## **Supplementary Data**

Supplementary Table 1 - Results of enterococci qPCR blank samples

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	Density, CCE/100mL	Field Blank	Method Blank	Total Blanks	Percentage		
	0	128	197	325	82.9%		
	≤100	19	32	51	13.0%		
	>100	10	6	16	4.1%		
	Totals	157	235	392			

Supplementary Table 2 - Results of *E. coli* qPCR blank samples

Density,CCE/100mL	Field Blank	Method Blank	Total Blanks	Percentage	
0	43	53	96	44.6%	
≤1000	12	38	50	23.3%	
>1000	20	49	69	32.1%	
Totals	75	140	215		

Supplementary Table 3 - Results of enterococci culture, field blank samples

Density, CFU/100mL	Total Blanks	Percentage	
0	142	81.6%	
≤10	19	10.9%	
>10	13	7.5%	
Totals	174		

Supplementary Table 4 - Results of *E. coli* culture, field blank samples

Density, CFU/100mL	Total Blanks	Percentage	
0	159	90.9%	
≤10	10	5.7%	
>10	6	3.4%	
Totals	175		

Supplementary Table 5 - Recovery from spiked samples

	E. coli culture	E. coli qPCR	Entero culture	Entero qPCR	Giardia	Crypto
No. of samples	136	32	117	167	61	61
Mean. % recovery	63.4%	42.1%	80.5%	89.5%	20.9%	24.2%
EPA criteria	17-117%		63-110%		15-118%	13-111%