


CITY OF HOONAH

Annual Water Quality Report for Previous Year: 2023

What to expect from this report:

-  Hoonah's Water Source Information
-  Contaminants in Drinking Water
-  Water Quality Tables
-  Supporting Information
-  Additional Information



HOONAH'S WATER SOURCE

The watershed is restricted from public use. The overall protection area is about 1.5 square miles.

Surface water run off is collected at the base of Ear Mountain and gravity fed to the water plant where it is filtered and disinfected before being distributed to the storage tanks in town.



CONTAMINANTS



Examples of Tap and Bottled Water Contaminants & Their Sources

CONTAMINANTS IN WATER

Drinking water, including bottled water, may contain contaminants, the presence of which do not necessarily pose a health hazard. Both tap and bottled water are sourced from rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells



Hoonah's Water Source: The Alaska drinking water program's source water assessment determined that our water source at Ear Mountain is **most susceptible to bacteria and viruses.**

Our treatment process uses filtration and disinfection to ensure that these contaminants are removed prior to reaching your tap. The assessment also found that Ear Mountain has medium vulnerability to nitrates/nitrites, VOCs, inorganics/heavy metals, SOCs and other organic chemicals. We have detected 2 contaminants (barium and fluoride) in our drinking water source, both of which were naturally occurring and measured in concentrations below regulatory levels.

Lead in drinking water is primarily from plumbing materials. If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. Testing methods and steps you can take to minimize exposure are available at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>

More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the **EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).**





WATER QUALITY



The EPA and state of Alaska require the monitoring of many contaminants at regular intervals but not necessarily annually. Only those contaminants shown below were found in your water. At low levels, these are generally not harmful. Please see the Definitions page for clarifications.

Max Allowed

CONTAMINANT	MCLG OR MRDLG	MCL, TT, MRDL	YOUR WATER	RANGE		SAMPLE YEAR	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
				(LOW)	(HIGH)			
Inorganic Contaminants – Sampled at Source								
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.0034	NA	NA	19	No	Discharge of drilling wastes, Discharge from metal refineries, Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.26	NA	NA	19	No	Erosion of natural deposits, Water additive for promotion of strong teeth, Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Disinfection Byproducts – LRAA Sampled at Pt. Sophia								
TTHM (ppb)	Note ¹	80	33 ²	33	48	22/23	No	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
HAA5 (ppb)	Note ¹	60	46 ²	46	64	22/23	Yes	
Water Cloudiness Indicator								
Turbidity (NTU)	NA	1	NA	0.130	0.580	23	No	Soil runoff
	100%	95% ≤ 0.3	100% ³	--	--	23	No	
CONTAMINANT	MCLG	AL	YOUR WATER	# SAMPLES EXCEED AL	SAMPLE DATE	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE	
Lead ⁴ (ppb)	0	15 ⁴	0.0000092	0	21	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, Erosion of natural deposits	
Copper ⁴ (ppm)	1.3	1.3 ⁴	0.36	0	21	No		

¹ MCLGs for DBPs are specific to the type of DBP. More information can be found on the EPA's website.

² Most recent LRAA from Q4 of 2023.

³ Turbidity must be ≤ 0.3 NTU for at least 95% of the samples in any month. Hoonah's water satisfied this requirement.

⁴ Action level at consumer taps.

⁵ Results of voluntary monitoring for Giardia lamblia were negative.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Clarifying Information About the Temporary Violation

TEMPORARY VIOLATION

We conducted tests for over 80 contaminants. Only 7 contaminants were detected and of those, 1 temporarily exceeded drinking water standards. See below.

DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS - TOTAL HALOACETIC ACIDS

The City of Hoonah uses a common disinfectant called hypochlorite to destroy and deactivate organisms that could otherwise make people sick. When the disinfectant reacts with naturally-occurring organic material in the water, disinfection byproducts (DPBs), such as haloacetic acids (HAA5s), can be formed. Wet weather events in the fall can increase the amount of organic material in the water and make DPB formation more likely.

When a DBP sample is collected, the results are averaged with the previous three quarterly samples, for reporting as the LRAA. DBP samples for Hoonah are collected at **Point Sophia**, the furthest point of the distribution system, to ensure the oldest water is tested. The LRAA for HAA5s exceeded the regulated levels in the first quarter of 2023.

Those who drink DBPs beyond the MCL over many years may experience problems with liver, kidneys, or central nervous system, and may increase risk of getting cancer.

We are committed to providing you clear information and compliant drinking water.



HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

If you would like to be involved with an emergency response team, contact us at pudd@cityofhoonah.org or call 907-957-2387.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Definitions, Vulnerable Populations, and Contact Info

DEFINITIONS

AL	action level
DBP	disinfection by-product, such as HAA5 or TTHM
FANL	facility analyte level
HAA5	haloacetic acids
LRAA	local running annual average – the average of analytical results for samples taken at a particular monitoring location during the previous four calendar quarters.
MCL	maximum contamination level – the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available technology.
MCLG	maximum contamination level goal – the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
MNR	monitored, not regulated
MPL	maximum permissible level, per the state
MRDL	maximum residual disinfection level – 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.
MRDLG	maximum residual disinfection level goal – the level of a 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.

NA not applicable

ND not detected

NR not required to be monitored, but recommended

NTU nephelometric turbidity unit

pCi/L picocuries per liter (measure of radioactivity)

ppb parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)

ppm parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)

TTHM total trihalomethanes

TT treatment technique: a required process to reduce the level of a contaminant

Variations and exemptions – EPA or state permission to not meet the MCL or treatment technique, under certain conditions.

VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

Immuno-compromised persons such as those undergoing chemotherapy, organ transplant recipients/donors, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants may be more vulnerable to contaminants. Seek advice from your health care provider. The EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791) provides EPA/CDC guidelines to reduce the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Contact Ron Roberts at 907-957-2387 or
PO Box 360
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