

Sea water puts Florida wells at risk

by UPI

MIAMI - Floridians face tougher water restrictions as system managers try to stop sea water from seeping into the state's drinking water supply.

Water systems in Hallandale Beach, Dania Beach, Lantana and Lake Worth could have to shut down their primary drinking wells if chloride readings keep rising from salt contamination of coastal well fields, The Miami Herald said Thursday.

Salt contamination of coastal well fields could force some cities to abandon primary drinking wells or install new treatment systems.

"Once that [salt] creeps in there, it could be years for the wells to be brought back on line," Jesus Rodriguez, spokesman for the South Florida Water Management District, told the newspaper. "We could be talking about bottled water for the municipalities for a long time."

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