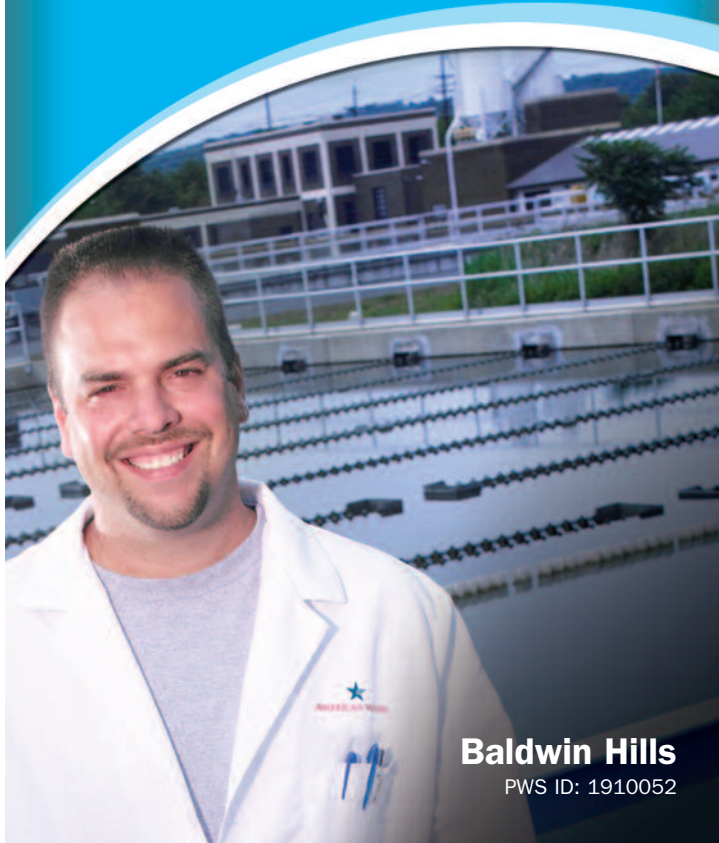


2008 Annual Consumer Confidence Report



Baldwin Hills

PWS ID: 1910052

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

Mahalaga ang impormasyong ito. Mangyaring ipasalin ito.

A Message from Robert MacLean, President

As a trusted leader in the industry, California American Water places a strong emphasis on sharing information about the quality of the water we provide with our customers.

One way we do this is by reporting to you annually the results of our tests on the water we deliver to your home. Please review this Consumer Confidence Report (CCR), which outlines information applicable to your local water system for testing completed through December, 2008. You'll find that we provide water that surpasses or meets all federal and state water quality regulations. In fact, we often address regulations well before they go into effect.

Just as important, California American Water makes the necessary investments to maintain and upgrade its facilities, so that we can deliver quality water directly to your tap 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Our customers are our top priority, and we are committed to providing them with the highest quality drinking water and service possible now and in the years to come. In addition to this written report, you can view information about California American Water and your water system on our website <http://www.amwater.com>. For more information or for any questions about this report relating to your drinking water, please contact California American Water at (888) 237-1333.

Robert MacLean

What is a Consumer Confidence Report (CCR)?

To comply with state and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) regulations, California American Water issues an annual CCR describing the quality of your drinking water. The purpose of this report is to raise your understanding of drinking water and awareness of the need to protect your drinking water sources. In 2008, we conducted tests for over 250 contaminants at numerous sampling points in your water system, all of which were below state and federal maximum allowable levels. This report provides an overview of last year's (2008) water quality. It includes details about where your water comes from and what it contains. This data presented in this report is a combination of data from our local water quality laboratory, our nationally recognized main water quality lab, and commercial laboratories all certified in drinking water testing by the State of California Department of Health Services.

If you have any questions about this report or your drinking water, please call our California Customer Service Center at (888) 237-1333.

About Your Water

Baldwin Hills is primarily served by groundwater sources in the West-Central Basin and supplemented with purchased drinking water from the Metropolitan Water District (MWD) of Southern California. Purchased drinking water from MWD is created by the conventional treatment (coagulation, filtration, and disinfection) of raw surface water. MWD has two sources of supply which are the Colorado River and the Sacramento Delta. Water is conveyed to Los Angeles via the Colorado and California Aqueducts respectively. In October 2007, MWD started adding fluoride to their treated water at an optimized target level of 0.8 mg/L. Our ground water supplies naturally contain fluoride at ~0.4 mg/L. Groundwater supplies are disinfected with chlorine to ensure the bacteriological quality. California American Water distributes water for residential and commercial use throughout the communities of Ladera Heights, Windsor Hills and View Park within an unincorporated area of Los Angeles County.

