

# 2017 Consumer Confidence Report 2016 Data

## Meeting the water needs of our customers

*by working to provide safe, affordable water to the residents of the Uncompahgre Valley. Our goal is to provide you, the consumer, with a constant and dependable supply of safe water. We routinely monitor water supplies for quality.*



### TO YOUR GOOD HEALTH

The drinking water providers of the Uncompahgre Valley in compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act are pleased to present this annual water quality report. It summarizes information that your water system already routinely collects concerning your domestic water. This report was prepared in cooperation with the Project 7 Water Authority who is responsible for treating our domestic water.

This report includes where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies.

Project 7 and all the water providers in our valley are committed to providing you and your family with safe drinking water that meets or exceeds the highest of standards.

If you wish to attend the next Board or Council meeting of your water provider, please contact your respective entity at the telephone number provided on this page.

Esta información es con respecto a la calidad del agua que Usted recibe. Si tiene alguna pregunta o comentario, por favor comuníquese con Anna Canada, 240-1464 en horas de oficina.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL  
or visit [www.project7water.org](http://www.project7water.org)**

<b>Project 7 Water</b>	<b>Fred Waldman</b>	<b>249-5935</b>
<b>City of Montrose</b>	<b>David Bries</b>	<b>240-1480</b>
<b>City of Delta</b>	<b>Ralph Shearer</b>	<b>874-7566</b>
<b>Chipeta Water</b>	<b>Matt Collier</b>	<b>249-8871</b>
<b>Menoken Water</b>	<b>John McMillan</b>	<b>249-3242</b>
<b>Town of Olathe</b>	<b>Scott Eklund</b>	<b>323-5601</b>
<b>Tri-County Water</b>	<b>Kathleen Margetts</b>	<b>249-3369</b>

**Para Espanol      Anna Canada      240-1464**

## TEST RESULTS

The state requires Project 7 to monitor for certain substances less than once per year because the concentrations of these substances are not expected to vary significantly from year to year, or the system is not considered vulnerable to this type of contamination. Some of Project 7's data (lead/copper), though representative, is more than one year old.

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. Although all drinking water may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some substances, it is important to remember that the presence of these substances does not necessarily pose a health risk.

