

Appendix P: Responsibilities for Water Sampling: Group A Public Water Systems

The following are water sampling and reporting procedures to be followed by the Permit Holder and Forest Service. The objective for developing these procedures is to ensure that our recreation water systems are safe for public use and to ensure that testing and reporting procedures are conducted in a timely manner according to State and EPA mandated procedures.

CHEMICAL TEST – NITRATE

Conduct annually: Holder responsibility

Contract with State-certified lab to do the test. Lab sends report to State Department of Health (DOH) and Holder. If test result is >5 mg/l, contact the Forest Service water program manager at Forest Headquarters to evaluate options.

MICROBIOLOGICAL TESTS (COLIFORM)

Routine Tests

Holder is responsible to conduct one routine test per month per distribution system, for every full or partial calendar month of operation. Consider each hand pump a separate water system.

Conduct test on approximately the same date early in each month. Contract with state-certified lab to perform the test. Holder sends results to the Forest Service permit administrator (District or Monument) at the

end of each month. Forest Service records results on FS Form 160.

Monthly tests are to be taken in locations outlined in the system coliform monitoring plan. The monitoring plan is designed to ensure that a system is routinely sampled at varied representative locations. If system has been chlorinated, indicate on lab form and include the residual value.

Positive Test

If a routine test is positive for total or fecal coliform, the lab notifies the Holder (operator) and the State Drinking Water Division within 24 hours or by the next business day after the positive results are reported.

Repeat Tests

Positive routine tests must be followed by four (4) repeat tests which are the Holder's responsibility. Follow procedures in the system coliform monitoring plan for location and timing of repeat samples. System may stay open for public use until a repeat sample is positive (non-acute MCL violation).

Positive Repeat

Laboratory notifies State DOH and Holder if a repeat test is positive. Holder must post public notice at the site within 24 hours of the positive repeat sample. Notice shall be posted

in central locations and anywhere that the water is available for consumption.

Within 24 hours after the public notice is posted, the Holder will mail or FAX copies to the State DOH and the Forest Service permit administrator (District or Monument), with an explanation of how, when, and where the noticed was posted.

Additional Repeats

After corrective action has been taken (shock chlorination, flushing, cleaning, etc.) 2 to 4 additional repeat tests are required. A minimum of two consecutive negative repeats are required before the system is in compliance and the Public Notice can be removed. If the additional repeat tests are still positive, Holder notifies the Forest Service permit administrator and the Forest Water Program Manager, and coordinates closely with the Forest Service and State DOH to evaluate options and initiate further corrective action.

Negative Repeat

If the repeat tests are negative, the water system is in compliance. Public Notice may be removed and the State DOH should be notified.

Next Month

The month following a positive routine test, the Holder is responsible for taking five routine tests. These tests are to be taken from throughout the distribution system.

SPECIALIZED CONTACTS

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