

POST FIRE IMPACTS ON WATER QUALITY AND TREATMENT

DIVISION OF DRINKING WATER

SANTA BARBARA DISTRICT

SANTA YNEZ RIVER

- WATERSHED IS COMPRISED OF APPROXIMATELY 897 SQUARE MILES. 80% OF IT IS IN THE LOS PADRES NATIONAL FOREST.
- ELEVATION GOES FROM 6,820 FEET TO 4 FEET AT THE OCEAN
- RIVER IS USUALLY DRY IN THE SUMMER
- HIGH PRIORITY STEELHEAD RIVER
 - WAS LARGEST STEELHEAD RUN IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA PRIOR TO DAMS BEING BUILT.

SANTA YNEZ RIVER

- THREE DAMS BUILT ON THE RIVER TO SUPPLY WATER TO THE COMMUNITIES ON THE COAST SIDE OF THE SANTA YNEZ MOUNTAIN RANGE.
 - JUNCAL DAM FORMS JAMESON RESERVOIR
 - GIBRALTAR DAM FORMS GIBRALTAR RESERVOIR
 - BRADBURY DAM FORMS LAKE CACHUMA
- THREE TUNNELS WERE CONSTRUCTED THROUGH THE SANTA YNEZ RANGE TO CONVEY WATER
 FROM THE RESERVOIRS TO THE COASTAL COMMUNITIES
 - DOULTON TUNNEL
 - MISSION TUNNEL
 - TECOLOTE TUNNEL







RECENT FIRES IN SANTA YNEZ WATERSHED

- THOMAS FIRE
 - DECEMBER 2017; 281,893 ACRES
- ZACA FIRE
 - JULY 2007; 240,207 ACRES
 - SCORCHED 60% OF THE LAKE CACHUMA WATERSHED, LEAVING A 3-INCH THICK BLANKET OF ASH
- REY FIRE
 - AUGUST 2016; 32,606 ACRES
- WHITTIER
 - JULY 2017; 18,430 ACRES





POST FIRE IMPACTS ON SOURCE WATER

- WATER QUALITY DEGRADATION
 - HISTORICAL CACHUMA LAKE TOC CONCENTRATIONS WERE BETWEEN 2 AND 3 MG/L
 - POST ZACA FIRE TOC CONCENTRATIONS INCREASED 165% IN THE FIRST YEAR. SLOWLY DECREASED.
 - NEVER FULLY RECOVERED TO HISTORICAL TOC LEVELS.
- REDUCTION IN RESERVOIR STORAGE CAPACITY DUE TO SILTATION
 - OVER THE YEARS GIBRALTAR RESERVOIRS INITIAL CAPACITY OF 15,374 ACRE-FT HAS BEEN REDUCED TO 5,250 DUE TO SILTATION.
 - INHERENT ISSUE MADE WORSE BY FIRES



SURFACE WATER TREATMENT

- GOLETA WATER DISTRICT OPERATES CORONA DEL MAR WATER TREATMENT PLANT
 - CONVENTIONAL, FREE CHLORINE
 - 24 MGD (DESIGN); 36 MGD (PEAK CAPACITY).
- SANTA BARBARA ALSO OPERATES WILLIAM B. CATER WATER TREATMENT PLANT
 - 37 MGD
 - CONVENTIONAL, FREE CHLORINE
 - ALSO SUPPLIES MONTECITO AND CARPINTERIA
- MONTECITO WATER DISTRICT OPERATES BELLA VISTA AND DOULTON TUNNEL SWTPS
 - TWO TRIDENT PACKAGE PLANTS
 - LARGEST IS 2.2 MGD
 - FREE CHLORINE



SANTA BARBARA'S SURFACE WATER TREATMENT PLANT



GOLETA'S SURFACE WATER TREATMENT PLANT



ALTHOUGH NOT MONTECITO'S PLANT THEIRS IS SIMILAR TO THE PICTURE BELOW



TREATMENT STRATEGIES TO REDUCE DBPS

- SANTA BARBARA EVALUATED CONVERTING FROM FREE CHLORINE TO CHLORAMINES
 - REGIONAL WATER SUPPLIER
 - RETAILERS UTILIZE FREE CHLORINE FOR GROUNDWATER AND SURFACE WATER TREATMENT AT NUMEROUS LOCATIONS.
 - EVALUATION ELIMINATED THIS AS AN OPTION BECAUSE RETAILERS WOULD ALSO HAVE TO CONVERT TO CHLORAMINES AT ALL OF THEIR INDIVIDUAL CHLORINATION SYSTEMS.