For more treatment information, please refer to the links provided for California American Water and the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

About American Water

Founded in 1886, American Water is the largest investor-owned U.S. water and wastewater utility company. With headquarters in Voorhees, N.J., the company employs more than 7,000 dedicated professionals who provide drinking water, wastewater and other related services to approximately 15 million people in 32 states and Ontario, Canada.

Notice of Source Water Assessment

An assessment of California American Water's Baldwin Hills system was completed in February 2003. No man-made contaminants have been detected in most of the groundwater supplies. The sources are considered most vulnerable to the following activities (associated with contaminants detected in the water supply): automobile-repair shops and body shops, metal planting/finishing/fabricating, landfills/dumps, and sewer collections systems. The sources are considered vulnerable to the following activities (although not associated with any detected chemicals): automobile gas stations, automobile body shops, automobile repair shops, sewer collection systems, water supply wells, chemical/petroleum processing/storage, and dry cleaners.

A copy of the completed assessment may be viewed at: California American Water; 8657 Grand Avenue; Rosemead, CA 91770-1221. You may request a summary of the assessment be sent to you by contacting: Joe Marcinko, Water Quality Superintendent, (626) 614-2538.

In December 2002, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California completed its source water assessment of its State Water Project supplies. State Water Project supplies are considered to be most vulnerable to urban/storm water runoff, wildlife, agriculture, recreation and wastewater. A copy of the assessment can be obtained by contacting Metropolitan by phone at (213) 217-6850.

Educational Information – Special Health Information

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 water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (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 may be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. USEPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800) 426-4791.

Our Water Research Efforts

Cryptosporidium is a pathogenic protozoan found in the surface water throughout the United States. Although filtration removes Cryptosporidium, the most commonly used filtration methods cannot guarantee 100% removal. Ingestion of Cryptosporidium may cause cryptosporidiosis, an abdominal infection. Symptoms of infection include nausea, diarrhea, and abdominal cramps. Most healthy individuals can overcome the disease within a few weeks. People with severely weakened immune systems have a risk of developing life-threatening illness. We encourage immuno-compromised individuals to consult their doctor regarding appropriate precautions to take to avoid infection. Current test methods do not allow us to determine if the organisms are dead or if they are capable of causing disease. Cryptosporidium must be ingested to cause disease, and it may be spread through means other than drinking water. Researchers with American Water have developed a new, more accurate test for Cryptosporidium in water. Our testing has shown this organism consistently absent in our drinking water. Cryptosporidium must be ingested to cause disease, and it may be spread through means other than drinking water.

For additional information regarding cryptosporidiosis and how it may affect those with weakened immune systems, please contact our Customer Service Center at (888) 237-1333 or speak to your health care provider.

Chloramine Statement

Chloramines are a California and federally-approved alternative to free chlorine for water disinfection. Chloramines minimize disinfection by-product formation. Another benefit of chloramines is improved taste of the water as compared with free chlorine. Chloramines are also used by many American Water systems and many other water utilities nationally. Chloramines have the same effect as chlorine for typical water uses with the exception that chloramines must be removed from water used in kidney dialysis and fish tanks or aquariums. Treatments to remove chloramines are different than treatments for removing chlorine. Please contact your physician or dialysis specialist for questions pertaining to kidney dialysis water treatment. Contact your pet store or veterinarian for questions regarding water used for fish and other aquatic life. You may also contact our Customer Service Center at (888) 237-1333 for more chloramine information.

How to Contact Us

If you have any questions about this report, your drinking water, or service, please call California American Water's Customer Service toll free: (888) 237-1333.

Water Information Sources

- **California American Water**
www.amwater.com
- **California Department of Health Services**
<http://www2.cdph.ca.gov/programs/Pages/DDWEM.aspx>
- **United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA)**
www.epa.gov/safewater
- **Safe Drinking Water Hotline: (800) 426-4791**
- **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**
www.cdc.gov
- **Metropolitan Water District of Southern California**
<http://www.mwdh2o.com>
- **American Water Works Association**
www.awwa.org
- **Water Quality Association**
www.wqa.org
- **National Library of Medicine/
National Institute of Health**
www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/drinkingwater.html

What are the Sources of Contaminants?

