

Town of Crested Butte, CO News Release

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Gunnison County Notifies Town of Crested Butte of Precautionary Well Water Testing Advisory in Irwin Area

CRESTED BUTTE, Colo. – The Town of Crested Butte has been informed by Gunnison County that EPA testing in the Lake Irwin area of several private wells, surface water, ground water, and soils has revealed elevated levels of certain heavy metals, including Arsenic. The EPA study was confined to the Lake Irwin geographic area and does not include the Town of Crested Butte. Residents and property owners in the Lake Irwin area are receiving notices from Gunnison County this week that include guidance about how to test private wells. The County is recommending that residents in the Ruby District West Site (Lake Irwin area) test their wells at this time for heavy metals.

The Town is now tracking this issue. Lake Irwin lies within the Town's watershed. However, the Town of Crested Butte regularly tests incoming water at its intake. Heavy metal levels at the Town's intake are well below the State of Colorado maximum contaminate level (MCL) for human health. Water is then treated at the Crested Butte treatment plant before distribution to end users on the Town water system.

Additional resources and updates about water quality issues in Gunnison County can be found at:

<http://gunnisoncounty.org/waterquality>