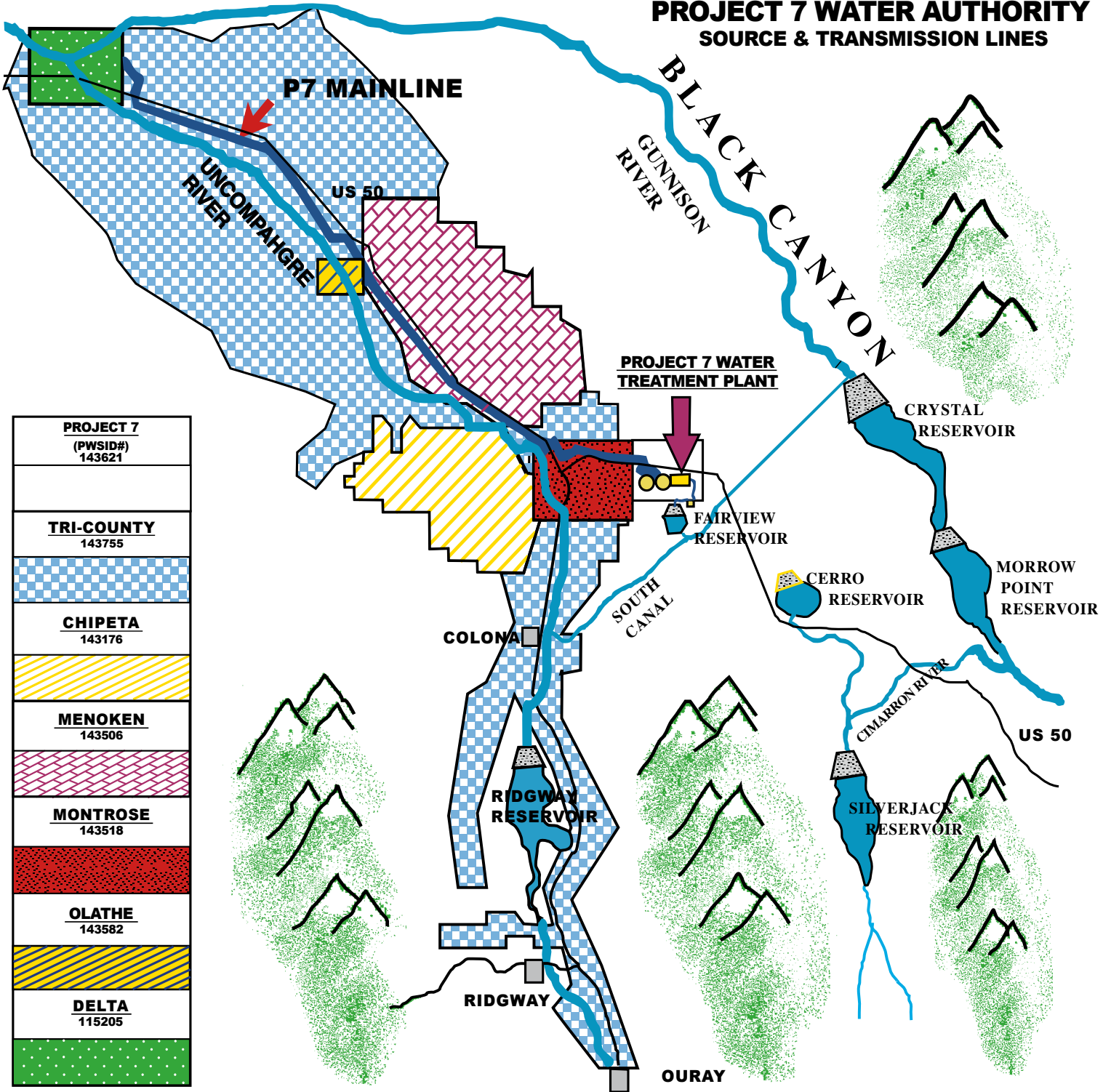
More information on this subject can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791. Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- 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, which 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, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and also may come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, 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, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

***Safe Digging is No Accident...Always call 811 Before You Dig!***

# PROJECT 7 WATER AUTHORITY SOURCE & TRANSMISSION LINES



Each system has a six digit PWSID# assigned to it by the state for regulatory purposes.

The majority of the water treated by Project 7 originates in the Gunnison River and the Blue Mesa system. The remainder of our water comes from the Silver Jack Reservoir system.

The treated water is disbursed to the six distribution entities through connections along Project 7's mainline.

Project 7 uses chloramines to keep the water safe in the distribution system.

Although chloramines are SAFE for people, they create special challenges for fish and dialysis patients.

Please visit our website for more information: [www.project7water.org](http://www.project7water.org)

The Colorado Department of Health and Environment (CDPHE) completed a Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP) for the Project 7 watershed in 2004. This report cited potential sources of contamination, which mostly consisted of existing/abandoned mines and storage tanks.

The full report is available online at: [www.cdphe.state.co.us/wq/sw/swaphom.html](http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/wq/sw/swaphom.html)

Raw Water Source- LT2 Data ^			
Contaminant	Year	# of Positives	Sample Size
Giardia	2016	2	3
E. Coli	2016	2	3

^ LT2-Long Term 2 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule Source Water Monitoring Rule requires large treatment plants to test for pathogens in raw water to determine the relative risk of those pathogens in the treatment process.

Giardia is a microbial pathogen found in surface water throughout the United States. Although filtration removes Giardia, the most commonly used filtration methods cannot guarantee 100 percent removal. Our monitoring indicates the presence of these organisms in our source water and/or finished water. Current test methods do not allow us to determine if the organisms are dead or if they are capable of causing disease. Ingestion of Giardia may cause giardiasis, an abdominal infection. Symptoms of infection include nausea, diarrhea, and abdominal cramps. Most healthy individuals can overcome the disease within a few weeks. However, immuno-compromised people are at greater risk of developing life-threatening illness. We encourage immuno-compromised individuals to consult their doctor regarding appropriate precautions to take to avoid infection. Giardia must be ingested to cause disease, and it may be spread through means other than drinking water.

