

# **Gold Mountain Water Quality 2020 Consumer Confidence Report (CCR)**

The California (CA) Water Board requires that your District, Gold Mountain Community Services District (GMCS D), provide the attached Consumer Confidence Report (“CCR”) annually. The purpose of the CCR is to help keep the public informed about their drinking water, including where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to Federal Environmental Protection Agency and State standards.

While the language in the CCR is crafted by the CA Water Board to be “understandable,” it can be confusing due to the technical terms and inspection schedules. All of the acronyms and terms used in the report and in **CCR Tables 1- 7** are defined on page 1. The reader should familiarize themselves with these definitions to better understand the information reported.

This report provides a snapshot of the quality of the water that we provided this past year, as well as significant results, as required by the state, over the past nine (years). The GMCS D is fortunate to have an excellent water source from deep granite wells. Such a water supply is not prone to contamination as are surface or imported water sources relied on by other communities. Due to the purity of our water, we are not currently required to “treat” the water for any contamination. To preserve this purity, we follow strict and regular testing protocols for our wells and for our distribution system.

California requires routine testing for over 140 different contaminants at various intervals on schedules dictated by the state and Federal governments. We also take “Special Samples” when there is an event such as a breach of the system by pipe breakage, system improvement construction, loss of system pressure, etc. The GMCS D contracts with a state certified lab for all testing.

State law requires the GMCS D to list all contaminants that have been detected within the last 9 years which are above the Detection Level for Reporting (**DLR**). Just because a contaminant is detected does not mean there is a health hazard. Well water naturally includes many naturally occurring minerals and “contaminants” that pose little or no health risk. To determine if a health hazard exists, the level detected must be compared to the Maximum Contaminant Level (**MCL**) specified by the state. Additionally, the state classifies contaminant standards as “primary” and “secondary” with a MCL assigned to each. Primary standards reflect potential health risks, while secondary standards relate to drinking water aesthetics including taste, odor, or appearance.

**CCR Table 1** reports on the presence of any coliform bacteria in our water system. Due to the dangers of bacteria pathogens in drinking water, the state requires these tests on a monthly basis - our most frequent routine sampling. Any positive test result would trigger immediate follow-on action on the part of the GMCS D. In 2020, the District did not have any positive bacteriological test results.

**CCR Table 2** reports on the presence of lead and copper - two of the most common and dangerous contaminants found in drinking water. Lead and copper are typically the result of older water pipes in homes and business which do not present a major problem in our District. All system distribution pipes except for some valves are non-metallic and pose little threat of lead and copper contamination. The GMCS D tests for lead and copper on a three-year schedule, drawing a selection of samples from random individual residences throughout the district.

**CCR Table 3** reports on levels of sodium (salts) and the general hardness of our water. This information is derived directly from well test data.

**CCR Tables 4, 5, and 6** report on Primary and Secondary Standards and Unregulated Contaminants. As the GMCSO draws water from three different wells, rather than reporting on a system wide basis, we provide testing results for each specific well as attachments to the report.

Prior to being brought online, the state requires an initial series of tests for each well to determine the presence of naturally occurring elements in the water. Based on the results of this baseline testing, the state specifies a follow-on testing regime. The state may modify these regimes based on later test results or for new threats encountered. For example, California was the first state to require testing for Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), a group of man-made chemicals now known to present serious health risks. These test requirements were added to each of our wells in 2017.

Depending on the specific well and the standard being tested, our wells are typically on 3-, 6-, and 9-year testing schedules. For example, older wells 17 and 29 were tested in 2014, 2017, and 2020 depending on the standard and contaminant. Well 33 which is currently our newest producing well, is on a slightly more accelerated schedule until we establish a stronger baseline. The attachments at the end of the report provide the required 9-year testing history for each of our producing wells. Our 2021 report will include initial testing for Well 37 after we bring the well online this summer.

I am happy to report that the GMCSO was violation free in 2020.

If you have any questions, please contact me at the GMCSO Office, (530) 832-5945.

Thank You,



Skyler Allingham,  
Assent General Manager, Gold Mountain Community Services District.

