ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT FOR

Medford Water, Elk City Water District, and Partner Cities: Central Point · Eagle Point · Jacksonville · Phoenix



the water WE DRINK

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MEDFORD W A T E R

Este informe contiene información importante sobre su agua. Para una copia de este informe en español, por favor visite: ccr.medfordwater.org/sp o llame al 541-774-2430.

ISSUED JUNE 2024// BASED ON 2023 WATER QUALITY DATA



To Our valued customers,

We are pleased to share our 2023 annual Consumer Confidence Report, which includes facts about where your water comes from, water quality testing results for the year 2023, and information explaining what the results mean. It is provided by Medford Water, along with the Elk City Water District, and our Partner Cities of Central Point, Eagle Point, Jacksonville, and Phoenix.

You will learn how we wisely use, protect, monitor, and treat the water that flows from our watersheds to your home, school, or workplace. We are proud of the confidence our community puts in us to deliver pleasant tasting, high-quality water to your homes and businesses that meets and surpasses all applicable federal and state drinking water standards.

As we prepare to complete over \$250 million in infrastructure projects over the next ten years to build resiliency and capacity into our system, we also encourage our customers to have emergency supplies of water and other necessities for your households available in case of a supply disruption or natural hazard event like wildfires and earthquakes. Find information on preparing for an emergency on our website, or go to redcross.org/get-help.

If you have any questions or comments about this material, please contact us at 541-774-2728 or water@medfordwater.org; contact information for the Water District and our Partner Cities is provided inside. Read on to learn more about the water we drink and how you can join us in protecting and conserving this valuable resource.

Brad Taylor

General Manager, Medford Water

Where does your water come from?

Big Butte Springs has been our primary water source since 1927. Considered a groundwater supply, the springs flow from the lower slopes of Mt. McLoughlin near Butte Falls. Consistently cold and clear, the springs discharge water of exceptional quality that requires no filtration or treatment other than disinfection and recent pH adjustment with sodium hydroxide in February 2024, which is accomplished onsite at a state-of-the-art treatment facility. Spring flows are collected underground and never see the light of day until emerging from customers' taps.

The Rogue River is a surface water supply that supplements the year-round springs supply during warmer summer months, when water use more than triples. While also high in quality, the river water requires additional treatment to meet drinking water standards.

Treatment of this surface water takes place at the Robert A. Duff Water Treatment Plant, and includes ozonation, coagulation, settling and filtration, chlorination along with the recent pH adjustment with sodium hydroxide in May 2024.

See the graph at right for information on how many million gallons were produced from these sources in 2023. To stay on trend with changing population projections and to increase the resiliency and efficiency of our system, we are also expanding the capacity of our treatment plant from 45 million gallons per day (MGD) to 65 MGD. This work includes filters, ozone, pumping, and storage and transmission (large pipe) projects. These improvements will help us serve our customers for decades to come.

Million Gallons Produced



62

0

River

Butte

Falls

(140)

ROG

Big Butte

Springs

Watershed Mt. McLoughlin

Crater

Lake

Protecting Our Watershed

The Big Butte Springs watershed drains about 88 square miles of largely undeveloped forestlands, and most of the watershed is protected as part of the Rogue River National Forest. Medford Water owns nearly 3,700 acres around Big Butte Springs, affording additional protection to this pristine source.

The portion of the Rogue River watershed upstream of the treatment plant is lightly developed, but includes some land uses that can lead to degraded water quality. Small communities and rural residences, farms and ranches, forestry practices, transportation, small industry and natural disasters can all cause water pollution. A publicly available Department of Environmental Quality Source Water Assessment has been completed and it lists numerous potential sources of contamination to the Rogue River.

These sources and sites must be managed properly to prevent contamination of the drinking water for 140,000 people. The Assessment can be viewed on our website, medfordwater.org.

Medford Water is devoted to the protection of our watershed, working with many local and regional partners to safeguard our drinking water supplies.