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 human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

Microbial Contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which 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 may result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.

Pesticides and Herbicides, which 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 may also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, agricultural application, and septic systems.

Radioactive Contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or may be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, USEPA and the California Department of Health Services (Department) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Department regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

Important Information About Your Drinking Water

Action Level Exceeded for Lead – Lead was found in several samples that exceeds the AL (Action Level) of 15 ppb. 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. We have implemented a corrosion control strategy to control the lead levels in the water and this has made us compliant with the Lead regulations since 2006.

Lead – is a naturally occurring element in our environment. Consequently, our water supply is expected to contain small, undetectable amounts of lead. However, most of the lead in household water usually comes from the plumbing in your own home, not from the local water supply. USEPA estimates that more than 40 million U.S. residents use water that can contain lead in excess of USEPA's Action Level of 15 ppb. Lead in drinking water is a concern because young children, infants and fetuses appear to be particularly vulnerable to lead poisoning. A dose that would have little effect on an adult can have a big effect on a small body. On average, it is estimated that lead in drinking water contributes between 10 and 20 percent of the total lead exposure in young children. All kinds of water, however, may have high levels of lead. To reduce lead levels in your drinking water you should flush your cold-water pipes by running the water until it becomes as cold as it will get (anywhere from 5 seconds to 2 minutes or longer) and use only water from the cold-water tap for drinking, cooking, and especially for making baby formula. Hot water is likely to contain higher levels of lead.

For more information, please contact the National Lead Information Center (800-LEAD-FYI) or the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Radon

Radon is a radioactive gas that you can't see, taste, or smell. It is found throughout the United States. Radon can move up through the ground and into a home through cracks and holes in the foundation. Radon can build up to high levels in all types of homes. Radon can also get into indoor air when released from tap water from showering, washing dishes, and other household activities. Compared to radon entering the home through soil, radon entering the home through tap water will in most cases be a small source of radon in indoor air. Radon is a known human carcinogen. Breathing air containing radon can lead to lung cancer. Drinking water containing radon may also cause increased risk of stomach cancer. If you are concerned about radon in your home, test the air in your home. Testing is inexpensive and easy. Fix your home if the level of radon in your air is 4 picocuries per liter of air pCi/L or higher. There are simple ways to fix a radon problem that aren't too costly. For additional information, call you State radon program or call the USEPA's Radon Hotline (800) SOS-RADON.

Notice of Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring (UCMR)

Testing was completed in 2003 for a list of contaminants specified by the USEPA. These results were reported directly to the USEPA. Unregulated contaminants are those for which the USEPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist the USEPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether regulation is warranted.

The results of this monitoring are incorporated in the data tables in this report as appropriate. For more information, contact our Customer Service Center at (888) 237-1333.

How to Read This Table

California American Water conducts extensive monitoring to ensure that your water meets all water quality standards. The results of our monitoring are reported in the following tables. While most monitoring was conducted in 2008, certain substances are monitored less than once per year because the levels do not change frequently. For help with interpreting this table, see the "Table Definitions" section.

Starting with a **Substance**, read across. **Year Sampled** is usually in 2008 or year prior. **MCL** shows the highest level of substance (contaminant) allowed. **MCLG** is the goal level for that substance (this may be lower than what is allowed). **Average Amount Detected** represents the measured amount (less is better). **Range** tells the highest and lowest amounts measured. A **No** under **Violation** indicates government requirements were met. **Major Sources in Drinking Water** tells where the substance usually originates.

Unregulated substances are measured, but maximum allowed contaminant levels have not been established by the government.