## 2020 Consumer Confidence Report

Water System Name: Gold Mountain CSD

Report Date: April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021

*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, 2020 and may include earlier monitoring data.*

Type of water source(s) in use: 3 Groundwater Wells

Name & general location of source(s): Well 17 located on Deer Trail, well 29 located on Blazing Star, Well 33 located on Great Spirit

Drinking Water Source Assessment information: Department of Health Services, Lassen District

Time and place of regularly scheduled board meetings for public participation: Second Monday of each month at 10AM,

Location 150 Pacific St, Suite 8 Portola, CA 96122

For more information, contact: Skyler Allingham

Phone: (530) 832-5945

### 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 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).

**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 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.

**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.

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

**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.

**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 detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an *E. coli* MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

**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)

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.

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.

Tables 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 list all 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**

Microbiological Contaminants (complete if bacteria detected)	Highest No. of Detections	No. of Months in Violation	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source of Bacteria
Total Coliform Bacteria (state Total Coliform Rule)	0	0	1 positive monthly sample	0	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform or <i>E. coli</i> (state Total Coliform Rule)	0	0	A routine sample and a repeat sample are total coliform positive, and one of these is also fecal coliform or <i>E. coli</i> positive	0	Human and animal fecal waste
<i>E. coli</i> (federal Revised Total Coliform Rule)	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**

Lead and Copper (complete if lead or copper detected in the last sample set)	Sample Date	No. of Samples Collected	90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile Level Detected	No. Sites Exceeding AL	AL	PHG	No. of Schools Requesting Lead Sampling	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead (ppb)	9/11/18	5	0	0	15	0.2	Not applicable	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	9/11/18	5	.262	0	1.3	0.3	Not applicable	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

**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)	8/26/14 12/26/17	9	8-10	None	None	Salt present in the water and is generally naturally occurring
Hardness (ppm)	8/26/14 12/26/17	92.8	86.2-105	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**

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	Typical Source of Contaminant
See pages 7-8						

**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
See pages 7-8						

**TABLE 6 – DETECTION OF UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS**

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	Notification Level	Health Effects Language
See pages 7-8					

### 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. **[Gold Mountain CSD]** 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. **[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>.



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

VIOLATION OF A MCL, MRDL, AL, TT, OR MONITORING AND REPORTING REQUIREMENT				
Violation	Explanation	Duration	Actions Taken to Correct the Violation	Health Effects Language
	Elevated Uranium in Well 33 not exceeding MCL		Quarterly Testing of Well 33	

Natural occurring Uranium in bedrock. Did not exceed MCL. Monitoring ongoing.

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

TABLE 7 – SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING FECAL INDICATOR-POSITIVE GROUNDWATER SOURCE SAMPLES					
Microbiological Contaminants (complete if fecal-indicator detected)	Total No. of Detections	Sample Dates	MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	Typical Source of Contaminant
<i>E. coli</i>	0	0	0	(0)	Human and animal fecal waste
Enterococci	0	N/A	TT	N/A	Human and animal fecal waste
Coliphage	0	N/A	TT	N/A	Human and animal fecal waste

### Summary Information for Fecal Indicator-Positive Groundwater Source Samples, Uncorrected Significant Deficiencies, or Groundwater TT

SPECIAL NOTICE OF FECAL INDICATOR-POSITIVE GROUNDWATER SOURCE SAMPLE				
None				
SPECIAL NOTICE FOR UNCORRECTED SIGNIFICANT DEFICIENCIES				
None				
VIOLATION OF GROUNDWATER TT				
TT Violation	Explanation	Duration	Actions Taken to Correct the Violation	Health Effects Language
N/A				

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

**TABLE 8 - SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING TREATMENT OF SURFACE WATER SOURCES**

Treatment Technique <sup>(a)</sup> (Type of approved filtration technology used)	N/A
Turbidity Performance Standards <sup>(b)</sup> (that must be met through the water treatment process)	Turbidity of the filtered water must: NA 1 – Be less than or equal to ____ NTU in 95% of measurements in a month. 2 – Not exceed ____ NTU for more than eight consecutive hours. 3 – Not exceed ____ NTU at any time.
Lowest monthly percentage of samples that met Turbidity Performance Standard No. 1.	N/A
Highest single turbidity measurement during the year	N/A
Number of violations of any surface water treatment requirements	N/A