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Central Point Jacksonville (238) Phoenix

2023 Water Quality Test Results For Treated Water

Inorganic Contaminants Analyses

Substance	MCL (Maximum Allowed)	MCLG (Ideal Goal)	Source	Average Amount Detected	Range	Complies?	Typical Source	
Barium (ppm)	2	2	Big Butte Springs	0.003	0.003	YES	Discharge of drilling waters; discharge from metal	
	2		Rogue River	0.005	0.005	TES	refineries; erosion on natural deposits	
Cadmium (ppb)	5	5	Rogue River	0.2	0.2	YES	Corrosion of galvanized pipes; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from metal refineries; runoff from waste batteries and paints	

Most recent sample: Big Butte Springs in 2023, Rogue River in 2020.

Turbidity and Total Organic Carbon

Substance	Source	MCL	MCLG	Max Reading		Max Reading		Max Reading		Percent Less than 0.3 NTU	Complies?	Typical Source
Turbidity	Rogue River	TT, Max < 1 NTU & 95% < 0.3 NTU	N/A	0.1		0.1		100%	YES	Soil erosion and stream sediments		
Substance	Source	MCL	MCLG	Max	Min	Average	Complies?	Typical Source				
Total Organic Carbon (ppm)	Rogue River	Π	None	2.59	0.94	1.13	YES	Naturally present in the environment; Agricultural runoff				

Violations

Entity	Туре	Violation	Notes		
Eagle Point	Reporting	Late/non-reporting of Consumer Confidence Report	There are no expected health effects due to this violation.		
Phoenix	Reporting	Certification late/non-reporting of Consumer Confidence Report Late/non-reporting of Consumer Confidence Report Did not report Enough – Routine Coliform	There are no expected health effects due to these violations.		

There were no detections for Coliform Bacteria for all samples taken in 2023.



UNDERSTANDING THE RESULTS:

Your water met or exceeded all state and federal drinking water health standards. Medford Water and each of the Partner Cities participating in this report are required to monitor and test for contaminants in the drinking water they provide. This Consumer Confidence Report lists all the regulated contaminants that were found in the drinking water within the last five years. The data and information presented in this report includes the most recent testing done in accordance with regulations. Any unregulated contaminants detected by regulatory testing in the reporting year are also included. Violations by an exceedance of a Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) or by failure to comply with all drinking water rules are also included. Medford Water conducts extensive monitoring and testing beyond what is required by law. To learn more about your drinking water and to see the results of all monitoring conducted by Medford Water, please refer to the most recent Water Quality Annual Analysis Report available on the Water Quality tab of our website.

TESTING FOR MICROBES:

Unlike most contaminants, microscopic organisms can appear suddenly and cause immediate illness. Testing for bacteria is therefore done on a frequent basis by Medford Water and the Partner Cities participating in this report. This includes looking for coliform bacteria as well as confirming that adequate chlorine is present in the water to provide ongoing disinfection. While most coliforms do not pose a health threat, they are a good indicator of whether other bacteria might be present. If found, further testing is conducted for harmful forms of bacteria.

CHLORINE RESIDUAL:

Sodium hypochlorite is used as a disinfectant and provides continuous protection to customers' taps. Sampling throughout the distribution system confirms that the amount of chlorine present is neither too low nor too high. Our water is effectively disinfected with much less chlorine than the allowable limit.

RADON TESTING:

The most common source of this colorless, odorless gas is from the soil, but a small amount of exposure can come from tap water. We conduct testing, but radon is not currently regulated. Radon is considered to be a cause of cancer.

SPECIAL NOTICE FOR IMMUNO-COMPROMISED PERSONS:

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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 can particularly be at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. Guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

WHAT THE EPA SAYS ABOUT DRINKING WATER CONTAMINANTS:

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 EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791) or at epa.gov/safewater. 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.

