



800 NE Oregon Street, Suite #640
Portland, OR 97232-2162
(971) 673-0405
(971) 673-0694 – FAX
<http://healthoregon.org/dwp>

October 23, 2019

Steve Winfrey
Upper Coos River Water Association
64170 Solari Rd
Coos Bay, OR 97420

Re: Upper Coos River Water Association Site Visit

Dear Mr. Winfrey:

The Oregon Health Authority (OHA), Drinking Water Services (DWS) conducted a public water system site visit at the Upper Coos River Water Association on May 9, 2019. The purpose of this visit was to evaluate the water system source, treatment, storage, distribution network, operation, maintenance, and management in terms of capacity to provide safe drinking water. I have enclosed a copy of the report for your records. Please let me know if anything is incorrect.

Note that due to the population of Riverview Christian Fellowship having access to water from this system for consumption, your water system classification has been changed to *Transient Non-Community*. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Safe Drinking Water Act, defines *Transient Non-Community (TNC)* as: “A public water system that serves a transient population of 25 or more persons.”

Several issues with the system were identified and need to be corrected as soon as possible. **By December 31, 2019 you must submit a written corrective action plan** describing how and when the following requirements will be met:

1. **Install filtration** which adequately removes parasites and sediment (turbidity) from the water source. The most economical and effective options for small water systems are usually cartridge filtration, membrane filtration, or slow or rapid sand filtration. Only certain filtration systems meet criteria stipulated by DWS. You or a qualified contractor you select can work with DWS drinking water engineers to ensure an approved system is installed. Alternatively, a new groundwater well or spring source could be developed which many not need any treatment. During the site visit I noted the current spring source could potentially be captured as groundwater, prior to daylighting.
2. **Disinfect water** after it is filtered. Your water supply is not currently chlorinated. Filtered water needs to have adequate contact (storage) time with chlorine to disinfect. (Note: Water still must be filtered to remove parasites, even if disinfected, because chlorine is not very effective at killing *Cryptosporidium* and is only somewhat effective at killing *Giardia*.)
3. **Collect required chemical samples:** Nitrate should be sampled annually (last done in 2005, prior to most recent sample on 5/14/2019).
4. **Distribute the enclosed boil water notice** as well as post visibly in any outside areas with water system access (such as shared outside spigots). Until the drinking water is properly treated it is

imperative for the health of the community that all residents and visitors be routinely notified the water is not safe to drink due to risk of microbial contamination that could cause acute illness.

In addition, I recommend that you begin to monitor turbidity, water temperature, and pH daily. Routine turbidity sample results would help with making the best water treatment system selection. For example: if turbidity is very high, cartridge filtration without any backwashable pre-cartridge filtration may not be viable. pH and temperature are factors in determining the efficacy of chlorine disinfection and would be useful in determining how much storage contact time is needed.

If a corrective action plan addressing all stated requirements is not submitted by the December 31, 2019 deadline, a more formal enforcement process will be initiated. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at (971) 673-5393 or by email at daniel.l.hough@state.or.us. Your cooperation is appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Daniel Hough". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Daniel" and last name "Hough" clearly distinguishable.

Daniel Hough, REHS
Small Drinking Water System Specialist
Drinking Water Services

Enclosures: Water System Inspection Report, Boil Water Notice Template

CC: Rick Hallmark, Coos County Health Department
Daniel Fox, Riverview Christian Fellowship