

2024 Consumer Confidence Report

Water System Information

Water System Name: St. Nicholas Ranch and Retreat

Report Date: 7-10-2025

Type of Water Source(s) in Use: Groundwater

Name and General Location of Source(s): Well 01 (centrally located in facility, inside storage shed north of dormitories); Well 03 (located at east end of ranch by entrance, 500' southwest of large barn); Well 04-Standby (100' east of Well 03)

Drinking Water Source Assessment Information: Source Water Assessments for Wells 01 and 03 were completed in February 2003 by Fresno County. Both sources are considered most vulnerable to the following activities not associated with any detected contaminants: septic systems – low density. A copy of the source water assessment is available upon request at the St. Nicholas Ranch and Retreat. 38526 Dunlap Road, Yokuts Valley, CA, 93675. 559-338-2103

Place of Regularly Scheduled Board Meetings for Public Participation: N/A

For More Information, St Nicholas Office 559-338-2103

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, 2024 and may include earlier monitoring data.

Importance of This Report Statement in Language (Spanish,)

Language in Spanish: Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua para beber. Favor de comunicarse [St. Nicholas Ranch and Retreat.

en español. 38526 Dunlap Road, Yokuts Valley, CA, 93675. 559-338-2103 para asistirlo

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. |

| Term | Definition |
|--|--|
| 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) |
| 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.

| Microbiological Contaminants | Highest No. of Detections | No. of Months in Violation | MCL | MCLG | Typical Source of Bacteria |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|-----|------|------------------------------|
| <i>E. coli</i> | 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 1. 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 | Typical Source of Contaminant |
|-----------------|-------------|--------------------------|--|------------------------|-----|-----|---|
| Lead (ppb) | 11/05/2024 | 5 | 0.009 | 1 | 15 | 0.2 | Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits |
| Copper (ppm) | 11/05/2024 | 5 | 0.090 | 0 | 1.3 | 0.3 | Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives |

St Nicholas Ranch and Retreat is required to conduct 6-month monitoring for lead and copper due to a prior lead action level exceedance. The first 6-month monitoring period during 2024 was missed; sampling was resumed in November 2024 and the schedule is being maintained.

Table 2. 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) | 02/03/2023 | 15.5 | 15-16 | None | None | Salt present in the water and is generally naturally occurring |
| Hardness (ppm) | 02/03/2023 | 79.5 | 75-84 | None | None | Sum of polyvalent cations present in the water, generally magnesium and calcium, and are usually naturally occurring |

Table 3. 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 |
|--|--------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|---|
| Barium (mg/L) | 2/3/2023 | 38.5 | ND-77 | 1 | 2 | Discharges of oil drilling wastes and from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits |
| Gross alpha partial activity, (pCi/L) | 1-3-2024 | 8.46 | 8.18-8.74 | 20 | 0 | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Combined Uranium, (pCi/L) | 1-3-2024 | 9.35 | 8.7-10 | 20 | 0 | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Nitrate mg/L | 1-3-2024 | 3.5 | 3.1-3.9 | 10 | 10 | Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits |
| TTHM, ug/L | 7-1-2024 | 2.7 | ND-2.7 | 80 | N/A | Byproduct of drinking water disinfection |

Table 4. 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 |
|--|--------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|-------------|-------------------|---|
| Turbidity, NTU | 2-3-23 | 0.29 | ND-5 | 5 | N/A | Soil Runoff |
| TDS-Total Dissolved Solids mg/L | 2-3-23 | 180 | 160-180 | 1000 | N/A | Runoff/leaching from natural deposits |
| Iron-ug/L | 2-3-23 | 32 | ND-32 | 300 | N/A | Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes |
| Zinc ug/L | 2-3-23 | 68 | ND-68 | 5000 | N/A | Runoff/leaching from natural |

| | | | | | | |
|---------------|--------|----|-------|-----|-----|--|
| | | | | | | deposits; industrial wastes |
| Sulfate- mg/L | 2-3-23 | 13 | ND-13 | 500 | N/A | Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes |

Table 5. Detection of Unregulated Contaminants

| Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units) | Sample Date | Level Detected | Range of Detections | Notification Level | Health Effects |
|---|-------------|----------------|---------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA |

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).

Additional Special Language-

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. ST. Nicholas Ranch and Retreat is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home. You share the responsibility for protecting yourself and your family from the lead in your home plumbing. You can take responsibility by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Before drinking tap water, flush your pipes for several minutes by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. You can also use a filter certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead in drinking water. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact St. Nicholas Ranch and Retreat, 38526 Dunlap Road, Yokuts Valley, CA, 93675. PHONE 559-338-2103]. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

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 U.S. EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

A lead service line inventory has not yet been completed for the water system and is currently in process. It is expected to be completed by September 30, 2025.