CONTAMINANTS IN DRINKING WATER SOURCES MAY INCLUDE:

Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from wildlife or septic systems.

Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can occur naturally or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, farming and leaching from plumbing materials.

Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as farming, urban stormwater runoff and home or business use.

Organic chemical contaminants, which are byproducts of industrial processes, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff and septic systems.

Radioactive contaminants, which can occur naturally. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA has regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems and require monitoring for these contaminants. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

Medford Water, water districts, and Partner Cities' Disinfection and Disinfection By-Product Analyses

Substance	Entity	Average for Highest Location	Range	MCL (maximum allowed)	MCLG (ideal goal)	Complies?	Typical Source
	Medford Water	18.9	ND - 39.3		0	YES	By-products of chlorination used in the water treatment process
	Central Point	11.7	1.4-25.6				
Total	Eagle Point	24.6	21.5-24.6				
Trihalomethanes (ppb)	Elk City Water District	5.6	5.6	80			
	Jacksonville	20.9	20.9				
	Phoenix	10.0	ND - 10.0				
	Medford Water	13.8	ND - 33.1		0	YES	By-products of chlorination used in the water treatment process
	Central Point	5.6	ND - 22.5				
llalaa satis Asida	Eagle Point	19.5	16.7-19.5				
Haloacetic Acids (ppb)	Elk City Water District	ND	ND	60			
	Jacksonville	12.5	12.5				
	Phoenix	5.4	ND - 5.4				

Substance	Entity	RAA	Range	MRDL	MRDLG	Complies?	Typical Source
	Medford Water	0.6	0.3-0.9				
Chlorine Residual (ppm), Yearly average	Central Point	0.5	0.04-0.8	4.0	4.0	YES	Treatment additive for disinfection
	Eagle Point	0.5	0.1 - 0.8				
	Elk City Water District	0.5	0.4-0.7				
	Jacksonville	0.4	0.1-0.5				
	Phoenix	0.5	0.0-0.8				

Lead and Copper Sampling from Residential Water Taps

Substance	Entity	Amount Detected (90th percentile value)	Date of most recent test	Action Level	MCLG (ideal goal)	Complies?	Typical Source
	Medford Water	1.1	2022	90% of	0	YES (No sample exceeded the action level)	Corrosion of household plumbing
	Central Point	3.0	2023				
Load	Eagle Point	3.9	2022	homes tested			
Lead (ppb)	Elk City Water District	6.2	2023	must have lead levels less than 15 ppb			
	Jacksonville	7.7	2022				
	Phoenix	1.0	2021				
	Medford Water	0.7	2022	90% of	1.3	YES (No sample exceeded the action level)	Corrosion of household plumbing
	Central Point	0.2	2023				
C	Eagle Point	0.2	2022	homes tested			
Copper (ppm)	Elk City Water District	0.1	2023	must have copper levels less than 1.3			
	Jacksonville	0.4	2022	ppm			
	Phoenix	0.4	2021				

REDUCING EXPOSURE TO LEAD AND COPPER:

Lead and copper can leach into drinking water through contact with household plumbing or distribution system pipes, additional testing is conducted at residences considered to be at greatest risk. Within the homes we've sampled, lead and copper have not been detected at levels that exceed EPA rules for safe drinking water.

Customers should be aware that lead and/or copper levels can increase when water stands in contact with lead or copper pipes, lead-based solder and brass faucets containing lead. 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 associated with service lines and home plumbing. Medford Water and each of our Partner Cities are responsible for providing high-quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in home plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by running the cold water tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking.

Terms and Abbreviations

Terms used in the table are explained below.

Contaminant: A potentially harmful physical, biological, chemical or radiological substance.

Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a system must follow.

MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level): The highest level of a contaminant allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the Maximum Contaminant Level Goal as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

MCLG (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

MRDL (Maximum Residual

Disinfectant Level): The highest level of a 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 a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the

benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

ND (Non-detect): Not detected at an established minimum reporting level.

pCi/L (Picocuries per Liter): A measurement of radioactivity equivalent to a trillion times smaller than one curie.

ppm (Parts Per Million): One part per million means that one part of a particular substance is present for every million parts of water. This is the equivalent of one penny in \$10,000 or approximately one minute in two years.

ppb (Parts Per Billion): One part per billion corresponds to one penny in \$10,000,000 or approximately one minute in 2,000 years.

TT (Treatment Technique): A required treatment process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Turbidity: A measure of how clear water is, expressed in Nephelometric Turbidity Units (NTU). Turbidity does not necessarily indicate that water is unhealthy, but it can interfere with disinfection and can be an indicator of microorganisms.

In the spring of 2024, Medford Water will inventory hundreds of randomly selected services lines to comply with a new rule from the Oregon Health Authority. We anticipate that in November 2024, information will be available on our website for our customers to access service line material type—both on the utility-owned portion, and on the customer-owned side—for lines that have been visually investigated. Our utility service line material type information is highly accurate, but will also be verified during this statistical, state-approved investigation of over 18,000 services installed prior to 1986. Fortunately, in 2016, a comprehensive investigation took place, looking into the presence of lead pigtails and utility-side service line material. We believe that most lead pigtails were discovered and removed at that time, but as any are found we replace them with currently compliant materials.

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 (1-800-426-4791) or at epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Your Water and Changing pH Levels

As part of our commitment to providing drinking water of the highest quality to our customers, earlier this year we began the enhancement of our water treatment process by slightly increasing the pH of our award-winning water. Both of our sources (Big Butte Springs and the Rogue River) are of extremely high quality, and in 2019, we completed a comprehensive study as part of our commitment to ensuring that our customers continue to receive the highest quality water, no matter which of the two sources they receive.

While the water we supply meets and surpasses all applicable federal and state drinking water standards, the study concluded that increasing the pH of both sources would not only improve the longevity of our system, but further enhance the water quality at customer's taps by limiting the potential release of metals from their private plumbing and distribution system water mains.

In February 2024, the first step of this small change brought the pH of water from our Big Butte Springs source from approximately 7.0 to 7.3; the next step brought the pH of the water from Big Butte Springs and the Rogue River from approximately 7.3 to 7.8 when our Robert A. Duff Water Treatment Plant began treating water to keep up with seasonal demand in May 2024. This process uses sodium hydroxide, which is commonly used by water systems across the state and nation to make similar pH adjustments.

This small change does not impact the taste or hardness of our water, though it is predicted to have a minor increase in alkalinity. This may result in an increase in the amount of "scaling" on equipment/appliances—the white, naturally-occurring mineral residue that can be seen after water has dried. In particular, customers may notice a small amount of additional scale develop over time where hot water is in contact with fixtures and appliances, such as hot water heaters, dishwashers, and showerheads.

No action is required for most customers; those that utilize processes that are known to be pH dependent, such as medical facilities/equipment users, aquarium and pond owners, breweries or individuals who brew beer at home, and food processors should pay particular attention to this change.

Medical facilities/equipment users

A minor increase in scaling on equipment may occur due to the alkalinity of the water slightly increasing as a result of the pH increase. If you have specific concerns about how the increase in pH may affect the operations and/or maintenance procedure of your business or equipment, consult the manufacturer or operator of the equipment. Customers can contact the Oregon Health Authority for more information on how changes in pH may affect medical operations.

There is no risk expected to dialysis patients, and the pH increase will not affect in-center or home dialysis treatment operations.

Aquarium and pond owners

While the increase in pH will not change the pH from being at a safe drinking water level for humans and most pets (and within the US EPA's range of 6.5-8.5 for secondary contaminants), more sensitive organisms such as fresh water and salt-water aquatic life are more susceptible to impacts from changes in pH. It is recommended that aquarium and pond owners continue to regularly test the pH of the water in the fish tank and also to test and adjust the water if needed prior to adding it to the tank to ensure it remains within the safe range specific to the species/type of organisms present.

