



Lane County Environmental Health
Drinking Water Program
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September 26, 2013

Karl Dietzler
USFS
46375 HWY 58
Westfir, OR 97492

Dear Mr. Dietzler:

The well that supplies drinking water for USFS Salmon Creek Falls CG HP (Oregon Public Water System #4192809) is prone to fecal contamination. Due to the most recent *E. coli* detection in the well we are requesting that correction action be performed to assure that safe drinking water is provided from this source.

Coliform monitoring results show there have been 27 detections of total coliform and 5 detections of *E. coli* in the past five years at this hand-pump well. Due to the increased amount of detections of coliform and e-coli in the water system we are requesting you perform corrective action on the well.

Corrective action:

- Eliminate the source of contamination; this may include any sanitary hazard setbacks that may exist (vault toilets, gray water disposal area, dry well).
- Provide an alternate source of water. This could be drilling a new well or connecting to a neighboring well. Plan review approval is required.
- Install a disinfection system that is capable of 4.0 log inactivation of viruses. This can be achieved by installing a properly sized storage tank in conjunction with the chlorine disinfection system, an ozone disinfection system, a UV system capable of achieving 186mj/cm², or a chlorine dioxide disinfection system. Plan review approval is required.
- Discontinue water service at the campground.

To avoid further enforcement, Lane County Environmental Health in conjunction with the State of Oregon Drinking Water Program strongly encourages you to investigate and eliminate any sources of contamination that may be contributing to these detections of coliform bacteria.

One possible way to determine which source is contributing to the contamination is to use a tracer chemical or colored dye study. I recommend starting with the hand pump drainage pit first as this is the closest possible source of contamination. A tracer chemical such as fluoride, chlorine or a colored dye can be poured down into this drainage area directly under where the water comes out of the well. Then run the well for a substantial amount of time and see if the well water shows any tracer chemical or dye. You will need the proper chemical test kit to frequently test the well water for the tracer chemical if you do not use a colored dye. The same basic idea can be used with the grey water disposal station and vault toilets.

If none of the above studies show any results, the contamination may be coming from surface water influence. You may consider running the well for a substantial amount of time and collecting a Microscopic Particulate Analysis, MPA. This MPA will determine if there is any surface water influence from the nearby Salmon creek or Needle Creek. Information regarding the MPA is attached including lab information and a fact sheet. If these MPA test results indicate the well is pulling in surface water, the well would be subject to the surface water treatment rule and would require approved filtration in addition to disinfection.

USFS salmon creek falls CG currently has a system score of 16 points, any system score above 11 is targeted for enforcement actions. I will need to hear back from you regarding what your corrective action plan will be by November 11 2013. All corrective actions shall be completed and tested to assure safe drinking water by April 2014 prior to reopening the campground for the 2014 season.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at (541) 682-3753 or by email at sarah.puls@co.lane.or.us . You can also contact Casey Lyon with the State Drinking Water Program at 541-726-2587 ext. 31 casey.lyon@state.or.us .

Sincerely,



Sarah Puls
Registered Environmental Health Specialist
Lane County Drinking Water Program

Enclosures: MPA Fact Sheet

CC: DHS Drinking Water Program – Portland Office