**Treated Water at entry point to distribution system**

Contaminant	Sample Date	Level Detected	AL/TT/MCL	MCLG	Range (High/Low)	Sample Size	Violation?	Likely Source of Substance
Fluoride	1/13/2016	0.2 ppm	4 ppm	4 ppm	-	1	NO	Discharge from fertilizer & aluminum factories; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Erosion of natural deposits & aluminum factories
Nitrate	1/13/2016	0.04 ppm	10 ppm	10 ppm	-	1	NO	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Hexachlorocyclopentadiene	11/4/2016	0.057 ppb	50 ppb	50 ppb	-	1	NO	Discharge from chemical factories
Total Organic Carbon (removal ratio)	1x/ Month	1.35 (avg)	1.00	N/A	1.26 /1.34	12	NO	Naturally present in the environment

**Turbidity Sampled at the Entry Point to the Distribution System**

Contaminant	Sample Date	Level Detected	TT Required	TT Violation?	Likely Source of Substance
Turbidity	4/22/2016	Highest single measurement 0.15 NTU	Maximum 1.0 NTU for any single measurement	NO	Soil Runoff
Turbidity	April 2016 (180 samples)	Lowest monthly % of samples meeting TT requirement for our technology : 100%	In any month, at least 95% of samples must be less than 0.3 NTU	NO	Soil Runoff

Contaminant	Sample Date	Level Detected	Secondary Standard	Range (High/Low)
Sodium	1/13/2016	9.8 ppm	N/A	9.8 ppm
Sulfate	1x/Month	58 ppm (avg)	250 ppm	45 ppm/ 84 ppm
Molybdenum	2013 (8 samples)	1.1ppb(avg)	N/A	0.2 ppb/ 1.46ppb
Strontium	2013 (8 samples)	252 ppb (avg)	N/A	152 ppb/ 440ppb
Vanadium	2013 (8 samples)	0.60 ppb (avg)	N/A	0.37 ppb/ 0.82ppb

**Distribution system**

Contaminant	Sample Date	Level Detected	AL/TT/MCL	MCLG	Range (High/Low)	Sample Size	Violation?	Likely Source of Substance
<b>Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)*</b>								By-product of drinking water chlorination
@ Chipeta Water Dist.*	4x/Year	22.2 ppb (avg.)	60 ppb	N/A	17.6 ppb/29.8 ppb	4	NO	
@ City of Delta*	4x/Year	16.1 ppb (avg.)	60 ppb	N/A	7.3 ppb/24.2 ppb	4	NO	
@ City of Montrose*	4x/Year	20.3 ppb (avg.)	60 ppb	N/A	15.0 ppb/25.2 ppb	4	NO	
@ Menoken Water Dist.*	4x/Year	22.3 ppb (avg.)	60 ppb	N/A	18.9 ppb/30.5 ppb	4	NO	
@ Town of Olathe*	4x/Year	24.3 ppb (avg.)	60 ppb	N/A	17.2 ppb/25.0 ppb	4	NO	
@ Tri-County Conserv. Dist.*	4x/Year	11.7ppb (avg.)	60 ppb	N/A	7.9 ppb/13.0ppb	4	NO	

<b>Total Trihalomethanes (THMs)*</b>								By-product of drinking water chlorination
@ Chipeta Water Dist.*	4x/Year	25.6 ppb (avg.)	80 ppb	N/A	20.8 ppb/32.2 ppb	4	NO	
@ City of Delta*	4x/Year	26.1 ppb (avg.)	80 ppb	N/A	21.2 ppb/31.8 ppb	4	NO	
@ City of Montrose*	4x/Year	25.9 ppb (avg.)	80 ppb	N/A	21.6 ppb/30.5 ppb	4	NO	
@ Menoken Water Dist.*	4x/Year	24.8 ppb (avg.)	80 ppb	N/A	19.8 ppb/28.9 ppb	4	NO	
@ Town of Olathe*	4x/Year	24.3 ppb (avg.)	80 ppb	N/A	19.7 ppb/28.8 ppb	4	NO	
@ Tri-County Conserv. Dist.*	4x/Year	26.3 ppb (avg.)	80 ppb	N/A	20.6 ppb/31.6 ppb	4	NO	

Lead*	8/5/14 - 8/20/14	13 ppb (avg.)	15 ppb	0 ppb	<5 ppb/13 ppb	30	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Copper*	8/5/14 - 8/20/14	0.89 ppm (avg.)	1.3 ppm	0 ppm	<1.3 ppm/1.5 ppm	30	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems.