Breweries or individuals who brew beer at home

An increase of pH of the water used in brewing operations can affect the process of crafting beer or spirits. Homebrewers should ask their local homebrew shop for suggestions on appropriate products to reduce pH. Breweries and distilleries typically have their own procedures for testing and adjusting water used in their operations and should continue to follow them.

Food processing customers

Similar to brewing, some food processing methods require specific pH conditions. If your business or facility contains processes that are known to be pH dependent, it is recommended that procedures for testing and adjusting water are implemented if not already in place.

By improving our system's longevity and helping protect those that have plumbing in their homes that is made of or has metal components (such as copper and lead), this enhancement will allow us to continue to serve our customers great-tasting, high-quality water for years to come. It's also part of our Vision of being the Rogue Valley's trusted municipal water provider for present and future generations, through responsible stewardship, accountability, and the pursuit of excellence. For more information on this project, including FAQs, visit medfordwater.org/pH, or call 541-774-2430.



Frequently Asked Questions About Water Quality

Does our water contain PFAS?

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) have not been detected in Medford's drinking water. They were tested for in 2023 as part of the EPA's 5th Unregulated Contaminants Monitoring Rule (UCMR5). As part of the UCMR5, in 2024, Medford Water will sample for the 29 PFOS and PFOA compounds as well as lithium. **We have had no detections to date.** The results will be published by the EPA and in Medford Water's 2024 Consumer Confidence Report and Water Quality Analyses report.

Does Medford Water monitor for Disinfection By-Products (DBPs)?

Disinfection By-Products (DBPs) are formed when a water treatment disinfectant, such as chlorine, interacts with natural organic materials in water. We monitor for DBPs four times a year, and publish the results in this document; results are also published in our Annual Water Quality Analyses, which is a comprehensive listing of all of our annual testing results (available on the Water Quality page of our website).

Our DBP levels are below—and in compliance with—the regulations of maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) have established to protect human health. However, if a violation occurs, we are required to inform our customers.

Have algal toxins been detected in our drinking water?

No, algal toxins have never been detected at our intake or in our finished drinking water since the statewide testing program began in 2018.

What can I do to improve my water quality?

- Always use the cold water tap for drinking or cooking, since hot water is more likely to release metals from pipe materials.
- During periods of long stagnation, water can pick up off-tastes from sitting in the plumbing inside of your house, especially in older plumbing systems. To help combat this, you can run your water for 30 seconds to 2 minutes (until you feel the temperature drop) before drinking or cooking, to flush water that has been sitting in pipes without use, such as: in the morning, after returning from work or school, and especially after a vacation. (Conservation tip: When flushing water from pipes, you can reduce the length of time needed to run the tap if you run your sprinklers, wash a load of laundry, or shower first. Consider catching flushed tap water for plants or other household use, such as cleaning.)
- Periodically remove and clean out the aerators in your faucet.

Partner Collaboration Protects Source Water

Medford Water, the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF), the U.S. Forest Service, and private landowners work together to implement forest management practices in the Big Butte Springs Watershed, helping to protect our source water from the risks posed by wildfire. Ecological forest thinning that increases forest resiliency to wildfire, drought, and disease is also conducted across land ownership boundaries.

In 2020, Medford Water published a Forest Management Plan (FMP) that guides our forest restoration treatments on the 3,700 acres of land we own. Using selective thinning and fuels reduction, we are improving forest health while reducing wildlife risk, and to date, we have completed 1,411 acres of forest restoration around our critical infrastructure and have 1,643 acres remaining to be treated.