Definitions of Terms Used in This Report

- **AL (Action Level):** The concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements, that a water system must follow.
- **MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level):** The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's as feasible using the best available treatment technology. Secondary MCL's (SMCL) are set to protect the odor, taste, and appearance of drinking water.
- **MCLG (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal):** The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.
- **MFL:** Million fibers per liter.
- **MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level):** The highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
- **MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal):** The level of drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLG's do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contamination.
- **NA:** Not applicable
- **ND:** Not detected
- **Notification Level:** The concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, requires notification to CDHS and the consumer. Not an enforceable standard.
- **NS:** No standard
- **NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Units):** Measurement of the clarity, or turbidity, of the water.
- **pCi/L (picocuries per liter):** Measurement of the natural rate of disintegration of radioactive contaminants in water (also beta particles).
- **PDWS (Primary Drinking Water Standard):** MCL's for contaminants that affect health along with their monitoring and reporting requirements, and water treatment requirements.
- **pH:** A measurement of acidity, 7.0 being neutral.
- **PHG (Public Health Goal):** The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. PHG's are set by the California EPA.
- **ppb (parts per billion):** One part substance per billion parts water, or micrograms per liter.
- **ppm (parts per million):** One part substance per million parts water, or milligrams per liter.
- **ppt (parts per trillion):** One part substance per trillion parts water, or nanograms per liter.
- **TON:** Threshold Odor Number
- **Total Dissolved Solids:** An overall indicator of the amount of minerals in water.
- **TT (Treatment Technique):** A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
- **Variations and Exemptions:** State or USEPA permission not to meet an MCL or utilize a treatment technique under certain conditions.
- **µmhos/cm (micromhos per centimeter):** A measure of electrical conductance.
- **%:** means percent

Water Quality Statement

Last year, as in years past, your tap water met all USEPA and California State drinking water standards. In 2005 and 2006, we introduced a corrosion inhibitor to remediate the lead leaching problem. As of April 2006, we are pleased to report that the corrosion inhibitor is working and we are in compliance with the lead standard.

Water Quality Results: Baldwin Hills - 2008

| Regulated Substances (Measured on the Water Leaving the Treatment Facility or within the Distribution System) | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--------------|--|----------------------------------|-------------------------|--|------------------------------------|----------------|--|---|
| Substance (units) | Year Sampled | MCL | PHG (MCLG) | Baldwin Hills | | MWD - Jensen Plant | | Violation | Major Sources in Drinking Water |
| | | | | Average Amount Detected | Range Low-High | Average Amount Detected | Range Low-High | | |
| Gross Alpha Particle Activity (pCi/L) | 2008 | 15 | NA | 4.5 | 3.4 - 6 | 3.4 | ND - 7.3 | No | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Arsenic (ppb) | 2008 | 10 | 0.004 | 1.0 | 1.0 | 2.3 | 2.0 - 2.8 | No | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Uranium (pCi/L) | 2008 | 20 | 0.43 | 4.9 | 3.9 - 6.6 | 1.8 | 1.6 - 2.0 | No | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Fluoride (ppm) | 2008 | 2.0 | 1 | 0.4 | 0.3 - 0.4 | 0.8 | 0.6 - 0.9 | No | Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories |
| Nitrate as NO ₃ (ppm) | 2008 | 45 | 45 | 8.9 | 0.9 - 24 | 3.1 | 2.7 - 4.0 | No | Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks and sewage; Erosion of natural deposits |
| Bromate (ppb) | 2008 | 13 | 13 | NA | NA | 8 | 4 - 10 | No | By-product of drinking water disinfection |
| Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (ppb) | 2008 | 80 | NA | 20.1 | ND - 41.7 | 20 | 5 - 51 | No | By-product of drinking water chlorination |
| Haloacetic Acids (ppb) | 2008 | 60 | NA | 4.1 | ND - 12.7 | 5 | 3 - 9 | No | By-product of drinking water chlorination |
| Chloramines (ppm) | 2008 | MRDL = 4.0 (as Cl ₂) | MRDL = 4.0 (as Cl ₂) | 1.29 | ND - 2.20 | 2.4 | 1.4 - 3.2 | No | Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment |
| Bacterial Results (from the Baldwin Hills Distribution System) | | | | | | | | | |
| Substance (units) | Year Sampled | MCL | | PHG (MCLG) | Highest Percentage Detected | | Violation | Typical Source | |
| Total Coliform Bacteria | 2008 | more than 5% of monthly samples are positive | | (0) | 3% | | No | Naturally present in the environment | |
| Secondary Substances (Measured on the Water Leaving the Treatment Facility or within the Distribution System) | | | | | | | | | |
| Substance (units) | Year Sampled | SMCL | PHG (MCLG) | Baldwin Hills | | MWD - Jensen Plant | | Violation | Typical Source |
| | | | | Results | Range Low-High | Results | Range Low-High | | |
| Chloride (ppm) | 2008 | 500 | NS | 48 | 48 - 48 | 75 | 72 - 80 | No | Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; Seawater influence |
| Color (color units) | 2008 | 15 | NS | 1 | ND - 10 | 2 | 1 - 2 | No | Naturally-occurring organic materials |
| Aluminum (ppb) | 2008 | 200 | 600 | ND | ND | 95 | 56 - 120 | No | Leaching from natural deposits; Industrial wastes |
| Manganese (ppb) | 2008 | 0.05 | NS | 14 | 6 - 25 | ND | ND | No | Leaching from natural deposits; Industrial wastes |
| Odor (units) | 2008 | 3 | NS | 1 | ND - 2 | 2 | 2 | No | Naturally-occurring organic materials |
| Specific Conductance (µmhos/cm) | 2008 | 1,600 | NS | 675 | 545 - 763 | 552 | 516 - 591 | No | Substances that form ions when in water; Seawater influence |
| Sulfate (ppm) | 2008 | 500 | NS | 93 | 93 - 93 | 58 | 47 - 71 | No | Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; Industrial wastes |
| Total Dissolved Solids (ppm) | 2007/2008 | 1000 | NS | 444 | 410 - 466 | 307 | 283 - 333 | No | Runoff/leaching from natural deposits |
| Turbidity (NTU) | 2008 | 5 | NS | 0.19 | 0.05 - 0.8 | 0.04 | 0.04 - 0.06 | No | Soil runoff |
| Turbidity - A Measure of the Clarity of the Water (at the MWD - Jensen Plant Treatment Facility) | | | | | | | | | |
| Plant | Year Sampled | MCL | | PHG (MCLG) | Level Found | | Violation | Typical Source | |
| Turbidity (NTU) | 2008 | TT = 1 NTU | | NA | 0.06 | | No | Soil runoff | |
| | | TT = percentage of samples < 0.3 NTU | | | 100% | | | | |
| Unregulated Substances (Measured on the Water Leaving the Treatment Facility or within the Distribution System) | | | | | | | | | |
| Substance (units) | Year Sampled | Notification Level | Baldwin Hills | | | MWD - Jensen Plant | | | |
| | | | Results | Range Low-High | Results | Range Low-High | | | |
| Boron (ppb) | 2008 | 1,000 | 140 | 140 - 140 | 180 | 150 - 200 | | | |
| Vanadium (ppb) | 2008 | 50 | ND | ND | 4.9 | 4.6 - 5.1 | | | |
| Tap Water Samples: Lead and Copper Results (from the Baldwin Hills Distribution System) | | | | | | | | | |
| Substance (units) | Year Sampled | Action Level | PHG (MCLG) | Number of Samples | Amount Detected at the 90th Percentile | Number of Homes Above Action Level | Violation | Typical Source | |
| Copper (ppm) | 2008 | 1.3 | 0.17 | 43 | 0.192 | 0 | No | Internal corrosion of household plumbing system; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives | |
| Lead (ppb) | 2008 | 15 | 2 | 43 | 8 | 3 | No | Internal corrosion of household water plumbing system; Discharges from industrial manufacturers; Erosion of natural deposits | |