**Note:** Of the 30 sites tested, 1 site exceeded the action level for lead & 1 site exceeded the action level for copper. 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. 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 or @ [www.epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead)

\*Dist Samples - Sample taken at residences or public buildings

Listed on the prior page are substances detected in our drinking water from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2016. Not listed are many other substances for which Project 7 tested but were not detected. A complete list of substances tested for is available from Project 7 Water Authority. Our systems have waivers for dioxin, glyphosate, cyanide, and Secondary standards are non-enforceable guidelines for contaminants that may cause cosmetic effects such as skin or tooth discoloration or aesthetic effects (such as taste, odor or color) in drinking water. EPA recommends these standards but does not require water systems to comply.

<b>Definitions:</b>
MCL - (Maximum Contaminant Level) - The "Maximum Allowed" is the highest level of a substance that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
MCLG - (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal) - The "Goal" is the level of a substance in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
ppm or mg/l - (parts per million or milligrams per liter) - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.
ppb - (parts per billion or micrograms per liter) - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years or a single penny in \$10,000,000.
NTU - (Nephelometric Turbidity Unit) - A measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.
TT - (Treatment Technique) - A required process intended to reduce the level of a substance in drinking water.
AL - (Action Level) - the concentration of a substance which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
Some people may be more vulnerable to substances in drinking water than the general public. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, those with HIV-AIDS or other immune systems disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk of infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers or the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.
<b>Potential Health Effects from Long-Term Exposure Above the MCL (unless specified as short-term)</b>

**FLUORIDE** - Some people who drink water containing fluoride in excess of the MCL over many years could get bone disease, including pain and tenderness of the bones. Fluoride in drinking water at half the MCL or more may cause mottling of children's teeth, usually in children less than nine years old. Mottling, also known as dental fluorosis, may include brown staining and/or pitting of the teeth, and occurs only in developing teeth before they erupt from the gums.

**CARBON, TOTAL** - Total organic carbon (TOC) has no health effects. However, total organic carbon provides a medium for the formation of disinfection by products.

**COPPER** - Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's Disease should consult their personal doctor.

**TOTAL TRIHALOMETHANES (TTHM)** - Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

**TOTAL HALOACETIC ACIDS (HAA5)** - Some people who drink water containing haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

**HEXACHLOROCYCLOPENTADIENE** - Some people who drink water containing hexachlorocyclopentadiene well in excess of the MCL over many years could experience problems with their kidneys or stomach.

**LEAD** - Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure.

**TURBIDITY** - Turbidity has no health effects. However, turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity may indicate the presence of disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites that can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea and associated headaches.

EPA has implemented the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR) to collect data for contaminants that are suspected to be present in drinking water and do not have health-based standards set under the Safe Drinking Water Act. EPA uses the results of UCMR monitoring to learn about the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and to decide whether or not these contaminants will be regulated in the future. We performed monitoring and reported the analytical results of the monitoring to EPA in accordance with its Third Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR3). Once EPA reviews the submitted results, the results are made available in the EPA's National Contaminant Occurrence Database (NCOD) (<http://www.epa.gov/dwucmr/national-contaminant-occurrence-database-ncod>) Consumers can review UCMR results by accessing the NCOD. Contaminants that were detected during our UCMR3 sampling and the corresponding analytical results are provided above and *italicized*.

**Notice of violation:**

On 3/7/2017 Project 7 Water Authority received a Tier 3 violation notice from the Colorado Dept. of Public Health and Environment. The state requires Project 7 to sample its raw untreated water for LT2^ data collection to determine the relative risk for microbial contamination of its source water. The sample was taken 11/9/16, 1 day outside (early) of the 5 day sampling window for November 2016 (11/15/16). There are no health effects or potential health effects due to this violation. Our treatment process is designed to remove the microbiological contaminants being tested for in the raw water. Please feel free to call Project 7 if you have any additional questions.