

## 2023 Consumer Confidence Report

### Water System Information

**Water System Name:** ELK CREEK COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

**Report Date:** June 19, 2024

**Type of Water Source in Use:** Surface water

**Name and General Location of Source:** Stony Gorge Reservoir

### **Drinking Water Source Assessment Information:**

The ECCSD 2021 Watershed Sanitary Survey included the following potential sources of contamination to our source water in the Stony Gorge Reservoir:

1. Agricultural activities and livestock: contaminants resulting from farming and grazing in the Upper Stony Creek watershed could potentially run-off into Stony Creek and into the Stony Gorge Reservoir.
2. Recreational activities: Camping, boating, and other recreational activities on and around the Stony Gorge Reservoir, along with the vault toilets along the shore, are of concern and could potentially release contaminants into our water source.
3. Forest Fire: The long-term effects of the August Complex fire are yet to be determined. Fortunately, most of the burned area is downstream from the Stony Gorge Reservoir.
4. Sedimentation: Erosion caused by off-road use and dirt roads along the Stony Gorge Reservoir and in the Upper Stony Creek watershed could enter run-off into the streams and reservoir, thereby increasing sedimentation and/or potential sources of contamination.
5. Mine runoff: There are twelve mines within the Stony Creek Watershed, five of which are permanently closed. Of the seven active mines, only one is located upstream of the ECCSD and primarily focuses on sand and gravel production. There has been no reported influence on downstream surface water quality.
6. Landfill runoff: The Stonyford Disposal Site Landfill is the only disposal site within our watershed. The facility is unlined, permitted, inspected and monitored by CalRecycle. Colusa County Environmental Health Dept monitors wells for contaminants. The wells have revealed no indication of leaching or methane that could be of risk to our water quality.
7. Timber harvesting within our watershed has not occurred since 2012 and there is little current threat to water quality from past activities.

**Time and Place of Regularly Scheduled Board Meetings for Public Participation:**

Regular meetings are held on the second Thursday of every month at 6:00 pm at the Elk Creek Fire Hall, 2740 County Road 306, Elk Creek, CA 95939.

**For More Information, Contact:** Sharon Green, Board President, (530) 519-7631

**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.

**Availability of This Report Statement in Spanish**

Language in Spanish: Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua para beber. Favor de comunicarse Elk Creek Community Service District a PO Box 117, Elk Creek, CA, 95939 para asistirlo en español.

**Terms Used in This Report**

| <b>Term</b>                                      | <b>Definition</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|--------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 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)                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 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.

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

Complete if bacteria are detected.

| Microbiological Contaminants | Highest No. of Detections | No. of Months in Violation | MCL | MCLG | Typical Source of Bacteria   |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|-----|------|------------------------------|
| <i>E. coli</i>               | No Detections in 2023     | 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*.

**During the year, our system reported no coliform or *E. coli* violations.**

**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 (ug/L)     | 6/25/2021   | 5                        | 0                                          | 0                      | 15  | 0.2 | Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits |
| Copper (mg/L)   | 6/25/2021   | 5                        | 0                                          | 0                      | 1.3 | 0.3 | Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives               |

**Table 3. Sampling Results for Sodium and Hardness**

| <b>Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)</b> | <b>Sample Date</b> | <b>Level Detected</b> | <b>Range of Detections</b> | <b>MCL</b> | <b>PHG (MCLG)</b> | <b>Typical Source of Contaminant</b>                                                                                 |
|------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|------------|-------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sodium (mg/L)                                        | 2023               | 11                    |                            | None       | None              | Salt present in the water and is generally naturally occurring                                                       |
| Hardness (mg/L)                                      | 2023               | 117                   |                            | None       | None              | Sum of polyvalent cations present in the water, generally magnesium and calcium, and are usually naturally occurring |

**Table 4. Detection of Contaminants with a Primary Drinking Water Standard**

| <b>Chemical or Constituent<br/>(and reporting units)</b> | <b>Sample Date</b> | <b>Level Detected</b> | <b>Range of Detections</b> | <b>MCL [MRDL]</b> | <b>PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]</b> | <b>Typical Source of Contaminant</b>                                            |
|----------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Asbestos (MFL)                                           | 2020               | 1                     |                            | 7                 | 7                         | Internal corrosion of asbestos cement water mains; erosion of natural deposits. |
| Gross Alpha Particle Activity (pCi/L)                    | 2015               | 0.22                  |                            | 15                | (0)                       | Erosion of natural deposits.                                                    |
| Radium 228/Radium 226 MDA95 (pCi/L)                      | 2020               | 0.446                 |                            | 5                 | 0                         | Erosion of natural deposits.                                                    |
| TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (µg/L) 211 Bidwell         | 11/02/23           | 53                    | ND-55                      | 80                | N/A                       | Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.                                       |
| TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (µg/L) 300 San Hedron      | 11/02/23           | 64                    | ND-52                      | 80                | N/A                       | Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.                                       |
| HAA5 [Sum of 5 Haloacetic Acids] (µg/L) 211 Bidwell      | 11/02/23           | 23                    | ND-27                      | 60                | N/A                       | Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.                                       |
| HAA5 [Sum of 5 Haloacetic Acids] (µg/L) 300 San Hedron   | 11/02/23           | 18                    | ND-24                      | 60                | NA/                       | Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.                                       |

