform (ppb)	1/16/2020 - 12/17/20	19.34	ND – 27	N/A	N/A	Disinfection Byproducts
Calcium (ppm)	11/18/20 – 12/15/20	82	69 - 110	N/A	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits
Chloroform (ppb)	1/16/2020 - 12/17/20	2.3	ND – 8	N/A	N/A	Disinfection Byproducts
Dibromoacetic Acid (ppb)	1/16/2020 - 12/17/20	14.20	3.6 – 31	N/A	N/A	Disinfection Byproducts
Dibromochloromethane (ppb)	1/16/2020 - 12/17/20	11.2	ND – 21	N/A	N/A	Disinfection Byproducts
Dichloroacetic Acid (ppb)	1/16/2020 - 12/17/20	2.6	ND – 3.8	N/A	N/A	Disinfection Byproducts
Hardness (ppm)	11/18/20 – 12/15/20	441	340 – 550	N/A	N/A	Naturally occurring cations (characteristically magnesium and calcium)
Hexavalent Chromium (ppb)	3/26/19 - 12/11/19	1.1	ND - 3.7	N/A	0.02	Discharge from electroplating factories, leather tanneries, wood preservation, chemical synthesis, refractory production, and textile manufacturing facilities; erosion of natural deposits
Magnesium (ppm)	11/18/20 – 12/15/20	57.1	34 – 74	N/A	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits
Monobromoacetic Acid (ppb)	1/16/20 - 12/17/20	1.9	ND – 2.3	N/A	N/A	Disinfection Byproducts
pH (pH units)	11/18/20 – 12/15/20	7.2	6.9 – 7.5	6.5 – 8.5	N/A	Not Applicable
Sodium (ppm)	11/18/20 – 12/15/20	108	71– 150	N/A	N/A	Refers to the salt present in the water and is generally naturally occurring
Trichloroacetic Acid (ppb)	1/16/20 - 12/17/20	1.10	ND – 1.1	N/A	N/A	Disinfection Byproducts
Radiological Data⁵						
Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	11/18,12/12, 12/13,12/14 & 12/15/20	4.3	1.8 - 9.1	15	N/A	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
Combined Radium 228/226 (pCi/L)	11/18,12/12, 12/13,12/14 & 12/15/20	0.3	-0.06 - 1.10	5	0.019	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium (pCi/L)	11/18,12/12, 12/13,12/14 & 12/15/20	0.4	ND – 1.3	20	0.43	Erosion of natural deposits