TREATMENT STRATEGIES TO REDUCE DBPS

- ELIMINATION OR REDUCTION OF PRECHLORINATION
 - HISTORICALLY CHLORINATION AT THE HEADWORKS OF THE PLANT PROVIDED A RESIDUAL THROUGHOUT THE TREATMENT TRAIN.
 - HIGHER TOC IN THE SOURCE WATER RESULTED IN ELEVATED DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS LEAVING THE TREATMENT PLANT.
 - INCREASED THE LIKELIHOOD OF EXCEEDING TTHM STANDARD IN THE DISTRIBUTION. ESPECIALLY SANTA BARBARA'S DOWNSTREAM RETAILERS.
 - GOLETA TRIMMED THE PRECHLORINATION DOSAGE TO PROVIDE A TRACE RESIDUAL GOING ONTO THE FILTERS.
 - SANTA BARBARA ELIMINATED PRECHLORINATION AND REPLACED IT WITH OZONE.
 - APPROACH REDUCTION/ELIMINATION OF PRECHLORINATION CAUTIOUSLY
 - IT MAY AFFECT THE EFFICIENCY OF THE COAGULATION PROCESS.
 - CHLORINE CONTACT TIME NEEDS TO BE REEVALUATED.

TREATMENT STRATEGIES TO REDUCE DBPS

- ADDING CARBON (PAC OR GAC) TO THE TREATMENT PROCESS
 - ADDING GAC TO THE FILTERS WILL REDUCE TOC... BUT NOT FOR VERY LONG
 - MONTECITO REPLACED FILTER MEDIA IN THEIR PACKAGE PLANT WITH GAC
 - GREAT REDUCTION FOR A SHORT PERIOD OF TIME .
 - ONLY FIRST MONTH HAD SIGNIFICANT DECREASE, LIMITED REDUCTION SECOND MONTH. AFTER THAT, NO MEASURABLE REDUCTION.
 - CONTINUOUS PAC ADDITION TO PRETREATMENT
 - EXPENSIVE
 - GENERATES A SIGNIFICANT AMOUNT OF SOLIDS.
 - SANTA BARBARA BUILT A SOLIDS HANDLING FACILITY AS A RESULT
 - SHORTENS RUN TIMES ON FILTERS
 - MAY IMPACT BACKWASH RECOVERY CAPACITY DUE TO MORE FREQUENT BACKWASHES
 - LIMITED TO CERTAIN TREATMENT PLANTS. NOT LIKELY FEASIBLE FOR A PACKAGE PLANT.

DISTRIBUTION STRATEGIES

- STAGE 2 DBPR WAS BEING ROLLED OUT AROUND THE SAME TIME AS THE WQ ISSUES ASSOCIATED WITH THE ZACA FIRE
- SANTA BARBARA AND MONTECITO COMPLETED DISTRIBUTION HYDRAULIC MODELS.
- WATER AGE DETERMINATIONS HELPED IDENTIFY WHERE IMPROVEMENTS COULD BE MADE.
 - LOOPED PIPE SYSTEMS WHERE POSSIBLE.
 - OPTIMIZE RESERVOIR OPERATION BY ALTERING FILL AND FULL SETPOINTS
 - ALLOWING AS MUCH OF THE TANK VOLUME TO CYCLE AS FREQUENTLY AS POSSIBLE.
- MIXING AND/OR AERATION IN LONG RESIDENCE TIME RESERVOIRS

DISTRIBUTION STRATEGIES

- TTHMS CAN BE SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCED IN THE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM THROUGH AERATION. NOT AS EFFECTIVE ON HAA5S
- HENRY'S LAW CONSTANTS PROVIDE INFORMATION ON WHICH TTHMS ARE MOST EASILY REMOVED WITH AERATION. IF LARGE PERCENTAGE OF TTHMS ARE CHLOROFORM AND/OR BROMODICHLOROMETHANE, AERATION CAN BE VERY EFFECTIVE. THESE HAVE THE HIGHEST HENRY'S CONSTANT OF ALL FOUR TTHMS.
- CHLORINE RESIDUAL MONITORING DURING AERATION DID NOT SHOW A SIGNIFICANT REDUCTION
 IN CHLORINE RESIDUAL.
- MAY NEED TO ADD A BLOWER TO VACATE THE HEADSPACE IN THE RESERVOIR SO VOLATILIZED TTHMS ARE NOT REINTRODUCED INTO THE STORED WATER.
- DAILY REPORTING OF AERATION SYSTEM OPERATION TO SHOW ROUTINE TREATMENT IS BEING
 PROVIDED

THANK YOU

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