(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

VIOLATION OF A SURFACE WATER TT				
TT Violation	Explanation	Duration	Actions Taken to Correct the Violation	Health Effects Language
NA				

### Summary Information for Operating Under a Variance or Exemption

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### Summary Information for Federal Revised Total Coliform Rule Level 1 and Level 2 Assessment Requirements

#### Level 1 or Level 2 Assessment Requirement not Due to an *E. coli* MCL Violation

Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an 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. We found coliforms indicating the need to look for potential problems in water treatment or distribution. When this occurs, we are required to conduct assessment(s) to identify problems and to correct any problems that were found during these assessments.

During the past year we were required to conduct [0] Level 1 assessment(s). [0] Level 1 assessment(s) were completed. In addition, we were required to take [0] corrective actions and we completed [0] of these actions.

During the past year [0] Level 2 assessments were required to be completed for our water system. [0] Level 2 assessments were completed. In addition, we were required to take [0] corrective actions and we completed [0] of these actions.

N/A

### Level 2 Assessment Requirement Due to an *E. coli* MCL Violation

*E. coli* are bacteria whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes. Human pathogens in these wastes can cause short-term effects, such as diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms. They may pose a greater health risk for infants, young children, the elderly, and people with severely-compromised immune systems. We found *E. coli* bacteria, indicating the need to look for potential problems in water treatment or distribution. When this occurs, we are required to conduct assessment(s) identify problems and to correct any problems that were found during these assessments.

We were required to complete a Level 2 assessment because we found *E. coli* in our water system. In addition, we were required to take [0] corrective actions and we completed [0] of these actions.

N/A

Well 17							
Group/Constituent Identification	Sampling Date		Result	MCL	DLR	AL	Unit
<b>PRIMARY DRINKING WATER DETECTIONS</b>							
NITRATE (AS NO3)	9/3/2020		ND	45	2	23	MG/L
NITRATE (as N)	9/3/2020		ND	10	0.4	500	mg/L



GROSS ALPHA	8/11/2020		11.8	15	3	5	PCI/L
RADIUM 228	5/9/2017		1	2	1	0	PCI/L
URANIUM (PCI/L)	9/18/2020		8.08	20	1	20	PCI/L
FLUORIDE (F) (NATURAL-SOURCE)	8/26/2014	<	0.1	2	0.1	2	MG/L
ARSENIC	8/26/2014	<	2	10	2	5	UG/L
<b>SECONDARY DRINKING WATER DETECTIONS</b>							
ODOR THRESHOLD @ 60 C	12/19/2017		1	3	1	3	TON
PH, LABORATORY	8/26/2014		6.9	0	0	0	
SODIUM	8/26/2014		10	0	0	0	MG/L
SPECIFIC CONDUCTANCE	8/26/2014		219	1600	0	900	US
TOTAL DISSOLVED SOLIDS	8/26/2014		130	1000	0	500	MG/L
	9/3/2020						
TURBIDITY, LABORATORY			12.9	5	0.1	5	NTU
ZINC	8/26/2014		60	5000	50	5000	UG/L
BICARBONATE ALKALINITY	8/26/2014		120	0	0	0	MG/L
CALCIUM	8/26/2014		23	0	0	0	MG/L
CARBONATE ALKALINITY	8/26/2014	<	10	0	0	0	MG/L
CHLORIDE	8/26/2014		1	500	0	250	MG/L
SULFATE	8/26/2014		4.4	500	0.5	250	MG/L
COLOR	9/3/2020	<	ND	15	0	15	UNITS
COPPER	9/3/2020	<	ND	1000	50	1000	UG/L
FOAMING AGENTS (MBAS)	12/19/2017	<	0.05	0.5	0	0.5	MG/L
IRON	8/26/2014		240	300	100	300	UG/L
MAGNESIUM	8/26/2014		7	0	0	0	MG/L
<b>Well 29</b>							
Group/Constituent Identification	Sampling Date		Result	MCL	DLR	Trigger	Unit
<b>PRIMARY DRINKING WATER DETECTIONS</b>							
NITRATE (AS NO3)	9/3/2020		0.4	45	2	23	MG/L
NITRATE (as N)	9/3/2020	<	ND	10	0.4	5	mg/L
GROSS ALPHA	12/19/2017		1.32	15	3		PCI/L
RADIUM 228	5/9/2017		1	0	1	0	PCI/L
FLUORIDE (F) (NATURAL-SOURCE)	8/26/2014	<	0.1	2	0.1	2	MG/L
ARSENIC	8/26/2014	<	2	10	2	5	UG/L
<b>SECONDARY DRINKING WATER DETECTIONS</b>							
ODOR THRESHOLD @ 60 C	12/19/2017	<	1	3	1	3	TON
PH, LABORATORY	8/26/2014		6.9	0	0	0	
SODIUM	8/26/2014		8	0	0	0	MG/L
SPECIFIC CONDUCTANCE	8/26/2014		210	1600	0	900	US
SULFATE	8/26/2014		3.8	500	0.5	250	MG/L
TOTAL DISSOLVED SOLIDS	8/26/2014		140	1000	0	500	MG/L
TURBIDITY, LABORATORY	9/03/2020	<	17.7	5	0.1	5	NTU
ZINC	8/26/2014		50	5000	50	5000	UG/L
BICARBONATE ALKALINITY	8/26/2014		120	0	0	0	MG/L
CALCIUM	8/26/2014		25	0	0	0	MG/L
CARBONATE ALKALINITY	8/26/2014	<	10	0	0	0	MG/L
CHLORIDE	8/26/2014	<	1	500	0	250	MG/L