In 2023, the Big Butte Springs Watershed was selected by the Oregon Department of Forestry's Senate Bill 762 Land Resiliency Program (LRP), which will provide funding to increase the pace and scale of forest restoration treatments on municipal land, as well as forest and defensible space treatments on adjacent privately owned lands. Medford Water is due to receive \$525,000 in LRP funds, and will mechanically thin, pile, and burn surface and ladder fuels on about 500 acres starting this spring. With outreach help from the Jackson Soil and Water Conservation District, and the Southern District of the Oregon Department of Forestry, private landowners near Big Butte

Springs are being educated about the LRP funds to implement wildfire risk reduction on their properties.

With 75% of the Big Butte Springs Watershed managed by the U.S. Forest Service, forest restoration treatments and wildfire risk reduction on federal land are also critical. Our strong partnership with the High Cascades Ranger District of the Rogue-Siskiyou National Forest has helped elevate the need to protect this invaluable resource. In 2022, the Forest Services proposed the Snowy Butte Landscape Restoration Project to restore up to 27,000 acres of federal land in and near the Big Butte Springs Watershed including non-commercial fuels reduction, habitat restoration, silviculture treatments, fuel breaks, and promote resilience against stressors such as drought and insects.

A project of this scale takes years of planning and significant staffing resources. To keep the project on the established timeline, the Rogue Siskiyou National Forest, with the help of

Medford Water (PWSID: 41-00513) Dan Perkins, Water Operations Manager: 541-774-2724

Board Meetings: 1st and 3rd Wed. at 12:15 p.m. Location varies; see agenda for details. Email: dan.perkins@medfordwater.org www.medfordwater.org

City of Central Point (PWSID: 41-00178) Micheal McClenathan, Water Division Supervisor: 541-664-3321 (ext. 272) Council Meetings: 2nd and 4th Thurs. at 7 p.m. City Hall, 140 S. 3rd Street Email: mike.mcclenathan@centralpointoregon.gov www.centralpointoregon.gov

City of Eagle Point (PWSID: 41-00267) Aaron Prunty, City Administrator: 541-826-4212 Council Meetings: 2nd and 4th Tues. at 6 p.m. City Hall, 17 Buchanan Avenue South Email: aaron@cityofeaglepoint.org www.cityofeaglepoint.org

City of Jacksonville (PWSID: 41-00405) Jeffrey Alvis, City Administrator: 541-899-1231 Council Meetings: 1st and 3rd Tues. at 6 p.m. New City Hall Assembly Rm., 206 N. Fifth Street Email: administrator@jacksonvilleor.us www.jacksonvilleor.us

Jackson County Health Department Environmental Public Health: 541-774-8206

Elk City Water District (PWSID: 41-01549) John Blackhurst, ECWD Attorney: 541-779-8900 Board Meetings: 1st Mon. at 6 p.m. Greenbriar Terrace Rec. Rm., 301 Freeman Road Email: jwb@roguelaw.com

City of Phoenix (PWSID: 41-00625) Chris Stephenson, Public Works Superintendent: 541-621-9161

Council Meetings: 1st and 3rd Mon. at 6:30 p.m. Phoenix Plaza Civic Ctr., 220 N. Main Street Email: chris.stephenson@phoenixoregon.gov www.phoenixoregon.gov

Oregon Health Authority Drinking Water Program: 971-673-0405 www.oregon.gov/oha/ph/healthyenvironments/ drinkingwater

EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline 1-800-426-4791

www.epa.gov/safewater



An example of fuels reduction work occurring in the Big Butte Springs watershed.

Medford Water, has twice applied for and been awarded ODF's PACE (Planning Assistance and Categorical Exclusion) grant. The PACE grant is intended to assist federal forest managers to expand and accelerate planning efforts for forest restoration treatments, and will be used to complete the required surveys and planning for the project. Wildfire is a threat to drinking water across land ownership boundaries; through our strong partnerships and collaboration, the Big Butte Springs watershed is being managed to reduce wildfire risk by restoring the health of the surrounding forest on private, federal, and municipal lands.



