

Public Notice-Water Quality Violation Non-Acute
Violation-Total Coliforms Positive

The water delivery system at the Big Flat Guard Station has been found to be in violation of the National Primary Drinking Water regulations. Water tests have shown total coliforms present.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EP A) sets drinking water standards and has determined that the presence of total coliforms is a possible health concern. Total coliforms are common in the environment and are generally not harmful themselves. The presence of these bacteria in drinking water, however, generally is a result of a problem with water treatment or the pipes that distribute the water, and indicates that the water may be with organisms that can cause disease. Disease symptoms may include diarrhea, cramps, nausea, and possibly jaundice, and any associated headaches and fatigue. These symptoms, however, are not just associated with disease causing organisms in your drinking water, but also may be caused by a number of factors other than your drinking water. EP A has set an enforceable drinking water standard for total coliforms to reduce the risk of these adverse health effects. Under this standard, no more than 5.0 percent of the samples collected during a month can contain these bacteria; except systems collecting fewer than 40 samples per month that have one total coliform positive sample per month, are not violating the standard. Drinking water that meets this standard is usually not associated with a health risk from disease causing bacteria and should be considered safe.

The Utah Department of Environmental Quality does not believe this problem is serious enough to issue "boil order" at this time, but has urged us to solve the problem as soon as possible. We are taking all necessary steps to identify and correct this problem.

Public access to all water hydrants at the Big Flat Guard Station were closed to public access on August 6, 2009, as a result of the coliform positive bac-T sample taken on August 4. Required repeat samples will be taken as soon as the electrical problem with the pump and solar panel can be repaired.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER Monitoring
Requirements Not Met for Big Flat Ranger Station

Our water system violated several drinking water standards over the past year. Even though these were not emergencies, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we did to correct these situations.

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. During August and September of 2009 we 'did not complete all monitoring or testing for coliforms and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during that time.

The table below lists the contaminant(s) we did not properly test for during the last year, how often we are supposed to sample for this contaminant and how many samples we are supposed to take, how many samples we took, when samples should have been taken, and the date on which follow-up samples were (or will be) taken.

Contaminant	Required sampling frequency	Number of samples taken	When all samples should have been taken	When samples were or will be taken
Total Coliform	1 sample every month	1	August 2009	August 2009
Repeat samples	4 for each coliform positive sample	0	August 2009	July 2010
Total Coliform	5 for the month following a positive sample	0	September 2009	July 2010

One water sample was taken in August 2009. It was total coliform positive, meaning that 4 repeat samples were required for the month of August and 5 routine samples were to be taken in September of 2009. In early August someone, attempting to get water from the system, plugged the ac/dc plug and the 12 volt water pump plug into the same outlet and effectively fried the wiring in the solar panel. Until the solar panel can be repaired, no water samples can be taken. Repairs to the system are not likely to be completed until the 2010 season.

For more information, please contact Von Gillies at 438-2436 or Beaver Ranger District, PO Box E, Beaver, UT 84713.

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