COLOR	9/3/2020	<	5	15	0	15	UNITS
COPPER	9/3/2020	<	ND	1000	50	1000	UG/L
FOAMING AGENTS (MBAS)	12/19/2017	<	0.05	0.5	0	0.5	MG/L
IRON	8/26/2014		100	300	100	300	UG/L
<b>Well 33</b>							
Group/Constituent Identification	Sampling Date		Result	MCL	DLR	Trigger	Unit
<b>PRIMARY DRINKING WATER DETECTIONS</b>							
NITRATE (AS NO3)	8/19/2019		ND	45	2	23	MG/L
NITRITE (AS N)	8/18/2019	<	ND	1000	0.4	5	UG/L
GROSS ALPHA	4/1/2020		19	15	3	5	PCI/L
RADIUM 228	10/20/2020		.073	2	1	0	PCI/L
BARIUM	8/21/2018	<	100	1000	100	1000	UG/L
<b>SECONDARY DRINKING WATER DETECTIONS</b>							
ODOR THRESHOLD @ 60 C	12/26/2017		1	3	1	3	TON
PH, LABORATORY	12/26/2017		6.7	0	0	0	
SODIUM	12/26/2017		8	0	0	0	MG/L
SPECIFIC CONDUCTANCE	12/26/2017		249	1600	0	900	US
TURBIDITY, LABORATORY	1/23/2018		2.1	5	0.1	5	NTU
BICARBONATE ALKALINITY	12/26/2017		10	0	0	0	MG/L
CALCIUM	11/4/2014		29	0	0	0	MG/L
COLOR	12/26/2017		5	15			
COPPER	12/26/2017	<	50	1000	50		UG/L
FOAMING AGENTS (MBAS)	12/26/2017	<	.05	.5		.5	MG/L
HARDNESS (TOTAL)AS CaCO3	12/26/2017		105				MG/L
HYDROXIDE ALKALINITY	12/26/2017		10				MG/L
IRON	1/23/2018		100	300	100		UG/L
CHLORIDE	12/26/2017		1	500	0	250	MG/L
MAGNESIUM	12/26/2017		8	0	0	0	MG/L
MANGANESE	12/26/2017	<	20	50	20		UG/L
SODIUM	12/26/2017		8				MG/L
SPECIFIC CONDUCTANCE	12/26/2017		249	1600			US
SULFATE	12/26/2017		3.2	500	.5	250	MG/L
TOTAL DISSOLVED SOLIDS	12/26/2017		190	1000			MG/L
URANIUM	4/1/2020		16.0	20	1	20	UG/L
ZINC	12/26/2017		550	5000	50		UG/L