Additional Water Quality Parameters of Interest

This table shows average levels of additional water quality parameters, which are often of interest to consumers. Values shown here are averages of operating data for 2008. Values may vary from day to day. There are no health-based limits for these substances in drinking water.

| Additional Constituents (Measured on the Water Leaving the Treatment Facility or within the Distribution System) | | | | | |
|--|--------------|-------------------------|----------------|-------------------------|----------------|
| Substance (units) | Year Sampled | Baldwin Hills | | MWD - Jensen Plant | |
| | | Average Amount Detected | Range Low-High | Average Amount Detected | Range Low-High |
| Alkalinity as CaCO ₃ (ppm) | 2008 | 164 | 154 - 173 | 86 | 81 - 92 |
| Calcium (ppm) | 2008 | 82 | 82 - 82 | 28 | 23 - 32 |
| Magnesium (ppm) | 2008 | 18 | 18 - 18 | 12 | 11 - 13 |
| Nitrosodimethylamine (NDMA) (ppt) | 2008 | NA | NA | 4.9 | 2.4 - 7.4 |
| Potassium (ppm) | 2008 | ND | ND | 2.8 | 2.6 - 3.0 |
| pH | 2008 | 7.6 | 7.2 - 8.4 | 8.3 | 8.2 - 8.4 |
| Radon (pCi/L) | 2008 | 391 | 237 - 519 | ND | ND |
| Sodium (ppm) | 2008 | 45 | 45 - 45 | 61 | 56 - 68 |
| Total Hardness as CaCO ₃ (ppm) | 2008 | 147 | 128 - 182 | 121 | 108 - 130 |