**Table 5. Detection of Contaminants with a Secondary Drinking Water Standard**

| Chemical or Constituent<br>(and reporting units) | Sample<br>Date | Level<br>Detected | Range of<br>Detection<br>s | SMCL | PHG<br>(MCLG) | Typical Source<br>of<br>Contaminant                          |
|--------------------------------------------------|----------------|-------------------|----------------------------|------|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| Chloride (mg/L)                                  | 2023           | 17                |                            | 500  | N/A           | Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence.   |
| Manganese (ug/L)**                               | 2023           | 58.3*             | ND-380                     | 50   | N/A           | Leaching from natural deposits.                              |
| Specific Conductance<br>(umho/cm)                | 2023           | 313               |                            | 1600 | N/A           | Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence. |
| Sulfate (mg/L)                                   | 2023           | 4.3               |                            | 500  | N/A           | Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes.    |
| Total Dissolved Solids-Inorganic Metals (mg/L)   | 2023           | 180               |                            | 1000 | N/A           | Runoff/leaching from natural deposits.                       |

\* See Table 7 for additional Secondary Violation information

There are no PHGs, MCLGs, or mandatory standard health effects language for these constituents because secondary MCLs are set on the basis of aesthetic concerns.

\*\* Primarily due to the drought and recent fires, our system experienced high levels of manganese in our source water for much of 2023. Our district has been diligently monitoring the situation and has adjusted treatment processes to reduce this secondary contaminant. Our district is currently in the process of performing numerous upgrades to our system, which will improve our treatment processes.

**Table 6. Detection of Unregulated Contaminants**

| Chemical or<br>Constituent (and<br>reporting units) | Sample<br>Date | Level<br>Detected | Range of<br>Detections | Notification<br>Level | Health Effects |
|-----------------------------------------------------|----------------|-------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| N/A                                                 |                |                   |                        |                       |                |

## **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 for Nitrate, Arsenic, Lead, Radon, and Cryptosporidium:*

**Arsenic:** 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 cost 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.

**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. The Elk Creek Community Services District 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 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>.

## **Summary Information for Violation of a MCL, MRDL, AL, TT, or Monitoring and Reporting Requirement**

**Table 7. Violation of a MCL, MRDL, AL, TT or Monitoring Reporting Requirement**

| <b>Violation</b>                  | <b>Explanation</b>                                                                                                                     | <b>Duration</b>                         | <b>Actions Taken to Correct Violation</b>                                                                          | <b>Health Effects Language</b>                                                                                                                                       |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Manganese Secondary MCL Violation | Primarily due to the drought and recent fires, our system experienced high levels of manganese in our source water frequently in 2023. | August, September, and December of 2023 | Treatment processes were adjusted. The district is currently planning numerous treatment plant upgrades to address | Manganese exposure can result in neurological effects. High levels of manganese in people have been shown to result in adverse health effects to the nervous system. |

## **For Water Systems Providing Groundwater as a Source of Drinking Water**

Sections 8 & 9 have been omitted as they apply only to water systems that source their water from wells.

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

**Table 10. Sampling Results Showing Treatment of Surface Water Sources**

|                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Treatment Technique <sup>(a)</sup> (Type of approved filtration technology used)                      | Adsorption clarifier/filtration with disinfection and metals removal.                                                                                                                                                          |
| Turbidity Performance Standards <sup>(b)</sup> (that must be met through the water treatment process) | Turbidity of the filtered water must:<br>1 – Be less than or equal to .3 NTU in 95% of measurements in a month.<br>2 – Not exceed <u>N/A</u> NTU for more than eight consecutive hours.<br>3 – Not exceed 1.0 NTU at any time. |
| Lowest monthly percentage of samples that met Turbidity Performance Standard No. 1.                   | 93.9%                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Highest single turbidity measurement during the year                                                  | 0.954 NTU                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 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**

**Table 11. Violation of Surface Water TT**

| Violation | Explanation | Duration | Actions Taken to Correct Violation | Health Effects Language |
|-----------|-------------|----------|------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| None      |             |          |                                    |                         |