



USDA-CSREES 2006 National Water Quality Conference

[Conservation of Measures: Water Savings Beyond "Useful" Life](#)

Between 1993 and 1995, nearly 12,000 Utah multi-family units received high-efficiency showerheads and faucet aerators under PacifiCorp's Multi-Family Water Measure Efficiency Program. The Central Utah Water Conservancy District (CUWCD) offered to pay an incentive for water saved in the 8,910 units that were within its service district, based on two conditions:

Savings persistence studies performed every five years from 2000 through 2015

Realization of 277 acre-feet (90,400,860 gallons) of water saved per year from 1999 through 2018

The current study is due to complete in November 2005 and marks the tenth year in which many measures have been in place. This benchmark offers a unique opportunity given that ten years is frequently the measures' assumed useful life.

Objectives and Methodology

The study's objective is to determine current annual water savings for comparison with the contract goal. As in the 2000 study, we will examine sample units for water savings measures persistence and measured water flow. Then we will extrapolate results for all units treated under the program.

In the previous study, Quantec staff inspected each unit sampled and collected the following data:

Faucet aerators: manufacturer, name, labeled flow rate, actual flow rate

Showerheads: manufacturer, name, labeled flow rate, actual flow rate

Number of persons residing in unit

The current study will collect the same data from another sample of multi-family units.

Findings and Use of Results

Current study results will be available at the end of November 2005 and will mark the tenth year that many of the measures have been in place. These results may support or challenge assumptions made about the useful life of water-saving showerheads and faucet aerators.

Author: Sara Wist

Coauthor(s): Sami Khawaja James Gilroy