

Best Management Practices

Definition

Best Management Practices (BMPs) refer to management measures or actions, based on the threat assessment, that reduce or eliminate the drinking water source's susceptibility to becoming contaminated. These measures consist of tactics implemented by land owners, business owners, water system staff, or members of the community.

PCAs & BMPs

The following Possible Contaminating Activities, and corresponding Best Management Practices, are the vulnerabilities of most concern.

Sewage Collection System – Sewage spills from overflows constitute a high risk for the Burney Water District Water System.

Best Management Practices:

1. Review and update the District's SOP for responding to sewage overflows.
2. Review the District's Capital Replacement Plan and possibly re-prioritize known trouble spots in the collection and treatment systems.
3. Review and update the District's Bacteriological Site Sampling Plan and the Standard Operating Procedure for compliance with the Revised Total Coliform Rule.

Who?	Date Implemented?
Burney Water District	

Abandoned Water Supply Wells – Wells not in use are a direct conduit to the aquifer used as the District's sole source water supply and could pose a threat if not regularly inspected and/or properly maintained.

Best Management Practices:

1. Cap and lock or properly destroy all abandoned wells owned or controlled by the District.
2. Conduct a mail-out survey of the community to identify the locations of abandoned wells within Zones A, B5, and B10. Require property owners to cap and lock or properly destroy abandoned wells.

High Density Housing – Concentrated residences in close proximity to water supplies could pose a threat to the quality of the water if homeowners participate in activities such as improper chemical disposal, and frequent fertilizer & pesticide applications.

Best Management Practices:

The District should launch a public information program that highlights the importance of protecting the community's sole water source.

1. All PCA materials should be stored away from storm water drainage areas.
2. All household hazardous wastes should be collected and properly disposed of.

3. Residents should be encouraged to properly dispose of waste oil and other fluids.

Who?	Date Implemented?
Burney Water District	

Managed Forestlands – Modern Forestry and Silvicultural practices result in some of the healthiest watersheds in the world. However, some specific forestry activities can harm watersheds and groundwater aquifers. Improper chemical treatment to control weed species has the potential to impair drinking water quality by introducing regulated contaminants to the water source. Catastrophic events such as wildfire & wind-throw can open up the forest floor leading to increased sediment loading in streams during subsequent storms. Also, timber harvesting operations must be planned carefully and executed properly to avoid excessive sediment loading in streams. California Forest Practice Rules, along with applicable Water Quality regulations ensure both, keeping the risk for this contamination lower than might exist in other regions of the country.

Best Management Practices:

The Board and Staff of the Burney Water District should seek to cultivate a *partnership* type relationship with the several Forestry and Wood Products firms located within the protection zones. Indeed, land use in vast areas to the south of the community of Burney (upgradient) is primarily forestry related.

1. Facilitate informational meetings with the several large forestland owners to gain mutual understanding of the challenges inherent to public drinking water and forest management. Example: Knowledge of the location and protective infrastructure for Burney wells, both in service or abandoned, will enable forestland managers to incorporate appropriate protective measures into their plans for operations.
2. Collaborate to publish information about the partnership to protect the community’s water supply.

Who?	Date Implemented?
Burney Water District	

Raymond Berry Community Pool & Park – Pool chemicals kept onsite could compromise the drinking water source if used or stored incorrectly. Furthermore, a chemical delivery accident could create an unforeseen emergency for water system personnel. Materials spilled, leaked, or lost from storage tanks may accumulate in soil or be carried away in storm water runoff.

Best Management Practices:

1. Review and evaluate SOP’s for safe chlorine storage and handling.
2. Assess the vulnerability of the pool and park facilities with regards to vandalism / break-in.
3. Limit the use of herbicides and pesticides within the park area

Who?	Date Implemented?
Burney Water District	

Transportation Corridors – A chemical or fuel delivery accident could create an unforeseen emergency for water system personnel and an immediate threat to the water supply. Materials spilled, leaked, or lost during an accident may accumulate in soil and make its way to the aquifer or be carried away in storm water runoff.

Best Management Practice:

1. Coordinate with public safety personnel to be informed of any chemical or fuel spills that occur on roads within any of the Protection Zones.
2. Review and update the District’s SOP for responding to chemical / fuel spills

Who?	Date Implemented?
Burney Water District	

Storm Water Detention Facilities – Storm water detention facilities are designed to protect watersheds from high volume run-off from impermeable surfaces such as parking lots. When properly designed, constructed and maintained, these facilities reduce sediment loading to streams. However, storm water detention facilities require regular inspection and maintenance to prevent failure.

Best Management Practice:

1. Identify all storm water detention facilities that are located within the Protection Zones.
2. Request inspection and maintenance records for these facilities. Provide incentives to partner with the District in its efforts to protect the community’s sole source of water. Example: Signage indicating the positive message that such facilities help protect the water supply.

Who?	Date Implemented?
Burney Water District	